



Prayer Requests:

"Pray for one another"

- James 5:16 -

- Robbie Andrews (preacher in Lineville, AL) - recovering from Rocky Mountain Fever and two broken ribs sustained in a bad fall
- Louis Bureau - injured his left shoulder at work and is to be scheduled for corrective surgery
- Josiah Carelse & Family - working with the Lord's church in Cape Town, South Africa
- Cleary's (Sampson's neighbors) - John is at SMHC suffering with Cephalitis virus; his wife Ceciela fell in parking lot with many injuries
- Corona Pandemic - its effect & overall impact on our lives, the nation and the world
- Diane Cote - had part of her left foot amputated on 5/19 due to a progression of gangrene as a result of her diabetes; now recovering
- Filomena Derecho (Cathy's mother in the Philippines) - numerous health issues
- Reyderick Derecho - permanently disabled
- Michael Hatcher (preacher for the Bellview church in Pensacola, FL) - recovering from recent abdominal surgery
- George Nick & Family - Wife & daughter in IL suffering from long-range Covid; George (also in IL) suffering with a serious 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

"The eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and His ears are open unto their prayers."

~ 1 Peter 3:12 ~



Influence



In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus compares His followers to salt, stating: "You are the salt of the earth...." (Matt 5:13). What is it about salt that would cause Jesus to make this comparison? What quality or characteristic does salt have that could be likened to a disciple of Jesus?

One fact about salt is undeniable: it always influences that which it comes into contact with. It seasons food, melts ice, preserves meats, and has anti-septic & healing qualities. In comparing us with salt, Jesus is making reference to the power of influence—our personal influence and that of the gospel.

Influence is defined as: "the capacity to have an effect on the character, development, or behavior of someone" (*Oxford Living Dictionary*). This is an excellent definition! As Christians, we are to influence others for Christ. The word has its roots in medieval Latin meaning an *inflow* or *to flow into*—specifically, "the flowing in of ethereal fluid affecting human destiny" (*Oxford*).

Jesus spoke of the idea of flowing: "He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water. But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive" (John 7:38-39). As the Spirit of Christ lives in us (Rom 8:9; Gal 2:20; Col 3:16), rivers of living water—the gospel message—the love and the light of Christ, should flow from us into the lives of others. This is the fundamental nature of salt—influence.

But, Jesus continues in Matthew 5:13, "But if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men." This is a grave warning for us to not lose our seasoning ability—our godly influence. How can we keep this from happening?

"Only let your conduct be worthy of the gospel of Christ...stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel" (Phil 2:27). "Be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your

labor is not in vain in the Lord" (1 Cor 15:58). "In all things showing yourself to be a pattern of good works; in doctrine showing integrity, reverence, incorruptibility, sound speech that cannot be condemned, that one who is an opponent may be ashamed, having nothing evil to say of you" (Titus 2:7-8). "Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one" (Col 4:6). "Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good" (Rom 12:21).

In doing this, we will "adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in all things!" (Titus 2:10). And we will be the salt of the earth—the positive influence that God would have us to be, for our sake and the sake of those around us! (1 Tim 4:16).

— 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 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! ☺





George & Cathy — May 31st



We will enjoy our potluck meal today after services. We hope you will stay for this special time of food, fun and fellowship! ☺

"...food which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth." — 1 Timothy 4:3

"Blessed be the name of the LORD from this time forth and for evermore." - Psalm 113:2

Visits to Our Web Page

Last Week: 8,834
This Month: 19,887



SNACKS!

May 21: Paula
May 28: Cathy

Attendance & Contribution for May 14, 2023

Attendance — 22
Contribution — \$525

Order of Worship

May 21, 2023

"O LORD, thou art my God; I will exalt thee, I will praise thy name; for thou hast done wonderful things; thy counsels of old are faithfulness and truth."

📖 - Isaiah 25:1 - 📖

Song Leader: Terry Schmidt

Song—17

Opening Prayer: George Cuvellier

Song—255

Scripture Reading: Jim Miller
- Mark 9:49-50 -

Song—4

The Lord's Supper
Louis Bureau & Wayne Sampson

Song—230

Sermon: Terry Schmidt
"You Are the Salt of the Earth"

Song—84

Announcements & Closing Prayer
Jason Kennedy

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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 -*

## May 21, 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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