

## Prayer Requests

- ◆ Matthew Godin - Germany Deployment then Warrant Officer training.
- ◆ Family of Brian Blake - who passed.
- ◆ Mike Wickwar his brother's health issues; Sandra - heart surgery, Bob - Cancer.
- ◆ Keasha Marescot Mom Barbara - Dementia
- ◆ 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 474 *Thank You, Lord***

**Announcements** Angel Velez

**Opening Prayer:** John Carter

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

**Song 382 *Why Did My Savior Come To Earth?***

**Lord's Supper:** Angel Velez, Erik Cote,  
David Lawrance

**Song 555 *Seek Ye First***

**Contribution**

**Song 477 *There Is A Place Of Quiet Rest***

**Prayer:** Matthew Sampson

**Song 286 *Wonderful Story Of Love***

**Scripture Reading:** TJ Balsamo

Text: **Psalm 136:1-5**

**Lesson:** Dennis Godin

***The Power Of Gratitude***

Lesson Text: ***1 Thessalonians 5:16-18***

**Song 957 *This World Is Not My Home***

**Closing Prayer:** Tony Lemay

Song Leader: Robert Balsamo

Greeter: Jessica Damuth

Communion Prep: Brenda Butler

**Last Week's Numbers:**

**Attendance: 42**

**Contribution: \$1743.00**

***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

**NOVEMBER 10, 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 11/10

Pot Luck

Tuesday 11/12

Bible Study

Sunday 11/17

Life Groups

Birthdays

Erik Cote 11/12

### Ladies Day Coming In March

*First Planning Meeting*

*is November 24 after services*

*Snacks Provided .. About 45 min mtg.*

*Thank you for attending,*

*Barbara & Debbie*

### Next Week's Service Schedule

**Song Leader - James Butler**

**Opening Prayer - Joe Romano**

**Lord's Supper - Matthew Sampson,**

**Antonio Balsamo, Clifford Parker**

**Prayer - Mike Wickwar**

**Scripture Reading - Jon Erickson**

**Greeter - Brenda Horowitz**

**Communion Prep - Deborah Godin**

## The Power Of Gratitude

It is not surprising that this time of year causes some to focus on certain things. One of them, of course, is being thankful. Do you agree with this quote that I found? "No duty is more urgent than that of returning thanks." Whether you agree with it or not, few will disagree with the importance and power behind gratitude.

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

*1st Thessalonians 5:16-18*

The above text has been mentioned in numerous articles and preached a multitude of times over the years. This time though, I find myself asking a question concerning the two brothers in the Parable of the Prodigal Son, which I talked about a couple of weeks ago. One brother left in haste, only to find himself returning in humiliation, while the other son complained about his father's treatment of his brother upon his return. I thought about it and determined one of the problems with both of them was the absence of thankfulness... gratitude: neither fully grasped what they had. So, whatever our situation may be, there is a reason to be thankful...right? Our callousness is precisely the reason we are urged to "in everything give thanks" (NKJV) or "give thanks in all circumstances" (NIV) or as the ETRV says, "Give thanks to God at all times." The appeal is to be thankful in all circumstances, not because of the situation, but in spite of it. Thankfulness is not found in God relieving us of some event; but rather, seeing our loving and compassionate God within the game. It is then, and only then that in everything give thanks.

*And when you pray, always give thanks.*

*Philippians 4:6 ETRV*

Okay, maybe the two brothers didn't appreciate what they had, which led them to be driven by selfish attitudes. There is another state of mind that can also rob one of a thankful heart: it is, worry. Just before Paul penned the above words, he said, "Be anxious for nothing..." (Philippians 4:6a). The ETRV says, "Don't worry about anything." Someone ascribed worry as "praying hard for an outcome you don't want." Still, another writes, "Worry is like a rocking chair – it keeps you moving but doesn't get you anywhere." Jesus posed the question, "Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature?" (Matthew 6:27). Worry robs the believer's heart of gratitude, the very thing needed to see God working in our lives during all circumstances.

So then, what is the takeaway from all this? It appears it has to do with what we see: or better yet, what we are looking for in life. The brothers had all they needed but were unable to grasp that truth, resulting in ingratitude and poor choices. Worry appears to do the same thing, crippling one's ability to see God's blessings in life. So, this appeal to give thanks in everything (always) is there to help us in our journey homeward. We access God's strength through a thankful heart. There is power in gratitude.

*Dennis*

**Sermon Notes**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---