



# The TrumBulletin

A Publication of the Trumbull Church of Christ, 2 Drew Circle, Trumbull,  
CT. 06611 203-261-5201  
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## You Don't Have to Chase [Christmas](#) Magic

This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins" ([1 John 4:10](#)).

In *Mickey and Minnie's Gift of the Magi*, Mickey wants to buy Minnie a gold chain for her watch as a [Christmas](#) gift, but he doesn't have enough funds to buy it. At the same time, Minnie wants to buy Mickey a harmonica box for his prized harmonica, but she also lacks the money needed to do this.

After many issues arise for both of them in their attempts to gather the necessary funds, each one finds a challenging solution. As Mickey walks around town, he comes upon a toy drive, where he learns that he can trade his harmonica for a gold chain. Mickey is overjoyed and eagerly runs to meet Minnie with her gift. He hands Minnie's gift to her, and her eyes immediately fill with tears. He had gifted her with the gold chain she needed to go with her watch, but she didn't have her watch anymore.

She had sold her watch in order to have enough money to buy the harmonica case for Mickey. Their hearts are both filled with love when they realize the sacrifice they made for one another. This is true love, not a fabricated, self-focused love, but rather, a love that is sacrificial, genuine, and pure.

So, what biblical lessons can we take from these fictional, animated characters?

This story connects us to the very reason Jesus came down to earth as a baby. Out of God's great love for us, He sent His Son to die for our sins ([John 3:16-17](#)). The Apostle John tells us, "This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins" ([1 John 4:10](#)).

John walked with Jesus throughout His ministry, which helped him to develop a vast understanding of Jesus' great love for humanity. He was part of the inner three and was known as "the disciple whom Jesus loved" ([John 13:23](#), 19:26, 21:7, 21:20). John was also present at the crucifixion and death of the Lord, which further added to his understanding of the Lord's love ([John 19:26-27](#)).

Throughout John's writings, we see that sacrifice is a part of genuine love. There is no greater love than sacrificing your own needs, wants, desires, or even your very life for someone else. Jesus Himself extends this type of love to us throughout our entire lives.

[Christmas](#) magic is often tied together with elaborate gifts, but Christmas magic naturally comes to us when we focus on Jesus. Out of the Lord's great love for us, He sacrificed His life for our own ([Romans 5:8](#)).

Follow Jesus this Christmas season rather than trying to chase after what the world advertises as "Christmas magic." Everything we could ever need or want is found in Christ. He is our Savior, Redeemer, and Lord. The magical feeling of Christmas will fade away, but the sacrificial love of Jesus stays with us forever.

Vivian Bricker

## NEWS & NOTES

<b>Jan. 6 9:30 am</b> Tuesday Ladies Bible Study <b>Jan. 10- 10-12 pm</b> Saturday Ladies Bible Study @ the Saracino home	<b>Dec. 19- 5:30 pm</b> Young Adults Christmas party at church building. <b>Dec. 27 10am- 12:30 pm</b> Families with Young Children Christmas Breakfast	Benevolence- Collection for a single mom and her 4 y.o. daughter in need- list on back door. Items due Dec. 14	<i>Welcome visitors-please share a record of you visit by filling out the Welcome card or using the app on the laminated card, both located on the pew in front of you,</i>
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## *Prayer Requests*

\*Pray for Jessica (Bruce & Paula's D-I-L) recently diagnosed with gestational diabetes, she is due Feb. 3rd.

\*Pray for John Cooper (former Trumbull COC ) who recently had a stroke.

\*Pray for Jay's **Uncle Skip** and family, his wife passed away recently.

\*Pray for **Karen Springer's mother** who is now on hospice care. Prayers for all the family.

\*Pray for **Greg Cerminara** who is recovering from knee surgery.

\*Pray for positive results from **Mike Ross's** endoscopy.

\*Pray for **Anthony Katz** who is recovering from eye surgery and other medical issues.

\*Pray for **Audrey Parks** (Nadine's mother) who is dealing with intense back pain. Also for her cousin, **Oliver**, whose wife passed away and for his 3 children and family. Also for Kimberly's friend **Tia**, who had a seizure.

\*Pray for **Nuris** who is in a lot of pain.

\*Pray for those in Jamaica and all affected by the recent hurricane.

\*Pray for Debbie Christy's niece, **Kia Marsha** recently diagnosed with breast cancer and is recovering from surgery.

\*Pray for **Pamela Pimpton** who has been dizzy and not feeling well.

\*Pray for Joanne and Bob's grandson, **Leo, post bone marrow transplant..** Prayers for the whole family also.

\*Pray for **Mary Lou** as she is dealing with back problems and for **Ron Sr.** for his procedure

\*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 Yaglowksi. Meegan and Irene, Nuris Gomez, 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.

**\*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 12/14/25**

**Song Leader: Bruce Pancoast**

**Lord's Table: Chidi Okoroafor**

**Closing Prayer/Announcements: Zach Saracino**

**Usher: Bob Discala**

**Week of 12/07-12/23/25**

**Donations :\$4761 Expenses:\$5064**

