

Bethany
Presbyterian
Church

Sharing, Caring,
Believing, Doing

The Church Mouse



Bethany Presbyterian Church

CONGRATULATIONS
TO OUR
GRADUATES!



David Covert

David Covert is very excited to be graduating high school at the end of June. The church has been a large part of Davids' life for a very long time. He is very appreciative of the support and dedication that everyone inside of the church has showed him! In the fall he will be attending Keuka College for Adolescent Education with a specification in Social Studies.

Zachary Melville

Zachary Melville is graduating from York High School and the Automotive Body program at Genesee Valley BOCES Mt. Morris campus. He has been a member of the school band since 4th grade, beginning on clarinet and transitioning to bass clarinet in high school. During 9th and 10th grade, Zach served as a student council representative for his class. Since 1st grade, he has been actively involved in Scouts: serving proudly as the Den Chief for York-Leicester Cub Scouts for 5 years, and was named an Assistant Senior Patrol Leader for Leicester Troop 4085 this year. This summer, Zachary plans to focus on completing his Eagle Scout Project while preparing to begin a position at Matthews Bus Garage in East Avon.



**June/July
2026**

Volume 29, Issue 6,7

Inside this issue:

Pastor's Page

2

Special points of interest:

- Stephen Ministry
- Church Calendar
- Shipmates
- Jennifer's Closet
- Bethany Women

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

**Deadline for the
August
Newsletter is on
July 16, 2026**

Pastor's Page:

Dear Friends,

Every year it seems that fireworks herald the big 4th of July national party. Scripture says that "righteousness exalts a nation." What makes a nation great is having the right values - and then living up to them.

What is required of us, as the children of God and as citizens both of this nation and of the world, is to appreciate what is good about this nation without becoming complacent about it. We must be grateful for what is, while at the same time pressing forcefully for greater faithfulness to our covenant with God in order to bring increased righteousness in our land.

A Frenchman by the name of DeTocqueville said it pretty well over a hundred years ago: "I sought for the greatness of America in her harbors and rivers and fertile fields, and her mines and commerce. It was not there. Not until I went into the churches and heard her pulpits flame with righteousness, did I understand the greatness of her power. America is great because she is good; and if America ever ceases to be good, America will cease to be great!"

Abraham Lincoln believed it too. During the worst part of the Civil War, a person came to Lincoln and said, "I surely hope the Lord is on our side." In his wisdom, Lincoln replied, "I am not at all concerned about that, for I know that the Lord is always on the side of the right; but it is my constant anxiety and prayer that both I and this nation should be on the Lord's side."

On this fourth of July we celebrate our nation's 250th birthday and all the blessings it affords to each of us. We are grateful for the sacrificial efforts of those who came before us, and for the gifts of freedom and abundance handed down to us at great cost. We pray that God will continue to exalt our nation.

God bless,

Dr. Bob Spratt

With Our People

With sympathy

Christian love and sympathy is extended to the Cleveland family at the passing of Gail Cleveland.



OPEN
Tuesday's - 12:30PM—3:00PM
Thursday's - 9:30AM—Noon
Saturday - 3rd of the month

Fiscal Focus

2026	April	Year to Date	% Budget
Income	\$23,811.61	\$109,729.43	32.47%
Expense	\$119,329.92	\$129,751.02	43.02%
Surplus/ (Deficit)	-\$95,518.31	-\$211,835.32	

SHIPMATES
Annual Fellowship Picnic!
 Towpath Shelter • Canal Ponds Park
 Saturday – June 13, 2026
 11:30am til ?

Please Bring:

- Your Own Place Setting (Plates, Utensils, Cup)
- Your Own Beverage
- Dish to Pass
- Bring Your Lawn Chairs

Hamburgers & Hot Dogs Provided
 Cost: Only \$10 per Person

Fun, Food & Fellowship for All!
Sign-Up in the Narthex



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING:
 There will be a congregational meeting June 7th in the sanctuary for the purpose of electing church leaders.

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. To receive support from a Stephen Minister contact Kim Bolinger at (585) 227-2540 or Wendy Watt (585) 415-2351.



Stephen Ministry

Cindi did not write the following, but she 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,

Memory of Cindi Sywulski (Cubby) written June 2019



During the summer months, Community and Global Mission will be collecting new underwear and socks, and new/gently used shoes and sneakers for children/juniors.

These items will be donated to Jennifer's Closet and to the Greece Central School District's clothing closets.

Collection is in the vestibule. We will be collecting through the end of August. Thank you for your generosity.



Bethany Women

Tuesday, June 9th Meeting
Speaker- Reverend Laura Fry, Perinton Presbyterian Church Pastor, and Head of Staff. This will be a Lunch/Meeting, please

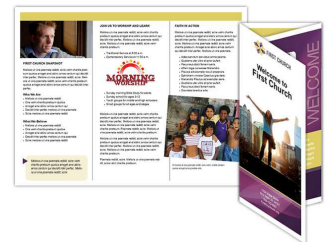
bring a dish to pass.

We will be electing Officers for the following positions: Moderator, Vice-Moderator, Treasurer, Secretary/ Historian, and Member at Large.

ATTENTION COMMITTEES & GROUPS:

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

sengillo.bethany@gmail.com



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.

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.



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 May which meet on Saturday. We have speakers who present on a variety of topics. We also coordinate service projects, Christmas Luncheon, Women's Tea, and fellowship opportunities.

Women's Tea: On Saturday, May 2nd women gathered for a Women's Tea. There was delicious food and, of course, tea. We celebrated with each other and shared laughter and good times. We know many things make a woman feel beautiful, but there is only one thing that makes her beautiful at heart, and that is her love for others. We are grateful for this time of fellowship and friendship. We will continue to work towards filling our cups with gratitude, forgiveness, joy, kindness, gentleness, and love for others.



Budget: In April we received a \$30 pledge bringing our YTD income to \$3,465. We also incurred two expenses. A \$50 honorarium was given to our April speaker and \$102.22 was spent on supplies and cookies for Kay Dennett's memorial service. Our total year-to-date expenses are \$531.68. All local and worldwide mission donations will be sent out in July.

Women's Brunch: We will be sharing "Brunch and Fellowship" at *Bill's Long Pond Diner* on the last Saturday of every month at 10:00 am. Our next Brunch is Saturday, June 27, 2026.

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

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

June 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<i>1</i> 10-Staff meeting 1-SAIL class @Aldersgate 5-Stephen Ministers	<i>2</i> 12:30-Jennifer's closet	<i>3</i> 1-SAIL class @Aldersgate 2-Memorial Committee	<i>4</i> 9:30-Jennifer's closet	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i> 9-Church Leader Training 10-Men's breakfast @ Sawyer Park
<i>7</i> Congregational meeting 9-Present Word 10-Worship	<i>8</i> 10-Staff meeting 1-SAIL class @Aldersgate	<i>9</i> 10-Presbyterian Women 12:30-Jennifer's closet	<i>10</i> 1-SAIL class @Aldersgate	<i>11</i> 9:30-Jennifer's closet	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i> 11:30-Shipmates Picnic
<i>14</i> Ordination/Installation 9-Present Word 10-Worship	<i>15</i> 10-Staff meeting 1-SAIL class @Aldersgate	<i>16</i> 10-Personnel Comm. 12:30-Jennifer's closet	<i>17</i> 1-SAIL class @Aldersgate	<i>18</i> 9:30-Jennifer's closet	<i>19</i> 11-Budget & Finance	<i>20</i> 10-Jennifer's Closet
<i>21</i> Father's Day 9-Present Word 10-Worship	<i>22</i> 10-Staff meeting 1-SAIL class @Aldersgate	<i>23</i> 12:30-Jennifer's closet	<i>24</i> 1-SAIL class @Aldersgate	<i>25</i> 9:30-Jennifer's closet 7:15-Women's Choir rehearsal	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i> 10-Women's brunch @Bill's diner
<i>28</i> 9-Present Word 10-Worship 12-Session	<i>29</i> 10-Staff meeting	<i>30</i> 12:30-Jennifer's closet				

July 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<i>1</i>	<i>2</i> 9:30-Jennifer's closet	<i>3</i> Church building closed	<i>4</i> 4th of July
<i>5</i> 9-Present Word 10-Worship	<i>6</i> 10-Staff meeting	<i>7</i> 12:30-Jennifer's closet	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i> 9:30-Jennifer's closet	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>12</i> 9-Present Word 10-Worship	<i>13</i> 10-Staff meeting	<i>14</i> 12:30-Jennifer's closet	<i>15</i> 11:30-Staff Picnic	<i>16</i> 9:30-Jennifer's closet	<i>17</i> 11-Budget & Finance	<i>18</i> 10-Jennifer's Closet
<i>19</i> 9-Present Word 10-Worship	<i>20</i> 10-Staff meeting	<i>21</i> 12:30-Jennifer's closet	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i> 9:30-Jennifer's closet	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i>
<i>26</i> 9-Present Word 10-Worship	<i>27</i>	<i>28</i> 12:30-Jennifer's closet	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>31</i>	

Bethany Presbyterian Church

Bethany Presbyterian Church
3000 Dewey Avenue
Rochester, NY 14616

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

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Rochester, New York
Permit No. 881

Change Service Requested
Mailed June 2, 2026

**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

Custodian

Patrick Pierre
Cornelius Yawn

Youth & Children's Ministry Leader

Andrew Ferreira

The Session

Kim Bolinger, Budget & Finance
Wendy Watt, Christian Education
Cindy Hetzler, 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
Michael DePew, Clerk of Session

