



## Prayer Requests:

*"Pray for one another"*

- James 5:16 -

- Robbie Andrews (gospel preacher, Lineville, AL) - slowly recovering from Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever; also suffering with spine/nerve compression/left arm issues
- Louis Bureau - injured his left shoulder at work
- Josiah Carelse & Family - working with the Lord's church in Cape Town, South Africa
- Tish Clarke (wife of BJ Clarke, director of the Memphis School of Preaching) - has malignant brain tumor & cancerous lymph node
- Corona Pandemic - its effect & overall impact on our lives, the nation and the world
- Diane Cote - numerous health concerns
- Randy Cote (Diane's son) - alcohol addiction
- Filomena Derecho (Cathy's mother in the Philippines) - numerous health issues
- Reyderick Derecho - permanently disabled
- George Nick & Family - Wife & daughter in IL suffering from long-range Covid; George (also in IL) now suffering with a sepsis infection
- Norman Roy - ongoing health concerns
- Wayne Sampson - ongoing anxiety attacks
- 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 — the sick & suffering and those who are spiritually weak & struggling



"Spiritual labor is tiring work, and men are loath to do it. Praying, true praying, costs an outlay of serious attention and of time, which flesh and blood does not relish. Our praying needs to be pressed and pursued with an energy that never tires, a persistency which will not be denied, and a courage that never fails." — E. M. Bounds

## Context



The question is often asked, "Is the glass half empty, or half full?" If you answer "half empty," you are typically labeled a pessimist. If you answer "half full," you are usually regarded as an optimist. But some of us are realists, and we say, "It all depends." On what? The context!

A good working definition of *context* is "The parts of something written or spoken that immediately precede and follow a word or passage which clarify its meaning. The circumstances or situation that form the setting for an event, statement, or idea, and in terms of which it can be fully understood and assessed. (*Oxford Dictionary*). So, context has to do with the setting, background, or conditions in which something exists or occurs.

Going back to the partially filled glass . . . if the glass is in the process of being filled, it is half full. If the contents are being drained or consumed, it is half empty. It's the context that helps us to understand and make a proper determination and designation. And, so it is with scripture!

The context of a passage is needed in order for us to accurately understand and interpret the scriptures and make a proper application. It's always profitable to ask certain questions when studying a text. Who is speaking? Who is being spoken to? What is being talked about? What did it mean and how did it apply to the original hearers? What does it mean and how does it apply to us today? (if it indeed does apply). Some passages, like John 3:16, stand alone and are not dependent on context to be understood or applied. In other passages, however, if the context is not given adequate consideration, the text can be easily misunderstood, misapplied, or misused.

For example, in Matthew 19:21 Jesus said, "If you want to be perfect, go sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me." So, if you want to be perfect and have treasure in heaven, you need to sell

all your possessions and give the proceeds to the poor. After all, that's what Jesus said! Well, He did say it, but not to you & me. The context reveals that this was a specific, isolated situation where Jesus was addressing the greed and covetousness of a rich young ruler. To take this verse out of context and use it as a proof-text would be to misuse and misapply the holy scriptures. This is not what we want to do!

Considering the scriptural setting of a text and keeping things in context helps us understand the intended meaning God would have us receive and enables us to make a proper application of the teaching in God's word. After all, we are commanded to "Study (make every effort; exert oneself) to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing (make a straight cut; dissect correctly) the word of truth" (2 Tim 2:15). May our reverence for God and our respect for His holy word motivate each one of us to do just that! (Ps 119; 105; Mt 4:4; Heb 4:12). — **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

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😊 **Welcome Visitors!** 😊

*We are glad to have you as our honored guests!*



## WORSHIP ASSIGNMENTS for APRIL

Preaching: Terry Schmidt

Song Leader: Terry Schmidt

Opening Prayer: Jim Miller

Scripture Reading: Louis Bureau

Lord's Supper:

Wayne Sampson & Jason Kennedy

Announcements & Closing Prayer:  
George Cuvellier

Lord's Supper Prep: Pat Miller



Justin Kennedy — April 2nd

### Visits to Our Web Page

Last Week: 11,636

This Month: 50,720



## SNACKS!

March 26: Betty

April 2: Cathy

### Attendance & Contribution

for March 19, 2023

Attendance — 15

Contribution — \$525

## Order of Worship

March 26, 2023

*"What is it then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also: I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also."*

📖 - 1 Corinthians 14:15 - 📖

Song—2

Opening Prayer

Song—545

Scripture Reading

- 2 Peter 1:2-4 -

Song—22

The Lord's Supper

Song—68

Sermon: Terry Schmidt

*"We Are Partakers of  
Many Marvelous Blessings"*

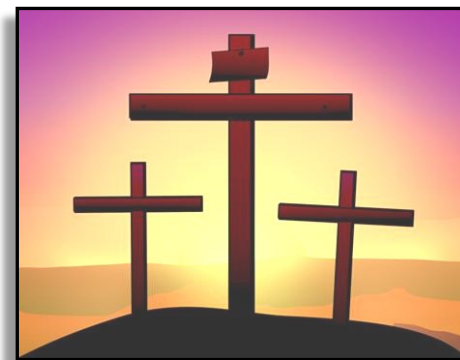
Song—421

Announcements & Closing Prayer

Lord's Supper Prep: Paula 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 -*

## March 26, 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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