



# Maine Maritime Ministry

Sharing the love and gospel of Jesus along the coast of Maine and beyond

*“Remember the Sabbath Day to keep it Holy” Exodus 20:8  
How God Blessed me by NOT going to Church?!*

Dear Family & Friends,

September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Vickie was in Pennsylvania at Central Manor Camp Meeting Bible Conference and I was at home recovering from overdoing it. This particular Sunday I was not feeling well enough to go to church. I stayed at home and had my own time of worship, reading the Bible and praising God with hymns. Right in the middle of singing “Holy, Holy, Holy,” two big arms surrounded me from behind, giving me a bear hug! I looked backed and it was my 6’ 3”



neighbor, Howard, to whom I had been witnessing. He said, “I drove by your house this morning and saw your car in the driveway and figured you mustn’t be feeling well because you missed church. So I brought a neighbor boy with me to unload the wood out of your truck and do anything else you need done, as long as you sit there and get your rest.” When they were finished, I thanked them and gave the neighbor boy, Liam, our Gospel tract. Please pray that Howard and Liam fully come to the Lord!

Earlier that week I had picked up a load of “Free fire wood” and shared Christ with the couple who was giving it away (we really needed dry wood). Stephen and Holly do not go to church but have a small plaque under their doorbell, which says, “As for me and my house we will serve the Lord.” Joshua 24:15. Pray for them to give their lives fully to the Lord. God also sent an 85-year-old man, Owen, to help me load the wood, who is a Christian and goes to a church in Augusta.



God is helping us to get to know our Amish neighbors better. I was even able to help them move a building. I also had a special blessing this summer. Our son Sam was able to come up and help me for a bit and had a friend who invited us to go lobstering!



PTL! For answered prayer. We have been reaching out to the Haven family. Vickie was speaking with Carrie and offered to take their three children to Sunday School and Church. She enthusiastically said “yes!” Please pray for this whole family to come to Christ. Your prayers are the foundation of our witness to see people come to a saving knowledge of Jesus.

Finally our own special announcement! Our daughter Sarah, her husband, Mark and son, Mason had a special addition to their family--a precious little girl, Noelle Jane, born on July 28<sup>th</sup>. Our 6<sup>th</sup> grandchild! As Psalm 27 says, “Children really are a blessing of the Lord.” God is so right!

With all our love and gratitude! Your servant and His,

*Chris and Vickie Gerard i*