



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 completed five 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; now using a temporary prosthesis and undergoing prosthetic rehab; also recovering from a major seizure/heart attack and is home recovering
- Filomena Derecho (Cathy's mother in the Philippines) - numerous health issues
- Reyderick Derecho - permanently disabled
- Linda Gloman - colon cancer was detected in a colonoscopy; laparoscopic surgery successful; now undergoing aggressive chemotherapy
- 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 ~

Don't Worry, Be Happy!



Thirty-five years ago, in the fall of 1988, singer Bobby McFerrin released a song that went straight to number one on the *Billboard* charts. What was unique about this song was that it was the first *a cappella* song to ever reach number one, and it stayed there for two weeks! This was one of those "fun" songs that was very enjoyable and relaxing to hear. But the song's great message is still often readily dismissed and not taken seriously due to its light-hearted simplicity—"don't worry, be happy!"

One of the lines in the song goes like this: "In every life we have some trouble, but when you worry you make it double—don't worry, be happy!" It is interesting to note that this observation and sage advice is in harmony with biblical teaching. Jesus taught, "In the world you will have tribulation (trouble); but be of good cheer (be happy), I have overcome the world" (Jn 16:33). In Matthew 6:25-34 Jesus addresses the problem of anxiety and says three times "Do not worry!" Solomon adds this observation: "Anxiety (worry) in the heart causes depression, but a good word makes it glad (happy)" (Pr 12:25). This is why we are commanded to "Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say, rejoice!" (Phil 4:4).

The Christian's joy is not contingent upon favorable situations, nor is it dependent on external circumstances. It is an internal grace which has its source in consistent fellowship and close communion with God. Notice Philippians 4:4 again: "Rejoice in the Lord!" While it may be hard finding joy in difficult circumstances and stressful situations, we can "rejoice in the Lord"—even when there is little else to rejoice about! God is good, He continually seeks our good, and always has our best interest at heart! (Jn 3:16; Rom 5:6-9; 1 Tim 2:3-6; Heb 13:5-6). Yes, "the Lord is good; His mercy is everlasting, and His truth endures to all generations" (Ps 100:5). We can certainly rejoice in a God like that!

In the Greek language, the words "joy" and "rejoice" simply mean "cheerfulness, gladness,

delight." The dictionary definition of "cheerfulness" is extremely helpful here: "happiness; feeling or showing that you are willing to do something without complaining; likely to dispel gloom or worry" (*Merriam-Webster*). So, we have a choice to make. It is a known fact that one cannot be consumed with worry and be rejoicing at the same time! Rather than being defined by worrying and complaining, we are to rejoice (find joy) in the Lord, who loved us and gave himself for us (Gal 2:20). As the song kindly admonishes, "Don't worry, be happy!" 😊

— 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

"I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."

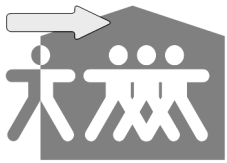
Jesus — John 14:6

😊 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! 😊





It is our pleasure to announce that **Mike & Donna Doucette**

have expressed their desire to place membership here at *Southern Maine* church of Christ.

We are pleased and blessed to have them worship with us and warmly welcome them into our spiritual family! ☺

NOTE: An updated church directory is in the works and should be ready in a week or two.



We will enjoy our potluck meal today after services. ☺

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

Visits to Our Web Page

Last Week: 4,823

This Month: 9,646



SNACKS!

Jan 14: Paula
Jan 21: Kathleen

Attendance & Contribution

for December 31, 2023

Attendance — 25

Contribution — \$320

~ Did not meet on 1/7 due to storm ~

Order of Worship

January 14, 2024

“Praise the LORD; for the LORD is good: sing praises unto His name; for it is pleasant.”

📖 - Psalm 135:3 - 📖

Song Leader: *Terry Schmidt*

Song—2

Opening Prayer: *Louis Bureau*

Song—157

Scripture Reading: *Wayne Sampson*
~ Philippians 4:4-7 ~

Song—321

The Lord’s Supper
Jason Kennedy (lead) & George Cuvellier

Song—653

Sermon: *Terry Schmidt*
“Rejoice in the Lord Always”

Song—592

Announcements & Closing Prayer
Jim Miller

Lord’s Supper Prep: *Paula Kennedy*

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 -

January 14, 2024

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 -

Phone: 207-229-4174

Email: tls654b@twc.com

Website: www.southernmainecofc.com