



The TrumBulletin



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He is the Groom we are the Bride

One of the most amazing images in the Bible is the concept that the church is Christ's Bride. In order to understand this image completely, we have to understand what a Jewish wedding was like in the first century. There was an initial engagement or what was called a betrothal. Often marriages were arranged by the family of a man and woman. After the betrothal took place, the couple was considered husband and wife, but they still remained apart. During the betrothal period both the groom and the bride to be were supposed to remain faithful to one another. The time leading up to the wedding was filled with anticipation and excitement as the couple prepared for their union. Then, at an unknown time the groom would return to claim his bride. At that time there would be a wedding feast and a formal uniting of the couple, and they would live together and begin their life as husband and wife.

This is much like the relationship the church shares with Christ. Jesus is the bridegroom and the church is His bride. This relationship is mentioned in Revelation 19:6-9 where John is given a vision from God. It is a picture of the bridegroom coming to claim the one betrothed to Him (that would be us, the church of Christ). John writes, "Then I heard what sounded like a great multitude, like the roar of rushing waters and like loud peals of thunder, shouting: 'Hallelujah! For our Lord God Almighty reigns. Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory! For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready. Fine linen, bright and clean, was given her to wear.' (Fine linen stands for the righteous acts of the saints.) Then the angel said to me, 'Write: Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!' And he added, 'These are the true words of God.'"

What is being talked about here in Revelation 19 is the most intimate of relationships. This is not a temporary relationship that God calls us to, but rather a lifetime of growing closer to Him. Christ has a love for us that led Him to stretch out His arms and allow nails to be driven through His wrists and feet. As He hung on that cruel cross, He could have called 10,000 angels and put a stop to it. But, if He did, the wedding would have been off. The wedding could not happen without His sacrifice. It surely would not happen because of anything His bride, the church could do. The bride is not worthy to wear the white garment of righteousness because of sin. Isaiah 64:6 says that "all our righteous acts are like filthy rags." If it depended on us, there would be no wedding. But Jesus longs to live out eternity with His betrothed. So with the blood He shed on the cross, He purchased a garment of righteousness worthy of a royal wedding. Isaiah 61:10 says, "For he has clothed me with garments of salvation and arrayed me in a robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom adorns his head like a priest, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels."

All that is left for us to do, as Jesus' bride, is to look our best for Him. Most brides before their wedding want to make sure everything is right, their dress, their hair; it all needs to be just right. Why? Not so their fiancé will marry them, but so they will look their best because their fiancée is marrying them. The same is true for us. We want to look our best for Christ. We want our hearts to be pure and our thoughts to be clean. We want our lives to be marked by grace and love. Jesus is spending this time in anticipation of the wedding day when He will come back and claim His bride. He is preparing the place that we will call home for eternity. (John 14:2-3) Now the question that every one of us must answer is, "What am I doing to prepare myself for His return?"

~ Ron Saracino

NEWS & NOTES

June 22- Young Adult trip to New York City- see Zach/Tori for details.

June 30- Pot luck after service

Tidal River Christian camp-registration open. Food donations (see Paula's e-mail) and cash donations being accepted prior to June 15

June 14-15 Kent Men's Retreat

July 20- VBS - a signup sheet is posted for volunteers who can help in any capacity.

Remember to contribute to the Spooner House food collection, and to our own food pantry,

Barnabas Project- if interested in joining contact Mary Lou (475)529-5751

*Pray for **Carol and Joe Ligouri**, both are dealing with health issues.

*Pray for **Mick McCreanor**, his aunt recently passed away, he will be traveling to Belgium for services.

*Pray for Greg Saracino's friend, **Kimberly** who is struggling with multiple health issues.

*Pray for **Nadine Keller**'s general health.

*Pray for Dortha's daughter, **Catrina**, whose hand was severely burned.

*Pray for the family of **Peter Kiman**, he recently passed away (a close childhood friend of Ron)

*Pray for **Al Wilson** (Michelle's brother), he has begun chemotherapy.

*Pray for the **Ruiz family** as they await a court date regarding Levi.

*Pray for **David D'Elia** who recently had a stroke and is now awaiting heart surgery.

*Pray for the Pancoast's S-I-L's grandmother, **Clydia Birdsall** who recently had a stroke.

*Pray for Zach's coworker's friend, **Anna**, who was recently diagnosed with cancer.

*Pray for **Cindy Holly** and her son **Christopher** who are going through a very difficult time.

*Pray for **Crissy Flood** (Richard's wife) recently diagnosed with Alzheimer Disease.

*Pray for **Emille Jones** as he seeks further follow up regarding a small brain tumor, he will begin chemo July 3.

*Pray for **Paula Ross** as she continues to deal with effects of Epstein Barre,

*Pray for those dealing with cancer and chemo treatments- **Judith Gomez, David Fritzinger, Cohen** (Ron's friend), Tom Byer ***Prayers for all those who have lost loved ones this past year.**

*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:** Ted & Toni Bonadio, Kevin Early, 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), 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 203-360-1695

Wednesday Night Bible Study
 7:00 pm via zoom
 Bible class Sun. 10 am, worship service 11 am
 Online bible class and worship service go to our website: trumbullchurchofchrist.org
Week of 6/16/24
Song Leader :Bruce Pancoast
Lord's table: Ray Fernandes
Closing Prayer: Zach Saracino
Usher: Yermi DeLeon
Week of 6/09//24-6/15//24
Donations 3068 Expenses: \$3898

