



# The TrumBulletin



A Publication of the Trumbull Church of Christ, 2 Drew Circle, Trumbull, CT.

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## Does Satan live in your Neighborhood?

In Revelation 2:12-17, Jesus speaks to the church of Christ in the ancient city of Pergamum. Jesus said to the Christians there, “I know where you live – where Satan has his throne. Yet you remain true to my name. You did not renounce your faith in me, even in the days of Antipas, my faithful witness, who was put to death in your city – where Satan lives.” (Rev. 2:13)

Imagine living in a place where Satan has his throne and where Satan lives? The people of Pergamum had built many temples and altars to many false gods, such as Athena and Zeus. There was also the temple dedicated to the snake god of healing, Aesculapius. People believed that simply sleeping in this temple would heal them of their diseases. And of course, there was the usual emperor worship that went on, where a Christian would be imprisoned or burnt at the stake, like Antipas, if they did not bow down to Caesar, as one would a god. Satan definitely was present in Pergamum. Is Satan present where we live? Well, the temple of the snake god may not be on the corner, but other influences of Satan are definitely present. Whether it is at the work place, in our children’s schools, or even in our own homes, Satan has his ways of challenging our faith each and every day.

Jesus commended the Christians in Pergamum because they remained true to His name and did not renounce their faith in Him. The Christians chose not to escape, but to conquer. We may feel it would be much easier to be a Christian in some other place and in some other circumstances. The truth is, according to 1 Peter 5:8, Satan “prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour,” no matter where we go or live. If in the early days Christians had run away every time they were confronted with a difficult engagement, there would have been no chance for Truth about Jesus to be made known.

The Christians at Pergamum proved that it was perfectly possible to be a Christian under such circumstances. Even when martyrdom was in the air they did not flinch. Jesus called Antipas “my faithful witness.” The English word, “witness,” is translated from the Greek word, “martus,” or what we would call “martyr.” In the early church to be a martyr and to be a witness were one and the same thing. Witnessing for Jesus often meant martyrdom. Here is a rebuke for us to consider. So many of us are prepared to demonstrate our Christianity in Christian circles, but are equally prepared to hide it in circles where Christianity is met with opposition.

Jesus give Antipas the name, “faithful witness.” In Revelation 1:5, Jesus Himself is called the “faithful witness.” To those who are true to Jesus, He gives nothing less than His own name. The testing of our faith by Satan today really is not much different than it was for the Christians of Pergamum then. If we remain faithful to Jesus, there is no reason why we, like Antipas, cannot be given His own name. Let’s be faithful witnesses for Jesus!

~ Ron Saracino

## NEWS & NOTES

**April 6-10am New Converts class** for any new baptized members or those considering baptism  
**April 10- 8pm-Tori Saracino -junior recital at SacredHeart University (free)**

**April 12-10-12N Ladies Bible Study** at church building  
**April 15-9:30 am- Ladies Bible Study** via zoom

**April 27-3:30-5:30-Danbury Church of Christ** - Area wide hymn sing-please bring refreshments for fellowship afterwards

**June 13-14- Men’s retreat**

**First Quarter 2025 Donations:\$41,508 Spending: \$48,648**

***Our in house food pantry could use a boost***

## Prayer Requests

\*Pray for all those affected by recent storms throughout our country,  
 \*Pray for **Jose** (Karen Stanzione's S-I-L) who is recovering from hernia surgery.  
 \*Pray for **Connie** (Mary Lou's friend) who had a stroke.  
 \*Pray for the **Grubb family** (church family of Cindy Holly) who lost their mother in a tragic accident, Children ages 10-20. Their father passed away in 2017 due to cancer.  
 \*Pray for **Meegan Aschen** as she seeks a new job.  
 \*Pray for **Debbie Christy's brother Clarence**, who lost his son this past week, and for the whole **Christy family**.  
 \*Pray for **Linda Roy** (Mary Lou's friend) who recently broke her leg.  
 \*Pray for **Kelsey** who has cancer, (Ron's cousin David's fiancé.)  
 \*Pray for **Nancy Melson** who continues to struggle with high levels of pain, and for her husband who will be having surgery soon.  
 \*Pray for **Doreen Palmer's daughter, Christina**, who is struggling with health challenges.

\*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:** **Deserine Forbes**, **Emille Jones**, **Mike Ross**, **Ted & Toni Bonadio**, **Kevin Early**, **Nadine Keller**, **Greg & Linda Cerminara**, **Pat Yaglowksi**. **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 11am

Online bible class and worship service go to our website:

**trumbullchurchofchrist.org**

**Week of 4/6/25**

**Song Leader: Bruce Pancoast**

**Lord's Table: Steve Froehlich**

**Closing Prayer: Patrick Keller**

**Usher: Bob Discala**

**Week of 3/24/24-4/5/2025**

**Donations \$ 6604 Expenses: \$6867**

