



Session Highlights

For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many. –Mark 10:45

Greetings, Bethel Church family and friends!

Just a brief Phase 2 Building update. We have finally received approval from York County regarding the reconfigured driveway on the cemetery side of the building. We've also reached agreement with the Fire Safety department on a hose reach issue on the back side of the Education building that came up during the plan review. Thank you, Paul Robinson, for your hard work getting that reach issue sorted out. This Wednesday, we started the grading work, which will be followed by new asphalt paving. This process will take approximately two weeks, depending on weather and material availability. So, we are one step closer to final inspections and receipt of our certificate of occupancy. Please note the work inside the building continues to solidly progress toward completion. Please continue to pray for our Phase 2 building project and give as the Lord provides.

Now, for some Session highlights (excerpts from our Session minutes):

The Officers of Bethel Presbyterian Church met Sunday, August 9, 2026, at 2:00 pm in the FLC conference room for our quarterly Stated Meeting. A quorum being present, the meeting was opened with prayer at 2:03 p.m. by RE Steve Linder, followed by a devotion from TE Donnelly from Mark 10:45.

With the absence of BPC Stated Clerk RE Allen, a clerk for this meeting was required. M/S/A RE Marsh to serve as the temporary Stated Clerk for this meeting.

DN Brackett reviewed the financial report dated July 31, 2026, and provided an update on the latest Diaconate discussions and projects. Both communications were received by the Session with thanks.

The following shepherding items were covered:

- RE Johnson & RE B. Love provided reports on their elder shepherding activity. Their reports were received by the Session with thanks.
- RE Linder & RE R. Love will report at the September 13 Stated Meeting.

DN Robinson provided a brief report on the Phase 2 Building project and presented Carmel Contractors' change order #5 for the project. A written copy of change order #5 is appended to the file copy of these minutes. M/S/A to accept the change order for \$31,766.08 as presented.

Having no other business to conduct jointly, the Joint Officer Meeting ended with a season of prayer for the flock. The next joint meeting is scheduled for Sunday, November 8, 2026.

The Deacons were dismissed, and the Elders continued in the meeting beginning at 3:15 pm.

At 3:30 pm, Ellia Ivette DeRousse, Ryan James DeFreitas, and Samuel Jacob DeFreitas joined the meeting for the purpose of interviewing for communing membership. Each one provided their personal testimonies, answered questions about their faith, and why they wanted to take part in the Lord's Supper. With their testimonies being well received, it was M/S/A to accept them into communing membership at Bethel. TE Donnelly posed the

membership questions from BCO 57-5 to Ellia, Ryan, and Sam, which they all answered affirmatively. The DeRousse and DeFreitas families were dismissed from the meeting with prayer by RE Reese, the DeFreitas' shepherding elder.

The following requests from the Children's Ministry Committee were reviewed:

- M/S/A and updated version of the 2026-27 Kids Quest Ministry Events and Calendar. This calendar is appended to the file copy of these Session minutes.

The following request from the Youth Ministry Committee were reviewed:

- M/A the fall 2026 ministry calendar.

The following requests from the Young Adult Ministry Committee were reviewed:

- M/A young adult community group meeting on the 2nd and 4th Sundays, starting September 13, 2026.

The following requests from the Women's Ministry were reviewed:

- M/S/A Mentors & Moms using *Moms of the Bible* by Rhonda Stoppe for fall 26/spring 2027.
- M/S/A WIC Circles using *No Empty Word: Confident and Compelled, A Study of 2 Corinthians* by Paula Miles for fall 26/spring 2027.

The following Ministry Staff reports were discussed:

- Ministry Intern Isak Siemens, Assistant Pastor TE Mark Kozak, and Senior Pastor TE Chris Donnelly

M/S/A to receive the Ministry Staff reports with thanks.

M/S/A for TE Donnelly to receive the following vacation days: August 13, 16, & 17, 2026.

RE Reese gave a report from his recent trip to participate in the Encuentro (Mexico City) Particularization Service. The Session received the report with thanks and commended RE Reese for his service.

The following New Business was discussed:

- M/S/A memorial service on Saturday, September 26, 2026, at 11:00 am at Bethel Cemetery for Major Charles Quinn Petty by the SOC to celebrate his birthday.
- M/S/A per BCO 24-10, to designate James Craig Adams as elder emeritus and Donald Mac Love as deacon emeritus per their request.
- M/S/A for TE Mark Kozak to be the permanent teacher of the Young Adult Sunday school class beginning immediately.
- Discussion about TE Donnelly providing Apologetics materials to be taught to BPC Sunday school classes (Life, Women's & Youth) that have not heard TE Kozak's material yet.
- Received an update from RE B. Love on the status of the timber agreement with Duke Energy on the land previously sold for a substation.

With no other business to conduct, M/S/A to adjourn at 4:58 pm. The meeting was closed with a season of prayer for the congregation and ministry of Bethel.

This concludes the Session Highlights. As always, please do not hesitate to reach out to your shepherding elder if there are any needs.

Blessings,
Neil Allen
Clerk of Session

this week

Sunday's sermon:

The Message and The Messengers

Exodus 3:15-22

events

Kids' Quest
8/16 at 5:00 pm

Youth
8/16 at 5:00 pm

Men's Bible Study
8/19 at 6:00 am

YLDG
8/21 at TBD

volunteer schedule

Infant Nursery
Meredith & Brenna Clinton
and Jane McCall

Toddler Nursery
Debra Kozak and
Cheri Jackson

Worship Training
Amanda Brummett
and Ilse Wallace