

BIDDEFORD CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

FEBRUARY 24, 2019

“UNDERSTANDING HOPE” BY DENNIS GODIN

I want to begin this article with a question that I recently heard, “If you knew that in 30 days’ time Jesus was returning, what would you do to get things ready for inspection?” What a great question to ask on so many levels. The question did cause me concern and I will get into the why in a minute. Last Sunday, as I read Romans 14:12, a number of faces in the auditorium appeared troubled. Here is the verse again, “So then each of us shall give account of himself to God.” Biblically speaking, there will be no warning, for Christ’s coming will be “as a thief in the night” (1st Thessalonians 5:2). Jesus reveals it with these words, “And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth” (Matthew 25:30). Judgment is coming and that reality is unnerving! Or is it?

***But let us who are of the day
be sober, putting on the
breastplate
of faith and love, and as a helmet
the hope of salvation.***

1st Thessalonians 5:8

For the Christian, our journey homeward involves numerous choices along the way, some of which Paul mentions in the verse above. In the above



verse, the word sober means *to be calm and collected in spirit*. As we anticipate that day, when we see our Savior face to face, we need to be calm. As we observe in v6, what accompanies this mindset is watchfulness, for we do live in a dark world. The Spirit guided Paul to emphasize this sober mind with an imagery of armor; that is, the breastplate and helmet (take a moment and read Ephesians 6:10-20) which one commentator says are “the two most important defensive items.” It is here where I wish us to focus on for a moment. The helmet is “the hope of salvation”! As one person expressed, this speaks of “a sure and certain expectation.” Let me put it this way, the Christian should be able to say, “I am saved; thus, I will anticipate the salvation that I have received when Jesus comes.” We have every reason to HOPE and live each day in that HOPE which is Christ!

SCHEDULE OF ASSEMBLIES

SUNDAY
BIBLE CLASS 9:30A.M.
WORSHIP 10:45 A.M.
MID-WEEK STUDY
TUESDAY 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
Youth - Angel Velez
(207)730-9889
Worship - Abe Damuth
(207)608-1784
Building - Joe Romano
(207)281-3929
Grounds - Lenny Spano
(207)569-8800
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

We need your help planning and setting up Ladies Day!!

Please return your surveys ASAP.

Thank You,
Debbie and Barbara

Last Week's Numbers:

Attendance: 41 Contribution: \$ 780.00

"UNDERSTANDING HOPE" (CONTINUED)

For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, that whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with Him.

1st Thessalonians 5:9-10

It is true, we are works in progress and we should be doing our best to progress... right? But my hope is not in my progress! Right? Or is it? You see, when I gasp at the idea of Christ's return, I do so because I am looking at myself separate from His redemptive work in my life. The fear or doubt is there because I see me and not Him. True, there may be some who need to be honest about the genuineness of their walks, but I am not talking to them. If you have come to know Jesus as Savior, been washed in the watery grave of baptism, then know that "He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, in whom we have REDEMPTION through HIS BLOOD, the forgiveness of sins" (Colossians 1:13-14). Christ has done the heavy lifting, so walk soberly (calmly) in the hope of His salvation.

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– March 3rd and March 17th.

Congregational Breakfast - March 9th at 8:30 am.

Singing Nights - March 26th.

Happy Birthday!

Lisa Sampson	February 28th
Bradford Shaw	March 12th
Angel Velez	March 24th
Gavin Sampson	March 24th

Happy Anniversary! Stephen & Glory Parker March 17th

Brenda Butler's New phone number 207-604-9644

Box tops for Education - Douglas Marescot -Container Upstairs - Ongoing

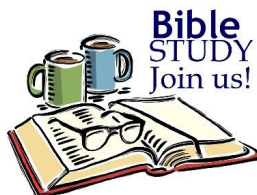
Ladies Day Is Almost Here!!!

Saturday March 23

We Need your Surveys and we need your Help!!

MID-WEEK BIBLE CLASSES

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



YOUR ATTENDANCE WOULD BE SUCH AN ENCOURAGEMENT!

ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR TODAY

Song 144 *O Worship The King*

Announcements - Shepherd

Opening Prayer - Brad Shaw

Song 535 *The Glory Land Way*

**Song 350 *When My Love To Christ
Grows Weak***

**Lord's Supper - Joe Romano, TJ Balsamo,
Clifford Parker**

Song 383 *Jesus Keep Me Near The Cross*

Contribution

Song 288 *Fairest Lord Jesus*

Prayer - Mike Wickwar

Song 452 *Standing On The Promises*

**Scripture Reading - Lenny Spano
*1 Thessalonians 4:15-18***

**Lesson - Dennis Godin
*Understanding Hope***

Lesson Text: *1 Thessalonians 5:8-10*

Song 4 *To God Be The Glory*

Closing Prayer - Shepherd



Song Leader: Antonio Balsamo

Greeter: Brenda Butler

Communion Prep: Jessica Damuth

NEXT WEEK'S SERVICE SCHEDULE:

Song Leader - Robert Balsamo

Opening Prayer - Brad Shaw

**Lord's Supper - Angel Velez, Erik Cote,
Jacob Romano**

Prayer - John Marescot

Scripture Reading - Jon Erickson

Greeter - Jessica Damuth

Communion Prep - Brenda Butler

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
