

**Bethany Presbyterian Church**  
25 N. West End Ave.  
Lancaster, PA 17603  
**Phone: 717-393-2690**  
[www.lancasterbethany.org](http://www.lancasterbethany.org)

**January & February 2026**  
**Volume 28, Issue 1**



# News of Bethany



## Prayer Partners 2026

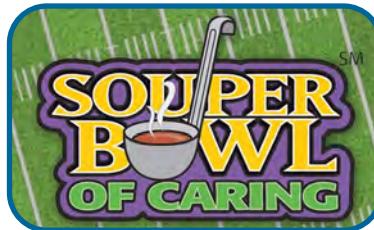
It's Time...to sign up to be a Prayer Partner in 2026. You may discover that participating in this meaningful ministry is just the blessing you need. Use the enclosed form on the last page to join or rejoin – fill it out and return it to Betty Duncan, 611 Fairview Dr, Lancaster, PA 17603 by the end of January. Questions? Call Betty at 717.393.9029.

**2025 Prayer Partners** - a reminder, it is time to share your identity with your prayer partner if you have not done so already.

**Mission Statement:**  
*Bethany Presbyterian Church is a church making an impact on the lives of all people through the love of Jesus Christ.*

## The Souper Bowl of Caring is Sunday, February 8, 2026

Again we ask for a suggested donation of \$2.00 and/or a canned good from each parishioner. Cash donations can be placed in a church pew envelope. Canned food donations can be placed in the grocery cart in the Fellowship area. Proceeds from the Souper Bowl of Caring benefit local food banks.



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**January & February 2026**

**New Year's Day**  
Thursday, January 1



**Epiphany**  
Tuesday, January 6

**Baptism of the Lord**  
Sunday, January 11

**MLK Day**  
Monday, January 19

**Groundhog Day**  
Monday, February 2



**Valentine's Day**  
Saturday, February 14

**President's Day**  
Monday, February 16

**Ash Wednesday**  
Wednesday, February 18

# Bethany News & Notes

## Scout Pancake Breakfast – February 7 & Scout Sunday - February 8

Scout Sunday will be held on Sunday, February 8 at 10am. Scouts from Troop 4 and Pack 4 will be participating and Scout families will be attending the church service. Scout Sunday is a time to recognize the contributions of young people and adults to Scouting. It is also a time for Scouts to thank Bethany for being our Chartered partner.



The day before on Saturday, February 7, enjoy a good breakfast of pancakes at the Troop 4 Pancake breakfast fundraiser from 8 am to 12 noon in Donegal Hall. See any Scout to purchase tickets ahead of time or you may purchase tickets at the door.



**2026 Per Capita:** The Per Capita amount for 2026 is \$39 per person. By paying your own Per Capita you save Bethany from taking the money out of the General Fund. Thank You!



1/11 Brett Cole  
1/17 Maurine Smith  
1/19 Kathryn Rine  
1/31 Wendy Miller

2/3 Linda Eckman  
2/7 Mitzi Menge  
2/14 David Paxson  
2/19 Michele DeBord  
2/20 Alicia Conklin-Wood

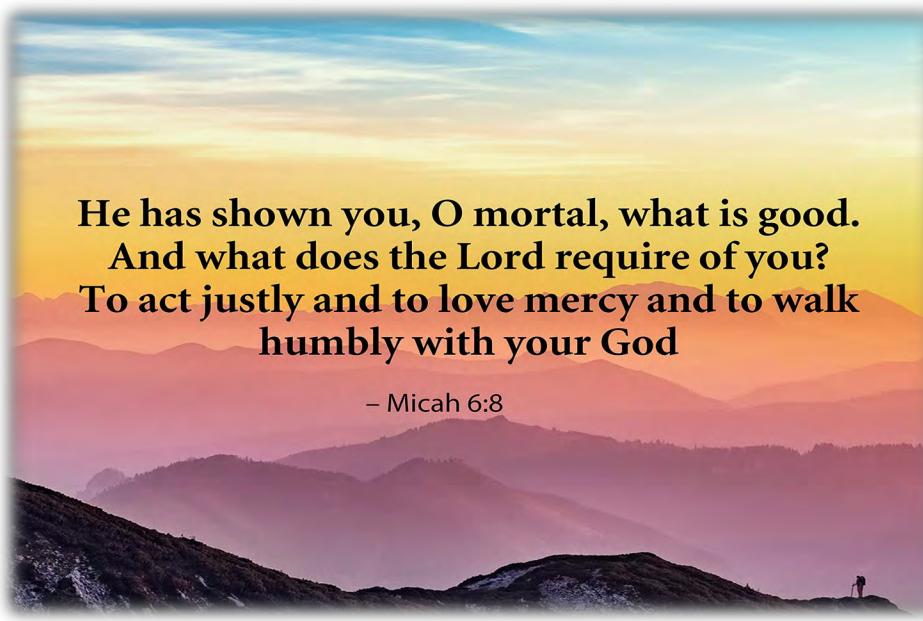


## FROM THE PASTOR'S STUDY

It appears we've been on a "wild ride" nationally and internationally since the start of the New Year! Rather than a "peaceful" month of January, we've been embroiled in a series of "national/international crisis." From Venezuela, to Minneapolis, to Greenland things have turned "upside-down!" This is disconcerting, especially since we are supposed to be celebrating our nation's 250th Anniversary this year! I trust that things will ultimately work themselves out and that we will have a celebration worthy of this auspicious occasion!

It seems like yesterday that we celebrated our 200th Anniversary! And here we are again, fifty years later! I've always been "Bullish-on-America." Sure, we've had our "ups-and-downs" over the years, but we've worked through them and moved on. That's the "genius" of the American Experience. By-and-large, we've had national leaders who honor our history and represent the best of America's values. They're not always perfect, but they try to do their best to make us all proud to be Americans!

I like to think that God still plays a "significant" role in our national life, as well. Our faith grounds us and gives us the wisdom to make decisions which work for the welfare of all our citizens. It may not be "fashionable" to say that anymore, but I firmly believe it! God is still in our land guiding, guarding, and directing our destiny.



**He has shown you, O mortal, what is good.  
And what does the Lord require of you?  
To act justly and to love mercy and to walk  
humbly with your God**

– Micah 6:8

As I indicated, things on the national and international stages have been out-of-kilter lately. Long-term international relationships have been upended and are in danger of being shattered completely. Major US cities are at risk of being torn-apart as ICE runs rampant over its citizens. **The God we worship and serve is a God of peace and justice. A God who protects**

**the least, the last, the lost, and the lonely in our midst!** I fervently and reverently pray that we can quickly come to our senses and be the nation which God guides, guards, and directs us to be! We claim to be "One Nation Under God," so let's live like we mean it!

Grace & Peace,

*Rev. Kent*

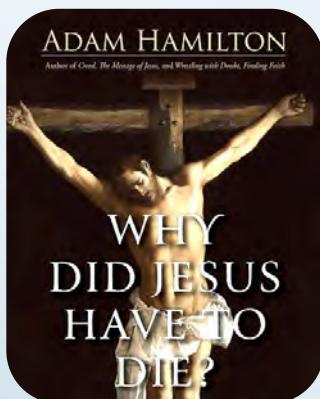
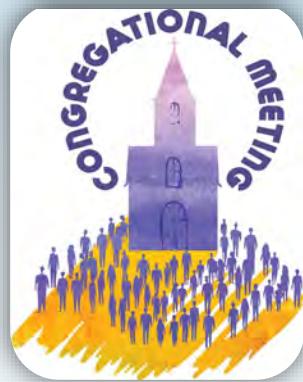
## Ash Wednesday: February 18, 2026 at Noon



We once again will celebrate Ash Wednesday with a "Service of Ashes" and a Light Lunch at Noon. Lunch will be provided, and The Rev. Dr. Erin Cox-Holmes will bring the message to send us on our Lenten Journey. Plan to join us for a time of fellowship and worship as we set our sights on Jerusalem and the Cross.

## Annual Congregational Meeting: Sunday, February 22

The 2026 Annual Congregational Meeting of Bethany Presbyterian Church will be held in the Sanctuary of Bethany Presbyterian Church on Sunday morning, February 22 immediately following Worship. This meeting offers us an opportunity as a congregation to review the Ministry and Mission for the year 2025 and receive our Annual Budget for 2026. We will also renew the Ordinations of our current Deacons and Elders, as well. Please plan to be present for this important meeting so we may have a Quorum present to conduct the business of the Corporation.



## 2026 Lenten Bible Study: Why Did Jesus Have to Die?

Please plan to join us for this year's "Wednesdays-at-Ten" Lenten Study, "Why Did Jesus Have to Die: The Meaning of the Crucifixion" by Adam Hamilton. Despite the crucifixion's central place in Christian faith, the New Testament offers few clear answers about how Jesus' death saves, or why, exactly, he had to die. The New Testament writers use a host of metaphors—ransom, sacrifice, reconciliation, victory—but never explain exactly how it works or why it had to happen this way.

This year's Lenten Study will begin on Wednesday, February 25 at 10 am in the Memorial Parlor. Copies of the book will be available on Sunday mornings in the Narthex. Plan now to join us for this Lenten Journey as we prepare our hearts and minds for the Easter Celebration.



**February 1, 2026 @ 10:00 a.m.**

**Fourth Sunday After Epiphany**

Preaching: Rev. Holmes

**February 8, 2026 @ 10:00 a.m.**

**Fifth Sunday After Epiphany**

Preaching: Rev. Holmes

**February 15, 2026 @ 10:00 a.m.**

**Sixth Sunday After Epiphany**

Preaching: Rev. Holmes

**February 18, 2026 @ 12 Noon**

**Ash Wednesday Service**

**February 22, 2026 @ 10:00 a.m.**

**Seventh Sunday After Epiphany**

Preaching: Rev. Holmes



	<b>February 1</b>	<b>February 8</b>	<b>February 15</b>	<b>February 22</b>
<b>Greeter &amp; Fellowship</b>	Eckman Family	Scout Sunday	Sylvia Doyle	Joyce Richards
<b>Ushers</b>	Eckman Family	Scout Sunday	Elaine Bornstein Jean Schwartz	Doug & Maurine Smith



# February 2026



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
February 1 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:30 A.M. Resurrection	February 2 <b>Groundhog Day</b> 6:30 P.M. Cub Scouts Westminster Hall	February 3 7:00 P.M. Troop Committee Mtg. Westminster Hall	February 4 10:00 A.M. Bible Study 8:00 P.M. Al Anon	February 5 7:00 P.M. Sense of Direction Westminster Hall	February 6 7:00 P.M. AA Donegal Hall 8:00 P.M. Al Anon	February 7 8:00 A.M.—12:00 P.M. Scout Pancake Breakfast
February 8 <b>Scout Sunday</b> 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:30 A.M. Resurrection	February 9 6:30 P.M. Cub Scouts Westminster Hall	February 10 6:45 P.M. Boy Scouts Donegal Hall	February 11 10:00 A.M. Bible Study 8:00 P.M. Al Anon	February 12 7:00 P.M. Sense of Direction Westminster Hall	February 13 7:00 P.M. AA Donegal Hall 8:00 P.M. Al Anon Parlor	February 14 <b>Valentine's Day</b>
February 15 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:30 A.M. Resurrection	February 16 <b>President's Day</b> 6:30 P.M. Cub Scouts Westminster Hall	February 17 6:45 P.M. Boy Scouts	February 18 10:00 A.M. Bible Study 8:00 P.M. Al Anon	February 19 7:00 P.M. Sense of Direction Westminster Hall	February 20 7:00 P.M. AA Donegal Hall 8:00 P.M. Al Anon Parlor	February 21 7:00 P.M. White Deer Run Westminster Hall
February 22 <b>Congregational Mtg.</b> 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:30 A.M. Resurrection	February 23 6:30 P.M. Cub Scouts Westminster Hall	February 24 6:45 P.M. Boy Scouts Donegal Hall	February 25 10:00 A.M. Bible Study 8:00 P.M. Al Anon	February 26 7:00 P.M. Sense of Direction Westminster Hall	February 27 7:00 P.M. AA Donegal Hall 8:00 P.M. Al Anon Parlor	February 28

# Bethany Prayer Partners



Prayer  
Partners

## Sign-up to be a Prayer Partner

*If you would like to participate in the ministry of being a prayer partner to a loved one here in our congregation, please sign-up on the sheet below and place it in the box in the Christian Education Hallway.*

*Being a Prayer Partner is such a rewarding and fun experience. Prayer Partners are asked to remember their "friend" in prayer. Prayer Partners also send remembrances by way of cards and notes for birthdays, anniversaries, special occasions, holidays, or illness. In addition, there may be ideas you may have of conveying kindness to your "friend". The fun part is that you sign all your cards and notes, "Your Prayer Partner from Bethany Presbyterian Church". At the end of one year at a gathering, you will be able to reveal who you are to your special "friend". Prayer Partners includes all members of Bethany Presbyterian Church both women and men alike.*

### Prayer Partner

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Favorite Scripture:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Favorite Color:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Birthday:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Favorite Holiday:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Special Interests/Hobbies:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Anniversary/Special Occasions:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Prayer Requests or concerns:** \_\_\_\_\_