

...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	\$177,325
Weekly Budget	\$4,325	Giving to Date	\$185,394

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
Phone: (603) 424-9623 Mail: PO Box 443, Merrimack, NH

Pastor: Erik K. DiVietro, MA, MDiv, PhD pastor@bedfordroad.org



*Creating environments where people
encounter Jesus and journey together*

Today's Worship

“Your Name”

© 2006, Paul Baloche and Glenn Packiam, CCLI# 4611679

“Forever”

© 2001, Chris Tomlin, CCLI# 3148428

- Lord's Table -

“Doxology”

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus” (630)

Public Domain, Charles Crozat Converse and Joseph Medlicott Scriven, CCLI# 27714

“It is Well with My Soul” (705)

Public Domain, Philip Paul Bliss and Horatio G. Spafford, CCLI# 25376

- Exploring the Scriptures Together -

Upcoming Events

October

21 Ladies' Ministry, 9:15am

November

4 Southern NH Rescue Mission

11 Men's Breakfast, 9:00am

12 Annual Vision & Report Meeting, after worship
OCC Packing party, after meeting

23 Thanksgiving Day

26 Beginning of Advent Season!

December

2 Southern NH Rescue Mission

24 Christmas Eve Sunday! (Regular service times)



“Bad King, Good King”

(Various Passages)

The Big Idea:

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