



New Beginnings V. Doing the Right Thing

SUNDAY, JULY 26, 2026
10:00AM

WWW.BETHANYPRESBY.ORG/SERMONS

To trust in Jesus
To love like Jesus
To grow in Jesus
To bring others to Jesus

WORSHIP THE LORD

WE GATHER

PRELUDE

"Praeludium (Prelude and Fugue) in C Major, BUX WV137"

by Dietrich Buxtehude

WELCOME

Pastor Brian Janssen

CALL TO WORSHIP *(Please Stand)*

Carol Cowser

Come, all who seek the God who is faithful through every generation. Though our plans are uncertain and our paths often winding, God remains steadfast.

We come to worship the One whose faithfulness is greater than our failures and whose mercy is new every morning.

God meets us in seasons of waiting, in moments of disappointment, and in the ordinary work of daily life.

We trust that God is at work, even when we cannot yet see the whole story.

Blessed are those who walk in the ways of the Lord, finding joy not merely in what they possess, but in the God who provides.

We gather with grateful hearts to worship the Lord, who blesses our homes, our work, our relationships, and our future.

Let us worship God.

Let us worship the Lord with gladness and thanksgiving!

OPENING PRAYER

Carol Cowser

HYMN *(Please Stand)*

"Trust and Obey"

No. 443

1 When we walk with the Lord in the light of his Word, what a glory he sheds on our way! While we do his good will, he abides with us still,
and with all who will trust and obey.

Refrain: Trust and obey, for there's no other way to be happy in Jesus,
but to trust and obey.

2 Not a burden we bear, not a sorrow we share, but our toil he will richly repay;
not a grief or a loss, not a frown or a cross, but is blest if we trust and obey. [Refrain]

3 But we never can prove the delights of his love until all on the altar we lay;
for the favor he shows, for the joy he bestows, are for them who will trust and obey.
[Refrain]

4 Then in fellowship sweet we will sit at his feet, or we'll walk by his side in the way;
what he says we will do, where he sends we will go;
never fear, only trust and obey. [Refrain]

CALL TO CONFESSION (*Please be seated*)

Carol Cowser

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Carol Cowser

Merciful God, You have called us to walk in your ways, yet we often choose our own. We become impatient when life does not unfold according to our expectations. We seek control where you call us to trust. We have failed to honor those around us with kindness, honesty, and compassion. Too often we have measured success by what we gain rather than by the faithfulness with which we live. Forgive us for the ways we have wounded others through our words, our actions, and our neglect. Restore what sin has broken within us. Teach us to receive both joy and disappointment with confidence that you are still at work. Shape our lives so that our homes, our work, and our relationships bear witness to your grace. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Carol Cowser

Hear the good news: God's grace is never exhausted by our failures. The Lord who remains faithful through every generation does not abandon those who turn toward him. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven, restored, and invited to begin again. God's mercy is greater than our sin, and God's future is larger than our past. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!**

RESPONSE (*Please Stand*)

“Gloria Patri”

Public Domain | Bethany CCLI License 1761225 | Bethany Livestream License 20229965

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Carol Cowser

Since God has forgiven us in Christ. Let us be at peace with one another. The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all...**and also with you.**
The kids can come forward for the Children's Sermon as you all take a moment to share the peace of Christ with those around you.

WE LISTEN

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Abbie Gardner

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Carol Cowser

FIRST READING

Psalms 128

Carol Cowser

Happy is everyone who fears the Lord, who walks in his ways. You shall eat the fruit of the labor of your hands; you shall be happy, and it shall go well with you. Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your house; your children will be like olive shoots around your table. Thus shall the man be blessed who fears the Lord. The Lord bless you from Zion. May you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life. May you see your children's children. Peace be upon Israel!

SECOND READING**Genesis 29:15-28****Pastor Brian Janssen**

Then Laban said to Jacob, "Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?" Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. Leah's eyes were weak, but Rachel was graceful and beautiful. Jacob loved Rachel, so he said, "I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel." Laban said, "It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me." So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of his love for her. Then Jacob said to Laban, "Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed." So Laban gathered together all the people of the place and made a feast. But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob, and he went in to her. (Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid.) When morning came, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, "What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?" Laban said, "This is not done in our country—giving the younger before the firstborn. Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years." Jacob did so and completed her week; then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.**SERMON****New Beginnings V.
Doing the Right Thing****Pastor Brian Janssen****WE RESPOND****THE PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS****THE OFFERTORY****"Because of You, Lord"**
by Bonnie Hendershot**Soloist: Bonnie Hendershot****THE RESPONSE** (*Please Stand*) **"Doxology"**

Bethany CCLI License 1761225 | Bethany Livestream License 20229965

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; Amen.

THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION (*Please Stand*)**ANNOUNCEMENTS****PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

We pray this in the name of our Savior, who taught us to pray, saying... Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

WE ARE SENT

HYMN (*Please Stand*)

"I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"

No. 574

1 I'm gonna live so God can use me anytime and anywhere.
I'm gonna live so God can use me anytime and anywhere.

2 I'm gonna work so God can use me anytime and anywhere.
I'm gonna work so God can use me anytime and anywhere.

3 I'm gonna pray so God can use me anytime and anywhere.
I'm gonna pray so God can use me anytime and anywhere.

4 I'm gonna sing so God can use me anytime and anywhere.
I'm gonna sing so God can use me anytime and anywhere.

BENEDICTION

CLOSING RESPONSE

"Be With Us, Lord"

by Bonnie Hendershot

Soloist: Bonnie Hendershot

POSTLUDE

WELCOME TO BETHANY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

We are delighted to have you in worship with us this morning!

FOR OUR FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN - A Nursery Room is across the hall from the pulpit side of the Sanctuary. It is equipped with a speaker system from the sanctuary so any parent(s) who wishes to stay with their child(ren) in the nursery can hear the worship service. **A Cry Room** is at the rear of the Sanctuary – entry is through a door in the Narthex near the usher's table. *We encourage you to use these rooms as needed.* **Worship Bags** are available for children to use during the worship service. The bags can be found at the Usher's Desk. **Sound amplification devices** are available to those who might need or want to use them. Our ushers are available to help with any needs that you have during worship.

NEWS FOR THE BODY OF CHRIST

Today's ushers are Laura Dugan, Pat Mishizen, Deb Perkins, and Dale Anderson.

Creatives in the Chapel invite you to check out the displays in the Chapel if you haven't yet. We have exhibits from Tim Anderson and Sharon Salvini, as well as some of Joe Oyler's literature on display. What an awesome time of fellowship learning about their gifts of creativity!

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to Joyce Bartolomeo and family, on the passing of Joyce's beloved brother, Jim Wright, who joined the Church Triumphant on July 20, 2026.

A special thanks to Bonnie Hendershot for sharing her music with us in worship this morning; your music blesses our time in worship! This song has a special dedication that Bonnie wanted to share: "I wrote this song while I was away and I wasn't here when Lynne Suchoza passed, so I would like to dedicate this song to her memory. I know she will be listening."

Dear Bethany Family,

As many of you know, Lexi Brancadora has to move. This means that Friday, July 31, will be her final day serving on the staff of Bethany Presbyterian Church. Over the past year, Lexi has been a familiar face and welcoming presence in our church office, helping with communications, administrative tasks, and many of the day-to-day details that support the ministry of our congregation. We are grateful for the ways she has served Bethany and the relationships she has built during her time here.

As Lexi begins this next chapter, we want to thank her for her contributions to our church and wish her God's richest blessings in the days ahead. We pray that God will guide her steps, open new opportunities before her, and continue to use her gifts in meaningful ways. If you would like to share a card or a note of encouragement with Lexi, you are welcome to leave it with the church office or bring it with you this Sunday.

Please join us in thanking Lexi for her service and in praying for her as she begins this new season. As we continue through this transition please know that you can contact

the office in the same way you always have. Our wonderful staff will be making sure that all administrative needs for the church are being met.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Brian Janssen

PROGRAM AND EVENT NEWS

T-SHIRTS! – We have lots of Bethany T-Shirts left! Your choice of white, grey, and black are available in many various sizes for \$7! **They will still be on sale today in the Welcome Center!**

MUSIC MINISTRY SCHEDULES - This will be the last week for Choral Courtyard and Bell Tree Hour. It's been a beautiful way to start the day, thanks for joining us! Creatives in the Chapel will also have it's last session this week- please stop in to hear original music by our songbird, Bonnie Hendershot, and hear some stories about her music experiences and how God works through her creativity! Thank you to all of our participants this summer; it has been a BLESSING to spend time with you and learn more about your creative gifts!

PART-TIME POSITION - We are looking for a Part-Time Custodian! Interested applicants can email their resume to finance@bethanypresby.org. See our website for more details.

USHERS NEEDED – Ushers are needed for the summer months. If you are available, call or text Dale Anderson at 724-699-5631.

NEW BIBLE STUDY - What if Bible study felt less like a lecture and more like a conversation? Join us for Notes in the Margin, a welcoming, discussion-based Bible study where we explore Scripture, ask questions, and grow in faith together. Whether you're new to faith, returning after time away, or looking to deepen your walk with God, you're invited. **Bi-weekly meetings on Tuesdays, from 6:30 to 7:30PM!** Bring your Bible, your questions, and an open heart. No expertise required!

JOIN THE BETHANY AUDIO & VIDEO TEAM - Have you ever wondered how we operate our soundboard or record our services with video cameras? Volunteers are needed to support each service here at Bethany and we would love to have you join our audio & video tech team! This important ministry is another way to offer your God given talents to support the services and mission here at Bethany. No experience is necessary, we can teach you everything! Talk to any one of us after a service or Call or text Mike Segeleon at 412-389-0985 or email msegeleon@msn.com.

PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION – Preschool registration for the 2026/2027 school year is now open on our website! Contact Danielle Gioia at Gioia.preschool@gmail.com with any questions! We are so excited for the coming year!

DEBBY HAYES PLAY AND PRAY – Great news! From **June 28th through July 26th** all children can leave after the Children's Sermon and go to the Worship and Wonder room for **Play and Pray!**

WOMEN'S MINISTRY EVENT - Safety Seminar for all ages on **August 15th** from **2-4pm in Fellowship Hall**. Teenagers and up are all invited. This is a seminar only, not a self-defense class. It will cover situational awareness and de-escalation, physical and personal safety, parking lot safety, etc. Light appetizers will be served.

HARVEST STREET MISSION COLLECTION - The Mission Team will be collecting donated clothing items **in the Welcome Center** during **July and August** for Harvest Street Mission. Harvest Street Mission is a small non-profit that started organizing and providing for folks who live on the streets, in shelters or in low income housing with a focus on the North Side of Pittsburgh. The Mission is in need of "new" men's underwear, size Large and X-large. They are also needing men's/women's summer shirts (t-shirts/not undershirts) and other summer clothing that one would want to donate. These items can be used. A box for donations will be in the Welcome Center.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY - Bethany has a volunteer opportunity with Sojourner House on **Saturday, August 15th** from 9:30-noon. Sojourner House needs volunteers to help sort clothing. This opportunity is open to anyone 12 years and older, and will take place at one of their facilities (to be determined). Anyone who is interested in this opportunity should contact Karen Talerico at 412-913-3789 (call or text).

CHURCH PICNIC – Our annual Church Picnic will be **August 9th for our 10am service** at the picnic area at Fairview Park at the Rotary Pavilion followed by crafts and games! The picnic will be catered; however, we invite all our **Bethany Bakers** to bring your favorite dessert! Please call Ron Knapp at 412-526-5942 or sign up in the Welcome Center if you plan to bring a dessert!

BRIDGEVILLE BIRTHDAY - This year the BCA will help host a nine-day celebration.
- **July 26th** Softball tournament starts at 10 pm at Chartiers Park.

MISSION NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

CHURCH FINANCES AS OF JULY 19, 2026

Thank you for your continued support.

	2026 YTD (\$)	2025 YTD (\$)	+/- (\$)
Contributions*	\$ 307,963	\$ 302,650	\$ 5,314
General Fund Subsidies (Transfers)	214,610	208,832	5,778
Investment Income **	8,395	8,124	270
Total General Fund Income	\$ 530,968	\$ 519,606	\$11,362
Year to Date Budget	517,859		
+/- Budget	\$ 13,109		



*For purposes of this report, any prepaid pledges have been spread over 52 weeks.

** Investment income is updated monthly upon receipt of investment statements.

A friendly reminder from the Stewardship team, please write the amount of your giving on the outside of the envelope when turning in your offering. This helps make the job of those counting much easier.

QR Code
for online
giving

“Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms”. 1 Peter 4:10 calls us to action to share with others our God given talents and blessings. Let us receive His grace and strength so that we may glorify Him and serve generously.

July Special Offering – Adult Mission Trip

The special offering envelope for July supports all of the Adult Mission Trips approved by the mission team and Session. Online giver? Not receiving envelopes? You can still donate to this special offering either by selecting "Adult Mission Trip" in the online giving portal or noting that your donation is for the Adult Mission Fund on your check or a pew envelope. Thank you for your contribution to these incredible missions trip projects!

WEEK AHEAD

Sunday, July 26

8:15AM and 10:00AM – Worship

Monday, July 27

4:30PM - Body Carpenter Workout

6:30PM - Men’s Huddle Group

Tuesday, July 28

9:30AM - Choral Courtyard

11:00AM - Sacred Music Sampling –
Recording

6:30PM - Bible Study- Notes in the
Margin

7:00PM – ALANON

Wednesday, July 29

9:00AM - Bell Tree Hour

11:30AM – Knitters

Thursday, July 30

Golden Oldies Trip

9:00AM – Quilters

10:00AM - Creatives in the Chapel

12:00PM – Rotary

3:00PM - Adult Ukulele

6:30PM – Bloom at the Gazebo

7:30PM – AA

Friday, July 31

Saturday, August 1

Sunday, August 2

COMMUNION SUNDAY

8:15AM and 10:00AM – Worship