



BETHANY ROAD

APRIL 2026

WHAT'S INSIDE



- PASTOR'S LETTER
- EASTER EVENTS
- FROM THE CROSS TO THE EMPTY TOMB
- RENOVATIONS
- VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION MONTH
- EDUNATIONS
- VBS
- THE HAVEN
- APRIL FUNNIES
- YOUNG LIFE
- THE HAVEN
- BETHANY YOUTH
- WEST VIRGINIA TRIP
- COMMUNITY OUTREACH
- HOMETOUCH CONNECTIONS
- SPRING FITNESS
- EASTER WORD SEARCH
- APRIL CHURCH CALENDAR

Church Family,

Easter is just a few days away, and we are in the middle of our brief Easter series, "Hope Is Alive". This series reminds us that Jesus and Christianity are not only about what was done in the past, they are about what Jesus is doing right now. He is still changing lives and making a difference in each of us every single day.

God is at work here in Mercer County. This begins with our mission: to serve the community, share the Gospel, and make disciples. Lives are transformed when people accept Jesus as Lord and Savior and come under His loving care.

As a church, we are prayerfully positioning ourselves, by God's grace, to be part of bringing the Gospel to Mercer. This happens in simple but powerful ways when we share the Gospel, provide food for those in need, or invite someone to join us for worship.

One unique way we are living out this mission is through the construction of our new welcome space. This space will be a place for fellowship, outreach, and discipleship, and a place where people can connect and grow. We believe it will strengthen our relationships within the church and expand our impact in the community.

Construction is well underway. The three back offices for Steve, Beverly, and myself are nearly complete. You can see the locations of these new offices in the layout on the following page. Carpet has been installed, and we are gradually moving in while the contractor finishes the final details. We are hopeful that the welcome space will be completed by June 14, just in time for VBS!

The committee is currently making decisions about flooring, colors, and furniture, and we are excited to see everything come together. We are also in the process of choosing a name for the new space and are still accepting suggestions. We will vote on a name later in May. If you would like to submit a name, please visit: <https://www.bethany-presbyterian.org/community-project>.

We also invite you to join us after church on May 17 as we pray over and dedicate this new space to the Lord. It will be a special time to ask God to use it as a tool to spread the Gospel throughout our community. More details will be shared soon.

In the entrance hallway, you'll notice a new progress graph showing our fundraising efforts. Our goal is to raise \$50,000 toward this project, with the total cost estimated between

(continued on page 2)

\$100,000 and \$125,000, including furnishings. Reaching this goal will allow us to complete the space while maintaining strong financial stability.

So far, we have raised around \$21,000, nearly halfway there! Would you prayerfully consider giving toward this project above your regular giving? Whether it's a monthly gift \$25, \$50, or \$75, or a one-time gift of \$500 or \$1,000, every contribution makes a difference. If you receive a tax return this season, you might also consider giving a portion toward this effort.

To give, please visit: <https://www.bethany-presbyterian.org/community-project>

Thank you for your prayers, excitement, and generosity, as we look ahead to all that God is going to do. God is moving and hope is alive!

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Bob

EASTER COMING EVENTS



PALM SUNDAY

March 27th 10:30am



EASTER WORSHIP

Family Service & Egg Hunt
April 5th 10:30am



EASTER BRUNCH

April 5th 9:30am



EGG HUNT

& Kid's Celebration
April 5th 10:30am



GOOD FRIDAY

April 3rd 6:00pm



Celebrate EASTER at Bethany

PALM SUNDAY 10:30am
GOOD FRIDAY 6:00pm
EASTER BRUNCH 9:30am
EASTER WORSHIP 10:30am
Family Service & Egg Hunt



YOUNGLIFE

Because of you and the generosity of other supporters, this past year has been full of moments where young people were seen, known, and loved:

89 kids experienced Young Life Summer Camp in 2025—where many students heard the gospel for the first time!

89 volunteer leaders were trained and equipped to walk with teens through life's highs and lows.

We welcomed Jocelyn Roth to our staff team, expanding our outreach at Slippery Rock University.

Through countless conversations, car rides, and shared laughter, kids heard the good news: they are deeply loved by Jesus!

This true story of two 7th grade girls in our community shows this so well. Sarah and Maria showed up at their first WyldLife Club, with no desire to hear about Jesus. Not only were they not interested, they made fun of the idea of church and Jesus the whole time. Disinterested and bored, they told their leader, Jessie, they didn't want to come to Club again.

Empowered by the Holy Spirit and the account of Jesus going after the lost sheep, their leader showed up at the middle school that week with the goal of finding Sarah and Maria. After finding them and talking a little bit about life, she convinced them to give WyldLife Club one more shot.

That night, they showed up! But once again started to joke about the idea of Jesus. Jessie asked if they understood the seriousness of what they were joking about, and began to tell them about who Jesus actually was, and the girls started to lean in. Jessie asked if they knew what the gospel was and they looked at her confused, so she got to share the gospel with them. After sharing, Maria burst into tears and said, "No one has ever talked to me about God like that before!"

Just minutes after this conversation, Jessie got up in front of the whole room of middle school students and shared about what it was like to commit to a relationship with Jesus. After the talk Jessie found Maria and Sarah and they both burst into tears, opening up about their struggle with depression and self harm. Jessie was able to listen to them and share God's love with them, and they were both eager to accept Jesus into their life! They did so and immediately felt lighter and visibly brighter!

When Sarah got home she texted Jessie that she threw away all the harmful substances she had, and asked if she could share about her story at Club the next week. Here is an excerpt of what Sarah said:

"I prayed a prayer that changed my life and gave my life to Jesus all because of my leader, Jessie. I will never forget how she made me feel seen, loved, and cared about. At first, it felt weird because I never thought anyone saw me how she did; she showed me that I'm important and not only important, that I mattered."

This is why our team continues to go: that more and more kids would know the hope and value that is found in Jesus alone. Praise God! Please join us at our upcoming fundraising banquet on Thursday, April 16th to hear more stories of how Young Life is making a difference in Mercer County and beyond! Text or call Jen Wamboldt at 724-813-3795 for more information or to sign up.

Jen Wamboldt
Area Office Administrator

(Young Life continued on Page 4)

Young Life Fundraising Banquet 2026 RSVP

It's time for our Annual Penn West Young Life Fundraising Banquet! This is an opportunity for adults in the community to learn more about Young Life and what it could look like to partner with us as we look to reach all kids in Mercer County and beyond. This is a free fundraising event (thanks to the generosity of our sponsors) and you will have an opportunity to partner with us at the end of the evening. We hope to see you on April 10th!

When: April 16, 2026
Time: 6:30-8:30PM
Where: Keystone Events Center
317 Erie St.
Grove City, PA 16127

If you cannot make it but would like to make a donation, you can do so here: giving.younglife.org/pennwestyounglifebanquet or send a check made out to Young Life to: Penn West Young Life, PO Box 382, Grove City, PA 16127

Text or call Jen Wamboldt at 724-813-3795 for more information or to sign up.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION MONTH

APRIL IS VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION MONTH

Volunteers are the quiet saints who show up when no one else does. They knock on doors, make phone calls, deliver meals, pass out food, send cards, offer communion, paint, visit shut-ins, clean up, cook, serve, sweep, watch kids, and so much more. Volunteers are not accessories to the ministry; they ARE the ministry. Even the most devoted servants need praise and encouragement. They need to hear some say, "You make a difference."

So as National Volunteer Week

approaches, let's pause to reflect on three simple truths: Volunteers are biblical, needed, and deserve to be celebrated.

HOW CAN WE RECONIZE OUR VOLUNTEERS IN MINISTRY?

Speak their names aloud. Take a few minutes to thank those who serve.

Write handwritten notes. A brief, heartfelt message can mean more than any plaque.

Tell their stories. Let their faith inspire others.

Pray for them publicly. Ask God to strengthen and sustain those

who serve. Give symbolic gifts...a candle (you bring light), a framed verse (Proverbs 11:25). The key is not the size of the gesture but its sincerity. Volunteers remember how they were made to feel.

A WORD TO THOSE WHO FEEL INVISIBLE

These are the ones who don't see their names on a program or plaque. If that's you, hear this: God see you.

You may feel small, unseen, overworked, underappreciated, but heaven keeps careful records. You matter!



The Value of Community Outreach

As we reported in our 2025 Annual Report, and at the Congregational Meeting in January, a “Client Survey” was handed out to all individuals who came to our food distribution day on February 28th at the Haven Food Pantry.

Just to refresh memories, through much prayer and discussion the Outreach Team developed and distributed this survey believing there might possibly be a lot more God is calling The Haven of Mercer to do above and beyond meeting food insecurity needs in our community. 58 surveys were handed out, and 35 surveys were filled out by our clients and handed back to our Haven volunteers when they picked up their food. There were nine (9) categories they could choose from, and clients were encouraged to choose as many as they were interested in. They were also told they did not have to fill out the survey to receive food. The following are the results of the 35 surveys handed in, in order of interest:

1. 19, both male and female, interested in “Cooking & Baking” classes
2. 15 interested in “Managing Your Money” classes, and 15 in “Job Search and Placement Services”
3. 11 interested in “Job Interview Preparation”
4. 9 interested in “Career Planning”, and 9 in the “Other” category (more details below)
5. 8 interested in “Resume & Cover Letter Preparation”, and 8 in “Tutoring (Reading, Math, Computers)”
6. 5 interested in “GED Preparation”

Honestly, we didn’t know what to expect when thinking about how many surveys we might actually receive. However, I think I can speak for the entire Outreach Team when I say we really didn’t expect the responses above! I guess it proves the old saying, “Be careful what you pray for”! The most amazing surprise was that 23 of the 35 clients who responded gave their names. Aside from it being God-ordained, there is only one word that can describe why that happened, **TRUST!**

Since the very first day the Haven Food Pantry opened in June 2024, each month our clients have witnessed and felt the sincere love of Jesus Christ flowing out of our volunteers who faithfully and joyfully serve the Mercer community month after month.

From those who pick up the food, to those who store and pack the food, to those who load the food in our client’s vehicles, to those who hand out our faith bags filled with all kinds of goodies, to our prayer team praying for those hurting and in need of a tender understanding voice, sharing the gospel and handing out bibles, to our traffic team who keep the traffic flow organized and moving.

These clients who willing chose to share their names with us, which was “optional” on the survey, did so I believe for one reason, and one reason only. We have earned their **trust** by serving without any hidden agendas and I also believe they feel our love for Jesus overflowing into their hearts and spirits. These kinds of relationships cannot be bought; they must be earned over time.

If done with a prayerful and discerning spirit, the value of community outreach can never be underestimated. *“With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible”* (Matt 19:26).

Circling back to the “Other” category, the following needs were submitted:

- knitting/crocheting/sewing classes
- basic vehicle maintenance classes or a garage that offers low-cost maintenance
- gardening/canning classes
- tax and retirement options classes
- basic construction/DIY classes
- a group for parents with neurodivergent (autism, dyslexia, ADHD) kids to meet and play
- help cleaning the house or getting rid of things
- a place to donate/receive clothing/shoes, etc.
- childcare evenings
- tax preparation
- reading aide
- spiritual guidance
- grief sharing group

As you can see, there are a wide range of needs that have been expressed! Needless to say, we are not currently in a position to meet all of these needs, however, we can start somewhere. We believe that “somewhere” is where we can meet the greatest need expressed, cooking and baking classes.

The Outreach Team Needs YOU! We are looking for several Bethany volunteers, with a passion for cooking and baking, to help us design a beginners Cooking & Baking program for 19 of our Haven Food Pantry clients (male & female) who have expressed an interest in learning to cook and bake. If God is “stirring” your heart to serve in this way, please call the church office with your contact information and one of the Outreach Team members will get back to you ASAP!

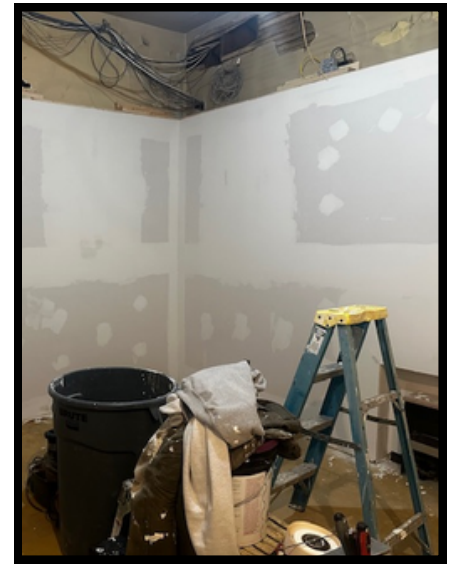
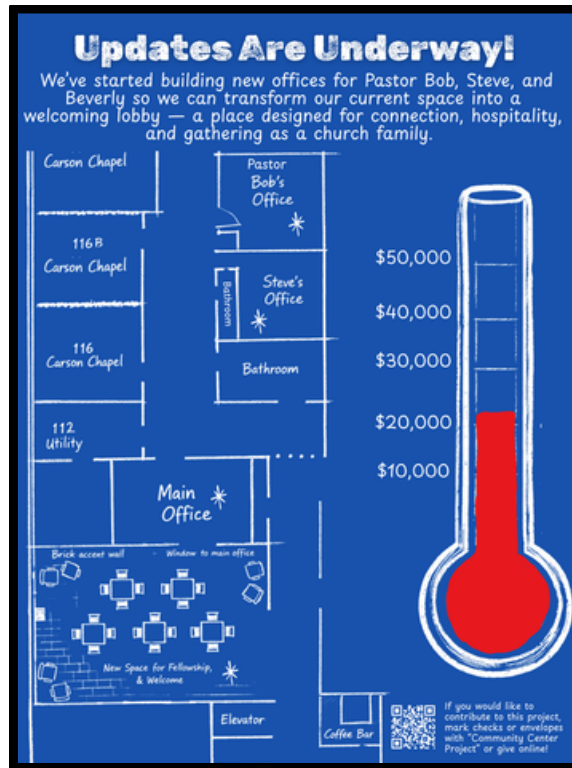
God willing, and volunteers are interested and available, we will also be planning classes on money management and designing classes that encompass all of the categories related to job readiness.

It is very important to remember that whatever we do **in** and **for** the Mercer community, it is merely a means to an end. The end goal is to “earn” an opportunity, built on **trust**, to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with all who are willing to listen. Bethany’s outreach events, regardless of what they look like and who initiates them, are intentional gateways to earning that opportunity to share the gospel as God opens the doors for us.

Thank you in advance for your consideration to serve our Mercer community with your God-given gifts and talents, skills and abilities.

To God be the glory and His will be done,
Your Bethany Outreach Team and The Haven of Mercer

Renovations are continuing for the new administration offices. Clearing out, cleaning up, removing wallpaper, painting, framing in, ripping out, installing new.... it's going to be awesome!



Main Office



Steve's Office



History Room



7 Ways to Honor God through a Healthy Lifestyle

As Spring is upon us, God calls you to honor him in every part of your life, including how you care for your health. Your generous Creator has given you your body and soul as a gift, and taking good care of them is an act of worship.

Caring for every part of your health is a meaningful way to live out your faith day by day. The best way to do so is to set up healthy lifestyle habits. Here are seven ways to honor God through a healthy lifestyle.

1. Make Rest a High Priority in Your Schedule

Rest isn't a luxury; it's a necessity and a biblical command. Many people are too busy – and stressed – regularly. That's not the way Jesus wants you to live. In Matthew 11:28, Jesus says: "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." Neglecting your rest can lead you to experience burnout, make you sick, and deplete you spiritually.

2. Build a Strong Community

God designed all people for community, so maintaining strong relationships is vital to a healthy lifestyle. Surrounding yourself with a supportive community of believers can encourage you to take good care of your health daily. Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 points out: "Two are better than one because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up."

3. Take Good Care of Your Emotional and Mental Well-Being

Your mental and emotional well-being is closely connected to your spiritual health.

One of the most powerful ways to develop a healthy mind and heart is by paying attention to the wonder of God's work around you every day. When you take time to enjoy nature – God's creation – you naturally experience God's wonder and feel awe as a result. Psalm 19:1-2 declares: "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands.

Day after day, they pour forth speech; night after night, they reveal knowledge." Guard your thoughts. Philippians 4:8 urges you: "Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable, if anything is excellent or praiseworthy, think about these things.

4. Eat Healthy Food

What you put into your body directly affects your ability to serve God and fulfill God's purpose for your life. Stay away from gluttony – overindulging when you eat and drink. Proverbs 23:20-21 warns: "Do not join those who drink too much wine or gorge themselves on meat, for drunkards and gluttons become poor, and drowsiness clothes them in rags." Moderation and self-control help you stay committed and disciplined as you try to honor God with your body day by day.

5. Exercise Regularly

Physical exercise is a powerful way to honor God by strengthening your body so you can use it well to fulfill God's purposes for your life. Strength is a blessing, and when you exercise through activities like walking, running, biking, playing a sport, or working out in a gym, you're preparing yourself to live a life of strong faith.

6. Avoid Harmful Habits and Addictions

Since putting harmful substances into your God-given body dishonors God, it's crucial to break unhealthy habits like smoking, vaping, excessive alcohol drinking, drug use, and consuming any other substance that harms your body. The Bible states in 1 Corinthians 10:31: "So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God."

7. Serve Others with Strength

One of the most powerful ways to honor God through a healthy lifestyle is by using your physical and mental strength to serve others. When you care for your body, you can fulfill God's callings on your life. Galatians 5:13 advises: "You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love." Strength is not just for your gain – it's a tool for ministry.

In conclusion, living a healthy lifestyle is an important way to honor God every single day. It helps you live the abundant life God intends for you – thriving yourself and serving God and others with faithfulness and strength. So, don't settle for living an unhealthy life in any way. Do whatever God leads you to do to align your lifestyle with his good plans for you!

by Whitney Hopler

BETHANY YOUTH

Hello Bethany Church Family!

February was cold and snowy as we had some wicked weather this month. Despite this nasty weather, we had some amazing things happen in our teens' lives this month.

Efraim Moeller starred as Zeus in the Grove City Middle School Theater's production of Hercules. He did a bang up job, definitely a two thumbs up performance!!! Karleigh Heckathorn scored a career high in Mercer's first playoff game this postseason! Daphne Fox attended Campaigner Weekend with YoungLife down in Pittsburgh, and I'm sure had a great weekend of worship and fellowship! Several others have been busy from Alex Mitchell and his Speech and Debate Tournaments to JJ Fedorchak having basketball tournaments to Jess Heckathorn getting ready for their production of High School Musical this April.

In our ministry, we have been plugging along in our "Heart of God" series during Youth Group and our "Crazy Love" series in Sunday School. On February and March 21st, we held an outreach game night at Common Grounds, with a total attendance of around 16 or so teens (only 7-8 were our teens) throughout our night there! To wrap up February, we took the teens down to Pittsburgh for Winter Jam, a touring night of faith, worship and fellowship, and spent the night at the church for another lock-in!

In March, we participated in Project 3:16 with Life Books Inc., trying to invade and go into the world and spread the Gospel by giving out as many Life Book tracks as possible! The teens did great giving a bunch of them away!

Please continue to pray for this ministry, the teens, and our schools! We are still looking for some extra volunteers! So if you feel like getting involved (even if its just once every other month), please reach out to me at any point! We'd love to get you involved!

Micah Wojnowski



Grief Support
A safe, supportive group for those walking through grief.

Starting April 14th 10:30am

Join us as we find comfort, healing, and hope together.

MEMBERSHIP CLASS
Take the Next Step!

**11:45AM APRIL 19TH &
APRIL 26TH**
(CHILDCARE PROVIDED)

BETHANY CHURCH IS SPONSORING A

Spaghetti Dinner FOR
PACK 83



APR
11

\$10/
meal

Pre-Pay
HERE



4-6
pm

Spaghetti and meatballs, salad and Italian bread.

Desserts available for purchase.

Bethany Church

100 W. Venango St Mercer, PA 16137

CASH OR CHECK MADE PAYABLE TO BETHANY CHURCH



FROM THE CROSS TO THE EMPTY TOMB

April invites us to slow down and look again at the center of our faith: the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. As we move through Holy Week and celebrate Resurrection Sunday, we are reminded that Christianity is not built on sentiment, but on a historical, life-altering reality.

On Good Friday, we remember the cross. It is there that Jesus bore the weight of our sin, shame, and separation from God. The cross was not an accident. It was not a tragic miscalculation. It was the deliberate plan of a loving Savior who declared, "It is finished." The debt was paid in full.

Then comes the joy of Easter morning. The stone was rolled away. The tomb was empty. Death was defeated. The resurrection is not merely a symbol of new beginnings; it is the guarantee of our living hope. Because He lives, we live. Because He conquered the grave, fear no longer has the final word.

April is also a season of visible renewal. The earth awakens. Trees bud. Flowers bloom. What looked dead begins to show signs of life again. Creation itself seems to echo the truth of the Gospel: new life follows surrender.

But resurrection power is not only something we celebrate once a year. It is something we are called to live in daily. The same Spirit who raised Christ from the dead empowers believers to walk in victory, forgiveness, courage, and love. That means:

We forgive when it would be easier to hold a grudge.

We hope when circumstances feel heavy. We serve

when no one is watching. We trust when we do not see the whole picture.

This month, let us examine our hearts. Is there something we need to lay at the foot of the cross? Is there an area where we need the power of resurrection to bring fresh life? April is an invitation to surrender and to believe again.

As a church family, may we not simply attend Easter services—may we encounter the risen Lord. Invite a neighbor. Bring a friend. Share the good news boldly. The message of the empty tomb is still transforming lives.

He is risen. He is risen indeed!

May this April fill your home with hope, your heart with peace, and your life with the joy that only the risen Christ can give.

THE HAVEN

At the start of the school year, we were excited to launch a food pantry within the high school—an important step in meeting students where they are. In addition, cinch bags filled with food were prepared and distributed to help sustain students over holiday breaks.

A key part of this effort has been the partnership with the high school nurse, whose compassion and insight have helped connect us with students and families in need. Many students already rely on her for essentials such as winter coats, socks, clothing, and hygiene items. Because of the welcoming environment she has created, students feel comfortable stopping by for snacks—and now, they also know they can access the pantry to pack a bag of food to take home as needed. Plans are already underway to expand the pantry into a dedicated space near her office, allowing this support to grow even further.

We are equally grateful for the incredible generosity of our community. The elementary school recently hosted a food drive, collecting over 500 shelf-stable items to help stock our shelves. In addition, Mercer Ace Hardware supported the Haven through a round-up campaign, inviting customers to round up their purchases to the nearest dollar. The response was overwhelming, and we are truly thankful for the meaningful contributions made through this initiative.

Together, these efforts are making a lasting impact in the lives of students and families in our community.



WEST VIRGINIA

Missions Trip



Join Us!!

June 20-27

Join area students (finishing 8th-12th Grade), adults, & families as they partner with Circleville Presbyterian Church and community in West Virginia to host an annual Vacation Bible School.

The Trip is open to anyone, no matter where you are in your journey with Jesus Christ. You will not be asked to be someone you are not, but you will be challenged in your faith as an individual, in your small groups, and as a team.

To better prepare yourself, please consider the following expectations:

- Regularly attend worship services at your church and be involved in Sunday School or a small group.
- Pray for yourself, team members, and people of the Circleville area.
- Attend training meetings: May 3 at noon (lunch provided) and June 1 & June 8 at 6:45 P.M. at Bethany Church.
- Complete the necessary “17 and under” or “18 and over” child protection clearances and training.

Cost is \$195 per student. Adults and families are not required to make the same financial commitment to the mission trip because of their own travel expenses. Scholarships are available. Please contact a leader if you are interested.

Registration and a \$50 deposit are due Sunday, April 12.

Mandatory Packing Session will be on Friday, June 19 at 7:00 P.M. at Bethany.

Contact Dan Cameron at 724-854-3052 with any questions.

(continued on next page)

WEST VIRGINIA MISSION TRIP NEWS

Circleville, West Virginia • June 20–27, 2026



A Brief History of the West Virginia Mission Trip

Bethany Church began traveling to Circleville, West Virginia in 1985, once we learned of a need in their community. Circleville Presbyterian Church, a small rural congregation in the Appalachian mountains was looking for support to provide a Bible School to the children of the area. From the beginning of this trip, the mission centered on teaching Vacation Bible School to the children, offering Bible lessons, crafts, music, and building relationships with local families.



From 1985: Marcia Kornbau, Patrick Allen, Steve Forrester, Sue Podlaski, Dave Allen, Amy Wamboldt Cameron, Matt Allen, Mimi Mattocks, Christine Dittrich, Julie Nan, Michelle Pears, Katie Allen, Sue Allen, Jay Kelso, Jesse Allen, Tom Finney, Todd Alexander

What started as a small group has grown into a multi-generational team that returns year after year. Through every season, the mission has stayed focused on:

- Sharing God's Word
- Strengthening the local church
- Serving with humility and love

A Mission trip for everyone!

- Our West Virginia Mission Trip is designed for teens, adults, and families. Whether you're new to missions or returning for your tenth year, there is a meaningful place for you on the team.

Typical Daily Schedule

- Yummy breakfast and devotions
- Pick up the WV kids in vans for Vacation Bible School
- Lead VBS and eat lunch with our new friends
- We can expect up to 100 children each VBS day!
- Take the children home in the vans
- Afternoon team activities
 - Prepare for the next day's VBS
 - Sight-seeing adventure
- Hot (delicious!) dinner Campfire,
- worship music & devotion

(continued on next page)

WV MISSION TRIP NEWS

Circleville, West Virginia • June 20–27, 2026

Where We Stay

Our home for the week is River Rock Hideaway Campground, a peaceful spot just a few miles from Circleville Presbyterian Church. Most of our team enjoys the classic mission-trip experience by staying in tents, campers, or pop-up trailers.

Prefer More Comfort?

We also have indoor lodging options for those who want a few more modern conveniences. These include:

- Bedrooms at the Church Manse
- A nearby local Airbnb with comfortable, home-style accommodations

These choices make the trip accessible for all ages and comfort levels, ensuring everyone can participate fully in the ministry.

How You Can Help – without going to WV

Prayer Support - Pray for the team, the children, and the community of Circleville, WV.

Supplies & Donations – Food donations are very helpful. A list will be coming soon!

Transportation:

- Pick up or return rental vans on 6/19 & 6/27
- Clean rental vans once we return home

Encouragement

- Write notes for team members
- Send homemade treats for the week

Local Support

- Help pack and organize supplies on 6/19.
- Assist with gathering, packing and prepping food prior to the trip. (Did you know we cook all our meals all week long?)

Upcoming Meetings & Training Sessions

Team Meeting #1 – Fill out paperwork

- Date: Sunday, May 3rd
- Time: 12:00 pm **Lunch will be provided.**
- Location: Bethany Church social room
- Overview of trip purpose, expectations, and introductions.

Team Meeting #2 & Team Meeting #3

- Dates: Monday, June 1st & Mon., June 8th
- Time: 6:45 pm
- Location: Bethany Church social room
- Focus on VBS roles, curriculum, packing reminders, etc.

Packing Day:

- Date: Friday, June 19th
- Time: 7:00pm
- Location: Bethany Church
- Bring your tote, sleeping bag, & camp chair. We will be packing all VBS supplies into the trailer.

Final Send-Off Gathering:

- Date: Saturday, June 20th
- Time: 8:30am
- Location: Bethany Church parking lot
- Prayer, commissioning, and final reminders

There are so many ways to use your gifts and talents on this trip. Your presence would make a real difference in Circleville. If you'd like to learn more about this wonderful mission trip opportunity, we'd love to talk with you! You can reach out to Nancy Thompson (724-977-1610) or Dan Cameron (724-854-3052) with any questions.

Registration forms and additional trip details are available in the Welcome Center. Plans are already underway, and we'd be thrilled to have you join us in Circleville.



Dear friends in Christ,

We are very near the end of Lent. Holy Week begins in a little over a week on Palm Sunday, March 29. The first Sunday in April is Easter Sunday, announcing to the world that new life is upon us. As we celebrate the resurrection of our risen Savior, all of nature seems to respond! It is April that announces the signs of Spring, and it is in April that the grass turns green, that buds sprout on the trees and that flowers really begin to bloom. The temperatures warm up, and people begin to move outside of their homes after a long winter hibernation.

Easter Sunday is the major ministry opportunity in April. Perhaps volunteer members of the church (beyond your own homebound ministry team) can be assigned to stop by the residences of homebound members, bringing a church worship bulletin, flowers, baked goods, Easter eggs and so on. Some people might enjoy visiting homebound friends on Saturday, April 4, to do some egg-coloring activities with them. You might mention that the colored eggs will be part of the Easter egg hunt for the children on Easter morning. They will enjoy helping.

God bless you in your Easter ministry!
Timothy Merrill, Senior Editor



April
FUNNIES

My wife said she wanted to go to a fancy restaurant where they make the food in front of you, so it was right after we got in line at Subway that the fight started!

I like to hold hands at the movies, which always seems to startle strangers.

I wonder if the person who coined the phrase "One Hit Wonder" ever came up with another?

All I'm saying is, at any point during that ride through the desert, he could have given that horse a name.

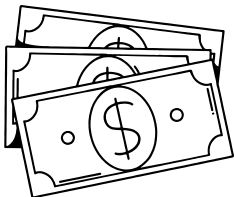
Financial Report

Through February 2026

Income \$74,254

Expenses \$72,539

Difference \$ 1,714



Welcome, Rev. Kandeh Koroma!

We are delighted to announce that Rev. Kandeh Koroma has joined EduNations as our Sierra Leone Country Director.

Rev. Koroma brings more than 23 years of experience serving with Christian organizations in Sierra Leone, including Great Commission Movement Sierra Leone, Scripture Union of Sierra Leone, and most recently World Vision International Sierra Leone, where he served as National Faith and Development Manager for seven years. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and History from Fourah Bay College, a Diploma in Theology, and a Master of Divinity, and is an ordained minister with the Assemblies of God Mission Sierra Leone. His leadership experience also includes serving as Principal of Zion Academy JSS in Bo, a school he helped pioneer.



"My sincere greetings to the board members, sponsors, and the entire EduNations family. I count it a blessed opportunity to serve alongside you in this noble Christian organization that is focused on children. By God's grace, I will serve with the best of my ability." Rev. Kandeh Koroma

EASTER WORD SEARCH

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

EARTHQUAKE

FINISHED

CALVARY

SCURGE

GARDEN

DONKEY

THIEF

TOMB

MARY

CAIAPHAS

GLORIFY

SAVIOR

SUPPER

CROSS

RISEN

ROMAN

ANGELS

SOLDIERS

EASTER

THORNS

JOSEPH

CROWN

NAILS

LENT

PALMS



APRIL 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 4:30 PM Scouts 6:00 PM Worship Band	2 7:30 AM Men's Breakfast 9:00 AM Morning Prayer 12:00 PM Rooted	3 6:00 P.M. Tenebrae Service	4
5 EASTER SUNDAY 9:30 AM Easter Brunch 10:30 AM Worship	6 6:30 PM Roman's Home Study	7 5:00 PM Christian Ed. 6:30 PM Missions Committee 6:30 PM Outreach Committee 6:30 PM Safety Team 7:00 PM Property	8 6:00 PM Worship Band 6:30 PM Military Prayer 7:00 PM Worship & Memorial Committee	9 9:00 AM Prayer 12:00 PM Rooted	10	11 4:00 P.M. Cub Scout Spaghetti Dinner
12 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Children's Service 10:30 AM Worship 6:00 PM Youth Group 6:00 PM Sunday Night Gathering	13 6:30 PM Personnel Committee	14	15 4:30 PM Scouts 6:00 PM Worship Band	16 9:00 AM Prayer 12:00 PM Rooted 6:00 PM Mom's Group 7:00 PM Finance Committee	17	18 8:30 AM Women's Brunch
19 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Children's Service 10:30 AM Worship 12:00 PM Membership Class 6:00 PM Youth Group 6:00 PM Sunday Night Gathering	20 6:30 PM Roman's Home Study	21 6:00 PM Cub Committee 7:30 PM Book Club	22 6:00 PM Worship Band	23 9:00 AM Prayer 12:00 PM Rooted 6:00 PM Session	24	25 10:00 AM The Haven
26 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Children's Service 10:30 AM Worship 12:00 PM Membership Class 6:00 PM Hymn Sing 6:00 PM Youth Group	27	28	29 4:30 PM Scouts 6:00 PM Worship Band	30 9:00 AM Prayer 12:00 PM Rooted		

Bethany Presbyterian Church

100 W. Venango Street

Mercer, PA 16137



Non-Profit Organization

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Mercer, PA 16137

PERMIT No. 39

Regular Office Hours: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M.

Phone: (724) 662-4340

Fax: 724-662-1080

Prayer Chain: bethanyprays@yahoo.com

Web: www.bethany-presbyterian.org



TO: or current resident

Elders and Deacons



Elders:

Dave Allen, Steve Amsler, Dan Cameron, Ken Knechtel, Gary McElfresh, Valerian Moeller, Earl Runcan, Bob White, Bill Woodman (Teaching Elder)

Deacons:

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

Bethany Staff



PASTOR
Dr. Bob White

VISITATION PASTOR
Bill Woodman

TREASURER
Kathleen Daley

CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR
Steve Amsler

FINANCIAL SEC.
Kim Watson

ADMINISTRATIVE ASST.
Beverly Crawford

PIANIST
Jane Deitrick

DIRECTOR OF STUDENT MINISTRIES
Micah Wojnowski

ORGANIST
Denny Horkey

DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES
Evelyn Dickinson