

## Welcome to Bedford Presbyterian Church

We are glad to have you join us today.

*We envision a church worshipping with joy, loving each other with compassion and reaching out to the world with grace and justice.*

### Worshipping with Joy

In person at 10 a.m. Sunday morning. Also livestreamed at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MMxZcyXc5oo>

### Downstairs

There is Children's Church for children between the ages of 3-10. There is also a nursery and a separate room for nursing mothers.

Check out our website; [bedfordpca.org](http://bedfordpca.org)

Prayer before worship: 9:45 a.m.

### Bible Studies

- **Adult Bible study**—7:30 p.m. on Jeremiah. Meeting on Zoom and led by Reid Campbell. Next meeting is Feb. 26
- **Men's Bible study**—7:15 p.m. on Galatians. Meeting Wednesdays at the home of Nathan Priddle.
- **ISMC study groups** are meeting—contact Will or Chi Perrie.
- **Women's Bible Study**— Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. at the home of Laura Priddle on the book of Acts. Next meeting Feb. 26.

**English Conversation Group:** 1 p.m. on Wednesday, February 26

### Pray for:

- the missionaries we support
- those affected by the fires in California
- Christ Church Halifax (Michael and Britney Chhangur)
- Harbour Light Church
- persecuted Christians throughout the world
- Israel
- the attack on Ukraine to end
- Evangelism
- safety for the elders travelling to Presbytery next week and the wisdom to do what God wants of us
- the pulpit search committee to find the right man—God's man—to be our pastor when Pastor Bill leaves us
- Family of the week: Rob and Emily Walker

## Officers of the Church

### Elders

Bill Radford—Pastor

Peter Bustin

Reid Campbell

Will Perrie

Glenn Wadden

### Pastor Emeritus

Don Codling

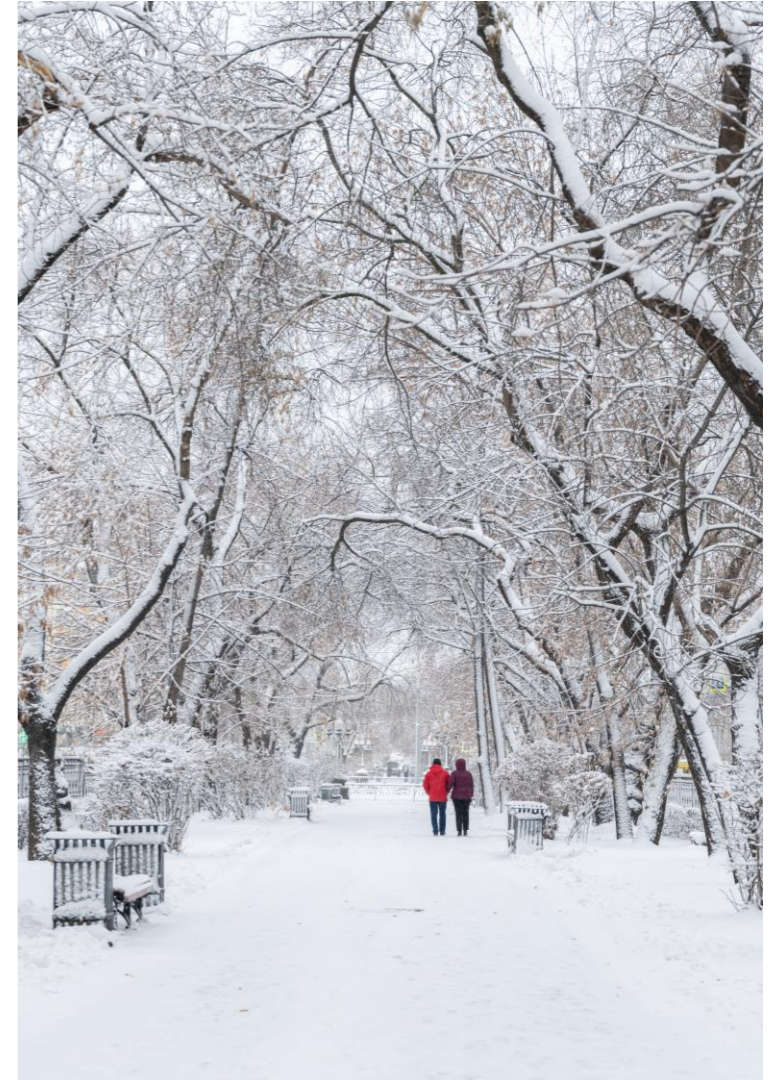
### Deacons

David Campbell

Honza Pokorny

Edward Woolley

**Electronic giving:** You can give electronically by sending an Interac e-transfer to [bedfordpca@gmail.com](mailto:bedfordpca@gmail.com)



*Continue steadfastly in  
prayer, being watchful  
in it with thanksgiving.  
Colossians 4.2*

## Bedford Presbyterian Church

Pastor Bill Radford

February 23, 2025

[www.bedfordpca.org](http://www.bedfordpca.org)

49 Nelsons Landing Blvd.

Bedford, NS

## Reflections

“How are you doing? Really doing? How are you handling your hard week?” she asked. Then she followed those questions up with, “Can I pray for you right now?”

Encouragement—we would recognize it anywhere. It’s like a gentle push forward when we’ve run out of energy. It’s like seeing the familiar shape of home when we’ve been gone far too long. It’s like sitting down to a nourishing meal after a hard day’s work. It’s like seeing the sun after hours of pouring rain.

When someone encourages us, we stand straighter. We feel reinvigorated. We move with purpose and meaning. We are strengthened and ready for what lies ahead. Christina Fox

## Welcome and Announcements

### Call to Worship – Hebrews 10:19-22 (ESV)

Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus,

**by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh,**

and since we have a great priest over the house of God,

**let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.**

## Invocation

**\*Song of Praise:** In Christ Alone

**Old Testament Reading:** Proverbs 15:5-12,31-33

**Call to Repentance:** Ezekiel 33:9-11 “Nevertheless if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, he shall die in his iniquity; but you have delivered your soul. Therefore you, O son of man, say to the house of Israel: ‘Thus you say, “If our transgressions and our sins lie upon us, and we pine away in them, how can we then live?”’ Say to them: ‘As I live,’ says the Lord GOD, ‘I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live. Turn, turn from your evil ways! For why should you die, O house of Israel?’”

**Song of Reflection:** Psalm 139

## Confession of Sin

Almighty God, Your Church is one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. Lord, we lament how our sin divides Your Church. We often fail to see how our actions, our convictions, and our attitudes contribute to disunity. We lack forbearance and patience with one another. We insist on our own way. We do not trust those who have different opinions than ours. Have mercy on us, most merciful Father, and grant us Your peace. Unite us by Your Holy Spirit, we pray, and help us serve You and one another in love and humility. Amen.

## Silent Confession

**Declaration of Forgiveness:** Proverbs 28:13

Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy.

**\*Songs of Renewal:** Shine, Jesus, Shine

All in All

**New Testament Reading:** Hebrews 12:1-17

## Prayers of the People

### The Lord’s Prayer

### \*Doxology

**Gospel Reading:** Matthew 7:1-6

**Sermon: Strengthen the Knees that are Weak**

Rev. Don Codling

## Prayer:

**\*Closing Hymn:** And Can It Be

## Benediction

## Dismissal

**Minister:** Let us go forth to serve the world as those who love our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

## Strengthen the Knees that are Weak

**Hebrews 12:1-17; Proverbs 15:5-12,31-33;**

**Matthew 7:1-6**

1. Accept rebuke

a. Rejecting rebuke takes you away from Christ

b. Christian wisdom “welcomes” rebuke

2. Correct your brothers and sisters with love

a. Start by taking the beam out of your own eye

b. Recognize that different levels of offence call for different responses

c. Do not exchange godly rebuke for gossip

3. Encourage Christ’s people

a. Remember difference between legal and gospel obedience

b. Rebuke only takes us as far as legal obedience

c. Need to encourage one another to gospel service of Christ