

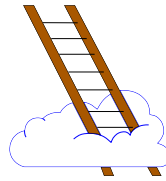


## Prayer Requests:

*"Pray for one another"*

- James 5:16 -

- Diane Cote - admitted to SMHC last week with a serious kidney infection; home now and doing better; thank you for your prayers!
- Paul & Sandy Gagnon - Paul: at Greenwood Center in Sanford & doing well; Sandy: dealing with pain brought on by fibromyalgia
- Erik Grabowski - had nose surgery recently which has been very painful and difficult; please pray for a speedy recovery
- Baron Hicken (Nancy's brother) - fell recently and severely fractured his pelvis; in a lot of pain
- Hurricane Harvey Flood Victims - please pray for those who have lost loved ones and/or all their earthly possessions ; pray for all those involved in rescue and relief efforts
- David Murphy (Sandy's brother) - inoperable prostate cancer; also has diabetes
- Caren Nick - suffering with debilitating chronic fatigue syndrome
- Chris Nick (George's brother) - had a serious stroke recently and is severely debilitated
- Ernie Perry - dealing with COPD issues
- Robert (Shirley's Dad) - serious heart condition; problems with excessive fluid retention
- Wayne Sampson - recently diagnosed with gallstones & fatty liver; also suffering from lower back pain and ongoing anxiety attacks
- Mark Schmidt (Terry & Betty's son) - serving in the USAF, now deployed to Qatar
- Henry Terrill - suffering with lower back pain
- Karlee Wells - various health issues; dealing with PTSD, TBI, severe migraines and chronic pain; also legal issues for health compensation
- Peter Wolenty - ongoing heart problems
- Please pray that we might find a suitable and affordable permanent meeting place
- Please pray for our nation (1 Timothy 2:1-3)
- Please pray for those not with us today



## Chutes & Ladders

Most likely, many of you are familiar with the children's game *Chutes & Ladders*. Starting at "square one" at the bottom of the board, players would work through over 90 spaces to reach the last square at the top of the board to win the game. However, at various points, one could land on a ladder (moving his piece upward & forward many spaces), or one could encounter a chute (sliding his piece downward & backward many spaces). So, throughout the game, nothing is certain! And with a simple roll of the dice or spin of the needle, one can quickly find himself either winning or losing. Those lagging behind could land on a ladder which could catapult them to the lead. And those who were in the lead did not have the luxury of bragging because they could be sent backward by landing on a chute at any given time.

This enjoyable child's game seems to mirror the troublesome ups and downs of life which are often inevitable and unpredictable. And much of the time, these vicissitudes of life do not seem fair, nor do they make any sense. We see good things happening to bad people, and bad things happening to good people. There seems to be no real rhyme or reason to this puzzling phenomenon. When times are good, there is the human propensity to forget God. And when times are bad, there is the carnal temptation to blame God. What are some helpful, biblical ways you and I can respond during these difficult times when we find ourselves tossed about by tempestuous waves on the capricious sea of life?

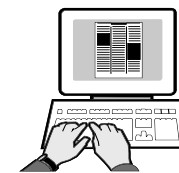
First, we can realize that, no matter how bad things seem God is still in control. He is sovereign (Eph 1:11; Col 1:15-17; 1 Tim 6:15-16). Second, we can remind ourselves that our Lord is constant and changeless. He "does not change like shifting shadows" (Jas 1:17), but "is the same yesterday and today and forever" (Heb 13:8). Third, we can take courage in the fact that God is faithful (1 Cor 1:9; 10:13; 2 Thess 3:3).

He is dependable and trustworthy for He has said, "I will *never* leave you nor forsake you" (Heb 13:5). Finally, we can rejoice in the knowledge that our Lord Jesus Christ is victorious! (1 Cor 15:50-57). He acknowledges that in this world we will have problems, persecutions, trials and tribulations. Then he lovingly adds: "But be of good cheer (take heart!), I have overcome the world!" (John 16:33). — **Terry Schmidt** ✍

## New Opportunity to Serve

Beginning Sunday, September 24, the Southern Maine church of Christ will be going to the Greenwood Center Nursing Home to conduct a worship service. There will be singing, prayer and a short message from the Bible. The service will be conducted in the cafeteria/activity room at 3:30 pm. All residents and staff will be invited and welcomed to attend. We hope to do this every Sunday at this time. Please come and join us! — Paul A. Bullock

*Please pray for a positive response from the residents & staff at Greenwood, and that God will richly bless this effort to minister to these precious souls and (hopefully) bring some of them to Christ!* — Terry Schmidt



## Visits to Our Web Page

Last 7 days:

261

Last 30 days:

1043

## 😊 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!



## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Ministry Meetings:** Today, after services
- **Pot Luck Fellowship:** Sunday, Sept 10th, after services



### September Birthdays



6th - Seth Willey  
11th - Jason Kennedy  
14th - Kathy Rader  
18th - Karlee Wells  
28th - Bethany Boucher

## Thank You!

I wanted to thank you all for the package I received last week (Friday, sorry I didn't e-mail right away). Where I work I can't take any pictures, but I appreciate the coffee and snacks that were sent over here. Any packages we receive are very welcome and appreciated by all! Good coffee is always a blessing! It's an honor to serve our country and we thank you for supporting us! Thanks again and may God bless you all!  
V/R

Mark Schmidt., Master Sergeant, USAF

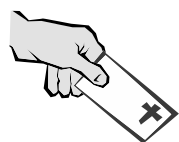
**BULLETIN ITEMS:** Contact Terry Schmidt at 284-9191 or e-mail at [tls654b@gwi.net](mailto:tls654b@gwi.net)

## FAREWELL

For those who know **Rene and Barbara Rannou**, there will be a farewell meal at the Kittery church of Christ on Sunday, September 10, after morning worship until 3:30 pm. For more info, please see the flyer on the back table.

## SNACKS!

September 3: Pat  
September 10: Shirley



Numbers for 8/27/17

Attendance - 12  
Contribution - \$296.

## Order of Worship

### September 3, 2017

*"Serve the LORD with gladness; come before His presence with singing... Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise!"*

- Psalm 100:2, 4a -

Song Leader: *Paul Cote*

Song

Opening Prayer: *Jason Kennedy*

Song

Scripture Reading: *George Nick*  
~ Job 1:6-22 ~

Song

The Lord's Supper:  
*Paul Bullock & Ernie Perry*

Contribution

Song

Sermon: *Terry Schmidt*  
"Remaining Strong Through Adversity"

Song

Announcements & Closing Prayer:  
*Jim Miller*

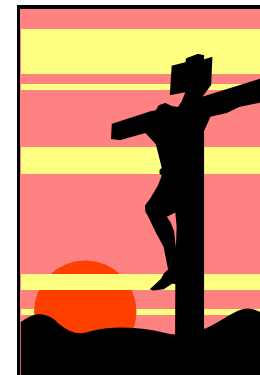
Alternate/fill-in: *Wayne Sampson*

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Lord's Supper Prep: *Pat Miller*

## 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 -*

### September 3, 2017

### Sunday Assembly Times:

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

### Wednesday Assembly:

7:00 — Bible Study

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