

*And Jesus said to all,
"If anyone would come after me,
let him deny himself and
take up his cross daily and follow me."*

- Luke 9:23 -

Why do Christians use the CROSS as their symbol? Jesus made it clear that to follow him is to take up the knowledge of our own death to this world. To be truly free to live out the gospel, we must reckon ourselves dead and living solely for him (Rom 6:11; Gal 2:20).

During the Nazi occupation of Eastern Europe, the *Einsatzgruppen* were given the task of exterminating the Jews everywhere they went. At Nuremberg, a German businessman named Hermann Graebe told the grizzly tale of the *Einsatz* "liquidating" the 5,000 Jews of Dubno, in the Ukraine on October 5, 1942. "During the fifteen minutes that I stood near the pit I heard no complaint or plea for mercy....They lay down in front of the dead or wounded people; some caressed those who were still alive and spoke to them in a low voice. Then I heard a series of shots." These people, many of whom were women and children died not because of what they did but because of who they were. They accepted death as the price of their identity.

If we do not reconcile ourselves to the reality of what it means to follow Christ, when we find ourselves in peril, faced with the possibility of the gravest of harm, we might not continue to the end (Matt 10:22, 24:13; Heb 13:14). It is a paradox that we can only truly preach life to a dying world when we see ourselves as dead to it. We lay our lives down, so he may take them up again.

Financial Summary

2023 Budget	\$224,885	Budget to Date	\$181,650
Weekly Budget	\$4,325	Giving to Date	\$189,377

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: Dr. Erik K. DiVietro pastor@bedfordroad.org

October 22, 2023

**BEDFORD ROAD
BAPTIST CHURCH**

Welcome

*Creating environments where people
encounter Jesus and journey together*

Today's Worship

"Blessed Be Your Name"

© 2002, Beth Redman and Matt Redman, CCLI# 3798438

"This Is Amazing Grace"

© 2012, Jeremy Riddle, Josh Farro, and Phil Wickham, CCLI# 6333821

"What He's Done"

© 2021, Anna Golden, Jacob Sooter, Kristian Stanfill, Tasha Cobbs Leonard, CCLI# 7189257

"Your Great Name"

© 2008, Michael Neale and Krissy Nordhoff, CCLI# 5393329

- Lord's Table -

"Doxology"

- Exploring the Scriptures Together -

Upcoming Events

November

- 4 Southern NH Rescue Mission
- 11 Men's Breakfast, 9:00am
- 12 Annual Vision & Report Meeting, after worship
OCC Packing party, after meeting
- 19 Ladies' Ministry
- 23 Thanksgiving Day
- 26 Beginning of Advent Season!

December

- 1 Ladies Christmas Fellowship, 6:30-8:30pm
- 2 Southern NH Rescue Mission
- 24 Christmas Eve Sunday! (Regular service times)

If you would like to be a part of our Advent Candle readings schedule, please let Pastor Erik know. These are short readings and prayers done at the beginning of the service during Advent season.



"Picking a Fight"

(2 Kings 14:1-23)

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.