



## Prayer Requests:

*"Pray for one another"*

- James 5:16 -

- Diane Cote - diagnosed with kidney disease
- Randy Cote - (Paul & Diane's son) - struggling with the demands and burdens of life
- Paul & Sandy Gagnon - Paul: now residing at Greenwood Center in Sanford and doing well; Sandy: on a new treatment regimen; prayers for strength & healing for her & Paul
- Janice Grabowski - experiencing extreme pain in her lower back & abdominal area; admitted to SMHC for tests & treatment
- Nate & Rebecca Hios - pray for the Kittery work
- Jim & Pat Miller - leg & back problems
- David Murphy (Sandy's brother) - inoperable prostate cancer
- George & Caren Nick - ongoing family struggles
- Ernie Perry - dealing with COPD issues
- Jerry Prestridge - serving in Afghanistan
- Kathy Rader - prayers for her and her mom
- Robert (Shirley's Dad) - serious heart condition; problems with excessive fluid retention
- Wayne Sampson - corrective surgery for spinal stenosis on Feb 13th was successful and he is now recuperating; also suffering from ongoing anxiety attacks
- Jim Schmidt (Terry's Dad) - two cancerous brain tumors and a mass found in his lung; completed radiation treatments on Feb 24th; may begin chemo therapy soon; now at a rehab center to regain strength to return home
- Karlee Wells - various health issues; dealing with PTSD, TBI, severe migraines and chronic pain; also legal issues for health compensation
- Kim Willey - struggling with bi-polar disorder
- Blake Williams - personal & family struggles
- Peter Wolenty - ongoing heart problems
- Please pray for those not with us today

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



## Testing

Testing is an unavoidable part of life. Educational institutions periodically administer tests to evaluate the learning progress of their students. Businesses and companies test job applicants to determine if they have the knowledge and skills needed to perform certain tasks. Military and law enforcement routinely test those in their ranks for physical endurance, mental alertness, performance expertise, and mission preparation.

Tests exist in the spiritual realm as well. God tested Abraham (Gen 22) and other heroes of faith through the years (Heb 11). He tested His chosen people Israel also: "And you shall remember that the LORD your God led you all the way these forty years in the wilderness, to humble you and test you, to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep His commands or not" (Dt 8:2). And God tests His people today too. This testing serves at least three purposes.

**First**, it administers godly discipline and provides spiritual training. This testing is usually not pleasant and we would rather do without it. But God knows what is best for us. "Now no chastening [discipline] seems joyful for the present, but grievous; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it (Heb 12:11).

**Second**, testing serves to refine, strengthen, and mature our faith. Peter describes these tests as "various trials," allowed by God "that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ (1 Pet 1:6-7). This is why James tells us to "count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience [perseverance] (Jas 1:2-3).

**Third**, testing insures our eternal salvation. God allows it "for our profit, that we may be partakers of His holiness" (Heb 12:10).

James adds: "Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been proved [tested], he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him" (Jas 1:12). And Peter makes it all very clear, explaining that the purpose of enduring trials and suffering is to receive "the end [goal] of your faith—the salvation of your souls" (1 Pet 1:9).

Those desiring to assist the Lord in these three noble goals would do well to follow Paul's admonition given in 2 Cor 13:5 – "Examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith; test yourselves (NIV)." Routinely analyzing our spiritual welfare and keeping ourselves in check will serve to insure that we don't fail the test! (2 Cor 13:5-6).

— Terry Schmidt ✍



## WORSHIP ASSIGNMENTS FOR MARCH

*Preaching:* Terry Schmidt

*Song Leader:* Paul Cote

*Opening Prayer:* Erik Grabowski

*Scripture Reading:* George Nick

*Lord's Supper:*

Terry Schmidt & Ernie Perry

*Announcements/Prayer:* Jason Kennedy

*Alternate/fill-in:* Wayne Sampson

*Lord's Supper Prep:* Jan Sampson

## ☺ 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. Have a great week!





## Ladies' Corner

Ladies' Ministry Meeting: Sunday, March 5th, after services

Biddeford Ladies Day: Saturday, March 18 from 9 am to 2 pm. Speaker: Peggy Coulter. Theme: 'Filled Up and Poured Out'

Nursing Home Visit: Tuesday, March 21st, Kennebunk Nursing Home at 9:30 followed by lunch and fellowship at *Perfectos* in Kennebunk.

Lakes Region Church of Christ Ladies Day: April 8th from 9:30AM to 1:00PM (lunch is provided). Speaker: Kathy Pollard. Topic: Making the Most of My Time for God" (Psalm 90:12).

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Congregational Meeting: Today, after services
- Men's Ministry Meeting: Sunday, March 5th, after services
- Pot Luck Fellowship: March 12, after services

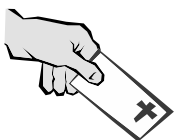
## Happy Anniversary:

Tony & Nancy — March 3rd  
Henry & Karolyn — March 31st

**BULLETIN ITEMS:** Contact Terry Schmidt at 284-9191 or e-mail at [tls654b@gwi.net](mailto:tls654b@gwi.net)



February 26: Nancy  
March 5: Sandy



Numbers for 2/19/17

Attendance - 22  
Contribution - \$601.

## Order of Worship February 26, 2017

"Let all those who seek You rejoice and be glad in You; let such as love Your salvation say continually, 'The LORD be magnified'."

— Psalm 40:16 —

Song Leader: *Paul Cote*

Song

Opening Prayer: *Erik Grabowski*

Song

Scripture Reading: *Jason Kennedy*

Song

The Lord's Supper:  
*George Nick & Ernie Perry*

Contribution

Song

Sermon: *George Nick*

Song

Announcements & Closing Prayer:  
*Wayne Sampson*

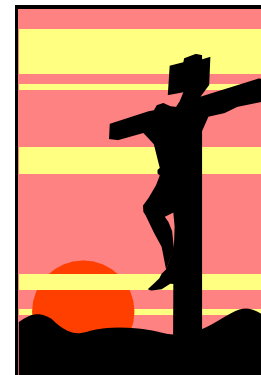
Alternate/fill-in: *Jim Miller*

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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 -*

**February 26, 2017**

## 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

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Website: [www.southernmainecofc.com](http://www.southernmainecofc.com)