



Prayer Requests:

"Pray for one another"

- James 5:16 -

- Clara Clark - dealing with some minor health issues; recently admitted to a nursing home
- 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 troublesome fistula; please pray for strength & healing for her & Paul
- 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 was successful and he is now healing; recently diagnosed with gallstones & fatty liver; treatment pending further tests; also suffering from ongoing anxiety attacks
- Terry & Betty Schmidt - grieving the loss of Terry's Dad, Jim, who died of cancer recently; prayers of thanks for safe travel as they drove to & from PA to attend the funeral
- 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 our nation (1 Timothy 2:1-3)
- Please pray for those not with us today

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

Obedience

Jesus taught, "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven" (Mt 7:21). Obedience is at the heart of Christianity and the Gospel message (Rom 6:17).

Mr. Webster defines one who is obedient as: "willing to do what someone tells you to do or to follow a law, rule, etc.; submissive to the restraint or command of authority; willing to obey." This excellent definition would certainly exclude malicious compliance which says, "I'll do it, but I won't like it!"

For obedience to be genuine, one's heart has to be in it. "And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men" (Col 3:23). The Psalmist agrees: "Blessed are those who keep His testimonies, who seek Him with the whole heart!" (Ps 119:2). There is no place in God's kingdom for half-hearted, uncommitted Christians.

Obedience is a faith issue. "But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him" (Heb 11:6). A deep, abiding trust in God will cause the devoted Christian to respond in loving obedience.

Obedience must be prompted by agape' love. "We love Him because He first loved us" (1 Jn 4:19). Indeed, "the love of Christ constrains (compels, motivates) us" (2 Cor 5:14). Jesus said, "If you love Me, keep (obey) My commandments" (Jn 14:15). Sincere love for Jesus will always result in willing obedience to His commands.

Finally, for obedience to be willing and lasting, one must die to self and to sin. The old man must be "crucified with Christ" so the new man can live and thrive (Gal 2:20; Eph 4:22-24). "And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires" (Gal 5:24). "He himself bore our sins in His body on the tree, so that we might die to sins" (1 Pet 2:24 - NIV).

May we joyfully and consistently render unto God our heartfelt obedience, being "doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving ourselves" (Jas 1:22). As our Lord Jesus teaches: "Blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep (obey) it!" (Lk 11:28). — **Terry Schmidt** ✍

Thank You! Terry & Betty want to offer their sincere thanks for the nice fruit basket received from the church after the death of Terry's Dad, Jim. They also want to express their heartfelt appreciation to those who sent flowers, cards and emails to offer their condolences. These acts of kindness brought needed comfort during their time of grief and loss. Please know that your love and thoughtfulness are greatly appreciated. A special thank you goes to our brother George who graciously agreed to do the teaching and preaching in Terry's absence.

"He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love."
Ephesians 4:16—NLT



WORSHIP ASSIGNMENTS FOR APRIL

Preaching: Terry Schmidt

Song Leader: Paul Cote

Opening Prayer: Jason Kennedy

Scripture Reading: Erik Grabowski

Lord's Supper:

Wayne Sampson & Ernie Perry

Announcements/Prayer: Terry Schmidt

Alternate/fill-in: George Nick

Lord's Supper Prep: Jan Sampson



Ladies' Corner

Nursing Home Visit: Tuesday, March 28th, Kennebunk Nursing Home at 9:30 followed by lunch and fellowship at *Perfectos* in Kennebunk.

Ladies' Ministry Meeting: Sunday, April 2nd, after services

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: Sunday, March 26th, after services
- Men's Ministry Meeting: Sunday, April 2nd, after services
- Pot Luck Fellowship: Sunday, April 9th, after services



April Birthdays

2nd - Justin Kennedy



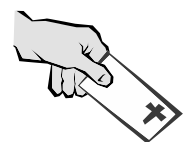
Happy Anniversary:

Keith & Karlee — April 20th
Rod & Shirley — April 28th

Every temptation is an opportunity to trust God.

SNACKS!

March 26: Terry K
April 2: Shirley



Numbers for 3/19/17

Attendance - 18
Contribution - \$594.

Order of Worship

March 26, 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*
- Judges 3:1-11 -

Song

The Lord's Supper:
Terry Schmidt & Ernie Perry

Contribution

Song

Sermon: *Terry Schmidt*
"Othniel — Powerful One of God"

Song

Announcements & Closing Prayer:
Jason Kennedy

Alternate/fill-in: *Wayne Sampson*

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Lord's Supper Prep: *Terry Kennedy*

# 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 -*

**March 26, 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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