



Bethany Road

VOLUME 19, ISSUE 6

JUNE 2022



Committee Meetings

- Deacons
June 1 at 6:00 p.m.
- Safety Team
June 7 at 6:30 p.m.
- Property
June 7 at 7:00 p.m.
- Personnel
June 13 at 7:00 p.m.
- Outreach
June 14 at 7:00 p.m.
- Worship & Memorials
June 14 at 7:00 p.m.
- Finance
June 16 at 7:00 p.m.
- Session
June 23 at 7:00 p.m.

By the time you read this article, my family and I will have moved into our new home in Mercer. I may even have built my kids their new play set, which they are super-excited about. We are eager to get to know the community and of course, the church. I officially start at Bethany on June 1st. The transition has been a good but long road that is finally coming to an end. A new chapter of life begins which brings excitement, hard work, adventure, and continued reliance upon God. These chapters or seasons of life are normal for everyone. A baby is born, a job is started, kids graduate from college, a spouse retires, even the loss of a family member are all beginnings and endings of different seasons in our lives.

God can use these periods in our lives to change us and mold us into His image if we will submit to Him. During this transition God has reminded me of a few different spiritual realities. The first is that he has an overarching will in our lives. This is a spiritual truth we know and learn, but in day-to-day life it can be hard to see. During this transition Becky and I have seen the hand of God move and orchestrate His will. It was clear that God was moving pieces into place for us to come to Bethany Church. God brought the opportunity into our lives at the right time. He opened the proverbial door in the EPC, and he closed other doors in Akron. In each interview with the committee, it became clear that Bethany would be our new home and Mercer is where God has called us to minister. Even our time and experiences at Grove City College have prepared us. We already know much about the broader community and are excited to be back!

Another spiritual truth that has been clear is that God gives us just a large enough glimpse of His plan to keep us on the right path, and more importantly keep us reliant upon Him. For it is God who coordinates all things together for good. It is God who will reap the glory from our obedient lives. It is God who we serve and trust. Although these realities are clear in our transition to Mercer, it is not always so clear in life. There are moments of clarity and clear vision from God. This can be seen in scripture. Look at Moses upon the burning

Continued on page 2

bush or Saul as he beholds Jesus who he was persecuting. Yet scripture shows many ambiguous moments. There are situations where God's desire is not as clear or simple. For example, should David take King Saul's life in the cave? Or should the Apostle Paul take John Mark with him on a missionary journey?

Can you think of a few moments of clarity from God? Perhaps your conversion, or career path, or a clear push to share your faith with someone? These moments of clarity come. Yet our lives are spent mostly in normal moments where God calls us to be faithful to his purpose and call upon us, but He does not always make the action step crystal clear. Although God can and does give specific direction, it is more normative that we must be faithful to the general direction He gives our lives. What direction might that be, you ask? Well, it is one you are probably well versed in: "Jesus replied: 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments (Matthew 22:37-

40)." Faithfulness to God and His call on your life is as simple as obeying this command in Matthew 22, which is not really simple at all, but it is a great starting point. There are other basic calls upon our lives: make disciples, share our faith, care for the poor, etc. This great command is foundational.

As you go about your day and week, whether God is making His plans for your life clear or not, remember the call He has given you. A call to love Him. Love him in the good and wonderful moments but also in the hard, tired, and sad moments. We love because He first loved us. As we love Him, he then gives us the ability to love others. We love them because they deserve love as image bearers who are also created for a purpose. Finally, we are called to faith and reliance upon God. Anyone can obey God in the crystal clear moments. What is hard is to have faith, reliance, and obedience to God in the day-to-day life He gives us. Remember even our faith and reliance can only happen through God.

See you soon!

Pastor Bob

Successful EPC Presbytery Meeting Held on May 7th

On May 7th Bethany hosted the Presbytery of the Alleghenies triannual Presbytery meeting. The meeting was very well attended, ran smoothly and many Bethany members helped with the event. Special thanks to Pat Amsler for organizing the event.

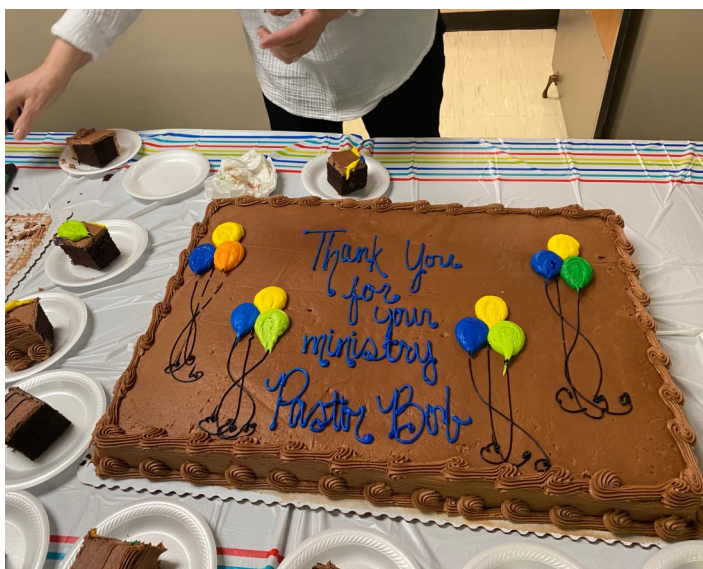


THANK YOU BOB STAUFFER!



Blessed to RECEIVE a Blessing: Celebrating Bob & Debbie Stauffer

Sunday, May 22nd was Pastor Bob Stauffer's last day to preach at Bethany as our Transitional Pastor. The Elders prayed over Pastor Bob and Debbie during the service to bless them as they move on to work with the National Presbytery Office full-time. A very nice reception was hosted by the Elders after the service. Thank you Bob & Debbie!



BETHANY'S COMMUNITY SERVICE DAY AT BRANDY SPRINGS PARK

Bethany had a great day at Brandy Springs on April 30th. About 20 people turned out to help rehabilitate the amphitheater behind the Scout building. We are hoping this is the first of many fun projects at our hometown park. Many thanks to Doug Lindey who gave leadership to the project.



West Virginia Mission Trip

The West Virginia Mission Trip will be teaching Bible School in Circleville, WV. The trip dates are June 18-25, 2022. We'd love to have you join us for the week or even a few days of the trip!

Reminder—Help needed before/after the trip:

- Van drivers to travel to or from West Virginia. We need help getting the vans there and back. If you are free for one of the weekends and can help in that way, please contact Dan Cameron (724-854-3052).
- We are also recruiting adults willing to pick up or return and clean the large vans from the rental facility in Grove City before and after the trip. Dates are Friday, June 17 and Saturday, June 25, please see Sam Smith if you can help.

Donations of food are still needed. See page 4 for details.

Questions? Please see Dan Cameron or Nancy Thompson

Please continue to keep the West Virginia Mission Trip in your prayers.

2022 WV Mission Trip -

Donations can be dropped off at the Welcome Center until June 12th – THANK YOU!

Paper Products: **Qty Needed**

Gallon Storage Ziplock bags	3
Quart Storage Ziplock bags	2
Dawn dish soap (medium size)	2
AA Batteries - package of 4	1
Clorox - small bottle	2
Toothpicks - box	1
Tablecloths - rectangle flannel back	10

Food Items:

Store bought cookies packages	40
(Oreos, Keebler, Chips-a-hoy, etc)	
Sugar - small bag	1
Grape Jelly - Large jar	1
Strawberry Jam - Large jar	1
Hot Chocolate - servings	50
Mini Marshmallows - bag	1
Peanut Butter - large jars	1
Ketchup - medium size squeeze	8
Mustard - small squeeze	5
Salsa	3
Graham Crackers for S'Mores	1
Bag of Regular Marshmallows	1
Hershey Milk Chocolate Bars- pkg of 6	3
Ranch salad dressing	6
Blue cheese dressing	2
Italian salad dressing	3
Balsamic salad dressing	3
Pam cooking spray	3
Sweet relish - small jars	3
Bags of croutons	6
jalapeno slices - jar	2
bacon bits	4
soft flour tortilla shells - pkg	5
Instant Oatmeal variety pack	1
Raisin Bran	1
Rice Chex	1
Fruit Loops	1
Cinnamon Toast Crunch	1
Frosted Flakes	1
Lucky Charms	1
Cocoa Krispies	2

Mother's Day Photo Fun



To Our Bethany Family and Friends,

Wayne had his annual battery of testing at Presby. Results are in from the Transplant Team! Most blood work is stable, some continues to be low, including his iron, which he will need to go for infusions. His kidneys continue to be at stage 4 failure, but are stable at that level for him.

Wayne says, "Our biggest, most wonderful blessing from God is a marked 15% IMPROVEMENT in my heart function! We are praising and thanking God for this unexpected gift of time! We have reached the two year mark the doctors said I had to live—they are an amazing team and we tried to remain positive—but only God knows my timing and His plans for me!"

We continue to thank you and ask for your mighty faithful prayers that have carried us.

We are so grateful and blessed by all who have walked our journey with us and most grateful to the awesome God we serve!

Wayne & Tami Iman

Bethany's 2022 Financial Statement through April

Income	\$179,706
Expenses	\$162,903
Difference	\$ 16,803

Memorial Day Outreach

The Implementation Team will be setting up a booth on the church lawn (in front of the kids fenced area) on Monday, May 30th, Memorial Day. We will be handing out bags of candy and other items for kids walking nearby. We will also be inviting kids to our **Summer VBS**. Pray for this Community Outreach and join us in interacting with Mercer families as we celebrate the Mercer Memorial Day 500!

Summer Camp

SUMMER CAMP (Impact Camp) is right around the corner! August 1st-5th at Heartland Conference Retreat Center! This is going to be an absolutely epic week that you do not want to miss! Students 6th through 12th grade are all welcome to join us! We will be planning a fundraising event to help with the cost of camp and want to make sure everyone who wants to go is able! Feel free to contact me at jdangelo@bethany-presbyterian.org for more information and keep an eye out for future announcements!



It's VBS month! June is here which means VBS is right around the corner.

June 11th is our decorating day, starting at 9am-please come and join even if you're not planning to help with VBS. We would love all the

extra help to prepare our church building for VBS. If you missed our last training meeting, please attend this decorating day.

VBS is June 13th-17th from 9am-noon. If you are not signed up to help but would like to, please see Ashley D'Angelo as soon as possible and we can get you on the team!

We will be having a lunch for volunteers and families on Friday, June 17th after we have the VBS finale (noon on Friday) and would love for you to join us for that meal to interact with the families after VBS (even if you weren't able to help the rest of the week.)

VBS Treats for the Trail!

UPDATED LIST!!!

We're gathering snack supplies to feed all the hungry kids who come to Monumental VBS. Next time you're at the grocery store, please drop a few of the listed items into your cart; then bring them to church for Sue Horkey or Ashley D'Angelo. Please bring perishable items sometime after JUNE 8TH and non-perishable items anytime after JUNE 1ST.

PERISHABLE: (BRING AFTER JUNE 8TH)

- * 8- 16 oz. sour cream
- * 8- 16 oz. containers "soft spreadable" cream cheese

PLEASE CLOSELY LOOK OVER PRODUCE FOR FRESHNESS

- * 12- 3 pack sleeve/multi-color peppers(red-yellow-orange) at Aldi
- * 12- one-pound bags "baby" carrots
- * 5- large heads of iceberg lettuce

NON-PERISHABLE: (BRING AFTER JUNE 1st)

- * 2- 4 pack boxes dry ranch "DIP" mix
- * 6- 20 count pack 8" tortillas
- * 1- can "MED" black olives
- * 30- 4 pack chocolate/vanilla stripe pudding cups
- * 1- 16 oz. bag pretzel "sticks"
- * 4- 14.4 oz boxes of graham crackers
- * 4- 100 count "sealable" sandwich bags
- * 1- 100 count "sealable" snack bags
- * 8 cases of 80 - 8oz bottles of water (Sam's club)

***COOKIES are needed for day 4 and day 5. Please check with Sue Horkey or Ashley D'Angelo to be put on the cookie list. THANKS!



A Very Special Thank You!

Thank You so much to Nelson's Heirloom Gardens for the donation of Chocolate Dragon Tail Begonias for the carport flower beds.

Bethany Friends to Remember...

Throughout the year, please remember our members and friends who are homebound or in nursing homes.

Fran Bish
680 N. Stone Base Road
Mercer, PA 16137

Joyce Cuyar c/o Keith Cuyar
113 Majestic Drive
Mars, PA 16046

Mae Shaffer
Lakes at Jefferson
7271 West Market St.
Mercer, PA 16137

Dorothy Maxwell
231 S. Otter Street
Mercer, PA 16137

Virginia Miller
1341 Mercer New Wilmington Road
New Wilmington, PA 16142

Dorothy Nan
792 Sarsi Trail
Mercer, PA 16137

Becky Pears
148 Courtney Road
Mercer, PA 16137

Lee Ramsey
133 Center Church Road
Grove City, PA 16127

Bruce Shannon
38 Shannon Drive
New Wilmington, PA 16142

Susan Shawgo
301 S. Broad Street Apt 601
Grove City, PA 16127

Elizabeth Shillito
Whispering Oakes Room 325
260 Buhl Farm Drive
Hermitage, PA 16148

Mary Thompson
202 N. Otter Street
Mercer, PA 16137

Janice Vinroe
Quality Life Services
8221 Lamor Road
Mercer, PA 16137

Dorothy Wester
3107 James Buchanan Blvd
Elizabethtown, PA 17022

Brooke Huston
250 W. North Street
Mercer, PA 16137

Becky Beck
341 E. Jamestown Rd. Unit 20
Greenville, PA 16125

Russ Smith
Greystone Country Estates
424 Delaware St.
Fredonia, PA 16124

Charlotte Moon
919 Butler Pike
Mercer, PA 16137

Judy Thompson
Quality Life Services
8221 Lamor Road
Mercer, PA 16137

Dick Bortz
Lakes at Jefferson
7271 West Market St.
Mercer, PA 16137

Sherri Faulconbridge
3536 Silver Ridge Ct.
Hermitage, PA 16148

Bethany Presbyterian Church
100 West Venango Street
Mercer, PA 16137

Regular Office Hours

Mon. - Fri. 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

(724) 662-4340

Fax: 724-662-1080

Prayer Chain: bethanyprays@yahoo.com

Web: www.bethany-presbyterian.org



Non-Profit Organization

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Mercer, PA 16137

PERMIT No. 39

TO: Or Current Resident

Elders & Deacons

Elders:

Frank Carolas, John Inman, Chuck Kite, Ed Lindey, Valerian Moeller, Joe Phillips, Earl Runcan

Deacons:

Amy Cameron, Sue Horkey, Madalin Huff, Ken Knechtel, Lynda McQuown, Delores Palmer, Ed Pears, Lynn Runcan, Betsy Rust, Kim Watson, Carol Wiggins

Bethany Staff

Senior Pastor

Pastor Bob White

Visitation Pastor

Pastor Bill Woodman

Church Administrator

Mr. Steve Amsler

Youth Director

Mr. Jon D'Angelo

Children's Director

Mrs. Ashley D'Angelo

Music Director

Mr. Josiah Forton

Organist

Mr. Denny Horkey

Pianist

Mrs. Jane Deitrick

Financial Secretary

Mrs. Kim Watson

Treasurer

Mrs. Bev. Gallagher

Office Assistant

Ms. Lois Metelsky

Sound Engineer

Mr. Dave Ruhlman

Maintenance Supervisor

Mr. Dayle Wilkins

Custodial Engineer

Mr. Jarrett Smith

Kitchen Coordinator

Mrs. Amy Cameron

Technical Intern

Ms. Bri Dunlap