

Bethany  
Presbyterian  
Church

Sharing, Caring,  
Believing, Doing

# The Church Mouse



**Bethany Presbyterian Church**

**November  
2023**

Volume 26,  
Issue 11

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## Support the Pastor's Discretionary Fund – November 19th

Please help support our congregation and those in need. Our Thanksgiving Offering will go to the Pastor's Discretionary Account for the coming year. Dr. Bob receives requests for assistance with rent, utilities, food, transportation, medical needs, children's expenses, and other emergency needs. Please help us to help others with whatever you can provide.



**WEDNESDAY  
NIGHT  
SUPPERS**

All are welcome to attend a Community Supper, provided by David Watkins, Director of Dining and Hospitality for Episcopal SeniorLife Communities.

Wednesday, November 15, at 6PM

\$10.00 per person, payable in cash at the door.

Bethany's Large Hall

## Special points of interest:

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



**PRESBYTERIAN  
WOMEN**



**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2023 @ Noon- 3:00**

**BELLA PASTA RESTAURANT**

Menu: Chicken Buffet (baked chicken, pulled pork, pasta, salt potatoes, salad, rolls, butter, beverages and dessert)

\*Registration will begin the first Sunday in November in the Narthex.

COST: \$23.00, Cash or checks payable to Karen Bolinger.

### **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  
December  
Newsletter is on  
November 18, 2023**

## Pastor's Page:

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Dear Saints,

Bethany Presbyterian Church will be celebrating All Saints Day on November 5. This is the day we fragile, frail, and oh-so-fallible men and women are recognized as saints. Recall Paul's opening address to the church at Philippi: "To all the saints who are in Philippi." Every time the word "saint" is used in the New Testament, it refers to all the members of the church.

The designation of saints is not reserved for a few Mother Teresa-types. The saints is an address that encompasses all members of the church. All Saints Day is a day dedicated to remembering all the saints of the church – even those who have not been canonized by the church.

All Saints Day is not about recalling great spiritual leaders and teachers who have gone on ahead. All Saints Day is a day to dedicate ourselves anew to increasing the number of saints in our quakey, shakey churches. Through God's gift of grace, and through Christ's life-giving sacrifice, the watery faith of ordinary people is transformed into a mountainous glacier of witness and a steamy geyser of wonder. We become the saints as we become, more genuinely, the church.

What is your saintly calling? What steps can you take to make All Saints Day, a call to action? It's time to make some saints today, or as Jesus put it, "Go and make saints." He did it with us. He can do it with anyone.

Blessings,  
Dr. Bob Spratt

# Annual Report

## ANNUAL REPORTS



It's that time of year again! Attention all Committees, Fellowship Groups and Ministries: Annual Report time is fast approaching! Annual Report deadline is December

31st. If possible, please submit your report via email (sengillo.bethany@gmail.com) to the church office. Thank you in advance for your cooperation



## CHURCH LIBRARY

A big shout out to April Honan, Connie Slapar & Liz Whittingham for their recent donations to the church library. The books are displayed on the top shelf of the bookcase in the corner

of the narthex. It would be great to have some books signed out!! Thank you, Beth Thomsen

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.

## Fiscal Focus

2023	September	Year to Date	% Budget
Income	\$24,094.30	\$272,919.29	57.56%
Expense	\$39,248.15	\$330,657.77	69.74%
Surplus/ (Deficit)	-\$15,153.85	-\$57,738.48	



*Jennifer's Closet—Now Open—located in the basement at Bethany. By appointment only: [Jennifersclosetny@gmail.com](mailto:Jennifersclosetny@gmail.com)*

## LIBRARY NEWS

Do you ever think about a classic which was required reading in high school? Do you recall the name of your English teacher, with affection or maybe not? Who was your favorite character? How did Melville use the Bible as a literary model? Take **MOBY DICK** by Herman Melville, for example, which first appeared in 1831..... The setting is the 1830's or 1840's aboard the ship, the PEQUOD, in the Pacific, Atlantic and Indian oceans. The themes are the limits of knowledge, the deceptiveness of fate and the exploitative nature of whaling. Summary: An epic tale of the voyage of the whaling ship, the Pequod and its captain, AHAB, who relentlessly pursues the great Sperm Whale (the title character) during a journey around the world. The narrator of the novel is ISHMAEL, a sailor on the Pequod who undertakes the journey out of his affection for the sea. AND watch for further exciting library news regarding SEVEN new books which will be available to check out!

## “MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE”



There is a new and exciting opportunity for the youth and their friends at Bethany. All are welcome to join our NEW “JOYFUL NOISE” Singers. To begin the year we will meet from 11:45 to 12:15 as an extension of our education time which begins at 11:00 every Sunday. We will be preparing special music for Sunday services and a musical “A NIGHT FOR DANCING” for the Christmas season. Come help us make a Joyful Noise!!



## Stephen Ministry

Sometimes I just don't know what to write, and then I will receive from a member of the congregation an appreciation of something I may have mentioned that they enjoyed or may have helped them in some way. That's the entire focus of the Stephen Ministers. It is our way of reaching out to you to give you a nudge that we are always here for you and we in return appreciate you contacting us to help you with something that is just not balancing well in your life.

We may reach out to you if we are aware of some loss, change, health issue, or if you are a caregiver to someone and you just need a quiet break to regroup. You may have a close friend who is concerned about you and feels that you need to just sit, take a deep breath, exhale, and let someone listen to you.

This time of the year can be overwhelming with a combination of plans, family, friends, and the holidays upon us. Add this to an issue you were dealing with and you could be ready to shut down. Not yet. Not while we are here to help. And we are always here to help you and to listen. It's what we do. Our hearts are here at Bethany and that means our hearts are here with you. It may take only a couple of visits, or it may need extended attention. You and the Stephen Minister will decide that. There is no set amount of visits. We work with your schedule and as always, it is totally confidential. Sounds like a plan, right?

Enjoy your upcoming holiday and the gathering you may have scheduled with family and friends. It is a loving and thankful season and it should be a peaceful one for your spirit. If you would like some help getting there, please contact Wendy Watt or Dr. Bob.

Peace to you from the Stephen Ministers,  
Cindi Sywulski

**COMMUNITY AND GLOBAL MISSION:** is announcing our next collection for people in need. As you may know, we cannot recycle underwear when it is used. Used underwear ends up in a landfill. The committee has decided to ask for new underpants for adults and teens, new men's or women's underpants. These will be delivered to the Greece clothing closet for distribution. Thank you in advance for your generosity. There will be Laundry Baskets in the narthex to collect the adult size underpants. Buy an extra pair of your favorite undies for a person in need. Please contact Cherie Livoti at 414-4687 text or call, or email at [clivoti2@gmail.com](mailto:clivoti2@gmail.com). with any questions. Help Bethany to help the needy.

**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.

Give  
Thanks

**November Birthday  
November 14,**

**Peggy Troutman  
Wolk Manor Rm 6205  
4000 Summit Circle Drive  
Rochester, NY 14618-3965**



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## **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.*

### **November Meeting:**

Kristen Mathis, founder and CEO of Home Start Hope will be speaking about helping women transition from a hard place in life to ultimately giving them stability and hope for a better life.

### **Bethany Women's Meetings:**

All women are welcome to share in fellowship. Please feel free to bring a friend. Our meeting day is on the second Tuesday of the following months: October- June except for December and April which will be on Saturday.

### **Women's Brunch:**

We will be sharing "Brunch and Fellowship" at *Bill's Long Pond Diner* in November, January, February and March on the last Saturday of the month.

### **Budget:**

In October we received a \$50 donation. We had one expense of \$50 for the October speaker.

### **Afghan:**

Beth Thomsen received 3 completed afghans and will wait until she has 6 to deliver. She took 48 squares to Joyce Adaskin.

### **Display Case:**

Check out the Display Case in the Parlor for Bethany Women's up-coming activities, programs, and events.

### **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](mailto:kbolinger@rochester.rr.com).

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# Shipmates Christmas Luncheon



**Friday- Dec. 08, 2023 - 11:00 AM**  
**Red Fedele's Brook House**  
**920 Elmridge Center Drive**

**Cost: Only \$30.00 per Person**

A Buffett luncheon will be served from 12:00 to 1:15 pm, with the main entree being sliced Top Sirloin and Roast Chicken. ( Gluten free spaghetti will be available upon request. )

**All Bethany Congregants, friends & guests are Welcome !**

For RESERVATIONS contact Sue Kretovic at 663-1537 and make your check out to "Bethany Presbyterian Church, and annotate the Memo Line: "Line 37-Shipmates Dec Luncheon"

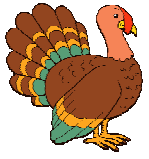
**Reservation Deadline is Dec 01, 2023**

**Mail to:**  
**Sue Kretovic, 119 Marwood Road,**  
**Rochester, NY 14616**

**CELEBRATE WITH US !**



# November 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<i>1</i> 11-Staff Meeting 6:30-Worship & Music 7:30-Celebration Ringers	<i>2</i> 7:15-Bethany Choir	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i> 9-Men's Club Breakfast
<i>5</i> 10-Worship, Childcare, Roots & Wings 11:15-Youth Studies 11:30-Contemporary Worship	<i>6</i> 7-Life Group	<i>7</i> 9:30-Belles & Beaux	<i>8</i> 6-Spiritual Growth 6-Christian Ed 6:15-C&GM 7:30-Celebration Ringers	<i>9</i> 7:15-Bethany Choir	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>12</i> 10-Worship, Childcare, Roots & Wings 11:15-Youth Studies	<i>13</i> 2-Pastoral Care Deacons 7-Stephen Ministry	<i>14</i> 9:30-Belles & Beaux 10-Presbyterian Women	<i>15</i> 11-Staff Meeting 6-Community Supper 7-Budget & Finance 7:30-Celebration Ringers	<i>16</i> 7:15-Bethany Choir	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i>
<i>19</i> 10-Worship, Childcare, Roots & Wings 11:15-Youth Studies 11:15-Adult Bible Class	<i>20</i> 7-Life Group 7-Stephen Ministry	<i>21</i> 9:30-Belles & Beaux	<i>22</i> 11-Staff Meeting 7:30-Celebration Ringers	<i>23</i> <b>Happy Thanksgiving!</b> 	<i>24</i> Church Building Closed	<i>25</i>
<i>26</i> 10-Worship, Childcare, Roots & Wings 11:15-Youth Studies 11:15-Adult Bible Class 1:30-Session	<i>27</i>	<i>28</i> 9:30-Belles & Beaux 12:30-Lunch & Learn	<i>29</i> 11-Staff Meeting 7:30-Celebration Ringers	<i>30</i> 7:15-Bethany Choir		

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## 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 October 31, 2023**

**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

### Administrative Assistant & Mouse Editor

Eileen Sengillo

### Custodian

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

### Treasurer

Carl DeGraff

Enter his gates with thanksgiving  
and his courts with praise;

**give thanks**  
to him and praise his name.

PSALM 100:4, NIV

