

## Prayer Requests:

*"Pray for one another"* — James 5:16

- Clara Clark - suffering now with pancreatitis; recently at MMC for testing & evaluation
- Bob Cook - overall health concerns
- Diane Cote - dealing with chronic pain due to suffering with diabetes; fibromyalgia; tendonitis and neuropathy
- Sandy Gagnon - currently at SMHC due to having a bowel obstruction
- Richard & Kathy Judkins - health concerns
- George & Caren Nick - family struggles; Caren is now visiting family in South Africa
- Ernie & Wealthie Perry - health concerns; Wealthie is still recovering from a bad fall
- Don Pfeiffer (husband of Terry Kennedy's close friend) - non-invasive bladder cancer; undergoing chemo & radiation treatments
- Lesley Hamblin (Rebecca's friend) - grieving the loss of her husband Tim & dealing with financial struggles; please pray that a Bible study with her will come to pass
- Kathy Rader - healing from recent carpal-tunnel surgery
- Jan Sampson - chronic & severe hip pain
- Wayne Sampson - doing well with PT on knee
- Ron Sanborn (Terry K's dear friend from the Church of Christ in Conway) - throat cancer; undergoing chemo & radiation therapy
- Sandra Schmidt (Terry & Betty's daughter in law) - in USAF deployed to the Middle East
- Karolyn Terrill - recently diagnosed w/ stage 1 uterine cancer; now back in Arkansas; surgery on 7/30 successful; tumor confined to the uterus and was completely removed
- Wells Family - visiting relatives in Texas; prayers for safe travel
- Amber Williams - suffered a slipped disc in her back recently; still quite painful
- Debbie Woodley - recovering from a stroke

*"Pray without ceasing"* — 1 Thess 5:17



## Feeling like a Failure

For most of us, there are those dark periods in our lives when nothing seems to be going right and we become disillusioned and discouraged.

We realize how much we fall short and are oft reminded of our many shortcomings. We may feel that we are inadequate to the task at hand and just don't measure up. Our noble goals have not been achieved and things just haven't turned out the way we planned. Aside from situations and circumstances beyond our control—mistakes happen, errors in judgment occur, and at times we just "blow it" and really make a mess of things. At times like this, we may feel that even God does not love us, or at the very least, He is probably pretty angry at us.

Peter most likely wrestled with similar feelings after he had denied the Lord three times. He had done the unthinkable and, he may have thought, the unpardonable. He had done that which he had confidently affirmed he would *never* do. He had failed in a most glaring and disappointing manner. The Lord had placed confidence in him and, at a critical moment, he had let Him down. It was over. He did not even consider himself to be an Apostle anymore and went back to fishing.

The important thing for us to remember in all of this is that, although Peter may have felt that the Lord was through with him, Jesus did not give up on Peter. In fact, God used this failure to mold Peter into the great servant he would later become. Peter's prideful, self-reliant spirit was now gone, being replaced by a broken spirit of deep contrition and genuine humility. The Lord forgave Peter and he was never the same again!

Peter's story is encouraging and reminds us of just how much God loves us. Like Peter, God will never give up on us for He has said, "I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee" (Heb 13:5). God sees us at our best. And He sees us at our worst. And He still loves us! (even when we really don't love ourselves all that much).

As we experience this divine *agape* love and the forgiveness that comes with it, we (like Peter) are energized and motivated to serve the Lord with wholehearted devotion. "I delight to do Thy will, O my God: yea, Thy law is within my heart" (Psalm 40:8). No matter how disappointing our performance may be from time to time, as long as we are faithful to God and He has first place in our hearts, we will never be a failure.

— Terry Schmidt ✍



Terry & Betty welcomed their 10th grand child to the world on Tuesday, July 28. Their son Philip and his wife Sara are the proud parents of a healthy little girl. **Tabitha** weighs 7 pounds and is 19 inches long. We thank God for answered prayers! ☺

## "Baptized into Christ" (Gal 3:27)

While on vacation in Texas, Karlee informs us that Haydn has asked to be baptized. He was baptized last Thursday, July 30 by his grandfather (Karlee's father). Also present for the baptism were a few friends and family members. Karlee says, "It was an awesome night!" We agree! And we congratulate Haydn on making this all-important decision.

### ~ UPCOMING EVENTS ~

#### Dover Church Bible Game Day

Saturday, Aug 15 at 2:00 PM

#### Gander Brook "Family Camp" 2015

Theme: "The Christian Family"

September 5-7

#### Gander Brook Ladies Retreat

September 17-19

#### Gospel Meeting with Brent Newton

September 20-23

#### Gander Brook Men's Retreat

September 24-26



## Ladies' Corner

Nursing Home: Our next visit to the nursing home will be Wednesday, August 19th. We meet there at 9:30 am. The residents are very encouraged by our visits.



## Birthdays

6th - Scott Colvin

13th - Janice Grabowski

14th - Bob (Susana's husband)

14th - Wayne Sampson

22nd - Ernie Perry



## Happy Anniversary:

Paul & Diane Cote — 3rd

Nate & Rebecca Hios — 3rd

Mike & Teal Baldasaro — 20th

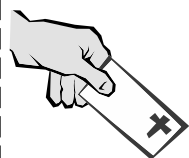
## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Men's Business Meeting:** Today
- **Potluck Fellowship:** August 9th

## SNACKS!

August 2: Terry K  
August 9: Jan

**BULLETIN ITEMS:** If you have a prayer request or an announcement for the bulletin, please contact Terry Schmidt at 284-9191 or e-mail at [tls654b@gwi.net](mailto:tls654b@gwi.net)



Numbers for 7/26/15

Attendance - 25

Contribution - \$600.

## Order of Worship

August 2, 2015

*"And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers."*

~ Acts 2:42 ~

Song Leader: *Nate Hios*

Song

Opening Prayer: *Wayne Sampson*

Song

Scripture Reading: *George Nick*

~ Mark 14:27-31; 66-72 ~

Song

The Lord's Supper:

*Tony Grant & Paul Cote*

Contribution

Song

Sermon: *Terry Schmidt*

"The God of Second Chances"

Song

Announcements & Closing Prayer:

*Terry Schmidt*

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Lord's Supper Prep: *Betty Schmidt*

## Southern Maine Church of Christ

159 Alfred Road, P.O. Box 344  
West Kennebunk, ME 04094



*We love Him, because  
He first loved us.  
- 1 John 4:19 -*

**August 2, 2015**

## Sunday Assembly Times:

9:30 am — Bible Class

10:30 am — Worship

6:00 — Bible Study

## Wednesday Assembly:

7:00 — Bible Study

Website: [www.sm-cc.org](http://www.sm-cc.org)

Phone: 207-229-4174

Email: [tls654b@gwi.net](mailto:tls654b@gwi.net)