

BOW LAKE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH



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blfwbc.org

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May 11, 2025
HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY



Dear Friends,

I am struck by how much God is showing me through this short sermon series on healing. Last week we discussed the beauty of Jesus healing the lame man at the Pool of Bethesda. He offered a comprehensive healing to the man who quite frankly seemed unsure or unable to respond to Jesus very positively. It was a sobering thought for me to consider personally as I am forced to question if there are ways that I am preventing Jesus from doing a healing work in me and my family.

This week we get to see a man who acts in the completely opposite way. His response is joy and celebration and running to everyone who would listen about who his healer was. We see the obvious 40 years of muscular atrophy and physical brokenness changed in an instant but we also see his spirit has changed as well. This is a man who has been truly healed in every way. But what also struck me is that there is another healing in this passage that I had never considered before and I am excited to share it with you. Blessings to all of you and I hope to see you on Sunday!

Pastor Robin

NEWS, UPDATES AND REMINDERS



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!



Refreshments after Worship in the Idlepines Room. Please sign up to do refreshments one week soon.





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>



Kitchen Supplies



There is a list in the supply closet of the things we use on a regular basis. We will try to keep this list up to date so that we all know what we have and can supplement supplies as needed.

Please check the list to see what you might want to help with. Call or text Kathleen Morin at 603-553-9912 with a message telling her what you will provide. Thank you!



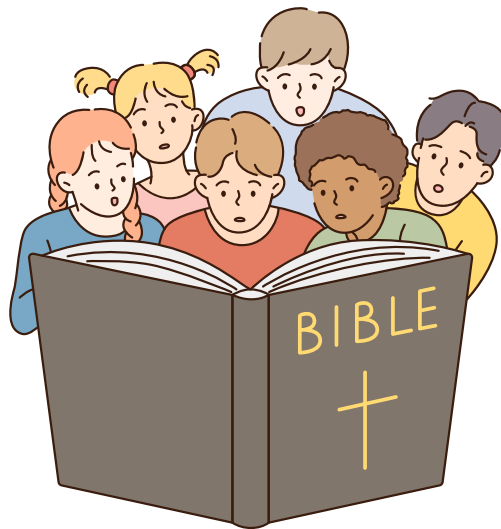
REMEMBER NH FOOD BANK

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.



Sunday Morning Early Birds Bible Study at 8:00 a.m. by zoom. Email Paul Klehm for the zoom link at klehmdog@aol.com

Thursday at 6:30 Fellowship Bible Study by zoom. Contact Ron Lemieux for zoom invitation at ronlemieux@yahoo.com



Are you excited to worship God on Sunday mornings? Are you still excited to worship Him on Monday...and Wednesday...and Friday? Is worshipping God something that sometimes seems easier on a hike through nature or in acts of service than it does sitting in a pew at church? Do you have daily “quiet times” as a spiritual discipline but are left feeling like there should be more to your relationship with God? Or maybe your experience is that the traditional quiet time doesn’t feed you spiritually but you continue to have one anyway out of obligation because you don’t know what else you can do.

Gary Thomas, the author of Sacred Pathways, compares a healthy relationship with God to a healthy marriage. He writes:

“How do we learn to love God, day in and day out, through the seasons of life? How do we keep this love fresh? How do we grow in our adoration and understanding of God? We do it by spending time with Him. And once we understand the myriad ways that Christians have cultivated this relationship, we’ll have more ideas than we need to prompt us to walk closer and more constantly by His side.”

Beginning on April 6th at 8:00 AM we will be starting a 12 week journey using Mr. Thomas’s book Sacred Pathways as a guide to getting greater understanding to how God created us to worship Him. He has created each of us uniquely and as such our “pathway” to worshipping Him most fully is unique as well. Through weekly reading and self-reflections we will be able to identify those pathways that naturally draw us closer to Him and those that are not as natural and maybe even inhibiting us from His presence. Our Father God is waiting for us to come to Him in worship and our responsibility is to worship to the greatest of our capabilities. Will you join me in discovering how He has equipped you to do that? I look forward to seeing you on April 6th at 8:00 AM.

Please contact me at robinshakal@gmail.com or 480-516-3956 with questions about the class.

**For His Glory,
Pastor Robin**

Want an easy way to give to Bow
Lake Baptist Church?
click on this QR code. It will
bring you right to the Donations
page on the website. So Easy!



Business Meeting May 18th after worship

Agenda for Meeting

Open with prayer
Minutes of Annual Meeting
Treasurer's Report

Business:

- 1/ Move worship to 9 a.m. for summer?
- 2/ Discuss and Vote to set up a fund to help churches in the area when a disaster hits them for rapid response
- 3/ BBQ needs and sign ups for help
- 4/ Discuss and Adopt a road pick up for Roller Coaster Road
- 5/ Discuss and Vote to repair roof
- 6/ Discuss and Vote to repair Driveway
- 7/ Discuss and Vote to repair Lawn

Close with prayer

MISSION OPPORTUNITY-CHILDVOICE SEWING PROJECT

Do you like to sew? Would you like to participate in a sewing project for ChildVoice, a mission that is helping young women who are refugees in South Sudan, northern Uganda, Nigeria, and Ukraine, who are in need of help and healing to build a new life in this war-torn area of the world? Join us at Bow Lake Free Will Baptist Church on Saturday, June 21, 9:00-11:30. Krista Brown will be with us to give updates on the mission work, and explain this special “Thrive” project for adolescent girls. Materials and instructions will be provided. Bring a portable sewing machine if you have one, scissors, black thread, or optionally an ironing board, iron, cotton flannel that is a dark plaid (pre-washed, no figures or bizarre prints). You may find more information on this mission organization at “childvoice.org”.

OPTIONS FOR WOMEN

From the website: “At Options For Women, we believe that you should not have to pay for basic pregnancy care. We don’t charge for our services or financially benefit from your reproductive health care decisions. No one should ever feel like they are out of options. We empower women and families by providing the answers and support you need to make informed choices during your decision, pregnancy, and beyond. You will always come first.” You may contribute to the support of Options for Women by picking up a baby bottle, filling it with your donation, and returning it to BLBC, or you can write a check to BLBC and put “Options” on the memo line. The fund drive runs from Mother’s Day May 11 to Father’s Day June 15.

Walk and Rock for Amirah

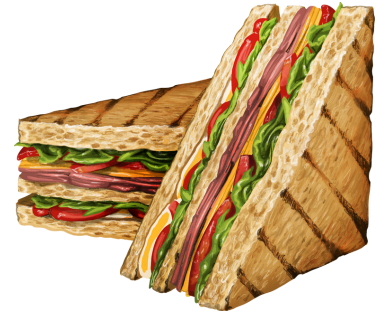
According to the United States Department, less than 1% of women who have been trafficked have the chance to exit. This is heartbreaking. Bow Lake Baptist Church is partnering with an amazing organization called Amirah who provides rapid rehousing and recovery opportunities for women so that they can rebuild their lives. On Saturday, June 14th, 9-11, we will be “Moving for Amirah” by walking and cleaning the roads and beach on Bow Lake, others will be rocking and praying at the church for the women of Amirah. We are committed to raising \$1,000 for their recovery journeys.

Ready to make an impact with us? We would appreciate it if you could give to our campaign. Here's the link to donate (moveforamirah.causevox.com) at bottom of page look for Walk & Rock for Amirah and click on the donate box. Or you can give a check to Bow Lake Baptist Church with move for Amirah on the memo.

Thanks so much, you are a blessing!



SENIOR LUNCH



We invite everyone to join us on Tuesday, May 27, 11:30am – 1:00pm, Idlepines Room at the Bow Lake Baptist Church. We will be hosting our third Senior Lunch. This is open to all our senior citizens. The menu will be simple but the company will be warm and friendly. We have so enjoyed our time together before and hope to see you again. If you need a ride to any of these events, please call Pastor Robin Shakal, 603-664-7401, as soon as possible and a ride will be happily provided for you. We look forward to celebrating together with old friends and perhaps new ones, too.

MEN'S BREAKFAST



Saturday: May 31, 8:00 to 9:30 am

***Bow Lake Community Men Invite you to for
good food, conversation, fellowship and for an
uplifting message.***

**Bow Lake Baptist Church Idlepines Room
530 Province Road, Strafford, NH**

If you need a ride, call (603) 664-7401 