

...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."*

Coming this autumn! We will be having a special 8-week Bible study open to everyone that will provide a breakdown of (1) the biblical doctrine of the church (2) the history of the church, and (3) the function of the church in our postmodern, post-Christendom world. More details will be available later this summer.

Financial Summary

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|----------------------|-----------|-----------------------|----------|
| 2023 Budget | \$224,885 | Budget to Date | \$95,150 |
| Weekly Budget | \$4,325 | Giving to Date | \$99,058 |

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.



*Creating environments where people
encounter Jesus and journey together*

Today's Worship

"Psalm 46 (Lord of Hosts)"

© 2015, Jennie Lee Riddle, Josh Miller, and Shane Barnard, CCLI# 7053138

"Come, Let Us Worship the Lord"

© 1980, John Michael Talbot, CCLI# 17511

- Lord's Table -

"Doxology"

"Blessed is the Man"

© 2009, Erik DiVietro

- Exploring the Scriptures Together -

Upcoming Events

Bible Study Update

Our small group Bible studies are now on their summer hiatus.

June

- 17 Men's Breakfast at Bethany Chapel, 10am
- 18 Father's Day
- 25 Barbecue Lunch after worship

After worship today, there will be short meetings for the family ministries. God's Backyard volunteers and parents, please join Erik DiVietro and Ryan Ouellette in the classroom. Nursery volunteers should meet with Carol Pouliot in the nursery.

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 Pastor: Erik K. DiVietro, MA, MDiv, PhD



Sinners Saved by Grace (Romans 6:1-23)

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.