

### **Prayer Requests:**

*"Pray for one another"* - James 5:16 -

- Louis Bureau underwent surgery on 4/9 to repair a damaged tendon on his left shoulder; also requests prayers for his family
- Josiah Carelse & Family working with the Lord's church in Cape Town, South Africa
- <u>Glenda Castleberry</u> diagnosed with liver cancer; stage & treatment not known
- <u>Diane Cote</u> left leg amputated to the knee as a result of diabetes; undergoing prosthetic rehab
- <u>Filomena Derecho</u> (Cathy's mother in the Philippines) numerous health issues
- <u>Kate Ivory</u> (niece of Robbie Andrews) Please pray for her spiritual welfare as she studies God's word with our brother Robbie
- <u>Kathleen Judkins</u> scheduled for knee replacement surgery for her left knee on Sept 23rd
- <u>Anita Messervy</u> (Kathleen's niece) prayers of thanks requested, as a recent tumor found in her lung was not cancerous
- <u>Richard Miles</u> (Kathleen's nephew) undergoing chemo & radiation to combat a rare sarcoma after having a football-size tumor removed
- <u>Alivia Schmidt</u> (Terry & Betty's granddaughter) suffering with Crohn's Disease at 15 years old
- <u>Henry Terrill</u> undergoing radiation treatments for prostate cancer (localized in the prostate)
- Please pray that we might find a suitable and affordable permanent *meeting place*
- Please pray for *our nation* (1 Timothy 2:1-3)
- Please pray for <u>those not with us today</u> the sick & suffering and those who are spiritually weak & struggling

"The eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and His ears are open unto their prayers."

 $\sim 1$  Peter 3:12  $\sim$ 

### Living Faithfully by Jim Miller

Most folks sincerely believe that the reward for righteous living will come when this life is over, for such is what the Bible teaches. One becomes a child of God through obedience (Rom 6:17-18). The Bible compares the life of a Christian to a race; the prize in this race comes only after the race is completed (Heb. 12:1-2). In this race for eternal life, there are at least six things we must do:

**BE DILIGENT IN OUR SERVICE** - "Brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure" (2 Pet 1:10). God "is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him" (Heb 11:6). To be diligent means to "exert oneself." Thus, if we seek heaven when this life is over, a faithful Christian must expend energy – do something, as opposed to "taking it easy."

**CONTINUE STEADFASTLY** – Early Christians "continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and in fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and prayers" (Acts 2:42). Continuing steadfastly means "to be strong towards" and "to endure in or persevere." This means that he will assemble with the saints at every opportunity (Heb 10:25); worship God in spirit and in truth (Jn 4:24); study the Bible (2 Tim 2:15); and do good "unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith" (Gal 6:10).

**BE FAITHFUL UNTO DEATH** - The apostle Paul said "I count not myself to apprehended" (Phil 3:12). He knew that he had not yet gained the victory. Rather, he was forgetting the things of the past and pressing on, so he might gain the prize at the end of the way. The Lord Himself said: "be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life" (Rev 2:10).

**CONTINUE IN THE DOCTRINE** - In 1 Tim 4:16, Paul instructs the young preacher to "take heed to yourself and unto the doctrine; continue in them; for in doing this thou shalt save thyself and them that hear thee." Notice that Paul tells Timothy to pay attention to what he does, but to also pay attention to that which is taught; the gospel. This is precisely what the first Christians did on the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2:42).

**BE STEADFAST & UNMOVABLE** – "Be steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord" (1 Cor 15:58). To be "steadfast" is used metaphorically of moral fixity; to be "unmovable" is to remain firm and to not be moving; and to be always "abounding in the work of the Lord" is similar to what Jesus said when, having been left behind in Jerusalem when He was 12, "Know ye not that I must be about my Father's business?" (Lk 2:49).

**WORK** - Jesus realized that we only have a limited amount of time to spend accomplishing the task assigned to us (Mk 16:15; Mt 28:18-20), for He noted "I must work the works of Him that sent Me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work" (Jn 9:4). Just as Jesus had a job to do, we do too. Certainly, if Jesus was concerned with doing everything the Father wanted Him to do, we also should be just as concerned.

Living a life of faithful service to God includes obedience (Lk 6:46). We should study the word of God, and then obey it. Then we continue in the grace of God to "work out your salvation with, fear and trembling" (Phil 2:12). It will be a wonderful thing if, when we come to the end of life's way and stand before the Judge, we will hear Him say, "Well done thou good and faithful servant." If we can help you in your obedience, please tell us how.

"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



Members of churches of Christ seek to restore in our time the original New Testament church. In the latter part of the eighteenth century, men of different denominations studying independently of each other, in various parts of the world, began pleading with everyone to throw off denominationalism, throw away human creeds, and follow only the Bible. They emphasized that going back to the Bible did not mean the establishment of another denomination, but rather a return to the original church. Members of churches of Christ are enthusiastic about this approach. With the Bible as our only guide, we seek to find what the original church was like and restore it here in the 21st century. For this reason, we are not interested in man-made creeds, but simply in the New Testament pattern. Since only the New Testament sets forth Christ's instructions to His disciples, it alone must serve as the basis for all religious teaching and practice. Churches of Christ plead for religious unity based on the Bible. And the only way to achieve unity is by a return to the Bible. This is the reason the New Testament is the only rule of faith and practice we have in churches of Christ.

> — adapted from *The Churches of Christ* ... *Who Are These People* by Joe Barnett

Visits to Our Web Page

Last Week: 7,558 This Month: 14,191



August 18: Pat Aug 25: Kathleen

Attendance & Contribution for August 11, 2024

> Attendance — 18 Contribution — \$444

Order of Worship

#### August 18, 2024

"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-2

Opening Prayer: George Cuvellier

Song-33

Scripture Reading: Jason Kennedy ~ John 12:48 ~

Song-313

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

Song-231

Sermon: *Jim Miller* "Faith is the Victory, Part 2"

Song-559

Announcements & Closing Prayer George Cuvellier

Alternate: Jason Kennedy

Lord's Supper Prep: Paula Kennedy

# **Southern Maine Church of Christ**

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

## August 18, 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 -

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