



## Prayer Requests:

*"Pray for one another"*

- James 5:16 -

- Rodelio Baaqin & Family - working with congregations of the Lord's church in the Philippines
- Teal Baldasaro - in the hospital with extreme dehydration and facing possible surgery due to an intestinal obstruction or blockage
- Josiah Carelse & Family - working with the Lord's church in Cape Town, South Africa
- Leslie Denbow - left knee needs replacement surgery; experiencing nerve pain in right foot
- Filomena Derecho (Cathy's mother in the Philippines) - numerous health issues
- Retha Flack (Terry & Betty's Christian friend) - 2 heart blockages; had a heart attack on 6/11 during PT & now on heart meds; also diagnosed as having A-Fib (abnormal heart rhythm)
- Kathleen Judkins - healing & recovering well after right knee replacement surgery in May; doing PT to increase strength & range of motion
- Richard Miles (Kathleen's nephew) - undergoing chemo & radiation to combat a rare sarcoma
- Jim Miller - pulled ligaments & tendons in right shoulder causing pain & discomfort
- Terry Schmidt - recent MRI revealed nerve root compression in 2nd lumbar vertebra as primary cause for lower back pain; seeing an orthopedic specialist on August 20th
- Texas Flood Victims - prayers for those affected by the devastation brought on by these floods; many have lost everything, including loved ones
- 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

*"Pray without ceasing."* — 1 Thess 5:17

## Pain & Suffering



Proverbs 20:30 says, "Blows that hurt cleanse away evil, as do stripes (blows, strokes, beatings) the inner depths of the heart." One modern version reads this way: "Sometimes it takes a painful experience to make us change our ways." To verify the truth of this passage, one needs look no further than Israel of old—especially in the Book of Judges. Time after time, God's chosen people observed the oft repeated cycle of rest, rebellion, retribution, repentance and restoration.

After a period of living in obedience to God, Israel would again become complacent, do evil in the sight of the Lord, forsake Him and serve false gods. This sinful condition could last many years. To get their attention, God would have no choice but to allow them to be conquered by their enemies and exist in a sorrowful state of brutal bondage and severe oppression. God used this pain and suffering to cause the children of Israel to turn back to Him. Having exhausted all of their options, with nowhere else to turn, they finally turned to God.

Yes, sometimes God uses pain and suffering to reprimand, reprove and rebuke his erring children. God disciplines us because, like Israel, we often go astray and need to be brought back to our senses and return to Him. Therefore, "do not despise the chastening of the LORD, nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him" (Heb 12:5).

However, pain and suffering in one's life does not always imply sin, disobedience or wrong-doing. This is true in some cases, but not all. The three friends of Job made the mistake of attributing his misery and misfortune to some unconfessed sin. Sometimes, God allows adversity, pain and suffering into our lives in order to refine, purify, and perfect our faith.

"Though now, for a little while, you have been grieved by various trials, that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be

found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ" (1 Pet 1:6-7). Adversity, pain and suffering are often used by God to help us grow spiritually and prove that our faith is real.

After all, the Author of our salvation was made perfect through sufferings (Heb 2:10), and "though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered" (Heb 5:8). Jesus taught, "A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master" (Mt 10:24). If it was necessary for our Lord to suffer in order for Him to fulfill God's purpose, then it is necessary for us to suffer also. "For to you it has been granted on behalf of Christ, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake" (Phil 1:29).

Adversity, pain and suffering cause us to mature in Christ and serve to strengthen our faith (Rom 5:3-5; Jas 1:2-4). So, "rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ's sufferings, that when His glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy!" (1 Pet 4:13). Amen.

— 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!  
 Please don't hesitate to ask if you have questions  
 or if we can help you in any way. Please fill out a  
 visitor's card before you leave. Thank you.*

*Have a great week!*



Wayne Sampson — August 14th



We will enjoy our potluck meal next Sunday after services. We hope you will stay for this special time of food, fun & fellowship! 😊

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

*“Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf.”  
- 1 Peter 4:16 -*

Visits to Our  
Web Page

Last Week: 11,146

This Month: 1,172



**SNACKS!**

August 3: Cathy

August 13: Paula

### Attendance & Contribution

for July 27, 2025

Attendance — 26

Contribution — \$667

## Order of Worship

August 3, 2025

*“From the rising of the sun to its going down, the LORD’s name is to be praised!”*

📖 - Psalm 113:3 - 📖

Song Leader: *Terry Schmidt*

Song—204

Opening Prayer: *Louis Bureau*

Song—230

Scripture Reading: *David Larrabee*  
~ Job 2:1-10 ~

Song—293

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

Song—437

Sermon: *Terry Schmidt*  
“Why Do Bad Things  
Happen to Good People?”

Song—473

Announcements & Closing Prayer  
*Jim Miller*

Alternates: *Wayne Sampson/  
Mike Doucette*

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Lord’s Supper Prep: *Betty Schmidt*

## Southern Maine Church of Christ

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

### August 3, 2025

### 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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