



Pastor's Page

In the Report of the Pastor for the Annual Report, I shared a bit about the Session's decision and effort to reorganize its work for the church. We took on this task at a Session retreat in January of 2020. At that retreat your session affirmed the DPC's existing mission and core values:

"To be a vibrant congregation growing in our faith, living out the two great commandments, energized by God's love. Core Values: We open our hearts and doors to all people because we are all created in the image of God. We devote our resources to helping our neighbors near and far. We educate ourselves and the community to make relevant the teachings of Jesus. We celebrate our gifts and seek God's guidance in sharing them. We worship together to expand our faith, and deepen our relationship with God.

In developing a possible new structure for our governance, we are not negating the good work of the past – we are hoping to ensure that the good work of DPC continues into the future. We do not think any previous organizational structure was / is 'bad,' instead we are hoping to find a structure that serves the church in our current context in a way that increases not only effectiveness but participation and joy. We want the organization of church governance to help the church to be the church – to assist DPC to live out its mission and core values.



As you know, the pandemic short circuited many plans – for ourselves, our families and for the church. The pandemic has also increased the awareness of the need to encourage a new way to be the church together. At the September 2020 session meeting several elders volunteered to meet and develop a proposal for how we might reorganize our church governance. Nancy Braaten, Irene Harbison, Laura Scott and Pastor Karen Pollan formed the sub-committee.

Session spent quite a bit of time discussing our church structure (elders, deacons, committees, task forces) and a sub-committee met to craft plans. Here are some things

we think are true: structure should serve the work of the church - *not be the work of the church*. Good, caring people want to do God's work - but are not so interested in going to meetings. It is difficult to fill our current slate of church officers. Another difficulty in our current structure is the work of committees can feel isolated and not connected to the other committees and some committees meet very infrequently. We are not saying that our current policy is 'bad' just that it may not be as useful to the church as it has been in the past. And we are not changing the mission of the church. Our mission is to share and show the love of Jesus - but how we organize that work may be a little different.



The Session is not changing the formal policy of the church at this time. We are going to experiment in the first half of 2021. We are trying a 'team' approach to leadership. There will be 3 ministry teams: Core, Care, and Support. Each elder will be assigned to a team. We are trying NOT to use committee language as we discuss the different ministry areas. You will find more about the 3 different areas inside the newsletter along with meeting days and times for March.

Right now the meetings will be held via zoom. A link will be sent to everyone prior to the meetings. I hope you will attend a Ministry meeting with your energy, enthusiasm, and love.

We want to empower the congregation to be involved in God's work and facilitate ideas and creativity. Is this plan perfect? No - but as we engage faithfully, we believe that with God's help, the work of DPC will continue to be a blessing in the future as it has been in the past.

To be a vibrant congregation, growing in our faith, living out the two great commandments, energized by God's love.

Delmar Presbyterian Church Activities Calendar

March 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
28 10 am Livestream worship	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 10 am Livestream worship	8	9	10 7 pm Care Ministry via Zoom	11	12	13
14 10 am Livestream worship	15	16 7 pm Support Ministry via Zoom	17	18 7 pm Core Ministry via Zoom	19	20
21 10 am Livestream worship	22	23	24 1 pm Ladies Who Care via Zoom	25	26	27
28 PALM SUNDAY 10 am Livestream worship OGHS offering	29	30	31	1 MAUNDY THURSDAY	2 GOOD FRIDAY	3 PRAYER VIGIL

Mondays: 10 a.m. Bible Study via Zoom

Wednesdays: 11:30 a.m. Background to the Scripture Readings via Zoom

DEACONS

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

3	Dan Krzykowski
3	Nancy Lynk
4	Mary Fleischut
6	Bailey MacTavish
8	Lonny Chase
8	Dan Lewis
9	Prince Bolleddu
10	James Carroll
11	Edima Ekwo Mbi
13	Lois Hessberg

16	Susan Kilgallon
19	Patrick Carroll
19	Betty Thacher
24	Anne Crawford
27	Kevin Kilgallon
27	Sussan Mbi
27	Trish McGinn
27	Katarina Rees
29	Jack Gajewski
31	Midge Trivers

CORE MINISTRY

Core Ministry focuses on spiritual growth through worship and faith formation opportunities for people at all ages and stages of their journey with Christ.
Elders assigned: Ravi Bolleddu, Tricia Hertz, Nina Nichols

Next Meeting – Thursday, March 18, at 7 pm via Zoom

Worship and Activities for Lent 2021



Seeds of Promise

Week of February 22 - 26

What's in a name?

02/28 An Everlasting Promise
Genesis 17:1-17

Week of February 29 - March 5

Painted Rocks

03/07 Broken Promise
John 2:13-22

Week of March 8 – 12

Mosaic Heart

03/14 Beyond Promise
John 3:14-21

Week of March 15 – 19

Origami Heart Envelope

03/21 The Heart of Promise
Jeremiah 31:31-34

Week of March 22 – 26

Clay candle sticks

03/28 Palm Sunday

Mark 11:1-11

Wave your palms! Use them to decorate your table at meal time

Maundy Thursday

Add your candles to your table

Good Friday

Prayer cross – hold the cross in your palm and pray for yourself and the world.

PLEASE SHARE YOUR PROJECTS WITH US!
We would enjoy seeing how you and your family celebrated Lent this season.

Send photos to office@delmarpres.org

CARE MINISTRY

Care Ministry is focused on effectively demonstrating and communicating DPC's core values within our church and out in our community. Being advocates and support for our neighbors near and far through social events, awareness activities, and relief efforts.

Elders assigned: Nancy Braaten, Irene Harbison, Laura Scott

Next Meeting – Wednesday, March 10, at 7 pm via Zoom

Ladies Who Care

Wednesday, March 24 at 1 PM

Ladies and Gents are welcome!



A Walk through the Pine Bush

Join the Albany Pine Bush education staff on an extraordinary journey (via Zoom) into the Albany Pine Bush – a globally rare, nationally significant and locally distinct inland pine barrens. We will explore the geology, ecology, and unique diversity of life, as well as how we are working to ensure the survival of this landscape for generations to come.

You will not want to miss this educational opportunity and perhaps explore this local landmark in person this spring or summer!



Message from Capital Region Interfaith Creation Care Coalition *Walk for Climate*

Join us for an Interfaith Walk for Climate on Thursday, March 11, 2021, from 11 AM to 1 PM. We start at First Lutheran Church at 181 Western Ave., Albany (parking available) and proceed to a walk around the NYS Capitol and back with masks and social distancing. Sponsored by GreenFaith, NY Renews, and Capital Region Interfaith Creation Care Coalition. For more information go to the Events page of www.capitalcreationcare.org.



SPECIAL OFFERINGS
ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Sunday, March 28
Palm Sunday

SUPPORT MINISTRY

Support Ministry enables the work of the church by faithful stewardship of the church's resources. Elders assigned: Jim Finke, Dave Rees, Lynda Spielman.

Next Meeting – Tuesday, March 16, at 7 pm via Zoom



Important Zoom Information: Version Update Required

A note about Zoom: Effective February 26th you MUST be on version 5.05 or later to be on a call. This particularly affects anyone who calls in using the Zoom app. And you must be on at least that version to be able to be in a Zoom room. Please check your Zoom version and be sure you update yours.

Here's how: **Zoom Desktop Client (PC or Mac)**

1. Sign in to Zoom desktop client.
 2. Click your profile picture then click Check for Updates.
If there is a newer version, Zoom will download and install it.
-

COVID Care Update

When you come to the church building, you will notice a new weapon against COVID-19. It's called Silver Defender, an adhesive film with antimicrobial protection built in to protect surfaces (like door handles) from contamination. According to the company, "these films employ Silver ions to protect the film from deterioration while they are affixed to surfaces." The film will be replaced every 90 days to maintain its effectiveness.



An outside company continues our COVID cleaning on a weekly basis, and we are happy to welcome Tricia Hertz as part-time custodian for ongoing maintenance of the building. She is doing an excellent job keeping DPC clean and safe.

For your safety, hand sanitizer stations have been placed throughout the building. Three are self-standing and one is wall mounted. Masks and cleaning wipes are available in the office, narthex and kitchen.

When you visit, please remember to sign in so we are able to contact you in the event of possible exposure.

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

February 16, 2021



Installation class of 2023: Two Elders, Laura Scott and Jim Finke, were installed. The installation of two absent Elders, Ravi Bolleddu and David Rees was postponed. Lynda Spielman was elected as Clerk of Session

Stewardship. The Session received a report on the January financials. They decided to make phone calls to members who usually pledge, but who have not to date. Deacon Sarah Carroll and Elder Jim Finke will make the calls.

Strategic Planning. The Session approved a motion to proceed with reorganizing on the basis of Areas of Ministry for a trial period through to June, 2021. Three Session members per three Areas were assigned to Core Ministry, Care Ministry and Support Ministry. Each will meet starting next month in March, and alternate with a full Session meeting. The next full Session meeting is scheduled for April. Each Ministry will develop a mission statement and description to communication to the congregation.

Several Elders volunteered at Pastor Pollan's request to record One Great Hour of Sharing Minutes for Mission.

The Session also approved the January 17, 2021 Minutes and Communion via Zoom for February 17, 2021 for Ash Wednesday and March 7. They received the congregational meetings minutes for January 31 and February 14.

The next Session meeting will be April 20, 2021 via Zoom.

BOARDS OF GOVERNANCE
2021

Moderator of Session

Rev. Karen Pollan

Clerk of Session

Lynda Spielman

ELDERS

Class of 2021	Class of 2022	Class of 2023
Nancy Braaten Care	Lynda Spielman Support	Ravi Bolleddu Core
Irene Harbison Care		James Finke Support
Tricia Hertz Core		David Rees Support
Nina Nichols Core		Laura Scott Care

DEACONS

Class of 2021	Class of 2022	Class of 2023
Ginny Gajewski	Liza Ahner	David Andersen
Jean Somerville	Sarah Carroll	Mary Greagan
Open	Drew Hyde	Peggy Mull

Areas of Responsibility

Core Ministry:

Christian Education, Worship

Care Ministry:

Congregational Life, Deacons, Earth Care Task Force, Outreach

Support Ministry:

Administration, Building and Grounds, COVID Task Force, Finance

Other:

Stewardship and Personnel > Session