

June 2026 Newsletter

Monthly Updates from Bethany Presbyterian Church

From our Senior Pastor

Rev. Dr. Brian Janssen



June is a month I anticipate with great joy! It is a month of graduations and graduation parties; it is a month of celebration and sunshine. It is also a month where we experience the controlled chaos of VBS!! I love Vacation Bible School. I always hope when this week rolls around that kids will form memories of church and relationships with one another that will go with them in life, just as they have for me. I have to say the decorations were a little more sparse at Woodside Presbyterian Church in 1985, but the love was real.

June is also a time where we lean into time with family, sometimes by welcoming visitors from other parts of the country or traveling ourselves, you may even be from one the families that has traditions of renting a large house that sleeps twenty in the Outer Banks or Deep Creek. As I write this Lisa and I are preparing to go to Hilton Head Island for a week and that is fast becoming one of our favorite places to visit. This always gets me thinking about Beach reads. Reading in the summer is always a great way to limit screen time for young and old alike. For young people ages 11 and up I am recommending the books of Gary D. Schmidt. He is a Young Adult (YA) author whom I had the pleasure of meeting a couple of years ago. He seems to capture so perfectly what it is like to be someone between the ages of 12-14. For adults I always love recommending the biographies written by Ron Chernow his latest having come out last year about Mark Twain is excellent. For those of you interested in celebrating the 250th anniversary of the founding of our country (and let's be honest who wouldn't be) Rick Atkinson's "The British are Coming" is a great read.

I also want to let you all know that I have made a decision for Jesus: I have decided this summer to binge watch The Chosen. I have heard so many good things about it and am hoping to turn my experience into a podcast. I am in the beginning stages of mapping out what this would look like but if you are interested in participating, please don't hesitate to come and see me if you would like to be on an episode. Summer is shaping up to be a great time at Bethany, and we hope that you are as excited as we are for what is to come. You are blessed to be a blessing.

In Christ,

Pastor Brian



From our Interim Associate Pastor

Rev. Dr. Larry Ruby

“Will You Marry Me?”

Dear Friends in Christ,

I know that June is the most popular month for weddings. In our culture I think that June has become popular for weddings for many reasons; the end of the school year, the beautiful weather and we're going into the lazy, hazy days of summer.

These days the usual sign that a wedding is coming is the giving of an engagement ring. It's a beautiful and expensive way of saying, "I love you and I want to share my life with you." In Bible times the customs were a little different, but the meaning was the same. Weddings were often arranged by the parents, but when the parents had agreed on a "price" for the bride, the groom would provide that price and the engagement would commence. The groom would then use this time of engagement to prepare a place for his bride, usually an addition on his father's house. He would then come for his bride and take her to be with him there. When the place was ready the wedding would proceed and the marriage would begin.

Have you ever thought of your relationship with Christ as a wedding? In scripture the church is often referred to as "the Bride of Christ." Before his death Jesus promised to "go and prepare a place for us" in His Father's house and he promised to return for us. He then sent His Spirit "as a guarantee" of His promise to return.

You might be interested to know that the Hebrew word that we translate as Pentecost is "Shavuot." Shavuot is also the word for "bridal price" or the "guarantee" that the groom will return for the wedding! In a way, the Holy Spirit is the engagement ring for the church! Think about it, when we came to church on Pentecost Sunday it was a celebration of the day we got engaged. What a great day! And then remember that the groom, our Lord Jesus, is preparing a place for us where we will share a glorious marriage in eternity.

Congratulations!

Pastor Larry Ruby

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me, that you also may be where I am.” John 14:1-3

A Letter From the Stewardship Team

Dear Bethany Family,

HE HAS RISEN! HE HAS RISEN INDEED!

What a perfect example to talk about "*TRUST*". Spring shows us to trust that what has died will live again. We see this in the trees, the flowers, the grass.

We *TRUST* that our Lord Jesus Christ has died for our sins and risen from the dead so that one day we will join him and God our father in heaven.

Matthew 28.6: "He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay".

Trusting God is something that we must learn to do. We trust him with our salvation, but it can be hard to trust him with life's daily stressors.

Whether going through a good time or a hard time, we don't need to fall back. God is entirely trustworthy, and there is a purpose to what we are going through. We never go through something difficult for no reason. Instead, we are learning through the difficulties, and God walks with us through every step. He will not leave us, nor will He abandon us in our time of need.

God can be trusted with whatever life throws your way today. If you are struggling with anxiety, a difficult relationship, or a hard time at work, trust God with the problem. Give all your problems over to God and rest in His love. Allow His peace, comfort, and protection to surround you. When you and your family do this, you will notice that your trust in Him will grow.

We also ask that you build trust in our church here at Bethany. Show up, listen, participate, strengthen your relationships with our church family as well as your relationship with our Lord. We offer many amazing programs and if you are one of those behind the scenes, thank you, we see you. If you are participating, thank you, we see you. If you are not sure what to do, or how to participate, we see you and are here with open arms. Trust us to show you the way.

Our church needs your continued support so that we can help those around us. There are many ways to give, whether in person, through our online giving portal available through the home page www.bethanypresby.org or by mailing your contributions to the church. Your support of the mission of Bethany Church is appreciated. Quarterly statements are sent electronically by request, or you can reach out to the finance office at any time for a copy.

Thank you for your commitment to and support of Bethany Presbyterian Church.

In hope and blessings,

Pam Petrow and Becky Quinn/Bethany Stewardship Team

♥♥♥♥ from Abbie Gardner, Youth Director ♥♥♥♥

BETHANY YOUTH GROUP

We have had a wonderful year together and even though we are wrapped up with our routine weekly schedule, we still have lots of fun things planned for this summer!!

We will have MilkShake Mondays, FroYo Fridays, and even some Wing Wednesdays throughout the summer! There are schedules available for you to take home in the Welcome Center, we will also be sending lots of emails and texts! (If you do not already receive emails and texts about BYG, please reach out to Abbie so we can fix that!)

We also passed out devotionals to all youth who came to our Family Cookout, if you were unable to make it but would like to follow along in the devotional this summer - please see Abbie!

A special thank you to our youth leader team; Hope Trotta, Sarah Paviol, Alec Heiskell, and Josh Gardner - for being outstanding role models to the youth, for caring about them and leading them in faith, and for stepping in and running BYG when I was away. You are greatly loved and appreciated!



CONFIRMATION CLASS

I had such a wonderful time teaching Confirmation Class this year. The youth here are Bethany are something extraordinary - and Confirmation Class was no exception. They were honest about their faith, about their questions, and it was a very thoughtful class. We got to meet with some of the session teams to hear about how we can be involved in the church, we learned about what it means to be Presbyterian, we learned about Jesus' ministry, death and resurrection.

The confirmands wrote beautiful statements of faith and presented them in front of the session, then we got to see them make their confirmation the morning of Sunday May 17th. I have no doubt that these young adults are going to be faithful and loving leaders of this church!



YOUTH SUNDAY/FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON

I wanted to take the opportunity to thank you all for your love and support of the Youth here at Bethany! We love getting to take over the services on Youth Sunday and we are so happy so many of you came downstairs to celebrate with us! The Fellowship Luncheon was a wonderful afternoon thanks to our Discipleship Team led by Gary Phillips and Alec Heiskell. What a great and blessed Sunday!



A few Youth Sunday shoutouts that I wanted to share with you all! First, our youth spent so much time practicing and preparing for Youth Sunday! Hannah, Jenna, Charlotte, Amelia, Clark, Dom, Brody, Michael, Nolan, Huck, Cam, and Maya.



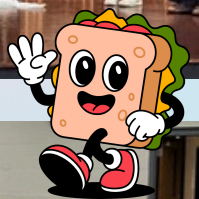
For our multimedia team! Mike Segeleon, Caleb Auldrige, Mike Suchoza, Taylor Barbaryka, and Devin Underwood!



And last but certainly not least, our music led by Nadina Robusto, Caleb Auldrige, Josh Gardner, Connie Segeleon, Brian Hayes, Hope Trotta, and guest percussionist Nicholas Reidmiller!

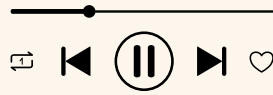


TIME FOR LUNCH



SUNDAY



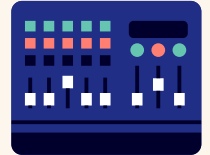
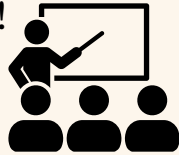


From our Music Director
Nadina Robusto

Music Ministry takes a break from some of the regularly scheduled rehearsals and ensembles during the summer, but we don't take a break from music in worship during the summer! Please be sure to check out the offerings from Music Ministry this summer, both for youth, adults, members, and guests.

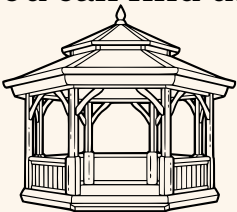
Sacred Music Sampling: These are mini-courses that highlight the instruments and technology that we use to make music in worship. We will learn more about the pipe organ, our percussion instruments, our soundboard, and some recording technology, special thanks to our Music Associate, Caleb Auldridge. The classes are free to all ages, though children must be accompanied by a guardian/parent. Check the music calendar for the course dates!

CLASS



Choral Courtyard: Meet us in the courtyard for a beautiful hour of sharing in singing—some hymns, some choral anthems (sneak peek to some of the upcoming season anthems!), and enjoy our beautiful courtyard while we lift our voices in praise!

Bloom in the Summer: "Where's Bloom?" is the silly catch phrase we coined for this summer— we will have additional Bloom events at Triangle Park, Gazebo; some in our front lawn at the church; and some in our Courtyard— Be sure to check the calendar so you can find us! Extra points if you find one of the little Jesus figures when you visit us!



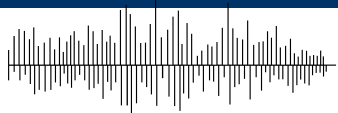
BELIEVE



Bell Tree Hour: New this summer, and new to Bethany's music ministry— Come learn to play the bell tree! We will share in some beginner technique and songs that we'd love to have you share in our worship! Beginners welcome, though you must be able to read music. Mallets are used to hit the bells...and if the class is a big hit, sign ups and additional offerings may be added.



Creatives in the Chapel: Also new for this summer, we will have a few sessions where some of our incredible members and guests share a little bit about their creativity and art in a time of fellowship. This July and August, look out for this very special opportunity to hear from some of our very own gifted artists, such as Joe Oyler, Tim Anderson, and Bonnie Hendershot, to hear and see how creativity is at play through God's handiwork in their lives. There will be a few other surprise guests, too! Check the calendar and upcoming flyers to learn more about this time of sharing!



MUSIC CONTINUED



Music Coaching with our Music Associate: Caleb Auldridge will offer some 1:1 and small group sessions this summer to encourage our musicians to share their gifts in worship!

Have you wanted to have a way to jam at Bloom or thought you'd like to give choir a try? These coaching sessions are offered this summer through music ministry- for YOU! Connect with him to schedule to practice your voice, guitar, bass, or ukulele so you can join us in worship with your gifts! We'd love to have you jam with us at Bloom or offer your music in a time of worship this summer or upcoming regular season!

Contact Nadina or Caleb for more info music@bethanypresby.org



T-Shirts!



We have lots of Bethany T-Shirts left! Your choice of white, grey, and black are available in many various sizes. See Edgar Shaffer or Laura Dugan if you would like one!



Diamond Dots and Devotions

Join us for a fun event for the women of Bethany to get together and make a small craft.

Children are invited to this event and we will be serving warm cookies

fresh from the oven! June 24th at 6:30pm!



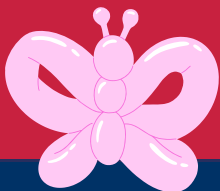
★ Save the Date! ★

Barbecue after church on June 14th!



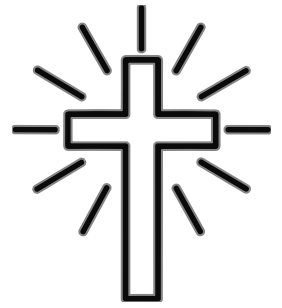
★ 11am in Fellowship Hall/Inner Courtyard ★

Hot Dogs, Cookies, Kids Crafts and a BALLOON ARTIST!






PRESBYTERY
of West Virginia



**The 2026 Summersville, WV trip mission work week (WVMAW)
will be from Sunday June 28th through Friday July 3rd.**

The cost per person is \$300, which all goes directly to WVMAW. The registration deadline is Thursday, June 14th; registration forms and a deposit of \$150 per person are due at this time. The remaining balance, plus a medical and liability form, will be due at a later date.

*** Please do not let finance be a factor if you would like to attend. ***

Anyone 12 and older are welcome and there are forms available on the table by the Mission wall. These will need to be filled out ahead of time for those planning on going on this trip. And these forms will be placed by the Mission Board.

This would be a great mission opportunity and a fantastic trip for youth to go on while off during summer school break.

Checks should be made out to Bethany Church and have Summersville WV, in the memo line.

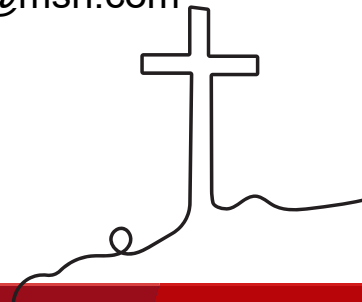
The Bethany Mission Team will provide funds for the food for the week.

Summersville Presbyterian Church provides accommodations for the week. There are rooms for sleeping and the church also has a large kitchen and dining area.

The work to be done varies according to the skills of the group, but could include building ramps, repairing porches, flooring, rebuilding walls, and roofing, all under the direction of a Project Manager. In addition to working during the day, there will be opportunities for reflection, worship, and recreation. There is a limit of 20 people total.

If interested and would like more information, please contact Connie Segeleon at conniesege@gmail.com 412-855-6829, Mike Segeleon msegeleon@msn.com 412-389-0985 or Doug Bovard dbovard@verizon.net 412-979-9324.

Jesus



BETHANY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PRESENTS!

JUNE 15-19
9AM-NOON



RAINFOREST FALLS

**EXPLORING THE
TRUE NATURE OF GOD**

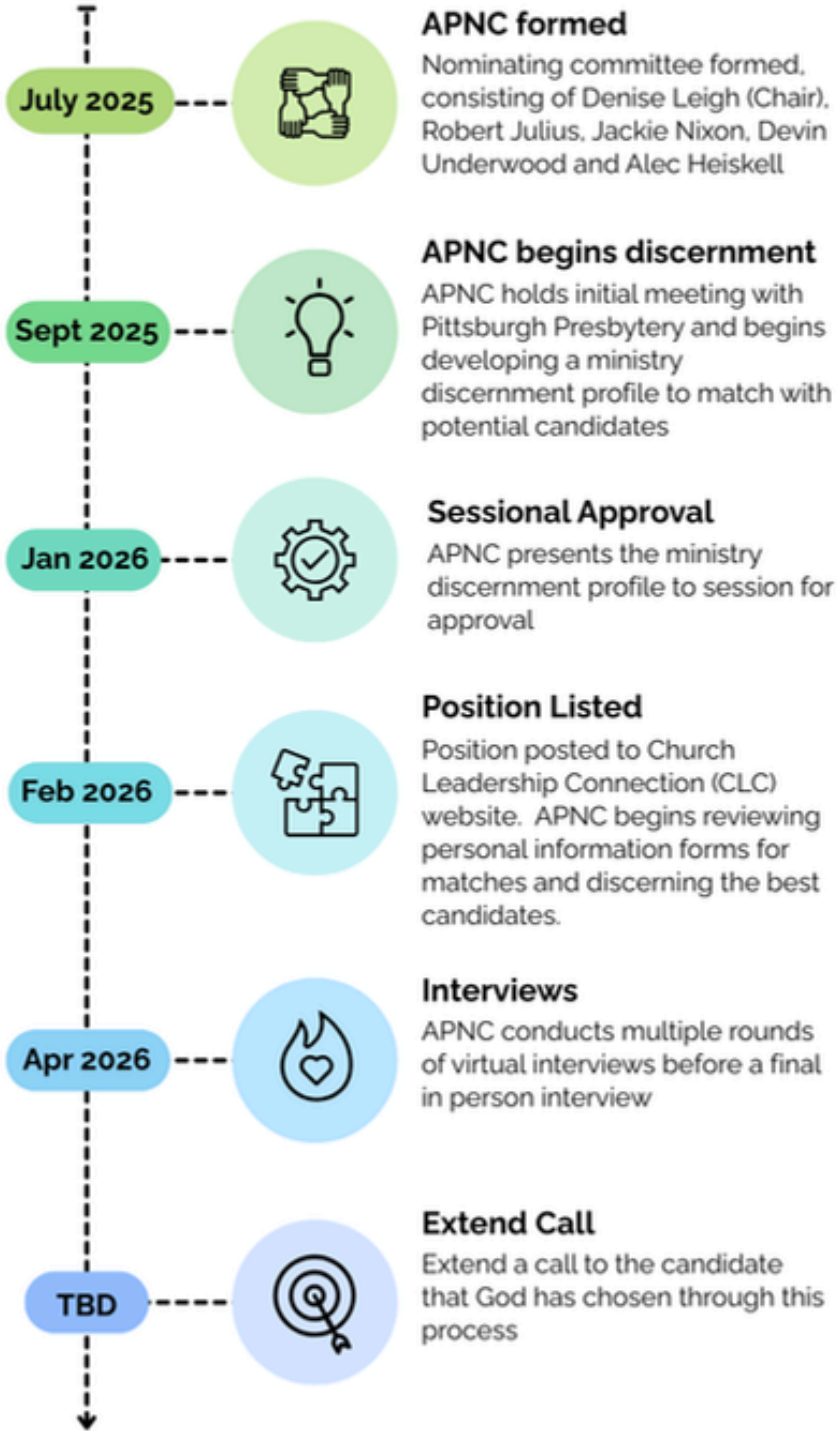


**FOR KIDS AGES 4 THROUGH
ENTERING 6TH GRADE**

Track the progress of the new Associate Pastor search! The Committee is working hard to ensure the process runs smoothly and efficiently.



Associate Pastor Calling



Golden Oldies

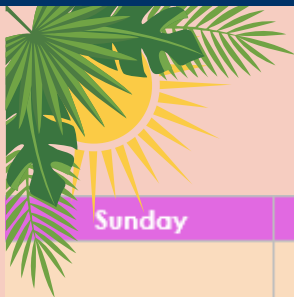
The Golden Oldies were visited by the South Fayette High School Choir. They enjoyed hearing the students sing American classics.



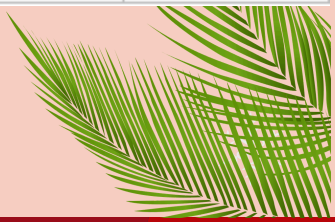
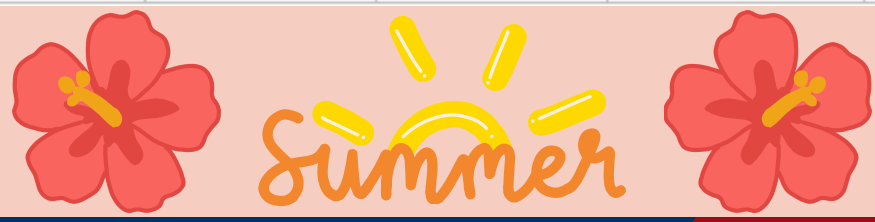
During the May 16th Food Bank distribution, 103 families were assisted which included 33 children, 74 adults and 79 elderly.



SUMMER



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	4:30PM – Body Carpenter Workout 6:30PM – Men’s Huddle	5PM – ALANON Anniversary Dinner	10AM – Fellowship of Prayer 11:30AM – Knitters 6:30PM – Troop 2	9AM – Quilters 12PM – Rotary 6:30PM – Bloom 7:30PM – AA		
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION at 8:15AM & 10AM	4:30PM – Body Carpenter Workout 6:30PM – Men’s Huddle	7PM – ALANON 6:45PM – Session Team Meetings	11:30AM – Knitters 6:30PM – Troop 2	9AM – Quilters 12PM – Rotary 6:30PM – Bloom 7:30PM – AA		11:00AM - Knitters
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
WORSHIP AT 8:15AM & 10AM 11AM - Church BBQ	VBS 9am - 12pm 4:30PM – Body Carpenter Workout 6:30PM – Men’s Huddle	VBS 9am - 12pm 7PM – ALANON 7PM - Deacons Meeting	VBS 9am - 12pm 11:30AM – Knitters	VBS 9am - 12pm 9AM – Quilters 12PM – Golden Oldies 7:30PM – AA	VBS 9am - 12pm	Bridgeville Day on the Avenue FOOD BANK
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Father’s Day WORSHIP AT 8:15AM & 10AM	4:30PM – Body Carpenter Workout 6:30PM – Men’s Huddle	7PM – ALANON 7PM – Session Meeting	11:30AM – Knitters 6:30PM - Diamond Dots and Devotions	9AM – Quilters 12PM – Rotary 6PM – Bloom and Café Bethany 7:30PM – AA		8:30AM - Annual Golf Outing DIAPER BANK 11:00AM - Knitters
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
7:30AM – BLOOD DRIVE WORSHIP AT 8:15AM & 10AM 11AM – Secret Sisters Luncheon	4:30PM – Body Carpenter Workout 6:30PM – Men’s Huddle	7PM – ALANON	10AM – Fellowship of Prayer 11:30AM – Knitters	9AM – Quilters 12PM – Rotary 6:30PM – Bloom 7:30PM – AA		INDEPENDENCE DAY



June Birthdays



06/02 Debra Grossi
 06/02 Gianna Ramous
 06/02 Stacey O'Connor
 06/03 Landon Muraco
 06/03 Emilee Quinn
 06/03 Sally Marra
 06/05 Patricia Browner
 06/05 Edgar Shaffer
 06/05 Matt Ryan
 06/06 Elaine Gray
 06/06 Sean Doty
 06/07 Thomas Unghajer
 06/07 Rachel Schinosi
 06/07 Erica Johnson
 06/08 Jeffrey Smith
 06/08 Angela Conley
 06/08 Brandon Edwards
 06/08 Charles Wolesslagle
 06/09 Carol Grendys
 06/09 Lisa Janssen
 06/09 Mark Morelock
 06/10 Makenzie Briggs

06/11 Landon Mendenhall
 06/11 Cara Salerno
 06/11 Robert Pulice
 06/11 Brenna Mours
 06/11 Hannah Paracca
 06/12 Christina Morse
 06/12 Charlotte Joesbury
 06/12 Andrea Prohaska
 06/13 Robert Krek
 06/13 Wayne McGinnis
 06/13 Lorenzo Talerico
 06/14 Asher Stark
 06/14 Donald Platt
 06/14 Paul Demnyan
 06/15 John Yanak
 06/15 Gavin Paracca
 06/15 Mary Jane Schafer
 06/16 Clare Bizzack
 06/16 Clayton Wilhelm
 06/17 Stella Paracca
 06/18 Lucinda Naples
 06/19 Edward Kopach
 06/19 Ashley Farabaugh
 06/20 Alexis-Marie Virginia Nell Walker

06/21 Rachel Sepuri
 06/21 Lauren Stark
 06/21 Madison Smith
 06/21 Darlene Shaffer
 06/22 Brittany Kikta
 06/23 Thomas Casciola
 06/24 Dolly McCrea
 06/24 Robert Sunderlin
 06/24 Kayla Cellone
 06/25 Kip Padgelek
 06/25 Luciana Romanelli
 06/25 Luca Romanelli
 06/25 Kimberly Gullo
 06/28 Taylor Knapp
 06/28 Courtney Ramous
 06/29 Connie Segeleon
 06/29 Christopher De Rose
 06/30 Patricia Slack
 06/30 Jonathan Miklavic
 06/30 Robert Julius
 06/30 Addison Gastgeb
 06/30 Debra Pyle



Happy Birthday!

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