



Prayer Requests:

"Pray for one another"

- James 5:16 -

- Rodelio Baaqin & Family - working with congregations of the Lord's church in the Philippines
- Josiah Carelse & Family - working with the Lord's church in Cape Town, South Africa
- Leslie Denbow - numerous health concerns
- Retha Flack (Terry & Betty's Christian friend) - 2 heart blockages; meds are working well
- ICE related shooting in Biddeford - please pray for all those involved in and/or affected by the regrettable incident where a 26-year-old Colombian man was shot and killed by ICE agents during an early-morning enforcement operation on Monday, July 13th
- Escalating politically motivated violence and shootings - across our country
- Military Personnel in Harms Way - those who are engaged in Operation Epic Fury & the war with Iran; also pray for their families while these service men & women are deployed
- Philippine Brethren - have experienced recent earthquakes and typhoons with heavy rains and flooding, resulting in extensive damage
- Please pray for our nation (1 Timothy 2:1-3)
- Please pray that we may 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

As you continue to travel down the road of life, please don't neglect your GPS (**G**od's **P**ower **S**ervice) — "on call" 24/7 — offering the best direction and roadside assistance available. Your Creator knows you best. 😊 Call on Him at any time "toll free" — and refer to His operator's manual often! 📖

The Quagmire of Sin



A quagmire is a soft, muddy, marshy piece of ground that bogs you down and then continues to suck you in until you're trapped. Sin is much like a quagmire—a difficult, sticky situation from which it is hard to escape—a perplexing predicament or moral trap. The psalmist provides a figurative assessment of this painfully frightening condition: "I sink in deep mire, where there is no standing; I have come into deep waters, where the floods overflow me" (Psalm 69:2). Scary! And this is where unresolved sin leads.

The progression of temptation & sin follows the same pattern. As James explains: "Each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires [lust] and enticed. Then, when desire [lust] has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death" (James 1:14-15). So, unrepented, unresolved sin typically leads to more sin. An example would be David's sin of adultery with Bathsheba. That was bad enough, but it lead to more sin in that David had her husband Uriah the Hittite killed in an attempt to cover it up.

As God says of His people in Jeremiah 9:3, "For they proceed from evil to evil." This progression of sin is inevitable because "the eyes of man are never satisfied" (Proverbs 27:20). The carnal man craves the lusts of the flesh, seeking to fulfill "the desires of the flesh and of the mind" (Ephesians 2:3). If not effectively dealt with through confession (1 John 1:9) and repentance (Acts 17:30), this unrestrained desire can dictate and dominate one's life.

As Paul graphically describes in Ephesians 4:19, "Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, with a continual lust for more." This depicts a constant craving and desperate desire that will never be satisfied. Because "the eye is not satisfied with seeing, nor the ear filled with hearing" (Ecclesiastes 1:8).

David gives a first-hand account of what it's like to be caught in the quagmire. "For innumerable evils have surrounded me; my iniquities have overtaken me, so that I am not able to look up; they are more than the hairs of my head; therefore, my heart fails

me" (Psalm 40:12). Clearly, David is in a desperate situation, shouldering an unbearable spiritual burden. His sins have caught up with him. They are numerous and too heavy to bear. His being unable to "look up" conveys deep shame and despair. His heart has failed him. This is a sad state of total spiritual and emotional collapse. He can no longer go on. Desperation and despondency have drained him of all his strength and courage. Again, this is where sin leads.

And yet, even in the depths of despair, with God there is always hope! To his credit, in this most dreadful and dismal situation, David chooses the correct action. He confesses and repents of his sins. And the Lord faithfully responds. As David describes his deliverance, pay close attention to the "quagmire" language: "I waited patiently for the Lord; and He inclined to me, and heard my cry. He also brought me up out of a horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my steps" (Psalm 40:1-2).

By his own effort, David could not have freed himself. Only God could do that. And He can do the same for you! (read Psalm 34).

— 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 fill out a visitor's card before you leave.
 Thank you. Have a great week!*

Herod Antipas bore the title of tetrarch and is referred to as "Herod the Tetrarch" and "King Herod" in the New Testament. He is generally remembered for his role in events that led to the executions of John the Baptist and Jesus. On a visit to Rome he stayed with his brother Herod Philip and, while there, fell in love with his wife, Herodias. The two agreed to marry after Herod Antipas had divorced his first wife Phasa'el, the daughter of King Aretas IV of Nabatea (Arabia). King Aretas then went to war against Herod's armies, where King Herod suffered a devastating defeat. The Gospels record that Herod imprisoned John the Baptist when he boldly stated that marrying his brother's wife was unlawful. He later had John beheaded at the vindictive urging of Herodias. According to Josephus, Herod Antipas was accused by his nephew Agrippa I in AD 39 of conspiracy against Emperor Caligula, who sent him into exile in Gaul. Tradition holds that, while in exile, both Herod and Herodias committed suicide. 📖

Visits to Our Web Page

Last Week: 10,783
This Month: 23,615



SNACKS!

August 16: Erica
August 23: Terry

Attendance & Contribution

for August 9, 2026

Attendance — 20
Contribution — \$491

Order of Worship

August 16, 2026

*"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—17

Opening Prayer: *Wayne Sampson*

Song—13

Scripture Reading: *David Larrabee*
~ Mark 6:14-20 ~

Song—293

The Lord's Supper
Louis Bureau (lead) Jeremy Raymond

Song—346

Sermon: *Terry Schmidt*
"The Pernicious Power of Pride
and Peer Pressure"

Song—336

Announcements & Closing Prayer
Jim Miller

Alternates: *George Cuvellier;
Jason Kennedy; 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 16, 2026

### 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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