



Prayer Requests:

"Pray for one another"

- James 5:16 -

- Michael Baldasaro (Wayne & Jan's son in law) successful surgery on 9/21 addressed cancer of the tonsils; has completed five weeks of radiation treatments; now healing; thanks for your continued prayers
- Louis Bureau - injured left shoulder at work & is gradually recovering from surgery
- Josiah Carelse & Family - working with the Lord's church in Cape Town, South Africa
- Diane Cote - left leg amputated up to the knee as a result of diabetes; soon to be fitted with a prosthesis and undergo prosthetic rehab; was recently hospitalized at SMHC after having a major seizure/heart attack; home recovering
- Filomena Derecho (Cathy's mother in the Philippines) - numerous health issues
- Reyderick Derecho - permanently disabled
- Linda Gloman - colon cancer was detected in a colonoscopy; laparoscopic surgery successful; now undergoing aggressive chemotherapy
- Molly Urghart (mother of Wayne & Jan's granddaughter, River)- her stage 4 esophageal cancer has spread to other areas; undergoing aggressive chemotherapy; prayers needed
- 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 sick & suffering and those who are spiritually weak & struggling



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

~ Proverbs 15:8, 29 ~

Stone Soup



During WWII, an American soldier was hungry and so tired he could hardly raise his hand to knock on the door. After fighting a five-day battle, he had walked nearly seventy-five miles through French countryside to a small village of perhaps forty or fifty homes. An angry woman opened the door and demanded to know the nature of his business. He asked for a piece of bread, a glass of water, or anything she could spare. She screamed at him to go away, saying she could hardly feed herself as she angrily slammed the door in his face. The soldier then walked to a second house, where he asked for any food or water they could spare. The owner refused his requests in a manner even less understanding than that of the women in the first house.

So, the soldier walked a bit further until his gaze fell on a small town-square where he discovered a cracked but nevertheless functioning water fountain. The soldier drank as much water as his stomach could hold and then, in the middle of the park, started a small fire over which he placed the shell of his helmet that he had filled with water. Inside the helmet, he placed two averaged-sized stones and began stirring the mixture.

A little boy approached the soldier and asked what he was doing. The soldier replied, "I am making the most delicious stone soup in the whole world." The boy asked if he could have some. "Certainly," the soldier replied, "but the soup needs a few vegetables to make it really delicious." The boy said that his parents had a few carrots at home. As the child hurriedly ran home for the carrots, a married couple entered the park and asked the soldier what he was doing. "I'm making the most delicious stone soup in the whole world."

The couple asked the soldier if he would share his bounty with them. He replied, "Of course, but I could use a soup bone and perhaps some spices to make this soup the very best." They explained that they would rush home to find something to contribute to the mixture. The couple returned with the husband carrying a large kettle, and the wife a soup

bone and some spices. After the soldier transferred the soup from his helmet into the kettle, an old woman passing through the park stopped to inquire about the soldier's concoction and helped the mixture by adding a few potatoes.

And so—they came—one by one, two by two—each contributing whatever ingredients they had on hand to the soup. At just the right moment, the soldier removed the stones and ladled out a cup of marvelous stone soup to each person who had contributed something. And there was still plenty of soup left over for the hungry soldier to enjoy!

— adapted from a European folk tale



"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



WORSHIP ASSIGNMENTS for JANUARY

Preaching: Terry Schmidt

Song Leader: Terry Schmidt

Opening Prayer: Louis Bureau

Scripture Reading: Wayne Sampson

Lord's Supper:

Jason Kennedy (lead) & George Cuvellier

Announcements & Closing Prayer:

Jim Miller

Lord's Supper Prep: Paula Kennedy



Happy New Year!

While New Year's Day is really no different than any other day, it does provide us with a "mile marker" as we travel down the highway of life. This gives us an excellent opportunity to look back over the previous year to thoughtfully reflect on what we've accomplished, and to carefully consider some things we may have left undone. Used wisely, this can be a profitable and productive time of deep personal introspection, self-examination, and soul-searching. As we get ready to welcome another year with its potential for positive change, the promise of new opportunities, and (no doubt), many challenging tests and trials, may our overriding New Year's resolution be to draw closer to God than we've ever been before! (James 4:7-8). ☺

Visits to Our Web Page

Last Week: 6,537
This Month: 29,087



SNACKS!

Dec 31: Cathy
Jan 7: Pat

Attendance & Contribution

for December 24, 2023

Attendance — 19
Contribution — \$600

Order of Worship

December 31, 2023

"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—59

Opening Prayer: *Wayne Sampson*

Song—190

Scripture Reading: *Jason Kennedy*
~ Ephesians 4:11-16 ~

Song—48

The Lord's Supper
George Cuvellier (lead) & Jim Miller

Song—103

Sermon: *Terry Schmidt*
"How to Make Stone Soup"

Song—198

Announcements & Closing Prayer
Louis Bureau

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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 -*

## December 31, 2023

## Meeting on the Lord's Day:

9:30 am — Bible Class  
10:30 am — Worship

*"Let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching."*

- Hebrews 10:24-25 -

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