



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 just completed 5 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
- 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 prayer of the upright is His delight . . . He hears the prayer of the righteous."

~ Proverbs 15:8, 29 ~

Above
and
Beyond



Whenever someone does more than is required or expected, it is often said that they have gone "above and beyond the call of duty." In the military, this kind of action is usually recognized and rewarded by the awarding of medals or, at the very least, a certificate of appreciation. This may even sometimes occur in the workplace. But, much of the time, doing more than is required or expected may go unnoticed and receive little fanfare. And to be honest, this high degree of personal integrity and dedication to duty is becoming more and more rare as the years go by. But for those who "name the name of Christ" (2 Tim 2:19), doing more than is required or expected should be the rule—not the exception.

Jesus taught that if someone compels you to go *one* mile, go with him *two* (Mt 5:41). Go the *second* mile. Do *more* than is required or expected. He also taught, "*Bless* those who curse you (don't curse back), *do good* to those who hate you (don't hate or try to hurt them), and *pray* for those who spitefully use you and persecute you" (don't retaliate in kind – v. 44). We can see that the Lord sets a high standard for those who will follow Him. In order to pull this off—to go "above and beyond the call of duty"—one will need to be a true servant.

The word "servant" in the New Testament is translated from the Greek word *doulos*. This word, also translated "bondservant" or "slave" in some versions, refers to one who willingly gives himself up to another's will—one who is wholly devoted to another with a disregard to his own interests. This is the level of service to which you and I are called! We are to love the Lord our God with all our *hearts*, with all our *souls*, with all our *minds*, and with all our *strength* (Mk 12:30), as we, in sincerity of heart, do the will of God from the heart! (Eph 6:5-8). Of course, the *heart* is always at the heart of the matter in our walk with the Lord. In order to be a true servant—one who will go "above and beyond the call of duty"—we will need a servant's heart.

The heart is at the very center of our being, where our thoughts and emotions originate. When the Bible speaks of the heart, it is often referring to our spiritual condition. A servant's heart, then, must be a *pure* heart. "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God" (Mt 5:8). This is why the Psalmist prayed, "Create in me a clean [pure] heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me" (Ps 51:10). Yes, God will help and assist the cooperative servant with soul cleansing and heart purification. But we must also do our part. Therefore, "let everyone who names the name of Christ depart from iniquity" (2 Tim 2:19). "Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a *pure* heart" (v. 22).

In this regard, we would do well to adopt David's heartfelt prayer as our own - and pray it often: "Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength, and my redeemer!" (Ps 19:14). Having the pure heart of a true servant, we will—in the spirit of the Good Samaritan (Lk 10:25-37)—consistently go "above and beyond the call of duty," having the needed grace, "by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear" (Heb 12:28). — **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!





Brandon Kennedy — December 16th
Catherine Cuvellier — December 28th



We will enjoy our
potluck meal today
after services. ☺

We hope you will plan to
stay for this special time
of food, fun & fellowship!



What a joy it is to join with other
Christians in worship and fellow-
ship! Praying and worshiping
together, studying the Scriptures
together, and caring for one
another in the family of God are
essential for our spiritual grow
and unity as believers. 📖

Visits to Our Web Page

Last Week: 808
This Month: 14, 512



SNACKS!

Dec 10: Paula
Dec 17: Jan

Attendance & Contribution

for December 3, 2023

Attendance — 14
Contribution — \$421

Order of Worship

December 10, 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—2

Opening Prayer: *Wayne Sampson*

Song—230

Scripture Reading: *Jason Kennedy*
- Luke 10:30-38 -

Song—289

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

Song—81

Sermon: *Terry Schmidt*
"Three Philosophies of Life"

Song—84

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 10, 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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