

Bethany
Presbyterian
Church

Sharing, Caring,
Believing, Doing

The Church Mouse



Bethany Presbyterian Church

**June
2023**

Volume 26,
Issue 6

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Pentecost Offering



PENTECOST

SPECIAL OFFERINGS

CHILDREN AT RISK • YOUTH • YOUNG ADULTS

It's not too late...please support our Pentecost Offering. The Pentecost Offering unites us in a church-wide effort to support young people and inspire them to share their faith, ideas, and unique gifts with the church and the world. 40% of the offering will go to Villa of Hope. You can learn a lot about us from our name. And each part of the Villa of Hope name is equally important. Villa - a home to everyone who comes to them in need. And they find all that they deserve in a home. Acceptance. Love. Support. Comfort. Guidance. As often as possible, that home is their very own residence, and we help them remain there safely with loved ones, and with strategies for success. Hope - The other portion of our name speaks volumes about what we provide, regardless of what troubles bring each person to our door. Whether you or a loved one are struggling against chemical dependency, mental health concerns or education issues, our dedicated staff of professionals provide hope.

Special points of interest:

- Stephen Ministry
- Shipmates
- Church Calendar
- Presbyterian Women

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING



CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING

There will be a congregational meeting after worship on June 11th 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.

**Deadline for the
July/August
Newsletter is on
June 19, 2023**

Pastor's Page:

Dear Friends,

It was the deciding round of play of the 1983 U.S. Open golf tournament. A player named Larry Nelson was tied for first place. But then he hit a difficult situation. His approach shot to the sixteenth green left him sixty-two feet from the hole. His fans groaned. In the world of golf, sinking a sixty-two-foot putt is about as likely as a hole-in-one.

Larry Nelson paused for a long moment. Then he raised his head, sized up the terrain, and stroked his ball. It rolled downhill for a spell, then up an incline, then down another slope, and up another, and finally it curved, and then *Ker plunk!* into the hole it went. Some called it the shot of the year.

Bolstered by this magnificent putt, Larry Nelson went on to win the tournament, his first victory following a two-year slump.

One of the reporters who flocked to get his comments after the tournament asked him if he had been praying during the match, especially before that fateful putt.

"Yes," Larry Nelson answered.

"Were you praying you'd make the shot?" the reporter asked.

"No," Nelson said.

"Well, then, what were you praying for?" asked the reporter.

Larry Nelson's answer should help all of us. He replied simply, "Peace."

Is there anyone in this room who is not, one way or another, seeking peace, peace in our hearts, peace in our marriages, peace in our relationships with other family members, peace in our work?

Peace is one of Christ's great gifts to us. In fact, a strong sense of inner peace is what allows us to make a positive difference in the world. Sure, we are called to rid the world of wrong-doing and there are tragic things happening in our world that should trouble us deeply and that we should do something about.

The ironic thing, however, is that these are not the things that generally rob us of our peace. The things that rob us of our peace are often superficial things. Things like our appearance or whether we are keeping up with our neighbors.

Do you have a troubled spirit? Do you waste valuable hours worrying about things beyond your control?

Are there things in your past or even in your present that rob you of your peace because you know that they are outside the will of God for you?

Accept Christ's peace today.

Dr. Bob Spratt



Stephen Ministry

Welcome to the month of graduations, showers, and weddings. For some it is a “just show up” type of situation, but for others, it is much planning, favor making, color coordination, and the aftermath leaves exhaustion. We can really work ourselves up to a frenzy because to us, things just have to be perfect for these once in a lifetime events. Reservations, plan B’s, who is bringing what dish, who did not respond and who will handle any transportation issues? Whoa! Stop and take a breath for a minute. Are you really going to get to enjoy this special time?

Stop and take that pause. Step away from the confusion and take in all that God has already done for your planning.

He has given you a new day. That’s a good start. He has gotten the people who traveled safely here. He has helped get your loved one through school and guided them while they made decisions on the next part of their life. If they have chosen a partner for their future, he will be there as they speak their vows in front of Him and all the family and friends present. He has been busy too.

We sometimes have things in our life that seem to be in utter chaos. We forget that we are getting guidance from the most important source in our lives. His presence is right beside us all the way. Just a reminder is needed.

Bethany has a group of “reminder specialists” that are here to help you sort through those utter chaotic times in your life. Even if you just need help in listening for Him, we can help you gain that peace you need to hear Him.

If you would like to speak with a Stephen Minister, please contact Dr. Bob or Wendy Watt.

Peace and blessings to you from the Stephen Ministers.
Cindi Sywulski

Donation of the Month

Thanks to all that donated to the Greece Ecumenical Foodshelf in support of elderly dietary needs. We raised 115 pounds of food!

Food Shelf



ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Please join Congregation Life for a June 11th Ice Cream Social immediately following the service in the large hall.

Disposable Diapers Needed

The Greece Ecumenical Food Shelf and Clothing Closet distributes disposable diapers to clients in need, only if they have diapers that have been donated to the Shelf. No monetary donations are ever used to purchase diapers. At this time the larger sizes (5 and 6) are in short supply.

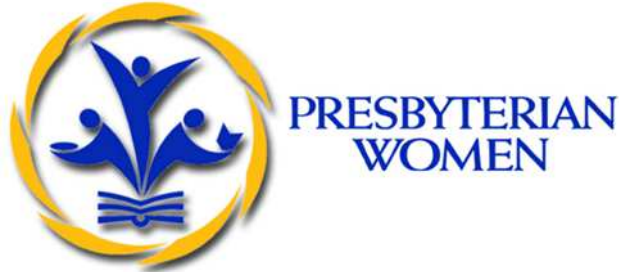
During the month of June please consider purchasing diapers and placing them in the Pack and Play, located in the narthex. If you haven’t shopped for disposable diapers in a long time, you may be surprised to discover how much low-income families are paying for this necessity!

Clients at GEFS&CC and the Bethany Church and Global Mission Committee thank you for your generosity.

Fiscal Focus

2023	April	Year to Date	% Budget
Income	\$32,302.42	\$139,535.90	29.43%
Expense	\$43,362.92	\$147,506.05	31.11%
Surplus/ (Deficit)	-\$11,060.50	-\$7,970.15	

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.

May Meeting: Tuesday, May 9, 2023

At our May Meeting, Roberta Davis presented on " Experiencing the Land Acknowledgement". Roberta is of Lenape and African Diasporan descent and self-identifies as Indigenous. She explored one means of decolonization and re-indigenization through the Land Acknowledgement. We had 28 women in attendance and celebrated the diverse world in which we live.

Sawyer Park Gathering:

We will begin gathering at Sawyer Park on Saturday, June 27th at 10:00 am. Please bring a chair to enjoy fellowship and beauty of God's world. This will be our last gathering at Sawyer Park until September.

Afghan:

There have been completed afghans made with love by BWC will be delivered this week. Beth Thomsen delivered them to the cancer center, part of Unity hospital.

June Lunch Meeting:

We will be Lunch/Meeting Tuesday on June 13th at 10:00 am. Paper goods, beverage, 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 13th. Several of our current officers have agreed to serve again: Moderator, Karen Bolinger, Vice Moderator, Karen Dobbins, Treasurer, Linda Lamb, Secretary, Vacancy, Historian, Lisa Clement, and Member at Large, Mary Leader.

Speaker: Dr. Reverend Rebecca Letterman serves as Director of the Intellectual and Spiritual Humility Institute at Roberts Wesleyan University.

Topic: *Living as a New Creation: How does My Body Affect How I Follow Jesus?*

As Christians, we believe that Jesus came to make all things new. The Scriptures teach us to "put off the old man, and put on Christ." We know that classic spiritual practices like prayer, Bible reading, communal worship, and service to others all help form and express our commitment to follow Jesus. But over the past several decades, psychology, research into trauma, and advances in neuroscience have highlighted the significance of the physical aspect of our lives. So now we need to ask: how do our physical bodies contribute to our faithfulness to follow Jesus and our experiences of God's love?

BPWC Budget Update:

During May up to the 15th, BPWC has received \$150 in new pledge money which brings our total income YTD at \$3995. During May to the 15th there has been a request for \$40.52 Food for Memorials; \$68.12 for yarn for the afghan project. This brings total YTD expenses to \$933.60. Many thanks to all for supporting our mission. We are blessed.

BPWC Coordinating Team:

The Coordinating Team will be meeting on Wednesday, July 10th to develop BPWC Program Schedule for 9/2023-6/2024. The Coordinating Team will also develop a Proposed Budget which will be shared at our October meeting for approval.

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.



Dear Bethany Family,
My sincere thanks for all your thoughts, notes, calls, cards and prayers. Along with my family, near and far. I deeply appreciate all and am working hard to get through this!

Love and hugs,
Pat Hemmenway

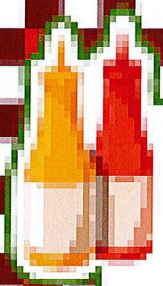


ANNUAL CLEAN-UP DAY AT BETHANY: We are scheduling the annual “Spruce Up Day” at Bethany on Saturday, June 17 at 9AM. The Property Committee is looking for volunteers to assist the “BUGS” perform some of their tasks including pruning some of the trees and shrubs around the church building. We are also planning to trim up the vegetation along the parking lot to include the fence along 83 Clark Park. Please join us on Saturday, June 17th at 9AM with your own tools (pruners, clippers, hedge trimmers, weed wackers, rakes, etc.) to help with this important cleanup. Any questions contact Dick Bauman at 585-227-3190.



Crop Walk

What a beautiful day for a walk! 13 folks from Bethany participated raising ~\$2500 through Bethany and the 7 churches that participated raised ~\$10,000. This year there was also a scavenger hunt that made for a great activity! Thanks to everyone who participated, donated, prayed and helped with the event.



You're Invited to an Old Fashioned Church Picnic

Saturday,
June 10, 2023
11 AM - 4:00 PM

Towpath Shelter - Greece Canal Park
Only \$10 per person.

**Please bring your place setting
(Plate, Utensils, & Beverage)**

Send your check made out to Bethany
and indicate on the memo line...

"Shipmates Picnic".
Send to Jan Bansbach,
1471 Long Pond Road, Apt E348,
Rochester, NY 14626



DEADLINE - JUNE 4TH

June 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<i>1</i> 7:15-Bethany Choir	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i> 9-Men's Club Breakfast Sawyer Park
<i>4</i> Music Sunday 10-Worship, Childcare, Roots & Wings 1-New Member Class	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i> 10-Staff meeting	<i>8</i> 7:15-Bethany Choir	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i> 9-Leadership Training 11-Shipmates
<i>11</i> 10-Worship, Childcare, Roots & Wings Congregational mtg 11-Ice Cream Social	<i>12</i> 7-Life Group	<i>13</i> 10-Presbyterian Women	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i> 7:15-Bethany Choir	<i>16</i>	<i>17</i> 9-Church Work day
<i>18</i> 10-Worship, Childcare, Roots & Wings	<i>19</i>	<i>20</i> 12-Circle of Hope	<i>21</i> 10-Staff meeting	<i>22</i> 7:15-Bethany Choir	<i>23</i>	<i>24</i>
<i>25</i> Ordination & Installation 10-Worship, Childcare, Roots & Wings 12-Session	<i>26</i> 7-Life Group	<i>27</i>	<i>28</i> 10-Staff meeting	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i>	

Bethany Presbyterian Church

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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

Custodians

Jim Cruppe
Jennifer Smith

Nursery Child Care Worker

Jennifer Watt

Youth & Children's Ministry Leader

Andrew Ferreira

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
Dick Bauman, Property
Heather Kruspe, Spiritual Growth
Liz Whittingham, Worship & Music
Dr. Bob Spratt, Moderator
Linda Lamb, Clerk of Session

Treasurer

Carl DeGraff

