



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 - dealing w/ various health issues
- Filomena Derecho (Cathy's mother in the Philippines) - numerous health issues
- Reyderick Derecho - permanently disabled
- Family of Sandy Gagnon - mourning the death of their loved one, Sandy
- Erik Grabowski - dealing with a painful heel spur on his right foot
- Janice Grabowski - large growth on her neck; also dealing with pancreatitis & fibromyalgia
- Connie Henderson - undergoing an aggressive regimen of chemotherapy which hopefully will eradicate the remaining cancer; currently experiencing a lot of pain; prayers needed
- Mayvella Knight (Connie's foster sister) - lost her husband to cancer recently
- Leah (Glenda's daughter) - ovarian cancer
- Becky McGarey (Terry & Betty's daughter) - being treated for a painful stomach ulcer
- Jim Miller - cardiac catheterization scheduled for Feb 10th; stints a possibility; skin graft would be delayed 6 mos. if stints are placed
- Joanne Neithercut - struggling with frequent serious bouts of depression
- George Nick - family issues & concerns
- Ernie Perry - arthritic back pain and COPD
- Norman Roy - prayers are needed for him & his family as his health continues to decline
- Wayne Sampson - experiencing bursitis & arthritis pain and ongoing anxiety attacks
- Terry Schmidt - dealing with serious back pain
- Paul Small (Paul Cote's cousin) - battling stomach cancer; prayers needed
- Erik Wuelper - pancreatic cancer

An Unflattering Personality Trait



It is fairly typical to know or regard someone by their personality traits or reputation.

Many are known for *positive* things like honesty, kindness, or generosity. Regrettably, others are known for *negative* things like selfishness, arrogance, or just plain meanness. God's people of old, the ancient Israelites, were known for a very unflattering trait which persisted throughout their relationship with Jehovah God – murmuring. Although, time and time again, God had demonstrated His tremendous love and care for them through the working of powerful miracles, Israel murmured and complained against the LORD almost continuously.

The Hebrew word translated “murmur” means, “to be obstinate in words; to grumble or complain.” When used in a sentence, it is often stated as, “Israel murmured against Moses.” Moses explained to them that “the LORD hears your murmurings which you make against Him. And what are we? Your murmurings are not against us, but against the LORD” (Ex 16:8). God Himself further confirms this truth when He says: “How long shall I bear with this evil congregation who murmur against Me? I have heard the murmurings which the children of Israel murmur against Me” (Num 14:27).

This continual grumbling and complaining goes much deeper than expressing mere frustration or dissatisfaction. It reveals a deep-seated attitude of ingratitude, as well as a severe lack of faith and trust in God. When the Israelites said things like, “You have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger” (Ex 16:2-3) and “Why is it you have brought us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?” (Ex 17:2-3), they were charging Almighty God with wrongdoing and insinuating He had improper motives. They were abusively *insulting* and offensively *assaulting* the very nature and character of God! For this reason, God declared: “For forty years I was grieved with that generation and said, ‘It is a people who go

astray in their hearts, and they do not know My ways.’ So, I swore in My wrath, ‘They shall not enter My rest!’” (Ps 95:10-11).

Israel's poor example can benefit those of us living under the New Testament of Jesus Christ (Rom 15:4). “Now these things became our examples, to the intent that we should not lust after evil things as they also lusted . . . nor murmur, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed by the destroyer. Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they are written for our admonition” (1 Cor 10:6-11). We also have a direct command addressing this point: “Do all things without murmuring [discontented grumbling] and disputing [debating; arguing]” (Phil 2:14). What could be the result of obeying such a command? “That you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among who you shine as lights in the world!”

(v. 15). — **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

😊 **Welcome Visitors!** 😊

*We are glad to have you worship with us today. 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 leave. Thank you.
Have a great week!*

Helpful Animals

The animal kingdom abounds with examples of helpful animals. The 'watchman' bird lets out a loud squawk when it sees a hawk approaching, putting itself in extreme danger by its conspicuousness. Helpful birds? Whatever happened to the evolutionary idea of 'survival of the fittest'? Whales may support a sick member of their pod, or refuse to leave a wounded or distressed member. Monkeys will pick through the fur of other monkeys to clean off fleas and other parasites. Wolves and wild dogs bring back food to members of the pack who have taken no part in the hunt. Can evolution explain this caring behavior? After all, evolutionary theory states that 'those who do not struggle to survive and reproduce will be wiped out in the ruthless competition known as natural selection'. The explanation for helpful animals cannot be found in a purposeless theory like evolution, but rather in understanding that God the Creator has placed the world's array of animals on earth for His glory and to fill particular roles in the planet's ecology. That some creatures should help others in maintaining that role is no surprise to those who know that God—not evolution—created life on earth. - *Robert Doolan*

Visits to Our Web Page

Last Week: 5,453
This Month: 16,565



SNACKS!

Jan 24: Glenda
Jan 31: Diane

Attendance & Contribution for January 17, 2020

Attendance — 12
Contribution — \$249.

Order of Worship

January 24, 2021

*"Exalt the LORD our God, and worship at
His holy hill; for the LORD our God is holy."*

- Psalm 99:9 -

Song Leader: *Paul Cote*

Song—649

Opening Prayer: *Erik Grabowski*

Song—255

Scripture Reading: *Paul Bullock*
~ Numbers 13:27-33 ~

Song—287

The Lord's Supper:
Jason Kennedy & Ernie Perry

Song—100

Sermon: *Terry Schmidt*
"We Are Not Able"

Song—199

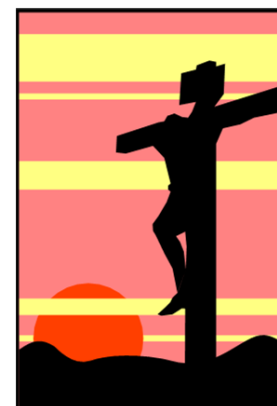
Announcements & Closing Prayer:
George Cuvellier

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Lord's Supper Prep: *Terry Kennedy*

# Southern Maine Church of Christ

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

## January 24, 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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