



BETHANY ROAD

NEWSLETTER

MAY 2023

MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Bethany Family,

By now you have probably noticed the rectangular space planned for the playground between the church and the Manse. This playground should be completed before Vacation Bible School. Thank your property committee and volunteers for making this happen! I think it is important to understand the purpose and vision behind this endeavor and talking about it in our newsletter is a great way to get the information out.

The playground will serve the Bethany Church family first and foremost. It will be a resource for events like Vacation Bible School. It will also be used on Sunday mornings during the warm months to help the children release their energy and help them stay focused on their Sunday morning lesson. It will be a resource for our church community. It will be a place for young families to take their kids. This playground is an investment in the families of our church.

The playground is also a practical statement by which Bethany proclaims its values. One high value is our children. When Interim Pastor Bob Stauffer surveyed the congregation a few years back, it was a consistent theme that he had discovered...

(con't. on p. 2)

Committee Meetings

- **Christian Ed.**
May 1 - 6:30 PM
- **Safety Team**
May 2 - 6:00 PM
- **Property**
May 2 - 7:00 PM
- **Missions**
May 2 - 6:30 PM
- **Outreach**
May 3 - 6:30 PM
- **Deacons**
May 7 - 11:45 AM
- **Personnel**
May 8 - 6:30 PM
- **Outreach**
May 9 - 6:30 PM
- **Worship**
May 10 - 7:00 PM
- **Finance**
May 18 - 7:00 PM
- **Session**
May 25 - 7:00 PM

NEW PLAYGROUND

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Bethany Church has a rich history of caring for family and youth throughout the Mercer area.

A playground is also a powerful statement to the broader Mercer community that we care about children. It's a statement that will bring a positive perspective of Bethany Church to people who might not specifically know us. We recently posted pictures of the playground on Facebook and the post "reached" over 3,000 people. Eight hundred people clicked on the post to read more about it and eighty people commented. Finally, it resulted in two new kids signing up for VBS!

The playground will bring opportunity for outreach. We plan to have public hours where people in the community are welcome to use the playground. It is the only playground in the downtown area and will attract attention and interest throughout the day. As a soft tool for outreach, we can have information about our church available at the playground with some seating for parents.



For those of us who are in the church throughout the day, it will generate opportunities to talk with parents as they bring their kids to the playground. Finally, it can be used as a tool to build relationships with people. For example, it is our intention to host play dates for kids and their parents from VBS. These play dates will be a bridge to build relationships between church members and non church members. In time, we believe it will result in having more VBS families come visit Bethany and stay at Bethany because they have built relationships here before they even attend a Sunday morning service. When strategically used, the playground will be a conduit for outreach opportunities, a symbol of our commitment to children, and a positive reminder of how Bethany Church is a blessing to the Mercer community.

Pastor Bob

EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS

*You're
Invited!*

Membership Class

9:15am to 10:15am
Sunday mornings
May 7th, 14th, & 21st

*FOR ANYONE WHO IS INTERESTED IN JOINING THE CHURCH OR
LEARNING MORE ABOUT WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE BELIEVE.*



STELLAR
SHINE JESUS' LIGHT

June 5-9th 9:00am-12pm

Children preschool-5th grade are invited to launch on a cosmic quest where they'll have a blast while shining like stars!

Register Today!



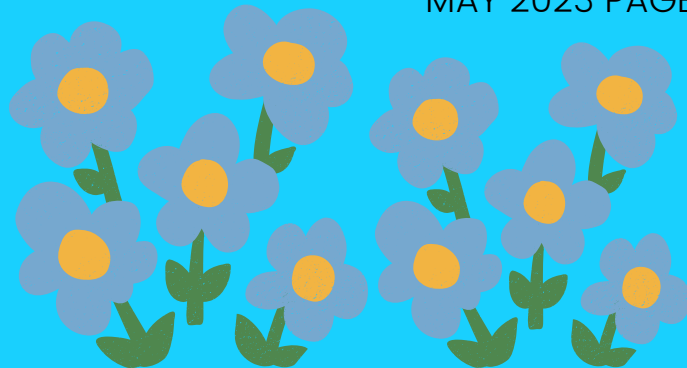
bethany-presbyterian.org/vacation-bible-school



MEN'S BREAKFAST

First Thursday
of the Month
7:30am





**WEST
VIRGINIA
MISSION
TRIP
JUNE 17-24**



The West Virginia Mission Trip will be teaching Bible School in Circleville, WV. The trip dates are June 17-24, 2023. We'd love to have you join us for the week or even a few days. We are still looking for teens and adults to help minister and share Jesus with our friends in West Virginia.

HELP NEEDED

**VAN DRIVERS
VAN CLEANERS
PRAYER WARRIORS
KITCHEN HELP
CLASSROOM HELP
CAMP HELP
FOOD DONATIONS**

**CONTACT
INFORMATION**

AMY CAMERON
724-854-3056



ITEMS NEEDED

**DAWN DISH SOAP
STORE COOKIES
BREAKFAST BARS
Fruit Snacks
CEREAL
SALAD DRESSINGS
PEANUT BUTTER
JELLY
PAM SPRAY
AA BATTERIES**

Financial Report

You will notice that our Finance Report is showing a budget deficit. This reason is that the Session approved a budget deficit for the year to fund several capital improvements and some other needs. The deficit will be covered by funds in our savings. There will probably be a deficit throughout the year.

January-March 2023

Income	\$ 98,563
Expenses	\$120,990
Difference	\$-22,428

Mom's Night

End of Year Celebration

May 18
6:00pm

M | MOPS
this is motherhood

WILLOW WOMEN'S CENTER IS MOVING TO HERMITAGE

CONTACT PAM MUEHLMAN FOR MORE INFORMATION

Save the

724-669-2589

October 4 & 5

Date

Annual Fund Raiser Events

2023



We have some exciting news...

We're moving to Hermitage!

Although construction has begun, we'd love to have you visit and pray over the future work of Willow and the new building. We can't wait to share what God has done!



We will soon have a new home at:

**295 N Kerrwood Drive Suite 106
Hermitage, PA 16148**

**Call Christylee for a tour
330.503.6512**

BETHANY WORD SEARCH

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

BETHANY BIBLE CHOIR DEACON

ELDER FAITH GROWTH LOVE

MUSICIANS NEWSLETTER PASTOR PLAYGROUND

PRAYER SALVATION SCHOOL SUNDAY

TEACHERS VACATION WORSHIP