

**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. John Sawyer, *Pastor*

Barbara Flocco, *Music Director*

Michelle Jones, *Administrative Assistant*

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

The Rev. Karen Hagy, *Pastor Emeritus*

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

**In an emergency, call Pastor Sawyer (478-335-1628)**

**Elder of the Day** – Alicia Wooldridge

**Deacon of the Day** – Tom Green

**Flowers today are given in** “loving memory of Ben Michael Teach, who passed away five years ago at the age of four of AML/ALL Leukemia” by Scott and Judy Crandall.

**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 bring someone who needs extra help with seating, plan to arrive before 10 a.m. Thank you!

**BPC CALENDAR**

Sun. 2/16	10:00 a.m. Worship, Church School, Nursery 11:00 a.m. Fellowship 5:45-8:30 p.m. Youth Movie Night at Chunky’s
Weds. 2/19	5:30-7 p.m. Hilltop Ringers 7:00 p.m. Senior Choir Rehearsal
Thurs. 2/20	6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts
Sun. 2/23	10:00 a.m. Worship, Church School, Nursery 11:00 a.m. Fellowship, Mission Trip Meeting 7-8:15 p.m. House Meeting

**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

*Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany*

February 16, 2020– 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 For A World”

Sanborn

**Welcome and Announcements**

Pastor John Sawyer

**PREPARING FOR THE WORD**

**Introit**

“Come and Sing the Praise of the Lord”

(Psalm 150)

**Call to Worship** (Responsive – from Psalm 119)

Elder Alicia Wooldridge

Happy are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the Lord.

**Happy are those who keep God’s decrees, who seek the Lord with their whole heart and who do no wrong, but walk in God’s ways.**

God has given us commandments to follow.

**O, that we would keep them, steadfastly.**

Those who keep the Lord’s commandments will not be put to shame.

**Those who have their eyes fixed on all God’s commandments will be blessed.**

Come, let us praise the Lord with an upright heart.

**Let us worship God, together!**

**\*Hymn # 49**

“The God of Abraham Praise”

**Call to Confession**

Elder Alicia Wooldridge

**Prayer of Confession** (Unison)

**Holy God, we confess that we bow down before other gods; we have turned our hearts away from you. Our worship of work and devotion to consumerism disorders our love of you and each other. Forgive us, God, and mend what is broken, that we may be one with you...**

**Silent Prayer**

**Assurance of Pardon** (Responsive) Elder Alicia Wooldridge  
Friends in Christ, by the mercy of God, our sins are forgiven. Sing praises with an upright heart as we learn the ways of God. Hear the good news: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

**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**

**Anthem** “I Believe in Love” Mark Miller  
Special Guest Soloists Abby Dopfer and Addy Bunie and the BPC “Sunbeam Singers”

*I believe in the sun even when it's not shining.  
I believe in love even when you can't feel it.  
I believe in God even when God is silent.*

(This statement of faith, written on a cellar wall in Cologne below a Star of David, was discovered by American soldiers at the conclusion of WWII. The author was a Jew in hiding for the Gestapo.)

**The Word with Children** Pastor John Sawyer

**The Lord's Prayer** (“debts”)  
**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.**

**First Scripture Reading** Deuteronomy 30:15-20 Elder Alicia Wooldridge

**Second Scripture Reading** Matthew 5:21-37  
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon** “Kicking it Up a Notch” Pastor John Sawyer  
(Next-Level Lawful Living in the Kingdom of Heaven)

**RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

**\*Hymn #444** “Forgive Our Sins, as We Forgive”

**Call for the Offering** Deacon Tom Green

**Offertory** “O For a World” Halberg

**\*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 Tom Green  
**Holy God, we offer you these gifts with thanks, so that together we may plant and water the seeds of your new world. May we be your faithful servants as we cultivate your love, knowing that in all we accomplish, it is you who gives the growth. Amen.**

**Prayers of the People** Pastor John Sawyer

**\*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 # 372** “O For a World”  
vs 1 & 5 All, vs. 2 Women, vs. 3 Men, vs. 4 Choir

**\*Charge and Benediction**

**Postlude** “O For a World”

\*Those who are able are invited to stand.

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**Have you signed up to attend a House Meeting yet?**

**Look on the Blue Sheet and join us for a conversation about BPC.**

**Our first gathering is next Sunday, February 23, at 7 p.m.**

**Two Classes for Lent**

BPC will be offering two special classes for adults in the season of Lent:

“Holy Conversations”, led by Bethany Avery, on Wednesday evenings 3/4, 3/11, 3/18, 3/25, 4/1 and 4/8 at 6 PM. Everybody is on a spiritual pilgrimage. Everybody. Even those who curse God. True, they may be going in the wrong direction (away from God) but they are still on a spiritual journey. They can’t help it. This is the way God made us. Agnostics, atheists, deists, seekers, the disillusioned, the contented, the hedonists – lots of names for different stopping places on the journey. The point is that different people are at different stops on the journey. May are hungry for real conversations about their journeys. This is when holy conversation can take place. This book, *Holy Conversation: Talking About God in Everyday Life* by Richard Peace will guide us into ways to talk our journey that is personal, true, and helpful to others.

In “The Beatitudes,” led by Bob Godbout, why is the Sermon on the Mount often called the "Christian Manifesto", i.e. the essential core of what it means for us to be "Christian"? And why is the challenge of the Sermon expressed as the "Christian Counterculture"? Let's begin our inquiry with the eight Beatitudes with which the Sermon begins. (Mt. 5: 3-12). These eight (apparently) simple declarations hold for us inexhaustible wisdom and relevance for our everyday lives. All of you are invited to join our class during Lent, each Sunday at 11 AM, starting March 1 through April 5, using the book by John R.W. Stott, *The Message of the Sermon on the Mount*. This will not be a high-powered "academic" class but rather a deep devotional study intended to improve our relationship with Jesus our Lord. Questions? Call Pastor John or Bob Godbout at 717-5562. Please sign up ASAP to help us with logistics. Thank you!"

**BEDFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH LEADERSHIP**

**SESSION**

Fran Bader – Clerk of Session  
Kathy Blake – Worship and Music  
Toren Coulter – Youth  
Larry Cowen – Mission  
Jack Daly – Mission  
Kathy Loveless – Parish Life  
Sandy Mackey – Finance  
Sean Michalski – Buildings and Grounds  
Marcia Morgan – IT  
Courtney Tanner – Youth  
Andy Wickwire – Personnel  
Alicia Wooldridge – Stewardship

**BOARD OF DEACONS**

Kevin Avery – Co-Moderator  
Don Boudreau  
Sarah Costello  
Mary Beth Dopfer  
Mike Eno  
Tom Green  
David Hunter  
Charlene Isham  
Rheya King - Youth  
Kathryn Sampson  
Deb Sferrazza – Co-Moderator  
Matt Studham

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**Welcome to RYODBC ~ Read Your Own Darn Book Club**

RYODB is not your traditional book club. It works more like a book swap.

Simply arrive with a few books ( any genre ) that you really enjoyed or even LOVED ! Say a few words about the books. Did it take you on a compelling journey, have quirky characters, wonderful dialogue, a unique view point, or just a great story.

Be willing to part with the book(s) or at least send it on a lengthy journey!

Once everyone is done sharing ~ the book swap begins! We hope you will join us for a fun evening.

RYODBC next meeting:

**Thursday February 20<sup>th</sup> @ 7PM**

Hosted by Linda Phelps ~ 17 Rumford Ln Bedford NH

RSVP Linda at [linda.phelps@comcast.net](mailto:linda.phelps@comcast.net) or 603-471-1004 ( leave a message )

Beverages and Appetizers will be served

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