

Bethany
Presbyterian
Church

Sharing, Caring,
Believing, Doing

The Church Mouse



Bethany Presbyterian Church



BETHANY

GRATITUDE AND COMMITMENT SUNDAY

COMMITMENT SUNDAY

October 27, 2024 at 10:00 AM

On YouTube, Facebook and Boxcast

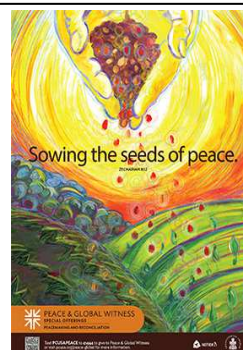
Dr. Rev. John Odom, new Executive Presbyter of the
Genesee Valley Presbytery as our guest preacher

Pledge cards will be distributed by the deacons

Please return mail-in pledge cards by October 27

PEACE AND GLOBAL WITNESS Offering October 6, 2024

The prophet Zechariah casts a vision for peace. He shows forth a world where each person – old and young, all genders and races, people from north, south, east and west – lives without enmity, fear and destruction. In Zechariah's vision, there is "sowing of peace" where the world is restored, made whole, and abides in peace. People in Zechariah's prophecy bind themselves together in love for one another, imbued in them by God, where all people have dignity and worth.



The Peace and Global Witness Offering is one way we can begin to bring peace. Through our generous support, our gifts will combine with churches across the Presbyterian Church (USA) to sow seeds of peace around the globe (50%). 25% is retained by Genesee Valley Presbytery for peace and justice ministries in our region, and the final 25% will be donated to Honor Flights to help veterans achieve peace in their hearts.

Bethany Mission Statement

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

**October
2024**

Volume 27,
Issue 10

Inside this issue:

Pastor's Page

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Special points of interest:

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

**Deadline for the
November
Newsletter is on
October 14, 2024**

Pastor's Page:

Dear Friends,

Beginning Sunday, October 20, 2024, an Adult Education Class will be meeting in the church library after worship at 11:15 am. We will be using a series called, "Living Victoriously in Difficult Times." This is a six-week series where we will examine what the Bible says about suffering and why God allows it.

Through the stories of many who persevered through times of testing, along with hope-filled verses, you'll discover how to find joy even when life seems unfair. You'll also learn how to glorify God and walk in God's strength, no matter what comes your way!

You may be saying to yourself right now, "Adult Education? You mean Sunday school. That's just for kids."

Well, the word in churches across the country is that Sunday school isn't just for kids anymore. "Grown-ups" are attending Adult Education classes in record numbers. Long gone is the myth that adults have "permanently graduated" from Sunday school and never need to attend again because they "already know enough about the Bible."

Why the increase in attendance in Adult Education Classes nationwide? It's because people realize that there are constantly new issues facing Christians in the world today. Christians need to be informed. We need to integrate our faith in God with what is happening in the world around us. We need to know what we're talking about and be sure in our own minds about what we truly believe. We need to face life's challenges head on.

But perhaps the most important reason to attend an Adult Education class is because we owe it to our children. We as parents and grandparents have a responsibility to study and learn so that we can teach our children.

Say "Yes" to Adult Education. Start school again on Sunday, October 20th and attend our Adult Education class. Do it enthusiastically. Recognize the power that knowledge has to transform your life.

Grace and Peace,

Dr. Bob Spratt

With Our People

With sympathy

Christian love and sympathy is extended to Sue Mitchell, at the passing of her husband Donald Mitchell in Clayton, NY.



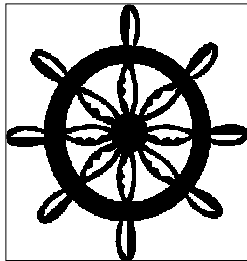
Shipmates

Come one...come all...
to **Australia's Great Barrier Reef**

Our guide, Sue Kretovic will share her collection of corral shells, plus other delicate shells, and also needed scuba gear.

Sue will discuss how shells are designed and made. Very unique, unusual collection.

Bethany's Large Hall
November 9th



Fiscal Focus

| 2024 | August | Year to Date | % Budget |
|-----------------------|--------------|--------------|----------|
| Income | \$23,539.10 | \$241,227.00 | 48.87% |
| Expense | \$44,561.68 | \$325,379.34 | 65.92% |
| Surplus/ (Deficit) | -\$21,022.58 | -\$84,152.34 | |

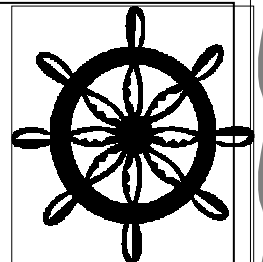


Jennifer's Closet has seen an increase in activity the last few weeks with most of the people saying they found out about the clothing closet after seeing the "Jennifer's Closet" sign out front. Oh, the power of advertising! We're getting ready for the colder weather and, based on feedback from our shoppers and our current inventory, we are looking for the following items to be donated:

- *Men's, baby toddler, kids', and teen clothing
- *casual adult clothing
- *bras
- *costume jewelry
- *casual shoes and boots (no heels, please)
- *small household items
- *new or like new sheets, blankets, and towels
- *please, no pillows or thick comforters unless they are new
- *bags with carry handles

There are approximately a dozen people who volunteer and keep Jennifer's Closet in "business." 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. If you're interested in joining this group or have any questions, please call Cindy Hetzler (585) 317-1946.

**SHIPMATES
PROGRAM
SATURDAY,
OCTOBER 12, @2:30pm**



There is a slight change of plans ie no concrete meeting for lunch; it is based on individual preference. We'll meet in the church parking lot @ 1:15PM to carpool.
Thanks, Heather, Gail and Beth



Stephen Ministry

Stephen Minister Articles from the Archives

My favorite month of the year is here. I just enjoy October so much! The change of colors, apple tasting, and festivals. However, it also means I have to start on the projects I said I would have done by now.....Oh-oh.

It's not that my life is overwhelmed with other happenings. I know I could have accomplished more than I did this summer season. I suppose that should bother me, but it doesn't! I just took the "lazy days of summer" literally. But, now I am ready to attack at least one major project.

Do you maybe have a special "heartache project" that you would like to explore? I think we all do at times. I know I have had moments that troubled me from the past, and memories that were not comfortable in my heart. But when I was ready to try and figure out how things got scrambled, I chose to take the time for my thoughts, and do some sorting in my mind and in my heart. God and I had quite a few conversations, so I didn't do this all by myself. I also needed to share my thoughts with a friend. I talked, they listened. They spoke and I absorbed their views and responses.

You may have some heart and spiritual unsettledness that you would like to release, help to close, or whatever will give your spirit less trouble. That, my friend, is an invitation to speak with one of the Stephen Ministers here at Bethany. We may have had some of the same sorrows or confusion in our own lives that you are experiencing now. It's time for calmness in your heart.

If you would like to visit with a Stephen Minister, please contact Pastor Bob or Wendy Watt. Peace to you from the Stephen Ministers, Cindi Sywulski
In Memory of Cindi Sywulski (Cubby) written October 2014



Christian Education this Fall. Teens and pre-teens are encouraged to BE BOLD as they explore faith in a safe place to address their doubts and find their wings of faith. Every Sunday in the BYF room. See Andrew for more details.

Joyful Noise Singers

Oh the joy of youth voices making a "joyful noise unto the Lord!" our youth choir meets Sunday mornings from 10:45AM to 11:30AM and if you have a child who loves to sing, we invite them to join us. We are preparing several inspiring anthems for worship and a Christmas musical!

CLEANING PRODUCTS FOR MINO/FOODLINK

Bethany Presbyterian Women are collecting cleaning products during the month of October to support MINO (Mother in Need of Others), which has now become part of the Foodlink "family". Each Cleaning kit consists of the following, all available at Dollar Tree for \$8.10 per kit.
Chlorine Bleach – 2 quart (64 ounce) size
Laundry Detergent – 42 ounce size
All-Purpose Cleaner – 1 pint (18 ounce) size
Dish soap – 12.6 ounce size
2 cleaning sponges
1 roll paper towels

Please DO NOT donate any items larger than size indicated. Everything needs to fit into bags provided to us by MINO.

If you prefer not to shop, please consider supporting this project with your monetary donation. Women will be in the narthex on Sunday mornings to accept your donations of cash or cleaning products. Thank you for Helping Mothers with limited resources to keep their families safe!

BETHANY WOMEN



*We have this hope,
as an anchor for the soul,
firm and secure...
Hebrews 6:19*

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.

Tuesday, September 10, 2024, Meeting/Speaker:

Olivia Kassoum Amadou, Executive Director of Cameron Community Ministries, spoke on CCM's goal of empowering their community and overcoming challenges. Cameron started as an after-school program for children and has expanded to serve the community in many ways. The after-school program is now held at School 54 and at Rochester Academy charter school for K-5. They also have a Grade 7-12 program. The Saturday Academy runs from 10 AM to 2 PM. The morning session provides academic support. After lunch they hold recreational and musical instruction activities.

Their hot lunch program runs Monday through Friday, plus one Saturday per month. They hope to restart the Sunday dinner program, which was stopped during the pandemic, next year. 2,950 meals were provided in August. They serve many seniors and families. They will serve anyone who comes, regardless of whether they are from outside CCM's service area.

Their emergency food pantry provides two weeks of food. Food prices are up, and SNAP benefits went down, so they are experiencing the increased demand for help like all pantries. The Street Outreach program has a wagon that takes food out into the community and is intended to help people experiencing homelessness. They have a medical van that can come to treat a person where they are.

Budget:

At the end of August BPWC budget showed YTD total income at \$4,450 and YTD total expenses at \$2,384. As of September 16, I have received no new income and the only expense I am aware of is the \$50 honorarium I will be requesting a check for. This check will go to our October speaker.

Display Case:

Please take a minute to see programs and activities for women in the Parlor Display Case.

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 share a variety of topics (see chart below). 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. We will be gathering at Bill's on Saturday, October 26th.

Women in the Bible Study:



We completed our "Women in the Bible Study" on August 31st. We learned about women in the bible via e-mail every day in July and August. This was a wonderful opportunity to stay connected and focus on sixty-two women in the bible who had a significant role in the bible.

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.

October 2024

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|---|---|--|--|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| | | <i>1</i> 9:30-Belles & Beaux 1-Jennifer's Closet | <i>2</i> 6:30-Worship & Music 7:30-Celebration Ringers | <i>3</i> 9:30-Jennifer's Closet 6:30-C&GM | <i>4</i> | <i>5</i> 9-Men's breakfast |
| <i>6</i> Communion 9-Present Word 10-Worship, Childcare 10:15-Youth Studies | <i>7</i> | <i>8</i> 9:30-Belles & Beaux 10-Presbyterian Women 1-Jennifer's Closet | <i>9</i> 6:30-Spiritual Growth 7:30-Celebration Ringers | <i>10</i> 9:30-Jennifer's Closet | <i>11</i> | <i>12</i> 2:30-Shipmates |
| <i>13</i> 9-Present Word 10-Worship, Childcare 10:15-Youth Studies | <i>14</i> 7-Life Group 7-Generosity Comm. | <i>15</i> 9:30-Belles & Beaux 10-Personnel Committee 1-Jennifer's Closet 7-Session Zoom mtg with Rose Niles | <i>16</i> 11-Staff Meeting 6-Christian Ed 6-Community Supper 7:30-Celebration Ringers | <i>17</i> 9:30-Jennifer's Closet | <i>18</i> 11-Budget & Finance | <i>19</i> 10-Jennifer's Closet |
| <i>20</i> 9-Present Word 10-Worship, Childcare 10:15-Youth Studies 11:15—Adult Bible Study | <i>21</i> 7-Stephen Ministers | <i>22</i> 9:30-Belles & Beaux 1-Jennifer's Closet | <i>23</i> 11-Staff Meeting 7:30-Celebration Ringers | <i>24</i> 9:30-Jennifer's Closet 12:30-Lunch & Learn | <i>25</i> | <i>26</i> 10-Women's brunch |
| <i>27</i> Commitment Sunday 9-Present Word 10-Worship, Childcare 10:15-Youth Studies Brunch No Adult Bible Study 12:30-Session | <i>28</i> 7-Life Group | <i>29</i> 9:30-Belles & Beaux 1-Jennifer's Closet | <i>30</i> 11-Staff Meeting 7:30-Celebration Ringers | <i>31</i> | | |
| | | | | | | |

Bethany Presbyterian Church

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www.bethanyrochester.org

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Change Service Requested
Mailed September 30, 2024

**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

Treasurer

Patric Donaghue

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

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

Linda Lamb, Clerk of Session

