the Lord's table

There are many views of the Lord's Table—also known as "the Eucharist" or "Communion." Virtually all Christian denominations practice communion (the biggest exceptions being the Quakers and the Salvation Army until the late 1990's), and there are a few things all agree upon:

- It was established by Christ for the Church.
- It is a repetitive practice, a continual observance.
- It proclaims something about Christ to the Church and the world.
- There is a spiritual benefit to the participants.
- The observance is restricted to believers.
- There is a horizontal dimension among the believers.

Beyond these areas of agreement, there are significant theological debates as to the following:

- The presence of Christ in the observance, with views ranging from the bread and wine being the *actual* body and blood of Jesus (Catholic *transubstantiation*) to a completely symbolic approach.
- What exactly the observance accomplishes in the life of the believer, whether it is a means of grace (salvific) or simply a representation.
- Who can administer the observance is debated, with some believing only properly ordained ministers can perform the meal properly.
- Who qualifies as a believer, with many denominations not allowing people outside their fellowship to partake.
- Finally, there is debate as to the elements themselves with some groups using alcoholic wine, others unfermented, some groups using only unleavened bread, and others using anything.

We believe the Lord's Table is a *living memorial*, in which Christ is present as our head and the object of our faith. It is open to all those who have placed their faith in Christ, and it is administered not by a priesthood but by the local assembly/congregation as the body of Christ.

Financial Summary

2023 Budget \$224,885 **Budget to Date** \$134,075 **Weekly Budget** \$4,325 **Giving to Date** \$140,228

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

"You're Everywhere" © 2000 Tai Anderson, Brad Avery, David Carr, Mark Lee, Mac Powell, CCLI# 3119165

"Indescribable" © 2004, Laura Story, CCLI# 4403076

"How Great Is Our God"
© 2003, Todd Smith, Matthew West, and Tony Wood, CCLI# 4045410

- Lord's Table -

"Sing to Jesus" © 1990, Fernando Ortega and Randy Ray, CCLI# 2993399

"Doxology"

- Exploring the Scriptures Together -

Upcoming Events

August

- 13 God's Backyard "Soft" Relaunch Youth Group Ice Cream Social [See Shaun Mitchell]
- 27 Barbecue Lunch after worship gathering

September

- 2 Southern NH Rescue Mission
- 3 Ministry Team Leaders Meeting, after worship
- 10 God's Backyard Launch
- 13 Perspectives on the Church, 7:00pm
- 23 Men's Breakfast, 9:00am
- 30 Ladies' Ministry, 9:15am

Website: http://bedfordroad.org Email: info@bedfordroad.org Email: info@bedfordroad.org Mail: PO Box 443, Merrimack, NH

Pastor: Erik K. DiVietro, MA, MDiv, PhD <u>pastor@bedfordroad.org</u>



The Mess They'd Made at the Lord's Table

(1 Corinthians 11:17–39)

The Big Idea:		
the fly them.		

Nursery is provided 9:30-11:30am for children ages 0-3.
Our children's ministry (God's Backyard) is on a summer hiatus.
We will be doing a "soft opening" of the updated program in August, with the full program returning on September 10.