

# BEBC NEWS—APRIL 21, 2023

Beth Eden Baptist Church—Fitchburg, MA

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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.*”



## Quarterly Business Meeting & Special Proposal

Following our Bible study time on April 26, we will hold the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Business Meeting. The agenda will include the following: (1) Clerk minutes; (2) Financial reports (General Fund, Missions); (3) an update on the IRS situation; and (4) a special proposal regarding the consolidation of several designated funds.

The full details of the special proposal are posted on the bulletin board in the church foyer. Here is a brief summary.

### **PROPOSAL:**

The Pastor and Deacons recommend that the three designated funds marked with an asterisk (\*) shall be combined into a general-use designated **Special Projects Fund**. Those three funds will cease to exist and will no longer be listed on future financial reports (after the end of FY 2022-2023). Future

donations made to any of those funds will be directed to the **Special Projects Fund**.

The newly formed **Special Projects Fund** shall be used initially for one or more of the following efforts: (1) ladies restroom upgrade; (2) nursery upgrade; (3) auditorium projector & screen; (4) widen main entrance, add retainer wall; (5) additional kitchen upgrades.



## Men's Spring Fellowships

We have two more men's fellowship times scheduled this spring. Our next meeting will be at the church building on **April 27** (4<sup>th</sup> Thursday) at **6:30-8:00 p.m.**

The May meeting has been moved to Thursday, **June 1** at 6:30 p.m. That will give us an opportunity to invite friends and enjoy a special outdoor cookout fellowship, and perhaps some games. Watch for more details next month.

## 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Fellowship Next Sunday!

It happens four times a year (5 times in 2023) and is always one of our favorite events on the church calendar. When a 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday rolls around, that means we plan a church fellowship luncheon right after the morning service. The meal is followed by a brief afternoon service which includes singing, testimonies, and a devotional challenge. That will conclude our services for the day. There will be no evening service on **April 30**.

Please bring the following, if you are able: (1) a main dish and (2) a side dish or dessert to share. The church will provide drinks, paper goods and silverware.



## Ladies-Girls Luncheon on May 6

All ladies and girls are invited to attend BEBC's 2023 Ladies & Girls Luncheon. It will be held on **Saturday, May 6, starting at 11:30 a.m.** The speaker will be **Holly Christiansen**.

We will enjoy lovely decorations, delicious food, and more! Please sign up on the bulletin board so we can plan the seating and food accurately. **The sign-up deadline is April 30.**

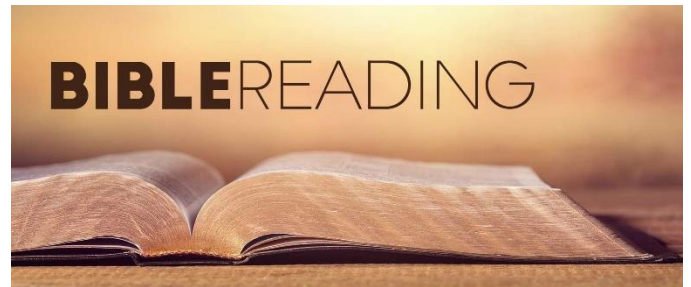
There will be **no cost** for those attending. **Invite a friend!** See Patty Cordio with any questions.



## Spring Church Work-Day Moved to May 13

Our spring church work-day has been rescheduled for **Saturday, May 13**. We will have refreshments ready to go by 8:00 am for those willing to get an early start. If 9:00 am or later works better for you, we will still have plenty of tasks to choose from when you arrive.

We have a good mix of indoor and outdoor projects planned. There will be light cleaning and organizing of both inside rooms and outside storage buildings. And there will be lots of seasonal outdoor clean-up, along with a few heavier outdoor projects. Feel free to bring the whole family and serve together.



## 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.

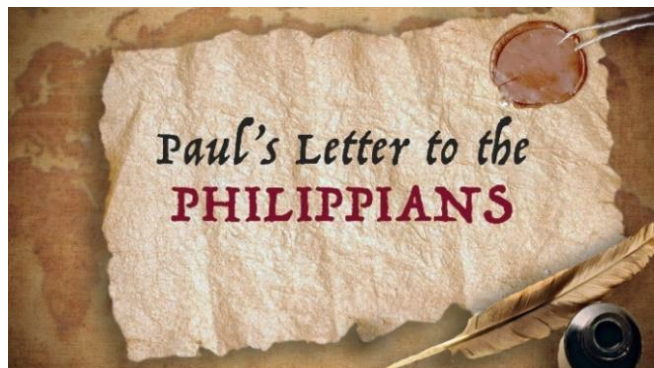
Here is the summary of reading chapters for **April 23-29 (Sun-Sat)**.

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

OT Law, History, Prophets	Judges 13-21; Ruth 1-4
OT Poetic Books	Psalm 81-85
New Testament	John 13-17

### **Chronological Order**

1 Chronicles 1-10; Psalm 43-45, 49, 73, 77-78, 81, 84-85, 87-88, 92-93



### April 23-29

<sup>3</sup> Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. <sup>4</sup> Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others.

### April 30-May 6

<sup>5</sup> Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: <sup>6</sup> Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:



### This Weekend:

9:30 am Sunday School  
10:45 am Morning Worship  
6:00 pm Evening Service

### Looking Ahead:

April 22 Medical training (rescheduled TBD)  
April 23 Sunday services (SS, AM, PM)  
April 26 Midweek service (7:00pm)  
April 26 \*Quarterly Business Meeting (7:30pm)  
April 27 \*Men's Fellowship (6:30pm)  
April 30 \*5th Sunday Fellowship  
May 6 \*Ladies-Girls Luncheon  
May 13 \*Church Work-Day (Saturday)

\*See the special announcement for details.

### Birthdays & Anniversaries

#### **BIRTHDAYS this month:**

1 Geoff St. Onge  
4 Helen Godin  
7 Judi Morrison  
7 Linda Gouldrup  
8 Dan Quimby  
10 Nancy Bowditch  
10 Mack Jackson  
13 Larry LaRoche  
18 Eric Campbell  
20 Richard Tait  
25 Pastor Claude Wiggins

## 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** **April 2023—Philippians (chap 1-2)**

### **Philippians 1**

#### **April 2-8**

<sup>27</sup> Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel; <sup>28</sup> And in nothing terrified by your adversaries: which is to them an evident token of perdition, but to you of salvation, and that of God.

#### **April 9-15**

<sup>29</sup> For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake; <sup>30</sup> Having the same conflict which ye saw in me, and now hear *to be* in me.

### **Philippians 2**

#### **April 16-22**

<sup>1</sup> If *there be* therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies, <sup>2</sup> Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, *being* of one accord, of one mind.

## ANNIVERSARIES this month:

- 2 Jim & Nancy Babineau
- 5 Geoff & Pam St. Onge
- 13 Ernie & Joan Tait
- 20 Mark & Jodi Waaramaa
- 27 Peter & Alice Birney
- 28 Phil & Deb Chura



## 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 April 9-15:**

**Outdoor “Sunrise” Service (4/9)**—Pastor Wiggins brought a short challenge from **John 20:1-18** looking at **“The Worship and Witness of Mary Magdelene.”** She was the first person to see Jesus after His resurrection. Oh, how she loved Him!

**Morning Service (4/9)**—Pastor Wiggins preached from **1 Peter 1:3-9**, **“Why Should Easter Matter to You?”** Why is the resurrection of Christ infinitely important? (1) Because it is the eternal spiritual foundation you will build on [vs. 3]! (2) Because it is the substance of spiritual assurance you will walk in [vs. 4-5]! (3) Because the risen Christ is the spiritual reward you will cherish throughout life and enjoy for all eternity [vs. 6-9]!

**Midweek Service (4/12)**—During the midweek service, Pastor Wiggins started a new Bible study series. This evening he taught on **Daniel 2:17-23**. What is the hardest situation you have ever faced in life? What is the hardest, most improbable, even impossible thing you have ever prayed about? How would you pray if facing a life-or-death situation, or a really complicated, serious, painful situation? We looked at (1) How do you prepare your heart for a prayer like this? [see Dan 1:8 and context] (2) How do you pray for something seemingly impossible? [vs. 17-19a]. (3) How should we respond when God answers prayer in amazing ways? [vs. 19b-23]

“Christianity, if false, is of no importance, and, if true, of infinite importance. The one thing it cannot be is moderately important.”

--C.S. Lewis

### **Week of April 16-22:**

**Morning Service (4/16)**—Pastor Wiggins preached from 1 Timothy 2:11-15 on “Women’s Roles in the Church.” (1) **WHAT?** The Role of Women in the Church [vs. 11-12]. (2) **WHY?** The Reason for that Injunction [vs. 13-14]. And (3) **HOW?** The reward for faithfully following God’s design [vs. 15].

**Evening Service (4/16)**—Pastor Wiggins started a new series, Joyful Church. It looks at select passages in the Book of Acts. This week we looked at **Acts 2:41-47**, **“The Joy of an Expanding and Maturing Church.”** The backdrop is the Day of Pentecost and Peter’s sermon. About 3,000 people responded to the prompting of the Holy Spirit following Peter’s sermon. There was abundant joy throughout the church there in Jerusalem because (1) It was a redeemed church [vs. 41]; it was a discipling church [vs. 42]; (3) it was a loving church, unselfish and sacrificial [vs. 44-45]; and (4) it was a unified church [vs. 46-47].

**Midweek Service (4/19)**—Pastor Wiggins continued the series, Praying People in the Bible. This week again focused on Daniel, but on **Daniel 6:10-11** and the surrounding context. It reminds us that we need to pray with (1) conviction [vs. 10a]; (2) consecration [vs. 10b, cf. 11a]; (3) gratitude [vs. 10c]; (4) consistency [vs. 10d]; and (5) confidence [vs. 11b]. And through all of that, God prospered Daniel for his blessing and God’s glory [vs. 28].

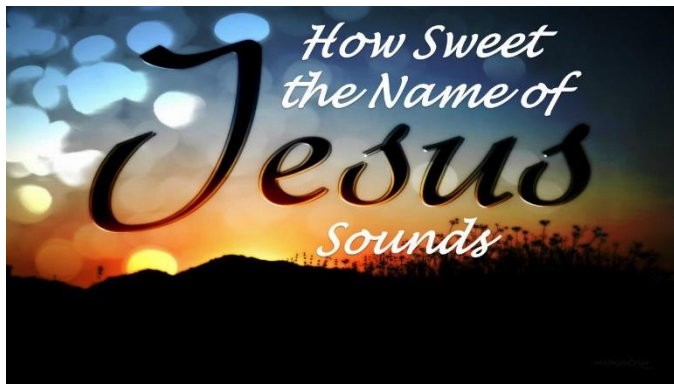
## Missionary Messages—Mitchells

Dear Friends at Beth Eden Baptist:

We have recently returned from the Middle East where the Lord led us and kept us safe. We’re happy to be home—it was kind of wild over there.

We want to express our thanks to you for your generosity to us, your prayers, and your friendship. We are grateful for your help. Thanks for your special place in our hearts and our ministry.

Sincerely, Jack & Jennifer Mitchell



## 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 30**      **5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Fellowship Luncheon**  
**Team: Galvin-Cordio**



## Hymn of the Month

### “How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds”

Words: John Newton (published 1779)  
Music: Lloyd Larson (2005)  
Arranged: Ruth Coleman (2010)

#### **Verse 1:**

How sweet the name of Jesus sounds  
In a believer's ear!  
It soothes my sorrows, heals my wounds,  
And drives away my fear.  
It makes the wounded spirit whole  
And calms the troubled breast;  
It satisfies the hungry soul,  
And gives the weary rest.

#### **Verse 2:**

Dear name! the rock on which I build,  
My shield and hiding place,  
My never-failing treas'ry  
Filled with boundless stores of grace!  
My Jesus, Savior, Shepherd, Friend,  
My Prophet, Priest, and King;  
My Lord, my life, my way, my end,  
Accept the praise I bring.

#### **Verse 3:**

Weak is the effort of my heart,  
And cold my warmest thought;  
But when I see You as You art,  
I'll praise You as I ought.  
Till then I would Your love proclaim  
With every fleeting breath,  
And may the music of Your name  
Refresh my soul in death.

#### **Church Office**

350 Ashburnham St, Fitchburg, MA 01420  
W: 978.345.4522      E: [info@betheden.net](mailto:info@betheden.net)  
Website: [www.betheden.net](http://www.betheden.net)

#### **Pastor Claude Wiggins**

H: 978.386.1366      M: 313.717.3185  
E: [cwiggins@betheden.net](mailto:cwiggins@betheden.net)

#### **Church Secretary: Patty Cordio**

M: 864.552.0699  
E: [pattywags83@gmail.com](mailto:pattywags83@gmail.com)

#### **Deacons:**

**David Galvin**      M: 978.906.3495  
E: [David.galvin.jr@gmail.com](mailto:David.galvin.jr@gmail.com)

**Bob Morrison**      M: 978.503.1070  
E: [bobmorrison@gmail.com](mailto:bobmorrison@gmail.com)

**Steve Allaire**      M: 978.870.5546  
E: [stevemallaire@gmail.com](mailto:stevemallaire@gmail.com)

**Brandon Cordio**      M: 864.320.8344  
E: [bcordio@gmail.com](mailto:bcordio@gmail.com)