



Fairfield Good News

WORSHIPPING THE LORD FOR OVER 300 YEARS!

February 2022

February

Feb. 6
Return baby bottles
for BBB

Feb. 7
Consistory Meeting

Feb. 13
Souper Bowl of
Caring Sunday

Feb. 14
Valentine's Day

Feb. 21



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How I Pray for the U.S. President

by [Dr. Ralph F. Wilson](#)

Paul exhorts us,

"I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made ... for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way."
(1 Timothy 2:1-2)

But *how* are we to pray for these kings and presidents and prime ministers that are over us? How did Paul pray for Claudius and Nero, the emperors during his ministry?

I'm sure there are better, more complete ways to pray for our leaders than what I'm suggesting here. But this is where I currently am in my praying. It's a start. My prayer is simple.

1. Humility

I pray for humility for my president. This may sound strange, since presidents and kings uniformly need a strong ego to get where they are and do what they do. I'm impressed with Jesus' teaching after the Rich Young Ruler walked away from Jesus' invitation to sell all he had, give the proceeds to the poor, and follow him. He said to his disciples:

"How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God! Indeed, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.' Those who heard this asked, 'Who then can be saved?' Jesus replied, 'What is impossible with men is possible with God.'" (Luke 18:24-27)

In our day, most heads of state would be considered "rich" or at least well off. And they are at the pinnacle of power in their country. But riches tend to make us less dependent upon God, since money can buy nearly anything. Riches make it nearly impossible to humble oneself before God to repent -- to even ask for help. That's what Jesus tells us. And great power feeds the pride that makes it nearly impossible for a top leader to humble herself.

Men and women at the pinnacle of power and wealth find true humility nearly impossible. That's the point of Jesus' saying about the camel and the eye of the needle. Impossibility.

So my first prayer for my president is that God will do the impossible and enable him to humble himself before God, and thus "enter the kingdom." I want my leaders to be able to truly hear from God. Humility is essential to that.

Cont'd from pg 1

2. Wisdom

I pray for wisdom for my president. When God asked Solomon in a dream to state what God should grant him, Solomon asked for wisdom and God was extremely pleased (1 Kings 3:5-14). When I read Proverbs I see a constant contrast between the "wise" and the "fool." We're exhorted to seek wisdom with the same intensity that we would hunt gold or precious jewels (Proverbs 3). We need our kings and presidents govern with great wisdom so that we, the citizens, might "lead a peaceful and quiet life" (1 Timothy 2:2).

Of course, humility and wisdom go hand in hand. The proud leader thinks his ideas are better than any of his counselors. The wise leader listens humbly to her counselors as together they seek out the best course for the nation. Of course, the president makes the final decision, but pride prevents a leader from listening.

Not a Political Statement

I pray every day for my president for humility and wisdom. Though some of my hypersensitive friends have been startled by this, it is not a political statement of any kind. Just a realization that our leaders at the highest level -- as well as leaders of congregations and families -- need both humility and wisdom to hear from God and care well for the people God has put in their charge.

We don't show favoritism in prayer. We don't withhold our prayers from leaders we don't like, leaders who are doing things that we believe hurt the nation. Rather, like Paul praying for Nero, we pray all the more for them for wisdom and humility.

I call on God daily to grant my president humility and wisdom. I encourage you to pray for your nation's leaders too. Start with prayers for humility and wisdom, and God will lead you how to pray even better.

Prayer

Father, teach us how to pray for our leaders and help us to do so diligently. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

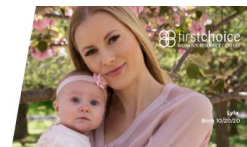
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February

- 3 Russ Safar
- 4 Margaret Wert

Sanctity
OF HUMAN
LIFE SUNDAY
2022



Our plastic baby bottles for Baby Bottle Boomerang in conjunction with First Choice Women's Resource Ctr. are due to be returned to the church on **Feb. 6th**. We will turn in our offerings to First Choice in February.

If you need a receipt for your record of 2021 contributions/donations to the church, please call Roberta (phone 732-495-0344), leave a message with your name and envelope number and she will be happy to give it to you on Sunday or mail you the receipt.





February 13 is Super Bowl Sunday



We are participating in Souper Bowl of Caring on Super Bowl Sunday again this year and will be taking a special offering on the 13th which will be given to the Good Shepherd Mission in Paterson.

Souper Bowl of Caring is a nation-wide effort to fight hunger and poverty in our own communities at the time of the Super Bowl football game.

100% of our  donations will be given to 



Check out the Missions Bulletin board in Fellowship Hall for the latest news from our missionaries.

The January Mission Minute newsletter from GSM says: ...Jesus always gives us free will, never forcing or screaming at us to do a better job of following him. ... Are we like the Pharisees sometimes? Do we hear the gentle voice of Jesus? ...That's our goal here at the Mission. We help men realize that Jesus has a better plan for their lives, and a daily conversation (prayer) and study in His Word will help bring this to fruition. Jesus will speak to them this way and show them the way He'll have them go. No screaming necessary; loves speaks louder!!

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We missed it (but it's never too late), GSM had a coat drive in January. With this very cold weather we're experiencing, any gently used coats would be appreciated. Bring them to the pantry in Fellowship Hall and we will make sure they get them.

*They also need a 12 or 15 passenger van badly. These vans are hard to find these days, new or gently used. If you can help locate one, please contact them at 973-742-9244 or gsminc@optonline.net.*

Other items needed are: oil, mustard, toilet paper, paper plates, plastic silverware, coffee, sugar, Life Recovery Bible or regular Bibles.

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Check them out on www.facebook.com/GSMPaterson or www.YouTube.com

(type gsmpterson in search box).

May the Lord make you increase and abound in love to one another and to all, just as we do to you. I Thessalonians 3:12

Correspondence from Chris & Carolyn West of Cru.

Dear friends at Fairfield Reformed, Thank you SO MUCH for your generous annual support gift! We are blown away by your incredible kindness. It means a lot to us that you've been involved in our work over these many years.

We hope that the congregation is doing well and that new people are discovering Fairfield's oldest Church. We are grateful for your faithfulness in bearing the light of Christ in Fairfield. This is significant. And your ministry extends to faraway places through our work as missionaries with Cru.

Every time we're home visiting my father, we think of you. How could we not since we go with Dad almost daily to the West Essex diner?! It was wonderful being home in Fairfield for Thanksgiving.

As we enter this new year we have so much to be thankful for. 2022 brims with new opportunities to seek the Lord and to serve Him. Let's make it count! May you all experience Christ's peace and joy as we begin this new year!

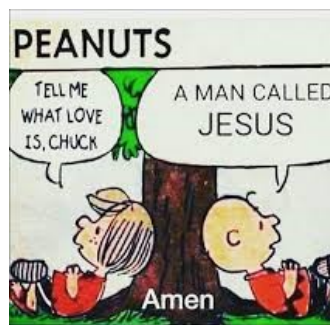
With Love in Christ, Chris and Carolyn.

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In their newsletter dated Jan. 11th—"Not today COVID! In December we had quite a scare when my 95-yr. old father came down with Covid. My brother was with Dad when he collapsed going up the stairs. (not down, thankfully) Peter took Dad to Saint Barnabus Hospital and that's when they discovered that Dad already had Covid, and his blood oxygen level had fallen to the low 80's. Not good! Dad was treated with monoclonal antibodies. Within 6 days he saw a remarkably rapid improvement. Although he also says eating lots of yogurt helped too. 😊

Peter did not fare as well. His situation was nip & tuck. We were worried. Peter is 62 and was already treated for prostate cancer earlier in 2021. When he caught the Covid bug on Dec. 9, his symptoms were harsh. He was totally wiped out, living by himself, and trying to recover. After 9 days of misery and much prayer, he began to turn a corner. By Christmas both Peter and Dad were Covid free and fully recovered! This was our best Christmas gift for 2021."

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The newsletter also tells of Chris' exciting new work in Montana as we speak!!

Their letter, this newsletter as well as pictures are also on the Missions bulletin board.



Amen 🙏❤️

