



Prayer Requests:

"Pray for one another"

- James 5:16 -

- Corrina (Connie's daughter) - white blood cells and platelets are too high causing concern; scheduled to see a specialist hematologist on 11/25; prayers needed
- Cote Family - personal & financial struggles
- Diane Cote - recently suffered a minor stroke; also has kidney disease & health concerns
- Sandy Gagnon - home from York Hospital and doing much better after dehydration and UTI; physical issues and health concerns
- Tyler Kennedy - root is dying in his front tooth causing an infection and swelling up through the left side of his face up to his eye; now on antibiotics; scheduled to have a root canal done on 11/18, after the infection clears
- Leah (Glenda's daughter) - ovarian cancer
- Debbie McGarey (mother-in-law of Terry & Betty's daughter, Becky) - recently diagnosed with stage 4 throat cancer which has spread to her liver and gall bladder
- Joanne Neithercut - suffered a minor stroke on 11/11; surgery to remove plaque "spot" in her brain was successful; recovering nicely; now undergoing therapy at NE Rehab Center
- Ernie Perry - dealing with COPD issues
- Norman Roy (Paula's sister's husband) - suffering with Lyme disease
- Wayne Sampson - injured his right shoulder recently and may be having surgery soon; also 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

Chutes & Ladders

Most likely, many of you are familiar with the children's game *Chutes & Ladders*. Starting at "square one" at the bottom of the board, players would work through over 90 spaces to reach the last square at the top of the board to win the game. However, at various points, one could land on a ladder (moving his piece upward & forward many spaces), or one could encounter a chute (sliding his piece downward & backward many spaces). So, throughout the game, nothing is certain! And with a simple roll of the dice or spin of the needle, one can quickly find himself either winning or losing. Those lagging behind could land on a ladder which could catapult them to the lead. And those who were in the lead did not have the luxury of bragging because they could be sent backward by landing on a chute at any given time.

This enjoyable child's game seems to mirror the troublesome ups and downs of life which are often inevitable and unpredictable. And much of the time, these vicissitudes of life do not seem fair, nor do they make any sense. We see good things happening to bad people, and bad things happening to good people. There seems to be no real rhyme or reason to this puzzling phenomenon. When times are good, there is the human propensity to forget God. And when times are bad, there is the carnal temptation to blame God. What are some helpful, biblical ways you and I can respond during these difficult times when we find ourselves tossed about by tempestuous waves on the capricious sea of life?

First, we can realize that, no matter how bad things seem God is still in control. He is sovereign (Eph 1:11; Col 1:15-17; 1 Tim 6:15-16). Second, we can remind ourselves that our Lord is constant and changeless. He does not change like shifting shadows (Jas 1:17), but "is the same yesterday, today and forever" (Heb 13:8). Third, we can take courage in the fact that God is faithful (1 Cor 1:9; 10:13; 2 Thess 3:3).

He is dependable and trustworthy for He has said, "I will *never* leave you nor forsake you" (Heb 13:5). Finally, we can rejoice in the knowledge that our Lord Jesus Christ is victorious! (1 Cor 15:50-57). He acknowledges that in this world we will have problems, persecutions, trials and tribulations. Then he lovingly adds: "But be of good cheer (take heart!), I have overcome the world!" (John 16:33). — **Terry Schmidt** ✍

Time to Re-Gift!



After our pot luck meal on Sunday, December 8th, we will have our traditional Yankee Swap. All gifts should be wrapped, and those specifically for men or women should be marked "Male" or "Female." It would be good to bring a gift for a child or baby as we have several children who usually participate in our Yankee Swap. So bring your wrapped gifts and be ready to enjoy a time of great fun and a lot of laughs as we share this time together! ☺

When we get caught up in the world and lose our sense of urgency to live for God, we end up wasting our time! *"So teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom."*

(Psalm 90:12)

☺ 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!



~ Announcements ~

- **Pot Luck Fellowship & Yankee Swap:**
Sunday, Dec 8th, after services
- **Greenwood Nursing Home Service:**
Every Sunday afternoon at 3:30 PM.
All are welcome! ☺

November Birthdays

21st - Sandy Gagnon
24th - Glenda Castleberry



Points to Ponder

Whether we give a word of encouragement or a bag of groceries, God calls us to lovingly attend to the needs of others. Our kindness to others is kindness to Him. (Matt 25:31-46)

VISITS TO OUR WEB PAGE

This Week: 2,651
This Month: 12,697



SNACKS!

Nov 17: Connie
Nov 24: Glenda

Contribution & Attendance

for November 10, 2019

Attendance — 23
Contribution — \$349

Order of Worship

November 17, 2019

*"I will praise Thee, O LORD,
with my whole heart!"*

- Psalm 9:1 -

Song Leader: *Paul Cote*

Song—114

Opening Prayer: *Jason Kennedy*

Song—43

Scripture Reading: *George Cuvellier*
~ Psalm 90:9-14 ~

Song—301

The Lord's Supper:
Wayne Sampson & Ernie Perry

Contribution

Song—144

Sermon: *Terry Schmidt*
"Why is Life So Hard & Not Fair?"

Song—636

Announcements & Closing Prayer:
Paul Bullock

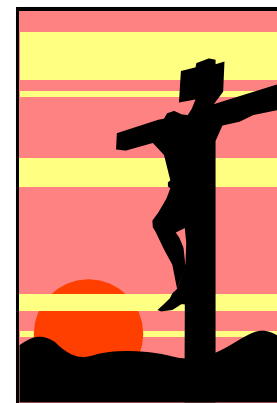
Alternate: *Jim Miller*

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Lord's Supper Prep: *Betty Schmidt*

## Southern Maine Church of Christ

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

November 17, 2019

### 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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