

BIDDEFORD CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

MAY 26, 2019

GOD OUR SHEPHERD BY ABRAHAM & DENNIS

Our scripture reading for today has us reading about the often-used biblical metaphor... the *shepherd*. For most of us, the idea of shepherd comes only from the books we read, but back in biblical times, most everyone knew what the role of a shepherd was, and its importance. If you were to look it up, it would be defined as *'a person who tends and rears sheep'* and to *'guide or direct in a particular direction.'* Listen to Psalm 100:3, ***"Know that the Lord is God. It is He who made us, and we are His; we are His people, the sheep of His pasture."*** So, let's take a moment and consider God our Shepherd.

Our first reading brings us to Psalm 22. In the first few verses, the psalmist is distressed, and in anguish. It seems as though God has somehow neglected him. As we continue to read, his tone appears to abruptly change in verse 19. From this point forward, he points out the



praiseworthy strength that only the Lord provides. This leads right into the ever-popular and ever-comforting Psalm 23 that announces to us all these comforting words, ***"The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want"*** (Psalm 23:1). With only six verses, this Psalm simultaneously provides contentment for this life and the promise of the eternal.

Our second reading brings us to Ezekiel chapter 34. In verses 1-10, Israel's "shepherds" are denounced for only caring for themselves. This truth is found in these penetrating words, ***"Woe to the shepherds of Israel who feeds themselves!"*** (Ezekiel 34:2). In verses 11-16, the

SCHEDULE OF ASSEMBLIES

SUNDAY
BIBLE CLASS 9:30 A.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

Are You Interested in "Secret Sisters"
Please contact Debbie or Barbara

Thank You,
Debbie and Barbara

Last Week's Numbers:

Attendance: 50 Contribution: \$ 759.13

"GOD OUR SHEPHERD" (CONTINUED)

reader is pointed to the true Shepherd who will ***"search for my sheep and look after them"*** (34:11). He will be the judge and care for all His sheep, including the weak (verses 17-22). He will make a covenant of peace and protect them from the wild beasts (verse 25), providing blessings (verses 26-30) to them all. Why? Listen to v31, ***"You my sheep, the sheep of my pasture, are people, and I am your God, declares the Sovereign Lord."***

Now we take this imagery and carry it over to the New Testament. In our final reading, we learn from John chapter 10, about Jesus being the ***"gate"***. He is the only way to salvation. In that same chapter, Jesus calls himself ***"the good shepherd"*** (v11). Why is He good you ask? Listen to the next part of the verse, ***"The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep."*** Jesus, the good shepherd, knows His sheep, and His sheep follow Him. Jesus, the provider of eternal life, came to be the one true shepherd man needs to shepherd the one true flock that He would purchase, His church. Thank You God for being our Shepherd.

Abraham & 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– July 7th and July 21st.

Congregational Breakfast - July 13th at 8:30 am.

Singing Nights - July 23rd.

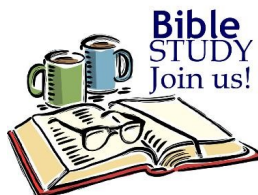
Happy Birthday!	Keasha Marescot	July 2nd
	John Marescot	July 6th
	Laura Romano	July 8th
	Mike Wickwar	July 26th
	Linda Barnes	July 27th
	Ian Sampson	July 28th
	Lenny Spano	July 28th

Happy Anniversary!	Raymond & Marion Goodwin	July 1st
	John & Keasha Marescot	July 15th
	Bradford & Brenda Shaw	July 27th

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

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 123 *The Steadfast Love Of The Lord*

Announcements - Shepherd

Opening Prayer - Brad Shaw

Song 193 *Crown Him With Many Crowns*

Reading 1 - *Psalm 22 & 23*

Robert Balsamo

Song 324 *Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed*

**Lord's Supper - John Marescot, TJ
Balsamo, Erik Cote**

**Song 538 *My Hope Is Built On Nothing Less*
Contribution**

Song 837 *I Need Thee Every Hour*

Reading 2 - *Ezekiel 34*

Lenny Spano

Song 852 *When The Roll Is Called Up Yonder*

Prayer - John Carter

Reading 3 - *John 10:1-30*

Abraham Damuth

Song 895 *I'll Live In Glory*

Closing Prayer - Tony Lemay



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, Antonio Balsamo**

Prayer - Matthew Sampson

Scripture Reading - Rufilo Lawrance

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
