

Bethany
Presbyterian
Church

Sharing, Caring,
Believing, Doing

The Church Mouse



Bethany Presbyterian Church

**March
2022**

Volume 25,
Issue 3

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**Special points of
interest:**

- Stephen Ministry
- Shipmates
- Life Group
- Presbyterian Women
- Contemporary Worship
- Church Calendar

**Deadline for the
April
Newsletter is on
March 14, 2022**

WHERE WOMEN EXPLORE
WonderFull
WORLD
GOD'S LOVE AND WONDER

**Take a trip around
the world!**

WonderFull World takes you on a journey packed with friendship, God, and spiritual growth. It's a retreat you won't want to miss! Join us for a whirlwind tour of the seven continents, where we'll experience meaningful Bible studies, explore the wonders of a woman's heart, and have time for both quiet reflection and laugh-out-loud fun!

Location: Bethany Presbyterian Church
Large Hall

Date: Saturday, April 23rd 2022
Check-in at 9:30 a.m. Lunch at 12:30 p.m.

Cost: TBD

For more information, contact:
Karen Bolinger
email - kbolinger@rochester.rr.com
585-227-2540

Bethany Mission Statement

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

Pastor's Page:

Dear Friends,

March 2, 2022 is Ash Wednesday and begins the season of Lent. This is a period of forty days (Sundays are not counted) that continues until Easter.

Lent began during the second century A.D. as an intensive final period of preparation for new converts who would be baptized and join the church on Easter.

Lent is now a time of preparation for all Christians as we prepare for the time of year that touches the Lord's passion.

Traditionally, Christians have observed Lent by depriving themselves and reducing social activities. Perhaps instead of giving up things, we need to find ways to do things we don't normally do.

We could brighten someone else's world. Each day, we could invest a bit of time and energy in someone who will benefit from the care we offer – by phone, by note, or by visits.

This year, we continue our own tradition of preparing for Easter by gathering together in the Sanctuary on March 2nd at 7 pm for an Ash Wednesday worship service where we will celebrate communion.

There will also be a five-week Lenten Study on Dante's Inferno beginning March 9 from 7 pm to 7:30 pm on Zoom.

Be creative about your observances this Lenten season. Seek out ways to glorify God and celebrate the gift of grace.

Grace and Peace,

Dr. Bob Spratt

With Our People

With sympathy

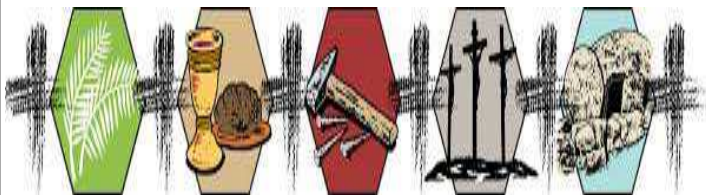
Prayers and Christian sympathy are extended to the Werner family at the passing of Annette "Peach" Werner.

Christian love and sympathy is extended to Linda Taylor, Tracey Melville and Amber Burns and family at the passing of Linda's brother, Norman Connor Jr.

Christian love and sympathy is extended to Mark & Carrie Buri and family, at the passing of Mark's mother, Joan Buri-Shaffer.

Christian love and sympathy is extended to Jean Coniber at the passing of her dad.

Christian love and sympathy is extended to the Coughlin family at the passing of Elizabeth Coughlin.



Fiscal Focus

2022	January	Year to Date	% Budget
Income	\$35,177.78	\$35,177.78	8.17%
Expense	\$22,167.33	\$22,167.33	5.15%
Surplus/ (Deficit)	\$13,010.45	\$13,010.45	

Contemporary Worship

We were so happy to have received 50 surveys regarding contemporary worship. Thank you so much for all your feedback. Based on the information that we received, we will be moving the service to the **first Sunday** of the month. We will use bulletins, as well as the projector and technology. We will also be adding a few elements to the service, while continuing with the casual style sermon and contemporary music. We are in search of musicians that play guitar, drums, and/or other instruments to take part in these services. We are also looking for singers, and song suggestions. If you would like to be part of the Contemporary Worship Service Task force, please contact Cindy Hetzler at cindyhetzler34@gmail.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 last 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 through 2021 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, March 25, @ 3:00 pm - Large Hall
All welcome!

Please phone Bev Bennett 585-225-0206

A peace that preeminents all understanding by Jesus way.
-Philippians 4:7 ~ Our Bible



Stephen Ministry

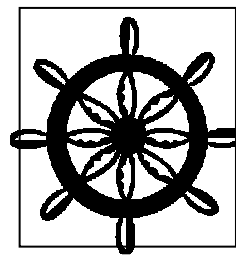
March is an interesting month. It can be cold and snowy or a hint towards spring. Like an adventure – not knowing what to expect. You are going to think this is funny, but I actually start preparing myself for the time change that is coming up. I really dislike that whole idea of losing an hour of sleep. I understand the concept, but the event itself makes me cranky.

Sometimes we just don't have a choice in accepting changes in our life. It is how we deal with it that sets our pace through the following weeks, months and years. We can remain angry and make ourselves even sadder. We can let ourselves try to sleep more to avoid dealing with an issue, but sleep doesn't help if it's your soul that is tired.

We can question and look for an answer that may explain why things happen by talking with someone for a different point of view. Coming to that decision is not always easy. There is no set time – days, weeks, years – to decide to work through something that is on our mind. It's not always work. Sometimes it is just a visit. Or more.

Bethany has a group of Stephen Ministers here to visit with you. It is not just the training we have gone through that brings us here, it is an understanding of the needs of others that have brought us to the Stephen Ministry. We are members of your congregation and community that are reaching out to you at a time that you just want to visit with someone.

If you would like to visit with a Stephen Minister, please contact Wendy Watt or Pastor Bob.
Peace to you from the Stephen Ministers,
Cindi Sywulski



SHIPMATES: Saturday, March 12 meeting with the U.S. Customs and Border Control, Agent Steve Wasser has been canceled.

Souper Bowl 2022 Thank you to all who contributed to the Souper Bowl of Caring on February 13, 2022. Because of Bethany, \$300 in donations will go to the Greece Ecumenical Food Shelf to help those in our community who are in need. Thank you to all who supported this Bethany tradition and to our BYF soup pot holders, Alexa and Connor McGarrity, who collected the donations after Sunday's service.

CHILDREN = FUTURE With Sessions' approval, the Personnel and Operations committee is forming a **search committee** for the purpose of hiring a **Christian Youth Leader**. This is a part-time, non-ordained position. The Youth Leader would be responsible for coordinating and organizing Sunday School curriculum, providing training and support to our Sunday School teachers, and leading Bethany Youth Fellowship (BYF) programs, events, activities, and missions. If you are interested in supporting Bethany's children and young adults by working on the Christian Youth Leader Search Committee, please contact Jim Hetzler (585-317-1956 or jmshetzler@gmail.com) or Craig Johnson

BETHANY PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN in the CONGREGATION



BPWC Budget Update:

As of the end of January our budget income stands at \$8654.69. Thank you to all of our church women who have given so generously. We had a few expenses in January. We contributed \$125 from our budget to Church World Service blankets program. We reimbursed one of our afghan knitters for yarn in the amount of \$46.74. We also purchased final supplies needed after donations for the P.A.D.s Project which amounted to \$85.74

Correspondence:

BPWC received very nice "Thank You" letters from Isabel Rodwell and Heifer International.

Monthly Women's Brunch: We are Back!

We have restarted our monthly brunch at *Jim's at the Mall*. The next one will be Saturday, March 26th @ 10:00 am.

Mission Project Planned for February 8, 2022 Meeting: 100 PAD Kits:

We assembled 100 kits and Linda Lamb delivered them to Mary's Place. Our Jewish sisters, Molly Trauv and Gina Horowitz, joined us for fellowship and kit assembly. We received the following certificate from them.

Certificate:
CONGRATULATIONS AND THANKS TO

Bethany Presbyterian Church

For assembling 100 Full Cycle Kits
TO HELP WOMEN AND GIRLS ACHIEVE ACCESS AND DIGNITY DURING THEIR MONTHLY CYCLE

Gina Horowitz

NCJW, GRS Chair, P.A.D. Project Initiative

BPWC Pledge Letter:

Bethany Presbyterian Women has its own budget separate from Bethany Presbyterian Church. As a group we develop our budget based on your pledges and determine where our monies are spent. We use them to support a variety of community service programs and agencies, as well as activities of the church. The Pledge Letter was mailed to all women members in January 2022. All Bethany women are part of Bethany Presbyterian Women whether you attend meetings or not. We encourage all women of Bethany to participate in our meetings and 2022 pledge campaign. To date, we have received \$4,190 in new donations.

(continued on page 6)

(continued from page 5)

Afghan Project:

Ten additional afghans have been completed, to be donated equally between *Edna Tina Wilson Living Center* and *The Open Door Mission*. Thanks once again to the Bethany Women who crochet/knit the squares, and to Joyce Adaskin & Sharon Nichols who patiently put the pieces together.

Blanket Sunday for Church World Service Blankets

Bethany Presbyterian Women collected money from the congregation for the Church World Service Blankets program during the month of January. At the end of January donations received totaled \$1080. A check for that amount was mailed to Church World Services.

We are grateful for your support. Because of your compassion,

- Families who have lost their homes to tornadoes, floods, earthquakes and other disasters are getting help with blankets, emergency food and shelter, and with rebuilding their lives and livelihoods.
- People struggling against crushing poverty and harsh climates and learning sustainable farming practices that will help them keep food on the table and to market.
- Vulnerable children have access to clean, safe water and the nutritional food essential to growth, development and life itself.

Building Caring Relationships:

Our faithful “Callers”- Heather Kruspe, Karen McIver, Linda Lamb, Beth Thomsen, Cindy Hetzler, Cheryl Fisher and Karen Bolinger continue making phone calls every month to check in with women who have asked to have a phone call. Any woman currently active or inactive with BPWC and would like to have a friendly call and/or be added to the Communication Distribution List please contact Karen Bolinger- 585-227-2540 or kbolinger@rochester.rr.com.

Next Meetings:

Tuesday, March 8, 2022 at 10:00 in the Large Hall – Cherie and Dick Livoti share experiences from their trip to the Baltic Sea.

March 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<i>1</i> 10-Belles & Beaux	<i>2</i> 12:30-Staff Meeting 7-Ash Wednesday Service 7:30-Celebration Ringers	<i>3</i> 7:15 Bethany Choir	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i> :9-Men's Club Breakfast
<i>6</i> 9-Present Word 10-Worship, with communion Childcare, Roots & Wings 11:15-Sunday School 11:30-Contemporary Worship	<i>7</i> 7-Stephen Ministers	<i>8</i> 10-Belles & Beaux 10-Presbyterian Women 7:30-Congregational Life	<i>9</i> 12:30-Staff Meeting 2-Memorial Committee 6:30-Spiritual Growth 7:30-Celebration Ringers	<i>10</i> 7:15 Bethany Choir	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i> 10-Shipmates
<i>13</i> 9-Present Word 10-Worship, Childcare, Roots & Wings 11:15-Sunday School	<i>14</i> 2-Pastoral Care Deacons 7-Life Group #2	<i>15</i> 10-Belles & Beaux 10-Personnel Comm 7-Contemporary Worship Task force mtg	<i>16</i> 12:30-Staff Meeting 6:30-C&GM 7-Budget & Finance 7-Christian Ed 7:30-Celebration Ringers	<i>17</i> 7:15 Bethany Choir	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i>
<i>20</i> 9-Present Word 10-Worship, Childcare, Roots & Wings 11:15-Sunday School	<i>21</i> 7-Stephen Ministers	<i>22</i> 10-Belles & Beaux	<i>23</i> 12:30-Staff Meeting 7:30-Celebration Ringers	<i>24</i> 7:15 Bethany Choir	<i>25</i> 3-Bible Fellowship	<i>26</i> 10-Women's Brunch 2-Helen West Memorial
<i>27</i> 9-Present Word 10-Worship, Childcare, Roots & Wings 11:15-Sunday School 12-Session	<i>28</i> 7-Life Group #2	<i>29</i> 10-Belles & Beaux	<i>30</i> 12:30-Staff Meeting 7:30-Celebration Ringers	<i>31</i> 7:15 Bethany Choir		

Bethany Presbyterian Church

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www.bethanyrochester.org

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Mailed March 3, 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

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

Treasurer

Carl DeGraff

