



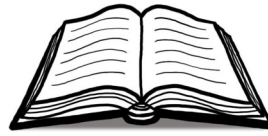
Prayer Requests:

"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: suffered facial injuries from a recent fall; on a new treatment regimen; prayers for strength & healing for her & Paul
- Nate & Rebecca Hios - pray for the Kittery work
- Jim & Pat Miller - suffering with leg & back problems brought on by the cold weather
- 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 - diagnosed with spinal stenosis; surgery being scheduled within a few weeks; suffering from ongoing anxiety attacks
- Jim Schmidt (Terry's Dad) - hospitalized with brain lesions and a mass found in his lung; tests are continuing to determine cause & treatment
- Terry Schmidt - suffered facial injuries from a recent fall; pray for quick & complete healing
- 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 that we might find a suitable and affordable permanent meeting place
- Please pray for those not with us today

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



The Spiritual Seed

The natural seed has within it the power of life, as well as the potential of growth and propagation. The spiritual seed—the word of God (Lk 8:11), is much the same. Jesus said, "The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life" (Jn 6:63). Indeed, the word of God is "alive and powerful" (Heb 4:12), and will accomplish God's intended purpose in bringing forth fruit (Rom 10:17). "For as the rain comes down...[to] water the earth, and make it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it" (Is 55:10-11).

In the Parable of the Sower, Jesus tells the story of a sower (farmer) sowing seed (Lk 8:4-15). The seed falls on four different types of soil which represent the hearts of men & women. The first soil "by the wayside" is unreceptive to the word. The next two, "on rock" and "among thorns," receive the word but, due to various reasons, bring no lasting fruit to maturity. The fourth soil, "good ground," hears the word, obeys it, and yields an enduring and bountiful crop through much patience and perseverance. It is this soil with which you and I want to identify. And it is this soil that we are most interested in when it comes to sowing the seed of the kingdom (Mk 16:15-16; Acts 8:4; 2 Tim 2:25; 3:16-17; 4:2).

Jesus explains that the good ground represents those having "an honest (noble) and good heart" (v. 15). When those who are good soil "receive with meekness the implanted word" it is able to save their souls (Jas 1:21). "Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God" (Rom 10:17). The spiritual, incorruptible seed—the word of God which lives and abides forever—planted in honest and good hearts, purifies the soul and brings about a new birth (1 Pet 1:22-25).

Of course, the seed will not be able to take root unless it is first sown in human hearts. This is where you and I come in. First century Christians, especially during times of persecution and hardship, "went everywhere preaching the word" (Acts 8:4). They planted lots of seeds, preaching/teaching Christ wherever they went, and reaped a great harvest of souls (Acts 2:41; 4:4; 6:7; 12:24; 13:44, 48-49; 15:35-36; 17:11; 18:11; 19:10, 20).

We cannot hope to improve on this simple God-approved method today. Jesus said, "The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few; therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest" (Lk 10:2). Will you be one of the few laborers willing to be sent into God's harvest? — **Terry Schmidt** ✍

"Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

- Acts 16:30 -

Hear the Gospel - John 6:44-45; Rom 10:14,17

Believe [trust in] God - John 3:16; 8:24; Ac 16:31
Heb 11:6

Repent of sins - Luke 13:1-5; Acts 2:38; 3:19; 17:30

Confess Christ - Mt 10:32-33; Ac 8:36-37;
Rom 10:8-10

Be baptized - Mk 16:16; Ac 2:38; 8:36; 22:16;
1 Pet 3:21

Be faithful unto death - Mt 7:21; 10:22; Heb 5:9;
Rev 2:10

"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' Meeting: Today, after services.

Nursing Home Visit — will be Tuesday, February 21 at the Kennebunk Nursing

Home at 9:30 followed by lunch and fellowship at Perfectos in Kennebunk.

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

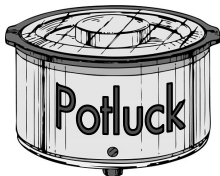
ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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

BULLETIN ITEMS: If you have a prayer request or an announcement for the bulletin, please contact Terry Schmidt at 284-9191



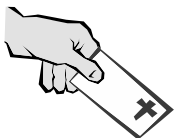
Jesus welcomed those everyone else avoided, because He knew they needed Him most.
(Luke 5:31-32)



Our potluck fellowship will be Feb 12th after services. Please make plans to stay for this special time of food, fun & fellowship! ☺

SNACKS!

February 5: Kim
February 12: Shirley



Numbers for 1/29/17

Attendance - 21
Contribution - \$525.

Order of Worship

February 5, 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*
~ Matthew 13:1-9 ~

Song

The Lord's Supper:
George Nick & Ernie Perry

Contribution

Song

Sermon: *Terry Schmidt*
"The Parable of the Sower"

Song

Announcements & Closing Prayer:
Wayne Sampson

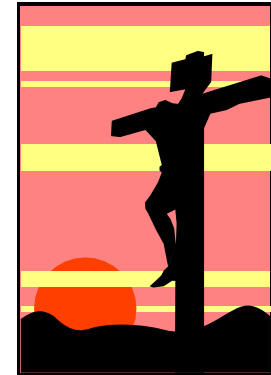
Alternate/fill-in: *Jim Miller*

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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 5, 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)