

The Inspired, Revealed Word of God

At Bedford Road, we believe the Bible is the inspired, revealed Word of God; but what does that mean? The Bible is not a single book, but rather a library of texts written over thousands of year by no fewer than 40 authors in three languages (Hebrew, Aramaic, and Koine Greek). It consists of 39 books written from as early as 2000 BC to around 300 BC called the Old Testament and 27 books written in the first century AD, which we refer to as the New Testament.

- **Revelation** holds that God, who transcends this existence, has made known His nature, will, and intent for mankind. While some things may be known about God through creation, known as general revelation, the Bible represents a special revelation.
- **Inspiration** is the belief that the text of the books of the Bible are "God-breathed" (2 Tim 3:16–17; 2 Pet 1:20–21). This means that although human authors wrote the actual words of the book, they did so under God's direct inspiration.

How do we know the Bible is the revealed, inspired Word of God? This is a matter not of clear scriptural evidence but historical reality. Contrary to the way things are often told, the canon (set of books) of Scripture was *not* set by a church council. The Old Testament canon was recognized as inspired *before the time of Christ*. It was the Bible of Jesus and the apostles. The New Testament canon consists of the books which *all Christian communities* recognized as authoritative during the first two centuries of church history. When Christianity became legal in the Roman Empire in the early fourth century AD, any book *not recognized by all Christian communities* could be useful but it was not inspired. The consent of the churches confirmed the testimony of the Holy Spirit.

Financial Summary

2023 Budget	\$224,885	Budget to Date	\$38,925
Weekly Budget	\$4,325	Giving to Date	\$43,369

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> Email: info@bedfordroad.org
Streaming: youtube.com/@bedfordroadbaptist
Phone: (603) 424-9623 Mail: PO Box 443, Merrimack, NH

March 5, 2023

**BEDFORD ROAD
BAPTIST CHURCH**

Welcome

*Creating environments where people
encounter Jesus and journey together*

Today's Worship

“You Are Holy (Prince of Peace)”

© 1994, Marc Imboden and Tammi Rhoton, CCLI# 2332149

“Blessed is the Man (Psalm 1)”

© 2012, Erik DiVietro

- Join us at the Lord's Table -

“Listen to Our Hearts”

© 1992, Steven Curtis Chapman and Geoff Moore, CCLI# 903151

“Doxology” (815)

- A Time of Prayer Together -

“Let Our Voices”

© 1986, Linda Whitmer Bell, CCLI# 218279

- Exploring the Scriptures Together -

News and Notes

March

11 Men's Breakfast, 9:00am

18 Ladies' Ministry, 9:15am

25 First Aid/CPR/AED Training, 11:00am-3:00pm

Resurrection Sunday is April 8! Good Friday service on April 6, 6:30pm.

Group Bible Studies

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

Wed 7pm (Bob Bragdon), Bible study room

Signups for the NT Aperture session (beginning April 11) are in the foyer.

Exploring the Scriptures Together

When Jesus Prayed (John 17:1-26)

[illegible]

The Big Idea:

Nursery is provided 9:30-11:30am for children ages 0-3.
On the first Sunday of each month, older children stay with their families.
On all other weeks, there is an age-appropriate teaching time for children ages 4-10.