

# Danby Church News

“Adding to and Building up the Kingdom of God”

July 2024





# From Our Pastor!

## Honoring our Pastors

Being a pastor is an all-consuming calling in life, but the position of pastor in a church body is temporary. Sooner or later pastors must move on and entrust the fellowship they serve to someone else's care.

Over our two-hundred years of history, a long line of clergy has overseen the Danby Community Church, from Reverend Samuel Parker in 1807 to me in 2024.

Inevitably, after three generations no one alive will have met you, and as your name goes into history few will know anything about you. That's the reality of this world. This is no excuse to not preserve the memory of God's servants as best we can. We should keep records of people and events. After all, they have made us who we are.

Several weeks ago the son of Reverend DeForest Koontz contacted me about the lack of recognition of his father, a former Danby Federated pastor who has recently passed. Reverend Koontz was omitted from a list of pastors that were acknowledged during our 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary events. Upon searching through our historic records, it became apparent that we have lost track of his service as well as other pastors.

While researching existing records, we found that the documentation for the years between 1966 and 1974 is very sparse. Talking to several people who remembered those times didn't reveal much more than vague memories. From what we could reconstruct, the turbulent era of the Vietnam War negatively impacted our church and community.

From 1966 to 1973 we saw five different pastors. Reverend George Clarkson left the pulpit in 1966, followed by Eugene Durham, Reverend DeForest Koontz, Reverend Glen R. Stewart and Reverend Jimmy Miller, Jr. Both Reverend DeForest Koontz and Reverend Glen R. Stewart served three years each, but were not listed in our clergy records. This oversight is regrettable and is hereby corrected. They will be remembered, as they deserve to be, in our history.

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## Danby Church Officers and Leaders 2024

<b>Pastor:</b>	Ed Enstine eenstine@aol.com 607.592.8276
<b>Administrative Aide</b>	Lynn Kingston-Harris office@danbychurch.org 607.272.1687
<b>Administrative Council</b>	
Co-Chairpersons:	Paula Nelson sfcnelson@aol.com Sheila Enstine ssenstine@gmail.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
<b>Area Coordinators</b>	
<b>Hospitality:</b>	Charlene Testut
<b>Spiritual Development:</b>	Sheila Enstine
<b>Missions:</b>	Suzanne Walker suzrwalker@yahoo.com
<b>Staff, Pastor Oversight Committee SPOC:</b>	
Chair:	Katy Prince
<b>Praise Team Leaders:</b>	Katy & Tommy Prince
<b>Webmaster:</b>	Janet Gray jsg4@cornell.edu
<b>Newsletter Editor:</b>	Janet Gray
<b>Facebook:</b>	Janet Gray

## On the Cover

**Ray and Charlotte Mayo\***  
\*In memory of Charlotte who  
went to be with Jesus this past June.

*From the Pastor continued from page 2*

We regret this oversight and have reconstructed our historic clergy record which follows.

While we can't find the documentation we'd like, our past clergy make up the tapestry of who we have become. We present the following list of clergy and laity who served the Lord from our pulpit, in both the good and difficult times in our history, as an official record of honorable service.

**Danby Congregational Church 1807**

1807-1812	No regular pastor, neighboring ministers officiated
1812-1826	Rev. Samuel Parker
1826-1828	No regular pastor: those below filled in one or more times
1826	Solomon Stevens (not yet ordained)
1827	Marcus Ford
1827	Jeremiah Osborne
1827	John Clark
1827	John Gosman
1828	John Smith
1828-1829	Rev. Solomon Stevens
1829-1831	Rev. M. L. Farnsworth
1831-1833	Rev. Solomon Stevens
1833-1835	John Sherer
1835-1840	William Clark
1840-1841	No regular pastor
1841-1853	Rev. Stephen Van Vorhis
1853-1855	Vacant pulpit
1855-1857	Rev. William Henry Adams
1856-1858	Rev. Richard Woodruff (overlap)
1858-1861	Rev. S. Ottman
1861-1862	Rev. Henry Carpenter
1862-1866	Rev. Warren Mayo
1866-1868	Rev. R. A. Wheelock
1868-1872	Rev. Henry Carpenter
1872-1875	Rev. Wellar

1875-1888
1888-1889
1889-1890
1890-1890
1890-1892
1892-1894
1894-1934

Rev. Samuel Johnson
No regular pastor
Rev. Solomon Weiss
John G. Smith
Rev. John Marsland
Rev. J. Rosser Jones
Rev. B. Frank Tobey (longest serving pastor at Danby Church)
Rev. Thomas G. Miller
Rev. Lagrand E. Chase
Rev. Herrick Smith

1934-12/36
1/37-1946
1946-1951
<b>1951-1954</b>
7/51-6/52
6/52-12/52
12/52-6/53
7/53-9/53
10/53-8/54
8/54-9/56

**Below: \* Student pastors with overlap**  
 \*Dean Rogers  
 \*Rev. Ralph Harris  
 \*James Kennedy  
 \*Calvin Graziano  
 \*Rev. Donald Buckey

**became Danby Federated Church 9-29-1958**

12/56-6/66
7/66-12/66
1/67-6/70
7/70-6/73
7/73-6/94
7/94-12/00
1/01-9/06
10/06-4/09
5/09-Present

Rev. George Clarkson
Eugene Durham
Rev. DeForest Koontz
Rev. Glen R. Stewart
Rev. E. Jimmy Miller Jr.
Rev. Charles Hakes
Rev. Wilfred Baez
Rev. Mike Grinnals
Rev. Ed Enstine

Welcome **HOME**

a place where you belong

Sunday Worship Celebration @ 10 am  
 Sunday Youth Church @ 10:30am  
 Sunday Adult Education Class Summer Break- return fall  
 Tuesdays "Low Hanging Fruit" Study @ 7pm  
 Wednesdays, Live Music & Conversation @ 7pm  
 Thursdays, Pastor's Bible Study @ 7pm  
 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>!

## **Spiritual Development Update** *from Sheila Enstine*

### **Important Dates for July 2024:**

We are in the season of Ordinary Time (from the Latin “ordinal” meaning counted), which extends from the day after Pentecost through the Saturday before Advent. Traditionally, the Church emphasizes Jesus’ teachings on the Kingdom of God during this season.

### **Small Groups:**

**The Sunday morning group** is on break from June through August. We expect to reconvene in September.

**Tuesday Evenings at 7 pm**, Pastor Ed leads a study of John Kimball’s “Low Hanging Fruit”. Kimball offers practical advice on how to prepare for sharing our faith and how to build redemptive relationships.

**The Wednesday night Praise and Fellowship** gathers at 7 pm with the praise team. After worship, we have a time of fellowship and prayer.

**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** is meeting monthly during the summer at individuals’ homes. Dates and locations will be announced at church. The group is studying the book “A Layman Looks at the Lord’s Prayer” by W. Phillip Keller. Keller also wrote “A Shepherd Looks at Psalm 23” and “Lessons from a Sheepdog,” which they’ve studied in previous years.

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

**Children’s Church:** After the first set of worship music on Sundays, children ages 6 through 10 (about 5<sup>th</sup> grade) are welcome to attend Children’s Church.

### **Prayer Opportunities:**

- **In-person Prayer** is Mondays from 5:00 – 5:30 PM. Gather with others in the sanctuary for a dedicated time of intercession to our Lord.
- **Prayer Chain:** Contact Katy Prince at [katyprince96@gmail.com](mailto:katyprince96@gmail.com).
- **Church Prayer Calendar:** The participation sheet for the monthly prayer calendar will be circulated on the first and second Sundays of each month.

### **Congregational Care:**

Thank you to Paula Nelson and Doug Nash for faithfully arranging for flower deliveries and many thanks to those who have prayed for, visited, and delivered meals to recuperating members of our church family.

If you have other ideas for studies, prayer or congregational care, please contact 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](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.**



*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*

# Summer Reading and the Season of Growth

By Sheila Enstine

During the long period between Pentecost Sunday and the Sunday before Advent, the Christian Church observes the season of Ordinary Time. This is a season of spiritual growth that coincides with the natural season of plant growth.

Here in the northeast, we luxuriate in the lush green of a multitude of flora and fauna. This is possible due to ample rain and sun and fertile soil.

Imagine your soul producing a spiritual crop as lush and vigorous as the plant world. That is the hope and possibility of the Church for all faithful believers during Ordinary Time.

To accomplish this spiritual growth, the Church has traditionally focused on the fertile soil of Jesus' teaching about his Kingdom, with an emphasis on Jesus' parables of the Kingdom. You will find the parables in the three synoptic Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke.



“The Kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hidden in a field...” (Matt. 13:44).

“The Kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea...” (Matt. 13:47).

“The kingdom of God is like a man who casts seed upon the soil...” (Mark 4:3).

“What is the kingdom of God like? And to what shall I compare it?” (Luke 13:18).

Set aside time this summer—maybe in a lawn chair with a glass of lemonade or iced tea—and read through the parables. The following is a much abbreviated list of scripture references for a few of the parables. Some are found in only one Gospel and some parables have cross references in the other Gospel accounts. You'll find that each rendering gives a different slant to the meaning of the story. Always pray before reading, asking the Holy Spirit to be your Guide and Teacher, so that you might have a greater understanding of what the parables are telling you about God, about people, about God's relationship with people, and about yourself.

<u>PARABLE</u>	<u>MATTHEW</u>	<u>MARK</u>	<u>LUKE</u>
The Sower	13:3—23	4:3—20	8:5—15
The Seed Growing		4:26—29	
The Weeds	13:24—30; 36—43		
The Mustard Seed	13:31—32	4:30—32	13:18—19
The Pearl of Great Price	13:45—46		
The Good Samaritan			10:29—37
The Waiting Servants			12:35—38
The Fig Tree 1			13:6—9
The Fig Tree 2	21:18-22	11:12-24	
The Fig Tree 3	24:32—35	13:28—31	21:29-33

Enjoy your summer with Jesus, hearing his parables again, as if for the first time.

**Danby Community Church**  
**Administrative Council Meeting**  
**June 10, 2024**

**Present.** Pastor Ed Enstine, Sheila Enstine, Charlene Testut, Gloria Miller, Paula Nelson, and David McDermitt.

**INVOCATION.** Pastor Ed opened with prayer.

**TREASURER REPORT:** Paula presented the report. Everything is paid up. Motion to accept Treasurer's report (Gloria), second (Charlene), carried.

**CLERK'S MINUTES.** Motion to approve May's meeting minutes (Charlene), second (Sheila), carried.

**FINANCIAL SEC'Y REPORT:** Motion to approve May income report (Gloria), second (Charlene), carried.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- Pew Bibles. Sheila found that the NIV Bible was designed to have language changes, so using that version may not be the right choice, but she will continue looking into this.
- Internal Audit. Sheila has begun the long process of reviewing the church accounts starting with the past year and working backwards as time allows.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Former Pastor. The church was recently contacted by the relatives of one of our former pastors (from the 1970s) who died. They noticed his name was omitted from an informal list of church pastors they came across on our website. Pastor Ed is writing them back and the church will also compile and print an updated list of pastors with his name included.
- Community garden. The mulch and fill are coming. It's not too late to plant.

**REPORTS.**

**Hospitality.**

- The coffee & donuts will continue for now though we may look at changes in frequency during the slower summer months.

**Spiritual Development.** The church is in the season of Ordinary Time – the longest of the liturgical year. Ordinary doesn't mean routine, it refers to 'ordinal numbers' (1, 2, 3...) and the way weeks are counted. It is centered on Jesus's parables of His coming Kingdom. The liturgical color is green signifying new growth.

**Current Small Groups:**

**Sunday morning group 8:45-9:45am.** This is on hiatus until the fall.

**Tuesday night group.** 7:00pm. Pastor Ed is leading a discussion of John Kimball's "Low Hanging Fruit: Partnering with the Holy Spirit for Greater Ministry Impact".

**Thursday night Bible study.** 7:00pm. Pastor Ed continues his study of the Gospel of Matthew.

**Friday Women's Bible Study:** The group is studying the book, 'A Layman Looks at the LORD's Prayer by W.

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Phillip Keller. Please see Suzanne with questions.

**Wednesday Night Praise and Fellowship.** Informal weekly gathering at 7pm.

**Nursery and Youth Church:**

**The nursery** is available every Sunday for babies and children up to age five, as needed.

**Youth Church** is available for ages 6-10 (grades 1-5). If there are students, learning will be centered on ‘the Beatitudes’.

Copies of the volunteer schedule including greeters & ushers are on wall above the water cooler and emailed to participants.

**Prayer Opportunities:**

- Prayer Chain: Thanks to Katy Prince who can be contacted at “katyprince96@gmail.com”.
- Tuesday evenings at the church with Pastor Ed and Sheila, 5:30 – 6:30 pm. The time is subject to change to make it a more convenient time for people to drop in.
- The latest monthly prayer calendar organized by Sheila, is in effect.

Thank you to Doug Nash and Paula Nelson for donating and coordinating flower deliveries.

**Food Pantry.**

- The monthly food pantry is this week. Last month 87 families were served.

**Trustees.**

- Cupola. A contract has been signed with Kangaroo for their help in removing and installing the slats in the church cupola slats.
- Water softener. They are looking into switching to a new company, Lowe’s, out of Trumansburg.
- Road sign. A new church sign will cost \$19,430 with an installation cost of \$5,000-\$7,000.

**Missions.**

- Paula paid Second Wind (\$100) and Renovation House (\$50).

**SPOC.**

- Did not meet.

**SAP:** Did not meet this month.

Motion to adjourn (Gloria); Second (Sheila). The meeting ended at 7:59 pm.



Respectfully submitted,  
David McDermitt, Administrative council clerk



Danby Community Church  
 1859 Danby Road  
 Ithaca, NY 14850

[www.danbychurch.org](http://www.danbychurch.org)

# Welcome Home!!

## What's Happening this Summer?

1859 Danby Rd  
 Danby, New York

**WINGS AND WHEELS**  
 ...and root beer too!  
**SATURDAY, JULY 20TH**  
 1pm - 4pm  
 Bring your favorite ride to show off and enjoy  
 free wings and root beer!

**Re-Use**  
**SALE**

And **Bake Sale**

Friday July 26/ 3-7 pm  
 Saturday July 27/ 9am-1pm

Danby Community Church  
 invites you to  
**Sundaes on Wednesdays**



**Wednesdays: July 24, August 7 & 14**

6:30 pm **FREE** Ice Cream Sundaes

**FREE** Music @ 7pm

July 24 - Ithaca Concert Band  
 August 7 - The Ageless Jazz Band\*

\*Made possible with funds from the New York State Council on the Arts and Tompkins County, administered by the Community Arts Partnership.

August 14 - Dee Specker

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