

Bethany
Presbyterian
Church

Sharing, Caring,
Believing, Doing

The Church Mouse



Bethany Presbyterian Church

June
2024

Volume 27,
Issue 6

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Bethany Presbyterian Church

3000 Dewey Ave
Rochester, NY

Camp Firelight

Psalm 56:3

A SUMMER CAMP ADVENTURE WITH GOD

VBS for Ages 5 to 10

Music & Dance | Storytelling | Arts & Crafts | Interactives Games | & More |

August 5-9, 2024
9:00 - 11:30 AM

For more information:
585.663.3000 <https://bethanyrochester.org/>

Special points of interest:

- Stephen Ministry
- Church Calendar
- Presbyterian Women
- Jennifer's Closet
- Homestead for Hope
- Bethany's Men's Group Breakfast



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: There will be a congregational meeting after worship on June 2ND in the sanctuary for the purpose of electing church leaders.

Bethany Mission Statement

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

Deadline for the
July/August
Newsletter is on
June 15, 2024

Pastor's Page:

Dear Friends,

The weather has gotten warmer and the cold days of winter seem but a fleeting memory. The beauty of God's creation is proclaimed in the flowers, fields and trees. Truly this is a glorious time of year.

When Jesus lived on this earth he never failed to notice and appreciate the beauty that surrounded him. These were the seemingly ordinary aspects of every day life which Jesus couldn't help but recognize as God's handiwork. The growing wheat, the lilies of the field and the sparrows all herald the majesty of God.

We are truly blessed to live in such a wonderful community that has maintained such close ties to natural beauty and wonder. We can see evidence of God in all that surrounds us.

Traditionally summer is a time when we think of getting together with family and friends for barbecues and to enjoy vacation. During these grand days of summer when the sun is shining and there's not a cloud in the sky, let us be sure to take a moment to draw in that beauty and quietly offer to God a prayer of gratitude.

In the spirit of summer, we invite all to our 10:00 am summer worship service. Many folks head right out after church to golf courses, marinas and parks to enjoy the outdoors. This summer feel free to come to church in your casual clothes. On the really hot, humid days of summer, come and worship in our air-conditioned sanctuary.

Wishing you a happy, healthy and safe summer,

Dr. Bob Spratt

With Our People

With sympathy

Christian love and sympathy is extended to Jerry Smith and family, at the passing of Jessie Smith.



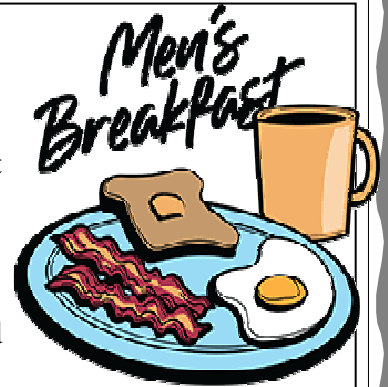
OPEN
Tuesday's - 1:00PM—3:00PM
Thursday's - 9:30AM—Noon

Fiscal Focus

2024	April	Year to Date	% Budget
Income	\$29,824.56	\$134,625.66	27.27%
Expense	\$36,805.37	\$155,328.02	31.470%
Surplus/ (Deficit)	-\$6,980.81	-\$20,702.36	

Bethany Men's Group Breakfast

The Bethany Men's Group will be meeting outdoors for breakfast at Sawyer Park on the first Saturday of the month from June 1st through October 5th. We meet at 9AM to discuss world events, our aches and pains, home improve-



ment projects, etc. and have some laughs. All you need to bring is your folding chair, a beverage, and your breakfast. There is a shelter at the park which is located across from Wegmans at 732 Long Pond Road, Greece 14612 (<https://www.mapquest.com/us/new-york/sawyer-park-452705848>). Breakfasts are rain or shine- but many of us are fair-weather diners. We're manly, but we don't like to get cold and wet. If you'd like to be added to the Bethany Men's Group distribution list, please send your email to Jim Hetzler

(jmshtzler@gmail.com). You will receive Evite invitations to all breakfasts, as well as other church and community activities supported by the men of the church.

HOMES OFFERING

Community and Global Mission would like to announce that the HOMES Offering will be collected on June 16th. The HOMES Offering goes to Rochester Presbyterian Home which offers traditional assisted living, memory care for dementia and Alzheimers clients, and respice care.

The Presbyterian Home also has three residences. Elders are embraced as a family in these residences. The residences have pets, visiting school children, and gardens. They engage Elders in directing their own care and define how life is lived. Community and Global Mission asks for you to support the needs of Elders in our community.



Stephen Ministry

Stephen Minister Articles from the Archives

I belong to the Belles and Beaux bell ringers. There are seven of us ringing and one director leading us. Are we fantastic? No. Are we the worst ever? Absolutely not. We enjoy music and are able to demonstrate that with the ringing of bells. We have been referred to as the “Ding- a- Lings”, but I am sure it was meant with sincere love. Sometimes we ring each other’s assigned bells to help out on a particular piece and appreciate the help we have been given. It’s how we work. Just trying to make the piece of music we are doing sound the best we can.

This spring, we have been going to some nursing homes to give the residents and staff a brief concert. They enjoy having us come and we enjoy being there. They sing with us if they know the piece we are playing. They may be singing an entirely different tune, but they are enjoying themselves. They make our hearts smile.

This is a small gift we can provide to others. We spend time with them and sometimes hear stories while we are waiting to start or after we have finished. We listen and they listen. It is a special gift we give, but we get back so much more.

Here at Bethany, we have a group of Stephen Ministers who are ready to listen to you. This is our gift to you and we hope you will take our offer. We are trained to listen and help you set up some guidelines to work through whatever is troubling you, but it is not specifically our training that we use. We use the love of God that we have had in our hearts before any special training was done. We are part of your congregation and community and want to help where we can. We are ringing our bell. Can you hear us? Listen for the bell and then let us listen to you. That’s really what it is all about.

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

Peace to you from the Stephen Minister,
In Memory of Cindi Sywulski (Cubby) written June 2015



Crop Walk

This years Crop Walk was a great success! Bethany raised just over \$3000 and the overall walk raised \$11,000. Thanks to all who donated to the cause along with those who walked: Carrie Buri, Cheryl & Ron Fisher, Deb Petersen, Cindy Stanek, Pam Hemmenway, Judy Montanari, Craig & Alexa Johnson, Cindy & Jim Hetzler. Finally thanks for the congregational prayers for the walk as the rain held out. God is GOOD!



Adopt-a-Highway

The rain, for the most part, also held out for Adopt-a-Highway cleaning. We had a great turn out with 9 of us cleaning the Bethany portion of the Lake Ontario State Parkway which runs from Lake Avenue to Dewey Avenue – Feel free to check it out on your drive around town. Thanks to Connie Slappar, Cheryl & Ron Fisher, Margie McKnight, Craig Johnson, Mike Kuitunen, Kim Bollinger, Jim & Cindy Hetzler. Thanks to all!



The Technology Team Needs YOU!

The Technology Team is the volunteer group that supports the livestream of our Sunday worship services. We've come a long way from using a laptop to stream on Zoom. We now have a 4-camera set-up and a Midas 32R audio mixing console to stream our services to Boxcast, Facebook, and YouTube. Most Sundays, we have about 30 people who watch our services live and may have an equal or greater number who will view a recording of the service later. Each service requires a camera operator and a soundboard operator. The team members are Ed Grizer, Mike Kuitunen, Dave Clark, Craig Covert, Ron Fisher, and Jim Hetzler. We are always looking for more members to join the team. Coverage in the summer months can be more challenging and it would be great to have more people willing to help out. **NO EXPERIENCE IS NECESSARY!** The cameras and audio mixer are pre-programmed and are configured to be operated to switch with the push of a button, with minimal manual adjustments. Stop up in the organ loft any Sunday for a tour of the equipment. If you think you might be interested in joining the team, contact Jim Hetzler (585-317-1956 / jmshetzler@gmail.com) for a more in-depth look at the equipment and some hands-on training.

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.

Join Bethany for
music and dinner at
Homestead for
Hope
Thursday,
June 20, 2024
5:00—8:00 PM



Join Bethany at Homestead for Hope for dinner and music outside on their property. Coolers are welcome so bring your favorite beverage. There is a \$5 donation encouraged but not required and food for purchase. This is a wonderful organization promoting inclusion.

**Homestead for Hope
2185 Manitou Road
Rochester, NY 14606**

F.I.S.H. IS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS: Can you help? If you have one day a month (or more) free, please consider volunteering for Greece Friends in Service Here. Our ministry is to drive individuals without transportation to doctor, dental and other medical appointments. We need dispatchers and drivers to take Greece residents to appointments within Monroe County. Drivers are compensated for gas expense. We schedule according to your availability. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Judy Price at 663-0097.

TODDLERS LARGE DIAPERS NEEDED: The Greece Ecumenical Food Shelf and Clothing Closet asks for size 5 and 6 diapers. The need is great and their supply is very low. Please place your donations in the Pack 'n Play in the narthex and members of the Community & Global Mission committee will deliver them. The families on limited incomes served by the Greece Ecumenical Food Shelf & Clothes Closet thanks you.

BETHANY WOMEN



Women's Fellowship

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.

June Meeting: Tuesday, June 11, 2024: We will be electing Coordinating Team Officers for the following positions: Moderator, Vice Moderator, Treasurer, Secretary/Historian, and Member at Large. Our speaker, Reverend Dr. Rebecca Letterman will be presenting "*When God Plays 'Hide and Seek': Dynamics of Intimacy with God.*" Reverend Dr. Letterman will focus on, "Have you ever played hide-and-seek? What is it like to play with someone you love - and who loves you?" This session will explore dynamics of intimacy that we can learn from this childhood game that nurture growing in our life with God - and growing in our authentic love of others. After our speaker, Reverend Dr. Letterman's presentation, we will enjoy a buffet lunch and fellowship.

Budget: As we end our calendar year BPWC Income is \$3345 with Expenses \$760.28. During the month of July all mission checks will be sent out. Mission donations for 2024 total \$2500 bringing our total expenses to \$3261. Money was tighter this year, but our income was enough to cover what we planned last July. We are a blessed group with giving hearts.

Bethany Women's Meetings:

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 April which meet on Saturday. We have speakers who share a variety of topics (see chart below). We also coordinate service projects, Women's Tea, and fellowship opportunities.

Afghan: Two afghans were donated to Jennifer's Closet and three are to be donated to the Lipson Cancer Center. Thank you to Joan Vogt who donated the knitted squares and Sharon Nichols putting them together.

Women's Brunch: We will be sharing "Brunch and Fellowship" at *Bill's Long Pond Diner* on Saturday June 22, 2024 @ 10:00 am.

Women in the Bible Study:

During the summer months we will learning about women in the bible via e-mail. Each week we will focus on 3-4 women who have a significant role in the bible.



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.

June 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<i>1</i> 9-Men's Club Breakfast
<i>2</i> 9-Present Word 10-Worship, Childcare, 10:15-Youth Studies 11-Congregational meeting 11:15-Adult Education	<i>3</i> 7-Stephen Ministries	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i> 11-Staff Meeting	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i> 11-Shipmates
<i>9</i> 9-Present Word 10-Worship, Childcare, 10:15-Youth Studies	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i> 10-Presbyterian Women	<i>12</i> 11-Staff Meeting 6-Christian Ed 6-Spiritual Growth- Brook House	<i>13</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>16</i> 9-Present Word 10-Worship, Childcare, 10:15-Youth Studies	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i> 10-Personnel	<i>19</i> 7-Budget & Finance	<i>20</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i> 10-Bethany Women's brunch
<i>23</i> Ordination/Installation 9-Present Word 9-Pancake breakfast 10-Worship, Childcare, 12-Session	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i> 11-Staff Meeting	<i>27</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i>
<i>30</i> 9-Present Word 10-Worship, Childcare,						

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 May 31, 2024

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

Bookkeeper

Tom Olney

Treasurer

Patric Donaghue

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

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

He dug it and cleared it
of stones, and
planted it with
choice vines ...

Isaiah 5:2

