



Prayer Requests:

"Pray for one another"

- James 5:16 -

- Robbie Andrews (preacher in Lineville, AL) - being treated for retinal inflammation
- Michael Baldasaro (Wayne & Jan's son in law - undergoing surgery on 9/21 to address cancer of tonsils which has spread to lymph nodes; also pray for wife Teal, kids Isobel & Giovanni
- 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
- Cleary's (Sampson's neighbors) - John is at stage 4 COPD and is receiving hospice care at home; his wife Cecelia is recovering from a broken wrist and sprained ankle
- 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; additional cancer found in only 1 lymph node; now undergoing chemotherapy
- Terry Kennedy - surgery scheduled for 10/19 to remove a cyst in her abdomen
- Jim Miller - now at MMC as a result of UTI and elevated blood sugar levels
- 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 Value of Listening



For most of us, hearing comes naturally. Sound waves are received which vibrate the eardrum and activate the hammer, anvil and stirrup—sending nerve impulses to the temporal lobe of the cerebral cortex. (Isn't God's complex and intricate design awesome?) However, listening—*effective* listening—does *not* come naturally to most of us. Effective listening is *active*, not passive. Active listening is a focused effort to effectively receive and accurately interpret the intended message the speaker is sending. And this requires willful attention and deliberate concentration on our part.

Listening is an act of love. When someone listens to us attentively, it shows that they truly care and are genuinely concerned about us. When we have their undivided attention, we feel respected and appreciated. When someone takes the time to listen to us and ask pertinent questions, we move beyond superficial talk to deeper levels of communication, and feel that we have been understood, valued and affirmed.

The Bible has much to say about the value of listening. "Therefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath" (Jas 1:19). We typically get the first two admonitions of this verse mixed up. We are usually swift to speak and slow to listen! The wise man Solomon offers additional insight: "He who answers a matter before he hears it, it is folly and shame to him" (Prov 18:13). Our failure to listen and our tendency to interrupt is impolite and comes across as indifference. It is common courtesy to allow the other person to finish their sentence. And it is considerate to listen attentively without interruption. Waiting patiently for your time to speak represents godly behavior and good manners.

"The heart of the prudent acquires knowledge, and the ear of the wise seeks knowledge" (Prov 18:15). The wise seek out knowledge. They listen actively and attentively in order to learn more. This is what makes them wise. This learning results in wisdom, prudence, practical wisdom and the ability to reason and discern. The value of listening cannot be overstated, especially in our frantic and frenzied

society!

It is needful and useful in the Lord's church as well. We are instructed to confess our faults to one another (Jas 5:16). For this to happen, a brother or sister must be willing to listen and offer godly counsel. We are also admonished to "bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ" (Gal 6:2). How can we bear another's burdens if we don't know what they are? And how can we find out what their burdens are unless we take the time and make the effort to listen attentively?

Good listening habits are essential in reaching out to others with the Gospel of Christ. In personal evangelism, we need to determine where the person is. What do they believe about God, the Bible, the church, their own need for salvation and how to obtain it? Learning this vital information requires active and effective listening. Above all, let us be sure that we listen to the Lord attentively and carefully at all times. "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me" (Jn 10:27). How do we listen to the voice of Jesus? "So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God!" (Rom 10:17).

— 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 as our honored guests!



Genesis Cuvellier — Sept 26th

Distributing to the Needs of the Saints (Romans 12:13)

We are pleased to report that we were able to send \$500 to the Aloha Church of Christ - Maui, located in Wailuku, Hawaii, to help members who have lost most or perhaps all of their possessions in the recent devastating wildfires. We may decide to send more financial assistance if needed. "Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith" (Galatians 6:10).



"Do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased."

- Hebrews 13:16 -

Visits to Our Web Page

Last Week: 18,698

This Month: 30,554



SNACKS!

Sept 17: Cathy

Sept 24: Pat

Attendance & Contribution for September 10, 2023

Attendance — 18

Contribution — \$868

Order of Worship

September 17, 2023

"Make a joyful noise unto the LORD all ye lands. Serve the LORD with gladness: come be His presence with singing."

📖 - Psalm 100:1-2 - 📖

Song Leader: *Terry Schmidt*

Song—114

Opening Prayer: *Jim Miller*

Song—527

Scripture Reading: *Louis Bureau*
- 1 Timothy 2:3-6 -

Song—22

The Lord's Supper
Wayne Sampson & Jason Kennedy

Song—563

Sermon: *Terry Schmidt*
"Tuning-in to Lost Souls"

Song—84

Announcements & Closing Prayer
George Cuvellier

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Lord's Supper Prep: *Pat Miller*

## Southern Maine Church of Christ

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

## September 17, 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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