

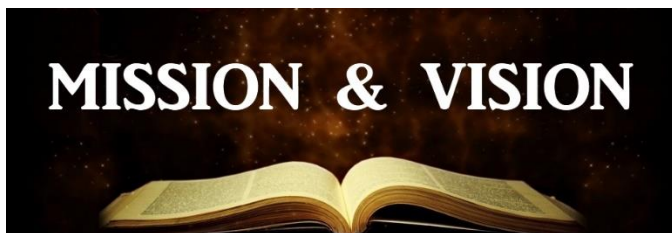
# BEBC NEWS—FEBRUARY 3, 2023

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.*”



## 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!)

## New Sunday AM Preaching Series

Lord willing, on February 19 we will be starting a new preaching series on Sunday morning, “**How to Properly Shepherd Christ’s Church.**” We will be studying the New Testament books of First & Second Timothy. Those two books, along with Titus, are referred to as The Pastoral Epistles.

But these books are not just for pastors. In fact, the intent was that pastors would share these things with the congregation. It addresses many practical topics for believers in the local church. It also speaks to the qualifications, responsibilities, and accountability of spiritual leaders in the church.

Let’s commit ourselves to eagerly study God’s word and humbly, faithfully follow God’s word.



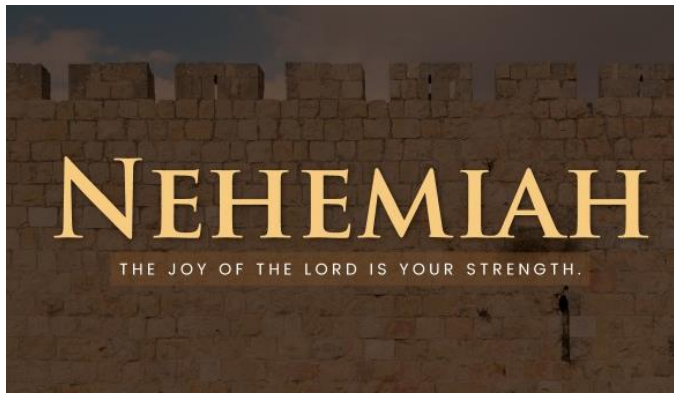


## New Sunday PM Bible Study

Starting this Sunday evening, February 5, our new Bible study series will be “**Staying Focused While Rebuilding for the Lord.**”

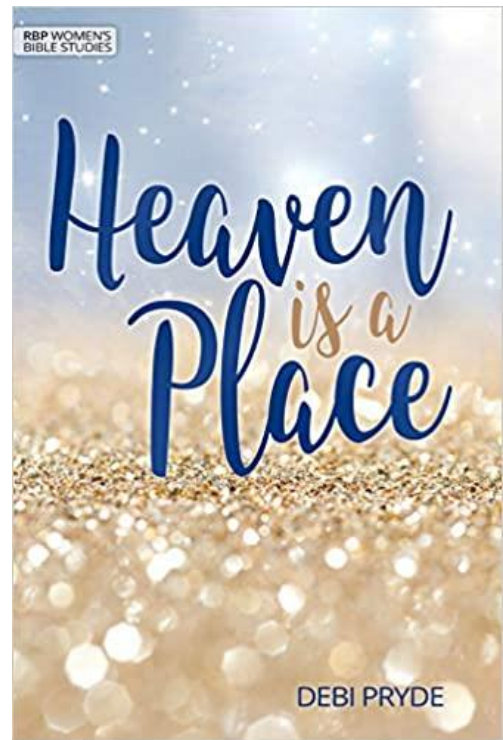
The Lord used several different leaders to protect, equip, and guide the children of Israel (the remnant) as they returned to the Promised Land after a long captivity in Babylon. There was much work ahead of them. The two primary characters were **Ezra**, the priest, and **Nehemiah**, the governor.

We will see how God worked to help the people overcome obstacles, address their own sin issues, avoid many dangerous traps, and faithfully work to achieve the goals that the Lord had established for them. And while there is plenty of action and intrigue in the narrative, the central focus is on God and the faithful people that He used to accomplish His purposes.



## Ladies Spring Bible Study Elective

Beginning March 5, on Sunday mornings at 9:45am, there will be a 12-13 week long Ladies Bible Study elective. The topic will be “Heaven Is a Place.” The elective will be taught by Lynn Wiggins and will meet in the Conference/Overflow Room. Please sign up for the elective on the list in the foyer so that we can order enough books.



## We Love Our Missionaries!

All ladies are invited to meet at church on **Thursday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 p.m.** We will be writing encouraging notes to our missionaries and enjoying some fellowship. Cards will be provided. For those ladies with a creative flair, make-your-own-card supplies will also be available.



**“Christ didn’t come to make bad men good. He came to make dead men live!”**

## **Business Meeting Recap**

We held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Business Meeting on February 1st. The meeting had been rescheduled from January 25th due to weather issues. The following agenda items were presented.

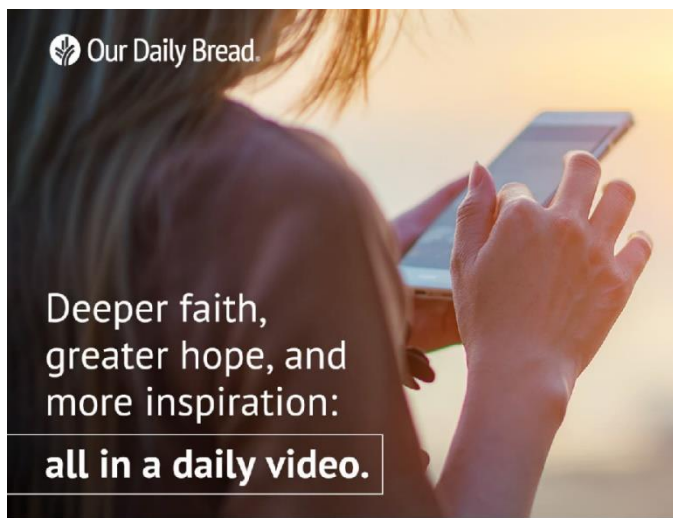
**Church Clerk Minutes** (Oct 1-Jan 31)—The minutes were read by our clerk. It included the Q1 Business Meeting (Oct 26) and two new member admission votes (Dec 11 and Jan 22). The minutes were approved unanimously. A copy is posted on the bulletin board in the main lobby.

**Financial Report Q2** (Oct 1-Dec 31)—The general Treasurer's Report and the Missions Report were both presented and questions were fielded. The financial reports were approved unanimously. A copy is posted on the bulletin board in the main lobby.

**Proposed Budget Amendment**—The proposal to create a new budget category, Emergency Health Supplies & Services (EMSS), along with preliminary funding authorization of \$3,000, was presented and questions were fielded. The amendment proposal was approved unanimously. A copy is posted on the bulletin board in the main lobby.

**Informational Update re: escrow holdback fund & IRS back payroll tax resolution**—Recent significant positive progress was reported. Questions were answered.

**Informational Update re: possible summer ministry intern (2023)**—The basic goals and guidelines were presented. Questions were answered.



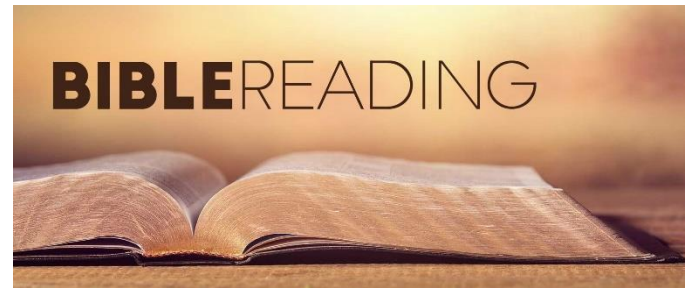
## **Our Daily Bread, Version 2.0**

If you have ever used devotional booklets, you know they can be a source of encouragement and an

aid to consistent daily exposure to God's word. But did you know you can now watch an Our Daily Bread devotional video online? There are two options available to receive a link for watching the devotional video online. (1) You can [sign up](#) to receive a **daily email**. (2) You can also [sign up](#) to receive by **text message three devotionals** each week.

As ODB states on their site, "With the Daily Devotional Video, you can spend time with God: (1) In the kitchen, with your morning cup of coffee; (2) In the breakroom, during your lunch hour; (3) In your car, waiting for the kids to finish soccer practice; or (4) In the laundry room, waiting for the washer to finish."

None of this is intended to take the place of your own personal Bible reading and scripture meditation. Neither is it to be a substitute for faithful participation in the services of your own local church. But it can be a thought-provoking and heart-warming addition to your practice of the spiritual disciplines.



## **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)

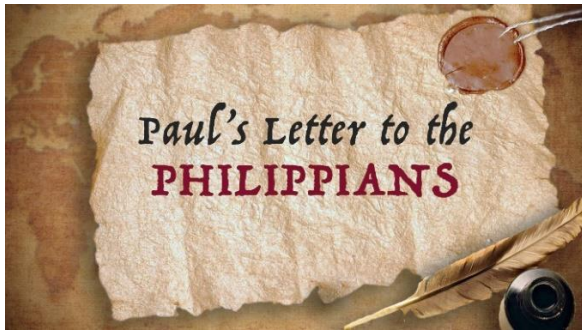
Here is the summary of reading chapters for **February 5-11 (Sun-Sat)**.

### **Three Sections at a Time:**

OT Law, History, Prophets	Exodus 21-34
OT Poetic Books	Psalms 26-30
New Testament	Matt. 26-28; Mark 1-2

### **Chronological Order**

Exodus 19-38



## February 26-March 5

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



## 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** **Jan-Feb 2023—Philippians chapter 1**

### **January 29-February 4**

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

### **February 5-11**

<sup>11</sup> Being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God. <sup>12</sup> 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**

<sup>13</sup> So that my bonds in Christ are manifest in all the palace, and in all other *places*; <sup>14</sup> 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**

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

## **This Weekend: A Preview**

9:45am Sunday School (Genesis)

10:45am Morning Worship

A Great Commitment to the New Commandment  
Observance of the Lord's Supper at end of service

6:00pm Sunday Evening Service

## **Looking Ahead:**

February 5, 12 Mission & Vision Sundays

March 2 Ladies Meeting

April 1 Spring Church Work-Day

April 6 Ladies Meeting

April 9 Easter Sunday

April 30 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Fellowship

May 6 Ladies Meeting



## **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 Jan 29-Feb 4:**

**Morning Service (1/29)**—This was the second week of our Ministry Vision Month. Pastor Wiggins preached on "A Great Commitment to the Great Commandment." Key passages were Matthew 22:35-40 and Mark 12:28-34. (1) The Great

Commandment is the foundation and summary of God's Law. (2) The Great Commandment reveals the heart of God. (3) The Great Commandment also reveals the hearts of men. The first man (Luke 10:28-29) had the right answer, but the wrong heart! The second man (Mark 12:32-34) had the right answers but had not yet expressed true faith and trust in God.

**Afternoon Service (1/29)**—After sharing a delicious meal together, we enjoyed a wonderful time of singing and testimonies. Then our devotional time focused on Philippians 1:3-11. In verses 3-8. Paul looked back and shared the reasons why he thanked God for those believers and was moved to pray joyfully for them. In verses 9-11 Paul also looked forward and prayed, because he loved them so deeply, for what he knew God wanted to do in their lives in the days ahead.

**Midweek Service (2/1)**—We continued our “Prayer in the Early Church” series. Pastor Wiggins taught “An Assembly Devoted to Prayer,” from Acts 2:41-47. The key theme came from verse 42, “And they continued steadfastly ... in prayers.” That involves giving intense effort to accomplish something of value, even in the face of great difficulties (i.e. persistence, devotion). We looked at possible **obstacles to prayer**. Then we looked at **motivations for “continuing steadfast” in prayer**.

## Vacation Bible School 2023

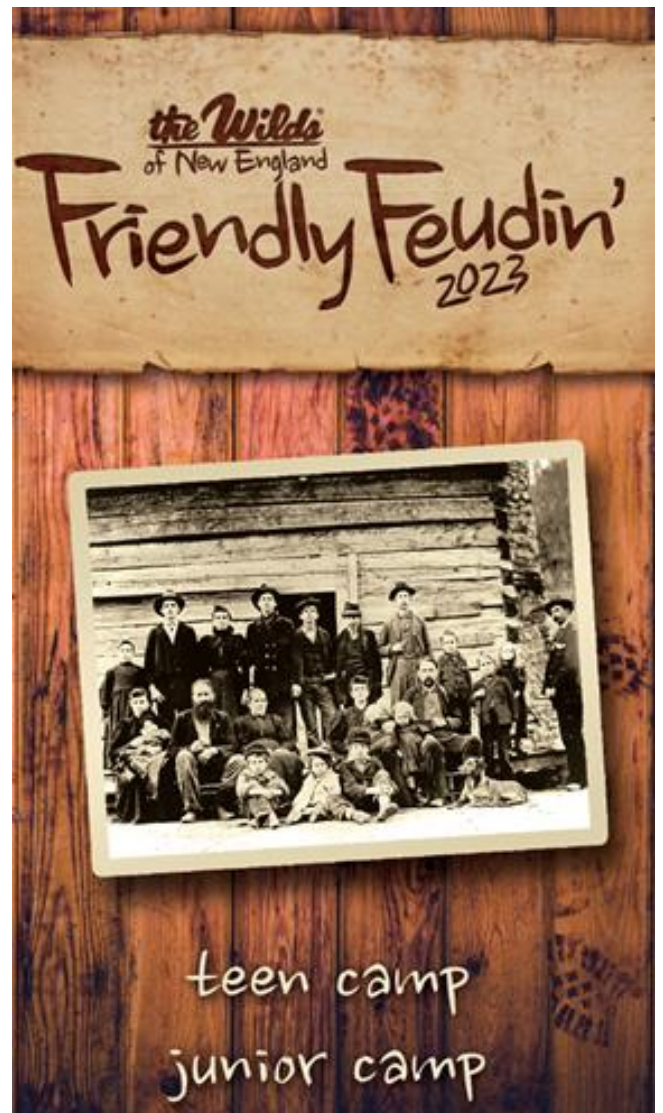
We are praying and preparing for a summer outreach ministry to children. Our target date is **July 17-21**. Meetings would take place in the **evenings**, so folks who work during the day can still participate.

Would you be willing to serve and help make an eternal difference in the lives of children from our church and from our community? There will be many different ways to serve (e.g. Bible teaching, counseling, missionary stories, refreshments, activities, crafts, transportation).

Please pray! Please serve!

## Church Summer Camp Is Just Around the Corner!

We are beginning our 2023 effort to register young people for summer camp at The Wilds of New England. The camp theme for 2023 is “**Friendly Feudin’**.” [Complete details](#) can be found on the [TWNE website](#) or at the Information Center at church.



Junior campers must be entering grades 4-7 in the fall. Teen campers must be entering grades 7-12 in the fall, or be a 2023 high school graduate.

For 2023 we are again offering our Camp Scholarship program. This covers the cost of camp, less the required registration payment by parent or guardian. Transportation is also provided on the church van from BEBC to TWNE and back.

A nonrefundable \$50 payment is required to confirm each [camper registration](#). For those who register no later than March 1<sup>st</sup>, the church will also cover the cost of the “Camper Memory Packet.”

Our target dates for camp weeks are listed here. **Junior Camp:** July 31-August 5. **Teen Camp:** June 26-July 1. Those are not the only weeks young people can attend camp, but we are trying to coordinate transportation for those weeks, if possible.

If you have any questions, please contact our church secretary, Patty Cordio.

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

### **Birthdays this month:**

Feb 2 Alice Birney  
Feb 7 George Canavan  
Feb 10 Louise Condon  
Feb 10 Katy Diaz  
Feb 15 Margaret Villagomez  
Feb 16 Dottie Anderson  
Feb 20 Tom Bowditch

### **Anniversaries this month:**

Feb 26 Jamie & Cate Rosa

## 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 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Fellowship Luncheon**

**Team: Galvin-Cordio**

Establishing and maintaining a great commitment to worshipping God in prayer is never easy, but it is always blessed!

Establishing and maintaining a great commitment to steadfast and fervent prayer with fellow believers is rarely convenient, but always life-changing and rewarding!



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