



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; now undergoing radiation treatments 5 days a week for 2 more weeks; please pray for Mike & Teal — for emotional strength & physical stamina needed to endure these aggressive treatments and for positive results
- 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
- Filomena Derecho (Cathy's mother in the Philippines) - numerous health issues
- Reyderick Derecho - permanently disabled
- Linda Gloman - colon cancer was detected in a recent colonoscopy; 8/10 laparoscopic surgery successful; now undergoing chemotherapy
- Lewiston Shootings - Please pray for victim's families, friends & associates as they grieve the deaths of their loved ones, along with all Mainers & our nation as, together, we mourn this tragedy
- 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 eyes of the Lord are over the righteous,
and His ears are open unto their prayers."*

~ 1 Peter 3:12 ~

Common Ordinary Men



In Acts chapter 4, Peter and John were asked by the religious leaders of the day, "By what power or by what name have you done this?" (v. 7). And just what had they done? They had healed a man "lame from his mother's womb" (Acts 3:2), and were also guilty of "teaching the people and preaching in Jesus the resurrection from the dead" (4:2). In answer to their question, Peter spoke boldly to the "rulers of the people and elders of Israel" (v. 8), who marveled that Peter and John "were uneducated and untrained men" (v. 13).

The point they were making is that these apostles had not been formally educated in any of the Jewish rabbinical schools. And yet, these common ordinary men spoke confidently and convincingly as they stood before "rulers, elders and scribes, as well as Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and as many as were of the family of the high priest" (vv. 5-6).

Common ordinary men. These are the ones God often chooses to do His divine work. As the Scripture says: "Not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called" (1 Cor 1:26). This is because those who are strong and self-sufficient by the world's standards tend to be proud and rely on their own strength, which is finite and exhaustible. But, in the spiritual realm, this is a recipe for certain failure. Because "he who trusts in his own heart [inner strength] is a fool" (Pr 28:26), and we are not to lean on our own understanding (Pr 3:5).

This is why "God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty" (1 Cor 1:27). Those who are weak do not lean on their own strength but, in humility, depend solely on God's strength, which is infinite and inexhaustible! Yea, "those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint" (Is 40:31). God's faithful servants, considered weak by the world's standards, are

"strong in the Lord and in the power of His might" (Eph 6:10). Because God's "strength is made perfect in weakness!" (2 Cor 12:9).

Although they would never admit it publicly, the rulers, elders and scribes in Acts 4 knew full well the source of Peter and John's boldness [courage, confidence, assurance]. "They realized that they had been with Jesus" (v. 13). That's the key! Jesus empowers the faithful to serve Him and do God's will. As the Apostle Paul confidently affirms: "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" (Phil 4:13). The servant of Christ is "strengthened with might through His spirit in the inner man" (Eph 3:16).

Because of this biblical truth, the Lord can use common ordinary men & women (like you and me) to do extraordinary things for God! When we allow the Lord to use us in this way, we bring glory to God (Jn 15:8). This is one of the Christian's main purposes in life (1 Cor 10:31). "If anyone ministers [serves – meeting the needs of others], let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen." (1 Pet 4:11). — **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 pleased to have you as our honored guest!



Terry Schmidt — December 9th
 Brandon Kennedy — December 16th
 Catherine Cuvellier — December 28th



Terry & Betty — December 6th

Pot Luck Fellowship

Next Sunday, December 10th,
 After services. ☺

Visits to Our Web Page

Last Week: 13,704
 This Month: 884



SNACKS!

Dec 3: Terry K
 Dec 10: Paula

Attendance & Contribution

for November 26, 2023

Attendance — 19
 Contribution — \$467

Order of Worship

December 3, 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—120

Opening Prayer: Wayne Sampson

Song—345

Scripture Reading: Jason Kennedy
 - Amos 2:6-8 -

Song—287

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

Song—666

Sermon: Terry Schmidt
 "Prepare to Meet Thy God!"

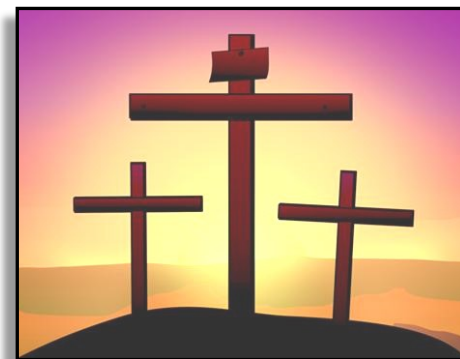
Song—336

Announcements & Closing Prayer
 Louis Bureau

Lord's Supper Prep: Terry Kennedy

Southern Maine Church of Christ

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 West Kennebunk, ME 04094



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

December 3, 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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