

Bethany
Presbyterian
Church

Sharing, Caring,
Believing, Doing

The Church Mouse



Bethany Presbyterian Church

June
2025

Volume 28,
Issue 6

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Special points of interest:

- Stephen Ministry
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Deadline for the
July/August
Newsletter is on
June 18, 2025

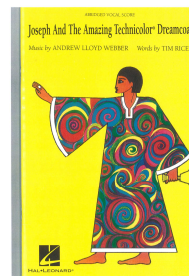
Congratulations!



Alexa McGarrity is graduating from Hilton High School with salutatory honors. She has played jv and varsity volleyball at Hilton for the last four years and has been a part of her school's musicals over the last two years. She plans on pursuing music performance at Boston University.



YOUTH SUNDAY: On Sunday, June 8, Youth Sunday, Pentecost, The Joyful Noise Singers will present a concert version of "Joseph and The Technicolor Dreamcoat." In addition we will recognize our senior Alexa McGarrity who will sing a solo and assist in worship along with David Covert and all the youth.



PENTECOST OFFERING: Please support our Pentecost Offering on June 8th. 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. By receiving the Pentecost Offering, you are nurturing the faith of children, youth, and young adults. Additionally 40% of the offering stays local and will support Villa of Hope right in our backyard. Villa of Hope continues to recognize their past in residential treatment programs for teens on the campus while they grow into future programs which contribute most directly toward achieving their future vision to disrupt the trajectory of poor health outcomes and early death in those who have experienced trauma or have vulnerabilities in basic needs of life. Villa of Hope partners with individuals, families and communities to Rebuild relationships, Recover potential, and Renew hope for the future.

Bethany Mission Statement

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

Pastor's Page:

Dear Friends,

Summer is quickly approaching. It's a time of year when many people travel. Many receive advice on where to stay, where to eat and what to see.

Many caution us to travel light, which is a difficult task. One hotel in a remote area posted a sign, "If you need anything, just ask, and we'll tell you how to get along without it."

The Bible is a book of advice for travelers. Everyone in the Bible is on a journey. There are some books in the Bible, such as Exodus, that read like a travel journal. There are other books that give simple advice on how to get along on our journey, like the Book of Proverbs.

When Jesus calls his disciples together, gives them authority and sends them out to carry the good news of God's Kingdom, he instructs them to travel light.

A typically dressed Jew in Israel in the time of Jesus had five articles of clothing which consisted of two tunics; one was an inner garment, the other, an outer one used as a cloak by day and a blanket by night. Then there was a girdle, a kind of waistband worn over the two tunics, a head covering, and sandals.

Travelers carried a sixth item, a wallet or travelers' bag which held food and money and was slung over the shoulder. But Jesus told them to leave this and everything else behind.

We often find ourselves so bogged down with stuff, with burdens, with activities, we can barely get out of our own way. Dragging so much baggage with us, we are often so preoccupied with such a variety of things, we find it difficult to focus on Jesus and his call on our lives.

People give different advice to travelers, depending on where we're traveling, where we've been, what we've have been through. But the advice is essentially the same. Travel light. Don't get bogged down having to worry about our baggage. Don't get preoccupied with the wrong things. Don't get concerned about things that are unimportant, because we will miss the joy of the journey.

Enjoy,

Dr. Bob Spratt

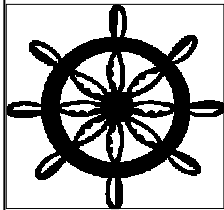
With Our People

Christian love and sympathy is extended to Al Adaskin and family, at the passing of Joyce Adaskin.

Christian love and sympathy is extended to Heather Shaw-Stillman and family, at the passing of Charlotte Shaw.



ANGELS OF MERCY: The Community and Global Mission Committee is supporting a donation of toiletries and other items for the Angels of Mercy through the month of June. For those who have not donated and still want to donate, just drop your items in the Angels of Mercy box at the narthex sign up table. You will find a list of items on the box and at the table.



SHIPMATES ANNUAL FELLOWSHIP PICNIC - JUNE 14, 2025 At the Towpath Shelter, Greece Canal Ponds Park, on Elmgrove Rd. Only \$8.00 per person, and bring a dish to share. Everyone is welcome: Bethany members-new members-family & friends. Signup today in the narthex. *Or send your check to: Edna Hamlin, 165 Tioga Drive, Rochester, NY 14616.* Please make your checks payable to Bethany and indicate on the memo line of your check ... "Line 37 - Picnic".

Fiscal Focus

2025	April	Year to Date	% Budget
Income	\$40,680.95	\$169,049.78	34.80%
Expense	\$46,761.63	\$153,629.24	31.62%
Surplus/ (Deficit)	-\$6,080.68	\$15,420.54	

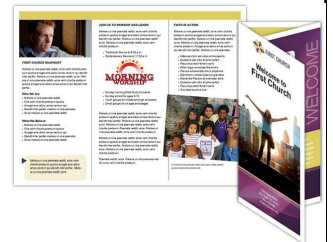


Jennifer's Closet is now accepting donations. We are also looking for more volunteers. If you are interested in helping out weekly, or occasionally, please contact Lisa Clement at 585-363-0446. Jennifer's Closet is open Tuesdays 1:00-3:00, Thursdays 9:30-noon, and the third Saturday of the month from 10:00-1:00.

ATTENTION COMMITTEES & GROUPS:

Please email your submissions for the Activity Brochure that will be distributed in September.

sengillo.bethany@gmail.com



Come One – Come All,

Friday Mornings – weather permitting

Tee off time is 10:00 O'clock AM

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 –
All are Welcome !!!



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.

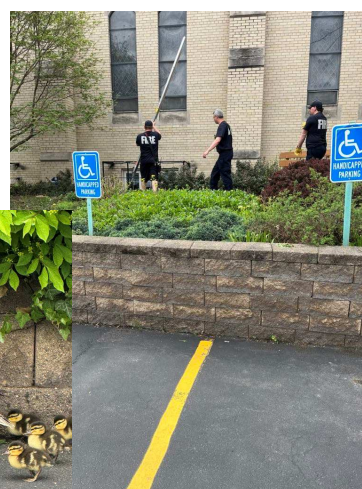
Peace to you from the Stephen Ministers

In Memory of Cindi Sywulski (Cubby) written June 2016



Middle School Students from Aquinas Institute Help at Bethany for their Service Day

On May 22nd, students from Aquinas Institute generously spent their morning at Bethany for their annual Service Day. With cheerful hearts and helping hands, they spruced up the sanctuary and first floor, third floor, and all three of our halls—large, small, and mini. Their hard work made a meaningful difference, and we are so grateful for their time and effort!



Bethany members Karen Dobbins and Heather Kruspe noticed a mama duck anxiously pacing outside a window ledge near the large hall. After a closer look, they discovered 12 ducklings had fallen into the window well and were unable to get out.

Thankfully, the Barnard Fire Department came to the rescue, safely freeing the ducklings and reuniting them with their mother. A heartfelt thank you to our community heroes!

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.



Women's Meeting/Program May 13, 2025: At our May meeting, we thoroughly enjoyed a presentation by Chet Fery, an amateur bread maker. Chet shared his Bread Time Stories and demonstrated how he makes bread. He showed us how acts of kindness can change lives and create a world community that is caring, supportive, and secure. Chet has given away over 10,000 loaves of bread to family, friends, colleagues, and strangers. His stories touched our hearts and stimulated our souls. Every woman who attended the meeting was given a loaf of bread. It was delicious!

Budget: As of this writing the Bethany Women's Budget stands at YTD income \$4,869 and YTD expenses \$848.22 with \$2200 in known expenses yet to be incurred. All local and worldwide mission checks will be mailed out in July.

Afghans: Beth Thomsen has received one completed afghan and will wait until she receives three or more before delivering them.

Women's Trip to Saints Place: On May 19th eight women from BPWC visited Saints Place in Fairport. Many of you will remember our visit last March from Michele Quinn, Administrator of Saints Place. Saints Place serves immigrants being relocated into Rochester through various organizations such as Church World Services and Catholic Charities. They have been in existence for 25 years and have 120 volunteers. Wow! What an operation. They own a large truck and a van which picks up and delivers furniture. They have three outside containers for dropping off clothing donations and a very large shed built by the Amish to house larger donations and they own space in a warehouse to store the furniture. They are housed inside the old St. John's Catholic school. Every room is 3 times the size of our clothing closet. There are dedicated rooms for administration, sorting, housewares, bedding, men's and boys, women's and girls, higher end donated items which are not needed by the immigrants, and a kitchen which includes a washer and dryer to clean any donated items which might be stained. They hold a sale of higher end items once a year to raise money to support items they need to purchase such as bedding and mattresses. Last year they raised \$150,000 at their sale. Every person is assigned their own volunteer to help them find what they need for their new life in this country. We are blessed to be a sanctuary city with an organization such as this to assist them in the opportunity for a better life.

Women's Meeting/Program June 10, 2025: Our June speaker will be Reverend Dr. Rebecca Letterman. Rebecca will be speaking on "The Hill Between the Mountains." On the Hill of Golgotha, Jesus "reconciled all things to himself" (Colossians 1:20) in the most unexpected way. In doing so, he created a path for us as God's people from the mountain of Sinai to the mountain of Zion (Hebrews 12: 18-24). What does Golgotha - "the hill between the mountains" - have to teach us about participating with God's work in the world - in our families, our church, our community, and our country? And what vision of life with God does Mount Zion offer to us to help us live in faithfulness and hope? Come join us to learn three keys to vitality in our walk together with God. Note: At this meeting we will be electing officers and enjoying lunch. Please bring a dish to pass.

Coordinating Team Meeting: On Wednesday, July 23rd, Bethany Women's officers will meet to develop next year's budget and finalize the Program Schedule. They will present the Proposed Budget to women at the September 9th meeting.

_(continued on the following page)

Display Case: Please take a minute to see programs and activities for women in the Parlor Display Case for the 2025-2026 year.

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 present on a variety of topics. We also coordinate service projects, Women's Tea, and fellowship opportunities.

Women's Brunch: We will be sharing "Brunch and Fellowship" at *Bill's Long Pond Diner* on the last Saturday of the months of September through June at 10:00 am. Our next Brunch is Saturday, June 28, at 10:00 am.

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 many things can make a women feel beautiful, and that is her love for others.



Crop Walk

This year's Crop Walk was a great success! Bethany raised \$2868 and the overall walk raised \$13,000 a new record for the Greece Cropwalk. Thanks to all who donated to the cause along with those who walked in the drizzle: Cheryl Fisher, Deb Petersen, Pam Hemmenway, Judy Montanari, Craig & Alexa Johnson and Cindy & Jim Hetzler!

Adopt-a-Highway

What a beautiful day for Adopt-a-Highway clean-up. We had an amazing turn out with 12 people that allowed for "Many hands make light work". Bethany supports the portion of the Lake Ontario State Parkway which runs from Lake Avenue to Dewey Avenue – Feel free to check it out on your next trip down the parkway. Thanks to Connie Slapar, Cheryl & Ron Fisher (and their friend Larry D), Geoff Malak and Allison Gilday. Those that also participated but unfortunately were not pictured here were Rich Hemmenway, Mike Kuitunen, Jim Hetzler, Craig Johnson, Jen McGarrity and her co-worker. Thanks TO all! In addition, this activity raised \$10 for the church (one of the "finds" while cleaning).



June 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Pulpit Exchange Communion 9-Present Word 10-Worship, Childcare 10:15-Youth Studies	2 7-Stephen Ministers	3 12:30-Jennifer's Closet	4 6:30-Worship & Music	5 9:30-Jennifer's Closet 7:15-Bethany Choir	6	7 9-Men's breakfast @ Sawyer Park
8 Youth Sunday 9-Present Word 10-Worship, Childcare	9 11-The Chosen 7-Life Group	10 10-Presbyterian Women 12:30-Jennifer's Closet	11	12 6:30-C&GM 9:30-Jennifer's Closet 7:15-Bethany Choir	13	14 11-Shipmate's
15 Father's Day 9-Present Word 10-Worship, Childcare	16 11- The Chosen 7-Generosity Committee	17 10-Personnel Committee 11:30-Staff meeting 12:30-Jennifer's Closet	18	19 9:30-Jennifer's Closet 7:15-Bethany Choir	20 11-Budget & Finance	21 9-10:30-Church Leader Training 10-Jennifer's Closet
22 Congregational Meeting to elect Church Officers 9-Present Word 10-Worship, Childcare	23 11-The Chosen 7-Life Group	24 10-Staff meeting 12:30-Jennifer's Closet	25	26 9:30-Jennifer's Closet 7:15-Bethany Choir	27 BYF—White Water Rafting with Genesee Valley Presbytery Youth	28 10-Women's brunch @ Bill's Long Pond Diner
29 Ordination/Installation of Church Leaders 9-Present Word 10-Worship, Childcare 11:30-Session	30					

Bethany Presbyterian Church

Bethany Presbyterian Church

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www.bethanyrochester.org

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Mailed May 30, 2025

**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

Custodians

Jim Cruppe

Cornelius Yawn

Nursery Child Care Worker

Jennifer Watt

Youth & Children's Ministry Leader

Andrew Ferreira

The Session

Kim Bolinger, Budget & Finance

Wendy Watt, Christian Education

Judy Price, Community & Global Miss.

Michael DePew, Generosity

Bev Murray, Nominating

Jim Hetzler, Personnel

Rick Clement, Property

Heather Kruspe, Spiritual Growth

Karen McIver, Worship & Music

Dr. Bob Spratt, Moderator

