

**New Announcements  
And Prayer Requests**

Scripture Reading Sunday Today  
Potluck Today  
Brenda Butler-Struggling with depression

**Sermon Notes**

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# Order of Worship

**Song #509** *I Will Sing the Wondrous Story*  
**Announcements** - Shepherd  
**Opening Prayer** - Brad Shaw  
**Song #589** *Leaning on the Everlasting Arms*  
**Scripture Reading 1**– 2 Corinthians 2  
**Song #332** *Lead Me to Calvary*  
**Lord’s Supper** - Joe Romano, Larry Butler, John Marescot  
**Song #383** *Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross*  
**Contribution**  
**Scripture Reading 2**– 2 Corinthians 3  
**Song #484** *You Are My All in All*  
**Prayer** - Robert Balsamo  
**Scripture Reading 3**– 2 Corinthians 4  
**Song #611** *Heavenly Sunlight*  
**Scripture Reading 4**-2 Corinthians 5  
**Song #853** *When We All Get to Heaven*  
**Closing Prayer** - Shepherd  
  
Song Leader - Antonio Balsamo  
Greeter - Brenda Butler  
Communion Prep - Barbara Lemay

Last Week’s Numbers  
Attendance: 46 Contribution: \$573

THE BIDDEFORD  
CHURCH OF CHRIST  
WELCOMES YOU!



***Therefore, as we have  
opportunity,  
let us do good to all...***



***...Especially to those who  
are of the household  
of faith.***

***Galatians 6:10***

**JULY 24, 2016**

Biddeford church of Christ  
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## 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.

## This Week's Events

**Today Potluck**

**Wednesday 7/27/16 Singing**

7 - 8 p.m. (Biddeford)

**Thursday 7/28/16 Singing**

6-7 p.m. (Sanford)

**Sunday 7/31/16 Guest Preacher**

## Happy Birthday!

Mike Wickwar - July 26

Linda Barnes - July 27

Lenny Spano - July 28

Ian Sampson - July 28

## Happy Anniversary!

Brad & Brenda Shaw - July 27

## Next Week's Service Schedule

Song Leader - Robert Balsamo

Opening Prayer - Antonio Balsamo

Lord's Supper - John Carter, Matt

Sampson, Ruffalo Lawrance

Prayer - Lloyd Small

Scripture Reading- Larry Butler

Greeter - Linda Barnes

Communion Prep - Brenda Butler

## To the church of God

Today is scripture reading Sunday where we read some chapters out of the word of God, and spend some time in prayer. The text which has been chosen today is found in 2nd Corinthians chapters 2 through 5. I have been asked to write an article in preparation for today. I would like to begin with something we find in chapter 1:1 where Paul writes, "To the church of God which is in Corinth, with all the saints who are in all Achaia." I begin here because I find comfort in these words. The church in Corinth had some growing up to do, but that did not keep them from being God's church. Amen!

The stresses of ministry are apparent in Paul's word, "for out of much affliction and anguish of heart" he wrote to them "with many tears" (2:4). After challenging them concerning a grave sinful situation among them (1st Corinthians 5), he now exhorts them to care for a repentant brother. He then speaks about the triumphant journey that is in Christ and the "fragrance of His knowledge in every place" (2:14). That gospel message has an aroma of both life and death, depending on how those receive it.

Chapter 3 opens with Paul acknowledging that there is no need for letters of recommendation, for "you are our epistle written in our hearts" (3:2); that is, the transformation of those in the church at Corinth was all that was needed. The confidence in the ministry came from God and the work of the Spirit (3:4-6, Note Titus 3:4-7). The Old law was glorious (Note Romans 7:12, holy), but the gospel

(New Covenant) was "much more glorious" (3:11). Paul, a "Hebrew of Hebrews" (Philippians 3:5) speaks of the Jews who were still veiled, unable to see the hope of the gospel.

As chapter 4 opens, there is again comfort found in these words. Paul acknowledges that the gospel can be veiled (4:3), but only by those who are perishing, "whose minds the god of this age has blinded" (4:4). Paul job, along with all those involved in God's redemptive work, was to shine the light and proclaim Christ. At times, that would not be easy, "for we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus sake" (4:11). Paul, experiencing these trials, exhorts his readers to focus more on the eternal and less on the temporary.

Chapter 5 helps us look more intently to the eternal. He anticipates what is waiting for him after this life. While doing that he says that "we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be pleasing to Him" (5:9). Such a task was made easier because of their understanding of "the love of Christ" (5:14). They were willingly "ambassadors for Christ" (5:20) for one reason, which is our reason; that is, "He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him" (5:21).

*Dennis*