



Danby Church News



"Adding to and Building up the Kingdom of God"

May 2022





From Our Pastor!

Church is a center of worship where Saints grow and are equipped to be sent into service.

Let the Saints arise!

How does a church survive and thrive in this day and age? We inhabit a place in history unlike any other. Technology and culture are changing at a rate that far outpaces anyone’s ability to keep up. The vast majority of what is considered normal and right seems to be subject to revision daily. Doubt has been raised above faith and stability exchanged for opinion and chaos. Joy seems to be disappearing from the world.

The Church that is called by God to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ must not allow itself to be drawn into such nonsense. Within the Kingdom of God there is stability, continuity, and hope.

Building a healthy vibrant church requires commitment. There is no magic incantation to solve attendance decline. No special ritual to solve a budget crisis. But we can employ time-proven elements which will transform believers and build the Kingdom. Five building blocks create a healthy church that demonstrates the character of Jesus Christ: prayer, evangelism, discipling, service, and worship.

Building Block one: Prayer, collective and individual, focused and believing in faith

Results hinge on individual and collective prayer presented before the living God. Righteous petition in faith opens up God’s will to His people. No praying for winning lottery tickets or other such nonsense. Everyone should pray individually and come together corporately as often as possible. A house of prayer will thrive.

Pray for your own congregation! Pray for each other, by name. Pray for your pastor. Pray for that fresh outpouring of Spirit we talk about but seldom see. Be a company of faithful prayer warriors that battle for the soul of our world. Consider what amazing things could happen when a congregation prays for the will of God to be accomplished.

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Danby Church Officers and Leaders 2022

Pastor:	Ed Enstine eenstine@aol.com 607.592.8276
Administrative Aide	Lynn Kingston-Harris office@danbychurch.org 607.272.1687
Administrative Council	
Chair:	Paula Nelson sfcnelson@aol.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 ssenstine@gmail.com
Missions:	Judy & Dale Horton therose8641@yahoo.com
Staff, Pastor Oversight Committee SPOC:	
Chair:	Katy Prince
Praise Team Leader:	Pup Martinez martinez789@yahoo.com
Webmaster:	Janet Gray jsg4@cornell.edu
Newsletter Editor:	Janet Gray
Facebook:	Janet Gray

On the Cover!

Linda Howe

Building Block Two: Evangelism, persistent invitation

We must proclaim the Gospel in both words and deeds. The question I hear about evangelism is, “How?” Evangelism is about relationship and action. Look for opportunity whenever you are around people. Be aware of the actions, conversations, and body language. Acknowledge folks where you meet them and strike up a conversation. Be intentional about listening for openings to interject the hope we have in Jesus Christ. Sometimes the opening comes through words, sometimes in sorrow or laughter. Most everyone responds to someone who is interested in them. By all means be yourself and let the Holy Spirit provide the opportunity.

Be willing to give the same respect to everyone that we give to sisters and brothers in Christ. Listen more than you speak. Ask questions rather than give advice. When in doubt, say so. Invite people to join you for church on Sunday. Take “No” for an answer, but keep inviting. You never know how many times you will have to ask until you get a yes. Make your invitation as personal as you can. It is difficult to come into a strange place, and yes, churches can be strange, even scary. Make people as comfortable as possible about joining you and be there for them during services. Follow the Spirit’s leading.

Make a friend, be a friend, lead your friend to Christ.

Building Block Three: Discipleship, opportunity to question and learn

If you want to know the Lord you have to seek the Lord where he may be found. Jesus is first and foremost found in Scripture, Old and New Testaments. Study and learn the nature of God the Father, the character of Jesus Christ the Son, and the abiding presence of the Holy Spirit. It is all in the Book. Seek out Bible study and individual mentors in the faith. Attend church and pay attention! Ask questions. Any pastor worthy of his or her position as shepherd will delight in unfolding God’s goodness with others. Talk to believers about their experiences. Ask what they think about issues that may trouble them or scriptures that may seem confusing. Don’t be shy about seeking guidance. Be aggressive about absorbing knowledge and diligent about putting it to work as wisdom. Discover the faith journey of others. Listen, question, consider and grow in faith.

Building Block Four: Service, helping the world to find the Kingdom

Serve others. Now we get to the down and dirty. Be forewarned—a life following the example of Christ is not easy or without frustration. It is not all blue skies and beds of flowers. Christians are called to serve in grace, not show up for reward. Often the seeds we plant bloom beyond of our sight. We serve because Christ is our role model for sacrificial love to people.

Find ways to extend yourself into the life of your church and your community. Volunteer yourself! Help those in need. Go on a mission trip. Challenge yourself beyond what the world tells you is proper and reasonable. The Lord did as much even to the extent of washing the feet of his disciples, even to giving himself up to death on a cross. Be a blessing and in return you will be blessed.

Jesus Commanded us to, “Go into the world...” not retreat into a sanctuary of safety.

Building Block Five: Worship together as often as possible to find strength and courage

Come together in the presence of the Lord with a pure heart and a mind focused on Him. A service should contain prayer, praise, learning, and sharing life. Sunday morning in particular is an opportunity to refresh mind and spirit.

Worship together expecting to discover something new. Attend services as regularly and as often as possible. Come with an attitude of positive expectation. Take notes during the sermon! Sing with gusto; make a joyful noise to the Lord! Look for the best not the worst. Celebrate the Lord and what He has done for us. Be a fountain of beauty, not a pit of despair.

Any time we gather to worship we are sharing what God has done to us and for us. Leave the world outside and focus on Kingdom business. Worship is God's time to be with us and us with Him. Cherish that sacred relationship and honor the privilege we have as children of God.

Any church proclaiming Jesus Christ as Lord that will concentrate on prayer, evangelism, discipleship, service and worship will thrive in the Kingdom of God. It is time to get back to what we are supposed to be as people following Jesus Christ.

As it reads in Hosea 10:12: "Sow with a view to righteousness. Reap in accordance with kindness; Break up your fallow ground, for it is time to seek the Lord until He comes to rain righteousness on you."

Shall we begin...



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

Spiritual Development Update *from Sheila Enstine*

Important Dates for May and June 2022:

Ascension Day is Thursday, May 26th. Pentecost is Sunday, June 5th.

Prayer Meetings During The Great 50 Days:

A tradition in Christianity is to recognize the Great 50 Days, which includes the 40 days from Easter Sunday to Ascension Day, plus the 10 days from Christ's Ascension to Pentecost, June 5th this year. To mark this time of anticipation, The Danby Church will host a series of prayer meetings to focus on special issues. The dates, times, and themes are as follows:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>THEME</u>
Thursday, May 12 th	6:30-7:30 PM	The Danby Community Church
Thursday, May 26 th (Ascension Day)	6:30-7:30 PM	The world-wide persecuted Church
Thursday, June 2 nd	6:30-7:30 PM	For salvations

Adult Small Groups:

The Sunday morning group is studying the three Epistles of John. Study guides are available for anyone interested in the class. The group meets from 8:45 – 9:45 am and we also host a Zoom session on Tuesdays for those who can't attend the in-person class.

Everyone is welcome to the 7:00 PM Wednesday Night Praise and Fellowship gathering. The evening begins with rehearsal with the praise team. After the music session, we invite anyone with a witness, a Word from the Lord, or a prayer request to share with us.

The Women's Bible Study is using "The Vision of His Glory" by Anne Graham Lotz. This is a seven-session study based on the Book of Revelation. The Women's Study Group meets at 1PM on Friday afternoons in the All Saints Room.

Nursery and Youth Church: The nursery is available every Sunday for babies and children through age five. Normally, Youth Church is comprised of two groups – Group One for children ages 6 – 10 and Group Two for ages 11—14. Youth Church will meet if there are enough young people to make up a group. Youth begin worship with their families in the Sanctuary and are invited to the nursery/Youth Church after the Lord's Prayer.

Prayer Opportunities:

Contact Judy Cuyle at gncat87@yahoo.com or call 279-5089 if you would like to participate in the prayer chain or if you have a prayer request. In-person prayer meetings are held Saturday mornings at 8:00 am. Pastor Ed is available for prayer and conversation in the Sanctuary on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5:00 pm.

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

April 11, 2022

Present: Pastor Ed, Sheila Enstine, Charlene Testut, Paula Nelson, Gloria Miller, Dave McDermitt, and Katy Prince. Pastor Ed opened the meeting with prayer at 7:01 pm.

CLERK'S MINUTES: March meeting minutes - motion to approve (Gloria), second (Sheila), Carried.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT: Dave gave his report. Motion to approve report (Katy), second (Gloria), Carried.

TREASURER REPORT: Copy costs have gone up considerably now that Pastor Ed isn't with Gnomon Copy. Motion to approve report (Gloria), second (Sheila), Carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Bottled water: King Ferry Bottling Company is our new supplier. \$6 per jug – no deposit. New dispenser is loaded from the bottom, so no more heavy lifting as we had to do with Culligan's. It will feature hot and cold water. Culligan's first needs to come and remove their dispenser, then King Ferry can come and install theirs.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Pastor Shirley Reeves at the Kingdom Business Apostolic Church (KBAC) wants to start services again at the church. Due to the two current Sunday services, she will need to choose between a late afternoon (4pm or so) or evening service.
- Ithaca Community Band. Pastor Ed was contacted by them to get scheduled to have a concert on the lawn. They are scheduled for Saturday, August 3rd. We plan on an accompanying ice cream social.

REPORTS.

Hospitality: We are hosting an Easter breakfast Sunday, April 17th.

Spiritual Development:

- Key upcoming spiritual dates: Easter 4/17, Ascension Sunday May 26, Pentecost June 5.
- Youth Church and Nursery are always available if needed on Sundays.
- Prayer & Praise continues to be held on Wednesday nights.
- The Women's Bible Study meets on Friday afternoons at 1pm and is continuing the study of "The Vision of His Glory" by Anne Graham Lotz which is a commentary on the book of Revelation.
- Sunday morning Bible Study (8:45 – 9:45) finished its study of the epistle of James and just started reading the first letter of John following the David Cooke Bible commentary series. This is also available by Zoom.

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

- Prayer shawls. These are in the closet in the new addition for people to take along with labels that can be attached to them. There is a sheet there for you to record who the recipient is.
- There are many prayer opportunities at the church: informal Saturday mornings 8-9am, with Pastor Ed T/R at 5pm. Additionally, Sheila plans to arrange several in-person prayer times during the Pentecost Season.
- Prayer chain continues - email Judy Cuyle.

Trustees:

- A bid was received for the front entrance to the fellowship hall along with a few other things like taking out the leaking round window across from the church phone. The bid was not itemized, so they are requesting an itemized bid to see costs for each line item. Meanwhile, they are hoping to receive a 2nd estimate/bid.

Missions: No report.

SPOC: They reviewed the duties of the church administrative assistant position and found that things lined up appropriately between the job description and what Lynn is doing. They are providing a modest raise; she hasn't had one since she started the position. She is looking for additional things to do, so Dave suggested she could be asked to replenish offering envelopes and pencils in the pews.

SAP: No meeting, but a brain-storming meeting will be held next Monday the 18th to come up with ways to invite the community to our church.

Motion to adjourn (Gloria), second (Sheila) - meeting ended at 8:02.

Prayed out by Sheila.

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Respectfully submitted,

Dave McDermitt, Church Clerk

Sunday Worship Celebration @ 10 am  
 Sunday Adult Education Class @ 8:45am  
 Youth Church @ 10:30am  
 Tuesdays and Thursdays, Communion, Conversation and Prayer 5-6pm  
 Wednesdays, Live Music & Conversation @ 7pm  
 Sweet Hour of Prayer, Saturday, 8am  
 Women's Bible Study, Fridays @ 1pm

# Vacation Church

by Katy Prince

“For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.”

~ Matthew 18:20

I vacationed over Easter weekend 2022 with my daughters Danielle and Sarah and their families in Florida. I stayed with Danielle in Kissimmee, and my daughter Sarah, her husband, and her daughter came up and stayed with us for a couple nights too. Sarah lives in Palm Beach, Florida and goes to church in Lake Worth, Florida. She wanted to go to her own church for Easter so she left Saturday afternoon to return home (about a two and a half hour drive).

Easter Sunday morning, Danielle, her family, and I got up early and made that two and a half hour drive to Lake Worth to go to church with Sarah and her family. It was GREAT. The worship music was uplifting and moving. I had tears rolling down my cheeks, because it was so moving.

The Pastor Scott delivered a great message about Jesus being our signee for the New Covenant that God created with mankind, through the crucifixion and resurrection. Maybe someday, I'll be able to preach on that subject too. If you want some insight here are the scriptures Pastor Scott referenced:

Luke 22:20

Deuteronomy 5

Romans 8:3

Hebrews 8:6-9

Hebrews 7:22

Ephesians 2:8-9

Not how we normally read scripture, for he would read a bit of scripture, then exhort on what he had read, giving some insight to the surroundings.

Here is my take-away from it though: Covenants are conditional; if you do this, then I will do that. Like a contract when you buy a car, if you continue to make the payments, the bank will let you keep the car. If you stop making payments, the bank will take the car away. In the Old Testament, we were given the Ten Commandments etched in stone. But the commandments had conditions (ifs). Deuteronomy 5:33 says, “Walk in obedience to all that the LORD your God has commanded you, so that you may live and prosper and prolong your days in the land that you will possess.” This may imply that if you do NOT walk in obedience to all that the LORD your God has commanded (and here there were just ten commandments), you may not prosper in the land that you will possess. And, of course, being humans, we cannot truly uphold all of the commandments. We all fall short of the Glory of God.

BUT... Jesus was sent to us in human form ultimately to sign the New Covenant in blood for us, for He is the only One who has the ability to uphold the covenant with God without ever falling short. Praise be to God that He sent



His Son to love, heal, forgive, and not just co-sign, but sign the New Covenant and allow us to be beneficiaries.

It was a good vacation and I'm happy to be home with my husband and back with my church family here in Danby, NY. It was nice to gather with other Christians and hear the Word of God from another Bible preaching Pastor. Praise be to God that we hear the Word from our Pastor, and that others are hearing the Word too.

When you vacation, I pray you also will be able to find a church that preaches the Word of God while you are away...

## The Remedy for Anxiety

*By Sheila Enstine*

April and May seem to wander haphazardly into spring. Sometimes April is the time of the "Great Muddy". Then May torments us with leftover snowflakes, whirling about tiny violets that surprised us in the sun, only a week earlier. We just don't know what to expect from spring.

Our spiritual journeys often feel the same. We'd like to welcome spring to our souls, to dream, plant, and begin new ministries for ourselves and for the church. We hesitate though, because our souls – both individual and corporate – seem mired in anxiety, doubt, and fear.

There is certainly much to be anxious about, from pain and grief in our personal lives to financial and political insecurities in our nation. We're all witness to international calamities and their far-reaching effects.

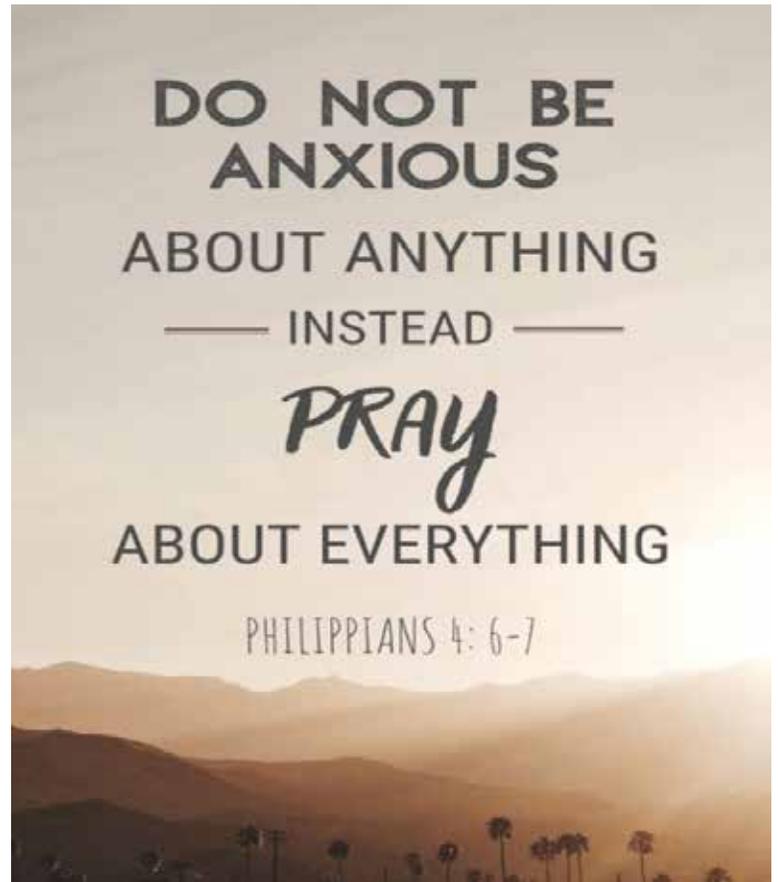
A friend of mine who deals with chronic anxiety recently told me about a hard day at work. She felt inadequate and her self-talk was demeaning.

"I realize now that I wasn't prayed up," she told me.

She hadn't prepared her mind and spirit for her day's work by spending time in prayer. But how does prayer do anything about anxiety, doubt or fear?

The Bible says, "Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:6-7).

The Apostle didn't mean that we should no longer care about what might or might not happen or that we should resign ourselves to sad, unfulfilled, painful lives. Instead, this passage is telling us that God cares deeply about the things we care about, that He is eager to hear from us, that the results of spilling out our deepest sorrows, insecurities, and fears is peace with God and a guarded heart and mind.



The act of prayer gives us a new perspective. We may not completely trust that God hears us as we begin, but as that heavenly conversation progresses, we realize that our Lord is listening and is working things out for good.

God is not like the judge in the Parable of the Unrighteous Judge in Luke 18:1-8. Jesus compared the fictional judge with Father God, and said, “And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? I tell you, he will see that they get justice, and quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?”(Luke 18:7-8).

Yes, spring is unpredictable, be it the change of seasons or the beginning of new ministries. But with prayer and trust in our Father’s provision and in Jesus as the guardian of our hearts and minds, we can go out with a renewed sense of mission and purpose. Wear galoshes if need be.



**Join Us for**

## **Prayer Meetings During The Great 50 Days**

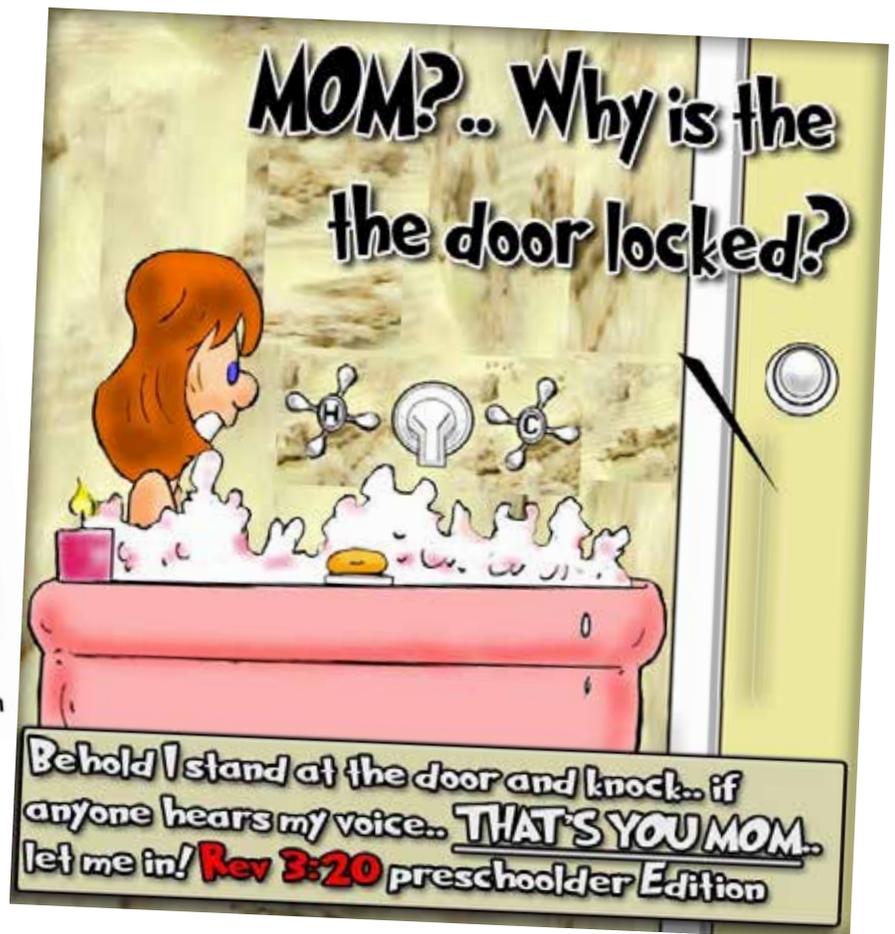
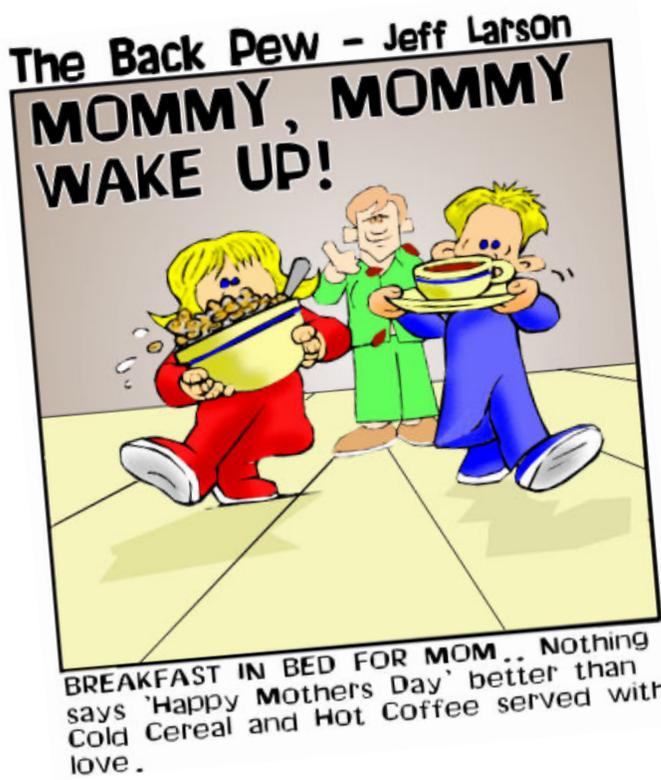
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**where? at the church**

“Strength and honor are her clothing; she is confident about the future. Her mouth is full of wisdom; kindly teaching is on her tongue. She is vigilant over the activities of her household; she doesn’t eat the food of laziness. Her children bless her; her husband praises her: ‘Many women act competently, but you surpass them all!’”

PROVERBS 31:25-28





## Are you an Idea Hamster?



April 25th, a group of Idea Hamsters got together to “brainstorm” on ideas to welcome and invite our community to Danby Community Church through Worship, Fellowship, Service, and Discipleship.

We had many wonderful and very doable ideas and currently going through the list to prioritize these ideas based on impact and cost (money, people, time).

We would welcome any ideas you have! Think about how we can meet our neighbors and make new friends, introduce them to Jesus and His gospel, be Christ’s hands and feet and invite others to a deeper devotion.

If you have ideas, send them along to Sheila at: [ssenstine@gmail.com](mailto:ssenstine@gmail.com)

Janet Gray



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 1859 Danby Road  
 Ithaca, NY 14850

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



**Welcome Home!!**

**What's Happening in May & June?!?**

**Join Us for  
 Prayer Meetings During The Great 50 Days**

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♥ HAPPY ♥  
*Mother's Day*