

Danby Church News

"Adding to and Building up the Kingdom of God"



February 2022





From Our Pastor!

After completing the first month of 2022, we're still waiting for the COVID-19 pandemic to become an endemic nuisance. Over the past two years, we've been restrained and patient while remaining as active as possible. We have maintained a delicate balance of safety and common sense. We continue to do a tremendous amount of ministry in our community and the world.

However, the pressure to remain safe and isolated takes a toll on mental and spiritual wellbeing. I do not want to get used to doing church like this! We have to seek new growth or cease to be a viable church.

Some might say we start 2022 with many things stacked against us: As a congregation we're getting to the point of aging out in the next five to seven years; we have an old facility no matter how much we try to keep it in good repair; our culture resists a serious consideration of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

Yes, our surrounding community is friendly enough as long as food and entertainment are involved. But we know that secularism is hostile to what it perceives as a universally bigoted, judgmental church culture.

This unfortunate cultural fiction paints all churches equally guilty. Therefore, we cannot expect people to walk in on Sunday morning just because we unlock the front door. Our society does not place value on church attendance as it has in the past.

Considering all this—we're toast!

However!

What remains the same is the Gospel of Jesus Christ who lived, died and rose that we may live an abundant life and overcome the sins that plague humanity and the world. We need to find ways to deliver this Gospel in way the world will hear.

Even though I mention we have the possibility of having to close our church as we age out, I don't seriously think we will cease to exist. As long as we're ministering in the Lord's will, we will have a way forward.

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Danby Church Officers and Leaders 2021

Pastor:	Ed Enstine eenstine@aol.com 607.592.8276
Administrative Aide	Lynn Kingston-Harris office@danbychurch.org 607.272.1687
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

On the Cover!

Joan Peake!

Our job is to remain faithful and keep our eyes and minds open to opportunity.

Challenges aside, I am determined, God willing, to do everything possible to make 2022 the most spectacular year in the Danby Community Church's history. In my mind's eye I can see the balcony filled with people worshipping the Lord every Sunday! What can each of us do to make that a reality?

We're already dreaming up new ideas to attract and welcome people. The goal is to bring them to faith in Jesus Christ and join us in the twin boats of discipleship and fellowship. Our strategy is simple, make a friend, be a friend and lead that friend to Christ. Meet people where they are spiritually and discover what God is doing in their lives. Invite people to come and see that God is good. Invite again and invite some more!

Meanwhile, there are essential things we all can do to contribute. A strong congregation begins with prayer and relationship. It grows with prayer and study. It prospers with prayer and service. Prayer is the common denominator for spiritual discernment. Everyone can pray! Relationship is the common ground for spiritual growth. We can all relate!

In the Kingdom of God, ministry cannot be stopped. This is the paradox of being a disciple of Jesus Christ. The world presses us towards weakness of isolation and fear while God directs us towards strength in growth and courage. We will indeed press on and prosper in the strength of the Lord! If God is for us who can stand against us?

* This message is a revised version of Pastor's Report in the 2021 Annual Report



Valentine Jokes

Q. Did Adam and Eve ever have a date?

A. No, they had an apple!



A young lady visited a computer dating service and requested, "I'm looking for a spouse. Can you please help me to find a suitable one?"

The matchmaker said, "What exactly are you looking for?"

"Well, let me see. Needs to be good looking, polite, humorous, sporty, knowledgeable, good at singing and dancing. Willing to accompany me the whole day at home during my leisure hour if I don't go out. Be able to tell me interesting stories when I need a companion for conversation and be silent when I want to rest."

The matchmaker entered the information into the computer and, in a matter of moments, handed the results to the woman.

The results read, "Buy a television."

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

Danby Community Church

Admin Council Meeting

January 10, 2022

Present: Ed Enstine, Sheila Enstine, Paula Nelson, Margie VanDeMark, Dale Horton, Judy Horton, and Katy Prince via zoom. Pastor Ed opened the meeting with prayer at 7:00 pm.

CLERK'S MINUTES: Motion by Sheila, second by Dale, to accept the minutes from December. Carried.

TREASURER REPORT: Paula said we have a low balance now due to no collection this past Sunday when church was canceled plus there were three payrolls last month. For 2021 we did well overall, spending less (\$101,496.96) than what we allocated (\$131,025.00). Margie made the motion to approve, seconded by Judy, to accept. Carried.

OLD BUSINESS: Margie asked if a new supplier had been found for the water cooler. Paula said they were still searching.

NEW BUSINESS: Paula suggested the Annual Meeting be postponed until February 6 (three weeks notice required). Judy made this motion, Sheila seconded, carried.

SPOC: Katy reported that no nominee had been found for Council Chair but Paula has agreed to continue to serve. Dave McDermitt has agreed to take on Church Clerk and Tommy Prince will fill the Trustee opening. Paula thanked Margie for her service as Clerk. Judy and Dale said they will continue as Missions coordinators. Katy welcomed Pastor Ed back (after surgery).

Spiritual Development: Sheila said the Sunday Morning Adult Group is working on a new study on Creative Faith. The Women's Bible Study is not meeting until Lent. She is planning on more Lenten Vigils this year.

Missions: Judy said their trip to the Salamanca reservation was delightful. The Buell family was amazing preparing many gift boxes and distributing them to the children. There were so many that the remaining ones were given to the Newfield School to provide for lower income children as well as a family of a shut in. Bibles were included in each box. Judy had heard from Gigi Johnston that her flight was canceled so she has not yet made it to Tapestries of Life mission. Council agreed she should keep our donation for her trip.

Pastor Ed asked what the amount of the Christmas Eve offering was: Paula reported that \$450 will go to the Second Wind women's unit.

Judy mentioned that she would like Renovation House to present their testimonies in church again.

Adjournment: Dale moved that the meeting adjourn at 7:30 pm, second by Margie. Approved.

Pastor Ed closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Margie VanDeMark/ Church Clerk





Wednesday Evening Worship and Fellowship

By Sheila Enstine

Do you think of Wednesday as “Hump Day”? Maybe you’re more positive, like one of my prior supervisors who called Wednesday “Peak Efficiency Day.” Perhaps you have another nickname for that day in the middle of the week that teases us with the promise that better days are coming – if we can just get through this one.

Regardless of how you feel about Wednesday, a good way to get through it—or celebrate it—is to join your brothers and sisters in a relaxed, welcoming, and informal evening of worship and fellowship.

This is what the Danby Community Church offers each Wednesday evening, starting at 7:00 PM.

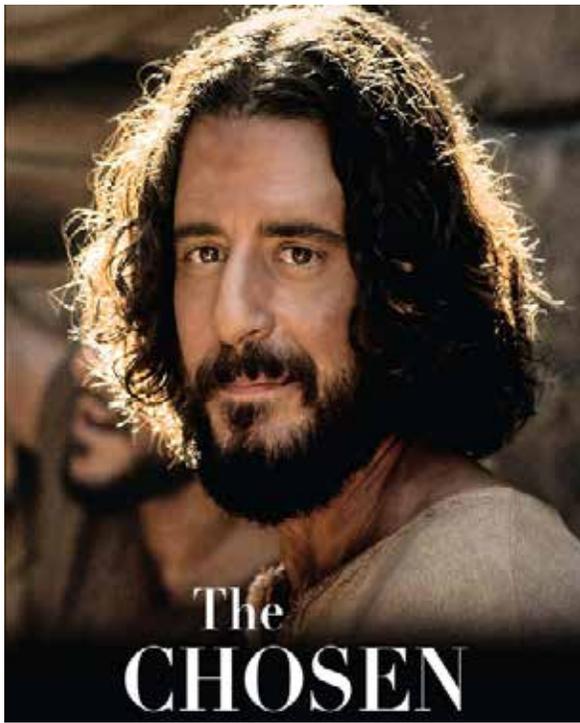
The Wednesday service meets several needs. In addition to rehearsal for the Praise Team, the gathering is an additional opportunity for worship. If you missed the Sunday morning service, Wednesday evening worship can help fill your need to praise God, give thanks, connect with Christ’s body, and share your faith walk with other believers.

You’ll find that the Wednesday evening service offers a more casual atmosphere than the Sunday morning worship. On Wednesday evenings, you can experiment with the tambourine or the maracas. You can get up and run around. You can try sitting in a different pew!

On Wednesday evenings, you’re welcome to bring a song, a testimony or a Scripture passage that you’d like to share. Of course you can do that on Sundays also, but Wednesday’s casual environment might make sharing less intimidating for you. That may be why testimonies and prayer requests seem more spontaneous on Wednesdays. It’s like sitting in your living room, having a warm conversation with good friends.

We end the evening with prayers for the people and situations that were brought up during our time together.

Come to the Light on Wednesday night. Sometimes we have cookies.



Winter Entertainment Watch

If you haven't had the chance to watch *The Chosen*, you are missing a terrific re-telling of the "old old story". A multi-season series, allows you to see Jesus through the eyes of those who knew him. You get the back stories of the apostles, Nicodemus, the people who saw and received miracles from Jesus. This series will even appeal to teenagers!!

The Chosen, season one and two are free to watch through many streaming devices and channels. It is also available on DVD. Check it out!

Janet Gray



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

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

FROM SHEILA ENSTINE

Adult Small Groups:

The Sunday morning group is exploring the theme of Creative Faith. Using articles published by Christianity Today, the three-part series looks at the Christian concept of beauty, how great literature can lead people to faith, and why we need poetry to appreciate God's world. Each segment will take two weeks to complete, so the study will extend into February. Contact me at ssenstine@gmail.com if you are interested and I'll give you copies of the articles to read before class. The group meets from 8:45 – 9:45 am.

The Women's Bible Study will resume sometime in February. They will meet at 1PM on Friday afternoons in the All Saints room. Let me know if you'd like an update on the topic and starting date for the next study.

Wednesday Night Praise and Fellowship is a casual gathering of worshipers made up of the praise team and anyone who would like a mid-week boost of joy and fellowship. We spend the first hour practicing with the Praise Team for the Sunday service. After worship, we share prayer requests and talk about our faith journeys. All are welcome.

Nursery and Youth Church:

The nursery is available every Sunday for babies and children through age five. Normally, Youth Church is comprised of two groups – Group One for children ages 6 – 10 and Group Two for ages 11 – 14.

However, because of a lack of leaders and low attendance, Group One will not be meeting in February. Group Two will meet every other week, if there are enough young people to make up a group. Young people begin worship with their families in the Sanctuary and are invited to the nursery/Youth Church after the Lord's Prayer.

Ed Talks:

Pastor Ed expects to resume "Ed Talks" sometime in February. Those with email on file with the Church will receive notification when new talks are posted on the Church's website, www.danbychurch.org (click on Ed Talks on the green banner) and on the Church's Facebook page. You can still view his prior talks on those sites.

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.

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.



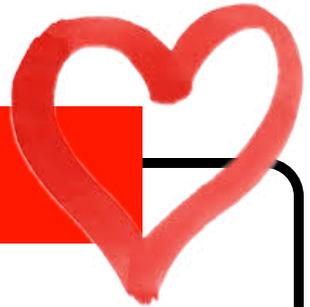
This month's issue of the Danby Church News is on the web at <https://www.danbychurch.org/news.html>!



Danby Community Church
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www.danbychurch.org

Welcome Home!!



What's Happening in February & March?!?

**Annual Meeting
following the service
Sunday, February 6, 2022**

**ASH WEDNESDAY
MARCH 2**