

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- There will be a brief men's meeting directly after services this morning

May Birthdays:

9th – Arilyn Nick
12th – Tony Grant
15th – Anthony Williams
16th – Betty Schmidt
23rd – Hunter Wells

Happy Anniversary:

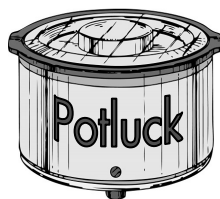
Blake & Amber — May 13th

Ladies Bread Ministry

May 4: Terry Kennedy

SNACKS!

May 4: Susana
May 11: Terry K



Due to Mother's Day, our potluck fellowship will be held on May 18th after services. Please make plans to stay for this special time of food, fun & fellowship! ☺

~ UPCOMING EVENTS ~

NE Men's Retreat in Kent, CT

"Dynamic Servants of Christ's Church"
June 13 & 14

Gander Brook Work & Worship Week

June 21 — June 28

Please see bulletin board for more details

Order of Worship

"So let us come near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith...."

- Hebrews 10:22 -

Song Leader: *Nate Hios*

Song

Opening Prayer: *Wayne Sampson*

Song

Scripture Reading: *George Nick*
~ Ephesians 1:3-14 ~

Song

The Lord's Supper:
George Nick & Wayne Sampson

Contribution

Song

Sermon: *Terry Schmidt*
"Isn't It Great To Be A Christian?"

Song

Announcements & Closing Prayer:
Tony Grant

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Greeter: *Nate* and/or *Rebecca Hios*  
Lord's Supper Prep: *Terry Kennedy*

## Southern Maine Church of Christ

1228 Portland Road (Rt. 1)  
Arundel, ME 04043



**May 4, 2014**

## Sunday Assembly Times:

9:30 am - Bible Classes for all ages  
10:30 am—Worship  
6:00—Bible Study

## Wednesday Assembly:

7:00 - Bible Study for all ages

Website: [www.sm-cc.org](http://www.sm-cc.org)  
Phone: 207-229-4174  
Email: [info@sm-cc.org](mailto:info@sm-cc.org)

Mailing Address:  
P.O. Box 344  
West Kennebunk, ME 04094

## Prayer Requests:

- Anthony: next surgery is scheduled for May 20th at 6:30 am for cyst & adenoid removal and the placement of new ear drain tubes
- Bob - at River Ridge to gain some weight and strength in order to go home; also COPD and shoulder pain
- Mary (Kathy's mom) - severe lower back pain; having surgical procedure on May 28th
- Paul & Sandy - Paul at River Ridge doing well & making steady progress. Sandy is now back at River Ridge after surgery to remove *Strep* infection at MMC; pray for hip replacement surgery once the infection is totally gone
- Philip - prayers to find a good, solid job
- Priscilla (Kathy's friend) - stomach cancer
- Sue - having cataract surgery on left eye 5/15
- Teal & Mike - for a normal pregnancy; that the baby will be healthy in all respects
- Please pray for our nation (1 Timothy 2:1-3)
- Please pray for those not with us today

**Note:** Items not regularly updated will be removed at the end of each month. Thank you.



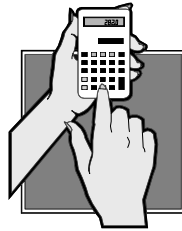
## POINTS TO PONDER:

"Great hope can often be ignited by a small spark of encouragement."

*"Be still, my heart; for faithful is the Lord,  
And pure and true and tried His holy Word;  
Through stormy flood which rages as the sea,  
His promises, thy stepping-stones shall be."*

Numbers for 4/27/14

Attendance - 11  
Contribution - \$529.



## Count Your Blessings

A gospel song that we often sing encourages us to count our blessings. But, just what is it that I am counting? The Greek word blessing is defined as: "a benefit bestowed" (*Vine's*). A secular dictionary expands this definition to "a favor or gift bestowed by God" (*Random House*). Another dictionary defines the word as "something promoting or contributing to happiness, well-being, or prosperity" (*The Free Dictionary*). So, these blessings are gifts from God intended for our benefit to promote our happiness and well-being.

When should I count my blessings? "When upon life's billows (great surging waves) you are tempest tossed (by the storms of life), When you are discouraged thinking all is lost...When you are burdened with loads and cares, When the cross seems heavy you are called to bear" (*Oatman*). The difficult and challenging times of life are when I most need to count my blessings. Doing this is therapeutic for us.

Counting our blessings helps us to see past our present problems and troubles. The Apostle Paul affirmed, "For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us" (Rom 8:18). And again, "For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day. For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, works for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory; while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal" (2 Cor 4:16-18). This is why we are counseled to set our minds on things above, not on things on the earth (Col 3:2).

Counting our blessings enables us to see past ourselves and focus on God, the Blessed Giver (James 1:17), "who gives us richly all things to enjoy" (2 Tim 6:17).

Counting our blessings helps us to take stock of how truly blessed we are in Christ (Eph 1:13). Our citizenship is in heaven (Phil 3:20). We have been adopted as children into God's family. We are heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ! (Rom 8:17). This means that, whatever Christ has in heaven will be ours as well! As Paul assured the Corinthian church (and us too), "All things are yours!" And most importantly, you belong to Christ! (1 Cor 3:21-22).

Maintaining an attitude of gratitude for all that God has done for us through Christ will cause us to want to count our blessings often. Genuine gratitude fuels expressions of sincerest thanks. And so, we count our blessings!

— Terry Schmidt ✍

## "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

- Acts 16:30 -

**Hear** the Gospel - John 6:44-45; Rom 10:14,17

**Believe** [trust in] God - John 3:16; 8:24; Ac 16:31  
Heb 11:6

**Repent** of sins - Luke 13:1-5; Acts 2:38; 3:19; 17:30

**Confess** Christ - Mt 10:32-33; Ac 8:36-37;  
Rom 10:8-10

**Be baptized** - Mk 16:16; Ac 2:38; 8:36; 22:16;  
1 Pet 3:21

**Be faithful** unto death - Mt 7:21; 10:22; Heb 5:9;  
Rev 2:10

## ☺ Welcome Visitors! ☺

We are glad you have come to worship with us today. We want you to know that you are welcome. Please don't hesitate to ask if you have questions or if we can help you in any way. Please fill out a visitor's card and sign our guest book before you depart. Have a great week!

