

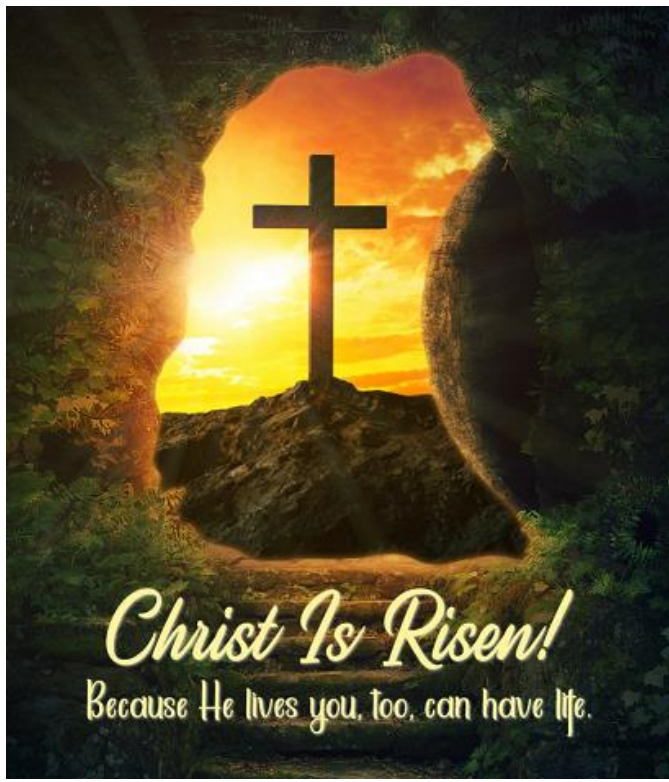
BEBC NEWS—MARCH 3, 2023

Beth Eden Baptist Church—Fitchburg, MA

This edition brings you the following news:

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



Easter Services on April 9

Easter Sunday is now just five weeks away. We need to be praying. And we need to be inviting.

Sunrise Service—We will start off the day with an outdoor service at 8:30 a.m. There will be singing, testimonies, and a Bible challenge.

Fellowship Breakfast—Then at 9:30 a.m. we will hold an Easter breakfast in the fellowship hall.

Morning Worship—Our main service for the day will begin at the normal 10:45 a.m.

Promotional fliers will be available starting on Sunday. Please place one in a high-visibility area of your home as a prayer reminder. And take as many additional copies as you need to invite friends, relatives, neighbors, business associates, and community contacts. Digital fliers will be circulated by email which you can use on your social media accounts.

Vacation Bible School 2023

Thank you to all who have already turned in a VBS 2023 survey form. If you are willing to help serve during Vacation Bible School this summer, please turn in one of the survey forms. Copies are available at the Information Center.

Based on surveys already received, our VBS 2023 effort will be in the **evening (6-9pm)** during the week of **July 24-28**.

We will be announcing soon the date for our kick-off organizational meeting. We are praying there will be many opportunities to impact children and their parents with the gospel. **Please pray! Please serve!**



S U M M E R I N T E R N S H I P

Summer Ministry Internship 2023

We are still pressing forward in seeking out a ministry intern to serve with us this summer here at Beth Eden Baptist Church. The plan is for the internship to run for twelve weeks from mid/late-May through mid-August.

The responsibilities of the intern will include the following: working with children and teens; helping with Pray & Go and other community outreach activities; assisting in scheduled church services (prayer, scripture reading, music, preaching, teaching); assisting with visitation; and using any other special gifts to be a blessing to the church family.

There will be many ways for the church family to serve alongside the intern and to be a source of encouragement to him. We will coordinate a schedule of **member-sponsored evening meals** throughout the summer. You will be blessed, and so will the intern.

*****Important Need***** One of the not-yet-resolved issues we still have is finding appropriate **housing for our intern for the summer**. It need not be anything fancy, just safe and reasonably comfortable. Can you help? Do you know someone who might be able to help? Here are some creative housing ideas that could be workable: basement "apartment" or guest room; grandparent apartment; travel trailer (not being used for the summer); an empty house (we can gather furnishings); and more.

Above all, **PLEASE PRAY** that the Lord will lead us to the right housing option, allow us to find a like-minded young man (single or married) with a passion for ministry, and that we will work together this summer energetically and effectively for the glory of God and the good of the Lord's work here at BEBC.



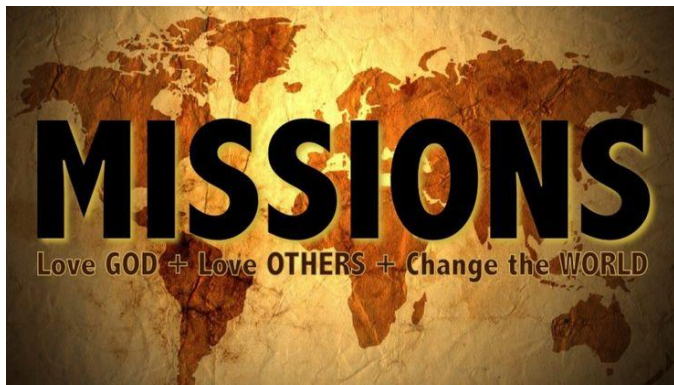
Church Music Concert, March 11

We have been invited by Monadnock Bible Baptist Church in Rindge, NH (Pastor David Mazza) to join them on **Saturday, March 11 at 5:30 p.m.** as they host the mixed ensemble of **Forever Be Sure Music**. The music presented by FBSM is conservative, yet fresh and vibrant.

The concert will last about 90 minutes, and will be followed by a light dinner at the church. Registration is requested. Please communicate your desire to attend to our church secretary, Patty Cordio. We will then communicate as a group with the church. If there is sufficient interest, we will take the church van.

The founder of FBS Music, Heather Schopf (top-right in photo below), and her husband, John, are both graduates of Pillsbury Baptist Bible College. That is where I first met them about twenty years ago. We have used Forever Be Sure piano and vocal compositions and arrangements in years past.





We Love Our Missionaries!

Back in January, many of you took the time to sign your name and add a personal note of encouragement for each of our missionaries. Here are some of the responses from our missionaries that have been received in recent weeks. Praise the Lord!

STEVENS (Boston Metro church planting)

Dear Friends of Beth Eden, Thank you for taking time to send me cards after my surgery. Therapy is going well. Today (2/24) I even enjoyed the opportunity to shovel snow! I appreciate your care and prayer for me. You are a blessing.

With much love,
Toby Stevens

HASSMAN (South Africa)

Thanks for the notes, that is very encouraging! We appreciate your prayers for us and our visas. A week and a half ago we got notice of Elianna's being processed, and then last Thursday mine was processed. That just leaves two more to go, and then we can go pick them up and find out the results. So we continue to trust God, and believe He answers prayer.

God bless,
Dan for the Hassmans

MESSER (Ecuador)

Thank you so very much for these kind notes from your church people. We thoroughly enjoyed our visit with you folks and are very grateful the Lord has put us together for the advancement of the kingdom of God. We look forward to many years of fellowship. Give our best to the church people.

Our spirit was refreshed on our recent visit at Beth Eden. Your kind and sweet spirit toward us was very encouraging. We certainly don't have words

adequate enough to express how appreciative we are for the fellowship and meal after the service. And the accommodations at the hotel were wonderful! We loved seeing you all again and hope that you were blessed by what the Lord has done and is doing in Ecuador. He is STILL growing His kingdom!

For His glory,
Sid & Susie Messer

BEAMAN (Zambia)

Thank you so much for organizing that and sending it. It is so refreshing to hear from you all. Thank you for your faithful prayers.

We are doing well. Ministry has had its ups and downs but God is faithful and we Praise Him for the work He is doing here in us and through the churches we serve in.

We have another busy year scheduled ahead of us. Please pray for the medical teams scheduled in May and July - Dr. Jack Mitchell's GFA teams.

Also, we are praying about taking a short furlough in September to December timeframe.

We appreciate you remembering us in these areas as well as regular daily strength throughout the year. Again, thank you for your prayers.

Sincerely,
Todd & Kathy Beaman

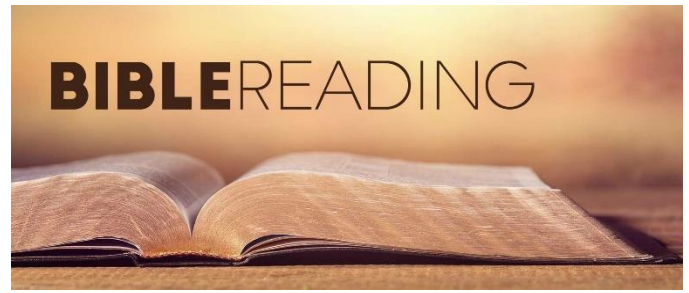
STERTZ (Baptist Couriers for Christ)

Dear Beth Eden Baptist Friends, Our hearts were blessed to receive your wonderful card with your assurance of prayers on our behalf. What a huge blessing. Thank you so very much.

May the Lord bless you many times over for your sacrifice in supporting us financially as well. It is truly a joy to co-labor together.

Please continue to keep us in prayer, as we serve Him in Eastern Europe and beyond, continuing on in 2023!! The northern Italy Campaign starts in June. Asking God for fruit that will remain' as a result of the distribution of John/Romans in five cities there.

In Service of the King,
Your missionary,
Bro Don



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.

Digital Bible reading resources. See details on the [church website](#).

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

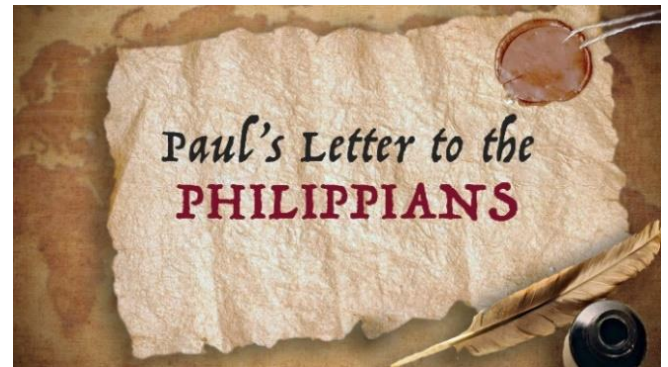
Here is the summary of reading chapters for **March 5-11 (Sun-Sat)**.

Three Sections at a Time:

OT Law, History, Prophets	Numbers 9-22
OT Poetic Books	Psalms 46-50
New Testament	Luke 2-6

Chronological Order

Numbers 23-36; Deuteronomy 1-2



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.

Hymn of the Month

Our March selection is “**My Jesus, Fair.**” Words by Chris Anderson; Music by Greg Habegger; written in 2008; published by Church Works Media.

Verse 1:

My Jesus, fair, was pierced by thorns,
By thorns grown from the fall.
Thus He who gave the curse was torn
To end that curse for all.

Chorus:

*O love divine, O matchless grace—
That God should die for men!
With joyful grief I lift my praise,
Abhorring all my sin,
Adoring only Him.*

Verse 2:

My Jesus, meek, was scorned by men,
By men in blasphemy.
“Father, forgive their senseless sin!”
He prayed, for them, for me.

Verse 3:

My Jesus, kind, was torn by nails,
By nails of cruel men.
And to His cross, as grace prevailed,
God pinned my wretched sin.

Verse 4:

My Jesus, pure, was crushed by God,
By God, in judgment just.
The Father grieved, yet turned His rod
On Christ, made sin for us.

Verse 5:

My Jesus, strong, shall come to reign,
To reign in majesty—
The Lamb arose, and death is slain.
Lord, come in victory!

The Letter to the PHILIPPIANS February 2023—Philippians chapter 1



ICYMI: Recent Ministry Resources

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

Week of February 19-25:

Morning Service (2/19)—Pastor Wiggins preached from [1 Timothy 1:1-2](#), "[A Dynamic Duo Ministry Team.](#)" This was the introduction to the letter between the Apostle Paul and his faithful young assistant, Timothy. The relationship between Paul and Timothy provides us with a great picture of several important spiritual truths. (1) **The mercy and grace of God** that brought both of them from such different backgrounds to a common faith in Christ. (2) **The love of God** that brought them together to serve the Lord like a loving father and son team. (3) **The truth of God** which was the spiritual responsibility for both of them to guard and teach to the churches.

Evening Service (2/19)—Pastor Wiggins preached from [Ezra 4](#) on "[Opposition: What Does It Take to Stop You?](#)" The remnant of Israel had returned from captivity to resettle in Jerusalem and Judah. The work had already begun to rebuild the altar of sacrifice and the foundation for the Temple. But not everyone was happy about that. The enemies of God’s people all around worked deviously and with determination to stop the work of the Lord. We can see some of the tactics they used to discourage the people. (1) **Infiltration** [vs. 1-3]; (2) **Inflammation** [vs. 4-5]; and (3) **Intimidation** [vs. 6-23]. God’s people had to endure this treatment for many years, but they faithfully pressed forward.

Midweek Service (2/22)—Brandon Cordio brought a Bible challenge from [Matthew 9:18-26](#), "[Trust Me!](#)" The religious ruler, called Jairus in other gospel accounts, is a tremendous example of trust in the Lord, even in the midst of the most painful trials of life.

February 5-11

¹¹ Being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God.

¹² But I would ye should understand, brethren, that the things *which happened* unto me have fallen out rather unto the furtherance of the gospel;

February 12-18

¹³ So that my bonds in Christ are manifest in all the palace, and in all other *places*; ¹⁴ And many of the brethren in the Lord, waxing confident by my bonds, are much more bold to speak the word without fear.

February 19-25

¹⁵ Some indeed preach Christ even of envy and strife; and some also of good will: ¹⁶ The one preach Christ of contention, not sincerely, supposing to add affliction to my bonds:

February 26-March 5

¹⁷ But the other of love, knowing that I am set for the defence of the gospel. ¹⁸ What then? notwithstanding, every way, whether in pretence, or in truth, Christ is preached; and I therein do rejoice, yea, and will rejoice.



This Weekend: A Preview

9:45am Sunday School (Genesis)
10:45am Morning Worship
6:00pm Sunday Evening Service

Looking Ahead:

March 5 Ladies spring Bible study elective begins
March 5 Lord’s Supper observance (end PM)
April 1 Spring Church Work-Day
April 6 Ladies Meeting
April 9 Easter Sunday
April 26 Q3 Business Meeting
April 30 5th Sunday Fellowship
May 6 Ladies Luncheon

Week of February 26-March 4:

Morning Service (2/26)—Pastor Wiggins preached from [1 Timothy 1:3-11](#), **“Warnings against False Teachers.”** Paul had left Timothy to minister at Ephesus while he continued on to Macedonia (i.e. northern Greece). Once at his new destination, he wrote to encourage Timothy in the important task entrusted to him. Paul knew there was a clear and present danger at Ephesus...false teachers who would undermine the communication of God’s truth and the work of the Gospel. In these verses we can see (1) The **target** of Paul’s charge, false teachers [vs. 3b-4]; (2) The **motive** for Paul’s charge—to encourage believers with the spiritual benefits of following God’s truth [vs. 5]; to warn believers of the danger of moving away from God’s truth [vs. 6]; and to expose the character of those who taught falsehood [vs. 7]. We can also see the **substance** of Paul’s charge [vs. 8-11]. Paul had to confront these Judaizers, teachers of a legalistic approach to salvation. But he didn’t want anyone to think he was opposed to God’s law. The Law has a proper use, to convict men of their sinful rebellion against God [vs. 8-10a]. Paul stood opposed to any false teaching and any false practice that was “contrary to sound doctrine” [vs. 10b]. He supported only teaching that which was consistent with the “glorious gospel of the blessed God” [vs. 11].

Evening Service (2/26)—Bill Pearce preached from [Isaiah 40:12-31](#), **“Strength for the Struggling.”** When we get to the end of our rope, grow weary and struggle to see the way forward, we need to remember we have a wise and powerful God who cares for us, strengthens us, and works out His purposes for His glory. Verses 29-31 are a powerful encouragement to those who are struggling.

Isaiah 40:29-31 ²⁹He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength. ³⁰Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall: ³¹but they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

Midweek Service (3/1)—We continued our “Prayer in the Early Church” series. Pastor Wiggins taught from [Acts 12](#), **“Prayer for Deliverance.”** This is the story of God’s delivering Peter from prison and

certain death, in response to the faithful prayers of His people. It is a reminder that God is sovereign and works out His purposes (cf. James was not delivered). God is delighted when His people pray. Sometimes God’s answers to our prayers are so amazing it catches us off guard and reveals our weakness in serving a mighty God.

Acts 12:5, 12 ⁵Peter therefore was kept in prison: but prayer was made without ceasing of the church unto God for him. ¹²And when he had considered *the thing*, he came to the house of Mary the mother of John, whose surname was Mark; where many were gathered together praying.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays this month:

March 2	Christine Hoyt
March 6	Betty Longley
March 13	Ross Condon
March 14	Joe Colameta
March 14	David Galvin
March 14	Bill Pearce

Anniversaries this month:

March 22	David & Sherrie Ball
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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.

April 9 Easter Sunday

Team: Morrison-Allaire

April 30 5th Sunday Fellowship Luncheon

Team: Galvin-Cordio



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