



Prayer Requests:

"Pray for one another"

- James 5:16 -

- Diane Cote - diagnosed with kidney disease
- Randy Cote - (Paul & Diane's son) prayers requested for his salvation through Jesus—inner strength and spiritual direction, as he is struggling with the demands and burdens of life
- Paul & Sandy Gagnon - Paul: now residing at Greenwood Center in Sanford; Sandy: now home and on a new treatment regimen
- Nate & Rebecca Hios - request prayers for the work in Kittery
- David Murphy (Sandy's brother) - inoperable prostate cancer
- George & Caren Nick - ongoing family struggles
- Ernie Perry - dealing with COPD issues
- Jerry Prestridge (Bob & Phyllis' son) - serving in Afghanistan
- Kathy Rader - has a lot to deal with right now and requests our prayers for her & her mom
- Robert (Shirley's Dad) - serious heart condition; pocketed fluid retention is still a problem, not much more can be done to remedy this
- Wayne Sampson - issues with lower back pain; has begun receiving epidermal injections
- Karlee Wells - may need to initiate legal action against her employer for her health issues; dealing with severe migraines and chronic pain; other health concerns
- Blake Williams - personal & family struggles
- Peter Wolenty - ongoing heart problems; thankful for your prayers
- Please pray for our nation (1 Timothy 2:1-3)
- Please pray that we might find a suitable and affordable permanent meeting place
- Please pray for those not with us today

"The prayer of the upright is His delight...He hears the prayer of the righteous" - Proverbs 15:8 & 29

No App Needed!

This just in . . . dated: December 12, 2016 – **"New Catholic 'GO' App Locates Nearest Priest for Confession."** The Catholic Church has launched a new smart-phone app helping sinners find the nearest available priest "in real time" to hear their confessions. The app 'Confessor GO' locates the user's global position and cross-references the data with all available priests. A list of available confessors then appears on the screen. Once a user chooses a priest, the app shows the distance separating the two, as well as the shortest route to get to the confession place. The purpose? 'So that those who need to be reconciled with God may receive forgiveness and peace'."

The question arises, "why?" If we have direct access to God under the New Testament through our Intercessor (Heb 7:25) and Mediator (Heb 8:6; 9:15) Jesus Christ, why would anyone choose to go through all this man-made stuff for something that is ineffectual and not genuine? This app represents something that is artificial – a poor substitute for the real thing, which is free and direct access to God through Jesus Christ! (1 Tim 2:5-6).

The One who loved us and washed us in His own blood has made us kings and priests! (Rev 1:5-6). Peter refers to Christians as "a royal priesthood" who "offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ" (1 Peter 2:4-5; 9). Those under the New Covenant don't need to confess to a Catholic "priest" because we ARE priests! And our High Priest is Jesus Christ! (Heb 2:17; 3:1; 9:11).

"Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin" (Heb 4:14-15). "Therefore, in all things He had to be made like His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people" (Heb 2:17).

Since we are now priests under the New Testament and since the Lord Jesus Christ now serves as our High Priest, there is absolutely no need for a man-made priesthood to which man must confess his sins. Christ is sufficient! (Heb 5:8-9).

"In Him, and through faith in Him, we may approach God with freedom and confidence!" (Eph 3:12). "Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need!" (Heb 4:16).

— Terry Schmidt ✍



POINTS TO PONDER

You cannot grow in grace to any high degree while you are conformed to the world. (2 Pet 3:18; 1 Jn 2:15)

"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

"Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved." — Acts 4:12

😊 **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 before you depart.





Ladies' Corner

Ladies' Ministry Meeting: Today, after services.

Kennebunk Nursing Home: asked if we could donate cookies for their holiday party on December 23. If you would like to donate cookies, please bring them in on December 18. Thank you.



December Birthdays

23rd – Blake Williams



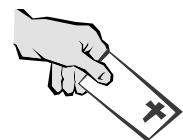
ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Men's Ministry Meeting:** Today, after services (weather permitting!)

Our brother **Paul Gagnon** was recently transferred to **Greenwood Center** rehabilitation facility: 1142 Main Street, Sanford, ME 04073; Phone: (207) 324-2273. This is a good move where he will receive better treatment than before. He has been at SMHC this past week with dehydration and other health problems. Many tests were run throughout the week and it was found that he has an e-coli infection which is being treated with powerful antibiotics. He also has gallstones and has been passing some of them. Once the infection has been eradicated, He will return to **Greenwood**. Thank you for your prayers, calls and visits. They are greatly appreciated by Paul & Sandy and the family.

SNACKS!

December 18: Sandy
December 25: Janice



Numbers for 12/11/16

Attendance - 18
Contribution - \$356.

Order of Worship

December 18, 2016

"I will praise You, O LORD, with my whole heart; I will tell of all Your marvelous works. I will be glad and rejoice in You; I will sing praise to Your name, O Most High."

— Psalm 9:1-2 —

Song Leader: *Paul Cote*

Song

Opening Prayer: *Wayne Sampson*

Song

Scripture Reading: *George Nick*
~ Hebrews 4:14 -5:9 ~

Song

The Lord's Supper:
Jim Miller & Ernie Perry

Contribution

Song

Sermon: *Terry Schmidt*
"The Greatest Power in the Universe"

Song

Announcements & Closing Prayer:
Jason Kennedy

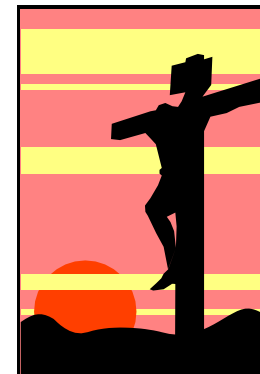
Alternate/fill-in: *Erik Grabowski*

~~~~~

Lord's Supper Prep: *Terry Kennedy*

## 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 -*

## December 18, 2016

### Sunday Assembly Times:

9:30 am — Bible Class  
10:30 am — Worship  
6:00 — Bible Study

### Wednesday Assembly:

7:00 — Bible Study

Phone: 207-229-4174  
Email: [tls654b@gwi.net](mailto:tls654b@gwi.net)  
Website: [www.southernmainecofc.com](http://www.southernmainecofc.com)