



Prayer Requests:

"Pray for one another"

- James 5:16 -

- Diane Cote - diagnosed with kidney disease & dealing with many other health issues
- Randy Cote - struggling with burdens of life
- Paul & Sandy Gagnon - Paul: at Greenwood Center in Sanford & doing well; Sandy: dealing with pain brought on by fibromyalgia
- Baron Hicken (Nancy's brother) - fell recently and severely fractured his pelvis; in a lot of pain
- Jim Miller - suffering with lower back pain
- 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 due to bulging disks pressing on nerves; undergoing a regimen of epidural steroid injections which are reducing the pain; thanks for prayers
- 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 for the success of current negotiations on a good & affordable piece of land in Kennebunk where we, with God's help, will be able to build our future meeting place
- 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



Listening

For most of us, hearing comes naturally. Sound waves are received which vibrate the eardrum and activate the hammer, anvil and stirrup—sending nerve impulses to the temporal lobe of the cerebral cortex. (Isn't God's complex and intricate design awesome?) However, listening—*effective* listening—does *not* come naturally to most of us. Effective listening is *active*, not passive. Active listening is a focused effort to effectively receive the intended message the speaker is sending. And this requires willful attention and deliberate concentration on our part.

Listening is an act of love. When someone listens to us attentively, it shows that they truly care and are genuinely concerned about us. When we have their undivided attention, we feel respected and appreciated. When they take the time to listen to us and ask pertinent questions, we move beyond superficial communication to deeper levels, and feel that we have been understood, valued and affirmed.

The Bible has much to say about the value of listening. "Therefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath" (Jas 1:19). We typically get the first two admonitions of this verse mixed up. We are usually swift to speak and slow to listen! The wise man Solomon offers additional insight: "He who answers a matter before he hears it, it is folly and shame to him" (Prov 18:13). Our failure to listen and our tendency to interrupt is impolite and comes across as indifference. It is common courtesy to allow the other person to at least finish their sentence. And it is considerate to listen attentively without interruption. Waiting patiently for your time to speak represents godly behavior and good manners.

"The heart of the prudent acquires knowledge, and the ear of the wise seeks knowledge" (Prov 18:15). The wise seek out knowledge. They listen actively and attentively in order to learn more.

This is what makes them wise. This learning results in prudence, practical wisdom and the ability to reason and discern. The value of listening cannot be overstated—especially in our frantic and frenzied society!

It is needful and useful in the Lord's church as well. We are instructed to confess our sins (trespasses, faults) to one another (Jas 5:16). For this to happen, a brother or sister must be willing to listen and offer godly counsel. We are also admonished to "bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ" (Gal 6:2). How can we bear another's burdens if we don't know what they are? And how can we find out what their burdens are unless we listen?

Good listening habits are essential in reaching out to others with the Gospel of Christ. In personal evangelism, we need to determine where the person is. What do they believe about God, the Bible, the church, their own need for salvation and how to obtain it? Learning this vital information requires active and effective listening. Above all, let us be sure that we listen to the Lord attentively and carefully at all times. "My sheep hear (listen to) My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me" (Jn 10:27). How do we listen to the voice of Jesus? "So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God!" (Rom 10:17).

— Terry Schmidt ✍

WORSHIP ASSIGNMENTS FOR AUGUST

Preaching: Terry Schmidt

Song Leader: Paul Cote

Opening Prayer: Jim Miller

Scripture Reading: Jason Kennedy

Lord's Supper:

George Nick & Ernie Perry

Announcements/Prayer: Wayne Sampson

Alternate/fill-in: Paul Bullock

Lord's Supper Prep: Terry Kennedy

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Congregational Meeting:** Sunday, July 30th, after services
- **Ministry Meetings:** Sunday, August 13th, after services
- **Congregational Picnic:** Sunday, August 20th, after services
- **Master Sergeant Mark Schmidt** (USAF) sends his heartfelt appreciation for the nice card the church sent him



August Birthdays

9th - Kim Willey
13th - Janice Grabowski
14th - Wayne Sampson
21st - Paul Bullock
22nd - Ernie Perry



Happy Anniversary:

Paul & Diane — August 3rd



Welcome Paul!

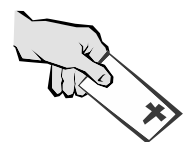
I have decided to place my membership with the Southern Maine church of Christ.

I am ready to roll up my sleeves and try to do all that I can, to help the church here grow. Whatever the need might be and whatever I can do to help, please call on me. I look forward to us all working together, in order to glorify God, His Son and to help the church, the family of God, to grow.

— Paul Bullock

SNACKS!

July 30: Paula
August 6: Terry K



Numbers for 7/23/17

Attendance - 22
Contribution - \$526.

Order of Worship

July 30, 2017

"Oh come, let us sing to the LORD! Let us shout joyfully to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving; let us shout joyfully to Him with psalms . . . Oh come, let us worship!"

- Psalm 95:1-2, 6 -

Song Leader: *Paul Cote*

Song

Opening Prayer: *Jason Kennedy*

Song

Scripture Reading: *George Nick*
~ Luke 10:25-37 ~

Song

The Lord's Supper:
Wayne Sampson & Ernie Perry

Contribution

Song

Sermon: *Terry Schmidt*
"Go and Do Likewise"

Song

Announcements & Closing Prayer:
Erik Grabowski

Alternate/fill-in: *Jim Miller*

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Lord's Supper Prep: Jan Sampson

## 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 -*

**July 30, 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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