

Prayer Requests

- ◆ Marescot's - Good guardians of Doug; John -cancer treatment, being compassionate; Keasha-back., staying positive.
- ◆ Cindy Fortier -recovery from surgery.
- ◆ TJ Balsamo in Marine Boot Camp.
- ◆ Gabriele Little Husband-Ill, Brother-ALS.
- ◆ Mary McVivar Erik's friend kidney disease
- ◆ Linda Barnes - Pacemaker in, heart issues.
- ◆ Brenda Butler prayers for self and family.
- ◆ Marion Goodwin - Replaced heart valve.
- ◆ Glory Parker - Health/travel.
- ◆ Jerry Hilton-Pray for his return to the body.
- ◆ Prayers for the Spiritual and Physical well being of the church and all its members.

Address For TJ Balsamo

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MCRD PARRIS ISLAND, SC 29905-2101

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
BuildingJoe Romano.....(207)281-3929
Fellowship....Matt Sampson...(207)251-3030
Finance.....John Carter.....(207)229-8516
Benevolence..JohnCarter.....(207)229-8516
Secretary.....Mike Wickwar.....(207)432-2272

Ladies Ministry

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

Order of Worship

Song 712 *Jesus Is Coming Soon*

Announcements - Shepherd

Opening Prayer - Brad Shaw

**Song 722 *Let The Beauty Of
Jesus Be Seen***

Song 337 *Hallelujah! What A Savior*

**Lord's Supper - John Marescot, Robert
Balsamo, David Lawrance**

Song 266 *Majesty*

Contribution

**Song 703 *I Love You With
The Love Of The Lord***

Prayer - Joe Romano

Song 958 *In My Father's House*

**Scripture Reading - Lenny Spano
*Proverbs 4:20-27***

Lesson - Dennis Godin

Protection of The Heart

Lesson Text: *Proverbs 4:23*

Song 989 *Soon And Very Soon*

Closing Prayer - Shepherd

Song Leader - Antonio Balsamo

Greeter - Barbara Lemay

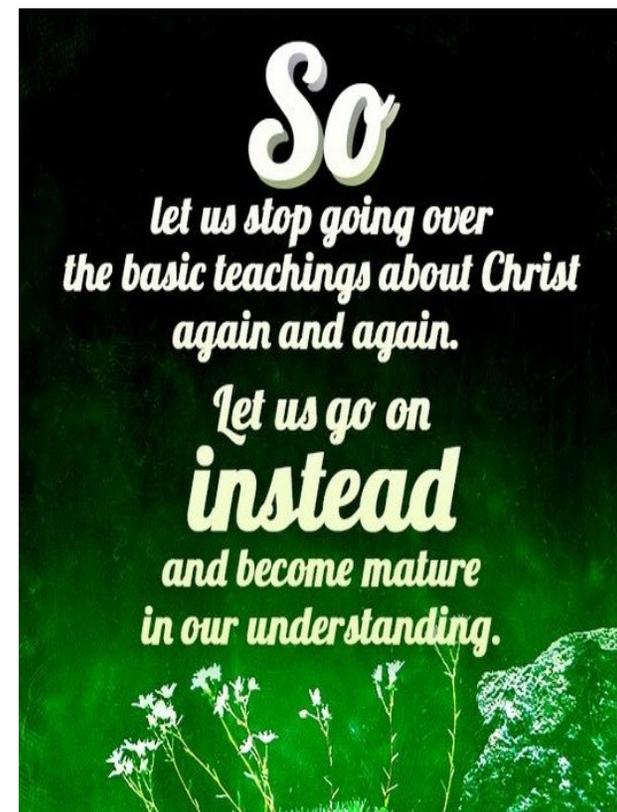
Communion Prep - Deborah Godin

Last Week's Numbers

Attendance: 35 Contribution: \$1093.82

***Live the Gospel at all times;
When opportunity is there...
Preach It!***

**THE BIDDEFORD
CHURCH OF CHRIST
WELCOMES YOU!**



MARCH 25, 2018

Biddeford Church of Christ

266 Pool Street, Biddeford ME 04005

Biddefordchurchofchrist.com

(207) 284-7123

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

Tuesday 3/27
Singing

Birthdays
Angel Velez 3/24
Gavin Sampson 3/24

Please review the Prayer List and the posted Member Directory.
Notify Mike Wickwar of any changes.

Next Week's Service Schedule

Song Leader - Robert Balsamo
Opening Prayer - Brad Shaw
Lord's Supper Angel Velez, Erik Cote, Lenny Spano
Prayer - John Carter
Scripture Reading - Abraham Damuth
Greeter - Jessica Damuth
Communion Prep - Brenda Butler

Protection Of The Heart

I think it would be helpful to briefly explain this idea of the 15 Invaluable Laws of Growth: the reason being, in part, revolves around the word "law" and what is meant by it. In the Christian mind, law is often understood as the revelation of the will of God set forth in the Old Testament. So, since we have been freed from "law" through Christ, why are we spending so much time talking about...well...laws? In the class we are covering, the meaning of "law" is different than that which we commonly associate it with; it means, a statement of an order or relation of phenomena that so far as is known is invariable (i.e., consistent) under given conditions. We actually speak of this type of law when we say, "For every action there is an equal and opposite reaction" (Newton's third law of Motion). So, the way the term "law" is being used in our class is this; whatever our action may be, there is a natural result due to that action. I will come back to this in a moment.

The whole purpose behind going through these classes is to help encourage, and even give some structure, to our need to grow. The need for us to "grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" (2nd Peter 3:18) is biblical and not absent of good reasons. Maturity (i.e., growth) helps us to "prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God" (Romans 12:2), keeping us from being "tossed to and fro and carried about by every wind of doctrine" (Ephesians 4:14) and equipping us "for every good work" (2nd Timothy 3:17). The neglect of this maturing process is expressed in these sobering words in Hosea 4:6, "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge." Although we may all learn at different paces, have different abilities when it comes to learning, that fact is clear from God, He wants us to seek knowledge of Him and His ways. But that is only part of the picture.

Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life.
Proverbs 4:23, NIV

The NKJV uses the word diligence when it comes to guarding your heart. To drive it home even more, listen to the ETRV, "The most important thing is for you to be careful in the things you think." NO stinking thinking! Once again, I reflect on the Law of the Mirror that talks in part about self-talk; that is, what we say to self about self and other things. Remember, by law we mean, that with every action there is a reasonable action in return. So, if you keep repeating words like "I can't" or "I'm not able" or "I'm stupid...dumb...fat...ugly..." and the list can go on: eventually you will come to believe it and act in accordance with it. We need to guard...be careful...be diligent in protecting ourselves from this form of thinking. Ironically, this happens in part by our willingness to grow, taking God at His word.

Our hearts, which is just another way of talking about our minds, are the "wellspring of life" or as the ETRV says, "Your thoughts control your life." Out of our thoughts "spring the issues of life" (NKJV). Remember, for every action of the mind, we set the stage for an equal and opposite reaction; that is, how we ultimately act (how we live life). Jesus spoke of this when He said, "For out of the abundance of the heart his mouth [man's] speaks." This gives us abundant reason for not only growing in Christ; but also, protecting the mind that God has blessed us with. In so doing, we are better prepared to think in a godly manner which will result in us acting more like Christ.

Dennis

Sermon Notes
