



## Prayer Requests:

*"Pray for one another"*

- James 5:16 -

- Josiah Carelse & Family - working with the Lord's church in Cape Town, South Africa
- Glenda Castleberry - ongoing health concerns; also prayers that she might find a place to live
- Corona Pandemic - its effect & overall impact on our lives, the nation and the world
- Diane Cote - left leg wound is healing slowly and her leg is getting better; also has other ongoing health concerns
- Paul Cote - now a resident at Seal Rock Health Care in Saco; thank you for your prayers
- Filomena Derecho (Cathy's mother in the Philippines) - numerous health issues
- Reyderick Derecho - permanently disabled
- Janice Grabowski - suffering from chronic pancreatitis & fibromyalgia
- Jim Miller - scheduled for another surgery (#3) on 10/8 to again attempt to stabilize his sternum (had triple-bypass surgery on 3/18); this should allow the sternum to finally heal
- Pat Miller - suffering with a serious bout of diverticulitis; your prayers are appreciated
- Leah (Glenda's daughter) - ovarian cancer
- Ernie Perry - arthritic back pain and COPD
- Norman Roy - prayers needed for him & his family as his weak & frail condition continues
- 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 that we might find a suitable and affordable permanent meeting place
- Please pray for our nation (1 Timothy 2:1-3)
- Please pray for those not with us today

*"Pray without ceasing."* — 1 Thess 5:17

## Understanding Grace

**T**hrough the years, the biblical view of grace has often been misunderstood, misapplied and even misused. For example, while God's beneficent grace does indeed bring liberty (Gal 5:1, 13), some have misconstrued this as a license to sin. The inspired apostle Paul had to deal with this misguided understanding early on: *"What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? Certainly not!"* (Rom 6:1-2). To do so would be utter presumption – failing to appreciate and taking for granted the merciful grace of God, regarding it lightly.

Grace comes from the Greek word *charis* and literally means "a gift," (favor or benefit). It has been traditionally defined as "unmerited favor." But, although accurate, these definitions seem inadequate and fail to bring out the deep meaning of this powerful word. The significance of God's grace can be summed up in the meaningful words of Abraham recorded in Genesis 22:8, *"God will provide."* God provides that which you and I (because of the weakness of our flesh), cannot. His grace kindly, lovingly, faithfully compensates for our many human frailties and shortcomings. In other words, when we fall short, God makes up the difference.

Our understanding of this important word is helped even more when we compare it with two other words:

Justice: God giving us what we deserve.  
*"For the wages of sin is death"* (Rom 6:23)

Mercy: God not giving us what we deserve.  
*"According to His mercy He saved us ... having been justified by His grace"* (Titus 3:5-7)

Grace: God giving us what we do not deserve.  
*"While we were still sinners, Christ died for us"* (Rom 5:8) ... *"the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord"* (Rom 6:23)

Because *"there is none righteous, no, not one"* (Rom 3:10), and *"all have sinned"* (Rom 3:23), and *"the wages of sin is death"* (Rom 6:23), we deserve God's justice – spiritual death [future torment and everlasting misery in hell – Mt 25:41; 2 Thess 1:6-9].

But God stepped in and, because of His unfathomable mercy and magnanimous grace: *"He made Him (Jesus) who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him!"* (2 Cor 5:21). *"Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us!"* (Titus 3:5). *"That having been justified (just-if-I'd never sinned; made right) by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life!"* (v. 7).

May we never take for granted, nor fail to appreciate, the wonderful grace of God. And may the full realization of all that God has done for us through Christ, move us toward a deeper and more committed service to Him! (1 Cor 15:58; Col 3:23-24). — **Terry Schmidt** ✍

**"Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"**

**- Acts 16:30 -**



**Hear the Gospel** - John 6:44-45; Rom 10:14,17

**Believe** [trust in] God - John 3:16; 8:24; Ac 16:31  
Heb 11:6

**Repent** of sins - Luke 13:1-5; Acts 2:38; 3:19; 17:30

**Confess** Christ - Mt 10:32-33; Ac 8:36-37;  
Rom 10:8-10

**Be baptized** - Mk 16:16; Ac 2:38; 8:36; 22:16;  
1 Pet 3:21

**Be faithful** unto death - Mt 7:21; Rev 2:10

*"I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."*

Jesus — John 14:6

😊 **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!* 😊





October 28 - Terry Kennedy



Wayne & Jan — October 9th  
Jason & Paula — October 25th

### CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Paul Cote, Room 104 [note change]  
c/o Seal Rock Healthcare Atlantic  
88 Harbor Drive  
Saco, ME 04072  
Phone: (207) 283-3646  
  
Diane Cote  
28 Payne Street  
Springvale, ME 04083

### Pot Luck Fellowship

NEXT SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10TH

Oct 3: Glenda  
Oct 10: Paula

**SNACKS!**

*Attendance & Contribution*  
for September 26, 2021

Attendance — 23  
Contribution — \$716.

## Order of Worship

October 3, 2021

*"Let the word of Christ dwell in you  
richly in all wisdom, teaching and  
admonishing one another in psalms  
and hymns and spiritual songs, singing  
with grace in your hearts to the Lord."*

- Colossians 3:16 -

Song Leader: Terry Schmidt

Song—338

Opening Prayer: Erik Grabowski

Song—63

Scripture Reading: Wayne Sampson  
~ 2 Peter 3:18 ~

Song—303

The Lord's Supper:  
George Cuvellier & Ernie Perry

Song—545

Sermon: Terry Schmidt  
"Grow in Grace"

Song—257

Announcements & Closing Prayer:  
Jason Kennedy

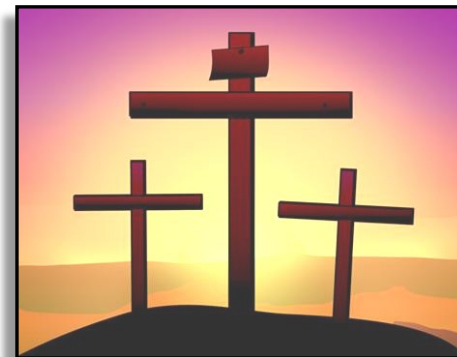
Alternate: Jim Miller

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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 -

October 3, 2021

### Sunday Assembly Times:

9:30 am — Bible Class  
10:30 am — Worship  
6:00 — Bible Study

### Wednesday Assembly:

7:00 — Bible Study

Phone: 207-229-4174  
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