



**BETHANY
CHURCH**

NOVEMBER 2025

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Bethany Family,

Bethany Church is thrilled to announce the beginning of our Community Center Project... a space designed to help us connect, grow, and serve together as a church family and with our Mercer community.

Perhaps you heard about the project during our worship service on Sunday, October 19, or maybe this is your first time hearing about it. Either way, I wanted to make sure we shared all the details with you.

Why Create a Community Center?

For years, we've noticed how crowded our lobby and hallways can be on Sunday mornings. While our church family is warm and welcoming, the limited space makes it difficult to linger, talk, and build relationships.

The new 1,400-square-foot Community Center will transform our current office area into a bright, open, and versatile space located right next to the elevator.

This new space will foster fellowship and deeper connection among those who attend Bethany, while also serving as a welcoming environment for visitors and community events. It will offer a comfortable setting for discipleship groups, prayer, and ministry activities. Ministries like The Haven, Scouts, Mom's Group, and many others will also benefit from this space. In all these ways, this project aligns perfectly with our mission: to serve our community, share the Gospel, and make disciples.

Planning and Construction

A dedicated committee comprised of church members, staff, three elders, and four property committee members has spent months planning this space. After touring other churches and exploring various options, a final plan was approved by Session.

Here's what you can expect:

Rooms 101-104 will be removed, and the hallway will be incorporated to create an open area. Offices will be relocated to nearby rooms, including the Anderson Room, Library, and Children's Office. (continued on p. 2)

Most of the work will be contracted out, but we'll also rely on church volunteers for painting, demolition, and light construction.

Have Questions?

There are a few ways to learn more:

- Visit our website – You'll find additional details, including an AI-generated concept image of the space. (Please note: this image is for illustrative purposes only.) The URL and QR code are below.
- Attend our Q&A session – Join us after church in the Social Room on Sunday, November 9, where we'll be available to answer questions and hear your ideas.

How Can I Help?

We hope to get our entire church family involved! Here are three ways you can support this project:

- Pray – Ask for God's guidance, provision, and a smooth completion process.
- Volunteer – If you have experience in painting, drywall, or demolition, please contact Pastor Bob directly.
- Give – While we only have rough cost estimates at this point, we do need to raise funds. Would you prayerfully consider giving above your regular tithe to support this vision?
You can contribute online or by check (please mark: "Bethany Community Center").

We're excited to see how God will use this new space to further our mission to Serve our Community, Share the Gospel, and Make Disciples.

In Christ,

Pastor Bob





Serving with the Heart of Christ

As we enter the season of thanksgiving, it's the perfect time to pause and reflect on one of the greatest blessings within our church family...our volunteers. Week after week, they quietly and faithfully give their time, energy, and love to serve others, expecting nothing in return. They are the hands and feet of Jesus in action.

From those who greet us at the door with a smile, to those who prepare meals, teach children, sing in the choir, clean the sanctuary, or visit the sick...every act of service matters deeply. Often, their work is unseen, but never unnoticed by God. Scripture reminds us, "God is not unjust; He will not forget your work and the love you have shown Him as you have helped His people and continue to help them" (Hebrews 6:10).

Volunteers embody what it means to serve with a joyful heart. They remind us that ministry is not about titles or recognition, but about love in action. Each small act...holding a hand, saying a prayer, sending a card—builds up the body of Christ in ways that touch eternity.

This November, as we count our blessings, let's take time to thank those who serve. A simple word of appreciation or a note of gratitude can go a long way. Let's also pray for our volunteers...that they may be refreshed, encouraged, and strengthened by the same love they so freely pour out.

To all who give of themselves so faithfully: thank you. You are a living example of Christ's servant heart, and Bethany Church is richer because of you.

Cards for Delores Palmer



Our friend Delores Palmer has moved to Quality Life Services in Mercer. Her birthday is coming up November 4, and it would be wonderful if she received cards from all her Bethany friends.

Her address is:

Quality Life Services

Room 44

8221 Lamor Rd.

Mercer, PA 16137



CONGRATULATIONS

Fifty Years

BETHANY MEMBERS



KARL CHRISTY
MARCIA CHRISTY
JAMES PERRY RUST



THE BETHANY BELL



THE BELL RESTORATION
IS COMPLETED!

FOR THE FIRST TIME
SINCE ITS REPAIR, THE
BETHANY BELL WAS RUNG
ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19.

“A Thankful Heart in a Busy Season”

Before the holiday rush begins, slow down and think about all you have to be thankful for. Use this time to be still and reflect on your spiritual walk with the Lord. Perhaps pray this prayer: Heavenly Father, in this season of gratitude and gathering, quiet our restless minds and calm our anxious spirits. Teach us to breathe deeply in Your presence and to rest in Your promises. When worries rise like stormy winds, remind us that You are our anchor and our peace. Fill our hearts with contentment, our words with kindness, and our days with moments of stillness in You.

In Jesus' name, amen.

Always be

Thankful

and

Grateful

Penn West Young Life's
Wreath Fundraiser

28" Live Fraser Fir Wreaths | Berkey's Nursery



\$28 per Wreath

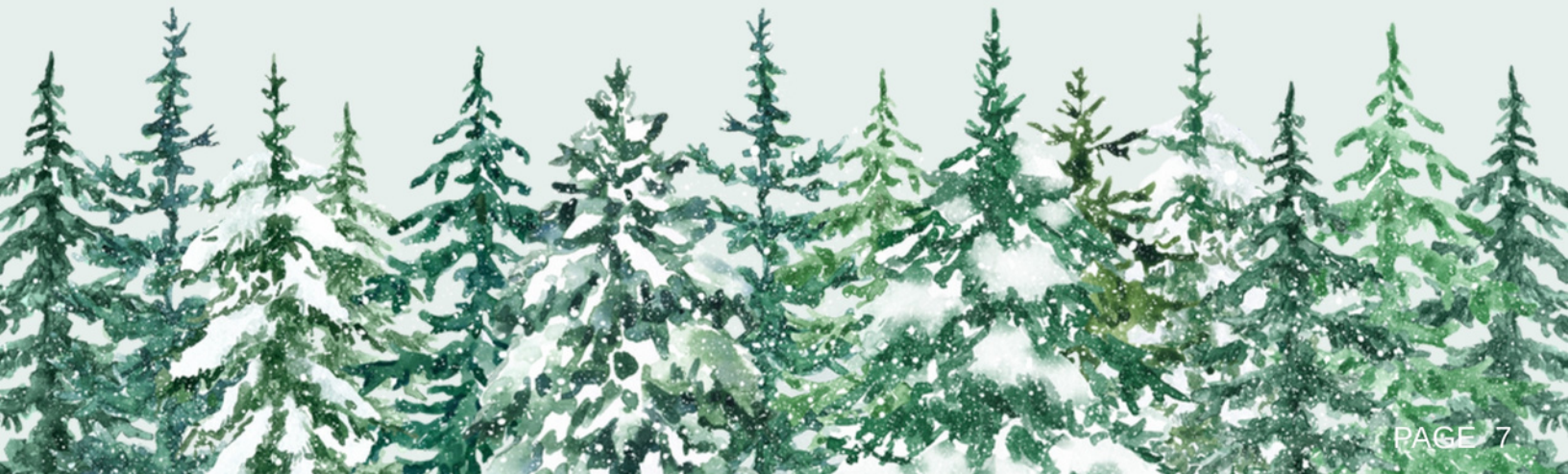
(\$12 goes toward Young Life Camp!)

**Orders & Money due Thursday, November 13th
Ready for Pick-Up by Thursday, November 20th**

Call, text or email JenWamboldtwithordersorquestions:

(724) 813-3795 | jenwyl59@gmail.com

 younglife.





Mom's Night

FRIENDS GIVING

NOVEMBER 13
6:00PM

**BRING THE
WHOLE FAMILY &
DISH TO SHARE!**



Holiday Food Drive

November 3rd - December 15th

**THE
HAVEN**
Food Pantry at Bethany

IN COLLABORATION WITH
**MERCER COUNTY
FOOD BANK**

Operation Christmas Child

Dear Bethany Friends,

We continue to prepare for this year's Operation Christmas Child Dedication Sunday that will be held on November 23 during the 10:30 A.M. Worship Service when we will collect and dedicate shoeboxes.

Bethany Church members and friends have been involved in this program for many, many years by donating hundreds of shoeboxes as well as donations towards The Greatest Journey – a 12-week lesson discipleship program for shoebox recipients.

Please consider packing a shoebox, include a \$10 donation for shipping, and bring your box to worship on Sunday, November 23. If you are unable to shop but would like to participate, you may pack a shoebox online. The cost is \$30. Use this QR code to go directly to the Bethany Build a Shoebox! online page.

Bethany Church will again support Operation Christmas Child this year as a local drop-off location to collect shoeboxes from Mercer area residents. Volunteers will be needed on these drop-off days and times, so look for the volunteer sign-up sheet at the Welcome Center.

If you are interested and would like to volunteer to help pack the shoeboxes after Worship on November 23, please let me know.

We appreciate your prayers for Operation Christmas Child and the children that will receive shoeboxes this year. For more information go to <http://www.samaritanspurse.org/occ>.

Sincerely,
John Inman
Drop-Off Coordinator
Operation Christmas Child

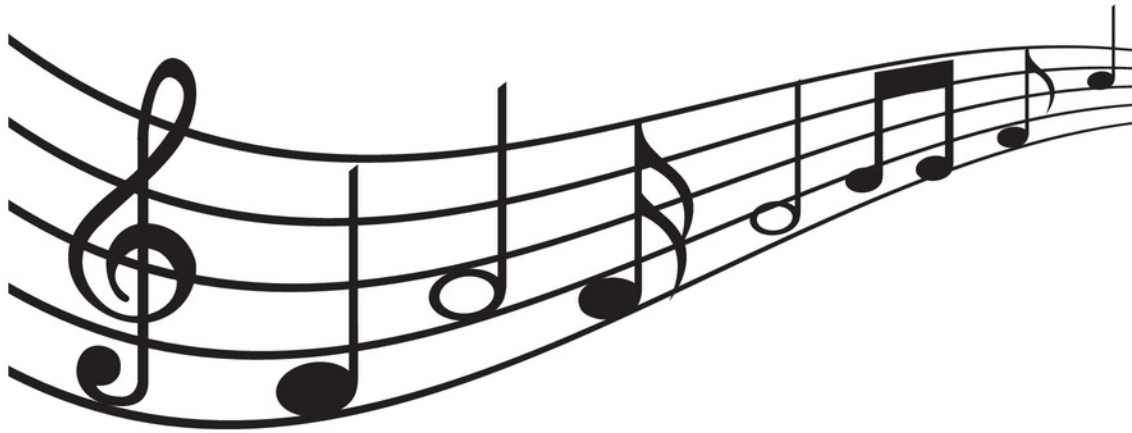


Use this QR code to go directly to the Bethany Build a Shoebox! online page.



Shoebox Drop-Off Days and Times

Mon, Nov. 17:	10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Tue, Nov. 18:	10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Wed, Nov. 19:	6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Thu, Nov. 20:	6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Fri, Nov. 21:	10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Sat, Nov. 22:	10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Sun, Nov. 23:	12:00 PM - 2:00 PM
Mon, Nov. 24:	10:00 AM - 12:00 PM



The Melody of a Spirit-Filled Heart

“Be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord.” — Ephesians 5:18–19

When the Holy Spirit fills your life, His presence overflows in joy and gratitude. That joy naturally finds expression in song...sometimes through a familiar hymn, sometimes through a heartfelt psalm, or even through a quiet melody that rises from deep within your spirit.

Being filled with the Spirit isn't about emotion alone; it's about surrender, allowing God's presence to shape your thoughts, words, and

actions. When He fills you, worship flows effortlessly. Your heart becomes an instrument, and your life becomes the song.

Singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs connects us not only to God but also to one another. When we lift our voices together, we remind each other of God's faithfulness, His grace, and His unchanging love.

So this week, let your worship rise. Whether in church, at work, or in the quiet moments of home, let the Spirit give you a melody of gratitude. When you are filled with the Holy Spirit, every note of your life can become a song of praise.



CONNECTION LUNCH

Come Get to know us better!
Nov 16th Just after Church!



November Special Event Days 2025

Thanksgiving Day, Black Friday, and Cyber Monday are not the only themes of November. Although they are the cornerstones of email marketing during last autumn month, there are many more holidays, awareness causes, and events in November. Here is a list of popular holidays and events celebrated locally and internationally.

Extra Mile Day (Nov 1)

Housewife's Day (Nov 3)

Candy Day (Nov 4)

Cash Back Day (First Thursday in November)

Daylight Saving Time Ends (First Sunday in November)

STEM/STEAM Day (Nov 8)

Veterans Day (Nov 11)

World Kindness Day (Nov 13)

Philanthropy Day (Nov 15)

America Recycles Day (Nov 15)

Mickey Mouse Birthday (Nov 18)

Women's Entrepreneurship Day (Nov 19)

Child's Day (Nov 20)

Adoption Day (Saturday before Thanksgiving)

Thanksgiving Day (Fourth Thursday)

Black Friday (Friday after Thanksgiving Day)

Cyber Monday (Monday after Thanksgiving Day)

Giving Tuesday (Tuesday after Thanksgiving)

Personal Space Day (Nov 30)

Military Family Month

November

BETHANY YOUTH REPORT

Hello Bethany Church Family,

Not a lot for our update this month, as we have had a pretty uneventful month this past month. We are still in our study of the book of Colossians, learning about staying rooted in Jesus even in the face of false teachings and beliefs.

A lot of our athletes are participating in playoffs in their respective sports, and students are trucking along with their academics! Please continue to pray for our students as they are in the go into their schools that they will be a light for Christ, and that they continue to grow in their personal journeys of faith.

Our upcoming November schedule:



November 9th:

Sunday School: 9:30a

Youth Group: 6p - 8p

November 16th:

Sunday School: 9:30a

Youth Group: 6p-8p

November 23rd:

Sunday School

Youth Group: 4p-8p

(Friendsgiving Dinner Party)

November 30th:

Sunday School: 9:30a

Youth Group: 6p-8p

(Teen Question)



Right before classes at Grove City College & Slippery Rock University began, our volunteer leaders and staff got together for an overnight retreat to catch up and enjoy fellowship together, hear important teaching from staff, set goals for the year, and make plans for the fall for each middle and high school's ministry. It was a great time and a great start to the year!

John 15:5: "I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing."

Schools and ministries are in full swing. From football games, to campaigners (our word for Bible study with a mission to reach their school!) and club (our big, fun, outreach

event), to just hanging out — the past month and a half has been busy and so fun!

For Young Life, we hosted an All-Area club in Mercer with around 50 kids and leaders — a great night. WyldLife and Capernaum have just started club back up as well. Jocelyn Roth and her team at SRU have hosted several fun events as well as an interest meeting, all of which have gone well so far. We are so excited to see how Young Life College and Young Life at Slippery Rock High School continue to grow and develop.



SEPTEMBER 2025

WILL YOU JOIN US IN PRAYING FOR PENN WEST YOUNG LIFE THIS MONTH?

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Pray for our Young Life Interest Meeting at Grove City College tonight! That many students would want to serve as YL leaders!	2 Pray for opportunities at Slippery Rock University to continue to grow!	3 Pray for our team of leaders at Grove City Capernaum (John, Jess, Emmy, Meghan, Caroline, Luke)	4 Pray for students, leaders, staff, and committee to be spending time with the Lord and being renewed by Him daily.	5 Pray for our team of leaders at Grove City Middle School (Molly, CJ, Jacob, Anna, Jessie)	6 Pray for our Sporting Clay Fundraiser today!
7 Pray for the partnerships Young Life has with the church and other ministries - that we would be unified in mission	8 Pray for our all-area Young Life Campaigners - kids would "catch a vision" for their friends to know Jesus this year!	9 Pray for our team of leaders at Grove City High School (Shannon, Alex, Jenna, Abby, Bella, Garrett)	10 Pray for our all-area Young Life Club - kids would come and learn about God who loves them like crazy!	11 Pray for our team of leaders at Hermitage Middle School (Annalese, Ellie, Susie, Naomi, Cole, Jed, Felicity)	12 Pray for our contact work opportunities in the schools - that leaders would meet many students!	13 Pray for our team of leaders at Hickory High School (Landon, Annalese, Smith, Abby, Meredith, Mira, Audriana)
14 Pray for our YL committee as they are the hands and feet in our community in Penn West.	15 Pray for our team of leaders at Lakeview High School (Madeline, Hannah Beth, Marissa, Kayla, Aaron, Ivy)	16 Pray for our staff associate as she helps lead the area. (Annalese and Bishop)	17 Pray for our team of leaders at Mercer Middle School (Chase, Isalah, Caroline, Abi, Leah, Sarah)	18 Pray for our Slippery Rock Area Director as she is doing ministry at Slippery Rock! (Jocelyn)	19 Pray for our team of leaders at Mercer High School (Hannah, Jenna, Bryce, Lydia, Katie)	20 Pray for our associate area director and her family as they help lead the area (Madeline, Zach, and Hadley)
21 Pray for our team of leaders at Slippery Rock High School (Sammy, Emily, Jake, Kalista)	22 Pray for our area director and his family as they lead the area (Alex, Nikki, Eloise, Beau, and Ford!)	23 Pray for our team of leaders at Sharon Young Life (Jackson, Sarah, Jack, Savannah)	24 Pray for students, leaders, staff, and committee to be spending time with the Lord and being renewed by Him daily.	25 Pray for our team of leaders at Shenango Valley Capernaum (Shelby, Sonya, Hayley, Danny, Nathaniel, Maggie, Hannah)	26 Pray for Mike and Kimie Chilcoat as they lead the Young Life Region!	27 Pray for Jackson Miller as he leads Young Life in Lawrence County.
28 Pray for opportunities at Beaver to continue to grow and develop!	29 Pray for school administrators to continue to allow more and more access for our leaders to be with kids	30 Pray for our Area-Administrator and her family as they will keep us organized! (Jen, Bruce, Kyle, Noelle, Josh, Kelly)				

Word Search

P J M R K X J A M D A J I H U B M V S H P Z V
D H C R U H C J D U D F R H T U O M Y L P S L
X V A L E S T E E B B X S S W K T C J I K A C
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Z S I N D I A N S R F N G N I D D U P N K Q F
U R E N N I D U L M B X S H C V K I P X I S A

Find the following words in the puzzle.

Words are hidden ↑, ↓, →, ←, and ↘.

BEETS
BETHANY
CHURCH
CORN
CRANBERRIES
DINNER
HORSES
INDIANS

MAYFLOWER
NOVEMBER
PIE
PILGRIMS
PLYMOUTH
POTATOES
PRAYER
PUDDING

ROCK
SALAD
SNOW
SNOWMEN
SOUP
STUFFING
THANKSGIVING
TURKEY



Thanksgiving



Bethany Presbyterian Church

100 W. Venango Street

Mercer, PA 16137



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Prayer Chain: bethanyprays@yahoo.com

Web: www.bethany-presbyterian.org



A Global Movement of Evangelical Presbyterian Churches

TO: or current resident

Elders and Deacons



Elders:

Dave Allen, Steve Amsler, John Inman, Gary McElfresh, Earl Runcan, Valerian Moeller, Bruce Wamboldt, Bob White, Bill Woodman

Deacons:

Samantha Faloney, Amy Hayes, Liz Hodgkinson, Sandra Hostetler, Madalin Huff, Tami Iman, Alex Lindey, Lynda McQuown, Betsy Rust, Rita Thompson, Kim Watson, Linda Wishart

Bethany Staff



Pastor

Dr. Bob White

Visitation Pastor

Pastor Bill Woodman

Church Administrator

Steve Amsler

Administrative Assistant

Beverly Crawford

Director of Student

Ministries

Micah Wojnowski

Director of Children's

Ministries

Evelyn Dickinson

Treasurer

Kathleen Daley

Financial Secretary

Kim Watson

Music Director

Andrew Kraus

Pianist

Jane Deitrick

Organist

Denny Horkey