



# Danby Church News

"Adding to and Building up the Kingdom of God"

March 2023



# revival

A large, stylized graphic of a red flame is positioned above the letter 'l' in the word 'revival'. The background of the entire page is a warm, golden-yellow color with a blurred image of many hands raised in the air, suggesting a church service or revival meeting. A thin black arc is drawn across the lower portion of the page, partially overlapping the raised hands.



## From Our Pastor!

Countless saints of God have prayed for years seeking revival, but for the majority of churches in this country we've only seen decline. That might be changing.

On February 8, 2023 a group of Asbury University students felt the Holy Spirit's call to repentance and experienced a life-changing awareness of God's presence. News of this unusual awakening spread across the internet and within days thousands of faithful Christians traveled from all over the world to bask in the deep peace of God.

Also within days, a number of famous folk tried to interject themselves into this move of the Spirit, but were told to wait in line with everyone else. Their presence was welcome, but their "special" help was not needed.

Go figure – a revival without celebrities, a leadership without experience who claimed no credit or notoriety, a spontaneous event without planning or props.

Worship happened without special lights or fog machines, led by a few unnamed amateurs. And God has taken this opportunity to manifest Himself in presence and peace, calling people, especially the young, to repentance and healing.

Can God actually work without our planning, know-how, and prepared script, complete with objectives and timelines?

I think we all know deep down that God knows the best way forward even when it makes no sense from our perspective. After all, kings aren't born in barns and they don't sleep in mangers. Angels don't sing to shepherds.

It turns out that God can pour out His Spirit on a bunch of college students in the wilds of Kentucky. Praise God! I love it!

What about us up here in the frosty north and other parts of the globe? The Lord is with us also. He knows the condition of our world and our hearts. He hears our prayers. The time is ripe for some godly repair work to take place.

Anyone who thinks our country and world is in a good shape and moving in a wonderful direction just isn't paying attention. We are crumbling as a culture and a society. Violence is worshipped way more than peace. Just watch the current crop of television shows or listen to popular music.

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### On the Cover!

## Revival!!!

Church should be a witness of health and wholeness. In too many cases churches are not thriving, let alone providing a welcoming positive witness. Are we offering a better way to live life?

It is painful to acknowledge that the majority of people are asleep on Sunday morning and do not believe Christianity offers any reason to get out of bed.

So, along comes a new awakening at Asbury. This event doesn't fit the prescription for revival, held dear by many self-proclaimed experts. Naysayers are coming out of the religious wood work. The unexpected is taking place in the "wrong" place and with the "wrong" people at the oddest time.

One critic on You Tube was certain it was not of God but rather a tool of Satan because women were allowed to speak and, God forbid, teach from the pulpit. Bibles other than the King James Bible are read from and they did not hear the gospel preached with alter calls and sinner prayers. Others have echoed this sentiment. Please, pray for them.

Folks can't even agree what to call it -- revival or awakening? Perhaps it is both or maybe something we don't have a correct term for just yet.

If you are a skeptic or confused by the events at Asbury, consider Gamaliel's counsel to the Sanhedrin in Acts 5:38-39: "And now I say to you, keep away from these men and let them alone; for if this plan or this work is of men, it will come to nothing; but if it is of God, you cannot overthrow it—lest you even be found to fight against God."

We need to praise the Lord for any and all good things that come from God. The awakening of a younger generation to repentance and salvation is a wonderful thing! The peace of the Holy Spirit's presence is refreshment to our spirit. The work of the Lord is exciting and energizing.

As with past moves of the Spirit, this fresh wave will bear fruit in maturity. As the revival's intensity fades at Asbury, as it inevitably must, pray that it ripples across this country and the world. We've prayed for this to happen and now is not the time to doubt that our prayers are being answered.

True revival will not be confined or constrained by human understandings or resistance. Perhaps it is already beginning to manifest itself among us. Can a revival happen right here in Danby, NY? Could it be? It certainly can!

Revival is made possible by prayer, welcomed by willing spirits of expectation, and longed for by people seeking God's presence. Danby, NY, is a most unlikely place for revival, but why not? God always works in unexpected ways with people dear to His heart.

God willing, let it be here. Let it be now. Let it be upon us. In the name of Jesus the Christ, Amen.

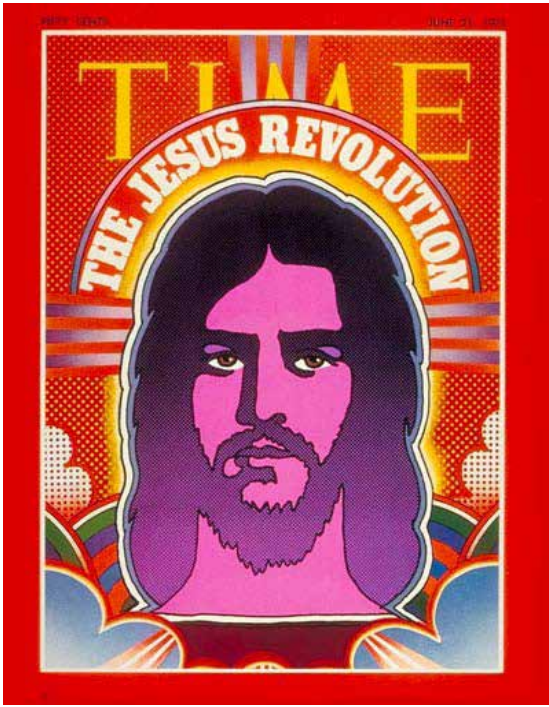


Meet our newest partner at Danby Community Church:

**“Ruth”**

Ruth has set up house in Pastor Ed's office.  
She is a very friendly feline!  
Stop by and say hi!





# Movie Review

## The Jesus Revolution

*Reviewed by Janet Gray*

We've seen wars in foreign countries, protests, escalating inflation, high drug use, pandemic, and racial unrest. No, I'm not talking about the last three years, but the late 60s and early 70s, with the Vietnam war, sex, drugs, rock-n-roll, high inflation, protests, and race riots.

Young people were searching, desperate to find the truth. Many were drawn to drugs and false prophets.

“The Jesus Revolution” is a movie based on Pastor Greg Laurie and Ellen Vaughn’s book, “Jesus Revolution: How God Transformed an Unlikely Generation and How He Can

Do It Again Today”. It tells the amazing true story of the Jesus Movement, a time of mass revival that emerged as the greatest spiritual awakening in American History.

The movie follows three unlikely people: a pastor with a heart for young people whose aging church was dying (Chuck Smith); a hippie street evangelist (Lonnie Frisbee); and a teen with a troubled past (Greg Laurie). God used these men to help influence a generation of lost sheep.

This movie is great story telling and the music brought back countless memories.

The Jesus Revolution is currently playing in theaters: <https://jesusrevolution.movie>

You can learn more about the Jesus Movement, the Jesus Revival and Jesus Music at:

<https://movie.harvest.org/jesus-revolution>



Welcome **HOME**  
a place where you belong

Sunday Worship Celebration @ 10 am  
Sunday Youth Church @ 10:30am  
Sunday Adult Education Class @ 8:45am  
Sunday Adult Education Class after church service starting Feb.5  
Tuesdays via ZOOM - Prayer with Sheila @ 7pm  
Tuesdays and Thursdays, Communion, Conversation and Prayer 5-6pm  
Wednesdays, Live Music & Conversation @ 7pm  
Thursdays - Bible Study @ 7pm  
Sweet Hour of Prayer, Saturday, 8am

# Spiritual Development Update from Sheila Enstine

## Important Dates:

Lent began with Ash Wednesday on February 22<sup>nd</sup>. This season of the Church year lasts 40 days, not counting Sundays, and ends with the beginning of Eastertide, on Resurrection Sunday. You will notice that the liturgical color on the altar is purple, which represents repentance.

## New Care Notes Brochures

To help you observe the season of Lent, we have two new Care Notes brochures on display – “40 Ways to Enrich Your Lenten Prayer” and “Lent – A Time to Pray for Others.” Be sure to take one for yourself and another to give away.

## Adult Small Groups:

- **The Sunday morning group** is studying Paul’s letter to the Colossians. We meet on Sundays at 8:45 am.
- **A Sunday afternoon group** is studying of the Gospel of Mark. The group meets after the worship service. Grab some refreshments and join in.
- **The Wednesday night Praise and Fellowship** gathers at 7 pm with the praise team. After worship, we have a time of koinonia (sharing our faith) and prayer requests.
- **The Thursday evening Bible Study** begins at 7 pm. Pastor Ed is leading a study on the Gospel of Matthew.
- **The Friday afternoon Women’s Bible Study** meets at 1:00 PM in the All Saints Room. This group is reading and discussing a book by Susan Robb, “The Seven Words Listening to Christ from the Cross”. See Suzanne Walker if you are interested in joining the study.

**Nursery:** The nursery is available every Sunday for babies and children through age five.

**Children’s Church:** After the Morning Prayer on Sundays, children ages 6 through 10 (about 5<sup>th</sup> grade) are welcome to attend Children’s Church. There is always someone prepared with a lesson.

## Prayer Opportunities:

- **Zoom Prayer Gathering:** You are invited to Zoom prayer meetings on Tuesdays at 7:00 PM. Let Sheila Enstine know if you’re interested and she will send an email to you with the meeting link. It’s easy
- **In-person Prayer:** We also offer an in-person prayer time in the Sanctuary on Saturday mornings at 8:00 am. This is an opportunity to petition the Lord for others and for ourselves without the distractions often encountered at home or on the road.
- **Prayer Chain:** Contact Katy Prince at [katyprince96@gmail.com](mailto:katyprince96@gmail.com).

**Congregational Care:** Thank you to everyone who has seen a need and responded in love. Thank you to Paula Nelson and Doug Nash for faithfully arranging for flower deliveries.

*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](mailto:jsg4@cornell.edu) and your question (and answer) may appear in the next Danby Church News*

**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](http://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.**



**Danby Community Church**  
**Administrative Council Meeting**  
**February 13, 2023.**

**Present.** Pastor Ed Enstine, Sheila Enstine, Charlene Testut, Dave McDermitt, Gloria Miller, and Katy Prince. Pastor Ed opened with prayer at 7:03 pm.

**CLERK’S MINUTES.** January meeting minutes: motion to accept (Katy), second (Gloria). Carried.

**FINANCIAL SEC’Y REPORT:** January report: motion to accept (Goria), second (Charlene). Carried.

**TREASURER REPORT:** Paula wasn’t present but had her report prepared and distributed! There is a very high NYSEG bill – the consensus opinion is that they underestimated previous months because they didn’t meter read and also that we were over-charged on top of that. The decision is to pay the bill to maintain power, then dispute what we owe. Motion to approve (Katy), second (Gloria). Carried.

**OLD BUSINESS.**

1. After church Roundtables. Katy reported the second event was successful with about 40 people at 6 tables. She has heard that people want 6 new topics for the next (third) event.
2. Upper Room booklet. Sheila reported that the subscription office has reduced our monthly shipment from 40 to 30 copies.
3. Annual meeting. This was held January 15<sup>th</sup> in the fellowship hall and was well attended.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- Ash Wednesday service, Wednesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- Chicken & Biscuit, Friday, March 10<sup>th</sup>.
- Dish-to-pass Roundtable #3 is planned for April 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Plan to affiliate with the 4C’s will move forward quickly – likely in a matter of weeks.
- Suggestion to put calendar announcements back onto the sanctuary overhead screen after service so that people can see them as a reminder when leaving.

**REPORTS.**

**Hospitality.**

- A chicken and biscuit dinner is planned for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday in March – March 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Spiritual Development.** The church is in the season of Epiphany which lasts until Ash Wednesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> which is the beginning of Lent.

Ash Wednesday service is planned for Wednesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**\*\*\*\*\*Read the rest of the Spiritual Development Report under Spiritual Development Update\*\*\*\*\***

**Trustees.**

- The furnace is fixed.
- Trustees meeting set for Sunday, February 19<sup>th</sup> after church to decide on a list of priorities to be fixed now that the furnace is repaired. One item of concern is the floor in the kitchen.

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**Missions.**

- A certificate was received from Heifer International which will be announced at service so new people know this is a ministry that we support.

**SPOC.** They researched what it means to be a ‘vulnerable adult’ which means an older adult who could be victimized – especially by financial fraud. They suggest that since our congregation is aging, training to protect vulnerable adults should be made an important new addition to in the church’s current ‘Safe Sanctuary’ training. The SPOC also will look at language to use to designate congregants as ‘partners’ instead of members in our church Constitution. Katy and Pastor Ed will be working on the church’s 4C application. She will also schedule meetings as needed.

**SAP:** SAP met and had a productive meeting. They plan to do an NCD survey in the coming months to compare to the survey that was taken pre-Covid. Pastor Ed participated in a church development meeting in Florida with 4C’s leadership which also meets every 2 weeks by Zoom. He has plans to travel 3 times this year for church-related business.

Motion to adjourn (Gloria), second (Katy). Meeting ended at 8:23.

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 Respectfully submitted,  
 David McDermitt, Administrative council clerk

**A Lenten Meditation**  
**On How to Fast**

This meditation was given to me several decades ago. I don’t know the original author, so just give the glory to God for this insightful example of true fasting. – SE

- Fast from food; Feast on the Lord who dwells in us.
- Fast from talking; Feast on being silent with God.
- Fast from gossip; Feast on saying good things.
- Fast from selfishness; Feast on service to others.
- Fast from bitterness; Feast on forgiveness.
- Fast from drinking and smoking; Feast on care of your body,  
the temple of the Holy Spirit.
- Fast from discouragement; Feast on hope.
- Fast from problems that overwhelm; Feast on prayer that supports.
- Fast from thoughts that weaken; Feast on promises that inspire.
- Fast from complaining; Feast on appreciation.
- Fast from discontent; Feast on gratitude.
- Fast from anger; Feast on patience.
- Fast from lethargy; Feast on enthusiasm.
- Fast from self-concern; Feast on compassion for others.

“Take heed that you do not make fasting to consist of only abstinence from meats. True fasting is to refrain from vice. Shred to pieces all your unjust contracts. Pardon your neighbors. Forgive their trespasses.” -- St. Basil the Great

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



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1859 Danby Road  
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[www.danbychurch.org](http://www.danbychurch.org)

## Welcome Home!!



What's Happening?!? in March?



**CHICKEN AND BISCUIT DINNER**  
**Friday, March 10**  
**5pm - 7pm**

Chicken and Biscuits and all the fixings,  
beverage and dessert  
By donation

FREE COFFEE AND DONUT



**Mondays, 1/23, 2/20, 3/20, 4/17**  
**8:00 am - 10:00 am**  
Take out or Dine In  
Join Us for *Community Coffee Chat*