



# The TrumBulletin



A Publication of the Trumbull Church of Christ, 2 Drew Circle, Trumbull,  
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Have you ever chased after something, social standing, success—thinking, once I get this, then I'll finally be happy? We live in a world obsessed with things: better clothes, newer phones, faster cars. But have you noticed? The more we get, the more we want. That deep satisfaction always seems just out of reach. This raises a serious need: Are we spending our lives chasing something that can't truly satisfy us? The book of Ecclesiastes gives us raw honesty from someone who had it all—riches, wisdom, pleasure, accomplishments—and still ended up feeling empty. Material pleasures will never satisfy the soul. Solomon starts by saying, "I said in my heart, 'Come now, I will test you with pleasure; enjoy yourself.'" (ch.2 v. 1). He sets out on a journey to chase happiness through pleasure. He doesn't hold back. Verse 4 tells us, "I made great works. I built houses and planted vineyards for myself." These weren't small efforts—he created paradise-level luxury. He had wine, gardens, servants, wealth, and even entertainment. But what does he say after all this? "Behold, all was vanity and a striving after wind, and there was nothing to be gained under the sun." (v. 11) Think of someone like a celebrity who seems to have it all—mansions, fans, success. But how many of them are still unhappy? How many end up isolated, burned out, or even depressed? Imagine drinking saltwater when you're thirsty. The more you drink, the thirstier you get. That's what chasing pleasure is like—it looks satisfying, but it leaves you emptier. So what do we learn? Stuff can entertain you for a moment, but it can't satisfy your soul. That's why Solomon, the author, ends up disillusioned. All his efforts, all the things we think will make us happy, leave him asking, "What's the point?" This challenges how we live. Are we filling our lives with distractions instead of purpose? What if we focused less on what we own and more on who we're becoming? You don't need material belongings to be happy. Let's go deeper: Real joy doesn't come from what you have—it comes from who you are. Solomon says, "Whatever my eyes desired I did not keep from them. I kept my heart from no pleasure." (v. 10) He gave himself everything—and yet still came up empty. This is key: he had control over everything—wealth, beauty, power—and even then, happiness escaped him. That means joy isn't about having more. It's about having meaning. You can be in a small apartment with a loving family and feel full of joy. Or you can live in a mansion alone and feel hollow. The size of your joy isn't measured by square footage. Think of someone who gives their life to serving others. They may not have a lot materially, but they're full of life and peace. Why? Because meaning—not money—is what feeds the soul. When we seek purpose, when we pursue relationships, truth, and love—these things last. Solomon's mistake was chasing happiness through things. What he needed—and what we need—is deeper than that. Let this passage remind you to look at your life differently. What are you chasing? What are you filling your heart with? True joy comes not from external wealth but from internal alignment—with God, with purpose, with others. You don't need material belongings to be happy. Solomon had it all—and still felt empty. His wisdom wasn't just in his possessions but in what he learned: you can have everything and still have nothing. This passage isn't meant to make us feel guilty for having things. It's meant to wake us up: \*Don't make things your god. Don't confuse comfort with joy. Happiness comes not from what you hold in your hands, but what fills your heart. So as you walk away today, ask yourself: What am I really chasing? And what would it look like to live like joy doesn't depend on stuff? Because in the end, the truth is simple: You don't need material belongings to be happy. -*laney*

## NEWS & NOTES

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| <b>June 13 &amp; 14- Men's Retreat</b><br><b>Kent Ct.</b><br><b>June 14 10-12 Saturday Ladies</b><br><b>Bible Study</b> at church building<br><b>June 22- Young Adult devo</b> and<br>Beardsley Zoo (bring your own<br>lunch) right after worship | <b>June 29- Pot Luck</b> We<br>will be honoring our<br>high school seniors | <b>July 26- VBS</b><br><br><b>July- Tidal River</b><br><b>Christian Camp-</b> if<br>interested in helping see<br>Pat Keller | <b>June 26-6pm Memorial service</b> at c<br>church building for <b>Mary Preteska</b><br><br><b>Our in house food pantry</b> could use<br><b>a boost</b> |
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## *Prayer Requests*

\*Pray for the family of **Mary Cerminara**, who passed away suddenly last Saturday. (Greg, Joanne & Toni's sister)

\*Pray for Karen Stanzione's daughter, **Kelly** who has pneumonia. Also for her mother who has started home dialysis.

\*Pray for Mary Lou's friend, **Louise**, whose husband is in ICU.

\*Pray for Debbie Christy's niece's granddaughter who is being bullied at school. Also for her great niece who is having serious breathing issues.

\*Pray for **Mary Reed** (Molly's sister who has gestational diabetes/high risk pregnancy)

\*Pray for **Edward Cross** (Nadine's uncle) recently diagnosed with prostate cancer.

\*Pray for **Leo** (a 6 year old) who had a brain tumor removed and is now having seizures/ epilepsy.

\*Pray for **Anthony**- his eyesight is hindered and the family is having difficulty finding a doctor to do surgery. (Carol's grandson)

\*Pray for **Marilyn Pinto** (Leah's S-I-L) she will be having breast surgery May 28 (her cancer re-occured after 25 years) also Leah's cousin **Lisa Tobey** who completed chemo and will have surgery next month.

\*Pray for the **Ruiz family** as court will determine Levi's permanent guardianship .

\*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, 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 Yaglawski. 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** 914-486-9146

### **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 6/08/25**

**Song Leader: Patrick Keller**

**Lord's Table: Zach Saracino**

**Closing Prayer/Announcements: Bruce Post**

**Usher: Bob Discala**

**Week of 6/01/25-6/07/2025**

