

BEBC NEWS—JANUARY 6, 2023

Beth Eden Baptist Church—Fitchburg, MA

This edition brings you the following news:

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------|--------|--------------------------------------|--------|
| • Prayer Week (January 8-15) | Pg 1-2 | • Scripture Memory & Meditation | Pg 5 |
| • Our Ministry Mindset in 2023 | Pg 2 | • Church Calendar: Current & Future | Pg 5 |
| • Missions Emphasis & Updates | Pg 2-3 | • ICYMI: Recent Ministry Resources | Pg 5-6 |
| • Adult Sunday School Series | Pg 3 | • Birthdays & Anniversaries | Pg 7 |
| • Hymn of the Month (January) | Pg 4 | • Church Offering Envelopes for 2023 | Pg 7 |
| • Bible Reading Plans | Pg 4 | • How Can We Help You? | Pg 7 |

MISSION STATEMENT: “Beth Eden Baptist Church exists to glorify God by making, maturing and mobilizing disciples who are becoming more like Jesus Christ.”



Prayer Week 2023 (January 8-15)

We are planning to have a special emphasis on prayer during our regular services (Sunday, Wednesday, Sunday). We are also scheduling some additional opportunities during the week for spiritual fellowship and intercession.

We need God to grow us spiritually, shape and equip us for ministry, and then increase our passion and commitment to reaching those around us for Christ. All of that requires God-honoring, scripture-saturated, soul-stirring prayer.

SCHEDULE—January 8-15:

- Sunday School (Genesis: God’s Plan Begins)
- Sunday AM*—prayer emphasis
- Sunday PM*—prayer emphasis (Lord’s Supper)
- Tuesday Prayer Meeting** (10:00 am at church)
- Wednesday Prayer Meeting** (7:00 pm, church)
- Thursday Prayer Meeting** (10:00 am at church)
- Friday Prayer Fellowships (7:00 pm in homes)
- Sunday School (Genesis: God’s Plan Begins)
- Sunday AM*—prayer emphasis
- Sunday PM—“Concert of Prayer” (on-site only)

*available on YouTube

**available via Zoom

Friday Home Prayer Fellowships:

We have four locations confirmed for these meetings. They are geographically spread out so it shouldn’t be too far of a drive for everyone to participate.

We will be asking people to **sign up** in the lobby at church on Sunday or by email/voice message to the church office (see p. 7). That way we can help each host with logistical preparations (parking, seating, etc.) and with organizing the refreshments for the end of the meeting. If the sign-up exceeds the current capacity, we will open up an additional location.

NORTH & WEST of Church

Host location: Brandon & Patty Cordio
Address: 356 Central St, Winchendon, MA
Phone: 864.552.0699 (Patty)
Email: pattywags83@gmail.com

SOUTH & WEST of Church

Host location: David & Becky Galvin
Address: 96 Town Farm Rd, Westminster, MA
Phone: 978.424.5804 (Becky)
Email: bekcycrocker@hotmail.com

EAST of the Church

Host location: Jodi Waaramaa
Address: 497 North St, Fitchburg, MA
Phone: 978.400.1110 (Jodi)
Email: waaramaa4@verizon.net

SOUTH & EAST of the Church

Host location: pending

Address:

Phone:

Zoom Access for Weekday Prayer Meetings

Due to the private and personal nature of the prayer times, we will not be broadcasting any of the prayer times on **YouTube**. However, we will make available to our members and regular attendees two-way interactive access via **Zoom**. You will be able to hear reasonably well the other people in the room, depending on how far away they are spread out. And they will be able to hear you if you choose to participate in the prayer time. I hope you will.

You will be able to access the video conference from a laptop, desktop, or mobile (cell ph., tablet) device. You will need to make sure you have the **free Zoom app installed** on your device. It is available for laptop/desktop on **Windows** or **Mac**, and for **iOS** (The App Store) or **Android** (Google Play) on mobile devices.

For **security with the meetings**, we will be using the “Meeting Room” feature. No password will be required. But you will need to use the specific link provided below, which is different for each meeting. The moderator will admit each person to the call. The **Help Line number** is 313.717.3185 (text) or info@betheden.net. For security reasons, these links will not be posted on the church website.

Tuesday, January 10 at 10:00 a.m.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82381084372>

Wednesday, January 11 at 7:00 p.m.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83066625311>

Thursday, January 12 at 10:00 a.m.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82446890603>



Our Ministry Mindset in 2023

Ministry Mission and Vision—This year, instead of one longer Vision Meeting, we are going to spend several Sunday mornings in January looking in God’s word at the mission of the church.

That will provide an opportunity for us to then discuss in a variety of contexts the biblical implications and practical opportunities for advancing that biblical ministry vision.

We want to act in faith and with fervency to pursue a God-honoring ministry vision, so we can fulfill the mission God has established for Beth Eden Baptist Church.

January 22—A Great Commitment to the Glory of God (Do all to the glory of God!)

January 29—A Great Commitment to the Great Commandment (Love the Lord your God!)

February 5—A Great Commitment to the New Commandment (Love one another!)

February 12—A Great Commitment to the Great Commission (Share the truth of God and show the love of Christ to those around us who are without the Lord!)

Let’s all be purposeful! Let’s all be prayerful! Then we can all be praise-full!

Missions Emphasis & Updates

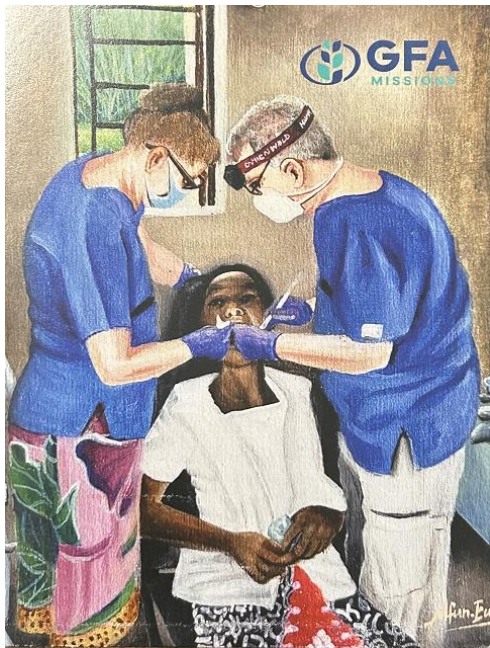


Toby & Susan Stevens—International Baptist Church, Cambridge, MA

Toby, Susan and their sons, Curtis and Clayton, were here with us back on Sunday evening, October 23. This week we received an extended ministry update from Toby. See the following page for two key items. Additional details will be available on Sunday in the missionary letter at the Information Center.

“Love gift keeps on giving!” The Stevens were able to use our October love gift to purchase a bunk bed set for the boys. They are thrilled and thank the Lord. They also donated the old trundle bed set to a Christian couple who ministers to refugee families.

Toby’s first hip replacement surgery will be on January 11. Then the second hip surgery will be approximately three months later. They are thanking the Lord for many details all coming together to make this possible. Since their visit here in October, his pain issues have increased significantly. But God has also been giving them increased opportunities for meaningful outreach ministry in the community.



Dr. Jack & Jennifer Mitchell—GFA Medical Missions

The Mitchell’s sent a nice thank you note for continuing support and special gifts. The original will be posted on the bulletin board on Sunday. Here is a copy of the note they sent.

Dear Friends at Beth Eden,

We want to thank you, as always, for your faithful support and for the special gift of \$155.00. You have always been an encouragement to us!

Our next trip, Lord willing, will be to the West Bank of Israel in March. We will be ministering to Palestinian Muslims. We would really appreciate your prayers.

*Thanks for your special place in our ministry!
Sincerely in Christ,
Jack & Jennifer*



Missions Emphasis Sunday—January 22 PM; Sid & Susie Messer (GFA Missions, Ecuador)

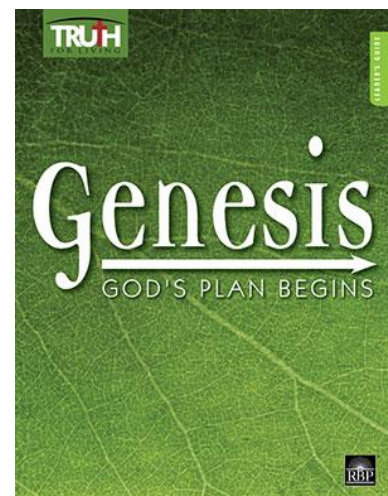
Sid & Susie Messer will be with us during the evening service on January 22. They were able to make a brief last-minute “bonus visit” back on October 5.

Sid will be preaching and presenting a ministry update that evening. This will be a wonderful opportunity to fellowship with our faithful ministry partners and to praise the Lord together.

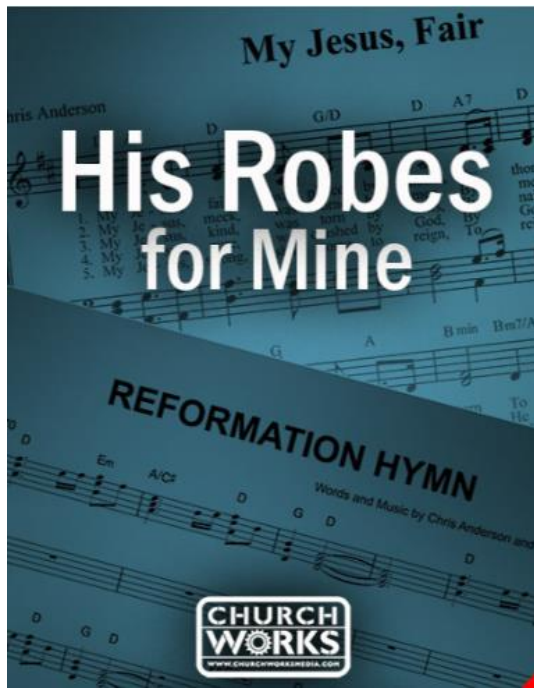
Adult Sunday School Series

Starting on January 1st, we began a new study in adult Sunday school.

- **Topic/Text:** Genesis—“God’s Plan Begins”
- **Teachers:** David Galvin and Brandon Cordio.



- **Summary:** This study surveys the book of Genesis. The special focus is on God and His plan of creation and redemption. Learners will take away meaningful applications from the study, and they will grow in their understanding of God’s dealings with characters such as Adam, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph.



Hymn of the Month (January)— “His Robes for Mine”

The lyrics were written by Pastor Chris Anderson and the music by Pastor Greg Habegger. The song is published by Church Works Media.

Verse 1

His robes for mine: O wonderful exchange!
Clothed in my sin, Christ suffered ‘neath God’s
rage.

Draped in His righteousness, I’m justified.
In Christ I live, for in my place He died.

Chorus

I cling to Christ, and marvel at the cost:
Jesus forsaken, God estranged from God.
Bought by such love, my life is not my own:
My praise—my all—shall be for Christ alone.

Verse 2

His robes for mine: What cause have I for dread?
God’s daunting law Christ mastered in my stead.
Faultless I stand, with righteous works not mine,
Saved by my Lord’s vicarious death and life.

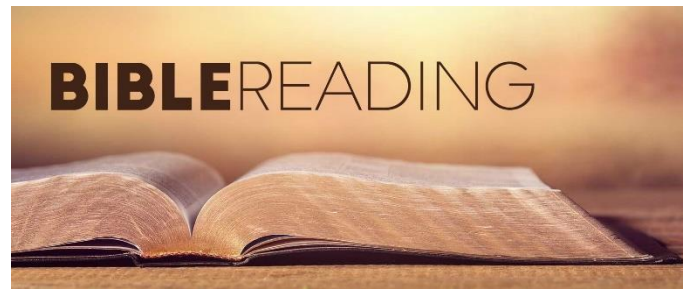
Verse 3

His robes for mine: God’s justice is appeased.
Jesus is crushed, and thus the Father’s pleased.
Christ drank God’s wrath on sin, then cried, “‘Tis
done!”
Sin’s wage is paid; propitiation won.

Verse 4

His robes for mine: Such anguish none can know.
Christ, God’s beloved, condemned as though His
foe.

He, as though I, accursed and left alone;
I, as though He, embraced and welcomed home!



Bible Reading Plans

This year, we are placing copies of the various [Bible reading plans](#) on the [church website](#) so you can access them anytime and anywhere you have internet access.

Here are some other resources in case you would like to be reminded of your reading plan on a daily basis. See details on the [church website](#).

- **Logos Bible Software** (FaithLife) free app
- **You Version** (adult and children’s app)

Here is the summary of reading chapters for **January 8-14 (Sun-Sat)**.

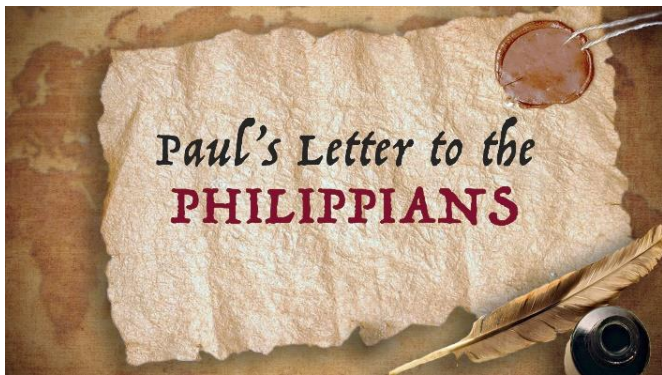
Three Sections at a Time:

OT Law, History, Prophets	Genesis 15-28
OT Poetic Books	Psalms 6-10
New Testament	Matthew 6-10

Chronological Order

Job 17-39





Scripture Memory & Meditation

Our scripture memory and meditation effort this year will focus on **Paul's Letter to the Philippians**. We will review two verses each week and will go over all four chapters during the year. It will be a great way to build off the adult Sunday school series this fall taught by David Galvin.

A copy of the [Scripture Memory & Meditation](#) schedule can be viewed on the [church website](#). Paper copies will be provided at the start of each month as a bulletin insert.

The Letter to the PHILIPPIANS **January 2023—Philippians chapter 1**

January 1-7

¹ Paul and Timotheus, the servants of Jesus Christ, to all the saints in Christ Jesus which are at Philippi, with the bishops and deacons: ² Grace *be* unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and *from* the Lord Jesus Christ.

January 8-14

³ I thank my God upon every remembrance of you,
⁴ Always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with joy,

January 15-21

⁵ For your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now; ⁶ Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform *it* until the day of Jesus Christ:

January 22-28

⁷ Even as it is meet for me to think this of you all, because I have you in my heart; inasmuch as both in my bonds, and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel, ye all are partakers of my grace. ⁸ For God is my record, how greatly I long after you all in the bowels of Jesus Christ.

January 29-February 4

⁹ And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and *in* all judgment;
¹⁰ That ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ;



The Coming Week: A Preview

January 8-15 PRAYER WEEK (Sunday-Sunday)
See the full schedule on pages 1-2.

Looking Ahead:

January 19 Ladies Fellowship Outing (9:45 a.m.)

January 22, 29; February 5, 12 "Mission & Vision Sundays" (more details on page 2)

January 22 Missions Emphasis Sunday (PM—Sid & Susie Messer, serving the Lord in Ecuador)

January 29 5th Sunday Fellowship (luncheon & brief afternoon service; no PM service that day)



ICYMI: Recent Ministry Resources

Here are [BEBE YouTube](#) links to recent service recordings. You will also find the links posted on the [BEBE Facebook page](#). Feel free to share these links with others via social media. And remember to "Like" posts by BEBE as often as you can.

Week of January 1-7:

Morning Service (1/1)—Pastor Wiggins brought a message for the New Year, **“Fresh Starts and Second Chances.”** It focused on the examples of some believers in the scriptures who were both bad and good examples. They were believers who faced serious challenges and made significant mistakes in their life. But they didn’t stay “stuck in reverse.” They expressed repentance. They embraced God’s forgiveness and grace. And they experienced God’s blessing. (1) **Moses**, a big man with a big problem [Exodus 2:11-15; Acts 7:18-29]; (2) **David**, a powerful man with uncontrolled passion [Psalm 32 & 51; Acts 13:22]; (3) **Peter**, a confident man with a significant disconnect [Luke 22:31-34, 54-62]; and (4) **John Mark**, an eager young man who failed to stand the test [Acts 13:4-5, 13; 15:36-40; 2 Tim 4:9-11].

Evening Service (1/1)—Pastor Wiggins taught on **“Start Well, End Well,”** based on **1 Corinthians 10:1-13**. The background in chapter 9 shows Paul’s delight in service, being willing to make any sacrifice and employ any legitimate means to reach people for Christ (1 Cor 9:19-23). However, he was also very concerned about the danger of sin in the life of believers, including himself, and did not want anything to cause him to be disqualified in the ministry (1 Cor 9:24-27). In light of that, he also challenged the Corinthians believers. (1) The **historical context** (1 Cor 10:1-5) highlights the sinful failures of the Nation of Israel during the years wandering in the wilderness. It is a reminder that privileges are no guarantee of success. (2) **Personal exhortations** follow (1 Cor 10:6-11), reminding the believers that they should not under any circumstances engage in sinful behaviors like the Israelites did. Sin is never safe! The consequences are serious. God’s patience is not to be tried. God’s holiness is not to be trifled with. (3) Paul finished by focusing on the **spiritual resources** available to believers, a theological foundation (1 Cor 10:12-13). He acknowledged that the temptations are real. He reminded them that the needed strength is not in them. Then he encouraged them that the needed strength is in the faithfulness of God who works in and through trusting believers. God will enable us to overcome temptation and endure hard trials if we obey His word!

Psalm 90:10, 12

¹⁰ The days of our years are threescore years and ten; And if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, Yet is their strength labor and sorrow; For it is soon cut off, and we fly away. ¹² **So teach us to number our days, That we may present to You a heart of wisdom.**

Midweek Service (1/4)—Pastor Wiggins taught a lesson, **“Another New Year!”** We looked at **Psalm 90**, especially vs. 9-12. How one prepares for and faces the brevity of life and its trials depends on what one believes about important spiritual realities. (1) Life is brief...longer for some than others...but always brief. (2) Life is challenging for all...and can be crushing for some...because of sin [e.g. sin affecting our world, sin in our heart, sins of others impacting us]. (3) Life reveals our sin and reminds us of God’s holiness. We must cling to His loving kindness and plead for His mercy. (4) Life requires humility before a mighty God. We desire to see His splendor and majesty in life. We need to experience His blessing upon our labors. That leads to an important responsibility and a holy desire. (1) “Number our days!” [i.e. pay careful attention to each day since they are so limited; don’t neglect or overlook any day] (2) “Present...a heart of wisdom” to God! [i.e. make our lives count; use each day wisely; live in a way that will please God].

“If you knew how quickly people would forget about you after your death, you will not seek in your life to please anyone but God.”

**--John Chrysostom (circa 387 A.D.),
Early Church Father**

Fellowship Ministry Teams

New Fellowship Ministry Team (FMT) **lists** and a **schedule** have been posted on the bulletin board in the lobby. Thank you in advance for your efforts to help us set up and clean up for our social events.

January 29 5th Sunday Fellowship Luncheon

Team: Galvin-Cordio

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays this week & next:

Jan 3 Nancy Babineau
Jan 15 Lynn Wiggins

Anniversaries this week & next:

None



Church Offering Envelopes for 2023

Church offering envelopes are available to pick up in the church lobby on Sunday. Each box will have a first & last name printed across the top. We encourage everyone to use this stewardship tool to aid you in your giving and to assist our treasurer in processing donations.

Offering envelopes are prepared each year for all members. We also gladly provide a set of envelopes for any regular attendee who requests one. Unmarked offering envelopes are always available in the pew racks.

Confidential contribution statements are prepared and distributed each year in January. For additional information, please contact our Church Treasurer, Todd Anderson.

Ladies Fellowship Outing

All church ladies are invited to participate in a daytime fellowship & fun outing on Thursday, **January 19**. The ladies group will be taking a trip to Athol, MA for shopping at **Hobby Lobby**, followed by lunch together at Wendy's. The church van will be used for the trip. Please meet at church no later than **9:45 a.m.** The van will leave at 10:00 a.m. A **sign-up sheet** will be available in the lobby starting this Sunday morning.



Church Office

350 Ashburnham St, Fitchburg, MA 01420
W: 978.345.4522 E: info@betheden.net
Website: www.betheden.net

Pastor Claude Wiggins

H: 978.386.1366 M: 313.717.3185
E: cwiggins@betheden.net

Church Secretary: Patty Cordio

M: 864.552.0699
E: pattywags83@gmail.com

Deacons:

David Galvin M: 978.906.3495
E: David.galvin.jr@gmail.com

Bob Morrison M: 978.503.1070
E: bobmorrison@gmail.com

Steve Allaire M: 978.870.5546
E: stevemallaire@gmail.com

Brandon Cordio M: 864.320.8344
E: bcordio@gmail.com