



## Prayer Requests:

*"Pray for one another"*

- James 5:16 -

- Robbie Andrews (gospel preacher, Lineville, AL) - spine/nerve compression/left arm issues
- 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 - suffering with a prolonged and severe virus; other health concerns also
- Randy Cote (Diane's son) - alcohol addiction
- Filomena Derecho (Cathy's mother in the Philippines) - numerous health issues
- Reyderick Derecho - permanently disabled
- Chuck Gloman - recovering from A-fib surgery
- Brandon Kennedy - suffering with a severe case of mononucleosis
- Bob Kenneth (friend of Terry & Betty) - having difficulty recovering from walking pneumonia
- Jim & Pat Miller - recovering from Covid
- Alan Nichols - grieving the death of his father
- 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
- Jan Sampson - recovering from Covid
- Wayne Sampson - ongoing anxiety attacks
- Betty Schmidt - fell at work and broke her left arm; healing & doing well w/ physical therapy
- 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 prayer of the upright is His delight . . .  
He hears the prayer of the righteous."  
~ Proverbs 15:8, 29 ~*

## Drifting Away . . . an Eroding Faith



Over the years, soil and structural erosion have caused extensive damage, considerable monetary loss and numerous deaths. Erosion is a process that occurs gradually through time and is typically unseen. That is, until irreparable damage is done. Erosion is the slow and constant wearing away of something, causing it to diminish or deteriorate. Slowly, but surely . . . the gradual process ultimately destroys . . . little by little. Erosion is dangerous because it is insidious. That is, it works and spreads harmfully in a stealthy manner, having a gradual and cumulative effect. The progression is inconspicuous and seemingly harmless until the obvious damage is done. Of course, you've no doubt already figured out that this action can be effectively applied to our spiritual lives.

*"Therefore, we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away"* (Heb 2:1). The Greek word translated *"drift away"* carries the idea of "flowing or gliding by," to "carelessly pass," or "slip away." Because of the constant danger of this happening to us, we need to *"give the more earnest heed"*— give serious attention to our spiritual walk and welfare through the diligent study of God's word — *"the things we have heard."* The internal and external forces working against us are incredibly powerful and always present.

The *internal* forces are well described in Galatians 5:16-17. One paraphrase puts it this way: "These two forces within us are constantly fighting each other to win control over us, and our wishes are never free from their pressures." The *external* forces with which we are confronted are found in many passages of scripture (1 Cor 10:13; Eph 6:10-18; Jas 1:12-16; 1 Jn 2:15-17). But here's one we should all underline or highlight in our Bibles: *"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour"* (1 Pet 5:8). Serious business!

With such formidable forces constantly working against us—applying tremendous pressure on us

daily to compromise the truth, surrender to temptation, and abandon our faith—we cannot afford to cease striving (Lk 13:24). We need to maintain constant vigilance and remain spiritually alert (Eph 5:15-17), so that a slow erosion of our faith cannot happen (Heb 3:12-14). It is not an option for us to forgo (or even relax) our spiritual disciplines of Bible study, prayer, worship, and Christian service. Because if we do, we will (through time) most certainly drift with the prevailing tide and be carried along with the ways of the world (Rom 12:1-2; Jas 1:27).

Therefore, you must *"Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak"* (Mt 26:41). *"Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace, with those who call on the Lord with a pure heart"* (2 Tim 2:22). And, *"Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles [schemes, strategies] of the devil"* (Eph 6:10-11).

— 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!*



## Our Deepest Sympathy

Our sincerest condolences are extended to **Alan Nichols** and family as they mourn the death of their loved one, Alan Nichols Sr., who passed away on Monday, January 30th. May God's steadfast presence and tender compassion provide strength & comfort to Alan and his family during this difficult time of grief and loss. †

## Budget Planning Meeting

### TODAY AFTER SERVICES

We hope you are able to attend this very important working session. Your participation is needed and will be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

## Visits to Our Web Page

Last Week: 8,451

This Month: 4,692



# SNACKS!

Feb 5: Cathy

Feb 12: Paula

## Attendance & Contribution

for January 29, 2023

Attendance — 11

Contribution — \$316

# Order of Worship

February 5, 2023

*"Give unto the LORD the glory due unto His name; worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness."*

📖 - Psalm 29:2 - 📖

Song—19

Opening Prayer

Song—50

Scripture Reading

- Hebrews 2:1 -

Song—119

The Lord's Supper

Song—527

Sermon:

"Lest We Drift Away"

Song—574

Announcements & Closing Prayer

# Southern Maine Church of Christ

159 Alfred Road, P.O. Box 344  
West Kennebunk, ME 04094



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

## February 5, 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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