

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

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PEACE TO MEN ON EARTH"

"O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie... And praises sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth!" Those are just some of the words to the Christmas song, "O Little Town of Bethlehem." Phillips Brooks was inspired to write the words to the well known song in 1865 after riding on horseback from Jerusalem to Bethlehem and then assisting with a midnight service on Christmas Eve. Brooks said about that night, "I remember standing in the old church in Bethlehem, close to the spot where Jesus was born, when the whole church was ringing hour after hour with splendid hymns of praise to God, how again and again it seemed as if I could hear voices I knew well, telling each other of the wonderful night of the Savior's birth." If Phillips Brooks could visit Bethlehem today, one could only wonder if he would write a very different carol from the one he wrote in 1865.

The "little town" of Bethlehem is no longer lying still. It and many other parts of the world sit in the middle of continual strife, war, and turmoil. In our own lives, day to day, we face disgruntled employees, road rage, crime, and family disputes. Can there truly be peace on earth?

As there are those who oppose our Lord and the peace that comes with Him, there are those who are dedicated to serving our Lord and bringing about peace to others. Jesus said in Matthew 5:9, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God." As Christians, we have an obligation to make life better for those around us. We can accomplish this through kind gestures toward others, words of encouragement, and by making a personal sacrifice for the benefit of someone else. Hebrews 12:14 says, "Make every effort to live in peace with all men and to be holy."

Even beyond our personal efforts as Christians, there is even a greater message of peace. There will come a time when there will be total peace, not in this world, but for sure in the next one when everyone will be brought under the lordship of the "Prince of Peace." 1 Corinthians 15:54 tells us that because of the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the sin that leads to eternal death was "swallowed up in victory." Our challenge is not to find peace in this world, but rather make peace with others here on earth, according to the will of God, so we will have eternal peace in the next world. 2 Peter 3:14 says, "make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with him."

~Ron Saracino

	NEWS & NOTES	
Jan1-April 10-100 Days of Prayer- see Pancoast's e-mail for details Jan.4- 5:30pm-An evening to share your testimony. Bring a sandwich and desert to share	Jan. 7 & 21- 9:30 am Tuesday morning Ladies Bible Study Jan. 11- 10-12 noon-Ladies Bible Study Jan.31 Midnight Oil- an evening of prayer at the church building - details to follow	Remember to contribute to Spooner House food collection and our own food pantry BARNABAS PROJECT- IF INTERESTED in joining contact MaryLou(475)529-5751

Prayer Request

*Pray for **all our members** who may be dealing with illness, grief, trials and life struggles.

*Pray for **Bob & Deborah** (friends of the Walkups) ,Bob was recently hospitalized due to a brain tumor which has metastasized to his lungs.

*Pray for the families of **Joe Saint Clair & Andre** (friends of Jay's) they both recently passed away. *Pray for the **Aponte & Flood families**, their son

Josiah was recently killed in a tragic motorcycle

accident.

*Pray for **Judy Ragland**, (Chelsea Eddie's grandmother who is being worked up for colon cancer. *Pray for **Lisa Tobey** (Leah's cousin) recently diagnosed with cancer.

*Pray for **Barbara** (Angela;s M-I-L) who fell last week, also for her family as her Uncle Phil passed away suddenly this past week.

*Pray for **Seymour Parks** (Nadine's uncle) who will be recuperating in a nursing home.

*Pray for the **family of Christine Nelson** who recently passed away (friend of Nadine)

*Pray for **Linda Cerminara**, she may need shoulder replacement surgery.

*Pray for the **family of Romeo Tomlison**, he recently passed away.

*Pray for **Tom Boston** as he recovers from a recent hospitalization.

*Pray for **Brad Frye**, his cancer has spread to his tongue. Also for his wife **Shirley**.

*Pray for those dealing with cancer and chemo treatments- Judith Gomez, 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: Emille Jones, Mike Ross, Ted & Toni Bonadio, Kevin Early, NadineKeller, Greg & Linda Cerminara, Flo Repecko, Pat Yaglowski. Meegan and Irene, Nuris Gomez, Mildred, Karen O, 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 12/15/24

Song Leader :Kevon Turner Lord's Table:Zach Saracino Closing Prayer:Andrew Langalis Usher:Bob Discala

Week of 12/1/24- 12/074/14

Donations \$\$3188Expenses:\$4723