

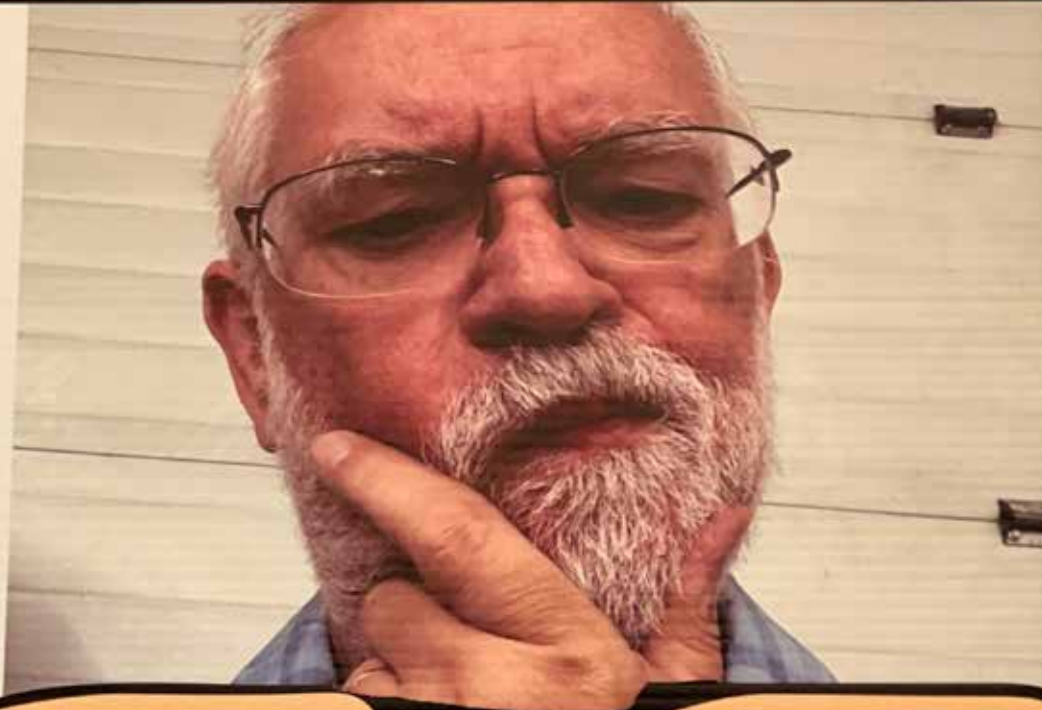


Danby Church News

"Adding to and Building up the Kingdom of God"

October 2022

The Pastor is
in ~~out~~



questions 5¢





From Our Pastor!

Do we want to remain an independent church or is it time to look for a relationship with a denominational structure?

It was a good decision to break away from our dysfunctional relationships with our previous Federation partners. We have survived as an independent church through a very stressful time.

However, in the last two and a half years, we've experienced a season of mourning and isolation that, for me, highlights the value of a larger, supportive faith community.

Now it is time to consider our accountability, connection, and responsibility to the greater Kingdom of God. Future denominational affiliation is a question which we as a church need to examine and answer with prayer and careful discernment.

Over the course of our history, the Danby Community Church has been affiliated with several different denominations – Congregational, Presbyterian, United Methodist, and United Church of Christ. Presently we are an independent church.

There is an appeal to independence, but there is also a down side. In our independence, we lack accountability beyond ourselves. We lack outside resources to help in times of trouble or confusion. There is an intrinsic strength in collective wisdom, gained through connection with other men and women seeking God's will. As Proverbs 15:22 notes, "Plans fail for lack of counsel, but with many advisers they succeed."

Two questions need to be explored by our congregation:

1. Are we willing to seek a denominational partner?
2. If the answer is yes, who would be a proper fit for our current and future needs?

To address the elephant in the room, I am currently licensed by the Conservative Congregational Christian Conference or "4 Cs" for short. The word Conservative in their name is not a political term; it refers to "traditional."

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Danby Church Officers and Leaders 2022

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:	Dave McDermitt davidmcdermitt@gmail.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!

**Got a burning question
to ask the Pastor?
It's time for Pester the Pastor!**

Danby Community Church is not affiliated with the 4 Cs. As much as I support and appreciate the 4Cs as a possible denominational partner, it is still necessary for us, if we want to move forward with affiliation, to look carefully at what is required in a relationship with the 4 Cs.

Additionally, other candidates for consideration exist beyond the 4 Cs. All have pros and cons to consider. We need to investigate our options.

This is an important move that demands prayer and careful consideration. I welcome your input, questions, and comments. We have the benefit of time being on our side. This is not an emergency, but rather a deliberate step to enhance the future health of our fellowship. Please let us know what your thoughts are on this subject.

May we continue to build up the Kingdom of God.



Coffee and Donuts "Community Coffee Chat"

Danby Community Church
Administrative Council Meeting
September 12, 2022.

Present. Sheila Enstine, Katy Prince, Gloria Miller, Judy & Dale Horton, Paula Nelson, Charlene Testut, and Dave McDermitt. Sheila opened with prayer at 7:01 pm.

CLERK'S MINUTES. August meeting minutes. Motion to approve (Katy), second (Gloria). Carried.

FINANCIAL SEC'Y REPORT: Dave gave report. Motion to approve (Dale), second (Gloria). Carried.

TREASURER REPORT: Paula gave report.

- Paula will transfer \$600 to the Heifer fund to fund our annual purchase from them.
- Sheila reported that she has been unable to reach the "Upper Room" by phone to reduce our subscription so she will see if they can be reached online. We will also publicize our subscription so new folks know we have the print versions available for the taking.
- Besides the annual report, the church's financial information is available on request.
- Motion to approve (Gloria), second (Judy). Carried.

OLD BUSINESS/Wrap-up:

- Safe Sanctuary training was held 8/16 and a make-up session on 9/08 for people who work with youth. This is to serve both as protection for our youth and for the adults who serve them against false allegations. Altogether, once reference checks are completed, there may be 18 volunteers. The safe sanctuary policy will be updated to include vulnerable adults.
- The Danby Summer Market on 8/19 was not well attended – not much foot traffic. So, there are no plans to have a church table at the September market (last one for the year), but folks are encouraged to go to meet your fellow Danby neighbors. Sheila made a nice connection with a neighbor.
- Biker Sunday was held. Katy reported that the bikers had a shorter ride over to Richford due to the weather though there was a longer ride the next day with an associated group. There was a problem with the grill, so we will purchase a new one. Thank you to Chrissy & Dan for spearheading!

NEW BUSINESS/Looking Ahead. See ministry areas below and:

- September 16th. Friday. Donuts & Coffee will be served in the morning as a way to invite the community to stop in. If it draws people, great, if not, we will discontinue it.
- September 18th. Sunday. Dish-to-pass after church service followed by table discussions. Topics and table talk leaders have been confirmed.
- Sept/October. Fall highway cleanup of East King rd. See Dave McDermitt if interested.
- November 8th. Tues. Election night dinner is planned with chicken and pork as main dishes.

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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

- December 3rd. Saturday. Holiday luncheon/women's retreat at the church.

REPORTS.

Hospitality. Besides events listed above, Alison will coordinate the after-service 'coffee & refreshments' fellowship time. She will have a sign up.

Spiritual Development. We continue to be in the Season of Pentecost in 'ordinary time', the longest in the Church calendar, which lasts until Christ the King Sunday in November – the last Sunday in Nov.

Current Small Groups:

Sunday morning group 8:45-9:45am. Current series studying Proverbs is nearly complete. Next study will look at Paul's letters to the Philippians and to the Colossians.

Women's Bible Study: The group is meeting for fellowship and lunch, and reading "A Shepherd Looks at Psalm 23" by W. Phillip Keller.

Wednesday Night Praise and Fellowship gathering at 7pm. After worship, prayer requests are shared with communal prayer.

Nursery and Youth Church:

The nursery is available every Sunday for babies and children through age five, if needed.

Youth Church is available for ages 6-10 (1st – 5th grades) if there are students. Nothing planned for older kids b/c too much to ask of volunteers, but as needed could hold a class for 11-13-year-olds. Copies of the volunteer schedule including greeters & ushers are on wall above the water cooler and emailed to participants.

Prayer Opportunities:

- Prayer Chain: Contact Judy Cuyle at gnaatcat87@yahoo.com or call 279-5089.
- In-person: Saturday mornings at 8:00 am and Pastor Ed is available for prayer and conversation in the Sanctuary on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5:00 pm

Congregational Care: Thank you to Paula Nelson and Doug Nash for flowers for congregants. Also, prayer shawls continue.

Phone Visitations: This effort has fallen aside and needs a new coordinator to pick it up.

Outreach:

- Handouts will be provided at Food Pantry to keep folks aware of what's happening at church

Trustees: The trustees plan to meet next Monday the 19th, the 3rd Monday of the month to catch up on things that may have been set aside due to the pandemic.

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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.



Missions:

- Saturday, December 3rd is the date for the ladies Holiday luncheon. The theme is “Let There Be Peace On Earth.” This will be the 18th or so annual luncheon which is a very popular holiday retreat for women in the wider community, even drawing from outside Tompkins county. Though it hasn’t been held in 3 years, as many as 100 people have attended in the past.
- The Food Pantry is now a Missions ‘event’. Charlene recently completed food safety training.
- Highway cleanup of East King Rd for the fall will be advertised for a Saturday afternoon over the course of the next month or so.
- Lots of outreach ideas:
 - * discussion about sponsoring a bowling team or other team as an outreach event.
 - * Daryl is providing a witness and providing food and clothing needs though his backpack and school supplies program at a mobile home park in Newfield. Our mission as a church is to make disciples no matter where they are, so we would like to support this ministry even though its outside Danby. We provided hot dogs to one of his previous events there and may provide Christmas boxes there as the holiday approaches and the need is determined.
 - * Sheila has had a tough time trying to reach DSS downtown to figure out where the youth in Danby reside so she can contact them for needs. However, we may have access to needy students in the Newfield area so we may be able to provide for Danby youth if we had a similar list.
 - * Highway cleanup for East King rd. will be held one Saturday in the next few weeks.

SPOC:

- The committee met, and the pastor’s salary will have a cost-of-living (COLA) salary increase
- The committee will discuss nominations for vacancies on church boards and committees.

SAP: No meeting though Pastor Ed is glad to see more activity in the church.

Motion to adjourn (Gloria), second (Dale). Meeting ended at 8:13pm.

Respectfully submitted,
David McDermitt, church clerk

Volunteers Needed

for Road Clean Up Day
of East King Rd.

Contact Dave McDermitt
(Dave is looking for a date on
October or November)



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

Spiritual Development Update from Sheila Enstine

Important Dates: We are in the season of Pentecost or Ordinary Time, which ends with Christ the King Sunday on November 20th. The liturgical color is green to symbolize growth.

Adult Small Groups:

- ☐ **The Sunday morning group** completed the Book of Proverbs and we are beginning a new study on the letters from Paul to the Philippians and Colossians in the New Testament. Study guides are available for anyone interested in the class. The group meets from 8:45 – 9:45 am.
- ☐ **Wednesday Night Praise and Fellowship** gathers at 7 pm with the praise team and after worship, we share how Christ has moved in our lives and pray together.
- ☐ **The Women's Bible Study** is studying "A Shepherd Looks at Psalm 23" by W. Phillip Keller. See Suzanne Walker if you're interested in joining this group.

Safe Sanctuary Renewal: We held two sessions for our annual Safe Sanctuary Covenant Renewal and Workshop, August 16th and September 8th. A total of 18 people, including two new volunteers, attended the workshops. Thank you to all who attended and for your dedication to providing a safe place for children and youth.

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 are welcome to attend Children's Church. A Junior High/Tween group is pending, depending on interest and enough volunteers.

Family Ministry – Call to Prayer: The first step in reaching out to families is to pray for them. Pray for God's provision, protection, guidance, unity, and love, and wisdom for parents. Pray, not only for the love of Christ to enter their homes, but also for the love of Christ for parents to enter your heart. Love parents because Jesus loves them. Love the children because the parents need someone to come along side of them in the demanding job of raising children. Then, put wheels on your prayers. Make friends with and be a friend to families.

Prayer Opportunities:

- ☐ Prayer Chain: Contact Judy Cuyle at gnatcat87@yahoo.com or call 279-5089.
- ☐ In-person: Saturday mornings at 8:00 am. Tuesdays and Thursdays with Pastor Ed at 5:00 pm.

Congregational Care:

Let me know if you'd like to act as a Coordinator for the Prayer Shawl and Phone Visitation Ministries. The coordinators are not expected to do all the work, only coordinate and encourage.

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



Judy's Joke Corner

A mother was observing her 5 year old daughter who was drawing a picture. She asked, "What are you drawing?" The girl answered, "A picture of Jesus!"

Her mom said, "No one knows what Jesus looks like."
The daughter answered, "They will when I get done!"

A Sunday School teacher asked her class, "Why did Joseph and Mary take Jesus to Jerusalem?"
A little boy spoke up, "Because they couldn't afford a babysitter!"

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
Thursdays - Bible Study @ 7pm
Wednesdays, Live Music & Conversation @ 7pm
Sweet Hour of Prayer, Saturday, 8am

**TRUSTEE'S MEETING
SEPTEMBER 19, 2022**

PRESENT: Charlene Testut, Gloria Miller, Ed Enstine, Linda Hansen, Tom Prince

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. with prayer by Ed.

Fire inspection 8/22/2022 - passed inspection.

We have two burial plots in Pleasant Grove Cemetery we need to sell. Ed will find out who to contact at Pleasant Grove.

We discussed a cleanup day for the inside of the Church in the spring.

BUILDING USE:

AA continues to meet.

Tai Chi has returned their key as there were not enough people to meet.

PARSONAGE FUND:

\$2871.00

PROJECTS:

Fellowship Doors - Per Dan, Dave Mastroberti is supposed to be ordering the doors and will get back to us on the time line.

Sanctuary door handle lock needs to be adjusted. Charlene will contact Ace Security.

Heating unit in hallway - There was a leak which was drained. This needs repair so we can have heat.

Two furnaces under the Sanctuary need to be serviced as well as the furnace in the Parsonage. H&E has serviced in the past. We will ask to also service the boiler and possibly the water heater.

The slats keep falling out of the steeple. Possibly the Amish could repair. We will contact Tom Gray who has had work done by the Amish.

Discussion about the two large maple trees in the front which are dying. Tom Prince will contact someone about their status and how we will proceed.

Floors in the kitchen and Fellowship Hall need to be replaced. Discussion about options.

Floors in the Sanctuary are getting "spongy".

Radiators in the bathroom need attention.

A strip of siding is missing on the side of the church.

Some of the long tables need repair. Tom offered to take a look at them and see what could be done.

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A storm window in the church has fallen. Ed will talk with Dan about repairing.

A new light fixture is needed for the handicapped bathroom as well as the light fixture in the Fellowship Hall entrance. Ed will work on finding an electrician.

Ed recommended, for the small projects in the church, Castle Services 1-866-640-0838. He has used them in the past and found their prices to be reasonable.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m. with prayer by Tom.

Gloria Miler



Plans are underway for the annual Women's Holiday Retreat on Sat. Dec. 3, at Danby Community Church! The doors open at 8:30am for registration and snacks.

The morning program begins at 9:15am and the day ends at 3:30pm.

A praise team will lead the singing, followed by speakers and testimonies. The theme this year is: "Let There Be Peace on Earth!". A wonderful lunch will be served at noon, including favors and door prizes, followed by more speakers. We are trying to organize a welcoming committee, hoping that women from Danby Church will take part!

Please see Judy Horton if you want to help in any way!



The Ignatian Examen for Personal Prayer and Worship By Sheila Enstine

Last Month I introduced the Three Pillars of the Life of Grace: Passionate Worship, Study of the Word, and Grace-filled works.

I said that passionate worship is more than one hour on Sunday morning. “We prepare for that one hour on Sunday with personal worship during the week.”

Daily personal worship can include the same elements experienced in church, and just as the order of worship can change in congregational settings, so you can rearrange your own worship time.

However, beginning with praise is an essential first step. Jesus teaches us to do so in the Lord’s Prayer when he begins, “Our Father, who is in heaven, hallowed be your name” (Matthew 6:9), acknowledging God the Father as the ultimate, pure, and eternally good sovereign over our lives.



Many people follow an acronym like ACTS (adoration, confession, thanksgiving, supplication) or PRAY (praise, rest, ask, yield). In both of these examples, the worshipper begins with praise.

Another format is the Ignatian Examen. Developed by Saint Ignatius of Loyola in the 16th century, the Examen is a way to review your day and see what God is saying to you. The format does not stress “examination of conscience” as much as it emphasizes examining the last 24 hours to see “where God is waiving to you”, as one commentator said.

Followers of Ignatian spirituality have adapted St. Loyola’s original “Spiritual Exercises” to help modern worshippers deepen their relationships with God. If you would like more details, see the web site www.ignatianspirituality.com/ignatian-prayer/the-examen/.

The following five steps are compiled from the website and Jim Manney’s “A Simple Life-Changing Prayer” and should take 15 to 20 minutes. It can be used any time of day, but if you use the prayer in the morning, you would review the prior day.

Five Steps in the Ignatian Examen

1. Ask God for Light—I want to look at my day with God’s eyes, not merely my own.
2. Give Thanks—I Review the day with gratitude.
3. Review the Day—I carefully look back on the last 24 hours, being guided by the Holy Spirit. I Pay attention to my emotions.
4. Choose one feature of the day and pray from it—I face what is wrong, in my life and in me.
5. I look toward the day to come—I ask where I need God in the day to come.

Next month, we’ll look at another type of personal worship – the what, where, how and why of Christian meditation.



Danby Community Church
1859 Danby Road
Ithaca, NY 14850

www.danbychurch.org

Welcome Home!!

What's Happening?!?

Bible Study

Thursdays @ 7:00pm

Election Night Dinner

Tuesday, November 8

Women's Holiday Retreat & Luncheon

Saturday, Dec. 3

8:30 am - 3:30 pm