



Prayer Requests:

"Pray for one another"

- James 5:16 -

- Robbie Andrews (preacher in Lineville, AL) - retinal inflammation; undergoing an intensive treatment which may be improving his vision
- 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 due to a progression of gangrene as a result of diabetes; will be fitted with a prosthesis and undergo prosthetic rehab in the near future
- 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; laparoscopic surgery on 8/10 was successful, with additional cancer found in only 1 lymph node; chemotherapy is needed, but Dr. says cancer is "totally curable"
- Terry Kennedy - surgery scheduled for 10/19 to remove a cyst in her abdomen
- Jan Sampson - mourning the loss of her aunt Rachael who recently passed away
- 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 those not with us today — the sick & suffering and those who are spiritually weak & struggling

The Power of Words



The wise man Solomon once observed, "In the multitude of words sin is not lacking, but he who restrains his lips is wise" (Pr 10:19). And again, "He who has knowledge spares his words" (Pr 17:27). Most of us can attest to the wisdom of these biblical truths, knowing all too well the untold damage that words can cause. Yes, "death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit" (Pr 18:21). Indeed, "the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity. The tongue is so set among our members that it defiles the whole body, and sets on fire the course of nature; and is set on fire by hell!" (Jas 3:6). James goes on to say that "no man can tame the tongue. It is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison!" (Jas 3:8).

With powerful biblical descriptions like this challenging our daily speech, perhaps we (like David) should pray: "Set a guard over my mouth, O Lord; keep watch over the door of my lips" (Ps 141:3). After all, "he who guards his mouth preserves his life, but he who opens wide his lips shall have destruction" (Pr 13:3). There is much to be said for thinking before we speak (Jas 1:19) and choosing our words carefully (Pr 15:28). Brevity, often regarded as a virtue, can be very effective in communication. And some things are better left unsaid (Pr 11:12; 17:28).

But even though their use can be dangerous and damaging, and may result in serious problems, words are necessary, aren't they? And while cruel words may pierce like a sword, the tongue of the wise can bring healing (Pr 12:18). While there should be no "filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor coarse jesting, which are not fitting" (Eph 5:4), the "lips of the righteous know what is acceptable [fitting]" (Pr 10:32), bring forth wisdom (v. 31), and feed [nourish] many (v. 21).

The Christian is cautioned against using words in a hurtful, destructive way. Rather, we are instructed to use our words in a helpful, constructive manner. "Let no corrupt [rotten; worthless; morally corrupt] communication proceed out of your mouth, but

what is good for necessary edification [building others up; promoting another's growth], that it may impart grace to the hearers" (Eph 4:29). The mouth of the righteous is a well of life (Pr 10:11), and wisdom is found on the lips of him who has understanding (Pr 10:13).

We are to choose our words carefully, in order to build up and benefit those to whom we are speaking. The words of God's children are to "always be with grace [gracious; sensible; kind; courteous], seasoned with salt" [pleasant; attractive; appealing] (Col 4:6). To that end, may we pray as the psalmist David did, "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). — **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 you have come to worship with us today. We want you to know that you are welcome. Please don't hesitate to ask if you have questions or if we can help you in any way. Also, please fill out one of our visitor's cards before you depart.

Have a great week! ☺







Jason Kennedy — Sept 11
Genesis Cuvellier — Sept 26th

Pot Luck Fellowship

Next Sunday, Sept 10th, after
services — Followed by the
Men's Business Meeting and
A Ladies Meeting. ☺

Words Can
Hurt 
or  **Heal**
What Did Yours
Do Today?

*There is one who
speaks rashly like
the thrusts of a
sword, but the
tongue of the
wise brings
healing.*

(Prov 12:18)

Visits to Our
Web Page

Last Week: 11,159
This Month: 1,050



SNACKS!

Sept 3: Pat
Sept 10: Paula

Attendance & Contribution
for August 27, 2023

Attendance — 16
Contribution — \$433

Order of Worship

September 3, 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—59

Opening Prayer: *Jim Miller*

Song—501

Scripture Reading: *Louis Bureau*
- 1 Thessalonians 5:8-11 -

Song—293

The Lord's Supper
Wayne Sampson & Jason Kennedy

Song—485

Sermon: *Terry Schmidt*
"The Biblical Art of Encouragement"

Song—49

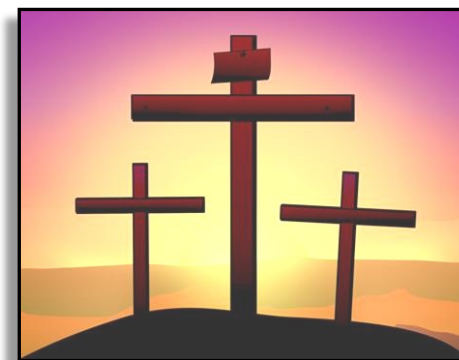
Announcements & Closing Prayer
George Cuvellier

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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 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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