

BIDDEFORD CHURCH OF CHRIST

266 POOL STREET - P.O. BOX 331 - BIDDEFORD, ME 04005

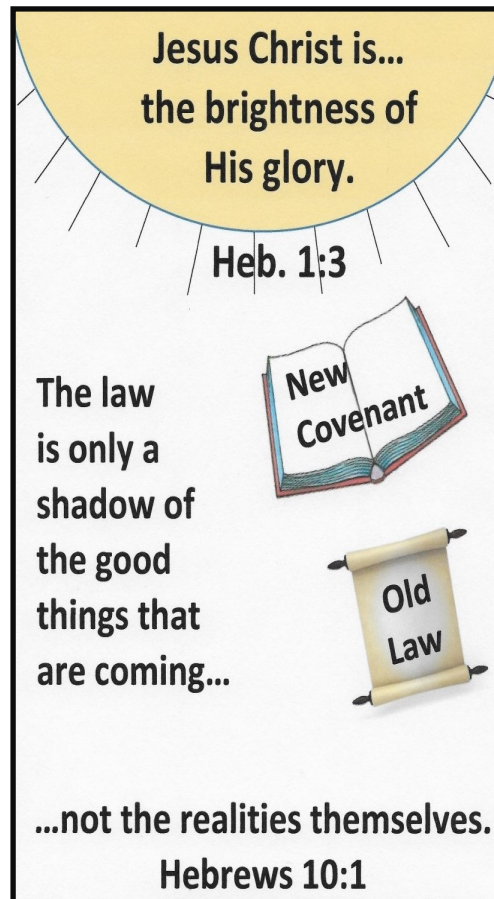
JANUARY 29, 2017

CHRISTIAN ATHLETICS ARTICLE BY DENNIS GODIN

As God inspired His writers to pen the words we now call our bible, He did so in order the help relate a message of hope and purpose. The hope, of course, is found in the "gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes" (Romans 1:16). Our purpose, at least in part, is to be "the salt of the earth," or, putting it another way, "the light of the world" (Matthew 5:13-14). The one-another verses we have been walking through in Sunday morning bible class are God's way of helping us understand how we can be that salt...that light. That walk can at times seem rigorous.

***Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize?
1st Corinthians 9:24***

The imagery used by God to help us visualize the Christian walk is helpful to me, and I suspect to you as well. In the above verse, God wants us to see of life here as Christians, as kind of a race. All of us know that there is usually only one winner in a race. So, how should we approach this



Christian race? "Run in such a way that you may obtain it" (1st Corinthians 9:24). Here is where we find that somewhat awkward tension in our Christian walks. We should, and dare I say, must, walk in this world with confidence in our eternal life we have received through Christ (1st John 5:13). At the same time, that confidence should not result in complacency; but instead, renewed vigor to want to bring glory to the one who has given us life. Paul said it this way, ***"Therefore I run***

SCHEDULE OF ASSEMBLIES

SUNDAY
BIBLE CLASS 9:30A.M.
WORSHIP 10:45 A.M.
MID-WEEK STUDY
WEDNESDAY 7-8 P.M.
(BIDDEFORD)

Elders

Brad Shaw (207)878-4124
Tony Lemay (207)651-3369
Dennis Godin (207)651-3588

Deacons

John Carter (207)229-8516
Matt Sampson (207)251-3030

Ministry Leaders & Staff

Education - Antonio Balsamo
(207)286-0514
Worship - Abe Damuth
(207)608-1784
Grounds - Mark Foley
(207)284-3816
Building - Joe Romano
(207)281-3929
Fin./Benev. - John Carter
(207)229-8516
Fellowship - Matt Sampson
(207)251-3030
Secretary - Mike Wickwar
(207) 432-2272

Ladies Ministry

Debbie Godin (207)286-4821
Barbara Lemay (207)850-0084

BIDDEFORD CHURCH OF CHRIST

AS EACH PART DOES ITS WORK

How important is encouragement to you? Note someone you have not seen in worship lately and give them a call or send them a card. Who knows, your words of encouragement could make an eternal difference.

"Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" - Acts 16:30

Hear the Gospel - John 6:44-45; Romans 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; 10:22; Heb 5:9; Rev 2:10

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"Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved."

~ Acts 4:12 ~

Ladies Corner

Our next Ladies meeting will be during the congregational breakfast on February 4th.

Thank You,

Debbie and Barbara

Last Week's Numbers:

Attendance: 41 Contribution: \$ 935.71

CHRISTIAN ATHLETICS (CONTINUED)

thus: not with uncertainty. Thus I fight: not as one who beats the air. But I discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified" (1st Corinthians 9:26-27).

Now let's place this in context and make application. First, if you look at the verses leading to those mentioned above, you'll find Paul talking about a couple of things: the right to eat meat sacrificed to idols and the right for Paul to receive pay. Our "rights" so often can hinder our purpose as Christians. Through Christ, Paul had made himself "a servant to all, that I might win more" (1st Corinthians 9:19) by setting aside his rights, to further the gospel. This idea of dying to self is not easy to do! It takes discipline! It takes training! It takes commitment! May God empower us to run with vigor the "*race set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith*" (Hebrew 12:1-2).

Dennis

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We're on Facebook– Biddeford church of Christ is on Facebook! There is a profile, which is public, and there is a closed group, for current Biddeford church family only, where we can share photos, prayer requests, announcements, etc. The public cannot see posts in the BCOC FB group. Only members can.

Men Leading in Worship - The men who serve in worship are asked to meet in the cry room or, if it is in use, a classroom promptly at 10:30 to confirm assignments and go to God in prayer.

Building Lights - If you are the last person leaving the building, please be sure to turn off all the lights, check that all windows are shut, and the doors are locked.

Bulletin /- Prayer List - If you have a prayer request or an announcement for the bulletin, please contact Mike Wickwar at 432-2272 or email him at mickwick@yahoo.com by Friday of each week. Anything given after Friday may not make it into that Sunday's bulletin.

Reminder: Please turn off your cell phone or place it on vibrate during Bible study and worship.

We care what you think - If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions, feel free to write them down on a piece of paper, then sign it and place it in the box. We will get back to you as soon as possible. Thanks for your help.

Monthly Bulletins– One per family, please. If you would like another copy, you can find it on our website, biddefordchurchofchrist.com. You can also listen to sermons on the website.

Updating the Prayer List - Please review the prayer list. If there is a prayer request initiated by you, it is important you contact Mike Wickwar with updates. Thank you.

Upcoming Events - Please check your calendars

Life Groups– February 5th & 19th

Congregational Breakfast - February 4th at 8:30 a.m.

Potluck - February 5th

Singing Nights - Wednesday February 22nd (7 p.m. Biddeford)

Happy Birthday! Joe Romano February 6th

Clark Parker February 7th

Debbie Godin February 10th

Carolyn Balsamo February 15th

Lisa Sampson February 28th

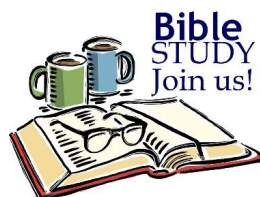
Happy Anniversary! John & Lisa Carter February 6th

Annual Incorporation Meeting - Today after services.

Building Usage - Our building will be in use Saturday 3/11 from 2PM to 5PM. Please note.

MID-WEEK BIBLE CLASSES

Biddeford
Wednesdays
7:00-8:00 p.m.



Sanford
Thursdays
6:00-7:00 p.m.

YOUR ATTENDANCE WOULD BE SUCH AN ENCOURAGEMENT!

ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR TODAY

Song #474 *Thank You Lord*

Announcements—Shepherd

Opening Prayer - Robert Balsamo

Song #991 *This Is My Father's World*

Song #383 *Jesus, Keep Me Near The Cross*

Lord's Supper - Mike Wickwar, Chris Stephenson, James Butler

Song #242 *Sing Hallelujah To The Lord*

Contribution

Song #979 *I Am A Poor Wayfaring Stranger*

Prayer - John Carter

Song #648 *Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus*

Scripture Reading - Lenny Spano
1 Peter 2:9

Lesson - Matt Sampson
The Value of You and I
Lesson Text: 1 Peter 2:9

Song #957 *This World Is Not My Home*

Closing Prayer—Shepherd



Song Leader: Antonio Balsamo

Greeter: Jessica Damuth

Communion Prep: Barbara Lemay

NEXT WEEK'S SERVICE SCHEDULE:

Song Leader - Robert Balsamo

Opening Prayer - John Carter

Lord's Supper - Antonio Balsamo, Rufilo Lawrance, Mike Wickwar

Prayer - Matt Sampson

Scripture Reading - Mark Foley

Greeter - Brenda Butler

Communion Prep - Jessica Damuth

WELCOME VISITORS



We here at the Biddeford church of Christ pray your visit with us today is enjoyable and uplifting. Please stay around after services so that we can get to know you better. We all strive to put Christ first in our lives and make the Bible our principle guide for living.

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.BIDDEFORDCHURCHOFCHRIST.COM
