



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) - at 77 years of age, now needs a cane & walker to get around; recent MRI on her brain brought a discouraging report; also has 2 heart blockages, but meds are working
- Escalating politically motivated violence and shootings - across our country
- Jose' Cruz Lopez - Bible student at Brown Trail School of Preaching in Bedford, Texas training for full-time ministry in the Lord's service
- 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



*"I have called upon Thee,
for Thou wilt hear me,
O God: incline Thine
ear unto me and hear
my speech."*

(Psalm 17:6)

Their Heart Was Hardened



There is a very interesting verse in our Mark 6 text today, which can be easily misunderstood or misrepresented. After Jesus got in the disciple's boat on the Sea of Galilee, after walking on the water to them, our text reads: "Then He went up into the boat to them, and the wind ceased. And they were greatly amazed in themselves beyond measure, and marveled. For they had not understood about the loaves, because their heart was hardened" (vv. 51-52). We can certainly understand, after seeing the Lord walking on the water, the disciples being amazed and marveling at this miraculous occurrence. However, it is more difficult to understand what is meant by the phrase "because their heart was hardened."

Usually, when a heart is described as hardened, it refers to one whose heart is calloused - emotionally insensitive and spiritually unreceptive. As in the case of Pharaoh in Exodus, his hardened heart was rebellious towards the word of God and disobedient to His will. But this cannot be said of the Lord's Apostles (except for Judas, of course). So, what exactly is the meaning of the disciples having hardened hearts? How are we to understand this? After all, the Lord did not rebuke or chastise them. Instead, He treated them with gentleness and compassion, encouraging and comforting them with the words: "Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid" (v. 50).

First of all, the Lord understood that these men were physically, mentally and emotionally exhausted. They had been toiling at the oars for hours, straining against unrelenting headwinds in an effort to obey the Lord's command to cross the sea from Capernaum to Bethsaida. Jesus understands our mortal weakness and human frailties. "As a father pities his children, so the LORD pities those who fear Him. For He knows our [weak] frame; He remembers that we are dust" (Ps 103:13-14). This why the Lord had such compassion on the multitudes and, "while we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (Rom 5:6-8).

The hearts of the disciples are described as hardened because they had not learned the lesson of what it meant when Jesus fed the 5000. They had failed to grasp the spiritual significance of Jesus' miraculous provision. They should have recognized Jesus' divine authority from the magnitude of the miracle, but it seems they didn't. They had a lack of understanding as to Jesus' true identity, His divine power, and the spiritual nature of His mission. Time and time again, the Lord was compelled to ask them, "Do you not yet understand?" (Mt 15:17; 16:9; 16:11; Mk 8:17; 8:21).

The hardened hearts of the disciples was not spiritual rebellion, but a spiritual dullness—a lack of spiritual perception and insight. They had not understood the real meaning of the feeding of the 5000. It seems at this stage in the Lord's ministry, their minds just could not grasp it. If they had truly comprehended this, then seeing Jesus walk on water would not have surprised and terrified them—it would have confirmed what they already knew and accepted. — **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

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😊 **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!*

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Mike Doucette - September 14th
Genesis Cuvellier - September 26th



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

A Note to the Ladies: If you need coverage for your Sunday snack, call or text Kathleen Judkins at: 207-608-2488. Thank you! 😊

Visits to Our Web Page

Last Week: 9,067
This Month: 16,957



SNACKS!

Sept 13: Paula
Sept 20: Betty

Attendance & Contribution

for September 6, 2026

Attendance — 28
Contribution — \$864

Order of Worship

September 13, 2026

"Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands. Serve the LORD with gladness: come before His presence with singing."

📖 - Psalm 100:1-2 - 📖

Song Leader: Terry Schmidt

Song—68

Opening Prayer: Jason Kennedy

Song—23

Scripture Reading: David Larrabee
~ Mark 6:45-52 ~

Song—316

The Lord's Supper
Wayne Sampson (lead) & Mike Doucette

Song—43

Sermon: Terry Schmidt
"Depending on Jesus Through Life's Storms"

Song—613

Announcements & Closing Prayer
Louis Bureau

Alternates: George Cuvellier;
Jim Miller; Jeremy Raymond

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Lord's Supper Prep: Pat Miller

## Southern Maine Church of Christ

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

September 13, 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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