



Prayer Requests:

"Pray for one another"

- James 5:16 -

- Paul Bineau (Diane's 95 year old father) - can no longer walk
- 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 loss; many of these are our brothers and sisters in Christ
- Leah (Glenda's daughter) - diagnosed with terminal ovarian cancer; pray for pain relief; please pray for Glenda as well during this difficult and stressful time
- Jim Miller - suffering with severe chronic back pain; pray for an effective treatment & relief
- Steve Monts (Paul Bullock's 71 year old brother-in-law) - injured in a bad fall (broke his cheek bone) and was in a coma, from which he has awakened; prayers still needed and are greatly appreciated
- 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

Listening

For most of us, hearing comes naturally. Sound waves are received which vibrate the eardrum and activate the hammer, anvil and stirrup—sending nerve impulses to the temporal lobe of the cerebral cortex. (Isn't God's complex and intricate design awesome?) However, listening—*effective* listening—does *not* come naturally to most of us. Effective listening is *active*, not passive. Active listening is a focused effort to effectively receive the intended message the speaker is sending. And this requires willful attention and deliberate concentration on our part.

Listening is an act of love. When someone listens to us attentively, it shows that they truly care and are genuinely concerned about us. When we have their undivided attention, we feel respected and appreciated. When they take the time to listen to us and ask pertinent questions, we move beyond superficial communication to deeper levels, and feel that we have been understood, valued and affirmed.



The Bible has much to say about the value of listening. "Therefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath" (Jas 1:19). We typically get the first two admonitions of this verse mixed up. We are usually swift to speak and slow to listen! The wise man Solomon offers additional insight: "He who answers a matter before he hears it, it is folly and shame to him" (Prov 18:13). Our failure to listen and our tendency to interrupt is impolite and comes across as indifference. It is common courtesy to allow the other person to at least finish their sentence. And it is considerate to listen attentively without interruption. Waiting patiently for your time to speak represents godly behavior and good manners.

"The heart of the prudent acquires knowledge, and the ear of the wise seeks knowledge" (Prov 18:15). The wise seek out knowledge. They listen actively and attentively in order to learn more. This is what makes them wise.

This learning results in wisdom, prudence, practical wisdom and the ability to reason and discern. The value of listening cannot be overstated—especially in our frantic and frenzied society!

It is needful and useful in the Lord's church as well. We are instructed to confess our sins (trespasses, faults) to one another (Jas 5:16). For this to happen, a brother or sister must be willing to listen and offer godly counsel. We are also admonished to "bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ" (Gal 6:2). How can we bear another's burdens if we don't know what they are? And how can we find out what their burdens are unless we listen?

Good listening habits are essential in reaching out to others with the Gospel of Christ. In personal evangelism, we need to determine where the person is. What do they believe about God, the Bible, the church, their own need for salvation and how to obtain it? Learning this vital information requires active and effective listening. Above all, let us be sure that we listen to the Lord attentively and carefully at all times. "My sheep hear (listen to) My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me" (Jn 10:27). How do we listen to the voice of Jesus? "So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God!" (Rom 10:17).

— Terry Schmidt ✍



WORSHIP ASSIGNMENTS for FEBRUARY

Preaching: Terry Schmidt

Song Leader: Paul Cote

Opening Prayer: Wayne Sampson

Scripture Reading: Jim Miller

Lord's Supper:


George Cuvellier & Ernie Perry

Announcements & Closing Prayer:

Jason Kennedy

Alternate/fill-in: Paul Bullock

Lord's Supper Prep: Jan Sampson



Ladies' Corner
Biddeford Ladies Day: Saturday, March 23rd beginning at 9:00am. Speaker—Sharon Gardner, Topic—"The Greatest Commandment." (flyer on back table)

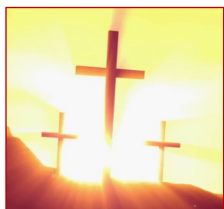
ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Potluck Fellowship:** Sunday, February 10, after services.
- **Greenwood Nursing Home Service:** Every Sunday afternoon at 3:30 PM. All are welcome! ☺

VISITS TO OUR WEB PAGE

This Week: 615

This Month: 3850



God brought physical light into our world (Genesis 1:3); and through Jesus, God brings spiritual light into our lives (Jn 1:1-14).

Snacks! January 27: Cathy
February 3: Pat

*Contribution & Attendance
for January 20, 2018*

Services Not Held
Due to Snow Storm

Order of Worship

January 27, 2019

"God is a Spirit: and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth."

- John 4:24 -

Song Leader: *Paul Cote*

Song

Opening Prayer: *Jim Miller*

Song

Scripture Reading: *Jason Kennedy*
- 2 Timothy 2:3-6 -

Song

The Lord's Supper:
Paul Bullock & Ernie Perry

Contribution

Song

Sermon: *Terry Schmidt*
"Tuning-in to Lost Souls"

Song

Announcements: *Wayne Sampson*

Closing Prayer: *George Cuvellier*

Alternate/fill-in: Paul Bullock

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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 -*

**January 27, 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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