



## Prayer Requests:

*"Pray for one another"*

- James 5:16 -

- Paul Bineau (Diane's 95 year old father) - can no longer walk
- Raymond Bineau (Diane's brother) - suffered a heart attack and has COPD; unable to walk
- Clara Clark - recently suffered a small stroke
- Diane Cote - kidney disease; health concerns
- Sandy Gagnon - dealing with chronic pain & various health concerns
- Erik Grabowski - dealing w/ chronic neck pain
- Hurricane/flood/fire victims - please pray for all those who have suffered damage & loss during the hurricanes down south, and wild-fires in California, many of which are our brothers and sisters in Christ
- Ronald Lajoie (82 year old who walked into Paula's vehicle while she was driving) - has a broken nose & two broken ribs
- Leah (Glenda's daughter) - diagnosed with terminal ovarian cancer; pray for pain relief
- Ernie Perry - dealing with COPD issues
- Norman Roy (Paula's sister's 54 year old husband) - recently diagnosed with advanced ALS and now in hospice care at home; please pray for the family during this difficult time
- Henry Terrill - recent back surgery was successful and he is recovering nicely at home
- Trina (new sister in Christ in Roanoke, AL) - pray for spiritual growth & maturity in Christ
- Wayne Sampson - experiencing ongoing anxiety attacks; pray that the cause can be found, along with an effective treatment
- 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



## Don't Worry, Be Happy!

Thirty years ago, in the fall of 1988, singer Bobby McFerrin released a song that went straight to number one on the *Billboard* charts. What was unique about this song was that it was the first *a cappella* song to ever reach number one, and it stayed there for two weeks! This was one of those "fun" songs that was very enjoyable and relaxing to hear. But the song's great message is still often readily dismissed and not taken seriously due to its light-hearted simplicity—"don't worry, be happy!"

One of the lines in the song goes like this: "In every life we have some trouble, but when you worry you make it double—don't worry, be happy!" It is interesting to note that this observation and sage advice is in harmony with biblical teaching. Jesus taught, "In the world you will have tribulation (trouble); but be of good cheer (be happy), I have overcome the world" (Jn 16:33). In Matthew 6:25-34 Jesus addresses the problem of anxiety and says three times "Do not worry!" Solomon adds this observation: "Anxiety (worry) in the heart causes depression, but a good word makes it glad (happy)" (Pr 12:25). This is why we are commanded to "Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say, rejoice!" (Phil 4:4).

The Christian's joy is not contingent upon favorable situations, nor is it dependent on external circumstances. It is an internal grace which has its source in consistent fellowship and close communion with God. Notice Philippians 4:4 again: "Rejoice in the Lord!" While it may be hard finding joy in difficult circumstances and stressful situations, we can "rejoice in the Lord"—even when there is little else to rejoice about! God is good, continually seeks our good, and always has our best interest at heart! (Jn 3:16; Rom 5:6-9; 1 Tim 2:3-6; Heb 13:5-6). We can certainly rejoice in a God like that!

In the Greek language, the words "joy" and "rejoice" simply mean "cheerfulness, gladness, delight." The dictionary definition of "cheerfulness" is extremely helpful here:

"happiness; feeling or showing that you are willing to do something without complaining; likely to dispel gloom or worry" (*Merriam-Webster*). So, we have a choice to make. It is a known fact that one cannot be consumed with worry and be rejoicing at the same time! Rather than being defined by worrying and complaining, we are to rejoice (find joy) in the Lord, who loved us and gave himself for us (Gal 2:20). As the song kindly admonishes, "Don't worry, be happy!"

— 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; Rev 2:10

*"I will sing unto Thy name!" - Rom 15:9*

We will have the pleasure & privilege of singing for the residents of the Greenwood Nursing Home on December 23rd at 2:00. This promises to be a blessing, not only for the residents, but for the singers as well! ☺



## ☺ 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:

- Singing at Greenwood Nursing Home  
December 23rd at 2:00. All are invited to attend.
- Greenwood Nursing Home Service:  
Every Sunday afternoon at 3:30 PM.  
All are welcome! ☺

## December Birthdays



16th - Brandon Kennedy  
28th - Catherine Cuvellier



## VISITS TO OUR WEB PAGE

This Week: 1455

This Month: 5637



## Points to Ponder

*Jesus chose to look up to the Father rather than down on those who caused His pain. He said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do" (Luke 23:34). In entrusting Himself to the Father, Jesus felt no need for retaliation.*

# Snacks!

December 16: Diane  
December 23: Sandy

## Contribution & Attendance for December 9, 2018

Attendance — 35  
Contribution — \$673

## Order of Worship

December 16, 2018

*"Thine, O LORD, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for all that is in heaven and earth is Thine; Thine is the kingdom, O LORD, and thou art exalted as head above all."*

- 1 Chronicles 29:11 -

Song Leader: *Paul Cote*

Song

Opening Prayer: *Jason Kennedy*

Song

Scripture Reading: *George Cuvellier*  
~ Psalm 5:11-12 ~

Song

The Lord's Supper:  
*Wayne Sampson & Ernie Perry*

Contribution

Song

Sermon: *Terry Schmidt*  
"Rejoice in the Lord Always!"

Song

Announcements & Closing Prayer:  
*Jim Miller*

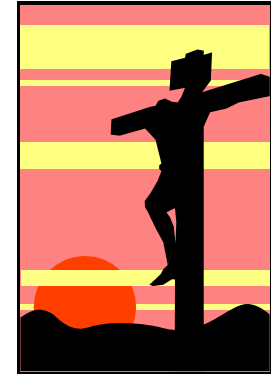
Alternate/fill-in: *Paul Bullock*

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Lord's Supper Prep: *Terry Kennedy*

# Southern Maine Church of Christ

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

## December 16, 2018

### 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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