



Bethany
Presbyterian
Church

Sharing, Caring,
Believing, Doing

The Church Mouse



Bethany Presbyterian Church

**August
2026**

Volume 29, Issue 8

Inside this issue:

Pastor's Page

2

**Special points of
interest:**

- Stephen Ministry
- Church Calendar
- Shipmates
- Jennifer's Closet
- Bethany Women

**Deadline for the
September
Newsletter is on
August 18, 2026**

**Saturday
September
12, 2026
11:30 am
Bethany Large Hall**



Andrea Foote, from the local branch of the Alzheimer's Association will present "Ten Warning Signs of Alzheimer's & Dementia". This topic is sure to alleviate any concerns you may have about a loved one or yourself as we learn what IS NOT concerning behavior, as well as what might be,

Cost for Lunch is \$10 per person
Lunch includes, salad, chicken wrap, chips, cookies & water. (Lovingly prepared by Gail Kuhner)

Please register by Sept 6 in the Narthex or call Virginia Britton at 663-0469 to register or send your check to register to her at 74 Waest Pkwy, Rochester, NY 14616. Please make payable to Bethany Presbyterian Church, with Shipmates designated on the memo line.

Bethany Mission Statement

Bethany is where God's love nurtures friendship, hope, and peace.

Pastor's Page:

Dear Friends,

Gas prices are even higher as I write this. Higher fuel costs have a negative effect on summer travel. Many of us will get away at some point during the summer. Some of us will take lengthy trips by automobile. Spending all day traveling in a car with your family can make everyone restless.

Long road trips have been improved by the use of electronic devices, like DVD players and Nooks, to name only a few. They help pass the time and are marked by long periods of silence as the kids are engrossed playing a game or listening to music.

One family, I know takes turns reading a book aloud which captures everyone's attention and imagination. You'll be amazed how well everyone listens. It's exciting to try and guess the ending or discuss favorite parts of the book.

Family conversations can be enlightening, you'll hear about "the thing I never got a chance to tell you." There are also wonderful opportunities to do faith sharing, to hear and learn how God is at work in the lives of your family. A lot of things need to be taken with you for an enjoyable road trip, don't forget to take God, God loves to travel.

Happy Trails,

Dr. Bob Spratt

With Our People

With sympathy

Christian love and sympathy is extended to the Brown family at the passing of Mary Brown.

Christian love and sympathy is extended to the Campbell family at the passing of Alice Campbell.



OPEN

Tuesday's - 12:30PM—3:00PM

Thursday's - 9:30AM—Noon

Saturday - 3rd of the month

Fiscal Focus

2026	June	Year to Date	% Budget
Income	\$27,886.64	\$183,049.70	53.00%
Expense	\$56,801.70	\$330,020.39	59.29%
Surplus/ (Deficit)	-\$28,915.06	-\$146,970.69	

Worship in the Park Sunday, September 13, 2026



Join us for a special morning of worship, food, and fellowship!

Location:

Millennium Lodge
Greece Canal Park
241 Elmgrove Rd.

Schedule:

11:00 AM Worship Service

12:00 PM Lunch

Menu: Hots and Hamburgs, Beverage
Place settings provided by Spiritual Growth Committee.

Please bring a dish to pass and plan to stay for a wonderful time of fellowship.

Sign-up begins Sunday, August 23, in the Narthex.

Session Highlights - June 28, 2026

Bethany Presbyterian Church Session met June 28, 2026, approved the agenda, prior minutes, committee reports, and several motions.

- Key approved actions included accepting a \$27,905.18 unrestricted estate gift, donating up to \$500 to Artists Unlimited through the Pentecost Offering, and authorizing legal action related to the outstanding T&T matter.
- May finances were favorable versus budget: monthly income exceeded expenses by \$11,695.00, while the year-to-date operating deficit was \$118,056 versus a budgeted deficit of \$144,938.
- 2027 budget planning timeline was set, with committee requests due October 4, Session budget review November 22, and final approval planned for January 24.
- Property updates included elevator communication repairs, installation of the new outdoor sign, upcoming asbestos removal and demolition of 2984 Dewey Avenue.

Next Session meeting is scheduled for Sunday, August 30, 2026 at 11:30am in Small Hall.



Stephen Ministry

I think all of our senses kick in at this time of the year. I can hear lawns being mowed and kids playing outside. I can see flowers peeking out. I can touch the earth while planting new additions to the landscaping. The taste and aroma of summer foods cannot be topped. All five senses are in full bloom.

I researched a little and read about an option of thought and love as a sixth sense. You know that feeling of meeting someone that either seems like you have met before, or you are very comfortable with and would enjoy bringing them into your circle of friends. I am sure you have all experienced that "sixth sense" feeling in some way. It's just there.

Feeling comfortable with someone that you would enjoy time with is the way the Stephen Ministers want you to feel when you visit with them. Are we sixth sense people? Everyone is. We would like you to feel comfortable with us and let us help you to understand your feelings of sadness, confusion or any emotion that seems to be troubling you. By offering you our listening hearts, we hope to open up your comfort zone and let us guide you to where you would like to be. Getting rid of doubt or emotional pain can be an amazing experience. Again, the number of visits is up to you, but the confidentiality between you and your Stephen Minister is just that.

Think about it and if you would like to visit with a Stephen Minister, please contact Wendy Watt or Dr. Bob.

Peace to you from the Stephen Ministers

In Memory of Cindi Sywulski (Cubby) written August 2019

Crop Walk



This year's Crop Walk was a great success! Bethany raised \$1796 and the overall walk raised \$10,863.30. Thanks to all who donated to the cause along with those who walked: Allison Giday, Carrie Buri, Jen and Jim McGarity, Deb Petersen, Pam Hemmenway, Judy Montinari, Craig Johnson, Edna and Dave Hamlin!

Thank you, Bethany family, for your generous donations collected for Lollypop Farm!

This week some 20 bags of dog and cat food, treats, a pet carrier, and various linens (towels, blankets, sheets, etc.) were dropped off. They were very grateful for our help, from your Community and Global Missions team.



B.Y.F ACTIVITY

**Bethany Youth Fellowship is playing mini golf on August 16th right after church at:
Parkside Diner Miniature Golf
Seabreeze
See Andrew for info
\$5.00 per person**

SOUP COLLECTION in SEPTEMBER



As we enjoy this summer weather, cooler weather is bound to come. This fall and winter, our neighbors who receive food from the Greece Ecumenical Food Shelf and Clothing Closet will appreciate easy to prepare nutritious meals. Please be generous and pick up some hearty, high protein soups each time you shop. Also, remember those on low-salt diets!

In September, let's fill the yellow shopping cart every week! CGM and our hungry neighbors thank you.

BETHANY WOMEN

BPWC believes that an environment grounded in Christian beliefs promotes the full growth and expression of the individual. Such an environment renews, strengthens, and empowers the individual to participate in the life and work of the church, the servant community of Jesus Christ in the world.



The Bethany Women Connection

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□ Devotion or Thought for the Month

All women are welcome to share in fellowship. Please feel free to bring a friend. Women meet on the second Tuesday of the following months: September- June except for December and May which meet on Saturday. We have speakers who present on a variety of topics. We also coordinate service projects, Christmas Luncheon, Women's Tea, and fellowship opportunities.

□ Upcoming Events

September 8, 2026, Bethany Women's Meeting: Polly McCubbin will be sharing information on the Greece Ecumenical Food Shelf & Clothing Closet.

Women's Brunch: We will be sharing "Brunch and Fellowship" at *Bill's Long Pond Diner* on the last Saturday of every month at 10:00 am. Our next Brunch is Saturday, August 29, 2026.

□ Service & Mission

At our June meeting, women elected the following women to officer positions: Moderator, Karen Bolinger, Vice-Moderator, Karen Dobbins, Treasurer, Linda Lamb, Secretary/Historian, Lisa Clement, Member-at-Large, Bev Neroni

□ Moments We Shared

The Coordinating Team met on Wednesday July 15, 2026, to develop next year's budget and finalize the Program Schedule. A Huge Thank You to the officers for their time and energy in ensuring a balanced budget and opportunities for Bethany Women.

□ Building Caring Relationships

Any woman currently active or inactive with BPWC who would like to be included in the Bethany Presbyterian Women Communication Distribution List please contact Karen Bolinger- 585-227-2540 or kbolinger@rochester.rr.com. May we always remember to love one another unconditionally, no matter what life brings. We know things can make a women feel beautiful, and that is her love for others.

□ Treasurer's Corner

As of June 30, 2026, we had received \$3,465.00 in pledges from the women of Bethany. This exceeds the \$2500.00 estimated. Thank you to all the giving hearts to Bethany. All mission donations will be mailed to recipients in July, and I am pleased to say we are looking at a budget carryover into our next program year. Currently we are at or below expenditure.

The church office has a fresh new look! We recently added a much-needed modular office desk to help keep the space organized, efficient, and ready to better serve our church family. This upgrade maximizes productivity, improves organization, and creates a more welcoming workspace. A special thank you to **Rick Clement** and **Craig Covert** for all your hard work in making this project happen. Your time, talent, and dedication are truly appreciated. We are grateful for your willingness to serve and for helping make our church office a better place for ministry!



Our Music Room Has a Fresh New Look!

Our third-floor music room has been given a fresh new look! A heartfelt thank you to **Rick Clement** for all of his hard work installing a beautiful new floor. His time, talent, and dedication have truly helped spruce up the space, making it more welcoming and enjoyable for everyone who uses it.

August 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<i>1</i> 9-Men's Breakfast
<i>2</i> Communion 10-Worship	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i> 12:30-Jennifer's closet	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i> 9:30-Jennifer's closet	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>9</i> 10-Worship	<i>10</i> 10-Staff meeting	<i>11</i> 12:30-Jennifer's closet	<i>12</i> 6-Spiritual Growth 6:30-Worship & Music	<i>13</i> 9:30-Jennifer's closet	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i> 10-Jennifer's Closet
<i>16</i> 10-Worship BYF Mini-Golf	<i>17</i> 10-Staff meeting 7-Generosity Comm.	<i>18</i> 12:30-Jennifer's closet 9-Personnel Committee	<i>19</i>	<i>20</i> 9:30-Jennifer's closet	<i>21</i> 1-Budget & Finance	<i>22</i>
<i>23</i> 10-Worship	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i> 12:30-Jennifer's closet	<i>26</i> 6-Jennifer's closet mtg	<i>27</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i> 10-Women's brunch
<i>30</i> 10-Worship 12-Session	<i>31</i> 10-Staff meeting 7-Stephen Ministry					

Bethany Presbyterian Church

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www.bethanyrochester.org

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Mailed August 4, 2026

**We're on the
Web!**

Ministries Team

Head of Staff / Sr. Pastor

Dr. Bob Spratt

Music Ministry

Benjamin Kjell - Music Director

Jean Coniber - Bell Choir Director

Bookkeeper

Tom Olney

Treasurer

Patric Donaghue

Administrative Assistant & Mouse Editor

Eileen Sengillo

Custodian

Patrick Pierre

Cornelius Yawn

Youth & Children's Ministry Leader

Andrew Ferreira

The Session

Kim Bolinger, Budget & Finance

Allison Murray, Christian Education

Cindy Hetzler, Community & Global Miss.

Michael DePew, Generosity

Mike Haskins, Nominating

Gary Gullo, Personnel

Rick Clement, Property

Heather Kruspe, Spiritual Growth

Karen McIver, Worship & Music

Dr. Bob Spratt, Moderator

Michael DePew, Clerk of Session

