



Prayer Requests:

"Pray for one another"

- James 5:16 -

- Josiah Carelse & Family - working with the Lord's church in Cape Town, South Africa
- Corona Pandemic - its effect & overall impact on our lives, the nation and the world
- Diane Cote - ongoing health concerns
- Paul Cote - cancerous tumor removed from his frontal lobe; recent MRI revealed radiation & chemotherapy are working & have shrunk the remaining mass; a future MRI will determine status of the cancer; keep the prayers coming
- Filomena Derecho (Cathy's mother in the Philippines) - numerous health issues
- Reyderick Derecho - permanently disabled
- Janice Grabowski - suffering from chronic pancreatitis & fibromyalgia
- Connie Henderson - now home after a short stay at MMC; chemotherapy was found to be doing more harm than good at this point, so the aggressive regimen has been stopped; prayers are greatly appreciated and needed
- Leah (Glenda's daughter) - ovarian cancer
- Jamie (Pat Miller's daughter) - recently had successful emergency gall bladder surgery and is now home recovering
- Ernie Perry - arthritic back pain and COPD
- Norman Roy - prayers needed for him & his family as his condition worsens
- Wayne Sampson - experiencing bursitis and arthritis pain, with ongoing anxiety attacks
- Paul Small (Paul Cote's cousin) - has stomach cancer
- Erik Wuelper - has pancreatic cancer
- Please pray for a permanent meeting place
- Please pray for our nation (1 Timothy 2:1-3)
- 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 ~

God is Working in Your Life



Naomi was deeply discouraged and in great despair. During the past ten years, she had endured a severe famine, a difficult move to a foreign country, the unexpected death of her beloved husband, and the untimely deaths of both her sons. She felt as though the God she served was detached and distant—that He had withdrawn His loving favor from her. Even worse, she felt that the Almighty was actually working against her. And she didn't understand why. As she returned to her hometown of Bethlehem, she told those who warmly greeted her, "Do not call me Naomi (which means *Pleasant*); call me Mara (meaning *Bitter*), for the Almighty has dealt very bitterly with me. I went out full, and the LORD has brought me home again empty. Why do you call me Naomi, since the LORD has testified against me, and the Almighty has afflicted me?" (Ruth 1:20-21).

If anyone had reason to doubt God's favor and feel that the Almighty was no longer working in his life, it was Joseph. At seventeen years of age, he was despised by his brothers because he had given a bad report about them to their father Jacob and recounted his dreams which indicated that he would one day rule over them. As the son of his old age, Jacob had given Joseph a coat of many colors, revealing that he was clearly their father's favorite. This turned their ill feelings into pure hatred and they sought to kill him. Because of the intercession of Reuben, Joseph wasn't killed, but was thrown into a pit and later sold as a slave to Midianite traders who later sold him to Potiphar, an important official of Pharaoh (Gen 37).

The highly capable Joseph excelled in this role, but there was a problem. Potiphar's wife cast longing eyes on the young, good looking Joseph and day after day demanded, "Lie with me!" (Gen 39:7-12). Joseph offered an explanation to her and refused her repeated advances, until one day, she came at him quite aggressively and he fled, leaving his coat in her hands. She falsely accused him of rape and Potiphar threw him in prison.

Many would reason that Joseph sat in that prison for years as a result of doing the will of God. Years! Do you think he prayed for release during this time? We know he asked the butler to remember him to Pharaoh so he could be released, but the butler forgot about him (Gen 40:23). To those there witnessing this, it must have appeared that God was not answering Joseph's prayers—was not working in Joseph's life—that God had perhaps forgotten Joseph. After all, it has been years! But throughout this account, you and I read numerous times: "But the LORD was with him!" (Gen 39:3, 5, 21, 23). And through time, and the orchestration of events, the LORD caused Joseph to become second-in-command of Egypt. Pharaoh proclaimed: "Only in regard to the throne will I be greater than you" (Gen 41:40).

Although it did not always appear to be so, God *was* working in Joseph's life! And, although she couldn't see it, He *was* working in Naomi's life too—through her faithful daughter-in-law Ruth. God had not withdrawn His favor from Naomi, nor was He working against her. God is working in *your* life too! He works out His plan in His time and in His way—not ours. His will is going to be accomplished as He desires and directs. So, even when things seem dark and dismal—and we are brought to the point of discouragement and despair—if we are walking in the light (of His will), we can know that God's will is going to be accomplished in our lives and He will be glorified. God is good, He always seeks our good, and always has our best interest at heart. Therefore, let us unite in affirming, "Nevertheless, not my will, but Thine be done!" (Lk 22:42).

— Terry Schmidt ✍

😊 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! 😊*





July 9th - Tyler Kennedy
 July 16th - Pat Miller
 July 24th - Diane Cote

We will enjoy our potluck
 next Sunday after services.
 Please plan to stay for this
 special time of food, fun
 and fellowship! ☺



*"...food which God created to be received with
 thanksgiving by those who believe and
 know the truth." — 1 Timothy 4:3*



Visits to Our
 Web Page

Last Week: 9,456
 This Month: 29,404



SNACKS!

July 4: Jan
 July 11: Paula

*Attendance & Contribution
 for June 27, 2021*

Attendance — 18
 Contribution — 634.

Order of Worship



July 4, 2021



*"While I live I will praise the LORD;
 I will sing praises to my God
 while I have my being."*

- Psalm 146:2 -

Song Leader: *Paul Cote*

Song—577

Opening Prayer: *Jason Kennedy*

Song—256

Scripture Reading: *Erik Grabowski*
 ~ Ruth 2:8-12 ~

Song—155

The Lord's Supper:
George Cuvellier & Ernie Perry

Song—332

Sermon: *Terry Schmidt*
 - Ruth Meets Boaz -

Song—574

Announcements & Closing Prayer:
Wayne Sampson

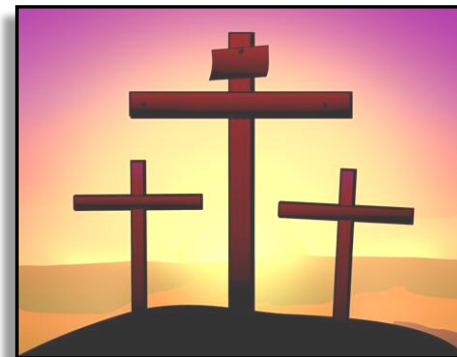
Alternate: *Jim Miller*

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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 -*

## July 4, 2021

### 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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