

Bethany  
Presbyterian  
Church

Sharing, Caring,  
Believing, Doing

# The Church Mouse



Bethany Presbyterian Church

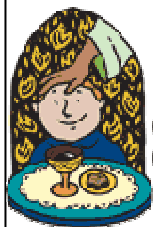
## OUR GRADUATES



Lucas Rudd graduates with honors from Hilton High School on June 14, 2022. Lucas is a member of NHS, a varsity swimmer, an Eagle Scout, and an All-County Chorus member. Lucas participates in Band, Chorus, Theater, and enjoyed a lead role in the musical 'Footloose' this spring. He lifeguards for the pool at Merton Williams Middle School, and will spend his summer as a camp counselor on the waterfront at Massawepie Scout Camp. Lucas plans to attend SUNY Geneseo in the fall, where he will study History and Adolescent Education.



Bailey Walker Sykes, son of Raymond and Jennifer Sykes, grandson of Jim and Beverly Walker, graduated from Greece Arcadia with a Regents with Distinction Diploma. He is a National Honor Society member and an Eagle Scout. He has earned his Academic Letter and several Academic pins. He was member of the Symphonic Band and received The Outstanding Instrumentalist Award. Bailey will be attending Suny Geneseo for Business Administration. Bailey will spend his summer working at Flour City Estate Sales and his reselling business.



Meet  
Our  
Confirmands

Bethany welcomes this years confirmands

David Covert and Zachary Melville



**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING:** There will be a congregational meeting after worship on June 5, 2022 in the sanctuary for the purpose of electing church leaders.

### Bethany Mission Statement

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

June  
2022

Volume 25,  
Issue 6

### Inside this issue:

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### Special points of interest:

- Stephen Ministry
- Shipmates
- Technology Update
- Community & Global Mission
- Church Calendar
- Presbyterian Women (insert)

**Deadline for the  
July/August  
Newsletter is on  
June 14, 2022**

## Pastor's Page:

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Dear Friends,

June 12, 2022 is Trinity Sunday in many churches. The Trinity is a confusing doctrine that helps us see that God is not off in the distance somewhere leaving us to our own devices but is an active participant in our world and in our lives.

There is a mystery surrounding the Trinity which makes it hard for some people to understand: God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit. We hear but still wonder what this means.

It reminds me of a first-grade teacher who was overseeing her students as they experimented with their new desktop computers. One young fellow sat staring at the screen, unsure how to get the computer going.

The teacher walked over and read what was on his screen. In her most reassuring voice, she said to him, "The computer wants to know your name."

She moved on to the next student expecting that the boy would understand to type in his name on the computer keyboard.

Instead, the boy leaned toward the screen and whispered, "My name is David."

Some of us may approach the Trinity with the same sense of mystery. Perhaps we've spent too much time trying to explain this ancient doctrine and not enough time standing back in worship and awe.

Through the Trinity God is no longer hidden from us. God is no longer inaccessible. We can see God as Creator. We can see God in the life of Jesus of Nazareth. We can experience God through the power of God's indwelling Spirit. God who was at a distance is now available to us all.

Blessings,

Dr. Bob Spratt

## With Our People

### With sympathy

Christian love and sympathy is extended to Paul & Karen Lockhart, at the passing of their son Rob Lockhart.



### NEIGHBORHOOD PICNIC

Come "Meet and Treat" our Neighbors Saturday July 23rd join C&GM and the Social Justice Group providing a free meal and games for our Dewey/Stone Neighbors. Contact Cheri Livoti if you are interested. Many hands make light work!

### Fiscal Focus

2022	April	Year to Date	% Budget
Income	\$29,516.02	\$110,256.96	25.62%
Expense	\$32,933.83	\$119,118.85	27.68%
Surplus/ (Deficit)	-\$3417.81	-\$8861.89	

### TEAM technology

#### Technology Update

When we think about Bethany's use of technology, we probably think about the cameras and equipment used to livestream our Sunday services, but I wanted to make you aware of another important piece of technology that we've added during this last year that you might not have seen.

During the COVID pandemic, we closed our office. Our staff worked from home and communicated and collaborated virtually. Church operations have resumed cautiously and in stages, with everyone's health and safety in mind. Much work is still done from home and our office is no longer staffed Monday through Friday. The "new normal" is for hybrid in-person and Zoom staff meetings, and staff members popping in and out throughout the week to complete their on-site work. We're appreciative of our staff's ability to adapt, but we also remain concerned for everyone's safety. Operating this way means staff members are now, more frequently, alone in the building.

An anonymous donor came forward last June to fully fund an upgrade to our security system that includes exterior and interior cameras that provide automated and manually controlled monitoring with automatic recording to a 6TB hard drive. Live views of all entrances, the parlor and the education wing are visible on a large monitor in the Church Office. It's quite an impressive piece of technology and we're grateful for this additional layer of protection for the people that keep our Church running smoothly.

Jim Hetzler

**Save the Date**  
**June 21st**

**1:00 - 6:00**

**Bethany Presbyterian Church**  
**In Memory of Jerry Vogt**  
**Contact Cheryl Fisher or**  
**schedule online at**  
**[www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org)**



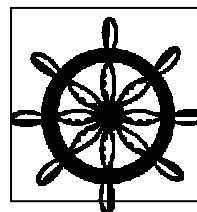
## Stephen Ministry

I did not write the following, but I found it to be something that helps the Christian faith feel the love we are given.

*Every once and a while, a ewe will give birth to a lamb and reject it. There are many reasons she may do this. If the lamb is returned to the ewe, the mother may even kick the poor animal away. Once a ewe rejects one of her lambs, she will never change her mind. These little lambs will hang their heads so low that it looks like something is wrong with its neck. Their spirit is broken. These lambs are called "bummer lambs". Unless the shepherd intervenes, that lamb will die rejected and alone. So, do you know what the shepherd does? He takes that rejected little one into his home, hand feeds it and keeps it warm by the fire. He will wrap it up with blankets and hold it to his chest so the bummer can hear his heartbeat. Once the lamb is strong enough, the shepherd will place it back in the field with the rest of the flock. But the sheep never forgets how the shepherd cared for him when his mother rejected him. When the shepherd calls for the flock, guess who runs to him first? That is right, the bummer sheep. He knows his voice intimately. It is not that the bummer lamb is loved more; it just knows intimately the one who loves it. The lamb it just believes it because it has experienced that love one on one. We can sometimes feel like a bummer lamb. Our good shepherd cares for our every need and holds us close to His heart so we can hear His heartbeat.*

If you would like to speak with a Stephen Minister to help you feel the love of our Good Shepherd, please contact Dr. Bob or Wendy Watt. Peace to you from the Stephen Ministers,

Cindi Sywulski



### SHIPMATES ANNUAL SPRING FELLOWSHIP PICNIC DEADLINE FAST APPROACHING

Saturday - June 11, 2022—  
11AM at Towpath Pavilion,  
Greece Canal Ponds Park.

Cost \$15.00 per person. ( Includes Mixed Salad, Macaroni Salad, Fruit Salad, Hamburger or Hot Dog, Condiments and Desserts, Water will be available.. ( IF A 2nd Meat Selection is desired an additional Charge of \$5.00 is required per selection.) Please bring your own Beverage, Place Setting, & Utensils. Also bring Lawn Games & Board games for activities.

Reservation DEADLINE IS SATURDAY JUNE 4th  
Contact Jack/Jan Bansbach at (585) 227-1265, to make your Reservation and meat selection.

Send your check to Jack & Jan Bansbach, 1471 Long Pond Rd, Apt E348, Rochester, NY 14626  
Please make checks payable to Bethany Presbyterian Church with Shipmates picnic in memo line.



### LIBRARY NEWS Have

you noticed all the new books on the shelves in the Narthex and Parlor? Members of the Spiritual Growth and Bethany Church Library have been working diligently to clean up the library and put new books out on the shelves for you to sign out. Many books have been donated during the pandemic and are now available for your enjoyment. Sign out cards and due date cards are provided along with instructions in case you have never used this wonderful resource. Many books of all types are available. Enjoy! Jeannette Johnson, Church librarian





## **BETHANY PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN** **in the CONGREGATION**

### **BPWC Budget Update:**

In April, no new pledges/income was received. YTD, we have collected \$4,880. in new pledges, \$50 was received in Memorial Service income, and we had a carryover from last year of \$6979.69 bringing our total income YTD to \$11,009.69.

Expenses incurred in April totaled \$451.74. Miscellaneous expenses for yarn, Helen West Memorial, Islamic Center honorarium, retreat supplies and \$316.20 for the retreat lunch.

The mission checks will be sent out in the month of July as in past years.

### **Afghan Mission Project:**

During the week of May 9- 13, Beth Thomsen delivered six afghans, eight pair of crocheted slippers made with love by my 92 yr. old neighbor and one lap robe to Saint's Place, Pittsford. She also dropped off squares to Joyce Adaskin and Sharon Nichols. The squares were donated by Joan Vogt and Cheri Livoti. We are grateful for these women's time and talent.

### **June Lunch Meeting:**

**We will be meeting the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday on June 7<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am instead of June 14<sup>th</sup>.** Paper goods, beverages and ham will be provided. Please bring a dish to pass. We will also be voting on BPWC Officers. Nominations will be received on June 7<sup>th</sup>. Our current officers have agreed to serve again: Moderator, Karen Bolinger, Vice Moderator, Karen Dobbins, Treasurer, Linda Lamb, Secretary, Jeannette Johnson, Historian, Lisa Clement, and Member at large, Mary Leader.

### **Building Caring Relationships:**

Any woman currently active or inactive with BPWC and would like to be added to the *Bethany Presbyterian Women in the Congregation Communication Distribution List* please contact Karen Bolinger- 585-227-2540 or [kbolinger@rochester.rr.com](mailto:kbolinger@rochester.rr.com).

## **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 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 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.

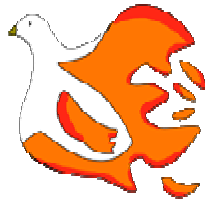
Friday, June 24, @ 3:00 pm  
All welcome!

Please phone Bev Bennett 585-225-0206

A peace that preeminents all understanding by Jesus way.

**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.





## Pentecost Offering

Please support our Pentecost Offering on June 5th. 40% of the offering will go to the Center for Youth - CFY located at 905 Monroe Avenue in the former Monroe Y building in support of the C&GM committee focus of Rochester housing.

The Center was started in 1971 by youth, for youth. Among the services they provide are homeless, temporary, and transitional housing; crisis nursery services in two locations; school-based counseling; street outreach; and food assistance. Their stated mission is to “partner with youth to realize their full potential, by creating opportunities, removing barriers, and promoting social justice.”

The shelter services include both long-term and short-term assistance through an extended housing program, Chrysalis House, New Beginning House, the Arnett House for LGBTQ+ and trafficked homeless youth, transitional living program apartments and rapid rehousing program. They also provide emergency shelter for youth aged 12-17 for up to 30 days.

## Good News and Thank You's from Community and Global Missions



1. We have collected 3 trunk fulls of supplies to support Ukraine
2. Crop Walk was a huge success raising over \$2000.
3. 6 Mighty Participants helped clean our portion of Lake Ontario Parkway through Adopt-a-Highway
4. The Congregation donated to the following causes:
  - Ash Wednesday (Roc Fitness) \$961
  - One Great Hour of Sharing \$877.50
  - Easter Offering (Presbytery – Ukraine) \$1245

# June 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<i>1</i> 12:30-Staff Meeting 6:30-Worship & Music 7:30-Celebration Ring- ers	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i> 9-Men's Club Breakfast 10-Planning day
<i>5</i> 9-Present Word 10-Worship, with communion Childcare, Roots & Wings Congregational mtg 11:30-Contemporary Worship	<i>6</i> 7-Stephen Ministers	<i>7</i> 10-Belles & Beaux 10-Presbyterian Wom- en	<i>8</i> 12:30-Staff Meeting 6-C&GM 6:30-Spiritual Growth 7:30-Celebration Ring- ers	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i> 11-Shipmates
<i>12</i> 9-Present Word 10-Worship, Childcare, Roots & Wings Ordination/Installation	<i>13</i> 2-Pastoral Care Deacons 7-Life Group #2	<i>14</i> 7:30-Congregational Life	<i>15</i> 7-Budget & Finance 7-Christian Ed	<i>16</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i>
<i>19</i> 9-Present Word 10-Worship, Childcare, Roots & Wings	<i>20</i>	<i>21</i> 10-Personnel Comm 7-Contemporary Wor- ship Task force mtg	<i>22</i> 12:30-Staff Meeting	<i>23</i>	<i>24</i> 3-Bible Fellowship	<i>25</i> 10-Women's Brunch
<i>26</i> 9-Present Word 10-Worship, Childcare, Roots & Wings 12-Session	<i>27</i> 7-Life Group #2	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i> 12:30-Staff Meeting	<i>30</i>		

## Bethany Presbyterian Church

Bethany Presbyterian Church

3000 Dewey Avenue

Rochester, NY 14616

Phone: 585-663-3000

[www.bethanyrochester.org](http://www.bethanyrochester.org)

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**Mailed May 27, 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

Jennifer Smith

### 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

Linda Lamb, Clerk of Session

### Treasurer

Carl DeGraff

