August 6, 2023

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Pray for your Enemies

If there is one thing, we can all agree on, it is that we are currently living in a very turbulent time in history. Left is right, up is down, good is bad. Older generations often tell me how life back in the day was easier. They reminisce about a forgotten time when people just got along. While I agree that the era we are currently being asked to navigate is challenging, I reject the idea that previous generations necessarily had it better. In our country's short history, we have had our fair share of struggles, our country's independence, slavery, westward expansion, presidential assassinations, terrorism, racial tensions etc. In the midst of our struggles, our country has built up quite a list of foreign enemies in the process. However, it is evident that with time (and a peace treaty or two) our country usually finds ways to make



amends.

While politicians are typically capable of providing a legislative remedy, their actions are seemingly useless in tackling the most destructive enemy of them all; ourselves. With the political, social, economic, and religious views of Americans becoming more and more polarized, many feel like there is no remedy. Some even suggest that secession or a civil war is imminent. While this may sound like doom and gloom, we are fortunate as Christians to know about God's plan for us, as well as all the nations of the world. When it comes to how to approach tension with our enemies, our Lord gives us one simple instruction, PRAY for them. (Matthew 5:43-45)

In my humble opinion, this is the Bible's hardest command to follow because it completely goes against our human nature of desiring revenge. When it comes to confrontation with the enemy; whoever he, she, or it may be, we can have faith that the God of Moses has the power to soften their hearts and set us free from captivity.



	6	
Call to Worship	Michael Pickering	T.
Songs	Nick Godano	
Communion	Peter Traisci	576
Sermon	Joe Lewis	S.
Closing	Don Garrick	to le



<u>Minister</u>	<u>Coordinators</u>	
	Dan Garrick <i>Finance</i>	
	Don Garrick <i>Fellowship</i>	
	Elton Hodge Benevolence	
	Jim Hopper <i>Worship</i>	
	Ellen Bourne Communications	

Danbury church of Christ

Office Hours

Joe Lewis

Prayer Request

- Joe Lewis' uncle was recently diagnosed with cancer. Pray for his healing and comfort.
- Gilbert Gonzales' dear friend Valerie was admitted to Danbury Hospital on Mon., Jul 17th. Valerie was discharged from the hospital on Sun., Jul 23rd and is in rehab at Glen Hill
- Former member Karen Quigley had a cardiac catheterization procedure. Karen is slowly improving. Pray for her recovery
- Continue prayers for Randy Walker's sister Becky who had a laparoscopy on Mon., Jun. 26th her pancreatic cancer is now in a metastatic condition as several cancerous nodules have been found. This rules out now any surgery to remove the original cancer in the pancreas. This news was not well received, so we would greatly appreciate your prayers for her courage, strength, and comfort as she travels this valley. The doctors still have some weapons in the arsenal to try and manage it as a chronic condition. So far the cancer are on the surface and not in any vital organs
- Continue prayers for Doug Vile who has been diagnosed with Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) and his wife Jere who is always by his side and a constant support
- Pray for DcOC minister search
- Pray for safe travels for our congregation members
- Pray for our visitors
- The work in Mozambique and Zambia
- Pray for our missionaries and families
- Pray for our deacons, teachers, leaders, and each other

Praise and Thanksgiving

- Karen Stanzione's son-in-law, Kelly Correia's husband Jose was admitted to Yale hospital on Tues., Jul 25th. The doctors did a biopsy on Thurs., Jul 26th to determine what is going on with his liver. His liver is functioning but Jose is experiencing symptoms. They found pressure on his liver coming from the blood vessels. They gave him medication to decrease the pressure. To prevent possible bleeding they were going to perform an esophagus band procedure which was not needed because his veins weren't bulging. ****Great News**** Jose was discharged on Mon., Jul 31st
- ****Great News**** Praise for action plans set in place for Bridget Lewis' father Jim's heart condition. Praise for Joe Lewis' grandfather Bob Rainey who is healing daily. Praise for Bridget's new antibiotics for her gastro issues. Pray for continued patience and healing.
- Former member David Rude's sister Chris has been diagnosed with colon cancer. She had surgery on Thurs. Aug 3rd and ***Great News*** no cancer was found anywhere else
- Tim Lawson is recovering from his fall on Sun., Jul 23rd

Services & Meetings: Week of August 6, 2023

Sunday AM Worship9:30 amSunday AM Bible Classes for ALL AGES11:00 am

<u>Wednesday - Pray & Bible Study</u> **Zoom Meeting** Virtual 7:00 pm—8:00 pm If you are interesting in attending email: infoldanburycoc.org@gmail.com

Event Calendar

 Bowling Fellowship 12:15 pm—2:00 pm Strikers—840 Federal Rd—Brookfield, CT Contact : Michael P.
 Ladies Prayer Breakfast 9:00 am—11:00 am If you are interested in attending Call: 203-743-4400 or Email: Info1danburycoc.org@gmail.com Contact: Marti H.

Bible Classes 11:00 am —Sunday Classes for <u>ALL AGES</u>

> Adult Upstairs Class "Judge Not" - Jim Hopper

Ongoing Meeting (church building)

- ⇒ Mad Hatters Barber Shop Tues. 7:00 pm Rehearsals
- \Rightarrow Narcotics Anonymous Thurs. 6:30 pm-9:30 pm

Thurs.

 \Rightarrow Al-Anon

7:00 pm—9:00 pm



Saturday, August 12th Ladies Prayer Breakfast 9:00 am—11:00 am If you are interested in attending Call: 203-743-4400 or Email: Info1danburycoc.org@gmail.com Contact: Marti H.

Wednesday—Pray and Bible Study **<u>Virtual</u>**

****Zoom Meeting****

7:00 pm-8:00 pm

If you are interested in attending the virtual bible study, please email us at info1danburycoc.org@gmail.com

It's a chance for us to connect, come together digitally to share, laugh and see each other as we unlock the bible together.

Come join us!





