



Busti CHURCH OF GOD

Busti Beacon

Our Mission . . . To Honor Jesus With Our Lives

www.busticog.org

September 2025

Mark your Calendar

- 9/1** *Labor Day* (Church Office Closed)
- 9/7** Rejoicing Spirits at 4 PM
- 9/13** Women's Connection *Seeking God in Creation* at 2 PM
- 9/14** *Fall Back/Bring a Friend Sunday!*
- 9/16** Upward Evaluations 6-8 PM
- 9/18** Upward Evaluations 6-8 PM
- 9/24** *See You at the Pole*
- 9/27** *Busti Apple Festival* 10 AM—5 PM
- 9/28** *Busti Apple Festival* 10 AM—5 PM
- 9/30** Upward Evaluations 6-8 PM

Join us for worship at 9 & 11 AM Sundays.
Our 11 AM worship service is live-streamed
on our website, app, Facebook & YouTube.

Reminders

Rejoicing Spirits
Sunday, September 7

Women's Connection—Seeking God in Creation
Saturday, September 13

Fall Back/Bring a Friend Sunday!
Sunday, September 14

Upward Registration & Evaluations
September 16, 18 & 30

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Church Family,

I love the Old Testament book of Nehemiah! It tells the story of a man who had been exiled to Persia from his hometown of Jerusalem. We are told that he was the cupbearer for the King. In other words, he was the guy who protected the King by sampling his food and drink when it was delivered. That way, if something was poisoned, Nehemiah, and not the King, would die.

One day he received a message that the walls of Jerusalem had been destroyed. His heart broke. He prayed. He wept. And then he resolved to act.

But he knew couldn't do it alone. He would need help—more help than he could imagine. So he did something incredibly bold. Nehemiah walked into the presence of the most powerful man on earth—the king of Persia—and asked for three very personal favors.

First, he requested a leave of absence from his job as cupbearer.

Second, he asked for a military escort to protect him on the long and dangerous journey back to Jerusalem.

Third, he asked for timber from the king's forest to rebuild the gates that had been destroyed.

(Continued on page 2)

Offering & Attendance

Aug 3	General Fund	\$6,433.99*
(167)	Missions	808.10*
	Building Fund	220.00
	Uganda	64.37
	Facility Use	100.00
	Kids Min	15.00
	Gaither Tickets	78.44
	<u>Scholarship Fund</u>	<u>3,175.00</u>
	Total	\$10,894.90

Aug 10	General Fund	\$6,973.17*
(185)	Missions	808.10*
	Uganda	27.00
	Scholarship Fund	5,003.00
	Facility Use	150.00
	Gaither Tickets	197.66
	<u>Reimbursement</u>	<u>63.66</u>
	Total	\$13,222.20

Aug 17	General Fund	\$7,195.10*
(154)	Missions	808.10*
	<u>Scholarship Fund</u>	<u>50.00</u>
	Total	\$8,053.20

Aug 24	General Fund	\$11,013.08*
(173)	Missions	808.10*
	Building Fund	185.00
	Uganda	6.00
	Facility Use	66.00
	<u>Parking Lot</u>	<u>150,000.00</u>
	Total	\$162,078.18

*2025 Weekly Need is \$7,965.00
(General + Missions = Weekly Need)
YTD Weekly Fund: \$245,666.67
YTD Weekly Need: \$270,810

SUBSPASH®

You can give online at busticog.org or through our app. It's easy, fast, and secure. If you're able, we also encourage you to set up recurring giving. Thank you!
<https://subsplash.com/u/bustichurchofgod/give>



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(From the Pastor's desk continued...)

Each of these requests was risky. In those days, you didn't just stroll in and ask the king for personal favors—it could cost you your life. Nehemiah was swinging for the fences. And to everyone's surprise, the king said yes to all three requests.

Nehemiah didn't pat himself on the back for being persuasive. He didn't chalk it up to luck or coincidence. Instead, he gave all the credit to God:

"And because the gracious hand of my God was upon me, the king granted my requests." (Nehemiah 2:8)

I love that phrase: the gracious hand of my God was upon me. Nehemiah recognized that this was a supernatural provision.

And friends, that's still true for us today. When God's gracious hand moves in our lives—when He answers a prayer, provides in a surprising way, opens an unexpected door, or gives peace in the middle of chaos—we need to tell those stories.

I've found that when I humbly share a "God thing" with someone—whether it's how God provided for my family, gave me strength in a hard moment, or opened an opportunity—it softens hearts. It's hard to argue with a story. Often, I've seen the resistance of someone who doesn't yet believe begin to melt when they hear about the gracious hand of God at work.

That's why I want to encourage you to begin praying about who in your life you will invite to our "Bring a Friend Sunday" on September 14:

Be bold like Nehemiah was. Pray for God's favor, then tell your story of how God has blessed you through being a part of a church family. Share with a friend or neighbor how you've seen the gracious hand of God in your life.

Lift up God's reputation. Just like Nehemiah, point back to the One who makes all things possible.

Extend an invitation. Invite your friend to come with you and experience a community where God's gracious hand is still at work.

Let's walk into this season with faith, courage, and expectancy. Let's see how He will use your story, when you invite someone to come and see for themselves what God is doing.

See ya at church!

Pastor Roy

September Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 2 *Ryan Cobb*
- 3 *Phil Dole*
- 4 *Cleopha Dahlin*
- 6 *Leon & Kim Reed*
Dan & Joyce Schwob
Tim Anderson
- 8 *Eric & Denise Capron*
- 9 *Nicole Hall*
Milagro (DeJesus) Whitford
- 11 *Steve & Dianne French (54)*
Adria Cobb
- 12 *Rich Hartmann*
- 14 *Silas Juul*
- 15 *Carol Peterson*
- 17 *Astryd Anderson*
- 18 *Tim & Traci Whitmore*
Woody Stahl
- 19 *Evelyn Cobb*
- 20 *Woody & Jane Stahl (67)*
- 22 *Carrie Spence*
- 24 *Todd & Gail Boardman (42)*
Jon & Julie Davis (49)
Pat & Pam Mecusker (42)
Marcus Dahlin
- 26 *Denise Capron*



Labor Day
Monday, September 1

[Church Office Closed]



Fall Back / Bring a Friend Sunday September 14 @ 12:15 PM

Invite your friends and family to church! Then, following the 11 AM service, join us in the pavilion (weather permitting) for a pulled pork dinner from Farmer Brown's! Cost is \$12 per meal.

We'll enjoy a great time of food and fellowship together. But that's not all! We'll also take a moment to honor our 2025 Servant of the Year!

If you plan on attending, please sign up on the app or at the Welcome Table as soon as possible. Please let us know how many from your family will be attending and how many dinners you would like so we can place the order with Farmer Brown's. We look forward to this special occasion and hope you'll be there to enjoy it with us!



Schwob Barn Party—Sunday, August 31 @ 6 PM

We're closing out the summer with the annual barn party at the Schwob's house! Bring a dish to pass and a lawn chair. It'll be a great time with good music, good food, and even better company. The night ends with the Bergman Park fireworks show! For more info or to RSVP, go to the Schwob Barn Party 2025 Facebook event page.

[Rain Date: Monday, Sept 1]



Children's Ministry theme for September: ON THE MOVE Brave the Unknown With God

"When I'm afraid, I put my trust in you."
Psalm 56:3, NIV



COURAGE: Being brave enough to do hard things

KidZone Teaching Schedule

PK-2nd grade	3rd-6th grade
Sep 7: Dave & Vicky	Ashlynn & Pat
Sep 14: Pam & Shari	Hailey & Ashlyn
Sep 21: Dave & Vicky	Jon & Sandy
Sep 28: Mary & Keely	Jon & Sandy



Nursery Schedule

Sep 7: Kenzie & Cindy
Sep 14: Courtney & Bethany
Sep 21: Carrie & Janet
Sep 28: Holly & Makenzie



Youth Group is moving back to Friday nights!

Next meeting:
Sep 19

BCOG Youth

Fridays from 7 to 9 PM
(Grades 7-12)

It's back to school AND back to Friday Night Youth Group!! We had a super fun summer and made lots of good memories. Let's keep it going as we head into fall! Same time, same place, just a different night ;) We're excited to kick off the school year with a great Bible study series called, "CHOICES." Middle school and high school is basically a constant decision-making marathon, from "Do I hit snooze again?" to "Should I really eat that questionable cafeteria burrito?" And in between, students are making choices about friends, school, activities, and faith. This series teaches students how the decisions we make shape our lives and how to involve God in those decisions. Here are some of the truths we'll be learning about:

- Even small choices add up to big results
- The loudest voice in their life should be God's
- Their choices show the world who they really are
- It's never too late to make the right choice

Don't forget to follow us on Facebook (BCOG youth) or Instagram (bcog.youth)

September Youth Calendar:

Friday, 19th	Friday Night Youth Group @ BCOG, 7-9 PM "Back to School Party" Let's start the school year & Friday Nights off with a party at the Smith's house (46 Big Tree Sugar Grove Rd)!! We'll provide hot dogs, hamburgers, drinks, & smores. Please bring something sweet or snacky to share.
Friday, 26th	Friday Night Youth Group @ BCOG, 7-9 PM "Apple Nachos Night" We'll slice up the apples & have caramel sauce. Please bring something to top the apples with: candy, chocolate chips, nuts, fruit, other sweet sauces, cinnamon....anything you'd like!

October Youth Calendar:

Friday, 3rd	Friday Night Youth Group @ BCOG, 7-9 PM "Favorite Flannel Night!" Wear your fav flannel & get a gift when you get to youth group :)
Friday, 10th	No Youth Group (Scott & Danika's son is getting married!!)
Friday, 17th	Friday Night Youth Group @ BCOG, 7-9 PM "Cider Season" Cider donuts & apple cider, what a perfect pair, YUM! Don't miss out on this seasonal treat ;)
Friday, 24th	Friday Night Youth Group @ BCOG, 7-9 PM "Pumpkin Everything" Bring a treat or snack that is pumpkin-themed or flavored! We'll provide pumpkins for teams to carve & enter into our carving contest :) We'll provide the carving tools but start thinking now of a design or items you might want to bring to decorate & enhance your team's pumpkin!
Friday, 31st	Friday Night Youth Group @ BCOG, 7-9 PM "CLUE Costume Party" Come dressed as one of the CLUE characters & get a gift & be entered into the costume contest! Come dressed in the color of the character or go all out and surprise us ;) Prize for the most creative & best representation of character. Also, we'll play a live game of CLUE!! Invite a friend & join us for another super fun night at youth group ;)



Join a Small Group

Sundays during the 11 AM worship service—KidZone for kids PK-6th grade

2nd & 4th Mondays at 7 PM—
Women's Small Group at Sandie Kost's home. **(Sep 8 & 22)**

Prayer Group every other Monday
(Sep 8 & 22) at 11 AM at the church

Mondays 6-8 PM—God's Healing for the Hurting Women's Small Group led by Donne Sheldon at her home

Tuesdays at 6 PM—co-ed small group at the home of Chris & Pat Bohn

Wednesday Night Women at 6:30 PM at the church

Wednesday Night Men at 6:30 PM at the church

Thursdays at 11:30 AM—Ladies "Bring Your Own Lunch" small group at the church

Thursdays at 6:30 PM—Men's group focused on maintaining sexual purity & dealing with issues of sexual addiction. Meets at the church

Fridays from 7 to 9 PM—BCOG Youth (grades 7-12) at the church

**#FOR
CHQ**



**Women's Connection—
Seeking God in Creation
Saturday, September 13
@ 2 PM**

The ladies have reserved the pavilion at the John Luensman Overview Park in Portland, NY from 2-6 PM. They will introduce the Women's Connection 2025-2026 theme, enjoy a devotional,

and spend some time relaxing in God's creation. If you're in need of a peaceful, rejuvenating, inspiring day, then this is the event for you!

Ladies are encouraged to bring a blanket, yoga mat, or camp chair, as well as bug repellent, water, snacks, and comfy walking shoes. Weather permitting, the ladies plan on walking the trails on the property.

The carpool will be leaving from the BCOG parking lot, unless you arrange for your own group and travel. The park, located at 7844 Thayer Rd, Portland, NY 14716, is approximately 40 minutes away.

Check out the Women's Connection Facebook page for more information, to stay connected, and to discover other upcoming events!



**UPWARD
SPORTS**

2025-2026 Season

The 2025-2026 Upward Basketball season will soon be under way! Registration is open from now through October 2, with early bird pricing going through September 15. And this year, cheerleading is back!

Want to register your child for basketball or cheerleading? Follow this link:
<https://registration.upward.org/UPW88951>

Want to register as a volunteer? Follow this link: <https://registration.upward.org/UPW88951/volunteer>

Evaluations will be taking place in the BCOG gym on the following dates:

- Tuesday, September 16 @ 6-8 PM
- Thursday, September 18 @ 6-8 PM
- Tuesday, September 30 @ 6-8 PM
- Thursday, October 2 @ 6-8 PM

It takes a lot of volunteers to make this outreach program work. Can you help?



Monday, September 22
First Day of Autumn

PARKING LOT PROJECT



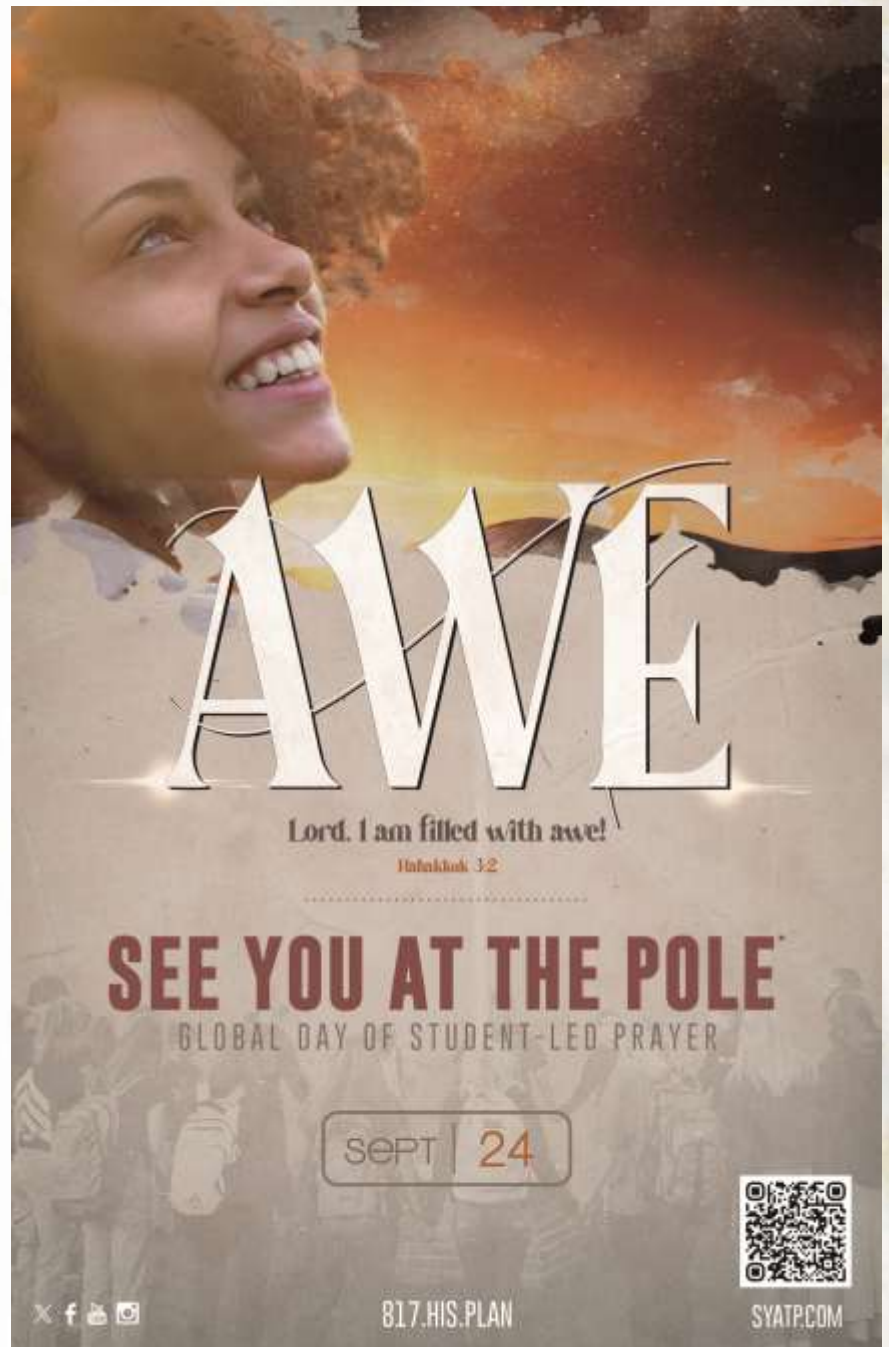
The church parking lot will be sealed and striped Labor Day week. Access to the church will be very limited. Thank you for understanding!



996 Forest Ave Ext
Jamestown, NY 14701
(716) 487-1636
www.busticog.org
Senior Pastor: Roy Ferguson
roy@busticog.org
Associate Pastor: Scott Smith
scott@busticog.org
Associate Pastor: Danika Smith
danika@busticog.org
Office: janelle@busticog.org

"Prayer is awe, intimacy, struggle—yet the way to reality. There is nothing more important, or harder, or richer, or more life-altering. There is absolutely nothing so great as prayer...To pray is to accept that we are, and always will be, wholly dependent on God for everything." —Tim Keller—

See You at the Pole 2025— September 24



See You at the Pole, the global day of student prayer, began in 1990 as a grass roots movement with ten students praying at their school. Decades later, millions pray on their campuses on the fourth Wednesday in September.

See You at the Pole is simply a prayer rally where students meet at the school flag pole before school to lift up their friends, families, teachers, school, and nation to God. *See You at the Pole* is a student-initiated, student-organized, and student-led event.



Pray for our Military

Garett Brown
Jared Crandall
Andrew Dalton
Jonathan Dalton
Luke DeBoer
David Jankowski
Matt Johnson
Zach LaVoice
Skyler Long
Michael Mahane
Zachery Miceli
Brent Miller
Alex Nelson
Logan Price
Charlynn Proctor-Burch
Lamonica Proctor-Burch
Shawn Reidy
Declan Roberts
Matt Rowley
Doug Sorensen
Clarissa Steel
Melissa Tubbs



You may email your prayer requests to the church at info@busticog.org or from our website: www.busticog.org or on our app. Let us know if you would like your request to be kept private or shared with the church family. For urgent prayer needs call the church office at 716-487-1636 or 716-488-1254 or Elaine Weaver at 716-763-1136.

Prayer Corner

"Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful."

Colossians 4:2

Fall is in the air. We start bracing ourselves for cold weather while enjoying the sight of all the glory of God in how he makes the leaves turn color for us at this time of year. It can be an exciting time of year for some of us and for others an absolute dread of what's to come. The one thing about it is that it's steady and always there every year. It makes me think of how steady and absolute it is every hour of the day to know that God is with us, no matter what the weather is or what is happening in our lives, good or bad! It's settling for us to feel that comfort in knowing Jesus!

I want to share something else that is comforting for me and hope it's comforting to you as well. I'm so grateful for people who pray for others. Our prayer team makes me so excited, proud, and happy to be in their presence every other Monday. We truly have a devoted small group who share, pray, and also have fun together! Yes, we can even laugh sometimes as we pray because it's fitting for whatever we're praying for. God loves to hear us laugh! I truly believe that. Imagine what HE must feel like when we're all doom and gloom all the time! He'd probably like to shake us and remind us of all our blessings in life. Even when everything feels desperate to us, take some time to remember the blessings!

As our school year starts, let's keep all our children who will be attending school or college in our prayers that they will learn good knowledge and always be safe! Pray with them. Especially at test time, pray before they head out to class. I'm positive it helps them be successful.

Our prayer team will be meeting on Mondays, Sept 8th and 22nd at 11 AM. You're always welcome to join us!

Elaine Weaver, Prayer Coordinator





Our 11 AM service is live-streamed on our app, website (www.busticog.org), YouTube and Facebook.



Have you heard about RightNow Media—The Netflix of Christian media? It has videos and studies for kids, youth and adults -and it's free! Text our keyword BUSTI to 49775 <https://app.rightnowmedia.org/join/bustichurchofgod> OR scan the QR code:



Download the Busti Church of God App



Whether attending in-person or online, fill out the Connect Card on our App each week and you will be entered into a monthly drawing for a \$50 gift certificate.

Did You Know...

... That Sunday, September 7, is Rejoicing Spirits at the church at 4 PM?

... That the BCOG Women's Connection will have a "Seeking God in creation" event at Luensman park on Saturday, September 13? See page 5 for more information.

... That "Bring a Friend Sunday" is September 14? We will have a picnic following the 11 AM service where we will announce the servant of the year! See page 3 for more information.

... That Upward registration and evaluations will be held on Sept. 16, 18, and 30 from 6-8 PM? See page 5 for more information.

... That the annual *See You at the Pole* event will be happening at local schools throughout our area? Please pray for our children as they begin a new school year! See page 6 for more information.

... That the Busti Apple Festival will be happening September 27-28 from 10 AM-5 PM?

... That Steve & Dianne French will celebrate their 54th wedding anniversary on September 11? Congratulations!

... That Woody & Jane Stahl will celebrate their 67th wedding anniversary on September 20? Wow!

... That Todd & Gail Boardman will celebrate their 42nd wedding anniversary on September 24? Well done!

... That Jon & Julie Davis will celebrate their 49th wedding anniversary on September 24? Congratulations!

... That Pat & Pam Mecusker will celebrate their 42nd wedding anniversary on September 24? Wow!

... That there is always something exciting happening around us if we'll take the time to look?

did you know?



Fall Back Into Bible Study with Your Gals!

The Wednesday night women's class invites you to join us as we dig into the topic of forgiveness. We'll use video and workbooks from Lysa TerKuerst to wrestle with the unpopular decision to

forgive when it hurts. Let us be your go-to in the middle of your week!

Order your copy of the "Forgiving What You Can't Forget Bible Study Guide" here: <https://www.amazon.com/dp/031014647X/>

Join us in room B2/B4 September 10 from 6:30-8 PM.



Worship With Us!

Sunday, September 7 at 4:00 PM

Specially designed to enrich the spiritual lives of people with **developmental disabilities**, their families, friends and other supportive community members.

So that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. -1 Cor 12:25



51st Annual Busti Apple Festival

Saturday, September 27

&

Sunday, September 28

10 AM to 5 PM

\$5 admission; children under 12 FREE
Come rain or shine!



September 2025

G*od time (every day)*

"But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you." Matthew 6:6

R*elational Connections (2-3 times per week)*

"As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another." Proverbs 27:17

O*utside Service (at least 1 hour per week)*

Jesus—*"I did not come to be served but to serve"* Matthew 20:28

W*orship (Weekly)*

"Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another--and all the more as you see the Day approaching." Hebrews 10:25

