



Danby Church News

"Adding to and Building up the Kingdom of God"

June 2024





From Our Pastor!

The three inevitable curses of human life are: death, taxes, and building maintenance.

The first two are self-explanatory. For a church, the latter can be either ignored or put off, but sooner or later the bill for neglect comes due.

Praise God the Lord has overcome the curse of death! Our savior has taught us how to cope with taxes, “Render unto Cesar”. But there’s precious little in the Bible about building maintenance beyond “share one another’s burdens”.

In the first centuries of Christendom, congregations met in private homes, often those of the wealthy who had room enough for a crowd, but any home would do as long as the Spirit was there. The move to dedicated buildings meant a greater public presence and paved the way for larger congregations, but at the price of shared upkeep.

Fast forward to today and our beloved facility requires some badly needed repairs and updating and that’s going to take—you guessed it—some money.

It is time to pitch in together and fix our steeple before it suffers more weather damage. \$ are needed. The sign out front needs replacing. \$\$ needed. The floor in the fellowship hall and kitchen is crumbling away. \$\$\$ needed.

This is good news as well as bad news. The good news is that we use this building a lot. It has served us well, but everything wears out.

None of these projects are frivolous and all are necessary. All

From the Pastor continued on page 3

What’s in this Issue?

From Our Pastor.....	2
Seven Sacred Pauses.....	4
Admin Council Minutes.....	6
Spiritual Development Report.....	8
Movie Night.....	11

Danby Church Officers and Leaders 2024

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

On the Cover

Sue Benniger and Meleina

three proposed improvements have been considered for need, cost, and benefit. We have contractors available, but we need to secure additional financing before we can begin work.

A substantial amount of the funds has been donated already but more is needed. Please pray about what God would have you contribute to this effort.

If we all give as we are able, all will benefit greatly. Our building is a remarkable center of worship for our community and needs to be maintained for future generations of Christians to call home.

As you discern what God is moving you to do, please talk to me or the Trustees about any concerns or how you feel led to contribute. We will keep all conversations confidential. Again, please pray for guidance and no matter how you are directed to give, know that you are loved by God and your sisters and brothers of this congregation.



PRAYER PUPS BY JEFFREY SMITH



CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



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

Seven Sacred Pauses
Living Mindfully Through the Hours of the Day
By Macrina Wiederkehr
Reviewed by Sheila Enstine

You might think that Macrina Wiederkehr has little advice for people living in the secular world, far from any monastic community in miles or lifestyle. Don't let her calling as a Benedictine sister fool you.

After receiving her bachelor's and master's degrees in education, Sister Macrina served Christ as a teacher, retreat director, vocation director, and spiritual advisor. In addition to her full career, she authored nine books. One of those, *Seven Sacred Pauses Living Mindfully Through the Hours of the Day*, shows how Sister Macrina trusted in ancient wisdom to navigate her busy days.

When speaking of the hours of the day, the Sister was not referring to 24 sixty-minute segments. Instead, she used the language of the early Christian monastic communities—even the language of the Bible—to refer to living our lives in tandem with each day's natural rhythm.

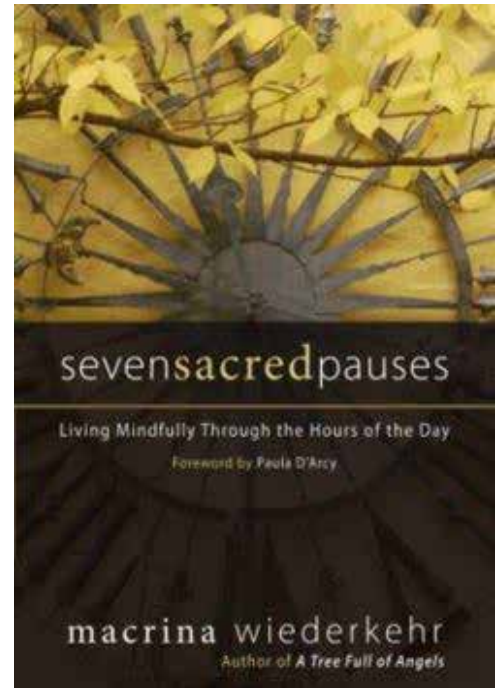
The book invites us to receive the “the grace of each hour” seven times during a 24 hour period. Rather than stopping to pray at each “hour,” we move through the day with greater mindfulness and grace, joining Christ in sacred pauses.

Each of the seven “hours” is covered in its own chapter with a meditation on the theme for that portion of the day. That is followed by suggested antiphons (short repeatable phrases), longer prayers, verses from the Psalms, poetry, and quotations from John Milton, Kahlil Gibran, Emily Dickenson, Thomas Merton, Eugenia Price, and many more.

The following is a very brief outline of the hours and their themes.

1. The Night Watch, also known as matins or vigils. The theme is vigilance, hence the name. Early morning, while it is still dark, we can offer a pre-dawn prayer. We keep vigil with Christ for those in crisis or hopelessness. Words are not needed. Only keep watch as a sentinel in prayer.
2. The Awakening Hour. You may have heard of this one as “lauds,” meaning praise, because this is the hour of praise and resurrection. Macrina quotes the Liturgy of the Hours here, “Shine your love on us each dawn and gladden all our days.”
3. Midmorning, the Blessing Hour. We pause in the heart of the workday to turn our thoughts briefly back to God. Here is a “little oasis” for one's spirit and we remember that our work is intended to bless others.
4. Midday, the Hour of Illumination. The sun is at its peak. Themes include courage, recommitment, passion and peace. This is an hour of opposites. Is the day half empty or half full of its hours? Beware the thief at noonday, the ancient enemy acedia (apathy).

Seven Sacred Pauses continued on page 5



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

5. The Wisdom Hour or the Ninth Hour. Themes are steadfastness, surrender, forgiveness, wisdom, impermanence, aging, maturing, death, and transition. Although this seems an unlikely time to slow down, as many of us transition from work to evening schedules, we need to remember the difference between clock time (chronos) and soul time (kairos), "...which is a sacred moment of readiness for spiritual growth. When our day becomes eaten up with chronos, it is time to embrace kairos."
6. The Twilight Hour or Vespers/Evensong. As shadows lengthen and the sun begins its multi-colored setting, we move into a time to reconnect with family and friends. In monastic communities this is the time of evening prayer and Eucharist. Gratitude, feasting, and lighting lights are themes. This is also time to pause and ask questions about the day we've completed and to check the conditions of our hearts and souls.
7. The Great Silence or Compline. Darkness has descended. Themes are silence, rest, sleep, darkness, trust, and completion. In fact, "compline" comes from a word that means complete. At this last hour of the day we turn our thoughts inward for "gentle evaluation." We give Christ our successes and sorrows, trusting in His delight and mercy. We acknowledge two kinds of darkness, the darkness of sin and suffering and the holy darkness of God that St. John of the Cross speaks of "...with no other light to guide than the one that burned in my heart."

"The pauses throughout the day can be our teachers," says Sister Macrina, and she reminds us that as children we welcomed pauses, like the snack in kindergarten or recess in grade school. We knew intuitively that we needed to pause and "...perhaps a backward glance and a prayer to that child so long ago might be beneficial to the weary grown up so many of us have become."

Macrina Wiederkehr's guide through the Seven Sacred Pauses of the Day is a treasure chest of insight and a wealth of timeless reflections. Perhaps practicing the Hours can help you to pause, breathe, and receive the blessings of the day.

Seven Sacred Pauses is published by Sorin Books, an imprint of Ave Maria Press.

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, Prayer Meeting @ 5:30pm
Tuesdays "Sharing Our Faith with Others" @ 7pm
Wednesdays, Live Music & Conversation @ 7pm
Thursdays, Pastor's Bible Study @ 7pm
Women's Bible Study In summer: time and date TBA

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.



Danby Community Church
Administrative Council Meeting
May 13, 2024

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

INVOCATION. Pastor Ed opened with prayer at 7:04 pm.

CLERK'S MINUTES. Motion to approve April's meeting minutes (Gloria), second (Sheila), carried.

FINANCIAL SEC'Y REPORT: Motion to approve April income report (Sheila), second (Charlene), carried.

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

OLD BUSINESS:

- Chicken & Biscuit. The net proceeds from the 3 dinners came to \$1,381.02.
- Pew Bibles. Sheila investigated and found a hardback Bible that costs \$16/book. It is copyrighted 2017, so she'll buy a copy, review how language changes might have changed the meaning of the text, and if we're comfortable with the changes, she will buy the remainder - up to a total of 20 of them."

NEW BUSINESS: Sheila is wondering whether we should renew our subscription to Christian Living. She will mention this at church and move them to a more visible place near the Sanctuary exit.

REPORTS.

Hospitality.

- The chicken & biscuit, and women's Gala events were held.
- Sundaes on Wednesdays are scheduled as follows:
 - July 24th (rain date - 30th). Ithaca Concert Band
 - August 7th. Ageless Jazz band.
 - August 14th. Dee Specker.

The Ithaca Concert Band performs for free, and the Ageless Jazz band is paid for by a grant, so the only cost to the church is for Dee Specker's concert.

Spiritual Development. The church is in the Easter season until Pentecost Sunday, which is this Sunday, May 19th.

Current Small Groups:

Sunday morning group 8:45-9:45am. Sheila is leading a 3-week study in the Book of Galatians after which will follow a break for the summer before restarting in the fall following a David C. Cooke Bible study plan.

Tuesday night group. 7:00pm. Pastor Ed is leading a study of John Kimball's "Low Hanging Fruit: Partnering

Council Minutes continued on page 7

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 active; 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.

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 87-89 families were served.

Trustees.

- The cost of repairing the cupola is about \$5,000; this includes the cost of Kanga-roof removing and re-installing the horizontal slats on the louvers; Tommy knows someone who can repair the slats once they’re down.
- A new church sign is high on their priority list.
- There was another small ‘flood’ in the back of the education wing; this happens annually when the heat is turned off; Tommy was able to make repairs to it.

Missions.

- Paula sent the money to Heifer to buy the goat (\$120), garden seeds (\$60), and a flock of chickens (\$20).

SPOC.

- Did not formally meet this month but have discussed things that need to get done.

SAP: Did not meet this month. Pastor Ed reported that he will be going to Pennsylvania for the Congregational Institute, June 3 – June 7th or 8th.

Motion to adjourn (Gloria). The meeting ended at 7:38 pm.

~~~~~  
Respectfully submitted,  
David McDermitt, Administrative council clerk

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

### **Important Dates for June 2024:**

The season after Pentecost is called Ordinary Time. The longest season in the Church year, Ordinary Time extends from the day after Pentecost through the Saturday before Advent.

After celebrating the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, churches use Ordinary Time to emphasize Jesus' teachings about the kingdom of God. Pentecost assures us that the Holy Spirit is with us as we spend the growing season together in study, reflection, work, prayer, and play.

Yes, you read that right. Playing together can help us grow in our love for each other, for God, and for his beautiful creation. Sundaes on Wednesdays, the Community Garden, and perhaps some spontaneous picnics and games are all possibilities for play.

### **Small Groups (note changes in bold type):**

**The Sunday morning group is taking a 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 will meet monthly during the summer.** Dates, time, and locations will be announced.

**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:** **The in-person prayer time is changing to Mondays at 5:00 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 June prayer calendar will be circulated on Sunday June 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### **Congregational Care:**

Thank you to Paula Nelson and Doug Nash for faithfully arranging for flower deliveries.

If you have other ideas for studies, prayer or congregational care, please contact Sheila Enstine.





## East King Rd Clean-Up!

Two fabulous ladies, Sheila and Mary, joined me to finish the last section of the spring road cleanup today on East King Rd. Got some beeps and thank yous from passerbys and homeowners, and enjoyed each other's company - and the rain held off till we finished!

Dave McDermitt



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**



*Danby Community Church  
1859 Danby Rd. Ithaca, NY  
[www.danbychurch.org](http://www.danbychurch.org)*

A poster for the "Wings and Wheels" event. It features a motorcycle, a large tire with wings, a purple classic car, and a mug of root beer. The text includes the event name, date, time, and location. The background is yellow and black with geometric shapes.

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

Community Church  
1859 Danby Rd  
Ithaca, New York  
Danby



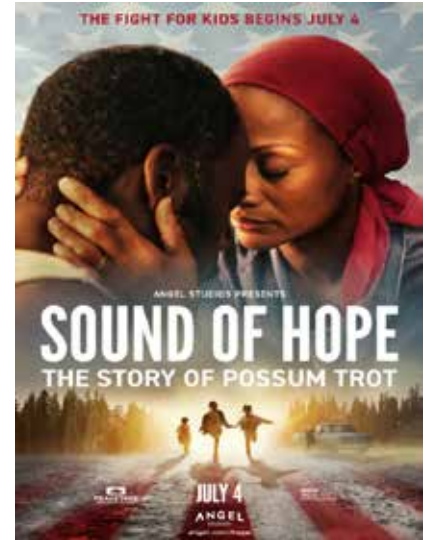
# Movie Night

The summer is here and it stays light out until 9pm, so no movies at church until fall, BUT, there are some terrific movies at the theaters this summer! Check these out! These movies should all be showing at the Regal Cinemas.

*July 4, 2024*

## SOUND OF HOPE: THE STORY OF POSSUM TROT

SOUND OF HOPE is based on the true story of a small church in Possum Trot, Texas where 22 families linked arms and courageously adopted 77 of the most-difficult-to-place children in their local foster care system, igniting a national movement that continues today to care for vulnerable children. From Angel Studios.



*August 2, 2024*

## THE FIRING SQUAD

Inspired by a true story, The Firing Squad is a powerful reminder that anyone can be redeemed by Jesus. Imprisoned for their crimes, two former drug dealers meet Jesus in their darkest hours, their hearts forever changed. As they face execution by firing squad, a spiritual revolution ignites within the prison camp, guiding the souls of the most hardened criminals toward the loving embrace of Christ.



*August 23, 2024*

## THE FORGE

Isaiah Wright has some growing up to do. A year out of high school with no plans for his future, Isaiah is challenged by his single mom and a successful businessman to start charting a better course for his life. Through the prayers of his mother and biblical discipleship from his new mentor, Isaiah begins to discover God's purpose for his life is so much more than he could hope for or imagine. From the Kendrick Brothers, the creators of the No. 1 hit WAR ROOM, comes THE FORGE, a faith-filled new movie with old friends and inspiring new twists. From the Kendrick Brothers.



\*\*\*\*NEWS\*\*\*\*\* We now have a large screen TV in the Fellowship Hall donated by Katy and Tommy Prince. The new season of Chosen is coming out, thinking about a fellowship time to watch. *Janet Gray*



Danby Community Church  
1859 Danby Road  
Ithaca, NY 14850

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

**Welcome Home!!**

What's Happening is Summer?

**LAST FREE COFFEE AND DONUTS UNTIL FALL**

**Mon. 6/17 - 8am - 10:30am**

**Community Coffee Chat**

**WINGS AND WHEELS**

**Saturday, July 20, 1pm- 4pm**

**SUNDAES ON WEDNESDAYS**

**Wednesdays, July 24, August 7 and 14 @ 6:30pm**

**REUSE SALE**

**Friday, July 26, 3-7pm and Saturday, July 27 , 9am - 1pm**