...with a lowercase "b"

As of 2015, 15.4% of the population of the United States considered themselves "Baptists," but there is no clear definition of the word "Baptist." It is hard to know what a "Baptist" church will be like. At Bedford Road, we adhere strongly to the founding principles of the early Baptists, who broke with the early Reformers on key issues.

- Baptists found their sole authority for faith and practice in the Scriptures. They rejected the authority of church dogma and tradition.
- They rejected the sacramental view of salvation, believing instead in personal responsibility before God. Individuals *must choose* to be Christians and are baptized in obedience to their faith.
- Baptists believed the church is composed solely of baptized believers. The Reformers saw church and state as a single entity, so to be a part of a principality or kingdom was to be "a Christian."
- They rejected hierarchy and denominationalism. Each congregation is responsible for staying true to the Scriptural model of the Church.

We recognize that the word "Baptist" comes with baggage, but we continue to use it because we believe the significance and weight of the foundational principles is more important than negative connotations. At the same time, the word itself is not as important as what it represents. For this reason, we say we are baptists with a lowercase "b" who follow Christ with an uppercase "C."

Financial Summary

 2023 Budget
 \$224,885
 Budget to Date
 \$17,300

 Weekly Budget
 \$4,325
 Giving to Date
 \$15,217

A full financial report for the partial fiscal year May-Dec 2022 will be available this coming week. Thank you again to all for your generous stewardship. You can give via the offering box in the back of the sanctuary, via mail, or online at bedfordroad.org/giving.

Website: http://bedfordroad.org;

Streaming: youtube.com/@bedfordroadbaptist

Contact: (603) 424-9623; PO Box 443, Merrimack, NH



Creating environments where people encounter Jesus and journey together

Today's Worship

"Soul on Fire"

© 2015, Brenton Brown, David Carr, Mac Powell, Mark Lee, Tai Anderson, and Matt Maher, CCLI# 7032679

"Take My Life"
© 1995, Scott Underwood, CCLI# 1617154

- Join us at the Lord's Table -

"Doxology"

"Great Are You Lord"
© 2012, David Leonard and Leslie Jordan, CCLI 6460220

"10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)" © 2011, Jonas Myrin and Matt Redman, CCLI# 6016351

- Exploring the Scriptures Together -

News and Notes

Group Bible Studies

Tues 7pm (Ray Pouliot, Mike Trask), Bible study room

Wed 7pm (Bob Bragdon), Bible study room

7pm (Doc Delisi), still ongoing, 82 Cross Rd, Hooksett

January

29 Music Team Planning Meeting, after worship

February

- 4 Southern NH Rescue Mission
- 11 Men's Breakfast, 9:00am
- 18 Ladies' Ministry, 9:15am
- 24 Ministry Leaders Meeting, after worship

Exploring the Scriptures Together

Text:		
The Big Idea:		

Nursery is provided 9:30-11:30am for children ages 0-3.
There is an age-appropriate teaching time for children ages 4-10.
Children are dismissed right before the message.