

BOW LAKE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

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STRAFFORD, NH 03884
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blfwbc.org

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NEWS & UPCOMING EVENTS - 4/21/24

Sunday – 8 a.m. Early Bird Bible Study – contact Paul Klehm at klehmdog@aol.com
for Zoom invitation.

- 10 a.m. Worship Service - Pastor Robin Shakal

- Sunday School in the Upper Room – Teachers this week are Dawna Belanger and
JoAnn Pearson (Armor of God # 4)

- Fellowship and Refreshments in the Idlepines Room

This Week:

Tuesday –9 a.m. Chicken Soup prayer meeting in Secretary's Office

- Choir Practice in the Sanctuary immediately following Chicken Soup

Wednesday - 5 p.m. Community Kitchen at Third Church

Thursday – 8 to 10 a.m. Food Pantry at Third Baptist Church

-6:30 p.m. Fellowship Bible Study - contact ronlemieux@yahoo.com for Zoom invitation

Saturday – 8 to 9:30 Men's Breakfast

- 9:30 Annual Church Clean up inside and outside

Next Sunday – Guest Speakers – Adult and Teen Challenge





Dear Friends,

We are continuing our journey through testimonies in the Bible and we will be concluding this week with the disciples who were travelling to Emmaus. Our first testimony was by Paul, a prominent and well-educated Jewish convert who had heard and seen Jesus but never accepted Him during His time on earth. Last week the testimony was by a socially outcast Samaritan who had never heard or seen Jesus but accepted Him at the first opportunity. The Emmaus disciples had heard, seen, and accepted Jesus during His ministry but were still left hopeless after the Crucifixion.

I believe the Holy Spirit led me to change things up this week and prepare a message about the Emmaus disciples because I wonder sometimes if we struggle with what they struggled with. They believed in what Jesus taught them with their whole beings; they obviously did not understand everything He tried to teach them about Himself, but the point is they were dedicated, committed followers of His. They were willing to share their testimonies with someone they thought was a random stranger about who they believed Jesus was, but it was inadequate because they couldn't share in the belief of the Resurrection.

Contrast this to their testimonies after Jesus revealed Himself to them. They headed back to Jerusalem that very evening to testify to the other disciples that Jesus was truly resurrected from the dead. Their testimonies had no power until they included the resurrection. Their lives had no power until they experienced the resurrected Jesus.

The question I want us to consider in preparation for Sunday is, "Does the Jesus I am testifying about have the power of the Resurrection in Him?" Are we simply reciting back what the Scriptures tell us about His resurrection or is our very nature changed by His resurrection? This experience with the resurrected Lord changed them from hopelessly defeated men to men who ran 7 miles in the dark to get back and tell their friends about what happened to them. I look forward to unpacking their excitement with you on Sunday (running shoes are optional). Blessings!

Pastor Robin

***Men's Breakfast ***

Saturday April 27th

8 to 9:30am

**Bow Lake Church
Idlepines Room**

Men of Strafford and surrounding areas are invited to our Free Men's Breakfast, Fellowship and uplifting message.



**Bow Lake Baptist Church
530 Province Rd**



BUSINESS MEETING

Sunday, May 19

**following Worship
and refreshments**

**Bring a finger food
to share**

Need someone to pray for you or someone you know? Please visit our website (BLFWBC.org) at any time and submit your request by clicking on the appropriate button on the left side of the web page and filling in your information. Please indicate if you want your request to be held in confidence by our prayer group or shared with the congregation.

If you want to hold an event or use the Church building for an event, please contact Sue Higgins or Martha English. The request will be reviewed by the trustees and we will let you know what else needs to be done for your event. No use of the building will be available without proper clearance by the trustees. Reminder: There is no food or drink allowed in the sanctuary and the balcony is completely off limits





Please remember to pray for the people of Ukraine. With all that is going on in the world today, it is easy to forget that those courageous people continue to fight for freedom!



There is a Refreshments sign-up sheet in the kitchen. Please pick a week and sign up to help with coffee, light refreshments or clean up. Thank you!



HELP FOR LOCAL HOMELESS

See the following link for ways you can help support the homeless shelter in Rochester, "Home For Now".

<http://www.homelesscenterforstraffco.org/help-for-now.html>



Children's Clothing and Toy Swap: May 4 beginning at 10 a.m.

10am - Doors open for families to bring in clothes/toys for swapping; focusing on sizes Newborn through age 5. Light refreshments will be available. A kid's table will be open for Mother's Day crafts and card making.

Bethany and Carolyn will coordinate this event. Ask them for more details.

12:00pm - Swap ends. Remaining clothes/toys will be donated to Salvation Army.

REMEMBER NH FOOD BANK

BLFWBC contributes \$0.50 for every dollar donated to NH Food Bank, so your giving will be multiplied! Prayerfully consider a donation to help our neediest in our State of NH. You may write a check to BLFWBC and put "NH Food Bank" in the memo line, and the church treasurer will add the church contribution to your donation. The Strafford Food Pantry is currently meeting our town's needs and has a surplus of funds.



Youth group for grades 6-12. Our youth are invited to join the young people at New Life Church at 84 Nottingham Road on Friday nights from 6:30-8:30pm (supper included). They meet weekly with occasional Gym nights and a summer camping trip. The church is on Rte. 156 just over the line from Nottingham. The address: 84 Nottingham Road, Raymond, NH 03077

There is also a group for grades 6-12 that meets at the Journey Church on Route 125 in Barrington on Wednesdays from 6:30-8 pm.

CHILD VOICE

We're on our way to reaching our spring fundraising goal of \$70,000! If you already donated, thank you so much for your gift to help war-affected young people heal and transform their lives with new skills and renewed hope. But we still have a long way to go. So, if you haven't donated yet, now is the time to do so. Donate by April 30 and your gift of any amount will be matched dollar for dollar!

Your timely contribution will help provide urgently needed counseling and vocational training to young Nigerian war victims like Faith, whose life has been shattered by the violence of Boko Haram terrorists. You'll be helping South Sudanese refugees in Uganda like Apeya, a young mother who lost both of her parents due to violent displacement – but who today is a tailor and runs a successful small business!

Young people like Apeya and Faith deserve the opportunity to heal from wartime trauma and build the skills they need to transform their lives. Your one-time donation or sustaining donation of as little as \$25 a month will help restore the hope, health, and future of a traumatized young war victims like them. Help us reach our goal of \$70,000 by April 30 with your first month's gift!

Again, if you've already contributed to this campaign, thank you so much for your commitment to restoring the health, hope, and futures of those affected by war.

Conrad Mandsager
ChildVoice Founder & President
Give today and **DOUBLE** your impact!



Please consider being a greeter on a Sunday morning. It is a simple job and a great way to get to know people. Just come 20 minutes before worship starts, say a cheerful hello and hand a bulletin to people as they enter the church. There is a sign up sheet at the back of the church.

Please pick a week and sign up.





Ready to Bloom

Join us for Church Clean-up

Invited by your trustees

April 27, 2024 at 9:30 AM

Come help us make God's house sparkle
Outside work - bring shovels and rakes
Inside work: Dusting, cleaning and decluttering.
Fun for all ages

