

**New Announcements
And Prayer Requests**

Bert Bouchard and family- continued prayers

Spring Work Day– May 14

Prayer Chain– a new, simplified prayer chain has been created. If you didn't receive a prayer chain text, email, or call please talk with Sarah.

Everyone is invited! Doug Marescot's birthday party is Saturday May 7 at the building 12:30-2:30 Please RSVP

*And the things you have heard me say
In the presence of many witnesses
entrust to reliable people who will also
be qualified to teach others. 2 Tim. 2:2*

Wanted: Children's Ministry Teachers - Are you a parent? Do you like working with young people? Are you interested in participating in the raising up of the next generation of Christians? If so, God's Church needs you. We currently have a need for teachers in at all levels (toddlers, pre-school, k-2, pre-teens and teens). Contact Antonio Balsamo - 207-286-0514 - abalsamo@maine.rr.com

Order of Worship

Song #121 *Come, Let Us All Unite to Sing*

Announcements - Shepherd

Opening Prayer - Robert Balsamo

Song #226 *O Thou Fount of Every Blessing (F)*

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

Lord's Supper - Matt Sampson, John Marescot, Chris Stephenson

Song #134 *The Lord's My Shepherd*

Contribution

Song #77 *Glorify Thy Name*

Prayer - Lloyd Small

Song #250 *The Great Redeemer*

Scripture Reading - Larry Butler
2nd Corinthians 5:16-21

Lesson - Dennis Godin
He is the Reason
Text: 2nd Corinthians 5:14-15

Song #589 *Leaning on the Everlasting Arms*

Closing Prayer - Shepherd

Song Leader - Antonio Balsamo
Greeter - Linda Barnes
Communion Prep - Ana Bouchard

Last Week's Numbers
Attendance: 41 Contribution: \$1,488

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

MAY 1, 2016

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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 Life Groups

Wednesday 5/4/16 Bible Study
7 - 8 p.m. (Biddeford)

Thursday 5/5/16 Bible Study
6-7 p.m. (Sanford)

Sunday 5/8/16 Mother's Day
(sorry, no potluck)

Saturday 5/14/16 Congregational
Breakfast & Work Day

Happy Birthday!

Douglas Marescot - May 10

Rufilo Lawrance - May 13

Louis Bureau Sr. - May 14

Brenda Butler - May 24

Happy Anniversary!

Mike & Maria Wickwar - May 19

Rufilo & Candis Lawrance - May 20

Next Week's Service Schedule

Song Leader - Robert Balsamo

Opening Prayer - Brad Shaw

Lord's Supper - Joe Romano, John
Carter, Rufilo Lawrance

Prayer - Larry Butler

Scripture Reading- Abe Damuth

Greeter - Barbara Lemay

Communion Prep - Jessica Damuth

He Is the Reason

As we look into the responsibility we have for one another and those outside the church (Galatians 6:10), it is easy to lose focus. For me, loss of focus happens when the "to do list" becomes the center of my attention. As always, one thing leads to another. When I begin to lose focus, I tend to deviate from the path in which I am called to walk. What is that path? 1st John 2:6 says, "He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked." So, I think it can be helpful to remind ourselves of the reason for doing the things we are called to do: for it is much more than a to do list.

*For the love of Christ compels us,
because we judge this: that
if One died for all, then all died ...*
2nd Corinthians 5:14

This text I tend to gravitate towards when I struggle for reasons to continue forward in service to others. When doubts arise (they have and they will) and frustration seeks to grab hold of me, I need to faithfully look to the sufficient work of Christ: a work that is the greatest expression of love that anyone could encounter. Paul says that this love "compels us." The Greek word means to urge, impel. The ETRV translates this Greek word in 2nd Corinthians 5:14 as "controls." The love of Christ is the source of my Christian activity, or at least it supposed to be.

*... and He died for all, that those who
live should live no longer for
themselves, but for Him who died
for them and rose again.*

2nd Corinthians 5:15

My focus turns to the cross, knowing that Christ "died for all." "For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly" (Romans 5:6). He died for me, an ungodly man, with the purpose to not only redeem me, but also "that those who live should live no longer for themselves." Paul said it this way in Galatians 2:20, "I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me." Life is no longer about me, but about Him: And not just Him, but also His body, the church, the very thing He purchased with His blood (Acts 20:28). One commentator says, "The way one can live for him who died and was raised is to live to build up the church, which is his body." Still another writes, "The outcome of Christian self-denial is a Christ-centered life filled with concern for others."

Satan and this world continuously seeks to draw our attention (my attention) to the cares of this world and away from Christ and His church. What brings everything back into focus is the sufficient work of Christ on the cross. He is the reason for everything we do: first for His church and also for this lost and dying world.

Dennis