



Session Highlights

Greetings Bethel Church family and friends!

The Presbyterian Church in America (PCA) is governed by various courts, in regular gradation, which are all, nevertheless, Presbyteries, as being composed exclusively of presbyters (BCO 10-1). These courts are church Sessions, Presbyteries, and the General Assembly (BCO 10-2).

Why quote the BCO (PCA Book of Church Order) here? You will see as you read on that we are planning for two stated meetings of our church courts – the 94th Stated Meeting of Fellowship Presbytery January 24th and the 53rd PCA General Assembly June 22nd–26th. Our Teaching Elders (Chris and Mark) attend, and we also send two Session representatives to each of these meetings to do the business of the church.

PCA church courts are the governing bodies in the Presbyterian Church in America functioning like judicial tribunals to handle church discipline, disputes, and governance, with a structure from local church Sessions up to the General Assembly, adhering to the Book of Church Order (BCO) and emphasizing biblical principles, mutual accountability, and restorative justice rather than secular penalties. These courts, including Sessions, Presbyteries, and the General Assembly, review cases through appeals or complaints, focusing on church unity and scriptural purity.

We have many church ministry and business items to attend to; however, our utmost calling as elders is to shepherd the flock. Please continue to pray for our shepherding elders as we seek to know and be known here at Bethel.

Now, for some highlights:

The Session of Bethel Presbyterian Church met on Sunday, January 11, 2026, at 2:40 PM in the FLC with Moderator, TE Chris D. Donnelly, for the monthly stated meeting.

The Session received the following reports:

Ethan Wallace, Deacon Chairman – provided the Deacons' report and reviewed the minutes of the

January 6, 2026, Deacons' meeting and reviewed the Financial Report dated December 31, 2025. RE Neil Allen and RE Larry Falls provided reports on their Elder shepherding activity. (Each Ruling Elder at Bethel has a list of members to shepherd). TE Chris Donnelly provided ministry reports from Assistant Pastor TE Mark Kozak, Ministry Intern Isak Siemens, and Young Adult Ministry Intern Matthew Clay. TE Chris Donnelly provided his Senior Pastor's Report. RE Neil Allen provided a report on the Phase 2 Building project.

The Session approved the following events:

The Bethel youth ski trip for February 6–7, 2026. The Bethel Super Bowl Party for February 8, 2026, at 6:00 pm at The Donnelly house. The Parents Night Out event February 7, 2026. The date change of the January Family Night from the 11th to the 25th. The Sacrament of Baptism of Scottie Blair Harvell on January 25, 2026, during morning worship, to be administered by TE Mark Kozak.

The Session approved these other items of church business:

The Session approved (to stay in compliance with the stated childcare policy) to include each week one elder serving as a third-party during Sunday school and morning worship in the education building, particularly in the infant/toddler area. The following additions/changes to the 2026 WIC Leadership Council–Beth Jackson, Treasurer; Johnna Griesman, Historian; and Brittany Neely, Child Care. Registering TE Chris Donnelly for the 53rd PCA General Assembly to be held in Louisville, Kentucky June 22–26, 2026. TE Chris Donnelly vacation dates–April 28–May 7, 2026. TE Chris Donnelly's study leave dates–February 22–28, 2026. Approved Carmel Contractor's Change Order number OCO-0001 totaling \$17,750. Appointed RE Bob Love and RE Neil Allen to represent BPC at the 94th Stated Meeting of Fellowship Presbytery scheduled for January 24, 2026, at Trinity Van Wyck.

As always, please do not hesitate to reach out to your shepherding elder if there are any questions, concerns, and most importantly any prayer requests.

In The Lamb,
Neil Allen
Clerk of Session

this week

Sunday's sermon:

Spiritual Midwifery

Exodus 1:1-22

Family Quest
1/25 at 5:00 pm

Youth
1/25 at 5:00 pm

GriefShare
1/27 at 1:00 pm

Men's Bible Study
1/28 at 6:00 am

Senior Citizens Lunch
1/28 at 12:00 pm

Mentors & Moms
1/29 at 9:30 am

events

Infant Nursery
Harper Harvell
and Lee Coble

Toddler Nursery
Jennifer Forrest and
Lindsay Hoffman

Worship Training
Amanda Brummett
and Savannah McCall

volunteer schedule