

# Believers' Baptism by Immersion

Baptism is one of the most debated practices in the Church. Because it is fundamental to the command of the Church and the preaching of the gospel (Matt 28:18–20), how baptism is done is important. Baptists have historically believed that baptism must be by immersion, and that only those old enough to have made a decision to accept Christ as Savior should receive baptism.

The biblical record has *no occurrences* of the baptism of anyone before they have confessed a belief in Christ. Where it is *possible* that children in a household might have been baptized without confession, there is no clear evidence that it was the case (Acts 17:5, 16:33; 1 Cor 1:16). So, those who see it there are reading something into the text that is not explicitly stated.

As to the mode of baptism, the confusion comes not from the Bible but from historical interpretation. The Greek word *baptizō* means “to immerse” in every known usage outside of the Bible, but has always been transliterated as *baptism* English because of the diversity of denominations and interpretations. The adoption of other methods of baptism such as sprinkling or pouring water on the head can be identified in the historical record. They were initially compromises because of the health or mobility of individual believers as the Christian Church spread throughout the world.

**We will be doing baptism on September 17 during the worship gathering.** *If you would like to be baptized in public declaration of your faith and in obedience to Christ, please see one of our elders.*

## Financial Summary

<b>2023 Budget</b>	\$224,885	<b>Budget to Date</b>	\$151,375
<b>Weekly Budget</b>	\$4,325	<b>Giving to Date</b>	\$154,336

*You can give via the offering box in the back of the sanctuary, via mail, or online at [bedfordroad.org/giving](http://bedfordroad.org/giving).*

Website: <http://bedfordroad.org>      Email: [info@bedfordroad.org](mailto:info@bedfordroad.org)  
Phone: (603) 424-9623      Mail: PO Box 443, Merrimack, NH

Pastor: Erik K. DiVietro, MA, MDiv, PhD      [pastor@bedfordroad.org](mailto:pastor@bedfordroad.org)

September 3, 2023

**BEDFORD ROAD  
BAPTIST CHURCH**

Welcome

*Creating environments where people  
encounter Jesus and journey together*

# Today's Worship

“Come, Let Us Worship the Lord”  
© 1980, John Michael Talbot, CCLI# 17511

- Lord's Table -

“El Shaddai”  
© 1981, Michael Card and John W. Thompson, CCLI# 26856

“Doxology”

“Psalm 46 (Lord of Hosts)”  
© 2015, Jennie Lee Riddle, Josh Miller, Josiah Warneking, Shane Barnard, CCLI# 7053138

“Blessed is the Man”  
© 2012, Erik DiVietro

- Exploring the Scriptures Together -

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## Upcoming Events

### September

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

### October

- 7 Southern NH Rescue Mission
- 21 Ladies' Ministry, 9:15am

### November

- 4 Southern NH Rescue Mission
- 12 Annual Vision & Report Meeting, after worship



## After the Mess (2 Corinthians 3:1-18)

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## The Big Idea:

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Nursery is provided 9:30-11:30am for children ages 0-3.  
Our children's ministry (God's Backyard) relaunches next Sunday,  
September 10. We are still in need of volunteers. See Ryan Ouelette if  
you are interested in helping with God's Backyard.