

Bethany
Presbyterian
Church

Sharing, Caring,
Believing, Doing

The Church Mouse



Bethany Presbyterian Church

**April
2022**

Volume 25,
Issue 4

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Pastor's Page

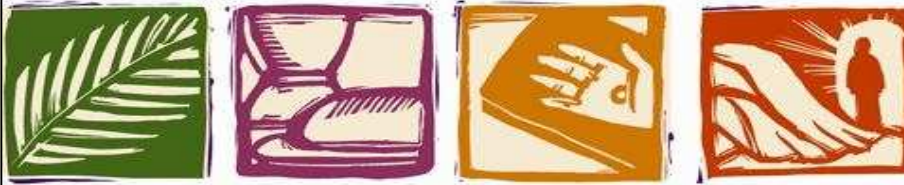
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**Special points of
interest:**

- Stephen Ministry
- Shipmates
- Life Group
- Presbyterian Women
- Church Calendar

**Deadline for the
May
Newsletter is on
April 14, 2022**

HOLY WEEK



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Maundy Thursday service, April 14th 7:00 PM
Good Friday service, April 15th 7:00 PM
Easter Sunday worship service, April 17th 10:00 AM



Easter – helping Ukraine through the Presbyterian Mission

Support emergency relief for those fleeing violence in Ukraine. Christian community in Ukraine is present in more diverse ways than in any other nation of the former Soviet Union. That diversity spans Orthodox, Catholic, Reformed, Lutheran, Baptist and many other modern traditions. In this new era the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is engaged in a close mission partnership with the Reformed Church in Carpath-Ukraine, and relates to other growing Reformed denominations, as well as to the German Evangelical Lutheran Church and the Union of Evangelical Christians-Baptists of the Ukraine.

Bethany Mission Statement

We are a welcoming Christian family who worships God and nurtures spiritual growth through friendship, learning, music and serving others.

Pastor's Page:

Dear Friends,

As the women got up early on that first Easter morning, they were focused on the task at hand: finishing the preparation of Jesus' body for burial. Friday had been a living nightmare. After the crucifixion, Jesus' friends rushed to get the body down from the cross and take it to a borrowed tomb for its final disposition. Through tears of grief, they carried out their grim task.

The Gospel of Mark mentions something that John's Gospel leaves out. In all of their anguish, none of the women had thought to ask one of the men to accompany them and roll the stone away from the entrance to the tomb. The stone was a formidable barrier. As the stone fell into the notch carved out for it in the rocky earth, it sealed the tomb's entrance from animals and grave robbers. It took a lever and a great deal of strength to remove it so that these women could enter the tomb and perform their task.

To their surprise, the stone had been rolled away. The body was gone. This was no robbery, no hoax or trickery. The women were the first witnesses to the resurrection, and the fulfillment of a hope and a faith that says, "With God all things are possible!"

The text proclaims again the best elements of the good news, which we all need to hear. God's love cannot be stopped, not even by death. Despair is never so dark that the light of Christ cannot illuminate our lives. The least likely of person, in this case the women instead of the Apostles, can be used to tell God's message of hope, love and peace. It is great to see and believe, but it is even better to have not seen and still have faith.

Have a blessed Easter,

Dr. Bob Spratt

PER CAPITA: This is a reminder to pay the per capita assessment for 2022. Per capita is the dues we pay to Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly to help fund their operations and cover the services they provide us. The amount this year is \$35.58 for each member of the congregation. The amount is printed on the offering envelope box. If you don't make your contribution, Bethany will end up paying for your share using funds that could be used elsewhere in the budget. Thank you to those who have already made their payment!

BUDGET TASK FORCE: As discussed at the Annual Congregational Meeting, we have a budget shortfall that requires using the General Endowment Fund to balance the budget. Our income has steadily declined year over year while expenses increase. This is not a sustainable way to operate. To address this issue, Session approved the formation of a task force to study the long term trends and propose ways to bring income and expenses into balance. The task force needs help from members of the congregation to accomplish this. If you are interested in participating

Fiscal Focus

2022	February	Year to Date	% Budget
Income	\$23,484.03	\$58,661.81	13.63%
Expense	\$35,554.98	\$57,722.31	13.41%
Surplus/ (Deficit)	-\$12,070.95	\$939.50	



Greece CROP Hunger Walk 2022 May 1st Aldersgate Church

This year's Greece CROP Hunger Walk will begin at Aldersgate Church. Walkers will confirm their registration at 1:00. Choose either the 0.5 or 2.5-mile route. 25% of funds raised will be donated to the Greece Ecumenical Food Shelf and 75% will go to CWS for fighting hunger worldwide. Join Bethany's team or sponsor our team online here: <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2022/team/bethany-presbyterian-church>. To make a cash donation, contact Cheryl Fisher, provide after Sunday Service or contact one of our walkers directly.





Stephen Ministry

It is time to prepare for the most important holiday of the Christian faith – Easter. I remember as a child that Easter always seemed to be on a sunny and beautiful Sunday morning. Do you ladies remember the hats and white gloves? Did I just date myself??

This is the time to forgive others and ourselves for the “speed bumps” on our journeys that may have caused some sadness, loss, hurt feelings, and on our own part, some guilt of our own that only we are feeling the heartache over.

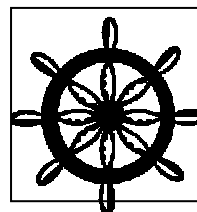
Do we feel bad because of something we did to someone else? That is really difficult because we are punishing ourselves and we all know that we can be unforgiving. Especially to ourselves. Why is that? Do we have the need of someone saying that they know we did not do any harm? Maybe just talking about the situation would make us understand that there is forgiveness for us all.

We already have the forgiveness of God by his son Jesus taking all our sins. The love we receive from Him is one large warm fuzzy and compassionate hug and if you can vision that and feel His presence, then you know you have been forgiven.

If you would like to have some company reaching that feeling of comfort, Bethany has Stephen Ministers ready to guide you. Maybe a couple of visits, maybe more. You decide that with your Stephen Minister. It is just between the two of you and each care receiver is different.

If you are open to a visit with one of the Stephen Ministers, please contact Pastor Bob or Wendy Watt.

Peace to you from the Stephen Ministers,
Cindi Sywulski



SHIPMATES: SAVE THE DATE April 9, 2022
We will meet at the Long Pond Family Restaurant at 11:00am for Breakfast or Lunch. Your choice! You will receive individual checks which are your responsibility. 12:30pm we are off to the History Center & Museum at 595 Long Pond Road for a tour given by Docents Faye Cole and David Seibert. There also is plenty of material to read and Faye and David will be happy to answer any questions you may have. This is the town's bicentennial year. GHS is planning quite a project. Will be an interesting day. Reservations deadline is April 4 and may be made by calling Irene Crawford, 227-2696 or Edna Hamlin, 752-8115. Guests are always welcome... Faye and David have been invited to join us for lunch.



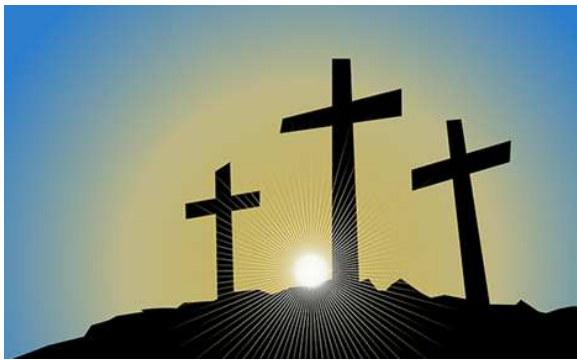
Adopt-a-Highway April 30th, 9AM Church Parking Lot

Hello Bethany and hello Spring! With the melting snow and the blooming flowers comes the resurfacing of highway litter. The songs of the birds remind us of the need to be good to our environment. Keeping with our years of caring, we will once again head out to the parkway in our stylish safety gear to pick up trash. Stay as long as you can and plan to meet for pizza and drinks afterward at a local establishment. We will meet at church on at. All interested please let Ron Fisher know by email at rfisher97@gmail.com or text

*Thanks for
everything*

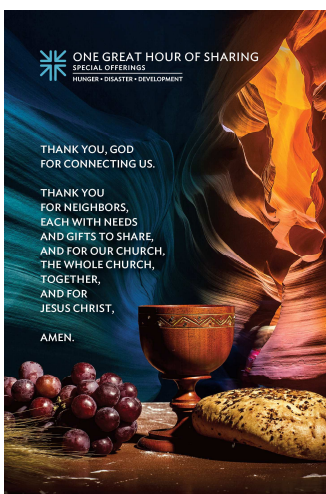
We would like to thank everyone for their thoughtful words and other expressions of kindness during our sad time following the departure of our daughter Lisa.

Joyce and Al Adaskin



Maundy Thursday supporting Journey Home

The goal at Journey Home is to embrace loved ones on their final journey by offering them physical, emotional, and spiritual care. This care is given by a dedicated team of volunteers, nurses, and an all-volunteer board. Please consider donations.



Palm Sunday One Great Hour of Sharing

Thank you, God for neighbors with needs and gifts to share, The **ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING** will be collected on April 10th, Palm Sunday. This offering goes for hunger relief and disasters in this troubled world.

BIBLE FELLOWSHIP

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under Heaven. Ecclesiastes 3:1 ~ NRSV

"Life Group 4 Bible Study" has grown with many blessings since beginning last September, 2020. We have decided on a new name for our group: "BIBLE FELLOWSHIP".

We want all to feel welcome to join us and we hope to continue through 2021 strengthening our foundation, fulfillment, forgiveness, and freedom through Jesus Christ sharing God's word. Our own various versions of the Bible miraculously come together like a melodious rainbow from God.

We also wholeheartedly volunteer our life experiences encouraging and learning from one another. Sharing these things is a gift, and we invite you all to join in this harmony.

Friday, April 22, @ 3:00 pm
All welcome!

Please phone Bev Bennett 585-225-0206

A peace that preeminents all understanding by Jesus way.
-Philippinans 4:7 ~ Our Bible

Happy Birthday

April 15,

Phyllis Brown
c/o Craig Brown
124 Drexel Avenue
Decatur, GA 30030





WHERE WOMEN EXPLORE

WonderFull WORLD

GOD'S LOVE AND WONDER

Take a trip around
the world!

WonderFull World takes you on a journey packed with friendship, God, and spiritual growth. It's a retreat you won't want to miss! Join us for a whirlwind tour of the seven continents, where we'll experience meaningful Bible studies, explore the wonders of a woman's heart, and have time for both quiet reflection and laugh-out-loud fun!

Location: Bethany Presbyterian Church
Large Hall

Date: Saturday, April 23rd 2022
Check-in at 9:30 a.m. Lunch at 12:30 p.m.

Cost: Lunch will be provided by Bethany Presbyterian
Women in the Congregation

For more information, contact:

Karen Bolinger
email - kbolinger@rochester.rr.com
585-227-2540



Permission to photocopy this resource from Group's WonderFull World Women's Ministry Retreat granted for local church use. Copyright © 2010, 2019 Group Publishing, Inc., Loveland, CO.

April 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					<i>1</i>	<i>2</i> 9-Men's Club Breakfast
<i>3</i> 9-Present Word 10-Worship, with communion Childcare, Roots & Wings 11:15-Sunday School 11:30-Contemporary Worship	<i>4</i> 7-Stephen Ministers	<i>5</i> 10-Belles & Beaux	<i>6</i> 12:30-Staff Meeting 2-Memorial Committee 7-Lenten study 7:30-Celebration Ring- ers	<i>7</i> 7:15 Bethany Choir	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i> 11-Shipmates
<i>10</i> Palm Sunday 9-Present Word 10-Worship, Childcare, Roots & Wings 11:15-Sunday School	<i>11</i> 7-Life Group #2	<i>12</i> 10-Belles & Beaux 7:30-Congregational Life	<i>13</i> 12:30-Staff Meeting 6-C&GM 6:30-Spiritual Growth	<i>14</i> 7-Maundy Thursday service	<i>15</i> 7-Good Friday service	<i>16</i>
<i>17</i> Easter 9-Present Word 10-Worship, Childcare, Roots & Wings	<i>18</i> Easter Monday Church building closed 7-Stephen Ministers	<i>19</i> 10-Belles & Beaux 10-Personnel Comm 7-Contemporary Wor- ship Task force mtg	<i>20</i> 12:30-Staff Meeting 7-Budget & Finance 7-Christian Ed 7:30-Celebration Ring- ers	<i>21</i> 7:15 Bethany Choir	<i>22</i> 3-Bible Fellowship	<i>23</i> 10-Women's Retreat
<i>24</i> 9-Present Word 10-Worship, Childcare, Roots & Wings 11:15-Sunday School 12-Session	<i>25</i> 7-Life Group #2	<i>26</i> 10-Belles & Beaux	<i>27</i> 12:30-Staff Meeting 7:30-Celebration Ring- ers	<i>28</i> 7:30-Celebration Ringers	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i> 9-Adopt-a-Highway

Bethany Presbyterian Church

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Rochester, NY 14616

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www.bethanyrochester.org

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Mailed March 28, 2022

**We're on the
Web!**

Ministries Team

Head of Staff / Sr. Pastor

Dr. Bob Spratt

Music Ministry

Jacob Montgomery - Music Director

Jean Coniber - Bell Choir Director

Jeff Tabor - Staff Singer

Bookkeeper

Tom Olney

Administrative Assistant & Mouse Editor

Eileen Sengillo

Custodian

Jim Cruppe

Nursery Child Care Worker

Jennifer Watt

The Session

Craig Johnson, Budget & Finance

Wendy Watt, Christian Education

Judy Price, Community & Global Miss.

Jennifer McGarrity, Congregational Life

Bev Murray, Nominating

Jim Hetzler, Personnel

Steve Watt, Property

Carrie Buri, Spiritual Growth

Bev Bennett, Welcoming Committee

Connie Slapar, Worship & Music

Dr. Bob Spratt, Moderator

Treasurer

Carl DeGraff

