

## A **Publication** of the Trumbull Church of Christ, 2 Drew Circle, Trumbull, CT. 06611 203-261-5201

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## THANKSGIVING HANDS

Just before Thanksgiving, a school teacher asked her first graders to draw a picture of something they were thankful for. She thought of how little these children from poor neighborhoods actually had to be thankful for. She figured most of them would draw pictures of turkeys on tables with lots of other food. She was surprised by the picture that Douglas handed in. It was the picture of a human hand, poorly drawn. The teacher bent down and said, "Douglas, is that your hand?" Douglas responded, "No, it's your hand." Then she recalled that frequently at recess she had taken Douglas, a forlorn child, by the hand. It was then that she realized how such a simple gesture could make such a big impact in a child's life.

What are hands for? Webster defines the functions or activity of this part of the human body as an instrument for grasping or gripping, as well as a symbol for authority, power, and control. The Holy Spirit, in penning the Word of God, selected hands to describe the very character of God in caring for His own dear children. Verses all throughout the Bible portray God's hands as His instrument of power, protection, provision, healing, guidance, and comfort.

When the nation of Israel feared God had forgotten them, God responded by saying. "Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has born? Though she may forget, I will not forget you! See, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands." (Isaiah 49:15-16) After Jesus died and was raised from the dead, Thomas thought Jesus had left His disciples. Soon after, Jesus appeared to Thomas saying, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe." (John 20:7) Jesus used His hands, pierced by the sins of mankind, to comfort a doubting disciple.

It's the hands of God that express His love for us. It's the hands of God that bring us comfort and strength. God says through Isaiah the prophet, "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand." (Isaiah 41:10) God reached out His righteous right hand when He sent His Son, Jesus, to become one of us. Those blessed hands that were so active during His earthly ministry in healing the sick, restoring sight to the blind, and feeding thousands, are still outstretched to you today. His touch is as comforting now as it was then.

Be thankful for the hands of God that guide us through life and to eternity with Him. Grab hold of Jesus' outstretched hand and show your appreciation of God's love for you by using your hands to reach out to someone else. Use your hands to make a meal for a hungry person, hold the hand of a wandering child, reach out to a lost soul, or great someone with a loving hand shake. Use your hands as an instrument to glorify our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

~ Ron Saracino

## **NEWS & NOTES**

Tues, morning Bible Study-Nov.28th via zoom @9:30 am via zoom Sat Nov 25-Young Adult

**Sat. Nov.25-Young Adult Bible Study-** meet @ It Ropes Course, New haven @ 4pm Bible study, dinner & games at Jin's after- see Zach or Tori for details.

Sat. Dec. 2 @ 5:30 pm Glow Wild @ Beardsley zoo - see Derin or Kristen Wilson for details Our in-house food pantry is in need of restocking or grocery store gift cards (which can be given to

Ron.)

Spooner House is in dire need of nonperishable items
Our food pantry needs some restocking- place items in a bag marked Trumbull Church food pantry Barnabas Project if interested in joining contact Mary Lou (475) 529-5751

- \*Pray for **Randy Springer** who will be having back surgery 11/21.
- \*Pray for **Marie Cornel** (friend of Paula & Mike Ross) who has serious health issues.
- \*Pray for **Bill Lane** (Margaret's brother) who is in the hospital With serious health issues.
- \*Pray for **Irene Aschen w**ho is having breathing issues, also for **Meegan's** job search.
- \*Pray for safe travels for **Esther and Rocko Aggrey**, they Will be traveling to Ghana Dec,8th.
- \*Pray for **Angela's Aunt Mary**,recently diagnosed with acute Leukemia.also for her friend, **Fred Schy** who is dealing with many health issues.
- \*Pray for Brandy's F-I-L, **Paul Woodward**,who is not doing well
- \*Pray for the family of **Ralph Porto**, he passed away this past week.
- \*Pray for **Israel** the hostages and all those who have lost loved ones.
- \*Pray for *Karen McMullen* and family (Jody's M-I-L) who will be having esophagus and stomach surgery 10/29/23, Her mother, *Clydia Birdsall*, recently diagnosed with breast Cancer will have a lumpectomy soon.
- \*Pray for *family of Matthew Bassford* (Church of Christ Preacher TN), he recently passed away after a battle with ALS \*Pray for *Roland Toyer* in Trinidad who is suffering serious effects from a stroke.
- \*Pray for **Toni Bonadio** who is having several health challenges.

Pray for all those traveling this holiday week.

- \*Pray for those dealing with cancer and chemo treatments- Judith Gomez, David Fritzinger, Cohen (Ron's friend), Sarah (Angela's niece), Tom Byer \*Prayers for all those who have lost loved ones this past year.
- \*Pray for adult children to develop a relationship with God \*Pray for our **country & our leaders in government**,

## first responders health care workers and those serving in the military.

\*Pray for families, relatives, friends and people we are reaching out to, that they may turn to the Lord. Special prayers for our church leaders.

Prayers for all families caring for their elderly or sick loved ones: Allie Saracino-Cherie, ,Bob and Joanne Discala-Virginia, Greg & Linda, Gina Porto

\*Pray for those suffering from long term illnesses: Nadine Keller, Greg & Linda Cerminara, Jeremy Sazone, Flo Repecko, Pat Yaglowski. Meegan and Irene, Sylvia Sandoval, Nuris Gomez, Mildred, Karen O, Angela's mom Connie Scalzo, Anthony Katz., Jasmyn Malagutti, Daniel Ruiz., Zak Pappas Fernandes., Jim Walkup's brother (Sam), Cyrus (Zach's friend) dad who has brain cancer, Lance Flood, Zach Saracino, Joshua Ruiz, Brody Streety & all children with diabetes.

\*Anyone interested in helping with **World Bible School**- contact Ron

\*Opportunities to serve: any men willing to participate in worship service in other capacities for the church, please contact Bruce Post. Anyone interested in leading and/or helping with the building or church house maintenance please contact Bruce Pancoast.

Please bring nonperishable food items for the **Spooner House** - a list of all items needed is on back table: Jelly/Jam/Peanut Butter, Cereal/Oatmeal, Canned Meats: Chicken, Tuna, Corned Beef Hash, Canned Ravioli/Tomatoes, Pasta Sauce, Canned Fruit/Applesauce, Crackers/Snacks, Pancake Mix/Syrup, Ramen, Hamburger/Tuna Helper, Baked beans/Pork and Beans, Canned/Dried Beans (i.e. Black, Chick Pea, Cannellini, Kidney, Pinto), Rice/Rice-A-Roni, Soup/Stew/Chili, Instant/Canned Potatoes/Yams. Bring these food items to the building to be delivered to the Spooner House. Please make sure that items do not have expired dates. Thank you

Elders: Bruce Pancoast 203-583-0551 Ron Saracino 203-913-8345

Minister: Ron Saracino 203-913-8345 Spanish Ministry: Elmer Sandavol

914-914-486-9146

**Deacons: Ray Fernandes** 203-502-8871

Luis Ruiz 203-610-2396 Bob Discala 203-521-7252 Patrick Keller 203-218-9517 Derin Wilson 203-36 Wednesday Bible Class: 7:00pm via zoom Bible class 10am, Worship Service 11 am Online bible class and worship service Go to our website:

trumbullchurchofchrist.org Week of 11/19/23

Song Leader:Bruce Pancoast Lord's Table:Steve Froelich Closing Prayer:Ray Fernandes Usher: Bob Discala

Week ending: 11/12-11/19/23
Donations: \$ 6653

**Expenses: \$4237**