

Bethany
Presbyterian
Church

Sharing, Caring,
Believing, Doing

The Church Mouse



Bethany Presbyterian Church

BYF has seven youth currently going through confirmation classes using the **Big God... Big Questions** curriculum published by the Presbyterian Church USA. We have an amazing group of teens with talents in music instruments, singing, acting and dance, as well as art and academics! They ask excellent questions and are showing a deep understanding of the materials. These classes are learning with community activities like youth group meetings, service projects, and regular attendance at church services. The classes include small-group discussions, interactive lessons, and a final project to make the experience more relevant for our young people.



BYF activity and service schedule for the Fall through Christmas 2025

ROC Christmas Village Dec 6th or 7th with ice skating
Adopt-A-Family shopping a Sunday in November or early December TBD

Christian Education is continuing with the BeBold curriculum through Christmas.

Thanksgiving Day Offering – November 23rd

(the Sunday before Thanksgiving)

This year's collection will go towards the Pastor's Discretionary Fund. Need is always around us, although we may not know, and don't always need to know the circumstances! This Fund allows the Pastor to act on our behalf to assist those in need- quickly and privately. As we celebrate Thanksgiving, please consider contributing to this important cause.



Isaiah 58:10 "If you offer food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness, and your gloom be like the noonday."
Matthew 6:1-4 "But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know that your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you."

Bethany Mission Statement

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

**November
2025**

Volume 28,
Issue 11

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Pastor's Page

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Special points of interest:

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

**Deadline for the
December
Newsletter is on
November 17, 2025**

Pastor's Page:

Dear Friends,

Often times a friend, neighbor or co-worker will share a personal problem with us. We may feel at a loss, not knowing what to do or quite what to say. We may fumble around with phrases like "That's too bad," or "I'm sorry to hear that."

As Christians there is something we can do, there is something we can say that will provide comfort. We can pray. We can say in all honesty and sincerity "I'll pray for you and our church will pray for you." Small phrases with great meaning. Prayer is something tangible that we can do, calling upon the Lord God Almighty for help when we ourselves feel helpless in healing life's hurts.

Each week in our Sunday worship bulletin we list those in our church family who need our prayers. Many in our church keep that prayer list close by them throughout the week as a way to keep those in need in the forefront of our thoughts and prayers.

Our church has a prayer chain, people who care, who stand on twenty-four alert. Only a phone call away, these folks are always ready, willing and able to offer prayer for those who need help.

We have witnessed many miracles through God's grace and mercy. We thank God for the gift of prayer and the power of it. Prayer really does make a difference in our own lives and in the lives of those around us. We thank God that as Christians in times of trouble there is something we can say and do that will really make a difference.

Grace and Peace,

Dr. Bob Spratt

With Our People

With sympathy

Christian love and sympathy is extended to the Eddy family, at the passing of Bob Eddy.



OPEN
Tuesday's - 12:30PM—3:00PM
Thursday's - 9:30AM—Noon

Fiscal Focus

2025	September	Year to Date	% Budget
Income	\$217,566.21	\$588,196.31	121.07%
Expense	\$58,377.80	\$359,714.87	74.04%
Surplus/ (Deficit)	\$159,188.41	\$228,481.44	

LUNCH & LEARN: UkesROC ...Have you ever heard a Ukelele Band? Learn about this unique group of musicians and enjoy a chance to sing along! Thursday, November 13th at 12:30 PM. Menu: Italian Wedding Soup, Chicken Caesar Wrap, Antipasto Salad and Water. \$8.00 lunch fee is payable in cash at the event. Sign-up in the narthex.

COMMUNITY SUPPER: Wednesday, November 19th at 6PM - Bethany Large Hall. Dinner Menu: Pot Roast with mashed potatoes and peas. \$10.00 dinner fee is payable in cash at the event. Sign-up in the narthex. Provided by Catering and Hospitality Department of Episcopal SeniorLife Communities. After supper – Major Rick Starkey, Rochester Area Coordinator at the Salvation Army will share the many ways this nonprofit serves close to 10,000 individuals in Monroe County each year. Learn more about their shelters for the unhomed, services for the disadvantaged, programs for local youth and more. Please join us!

Spread Holiday Joy: Help Us "Adopt-A-Cam Kid"

This holiday season, let's come together to bring smiles to children who need our support. The Community & Global Mission Committee have decided to participate in the "Adopt-A-Cam Kid" program again this year, helping children at Cameron Community Ministries experience the joy of Christmas.

Starting November 23rd, you'll find a Christmas tree in the narthex with bookmarks featuring the names and gift requests of children in need. We are adopting ten children this year, and we need your generosity to help fulfill their wishes. Here's how you can help:

1. Choose a bookmark with a child's name and their requested gift.
2. Purchase the gift (wrapped or unwrapped—whichever is easier for you).
3. Attach the bookmark with the child's name and place the gift under the tree by **December 7th**.

Your thoughtful contribution will help make this holiday season brighter for a child in need. Last year, your kindness made the holidays special for 8 children. This is a wonderful opportunity to bring happiness again to children at the holidays.

Thank you for your generosity and for making Christmas unforgettable for these children.

With gratitude,
 The Community & Global Mission Committee



Stephen Ministry

Welcome to the beginning of the holiday season! There are all sorts of colors out there right now but soon there will be snow covering it all and we will need to use patience waiting for spring. Such a cycle.

Patience in our world is becoming a disappearing trait. We live in a society of foot tappers waiting for a microwave to finish and/or a coffee maker to get done so we can start our morning. We have an amazing need for speed!!

Maybe that's why we think all issues in our lives should be settled quickly without question. We see other people dealing with loss, families moving and change of employment. Maybe we are not seeing the whole picture because they don't want you to see the whole picture. There may be some struggling behind the scenes.

Dealing with any major life event can make a person feel very unsettled because there are so many emotions involved. It may feel hard to feel thankful for the holiday when other parts of our lives are so scrambled.

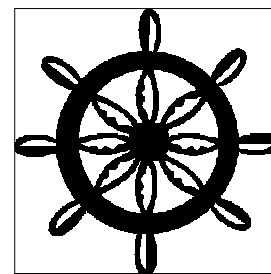
Patience is not just something you can decide to acquire and use on demand. I am sure you know someone who seems to have an amazing amount of patience and you wonder how do they do that??? Maybe they just are able to look at the whole picture and spread out everything a little easier than others.

Bethany offers to you a group of people who may be able to help you sort some of your confusion. Maybe we are "Struggle Whisperers". (Cindi made that up)

Let your holidays begins with peace and patience. It is a time of year when both are needed greatly. If you would like to speak with a Stephen Minister, please contact Pastor Bob or Wendy Watt.

Peace to you from the Stephen Ministers,

In Memory of Cindi Sywulski (Cubby)
written November 2018



SHIPMATES: November 8, 2025 at 1:30pm. All are welcome to hear Judy Price present a very informative program to help families make decisions about what to do with family heirlooms, which may be financially, emotionally and sentimentally valuable. We will be serving appetizers, desserts, coffee, tea and water. Fee is \$5pp, cash or checks to: Bethany Presbyterian Church with Shipmates on the memo line. Or mail to: Margie McKnight, 226 Marblehead Drive, 14615. A sign-up sheet will be available in the narthex.

Presbyterian Women are sponsoring a collection of basic cleaning products to be donated to the Greece Ecumenical Food Shelf,
October 12 through November 9, 2025



Laundry Detergent (no larger than 45 ounces)
All-Purpose Cleaner (no larger than 32 ounces)
Dish Soap (no larger than 24 ounces)
Paper towels

Please leave your donations in the red boxes in the Clark Entrance (parking lot).

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.

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, Women's Tea, and fellowship opportunities.

Meeting/Program October 14, 2025: After the business portion of our meeting, we played BINGO. Kim Bolinger was our Bingo Master and he shared the history of the game. He also kept us laughing with his Bingo jokes! We also enjoyed pizza and time together.



Meeting/Program November 11, 2025: During our November Service Project meeting we will be assembling cleaning supplies for the Greece Ecumenical Food Shelf. We will bring the cleaning supplies to the GEFS after our meeting and take a short tour of the facility.

Women's Christmas Luncheon: Saturday, December 6, 2025 @ Noon (Bella Pasta Restaurant):

There will be a sign up for the Christmas Luncheon in the Narthex on Sundays, November 9th, November 16th, November 23rd, and November 30th before and after the worship service. The cost of the lunch is \$27.00. Karen Bolinger will receive payment in cash or check. (Please make the check out to Karen Bolinger.)

Budget: In the month of September Bethany Presbyterian Women donated \$175 to Jennifer's Closet for the purchase of diapers and \$150 to the Greece Ecumenical Food Shelf for Thanksgiving Baskets. Our fund balance is \$5,248.07. We are blessed.

Afghans: Four afghans were delivered to RGH cancer clinic. This is a new location at which to make people feel warm and comforted.

Upcoming Activities: Save the Date!

Christmas Luncheon- December 6, 2025

Blanket Sunday, February 1, 2026

Trip to Lamberton Conservatory, March 10, 2026

Women's Tea- May 2, 2026

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, November 29th at 10:00 am.

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.

SHIPMATES *Christmas at Bethany* **Saturday - Dec 13, 2025 at 11:30 AM**



**Lunch will be served at 12 Noon catered by
Salvatores - Cost is only \$18.00 per person**

Menu

**Baked Pasta with Mozzarella
Tossed Salad with Italian Dressing
Baked Chicken
Italian Sausage
with Peppers & Onions
BBQ style sliced Beef
Italian Green Beans
Fresh rolls & butter**

Signup in the Narthex

**Or send your check to
Sue Kretovic, 119 Marwood Rd,
Rochester, NY 14616**

**Make check payable to Bethany
Presbyterian Church, insert
"Shipmates" in the Memo Section
of the check.**

Christmas Fellowship Celebration will be in the Large Hall

November 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<i>1</i> 9-Men's breakfast
<i>2</i> 10-Worship, Childcare 9-Present Word 10:15-Youth Studies	<i>3</i> 9:30-Staff meeting 11-The Chosen 1-S.A.I.L. class 7-Stephen Ministers	<i>4</i> 9:45-Belles & Beaux 10-Presbyterian Women 12:30-Jennifer's closet	<i>5</i> 1-S.A.I.L. class 6-Worship & Music 7:30-Celebration Ringers	<i>6</i> 9:30-Jennifer's closet 7:15-Bethany Choir	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i> 1:30-Shipmates
<i>9</i> 10-Worship, Childcare 9-Present Word 10:15-Youth Studies	<i>10</i> 9:30-Staff meeting 11-The Chosen 7-Life Group 7-Pastoral Care Deacons	<i>11</i> 9:45-Belles & Beaux 10-Presbyterian Women 12:30-Jennifer's closet	<i>12</i> 6-Spiritual Growth 7:30-Celebration Ringers	<i>13</i> 9:30-Jennifer's closet 12:30-Lunch & Learn 7:15-Bethany Choir	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i> 10-Jennifer's Closet
<i>16</i> 10-Worship, Childcare 9-Present Word 10:15-Youth Studies	<i>17</i> 9:30-Staff meeting 11-The Chosen	<i>18</i> 9:45-Belles & Beaux 10-Personnel Comm. 12:30-Jennifer's closet	<i>19</i> 6-Community Supper 7:30-Celebration Ringers	<i>20</i> 9:30-Jennifer's closet 7:15-Bethany Choir	<i>21</i> 11-Budget & Finance	<i>22</i>
<i>23</i> 10-Worship, Childcare 9-Present Word 10:15-Youth Studies 12-Session	<i>24</i> 9:30-Staff meeting 11-The Chosen 7-Life Group	<i>25</i> 9:45-Belles & Beaux 12:30-Jennifer's closet	<i>26</i> 7:30-Celebration Ringers	<i>27</i> Thanksgiving Day 	<i>28</i> Church building closed	<i>29</i> 10-Women's brunch (Bill's Long Pond Diner)
<i>30</i> 10-Worship, Childcare 9-Present Word 10:15-Youth Studies						

Bethany Presbyterian Church

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www.bethanyrochester.org

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Change Service Requested

Mailed October 31, 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

Custodian

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

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

