

## Prayer Requests

- ◆ Mike Wickwar his brother's health issues; Sandra - heart surgery, Bob - Cancer.
- ◆ Keasha Marescot Mom Barbara - Dementia
- ◆ Joey Godin stomach issues
- ◆ Gabby Little personal & family health issue
- ◆ Brad & Brenda Happiness in new home.
- ◆ Linda Barnes Ongoing Health Issues
- ◆ Marion Goodwin Ongoing health issues
- ◆ Godin Family health, SIL Alzheimers
- ◆ Mary McVicar chronic kidney disease
- ◆ Glory Parker family health, traveling
- ◆ Lisa Carter's Friends Jenn & Jayne battling health and life issues
- ◆ Sampson Family health & family healing
- ◆ Our Congregation

### Elders

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  
Fellowship.....Matt Sampson....(207)251-3030  
Finance.....John Carter.....(207)229-8516  
Benevolence...John Carter.....(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 704 *Bind Us Together***

**Announcements** Angel Velez

**Opening Prayer:** Shepherd

**Song 31 *Be Still And Know***

**Song 364 *Come Share The Lord***

**Lord's Supper:** Angel Velez, Antonio Balsamo, Justin Crawford

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

**Contribution**

**Song 791 *On Bended Knee***

**Prayer:** Matthew Sampson

**Song 648 *Stand Up, Stand Up For Jesus***

**Scripture Reading:** Rufilo Lawrance

Text: **1 Thessalonians 5:14-22**

**Lesson:** Dennis Godin

***Continuing Steadfastly***

Lesson Text: ***Romans 12:10-13***

**Song 867 *To Canaan's Land, I'm On My Way***

**Closing Prayer:** Tony Lemay

Song Leader: James Butler

Greeter: Brenda Horowitz

Communion Prep: Deborah Godin

**Last Week's Numbers:**

**Attendance: 34**

**Contribution: \$1,293.00**

***Live the Gospel at all times;  
When opportunity is there...  
Share the hope you have!***

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



Lamentations 3:22-23 ESV

**OCTOBER 6, 2019**

**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

Today 10/6  
Life Groups

Tuesday 10/8  
Bible Study

Saturday 10/12  
Work Day Breakfast

Birthdays  
Matt Sampson 10/4  
Antonio Balsamo 10/5  
Candis Lawrance 10/6

### Thank You For your Service

*Matthew Godin*  
*Sam Higgins Jr.*  
*Taylor Carter*

*(we have boxes in the back to send to them)*

### Next Week's Service Schedule

Song Leader - Antonio Balsamo  
Opening Prayer - Shepherd  
Lord's Supper - John Marescot,  
Lenny Spano, David Lawrance  
Prayer - Joe Romano  
Scripture Reading - TJ Balsamo  
Greeter - Brenda Butler  
Communion Prep - Jessica Damuth

## Continuing Steadfastly

On Wednesday of this past week, as I was working on and preparing for Sunday morning bible class, I came across a passage that seemed to speak loudly to me at this time. It is found in Romans 12:10-13 and reads as follows, "Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another; not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer, distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality." This is in part the result of being "transformed by the renewing of your mind" mentioned back in v2 of this chapter. As may have already guessed, what stood out to me were this simple, yet provoking exhortation; that is, "continuing steadfastly in prayer." What does that mean?

The language of "continuing steadfastly in prayer" is powerful. The NIV uses the word "faithful" while the KJV uses the word "instant." It means to give constant attention to a thing. Maybe this is the reason the ETRV translates this, "Pray all the time." I am truly humbled by this idea, for even though I am focusing on this class about prayer, I find it all too easy to get preoccupied, distracted by things that on the surface appear so important. Do you battle with that in your life?

*Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything  
give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ  
Jesus.*

*1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 5:16-18*

Our understanding of prayer and its importance is directly linked to the transformation of the mind. Remember, it is that changing of what we think that enables us to "know what things are good and pleasing to God and what things are perfect" (Romans 12:2, ETRV). It is Paul's ex-

hortation to the church in Ephesus to "find out what is acceptable (NIV says, pleasing) to the Lord (Ephesians 5:10). It pleases God when His children go to Him in prayer.

So, how can we "continue steadfastly in prayer"? I think in part, the transformation of the mind enables us to create new habits. Someone has explained a habit as "an act repeated so often as to be done involuntary; that is, without a new decision of mind each time it is done." Many of us can list some of our habits, especially the routines we have at the beginning of our day. Even when it comes to prayer, we have habits: like praying before a meal. Nothing wrong with that, but I am talking about more personal times when we pray. In Mark 1:35 we find Jesus getting up early to pray. I wonder if that was His habit?

One thing is for sure, the emphasis that God appears to put on the act of prayer goes beyond the flare prayers of our everyday life. Those are good and necessary, but when looking at the life of Jesus, there appears to be more to it. Do you yearn for a deeper prayer life? I know I want to grow in mine. So, let's start to develop new habits concerning prayer. Set aside time, substantial time, to go before the throne of God and beseech Him. One thing is for sure, He will be pleased by our efforts

*Dennis*

Sermon Notes

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