

Bethany
Presbyterian
Church

Sharing, Caring,
Believing, Doing

The Church Mouse



Bethany Presbyterian Church

**July/August
2023**

Volume 26,
Issue 7-8

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STELLAR
SHINE JESUS' LIGHT

Vacation Bible School!

**Bethany Presbyterian
Church Invites You!**

**3000 Dewey Ave
(585)663-3000**

Grades K - 6

**July 17th - 21st
9 am - 12 pm**

**Special points of
interest:**

- Stephen Ministry
- Worship in the Park
- Contemporary Worship Service
- Church Calendars
- Presbyterian Women (page 5 and insert)
- Bethany Swingers

Bethany Mission Statement

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

**Deadline for the
September
Newsletter is on
August 14, 2023**

Pastor's Page:

Dear Friends,

Gas prices are a little lower as I write this. Lower fuel costs have a positive effect on summer travel. Many of us will get away at some point during July and August. 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, iPods 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 Gail Kuhner and Carole Carroll at the passing of their brother, George Greenauer.

BETHANY'S CASUAL WORSHIP SERVICE

Did you know that we have a contemporary style worship service, at Bethany? It is the first Sunday of every month, at 11:30. We call it the Casual Worship Service. You may be wondering how it differs from our traditional service. I will do my best to clarify that here.

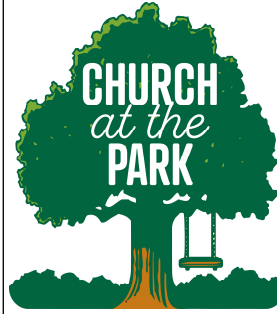
Our two services are very similar. The same prayers are said, communion is served, offering is collected, and the message in Dr. Bob's sermon is the same. As Dr. Bob presents his message, he uses slides with photos and graphics, to share the same sermon that he gives at the traditional service.

The most noticeable difference between the services is the style of music. At this service, Jacob uses an electric piano, we have a guitar player, and a small group of vocalists. This past year, they included Jeff Tabor, Kayla Stein, Craig Covert, and David Covert. In the fall, we may have different or additional musicians. Many of the songs that are sung can be heard on the radio, including on the station KLove.

Dr. Bob and Jacob put a lot of work into preparing these services. We hope to see you soon.

Fiscal Focus

2023	May	Year to Date	% Budget
Income	\$23,568.96	\$163,104.86	34.40%
Expense	\$38,297.67	\$185,803.72	39.19%
Surplus/ (Deficit)	-\$14,728.71	-\$22,698.86	



**SAVE THE DATE:
WORSHIP IN THE PARK
2022** - Please join the Spiritual Growth committee for Worship in the Park, September 10, 2023 at 11:00 AM. More information to follow. We hope to see you there!

August Birthday

August 15,
Charlotte Shaw
165 Silver Lane Apt. 208
St. Augustine, FL 32084



Come One – Come All,
Friday evenings – weather permitting. .
Tee off time is 4:00 O'clock PM
For Fun, Fellowship and Golf,
Buttonwood Golf Course
600 Trimmer Road
Spencerport, NY
for questions – call Bev 865-8507
You do not have to be a member of Bethany –



Stephen Ministry

I hear lawn mowers, birds, and people talking about opening their pools. I see flowers, green grass, bikes being ridden and kids actually playing outside. I guess this is the beginning of summer. At this point, I pay little attention to what the weather forecast is. Weather forecasters have the best jobs: “possibility”, “maybe”, “looks like”, “could happen”. No commitment there! That’s because it is out of their hands!

So many factors in our lives are out of our hands. Good and bad. The good surprises are welcomed and enjoyed. The bad ones, not so much. When the good things happen, we look up and say, “Thanks, I know that was you”. We have understood that thanking God for the good things can also bring us just as close as prayers for guidance.

The difficult times, especially the unexpected ones, can rock our world and throw our step off. We have a knee jerk reaction to What? Where do I go from here? How can we change this? And why did this happen? We realize how non prepared we are and feel so lost. It is so hard.

We all know that God is aware of our feelings and is there to wrap his arms around us. Christians just know. But sometimes, we need to speak with someone to reassure ourselves and to help guide us through these feelings.

That is one of the reasons for Stephen Ministers. We want to help you realize that God is truly there and help you to make your heart steadier to deal with whatever you have been handed. We listen to you, and pray with you hoping that we can help you become stronger again just by feeling His love. We are the “set up crew” for God to begin His frame work of helping you to become stronger. If you would like to speak with a Stephen Minister, please contact Wendy Watt or Dr. Bob.

Peace to you all from the Stephen Ministers.
Cindi Sywulski



Thank you so much for your cards, prayers, and positive thoughts over the past months. I am happy to say that all my treatments are behind me. Jim and I have been humbled by your support.

~ Cindy Hetzler

EMERGENCY CONTACT: At times, families or individuals may find they need pastoral support for various reasons ranging from a long-term matter or an emergency. In the event of a pastoral emergency, this can be sought by calling the church office (585) 663-3000 during normal business hours or after hours at (585) 496-4699. In addition, there are several members of the congregation that can be called on for support called Stephen Ministers. Stephen Ministers are congregation members trained by Stephen Leaders to offer high-quality, one-to-one Christian care to people going through tough times. To receive support from a Stephen Minister contact Kim Bolinger at (585) 227-2540 or Wendy Watt (585) 415-2351.



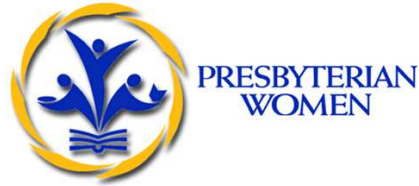
Sanctuary Flowers

If you would like to beautify the sanctuary on Sunday mornings by purchasing flowers for the chancel in memory of a loved one or in honor of, order forms are available on the table in the narthex. Make your check payable to: Bethany Presbyterian Church, in the amount of \$46.00 for a communion table piece. Place a check in the envelope and place in the offering plate or mail to Bethany church office.



**Church Cookout
Following worship
August 13, 2023**

BETHANY PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN in the CONGREGATION



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.

2022-2023 Program Overview:

As we reflect on this past year, Bethany women are grateful for the opportunity to nurture our faith through prayer and bible study. Reaching out and caring for others in our local and global communities continues to be a way for us to share our gifts and talents. We strive to be an inclusive, caring community of women and embrace a just peace for the world. In the Presbyterian Women Symbol above, the three women have no distinct features and represent all women. The shapes surrounding them express energy, strength, and openness. It is our hope that the following programs we developed support our purpose and guided principles:

Date	Topic
9/13/2022	Alyssa's Angels
10/11/2022	Mothers in Need
11/5/2022 (Saturday)	Veterans Appreciation Card Making
11/8/2022	Greece Senior and Community Center
12/3/2022 (Saturday)	Christmas Luncheon @ Noon
1/10/2023	PADS Project
2/14/2023	Journey Home
3/14/2023	ROCovery Fitness
4/15/2023 (Saturday)	Women's Retreat
5/9/2023	Land Acknowledgement- Diversity/Equality/Inclusion
6/13/2023	Living as a New Creation: How does My Body Affect How I Follow Jesus?

Afghans: Beth Thomsen delivered five beautiful afghans to the Lipson Cancer Center. The staff appeared was thrilled to receive them. Many thanks to all the women who create these much-needed afghans.

Sawyer Park: Women continued to build relationships at Sawyer Park on Saturday, June 24th as we gathered at Sawyer Park. We enjoyed the wonderful world that God has created.

July 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<i>1</i> 9-Men's Club Breakfast
<i>2</i> 10-Worship, with communion Childcare 11:30-Contemporary Worship	<i>3</i> Church office closed	<i>4</i> Fourth of July	<i>5</i> 11-Staff Meeting	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>9</i> 10-Worship, Childcare	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i> 11-Staff Meeting	<i>13</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>16</i> 10-Worship, Childcare	<i>17</i> 9-Vacation Bible School	<i>18</i> 9-Vacation Bible School	<i>19</i> 9-Vacation Bible School 11-Staff Meeting	<i>20</i> 9-Vacation Bible School	<i>21</i> 9-Vacation Bible School	<i>22</i> 9-Vacation Bible School
<i>23</i> 10-Worship, Childcare	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i> 11-Staff Meeting	<i>27</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i>
<i>30</i> 10-Worship, Childcare	<i>31</i>					

August 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<i>1</i>	<i>2</i> 11-Staff Meeting	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i> 9-Men's Club Breakfast
<i>6</i> 10-Worship, with communion Childcare 11:30-Contemporary Worship	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i> 11-Staff Meeting	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>13</i> 10-Worship, Childcare 11-Church Cookout	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i> 11-Staff Picnic	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i>
<i>20</i> 10-Worship, Childcare	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i> 11-Staff Meeting	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>
<i>27</i> 10-Worship, Childcare 12-Session	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i> 11-Staff Meeting	<i>31</i>		

Bethany Presbyterian Church

Bethany Presbyterian Church
3000 Dewey Avenue
Rochester, NY 14616

Phone: 585-663-3000
www.bethanyrochester.org

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Change Service Requested
Mailed June 30, 2023

**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
Jennifer Smith

Nursery Child Care Worker

Jennifer Watt

The Session

Craig Johnson, Budget & Finance
Wendy Watt, Christian Education
Judy Price, Community & Global Miss.
Bev Murray, Nominating
Jim Hetzler, Personnel
Heather Kruspe, Spiritual Growth
Liz Whittingham, Worship & Music
Dr. Bob Spratt, Moderator
Linda Lamb, Clerk of Session

Treasurer

Carl DeGraff

