



## Prayer Requests:

*"Pray for one another"*

- James 5:16 -

- Corrina (Connie's daughter) - high count of white blood cells & platelets slowly returning to normal ; all other tests were negative!
- Cote Family - personal & financial struggles
- Diane Cote - recently suffered a minor stroke; also has kidney disease & health concerns
- Filomena Derecho (Cathy's mother in the Philippines) - numerous health issues
- Reyderick Derecho (Cathy's nephew) - permanently disabled and in need of prayer
- Sandy Gagnon - dealing with physical issues and health concerns
- Avis Going-Taylor (Sandy's friend) - serious & severe back issues; now in assisted living
- Leah (Glenda's daughter) - ovarian cancer
- Doreen Jadwick (Erik's Aunt) - suffering with mental illness; prayers needed
- Raymond Lamb (friend of Randy Cote) - has stage 3 cancer of the kidneys & stomach
- Debbie McGarey (mother-in-law of Terry & Betty's daughter, Becky) - diagnosed with stage 4 throat cancer; undergoing treatment
- Pat Miller - being treated for diverticulitis; home now recuperating; thanks for prayers
- Ernie Perry - dealing with COPD issues
- Norman Roy (Paula's sister's husband) - suffering with Lyme disease
- Wayne Sampson - recovering from surgery on right shoulder; also experiencing ongoing anxiety attacks
- 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

*"The prayer of the upright is His delight . . .  
He hears the prayer of the righteous."*

~ Proverbs 15:8, 29 ~

## Qualities of the Faithful

**T**he glorified Jesus said, "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life" (Rev 2:10). Our Lord pressed this theme of faithfulness in each of the seven letters to the churches in Asia, recorded in Revelation chapters 2-3, saying "To him who overcomes," and follows this with a specific reward. The one who is faithful unto death *is* he who overcomes. The conclusion to be drawn from this is that faithfulness is very important to the Lord and essential to our salvation. Therefore, we would do well to consider and emulate the qualities of the faithful.

First, we must have a genuine zeal for God and a sincere love for His truth. The faithful have a powerful passion for Christ and His cause. They love the Lord their God with all their heart, soul, mind and strength (Mk 12:30), and seek first His kingdom and His righteousness (Mt 6:33). This deep spiritual fervor is the driving force of the faithful. Next, we must have a firm resolve to be faithful to the Lord in worship and Christian service. Resolve is simply and generally defined as "a determined will." A faith that overcomes doesn't "just happen" without this kind of fixed determination.

This is followed by perseverance. Mr. Webster defines this word as a "continued effort to do or achieve something despite difficulties, failure, or opposition." A persevering faith is not easily deterred nor discouraged by difficulty, danger or disappointment. Also included in qualities of the faithful is fortitude. This is a "strength of mind that enables a person to encounter danger, or bear pain & adversity with courage and resilience."

Working together, the aforementioned qualities then produce endurance, which some have defined as "keep on keeping on!" Endurance is able to "sustain a prolonged, stressful effort or difficult activity." An enduring faith has the ability to deal with continuing pain and suffering, and to effectively withstand and bear-up under hardship and adversity.

Finally (and we saved the best for last), there is the quality of faith. Faith takes God at His word

and seeks to honor and obey His word at all times. Persevering and enduring faith places absolute trust and total dependence on God (not self) in all areas of life. This kind of faith does not give in, nor does it give up! The inspired Apostle John put it well when he said, "For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith!" (1 Jn 5:4).

And our faith is in Jesus, "the author of eternal salvation" (Heb 5:9), "the author and finisher of our faith" (Heb 12:2). As the inspired Apostle Paul said, "The life which I now live in the flesh, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me" (Gal 2:20). Realizing the tremendous love Jesus has for us (1 Jn 4:19), and His great sacrifice on our behalf (1 Tim 2:5-6), should motivate us to deeper and more committed service to Him. Jesus is our perfect example. Because He overcame, we can overcome, and be faithful—even unto death.

As our Lord assures us: "These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world!" (Jn 16:33).

— Terry Schmidt ✍



## WORSHIP ASSIGNMENTS for FEBRUARY

Preaching: Terry Schmidt

Song Leader: Paul Cote

Opening Prayer: Jim Miller

Scripture Reading: Wayne Sampson

Lord's Supper:

Jason Kennedy & Ernie Perry

Announcements & Closing Prayer:

George Cuvellier

Alternate/fill-in: Paul Bullock

Lord's Supper Prep: Connie Henderson

## ~ Announcements ~

- **Pot Luck Fellowship:** Sunday, Feb 9, after services.
- **Greenwood Nursing Home Service:** Every Sunday afternoon at 3:30 PM. All are welcome! ☺

### Points to Ponder



*Steadfast endurance is the patient characteristic of one who holds fast to his faith in Christ and is not swerved from his deliberate purpose to serve the living God, persevering through even the greatest trials and sufferings.*

### VISITS TO OUR WEB PAGE

This Week: 3,958

This Month: 15,306



## SNACKS!

Jan 26: Paula  
Feb 2: Terry K

☺ 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!*



## Order of Worship

January 26, 2020

*"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—666

Opening Prayer: *Jason Kennedy*

Song—177

Scripture Reading: *Jim Miller*  
~ 1 John 2:12-14 ~

Song—574

The Lord's Supper:  
*George Cuvellier & Ernie Perry*

Contribution

Song—53

Sermon: *Terry Schmidt*  
"The Importance of Overcoming"

Song—644

Announcements & Closing Prayer:  
*Wayne Sampson*

Alternate: *Paul Bullock*

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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 -*

### January 26, 2020

### 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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