



Danby Church News

“Adding to and Building up the Kingdom of God”

October 2021



“200 years with One Foundation”



From Our Pastor!

Over the 201-year history of the Danby Community Church, the world has changed in countless ways. Our original members would not recognize our daily routines or what we consider common in our culture today.

Human ingenuity has added both blessings and challenges that we as a faith community need to sort out. Although technology adds endless distractions and ways to waste time, it also offers all sorts of new and improved ways to share our faith. Our challenge is to embrace rapidly changing technology as a means to communicate eternal truth.

Jesus is still our savior and the author of our faith. The process of evangelism still works best through personal relationship and the Bible is still the bestselling book of all times, including electronic versions.

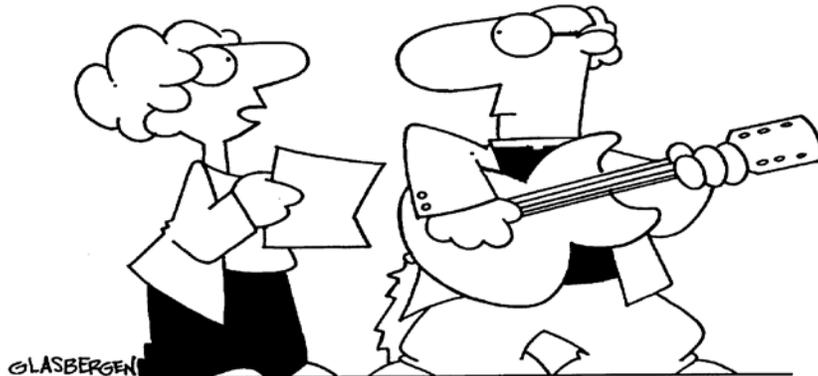
The Bible should also be the most read! How we should live is found throughout the Old and New Testaments. Even after 2,000 years, the Bible guides us into the best possible life with stunning clarity and wisdom.

As the body of Christ, our mission is to grow in discipleship and carry forward the gospel message of salvation and abundant life, now and forever. So what might go right or wrong within a church community?

Vibrant, lively churches need vision, direction, and optimism. Leadership is responsible for guiding a church into these areas, following the lead of Jesus found in the Bible and energized by the Holy Spirit. However, how these essentials are received can tell you whether the church or any organization will thrive or decline.

- We need a vision. What does God want to do with and through us?
- We need directions. What are we going to do to achieve the desired results?
- We need optimism. What are we capable of achieving?

If the answers to these questions are clear and positive our church will thrive. If we cannot answer any one of these questions or depend on outdated legacies we will decline. We cannot rest on legacy activities and achievements.



"It's a memo from the board. They don't mind if you play the occasional hymn on your electric guitar; however, they'd rather you didn't play it with your teeth, set it on fire, or smash it at the end of your song."

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Danby Church Officers and Leaders 2021

Pastor:	Ed Enstine eenstine@aol.com 607.592.8276
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Administrative Council	
Chair:	Paula Nelson sfcnelson@aol.com
Secretary:	Margie VanDeMark margievan@live.com
Treasurer:	Paula Nelson sfcnelson@aol.com
Financial Secretary:	Dave McDermitt davidmcdermitt@gmail.com
Trustees Chair:	Charlene Testut ctestut55@yahoo.com
Area Coordinators	
Hospitality:	Charlene Testut
Spiritual Development:	Sheila Enstine ssenstine@gmail.com
Missions:	Judy & Dale Horton therose8641@yahoo.com
Staff, Pastor Oversight Committee SPOC:	
Chair:	Katy Prince
Praise Team Leader:	Pup Martinez martinez789@yahoo.com
Webmaster:	Janet Gray jsg4@cornell.edu
Newsletter Editor:	Janet Gray
Facebook:	Janet Gray

Our Cover picture: Danby Community Church

Instead, we need to rely on the inspiration and equipping of the Holy Spirit. Remember that Jesus breathed on His disciples and promised the Holy Spirit's presence with them. His final command before ascending was to go into all the world and make disciples. Then at Pentecost, the power of the Holy Spirit came upon our spiritual forebears and the very Church we are part of today came into being.

The same Holy Spirit of Christ is with His Church now and provides the same Pentecostal power to increase the Kingdom. I am reminded daily that we are more than conquerors through Christ Jesus.

We have the tools to prosper in the Kingdom. We carry the same message 2,000 years later, and we have the vision, direction, and optimism that has grown the Kingdom of God on Earth all these past centuries.

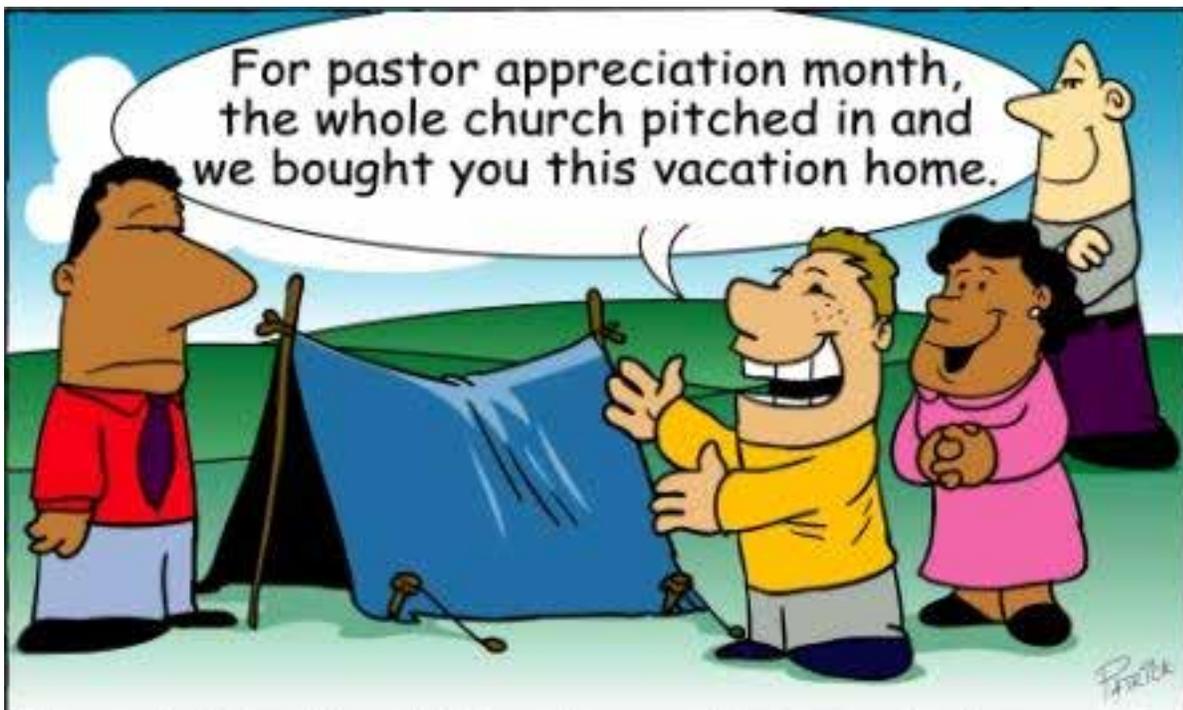
Our job is to use the equipping and opportunities that the Spirit has provided to grow and flourish as God's people. In the coming months we will be challenged to renew our outreach and move into the future.

We are capable of more than the world would ever expect from an old church in a tiny hamlet. Danby Community Church can and will add to and build up the Kingdom. We will be an extraordinary witness of God's love and grace to our community.

Pray for God's guidance as we are called into the harvest field. A new generation of believers waits just outside our doors.

No Administrative Council Meeting for September 2021.

Happy Pastor's Appreciation Month, Pastor Ed!!



Do you have a question you would like to ask Pastor Ed? It can be about God, Jesus, the Bible, faith, the church, religion. Send your questions to Janet Gray at jsg4@cornell.edu and your question (and answer) may appear in the next Danby Church News

Happy 200th Plus One Celebration! Ithaca Concert Band and Ice Cream Social



We want to recognize everyone who took part in the preparations for our 200 Plus One celebration. So many of you helped that we're afraid we will miss someone if we try to name names. So we'll just say to all of you -

Sweepers, and dusters and those who mopped floors;
Prayers and planners and video editors;
Planters and weeders and those who cleaned doors;
Big machine riders and tall ladder climbers;
Painters of rocks we just can't ignore;
Flower arrangers and ice-cream treat scoopers;
Each in your own way, hosted your neighbor.
Thank you!

(poem by Sheila Enstine)

Did you know we are now on Facebook? You can access us from your Facebook page (just search for Danby Community Church) or press the Facebook link on our church website: WWW.DANBYCHURCH.ORG. You don't need to have a Facebook account to see our Facebook page, but you will need a Facebook account if you would want to "like" our page or post a comment.



200th Plus One Church Picnic



Spiritual Development Update from Sheila Enstine

Adult Small Groups:

The Sunday morning group is beginning a 13-week study of the Gospel of John. We use a study guide published by David C Cook. From the guide: "This Gospel satisfies the spiritual seeker and refreshes the Christian servant. Its fascination is immediate and enduring. Its message is simple and profound."

You can join us for soul satisfaction and spiritual refreshment on Sundays from 8:45 – 9:45 am. Those who are not able to attend the Sunday morning in-person session are welcome to attend a Zoom session on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm. Please contact Sheila Enstine at ssenstine@gmail.com or 229-4135 if you are interested in either meeting.

The Women's Bible Study is using a video and study guide for One Thousand Gifts by Ann Voskamp. In her book by the same name, Ann "gently teaches you how to biblically lament loss, turning pain into poetry; intentionally embrace a lifestyle of radical gratitude; and slow down and catch God in the moment." The Women's study meets at 1PM on Friday afternoons in the All Saints room.

Nursery and Youth Church: The nursery is available every Sunday for babies and children through age five. We are re-evaluating the structure and resources for youth ministry and new plans will be announced later.

Ed Talks: Pastor Ed produces "Ed Talks," brief versions (eight to ten minutes) of his Sunday sermons. They are available on the Church's website, www.danbychurch.org (click on Ed Talks on the green banner) and on the Church's Facebook page.

Prayer Opportunities: Contact Judy Cuyle at gncat87@yahoo.com or call 279-5089 if you would like to participate in the prayer chain or if you have a prayer request. In-person prayer meetings are held Saturday mornings at 8:00 am. Pastor Ed is available for prayer and conversation in the Sanctuary on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5:00 pm.

Congregational Care: A friend of the church has a supply of yarn to donate for anyone interested in knitting or crocheting prayer shawls or for personal use. Please contact Sheila if you are interested in using the yarn.

Thank you everyone for sending cards, calling, and visiting one another, especially to those who provided rides to our 200th Plus One Anniversary celebration events.

There is a need for providing rides to Sunday worship or other functions for those who do not have access to transportation. Please contact Sheila if you'd like to provide this service.

Welcome HOME
a place where you belong

Sunday Worship Celebration @ 10 am
Sunday Adult Education Class @ 8:45am
Youth Church @ 10:30am
Tuesdays and Thursdays, Communion, Conversation and Prayer 5-6pm
Wednesdays, Live Music & Conversation @ 7pm
Sweet Hour of Prayer, Saturday, 8am
Women's Bible Study, Fridays @ 1pm

This month's issue of the Danby Church News is on the web at <https://www.danbychurch.org/news.html>!

Envisioning a Post-Pandemic Gospel Culture, Part 2

By Sheila Enstine

During September, our fellowship accomplished some amazing things. We gathered in spontaneous as well as planned groups to prepare the church facilities for our Bi-Centennial Plus One celebration. Working together not only made the building and grounds more attractive, but also helped us reconnect after the long, pandemic-induced separation.

On Saturday the 18th of September, we enjoyed each other's company and welcomed the community in music, laughter, ice-cream, and remembering those who preceded us in faith. People shared their faith journeys in informal conversations and in the recorded videos we witnessed on Sunday the 19th. As we glorified God, He seemed to smile on us with two beautiful, sunny days in a row.

It is good to look back once in awhile, acknowledging where we've been as a faith community and voicing appreciation for the saints who preceded us. But we cannot stay in the past.

Now is the time for a new adventure, a time for emphasizing our mission statement: "Adding to and building up the Kingdom of God." This is the time for creating a gospel-centered church culture rather than falling back into a program-centered church culture.

In an effective, gospel-centered church in the post-pandemic world, sharing our faith with non-believers is essential. We have to go into the world because the world is not going to come to us.

We do this by taking the exciting risk of making new friends, some of whom may have ethnicities, nationalities, and cultures far different from our own. Each of us has interests outside of church, including careers, volunteering, clubs, sports, hobbies, and advocacy or support groups. These are places where we can make new friends.

Then be a friend. Invite these new acquaintances into your life and invest in their lives. Listen to their stories of joy, pain, tragedy and triumph. Be willing to let them serve you in the same way. Pray for them and trust that Christ will provide opportunities to witness his love and salvation. By the way, those of you without transportation can go into the world via social media or a good, old-fashioned phone call.

A gospel-centered church assumes that each member is growing as a disciple so that each one can disciple others. The church can help with this through group discussions, Bible studies, and worship (also available on the internet), but ultimately, growth in Christ is the individual's responsibility.

While a gospel-centered church is not a program-centered church, we do need a plan for going into the world and for growing in Christ. During the month of October, ask yourself these questions:

- How have I valued the safety of tradition over the risk of change?
- How can I contribute to building up other believers to love and good works?
- What is my plan for meeting new people and making new friends?
- What is my plan for growing in the knowledge of Christ?

Finally, remember Jesus' words: "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age" (Matt. 28:19-20).

Greetings from the Healing Reigns Fellowship at Killbuck, Salamanca!! On the anniversary of your 200th year the pastor and congregation would like to extend hearty congratulations !! May you enjoy 200 more happy and successful years , unless our Lord returns sooner!

Our best wishes and In Christ's love,

Pastor Wallace and Ruth Mapes and the whole church family





Danby Community Church
1859 Danby Road
Ithaca, NY 14850

www.danbychurch.org
Welcome Home!!

Here's What Is Happening in October and November!!



Tuesday, Nov. 2nd*
PORK OR CHICKEN AND
ALL THE FIXINGS!

A memorial service is being planned for all who have lost family and friends in the last year and a half, regardless of cause.

Time and day to be announced

**Subject to cancellation*

