

BEDFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

4 Church Road, Bedford, NH 03110

Phone (603) 472-5841 Fax (603) 472-5708

www.bedfordpresbyterian.org/Facebook.com/bedfordpresbyterianchurch

CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Karen J. Hagy, *Co-Pastor*

The Rev. John Sawyer, *Co-Pastor*

Barbara Flocco, *Music Director*

Michelle Jones, *Administrative Assistant*

The Rev. Harold G. Williams, Jr., *Pastor Emeritus*

During worship, please refrain from taking flash photos and silence your cell phones.

In an emergency, call Pastor Sawyer (478-335-1628) or Pastor Hagy (603-714-5628)

Elder of the Day – Larry Cowen

Deacon of the Day – Deb Sferrazza

Flowers today are given “in loving memory of Robert S. Crandall, a devoted husband, dedicated father and grandfather” by the Crandall family.

Note: The Fellowship Hall outside double doors will be locked during BPC’s 10 a.m. worship for safety purposes. Please enter through the front doors of the church if you arrive after 10 a.m. If you are bringing someone who needs extra help with seating, plan to arrive before 10 a.m. Thank you!

BPC CALENDAR

Sun. 12/1	10:00 a.m. Worship, NO Church School or Nursery Today 11:00 a.m. Fellowship/Hanging of the Greens 5-7 p.m. College of Elders and Deacons Potluck Supper with Karen Hagy
Weds. 12/4	7:00 p.m. Senior Choir Rehearsal 5:30-7 p.m. Hilltop Ringers 6:30 p.m. Hurricane Recovery Mission Trip Meeting
Thurs. 12/5	6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts
Sat. 12/7	2-5 p.m. St. Nick’s Shoppe
Sun. 12/8	9:00 a.m. Children’s Musical Rehearsal 10:00 a.m. Worship, Church School, Nursery 11:00 a.m. Fellowship/Hurricane Recovery Mission Trip Meeting 1-6 p.m. Musical Rehearsal 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. Confirmation Class 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. Youth Christmas Eve Planning and Yankee Swap Party

Giving at Bedford Presbyterian Church – BPC is a generous church! We give thanks that the members and friends of our congregation give of their time, talent, and treasure. Giving your gifts at BPC makes a direct impact on the ways that the love of God through the good news of Jesus Christ is shared. In order to make giving even easier, we are introducing a QR scanner code for your smartphone. Download a free QR app to your phone and scan the code (<<<<), which will take you directly to our giving website. It’s fun, fast, easy, and makes a huge difference to our ministry! Thank you!



Bedford Presbyterian Church

First Sunday of Advent

December 1, 2019 – 10:00 a.m.

Welcome to Bedford Presbyterian Church. We are glad you have found your way through our big front doors! You are invited to join us for coffee hour at the conclusion of the 10:00 a.m. service in our Fellowship Hall. Guests, we invite you to take a welcome bag found in our narthex. Disciple Doodle Boards are available in the narthex for older children to use during the service. Nursery is available downstairs. Thank you and welcome everyone!

GATHERING TOGETHER

Chimes

Gathering Music

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Hayes

Welcome and Announcements

Co-Pastor Karen Hagy

PREPARING FOR THE WORD

Advent Wreath Lighting

The Candle of Hope

The Blake Family

Sung Response

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year.

Make your house fair as you are able; trim the hearth and set the table.

People, look east and sing today: Love, the Guest, is on the way.

Call to Worship (Responsive – from Isaiah 2)

Co-Pastor Karen Hagy

In the days to come, the mountain of the Lord’s house shall be established.

Many people shall come and say, “Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob.”

God shall judge between the nations.

The peoples of the earth shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks.

Nation shall not lift up sword against nation,

Neither shall they learn war any more.

Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

Let us worship God, together!

***Hymn # 93**

“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Elder Manny Larry Cowen

God of night and day, there is no shadow that can conceal our sin from you and no secret that you will not bring to light. O God, forgive us our sins, renew us in love, and teach us to live in a way that brings honor and glory to your name, through Jesus Christ, our Lord...

Silent Prayer

Assurance of Pardon (Responsive) Elder Larry Cowen
Beloved, in your baptism you were bathed in light and clothed with grace. Therefore,
put on the Lord Jesus Christ. Know that you are forgiven, and live in peace.
Thanks be to God! Hallelujah! Amen.

***Sung Response** “Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me” #582
*Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
And to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen. (3x)
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.*

ENCOUNTERING THE WORD

Children’s Message Co-Pastor Karen Hagy

Anthem “Blessed Be the Lord” Forrest
Paul Loefstedt, oboe; Jack Daly, tenor drum

Scripture Reading Isaiah 2:1-5
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon “Walk in the Light” Co-Pastor John Sawyer
(Walking and Working toward the Kingdom)

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***Hymn # 127** “Hark, the Herald Angels Sing – Walk in the Light”

Call for the Offering and Deacons Fund Deacon Deb Sferrazza

Offertory “Christ Be Our Light”
Maddy, Sarah, and Emily Costello

***Doxology # 606** (Tune: Old Hundreth)
*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts – praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

***Prayer of Dedication** Deacon Deb Sferrazza
**We give you thanks and praise, O God, that you have built us up in faith
and bound us together in love. By your grace, many all that we do show the
glory of your name and serve the good of your people; through Jesus Christ
our Lord. Amen.**

Invitation to the Lord’s Table Co-Pastor Karen Hagy

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.
Let us give our thanks and praise.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Breaking of the Bread and Pouring of the Cup
Sharing the Bread and Cup

Communion “Still, Still, Still”
Cheryl Barlow, handbell solo

Prayers of the People and Lord’s Prayer Co-Pastor Karen Hagy
**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily
bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not
into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the
power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

***The Peace**
May the peace of Christ be with you.
And with you.
Please greet one another with signs of peace and reconciliation.

GOING FORTH IN GOD’S NAME

***Hymn # 88** “O Come, O Come Emmanuel”
vv. 1, 2, 6, & 7

***Charge and Benediction**
Keep awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. Be ready for
the Lord will come at an unexpected hour. May the grace of Christ, the love of
God, and the Spirit’s joy surround you as you walk in the light of the Lord.
Amen.

Postlude “People Look East” Weaver

*Those who are able are invited to stand.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN of a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, December 8th
following the worship service. The purpose of this meeting will be to vote on the following:
-Proposed Transition of Pastoral Leadership Model
-Terms of Call for Pastors
-Report from the Nominating Committee on Elders and Deacons
-Dissolution of the Pastoral Call for Co-pastor Karen Hagy

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24

- 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Family Service with Candlelighting**
- 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Youth Led Service with Candlelighting**
- 9:00 p.m. Traditional Christmas Eve Service with Candlelighting**

PLEASE NOTE: No Church School or Nursery today or on Sunday, December 29th!

CHILDREN'S MUSICAL NEEDS - CAN YOU HELP?

1. At least two backstage helpers (total of about 9 hours of rehearsal / show hours - 3 hours Dec 8, 3 hours Dec 14, 3 hours Dec 15) - perhaps kids in confirmation class would like to help out as part of their required volunteer / service hours?
2. Small stools, step-stool size, preferably wood
3. Knap-sack, biblical period appearance
4. Blanket or two, biblical period appearance
5. Animal puppet (barnyard animals - could use 2 more)
6. Sheep puppets or stuffed animals, Rubber Chicken

Christmas Musical--"It's So Bright!"

Mark your calendar for this year's Christmas musical, entitled, "It's So Bright!" The musical will be performed by the children and youth of BPC at the 10:00 am service on Sunday, December 15th. Stick around for a coffee hour and reception to celebrate our hard-working cast and crew!

St. Nick's Workshop and Parents' Afternoon Out

Attention Moms and Dads! The Children's Ministry Committee would like to offer you a free afternoon to shop, bake, or simply relax before Christmas. Your children aged 4-12 are invited to a fun afternoon at St. Nick's Workshop (held in Fellowship Hall) on December 7 from 2pm-5pm. There, they will make and wrap gifts for family and participate in fun Christmas-themed activities. Snack will be provided.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24

- 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Family Service with Candlelighting**
- 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Youth Led Service with Candlelighting**
- 9:00 p.m. Traditional Christmas Eve Service with Candlelighting**

PLEASE NOTE: No Church School or Nursery today or on Sunday, December 29th!

CHILDREN'S MUSICAL NEEDS - CAN YOU HELP?

1. At least two backstage helpers (total of about 9 hours of rehearsal / show hours - 3 hours Dec 8, 3 hours Dec 14, 3 hours Dec 15) - perhaps kids in confirmation class would like to help out as part of their required volunteer / service hours?
2. Small stools, step-stool size, preferably wood
3. Knap-sack, biblical period appearance
4. Blanket or two, biblical period appearance
5. Animal puppet (barnyard animals - could use 2 more)
6. Sheep puppets or stuffed animals, Rubber Chicken

Christmas Musical--"It's So Bright!"

Mark your calendar for this year's Christmas musical, entitled, "It's So Bright!" The musical will be performed by the children and youth of BPC at the 10:00 am service on Sunday, December 15th. Stick around for a coffee hour and reception to celebrate our hard-working cast and crew!

St. Nick's Workshop and Parents' Afternoon Out

Attention Moms and Dads! The Children's Ministry Committee would like to offer you a free afternoon to shop, bake, or simply relax before Christmas. Your children aged 4-12 are invited to a fun afternoon at St. Nick's Workshop (held in Fellowship Hall) on December 7 from 2pm-5pm. There, they will make and wrap gifts for family and participate in fun Christmas-themed activities. Snack will be provided.
