

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

Volume CLI 151 Issue 13, Feb.23, 2025

JOY

Jesus said in the garden of Gethsemane, "My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will." (Matthew 26:39) Such powerful words from the mouth of Jesus. I think any Christian would agree, that is the attitude we are to have. To completely surrender our lives to God's will. To trust Him completely. Yet, the moment we encounter a situation when things do not go according to "our plans," we become confused and very disappointed. John the Baptist's disciples found themselves in that very situation.

There were those who had been following an amazing prophet and man of God, only to see another man rise up and take the spotlight off of John. John 3:26 says, "They came to John and said to him, 'Rabbi, that man who was with you on the other side of the Jordan – the one you testified about – well, he is baptizing, and everyone is going to him." Even though John had said a greater One would come (John 1:15), John's disciples were confused and disappointed.

How did John the Baptist respond to their disappointment and confusion? He said in John 3:29-30, "The bride belongs to the bridegroom. The friend who attends the bridegroom waits and listens for him, and is full of joy when he hears the bridegroom's voice. That joy is mine, and it is now complete. He must become greater; I must become less." Using the analogy of being the best man at a wedding, John explained how one can find joy by focusing on the success of another, rather than on one's own personal success. John felt great joy in knowing that Jesus was being lifted up. In John 3:31, he says about Jesus, "The one who comes from heaven is above all."

Living in a selfish world, it is easy to forget about this kind of joy. True joy doesn't come from focusing on self, but rather it comes from focusing on others, and especially from focusing on Jesus Christ. So often, we think our joy will come from our own successes and circumstances. But John the Baptist reminds us that the true source of joy for a believer is seeing Jesus lifted high and worshipped as our great Lord and King.

In Psalm 84:10, the psalmist writes, "Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere; I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked." Nothing should give us greater joy than to be serving our Father in Heaven. He sent His Son to die for our sins, so we may have eternal life. (John 3:16) Let us find joy in Jesus as we lift Him high today!

~ Ron Saracino

NEWS & NOTES				
Feb. 18-9:30 am Tuesday morning Ladies Bible Study	.March 4- 9:30 am Ladies bible study via zoom March 8- 10a-12p-Ladies Bible	March 15- 1-3pm Bridal shower for Kristen Hubbell March 28- 6pmLadies night at	Remember to contribute to Spooner House food collection and our own food	
Feb. 23- Young adults-lunch and mini golf at the Cave right after worship	Class at church building	church building- fellowship and movie March 21- 22 Inspire New England workshop-	pantry BARNABAS PROJECT- IF INTERESTED in joining contact	
New Converts class TBA for any new baptized members or those considering baptism		Manchester Church of Christ March 30- Potluck	MaryLou(475)529-5751	

Prayer Request

*Pray for the **family of Carl Paternoster**, he passed away recently. (friends of Carol & Joe Ligouri)
*Pray for **Derin & Michelle Wilson**, Derin's dad recently passed away.

*Pray for **Karen Ohrenberger and family**, her mom recently passed away.

*Pray for **Linda Roy** (Mary Lou,s friend) who recently broke her leg.

*Pray for **Kelsey** who has cancer, (Ron's cousin David's fiance.)

*Pray for **Nancy Melson** who continues to struggle with high levels of pain.

*Pray for **Lisa Saracino** who is recovering from pneumonia.

*Pray for Doreen Palmer's daughter, **Christina**, who is struggling with health challenges.

*Pray for **Jordan** (daughter of Tracy Walkup's sister in Christ, Sylvia) who is experiencing extreme pain Levels.

*Pray for Ray's brother **Mike**, who is recovering from a recent vascular procedure.

*Pray for **Linda Cerminara**, she is recovering from shoulder surgery.

*Pray for **Desrine Forbes** who is dealing with a few medical issues and is unable to work.

*Pray for **Chris Baxter** dealing with personal issues.

*Pray for **Judy Ragland** (Chelsey's grandmother, diagnosed with stage 4 colon cancer.

*Pray for Kris Eddy's coworker whose wife ,**Jackie** was recently diagnosed with cancer.

*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, 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 2/23/25

Song Leader :Kevon Turner Lord's Table:Patrick Keller Closing Prayer:Ray Fernandes Usher:Bruce Post Week of 2/16/24- 2/82225

Donations \$ 3812 Expenses:\$3242