

BIDDEFORD CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

OCTOBER 27, 2019

STEADFAST LOVE

BY DENNIS GODIN

At the beginning of this coming year, we will begin a study in our mid-week class that is rooted in part by a book by Willard Tate entitled, Learning to Love. In that book there is a chapter called Experiencing God's Love, a chapter that has truly caused me to ponder my understanding of God's love for me. Willard Tate writes, "The need to love and be loved is the simplest of all human wants." What do you think about that? There was a study that revealed that one of the top three things humans desire is belonging. As one person said, "A deep sense of love and belonging is an irreducible need of all people. We are biologically, cognitively, physically, and spiritually wired to love, to be loved, and to belong." Maybe this is in part why the Holy Spirit had Paul pen these words, "For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, that He would grant you..." the ability to "comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height-to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God" (Ephesians 3:14-13, 18-19). God wants us to



grasp His steadfast love for us, a love that never wavers.

And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him.

Luke 15:20

E. W. Howe writes, "Nothing is wonderful when you get used to it." Sometimes, as we read our bibles, the familiarity of the verses that once grabbed our attention, suddenly pass by with little impact. For me, the parables kind of get that way; you know, the same old story: So it was with the parable of the prodigal son. We know the story...right. Son is given, son squanders, son returns, the other son get mad and everyone is

SCHEDULE OF ASSEMBLIES

SUNDAY
BIBLE CLASS 9:30A.M.
WORSHIP 10:45 A.M.
MID-WEEK STUDY
TUESDAY 7-8 P.M.
(BIDDEFORD)

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
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

† † † † † † † † † † † † †

"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

Please contact Debbie or Barbara to help plan future events

Thank You,
Debbie and Barbara

Last Week's Numbers:

Attendance: 45 Contribution: \$ 2027.00

"STEADFAST LOVE"

(CONTINUED)

happy. Yet, this past week as this parable was discussed in light of our focus on love, God's love for us, I was reminded anew of how precious the son was to the father. Try to visualize God running to you, knowing as He does, of all the wrongs you have done! Imagine His arms embracing you and the warmth of His presence touching you neck. Then, unexpectedly, the kiss on the cheek welcoming you back home. This is the steadfast love of God.

But the father said to his servants, "Bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet."

Luke 15:22

The prodigal son knew his worth; that is, unworthy to "be called his son" (Luke 15:19, 21), or so he thought. Now he experiences a love that looks beyond the visible, the dirt and humility of days past. He is not worthy of such love, so the older brother thought, and he would be right, for all you need to do is glance back in time. Yet, he was worth the father's love, "It was right that we should make merry and be glad, for your brother was dead and is alive again, and was lost and is found" (Luke 15:32). That is the love God has for us... for me. A love that runs to us, embraces us, provides for us and rejoices with us, knowing we have come home. Thank You Lord for loving me.

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– November 3rd and November 17th.

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

Singing Nights - November 26th.

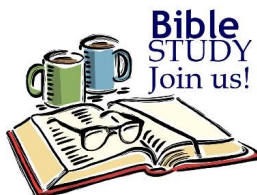
| | | |
|------------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Happy Birthday! | Jacob Romano | October 26th |
| | Glory Parker | October 28th |
| | Harper Erickson | October 29th |
| | Lisa Carter | November 10th |
| | Erik Cote | November 12th |
| | Tony Lemay | November 18th |
| | Corrinne Lawrance | November 20th |

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

Notes: _____

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 704 *Bind Us Together*

Announcements - Angel Velez

Opening Prayer - Elder

Song 180 *Jesus Is Lord*

Song 364 *Come And Share The Lord*

Lord's Supper - John Carter, TJ Balsamo,
Jacob Romano

Song 701 *My Jesus I Love Thee*

Contribution

Song 960 *It's Me*

Prayer - Mike Wickwar

Song 647 *Soldiers Of Christ Arise*

Scripture Reading - Abraham Damuth

Text - Ephesians 3:14-19

Lesson - Dennis Godin

Steadfast Love

Lesson Text: ***Luke 15:11-32***

Song 860 *There Is A Habitation*

Closing Prayer - Tony Lemay



Song Leader: James Butler

Greeter: Brenda Horowitz

Communion Prep: Deborah Godin

NEXT WEEK'S SERVICE SCHEDULE:

Song Leader - Antonio Balsamo

Opening Prayer - Shepherd

**Lord's Supper - John Marescot, Justin
Crawford , Lenny Spano**

Prayer - Joe Romano

Scripture Reading - Ruffilo Lawrance

Greeter - Brenda Butler

Communion Prep - Amanda Bitton

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
