



## 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: recently diagnosed with a fistula; pray for strength & healing for her & Paul
- Janice Grabowski - home from SMHC and doing better; blocked bile duct is clearing and pain is diminishing
- 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 in the process of healing; also suffering from ongoing anxiety attacks
- Jim Schmidt (Terry's Dad) - two cancerous brain tumors and masses found in his lung, bladder & kidney; completed radiation treatments on Feb 24th for brain tumors; starting chemotherapy on Monday for the others; 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

## The Abundant Life (in this life)

Jesus said: "I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly" (Jn 10:10). Many believe the abundant life in this life is achieving financial independence, living in a lavish mansion in a tropical climate, enjoying great health, and traveling the world in a plush private jet or luxurious yacht. Not that these things are inherently wrong, but is this what Jesus meant by the abundant life?

Jesus taught that His kingdom was not "of this world" (not a physical kingdom – Jn 18:36), it is not a kingdom perceived with the naked eye, but rather "the kingdom of God is within you" (it is a spiritual kingdom – Lk 17:20-21). When teaching about the abundant life, Jesus was speaking of the spiritual realm and man's inner eternal being.

We could *generalize* the benefits of the abundant life simply by citing Ephesians 1:3, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ." But let's look at three *specific* areas of spiritual blessing which make up the abundant life.

**1. Free of our sin burden.** "There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit" (Rom 8:1). Those in Christ have had their sins washed away by the blood of Christ (Rev 1:5) when they were baptized for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38; 22:16). Because of forgiveness in Christ (1 Jn 1:9), we are no longer burdened by the condemnation and guilt of sin. As Jesus said, "You shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free (Jn 8:32).

**2. Christ lives in us.** Not only have we been "baptized into Christ" (Gal 3:27), but Christ lives in us. Paul affirmed: "I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me" (Gal 2:20).

As the redeemed, we now have the Spirit of Christ in us (Acts 2:38; Rom 8:9), as His word dwells in us richly in all wisdom (Col 3:16).

**3. The hope of glory.** Paul discusses the riches of the glory of God's mystery among the Gentiles: "which is Christ in you, the hope of glory" (Col 1:27). This hope is not wishful thinking (as the world defines hope), but is a confident expectation of a future reality (Heb 11:1 & 6). This hope was a great motivator to early Christians who endured much persecution and great suffering because of their faith in Christ (Heb 10:32-36). This is why we are to set our minds on things above, not on things on the earth. "For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory" (Col 3:2-4).

As Christians, our life is now hidden with Christ in God. Christ is our life. And this rock-solid fact is what defines the abundant life in this life!

— Terry Schmidt ✍

## POINTS TO PONDER

*When we put our cares into God's hands, He puts His peace into our hearts.*

(See Philippians 4:6-7)



*"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. Have a great week!





## Ladies' Corner

Ladies' Ministry Meeting: Today, 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:

- **Men's Ministry Meeting:** Today, after services
- **Pot Luck Fellowship:** March 12, after services

## Our New Website

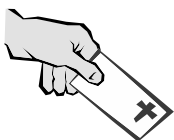
The website is a great tool for visitors who are searching for biblical information or a place to worship. Since we have a new website, it is very important that visitors can find us. In order for visitors to find the website in their search, we are asking each person who can go on the website so it can be moved up to a higher position in the search engines. The website is:



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

# SNACKS!

March 5: Sandy  
March 12: Janice



Numbers for 2/26/17

Attendance - 17  
Contribution - \$556.

# Order of Worship

March 5, 2017

*"But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."*

- Jesus — John 4:23-24 -

Song Leader: *Paul Cote*

Song

Opening Prayer: *Erik Grabowski*

Song

Scripture Reading: *George Nick*  
~ Ephesians 1:3-14 ~

Song

The Lord's Supper:  
*Terry Schmidt & Ernie Perry*

Contribution

Song

Sermon: *Terry Schmidt*  
"The Abundant Life—In This Life"

Song

Announcements & Closing Prayer:  
*Jason Kennedy*

Alternate/fill-in: *Wayne Sampson*

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Lord's Supper Prep: *Jan Sampson*

# Southern Maine Church of Christ

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

**March 5, 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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