

Prayer Requests:

"Pray for one another" — James 5:16

- Brent Bell - awaiting test results for a possible cyst on his pancreas
- Diane Cote - diagnosed with kidney disease
- John Donofrio (Betty's brother) - much of his ulcerated large intestine was removed; please pray for restoration of his health
- Paul & Sandy Gagnon - Paul: at River Ridge; Sandy: now at Northeast rehab facility in Portsmouth, NH or rest & rehab
- Jean Gortot - suffering with advanced cancer
- Erik & Janice Grabowski - "please pray that the Lord would open doors for us to have a child"
- Mary (Paula's mom) - on new medication to stop liver tumor growth; now in palliative care
- David Murphy (Sandy's brother) - inoperable prostate cancer; a cancerous tumor recently found in nose; undergoing radiation therapy
- Lyndon Myers (Susana's son) - recently had prostate cancer surgery; recuperating well; please pray for a full recovery
- George & Caren Nick - daughter Vivian gave birth to a healthy baby boy on Friday, May 13; both mother and son are doing well; the family deeply appreciates your love & prayers
- Ernie Perry - right shoulder healing; having surgery on left shoulder May 31; COPD issues
- Wealthie Perry - various health concerns
- Don Pfeiffer - bladder cancer has returned
- Karlee Wells - has been accepted to a 2-year doctorate program at work which will provide greater opportunities & better working conditions; dealing with chronic pain & health issues
- Blake Williams - personal & family struggles
- Peter Wolenty (Sandy's brother-in law) - had illiostomy that will be reversed later on; prayers are requested for his health & healing
- Please pray for our nation (1 Timothy 2:1-3)
- Please pray for those not with us today

"Pray without ceasing." - 1 Thess 5:17

Forsake Not the Assembly

By Ron Boatwright

We see that the Christians in the first century "continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers" (Acts 2:42). Early Christians were steadfast and faithful in their worship of God together.

When we were baptized into Christ for the forgiveness of our sins in order to be saved "we were baptized into one body" (1 Corinthians 12:13), the church. "The Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved" (Act 2:47). We became a member of "the house of God which is the church of the living God" (1 Timothy 3:15). In being part of the house of God we are God's "children...heirs of God, and joint heirs with Christ" (Romans 8:17). We also received "an inheritance...reserved in Heaven" (1 Peter 1:4).

But we are warned that we can lose our inheritance in Heaven. "Let no one cheat you of your reward" (Colossians 2:18). One of the ways to lose our inheritance in Heaven is to disassociate ourselves from the church, by forsaking the assembly. We are warned in Hebrews 10:25-27: "Not forsaking the assembly of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the day approaching. For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries."

Why is it sinful to forsake the assembly of the church for which the Lord shed His blood and died? The Bible says that by forsaking the assembly one "has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace" (Hebrews 10:29). By consistently forsaking the assembly, one is saying that he no longer cares to be a part of the church for which Christ shed His blood and died.

Jesus says, "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness" (Matthew 6:33).

Going to Heaven should be our number one priority in this life. After we are baptized, how do we continue to get forgiveness of sins we commit so we can go to Heaven? "But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin" (1 John 1:7). As Christians, to continue to be cleansed from all our sins we must walk in the light and have fellowship with one another.

By forsaking the assembly we are not having fellowship with one another and will not continue to be cleansed of our sins. If we are not being cleansed of our sins, we will die in our sins and be lost (Romans 6:23). We must serve the Lord faithfully. This includes our faithful attendance if we want to go to Heaven. Jesus promises us, "Be faithful until death and I will give you the crown of life" (Revelation 2:10).



Our heartfelt prayers and congratulations go out to
Seth & Kim

who were united in marriage
on May 7th. May the Lord
richly bless their union,
and may they enjoy many happy years
together as husband and wife.




☺ 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!






Ladies' Corner
Nursing Home: The next nursing home visit will be Wednesday, May 18th, 2016 at 9:30 am.



May Birthdays



15th - Anthony Williams
 16th – Betty Schmidt
 23rd - Hunter Wells
 30th - Paul Cote

Happy Anniversary:

Bob & Susana — May 17th

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

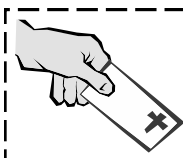
- **Pot Luck Fellowship:** Today, after services

SNACKS! May 15: Pot Luck
 May 22: Diane



POINTS TO PONDER

True satisfaction is found in yielding ourselves to the will of God.

Numbers for 5/8/16
 Attendance - 18
 Contribution - \$308.

Order of Worship

May 15, 2016

“Serve the LORD with gladness; come before His presence with singing. Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name.”
 - Psalm 100:2, 4 -

Song Leader: *Paul Cote*

Song

Opening Prayer: *Seth Willey*

Song

Scripture Reading: *Erik Grabowski*

Song

The Lord's Supper:
George Nick & Jason Kennedy

Contribution

Song

Sermon: *George Nick*

Song

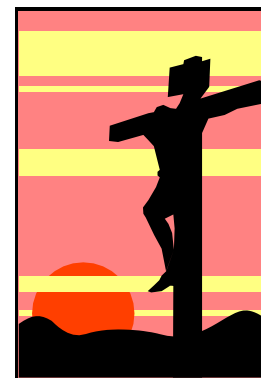
Announcements & Closing Prayer:
Wayne Sampson

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Lord's Supper Prep: *Terry Kennedy*

# Southern Maine Church of Christ

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

**May 15, 2016**

## **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@zwi.net](mailto:tls654b@zwi.net)