



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; also had dangerously high potassium levels; now recovering well at MMC; Paula appreciates prayers
- 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



Focus

Maintaining proper focus is essential in living the Christian life. To *focus* is to deliberately direct one's attention to a certain area or specific thing. It requires "bringing all efforts, faculties, etc., to bear on one objective" (*Random House College Dictionary*). As you may have guessed, this is not always easy. It involves tremendous effort and determined concentration.

Daily distractions and diversions constantly work against our efforts to stay spiritually focused. The many peripheral (often enjoyable, but seldom essential) activities of life can get us off track and cause us to neglect that which is truly important and needful (Mt 16:26; Lk 10:40-41). Like the many potholes and ruts in the road that throw the front-ends of our vehicles out of alignment, getting bombarded daily with secular messages and worldly ways can throw the Christian's thinking out of alignment. Our "alignment tool" is the word of God, and we need to study it daily in order to keep and maintain proper spiritual focus (Ps 119:105; Mt 4:4; 2 Tim 2:15; 2 Tim 3:16-17; 1 Pet 2:2).

We are to focus on seeking God's ways and following His will. "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things (the necessities of life) shall be added to you" (Mt 6:33). We are to focus on that which is spiritual and eternal, not what is physical and temporary. "While we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal" (1 Cor 4:18). We are to focus on things above, not on things of the earth. "If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is sitting at the right hand of God. Set your mind (focus) on things above, not on things on the earth" (Col 3:1-2). Most importantly, we are to stay focused on our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. "Fixing (focusing) our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith" (Heb 12:2 NASB).

Habitually focusing on self and circumstances will make one miserable, unfulfilled, and ineffective in God's service (Lk 8:13-14). Focusing on Christ and things spiritual will fully satisfy the deep longings of the soul and bring a peace that surpasses all understanding (Phil 4:6-7). "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed (focused) on Thee: because he trusteth in Thee" (Is 26:3). When God's servants continually look to Him for strength, help, comfort and guidance . . . we are blessed . . . God is glorified . . . and His holy name is honored! (Psalm 50:15). — **Terry Schmidt** ✍

**Regardless of how you feel,
you are always responsible
for how you act.**

(Ezekiel 7:3; Phil 1:27)



New Email Address

Jan's new address is:

sharemycup@gmail.com

*Please make a note of this
in your directories*

Yankee Swap

We will enjoy our annual Yankee Swap today after our pot luck. Hopefully, you've come prepared with a gift or two to swap for who knows what! This is always a great time of fellowship and lots of fun!



☺ Welcome Visitors! ☺

We are glad to have you worship with us today. 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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Potluck/Yankee Swap: Today, after services.
- 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



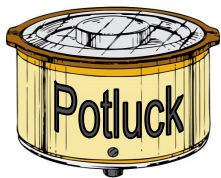
9th – Terry Schmidt
16th - Brandon Kennedy
28th - Catherine Cuvellier



VISITS TO OUR WEB PAGE

This Week: 3602

This Month: 3858



We will enjoy our potluck fellowship today after services. Please make plans to stay for this special time of food, fun and fellowship! ☺

Snacks!

December 9: Pat
December 16: Diane

Contribution & Attendance
for December 2, 2018

Attendance — 23
Contribution — \$265

Order of Worship

December 9, 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 — #195

Opening Prayer: *Jason Kennedy*

Song — #522

Scripture Reading: *George Cuvellier*
~ Hebrews 11:32-34 ~

Song — #155

The Lord's Supper:
Wayne Sampson & Ernie Perry

Contribution

Song — #144

Sermon: *Terry Schmidt*
"Samson—the Self-Willed Servant"

Song — #84

Announcements & Closing Prayer:
Jim Miller

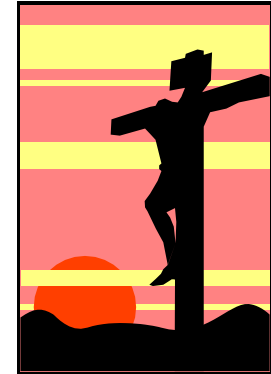
Alternate/fill-in: Paul Bullock

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Lord's Supper Prep: *Terry Kennedy*

## Southern Maine Church of Christ

159 Alfred Road, P.O. Box 344  
West Kennebunk, ME 04094



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

## December 9, 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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Website: [www.southernmainecofc.com](http://www.southernmainecofc.com)