

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.

Please help us take care of our new carpet!

Water and baby bottles are A-ok; coffee, tea, and food please keep away.

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 – Charlene Isham

Flowers today are given by Paula and Bruce Olsen “in loving memory of Beth Olsen Johns and Maureen.”

Sunday, December 16th is available for anyone wishing to place flowers on that day.

BPC CALENDAR

Sun. 10/14	10:00 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Fellowship 2:30-4:00 p.m. Deacons Tea 4:30-6:30 p.m. New Member Class
Wed. 10/17	8:30 a.m. Hilltop Ringers 1:30 p.m. Birch Hill Service 6-7:15 p.m. Dinner and Discussion 7:15 p.m. Senior Choir Rehearsal
Thurs. 10/18	6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts
Sun. 10/21	10:00 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Fellowship 4:30-6:30 p.m. Youth Event

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 to our giving website. It’s fun, fast, easy, and makes a huge difference to our ministry!

BPC is now a beneficiary of Amazon Smile! [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) Smile will donate 0.5% of each purchase when BPC is selected as the charitable organization. So for every \$100 of purchases 50 cents is received. You can access [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) and benefit BPC using this QR Code:



**Bedford Presbyterian Church
21st Sunday After Pentecost
October 7, 2018 – 10:00 a.m.**

Welcome to Bedford Presbyterian Church. Our doors are open wide and we are glad you are here! Guests, we invite you to take a welcome packet found in our narthex. Disciple Doodle Boards are available in the narthex for older children to use during the service. Thank you and welcome everyone!

GATHERING TOGETHER

Chimes

Gathering Music

“Blessed Jesus, At Your Word”

J.S. Bach

Welcome

Co-Pastor Karen Hagy

PREPARING FOR THE WORD

Introit

“Praise, Praise, Praise the Lord”

Cameroon Processional
Arr. Johnson

Call to Worship

Come, all who look for God with unseeing eyes.
Come, all who listen for God but hear nothing.

Oh, that we knew where to find God!

We want to hear and understand God’s Word.

Leave everything to follow Jesus in this hour.

This is the time to embrace new ways.

Here we set our priorities and patterns for everyday life.

Here we are strengthened for every day’s challenges.

Let us worship God, together!

***Hymn # 395**

“Blessed Jesus, At Your Word”

Call to Confession

Elder Larry Cowen

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Almighty God, you know there are times we feel forsaken and terrified more than supported and comforted. We cry out and hear no answers. We suffer and find no relief. We are tempted to blame you even though we are the ones who cut off communication. We complain in the midst of plenty and groan over imagined slights. When we feel put upon and despised, we turn inward with the hurt instead of opening ourselves to your healing touch. Have mercy on us, and help us in our time of need to return to you.

Assurance of Pardon

Elder Larry Cowen

Remember that Jesus shared our common lot and is able to sympathize with our weakness.

The Man of Nazareth was tempted as we are tempted.

Our confessions, both those spoken and those without voice, are no surprise to Christ, who is our great high priest.

Yet we are counted as brothers and sisters in the faith and are offered abundant grace and mercy. For God, all things are possible. We are forgiven, loved and free. Thanks be to God!

*Hymn # 582

“Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me”

*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

The Word With Children

Co-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.

Anthem

“Shine On Us”

arr. Greer

Scripture Reading

Mark 10:17-31

Sermon

“Letting Go”

Co-Pastor Karen Hagy

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*Hymn # 450

“Be Thou My Vision”

Call for the Offering

Deacon Charlene Isham

Offertory

*Doxology (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 Thanksgiving and Dedication (Unison)

Deacon Charlene Isham

Thank you, God, for the wealth you have entrusted to us. As we share a portion of that wealth, we pray that it may never become the object of our affection. Keep our focus on you, on people and relationships and lasting values, rather than on the possessions we can accumulate. We dedicate our time, money, and ourselves to the reign of God among us, praying that all whom our gifts may reach may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Amen.

*The Peace

May the Peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Please greet one another with signs of peace and reconciliation.

GOING FORTH IN GOD’S NAME

*Hymn # 543

“God Be the Love to Search and Keep Me”

*Commission and Blessing

The God whom we have met here is with us every day.

Be open each day to what God would say to you and have you do!

The Word of God is living and active.

It is sharper than a two-edged sword.

God’s Word provides judgment on our thoughts.

It reveals the intentions of our hearts.

The scriptures lead us to Jesus, our Teacher.

In Christ, we find support and encouragement.

The word of God will guide you in all truth.

It will assure you of God’s saving grace.

With God, all things are possible.

We strive to put God first in our lives today and everyday!

Amen.

Amen.

Postlude

“Shine, Jesus, Shine”

arr. Hayes

**Those who are able are invited to stand.*

Interested in Exploring Membership at BPC?

Join us for good conversation and a light dinner where you can learn about all things Presbyterian and BPC!

Tonight, Sunday, October 14th at 4:30 PM - Downstairs in the Youth Activity Room

Together, we will get to know each other better and we will learn about our faith, church membership, ways to get involved at BPC, what BPC's identity, values, and ministry goals are, how to join the church and the importance of stewardship in our lives. If you always wanted to know more about what it means to be Presbyterian, this is the class for you!

Please RSVP to Membership Elder Manny Barreto by emailing him at mannyb@mbarreto.net. If you need childcare, please include that information as well!

We hope you will join us!

*A good resource to check out before the class is our denomination's website www.pcusa.org

Wednesday Nights at BPC – Dinner and Discussion

6-7:15 p.m. Continuing Wednesday, October 17

Muslims, Christians, and Jesus – this video series and discussion will provide an introduction to Islam and an opportunity to learn about how to be good neighbors. Bring a covered dish to share!

BOXES NEEDED FOR THANKSGIVING BASKETS!

Paper case boxes are needed for our Thanksgiving Basket ministry.

Please drop off outside church office.

DRAFT Statement of Welcome and Affirmation

The Building Bridges Committee has been working with Session on a “Statement of Welcome”, to be used on BPC’s website. At the heart of this statement is the desire to affirm all who come through our doors, whether they have been a member for a lifetime, or are visiting for the first time today, assuring them they are welcome to our worship and to our church family. The following is a draft of the statement from Building Bridges, and is, we believe, a natural extension of what Bedford Presbyterian already strives to do and in keeping with recent stances taken by the Presbyterian Church (USA). Here is the draft statement:

“No matter who, no matter what, you are welcome.

- *We worship an inclusive and loving God, who calls all persons into relationship, both with God and with neighbor.*
- *In response to this love, demonstrated most perfectly in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves as an open and affirming community.*
- *Believing that all persons are children of God, made in God’s image, we welcome and celebrate persons of all ages, races, ethnicities, cultures, gender identities, sexual orientations, abilities, economic situations, immigration statuses, social statuses, and theological and political perspectives.”*

The Session is encouraging a time of congregation-wide comment and conversation about this statement, awaiting feedback from the church family before Session’s final consideration.

As members of this church family, we welcome questions and discussion regarding this addition. Please come and talk to us after worship on 9/16, 10/14, and 10/21. We will be in the Fellowship Hall.

For more information, contact Melinda Chen (maestrachen@gmail.com).