



BETHANY ROAD

OCTOBER 2025

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Church Family,

I wanted to take a moment this month to invite you into a new area of ministry that we have recently begun to explore. We know that Millennials and Generation Z (roughly ages 13 to 50) are well known for their use of social media. Much has been written about the positives and negatives of social media over the past decade, but the reality is—it's here to stay.

As a church, the question becomes: How can we best utilize social media for ministry and outreach? We are not a church that supports the idea of "online church," nor do we believe we should become one. However, our live feed continues to be a great way to stay connected when you're sick or out of town. Sermons are also available on the website the same day they are given. You can go back to review what was said and revisit the many Scripture references shared: <https://www.bethany-presbyterian.org/sermons>.

A new feature you might find useful is our weekly blog, which is posted on Sunday afternoons. The blog provides a summary of the sermon, allowing you to quickly refresh your memory on the key points. You can find it on the main page of the website by scrolling down. These are great resources—but what about social media?

You may have noticed that we've been posting regularly on Facebook, and we've also launched a church Instagram page. Both platforms are tools we're using to reach people in the
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community—especially those who used to go to church but now attend nowhere, as well as people who are not believers at all. On average, each post extends our reach to hundreds of individuals. Some of our most popular posts have reached up to 1,500 people! This is a significant increase in connection—and a real opportunity for outreach.

There are three main ways that our social media ministry is being used to connect with people:

Announcements and Invitations

The most traditional use of social media is to advertise major events, church activities, and services. These posts serve as reminders to our church family that something is coming up—that there's value in worshipping together—and that Bethany Church continues to offer opportunities to hear and know Jesus. They also let the broader community know that we're active and visible. A great example of this is when we post about the Haven Food Pantry. It reminds people to pick up food and connects the ministry to Bethany Church. Many people want to see their church caring for the community.

Celebrating God's Work

Social media is also a platform to celebrate what God is doing at Bethany Church. We share posts that highlight how God is working in the lives of people. For example, baptism videos and pictures usually get great engagement. It's encouraging and inspiring to see the joy on the faces of those being baptized and to celebrate the fact that God has moved.

Doing Ministry Through Media

Social media isn't just for promotion—it can also be a form of ministry. One-minute sermon

reels and other short posts often feature a spiritual truth, Scripture, or reflection. These typically come from the weekly sermon and stand alone as “nuggets” of truth. For consider what He might be teaching them in the moment.

All of these efforts help build connection and recognition between Bethany and the wider community. This is incredibly important, because research shows it often takes up to seven positive interactions before someone is willing to try a church service, small group, or event. Social media is one piece of the puzzle in creating those positive interactions.

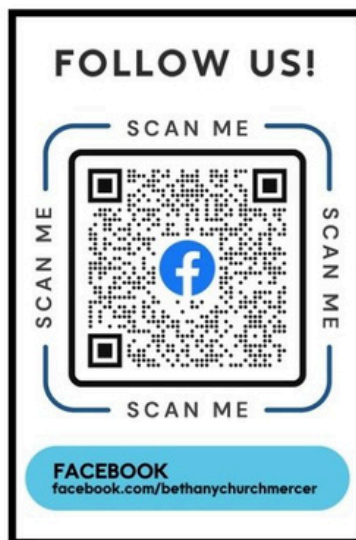
So now that you're aware of this new ministry, how can you help?

It's simple:

- Check out our weekly blog.
- Follow us on Facebook and Instagram.
- Take advantage of the sermons online.
- Like, share, and comment on posts.

Each time you engage with our content, you help extend its reach to our community. In this way, you become part of the ministry. Pastor

Bob



TRUE OR FALSE

The questions below are based on Matthew. Choose True or False.

Circle the letter under your choice.

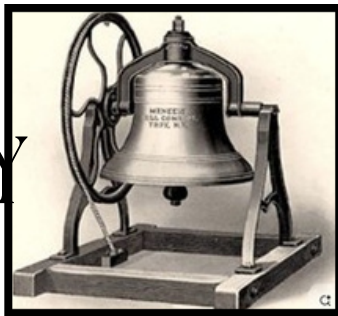
Then when done, write each letter on the appropriate numbered space below to discover the secret word that tells why Jesus died.



	True	False
1. Jesus healed Peter's wife (Matthew 8:14). 2. Jesus fed the 5,000 with 2 loaves and 5 fish (14:17). 3. Peter saw Jonah and Elijah talking with Jesus when He was transfigured (17:3). M T I		N A S C G
4. The rich, young ruler decided not to follow Jesus (19:22).		
5. Jesus thought the temple had been turned into a house of robbers (21:13).		
6. Famines and earthquakes are some of the signs of the end of the age, according to Jesus. (24-7).	V	D
7. Jesus tell a story of the six wise and six foolish virgins (25:1-13).	F	A
8. Judas betrayed Jesus with a secret handshake (26:48).	P	L
9. The Roman governor of Judea who interrogated Jesus was Polonius (27:11-14). W		O

3 2 8 6 7 4 5 9 N
1

THE BETHANY BELL



Bethany Church was first organized in 1802 and the first church was a log cabin. The congregation met in various places until the present church was completed in October of 1856. We can assume that the steeple was completed over the next few years and the bell was installed sometime in 1868 as that date is cast into the bell. That being the case, the bell has rung continually from Bethany's steeple for over 150 years. The bell itself was cast in West Troy, New York by the Meneely Bell Foundry. The Meneely Bell Company was the largest producer of bells in the world., and Meneely bells are found on every

continent except for Antarctica. They produced about 65,000 bells before they closed in 1952. Our bell weighs about 800 pounds. Somewhere around the year 2020, the structure that supports our bell collapsed due to decaying timbers. From that day until now the bell has been silent. Earlier this year, Bethany's Session made the decision to restore the bell to working order. In May we contracted with All State Clock and Bell from Grove City to complete a major restoration of the bell's supporting structure and all the parts that will keep the bell ringing for the next 50 to 100 years. All State Clock and Bell is the same company that recently made the repairs to the Courthouse clock. The restoration process is underway and we expect that it will be completed in the next month. We are looking forward to a special announcement and a first ringing during a coming worship service.

BETHANY YOUTH

Hello Bethany Family!

We are off to a great start of the school year! Between school, studying, sports, jobs, and youth events, our teens have been keeping themselves busy, but they've been doing a great job

This September, we started our Fall semester series in the book of Colossians entitled: "Plugged-In." This book focuses on staying plugged into our power source of Jesus! We also started a new tradition where the teens write down a question they have about a faith-related topic or question they have. On the last Sunday of the month, I pull a question and we spend a week on that question or topic.

We held an outreach event this month at Common Grounds in Mercer, where the teens invited friends that might not go to church or feel comfortable with church or youth group to Common Grounds, and we played all sorts of board games and played pool!

Wednesday, September 24th was the National Day of Student-Led Prayer where the teens met at their school's flag poles and gathered together and prayed for the nation, schools, administrators, communities and more! There was a great turn out! It was such a great event! Continue praying for the teens, their school communities, their growth, and outreach of their faiths!

This Month's Events:

October 5th:

Sunday School: 9:30a

Youth Group: 6p - 8p

October 11th:

Campfire Night: 6p - 10p

*See Micah for additional information

October 12th:

Sunday School: 9:30a

Youth Group: 6p - 8p

October 19th:

Sunday School: 9:30a

Youth Group: 6p - 8p

October 22nd:

Movie Night Outreach Event:

6p - 9:30p

*See Micah for additional information

October 26th:

Sunday School: 9:30a

Youth Group: 6p - 8p



BETHANY YOUTH FUN !



EduNations Schools Open with Smiles, Supplies and Fresh Hope!



The new school year has begun with excitement and hope across EduNations schools, as classrooms reopened successfully last week. Students eagerly returned to their desks—many proudly wearing newly provided uniforms and carrying essential learning materials. Laughter and smiles filled the air as children reunited with friends, met their teachers, and embraced the opportunity to learn.

Thanks to the generous support of our partners and sponsors, students received the supplies they need to focus on their studies without the burden of lacking basic resources. The distribution of uniforms not only eased financial strain on families but also restored a sense of dignity and belonging, giving every child the confidence to step into school prepared and proud.

Parents expressed heartfelt gratitude, noting the relief this support has brought. “The reopening of school brings me joy as a parent,” shared Sallay Fatmata Kamara. “I know my child is stepping into a safe place to learn, grow, and prepare for a brighter future. I want to say thank you to EduNations and all those who support our children’s education.”

Teachers and school leaders echoed this gratitude, recognizing that education paired with resources helps students flourish both academically and emotionally. Teacher Mariatu Turay explained, “As we reopen school, I feel hopeful and encouraged. Every new term brings fresh opportunities to guide our students, support their dreams, and help them succeed in both learning and life.”

For many students, these provisions mean more than just supplies—they represent hope. Grace M. Tarawalie, a Senior Secondary School 3 student, shared, “I am so excited to receive my new uniform and school supplies because it makes me feel prepared and motivated as I work hard toward my high school exams next year. I am grateful to EduNations for giving me the support I need to focus on my studies and succeed.”

The start of this school year marks more than just the resumption of classes—it is a renewed opportunity for children to dream, grow, and shape a brighter future. EduNations remains committed to its mission of offering quality education and igniting hope.

EduNations extends heartfelt thanks to every donor and partner who has made this possible. Your continued generosity provides not only uniforms and supplies but also restores dignity, hope, and opportunity for countless children. Together, we are transforming lives—one student, one school, and one community at a time.



20 Most Popular Verses in Scripture



1. John 3:16: "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

2. Jeremiah 29:11: "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

3. 1 Peter 5:7: "Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you."

4. Romans 8:28: "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

5. Joshua 1:9: "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go."

6. Philippians 4:13: "I can do everything through him who gives me strength."

7. 2 Corinthians 12:9: "But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me."

8. Psalm 23:1: "The LORD is my shepherd, I lack nothing."

9. Genesis 1:1: "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth."

10. Romans 6:23: "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

11. Proverbs 3:5: "Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding."

12. Proverbs 3:6: "In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight."

13. Deuteronomy 31:8: "The LORD himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged."

14. Romans 12:2: "Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is – his good, pleasing and perfect will."

15. Philippians 4:6: "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God."

16. Matthew 28:19: "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."

17. Hebrews 11:6: "And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him"

18. John 16:33: "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

19. 2 Corinthians 5:7: "For we live by faith, not by sight."

20. Galatians 5:22-23: "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law."

May you remember God's Word in your heart.

Submitted by Whitney Hople

FALL HAPPENINGS





Depending on the size of the family, each family receives two bags of groceries (more for larger families) plus frozen meats, frozen fruits, and when available we give fresh produce and bread.

Thankfully, we can purchase food at a reduced rate from the Mercer County Food Bank, so our cost is less than shopping at a grocery store. The \$100 value of the food families receive is about \$50 at our cost. We

are extending our food outreach to the Mercer High School by providing a food pantry filled with nutritious food items for students to take each day as needed.

We are excited to have two businesses: Common Grounds and Abound Health who want to be drop-off points for nonperishable foods.

We are blessed beyond measure to share the love and hope of God with all who come. We often hear heartbreaking stories from the lives of those who come to The Haven. Yet, in the midst of their suffering, they share their sincere gratitude for the food given, for the prayer offered on their behalf, the gifts and the Bibles given to both children and adults, and for seeing the love and care we have for them. We often hear, "Thanks for being here."

Would you please consider partnering with us by considering the following needs we have? 1. Food: Drop off food items at our drop off locations

2. Donate financially to The Haven to help purchase food

3. Volunteer to help pack food or distribute.

4. Above all, please continue to pray for The Haven to bring glory to God by feeding and loving those in need. Together with God we can accomplish much. We offer sincere thanks to all who help.

Sue and Katie Allen and The Haven crew



HIGH SCHOOL FOOD PANTRY

God is SO SO Good!!! The attendance for the banquet was awesome! Our group enjoyed fellowship, a delicious sit down dinner, meaningful prayer time, a very informative presentation, and the coveted scrumptious cupcakes! Now, I know as Christians we are not to "covet".....but I must say I think I may have seen a bit of "coveting" happening... no judgement, just reporting the facts! We were also blessed with beautiful music provided by Christylee Roose and Debbie Stauffer. The theme this year was "The Bridge Forward". Willow being the solid expanse(deck) that provides a woman with the possibilities to move from fear and choosing to terminate her pregnancy, to HOPE and choosing LIFE for her unborn child!

Christylee Roose, Director of Advancement, explained that we who choose to donate to Willow Women's Center are the pillars/piers that support the deck of the bridge. What an honor and privilege we have as a church family and individually to come along side of Willow supporting them with our finances and our PRAYERS. The staff at Willow Woman's Center work diligently and tirelessly to save the unborn and to provide ongoing support to the mothers and fathers of these precious babies. This work provides the unborn an opportunity to reach their God ordained potential!

"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart". Jeremiah 1:5.

~~Executive~~ Director, Vikkie Mastroberte, announced launching of the addition of the Anchor Project to Willow's support programs. The initial program to be offered is "Beauty from Ashes", which is a support group for women who have had an abortion. In our current society, it is estimated that one in four women will have had an abortion by age 45. Looking at those statistics one can understand how important this program is and the impact it could make on women's lives. There will be more information on this program which will start in October included in the Bethany Road.

There is also a program being developed to provide a male advocate to counsel and support the fathers or male partners in instances of an unplanned pregnancy. It is a fact that more women choose to carry their baby to term if they have sincere and committed support from the baby's father or their male partner. The Willow staff is looking for just the right man to be this advocate. Could it be you or do you know of someone who would have a heart for this ministry? If so please contact Vikkie Mastroberte at 724-854-9544 ext.#1

It is so very exciting to be a part of God's work through these life-giving and life-changing programs. Glory To God! The staff at Willow is so very appreciative of Bethany's support. Mark and I also want to thank you all for having such a heart for the unborn, and we are so grateful to carry out God's work and plan together! May God bless each of you and keep you in His care and in His perfect will.



Willow Banquet 2025



Speaker
Christylee Roose:
Director of
Advancement



Bethany Attendees



The Bridge Builder

An old man going on a lone highway,
Came at the evening cold and gray;
To a chasm vast and deep and wide,
Through which was flowing a sullen tide.

The old man crossed in the twilight dim,
The sullen stream had no fear for him;
But he turned when safe on the other side,
And built a bridge to span the tide.

"Old man," said a fellow pilgrim near,
"You are wasting your strength with
building here;
Your journey will end with the ending day,
You never again will pass this way.

You've crossed the chasm, deep and wide,
Why build this bridge at evening tide?"
The builder lifted his old gray head;
"Good friend, in the path I have come," he
said.

"There followed after me today,
A youth whose feet must pass this way.
This chasm that has been as naught to me
To that fair-headed youth may a pitfall be.
He, too, must cross in the twilight dim;
Good friend, I am building this bridge for
him."

Will Allen Dromgoole, 1898

Beauty from Ashes

Many women have never told anyone about their previous abortion. Sometimes you begin to realize that you need to share your feelings with someone else. There's a place where you can find help as you navigate through abortion recovery. This is your journey and we want to help you along the way.

Meetings begin October 2nd and continue for a total of 6 weeks on Thursday evenings at 6pm.

Location: 295 Kerrwood Dr- Suite 106
Hermitage, PA.

More information is available by calling one of our consultants; Leisa at 724-301-8103 or Traci at 330-233-2759



Financial Report Through August 2025

Income \$290,096
Expenses \$ 347,710
Difference \$ -57,614



October 2025

sun		mon	tue	wed	thu	fri	sat
5 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Children's Church 10:30 AM Worship 11:45 AM Deacons 11:45 AM Membership 6:00 PM Sunday Night Gathering 6:00 PM Youth Group				1 4:30 PM Cub Scouts 4:30 PM Girl Scouts 6:00 PM Worship Band	2 7:30 AM Men's Breakfast 9:00 AM Morning Prayer 10:00 AM Israel Study 6:30 PM Garden Club	3 	4 8:30 A.M. Women's Brunch
	6 6:30 PM Romans Home	7 9:30 AM Women's Bible Study 5:00 PM Christian Ed. Comm. 6:30 PM Missions Comm. 6:30 PM Outreach Comm. 6:30 PM Safety Team 7:00 PM Property Committee	8 6:00 PM Worship Band 6:30 PM Military Prayer 7:00 PM Worship and Memorial		9 9:00 AM Morning Prayer 10:00 AM Israel Study	10 	11
12 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Children's Church 10:30 AM Worship 12:00 PM Kids' Ministry 6:00 PM Sunday Night Gathering 6:00 PM Youth Group	13 6:30 PM Personnel Committee	14 9:30 AM Women's Bible Study	15 3:00 PM Cub Scouts and Girl Scouts Set Up 4:30 PM Cub Scouts 4:30 PM Girl Scouts 6:00 PM Worship Band	16 9:00 AM Morning Prayer 10:00 AM Israel Study 7:00 PM Finance Committee	17 	18 8:30 A.M. Women's Brunch	
19 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Children's Church 12:00 PM Kids' Ministry 6:00 PM Sunday Night Gathering 6:00 PM Youth Group	20 6:30 PM Romans Home	21 9:30 AM Women's Bible Study 6:00 PM Cub Committee 7:00 PM Book Club	22 6:00 PM Worship Band	23 9:00 AM Morning Prayer 10:00 AM Israel Study 7:00 PM Session	24 	25 10:00 A.M. The Haven 12:00 P.M. Chili Cookoff	
26 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Children's Church 12:00 PM Kids' Ministry 6:00 PM Sunday Night Gathering 6:00 PM Worship Night 6:00 PM Youth Group	27 	28 9:30 AM Women's Bible Study	29 4:30 PM Girl Scouts 6:00 PM Worship Band	30 9:00 AM Morning Prayer 10:00 AM Israel Study			

Bethany Presbyterian Church

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Web: www.bethany-presbyterian.org



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