Session Highlights

"And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, 'All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." -Matthew 28:18-20

"You see, Jesus is telling us that we are to go and make disciples, and we can't make disciples, because disciples are not just people who have prayed prayers or signed cards or answered questions, or even joined their names to a membership roll in a local church. Disciples are people who believe what the Teacher believes, and they live what the Teacher has taught them to live. And I can't produce that in another human being. And you can't produce that in another human being. Only the Holy Spirit can produce that in another human being. A disciple is someone who trusts in Jesus, who believes what Jesus teaches, and who lives the way Jesus has called that person to live, and we cannot produce that. Only God the Holy Spirit can make our heart a suitable habitation for Jesus Christ. Only God the Holy Spirit can change a human heart." -TE Ligon Duncan, sermon title "The Mission" 2/19/2006

Greetings Bethel Church family and friends!

The final officer training session devotion scripture was Matthew 28, as noted above. It is certainly a good thing for us to pause and reflect on this familiar scripture from time to time. We should also ask ourselves if we are actually obeying the great commission. As we move into the new year we are committed to making disciples as we consider afresh the great commission and how we can be faithful and dependent on God to do the work.

Now for some Session highlights (excerpts from our minutes)**:**
The Officers of Bethel Presbyterian Church (BPC) had their regularly scheduled quarterly joint officers' meeting on Sunday, November 8, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. in the FLC conference room.
A quorum being present, the meeting was opened with prayer at 2:00 p.m. by DN Ethan Wallace.
RE Larry Falls led a devotion from Chapter 2 of Healthy Churches Grow.
M/S/A to receive RE Falls' devotion, with thanks.
M/S/A the docket was approved as amended.
DN Ethan Wallace provided Diaconate report and reviewed the minutes of their November 3rd meeting.
M/S/A to receive the Diaconate report, with thanks.
DN Ken Long reviewed the financial report dated October 31, 2026.
M/S/A to receive the financial report with thanks.
M/S/A to add 3 visitor parking spaces next to the police officer parking.

The following shepherding items were covered:
- RE Tim Marsh provided a report on his elder shepherding activity. M/S/A to receive his report, with thanks.
- RE Neil Allen provided a report on his elder shepherding activity. M/S/A to receive his report, with thanks.
- RE Larry Falls and RE Bob Love will report at the December Stated Meeting.
- RE Larry Falls provided an update on Phase 2 Punch List. M/S/A to receive his report, with thanks.

The following officer candidates were examined:
Chris Griesman was examined on his Christian experience, his personal character and family management, his devotional life and growth in sanctification, his knowledge of the Scriptures as well as the PCA Book of Church Order and affirmed he has sincerely received and adopted the Confession of Faith and Catechisms of this Church. Chris also affirmed his willingness to give assent to the questions required for ordination. M/S/A to put Chris' nomination before the congregation for election as Ruling Elder in the Class of 2030.

Neil Allen was examined on his Christian experience, his personal character and family management, his devotional life and growth in sanctification, his knowledge of the Scriptures as well as the PCA Book of Church Order and affirmed he has sincerely received and adopted the Confession of Faith and Catechisms of this Church. Neil also affirmed his willingness to give assent to the questions required for ordination. M/S/A to put Neil's nomination before the congregation for election as Ruling Elder in the Class of 2030.

Tom Cuffman was examined on his Christian experience, his personal character and family management, his devotional life and growth in sanctification, his knowledge of the Scriptures as well as the PCA Book of Church Order and affirmed he has sincerely received and adopted the Confession of Faith and Catechisms of this Church. Tom also affirmed his willingness to give assent to the questions required for ordination. M/S/A to put Tom's nomination before the congregation for election as Deacon in the Class of 2030.

The following minutes were approved:
- October 11, 2026, Stated Session Meeting as amended.

The following Discipleship Ministry items were covered:
Children:
- M/A to add books to the children's ministry library. A copy of the list of books added is appended to the file copy of these Session minutes.
- M/A to hold a Parents Night Out held on February 13, 2027.
- M/A to approve Ridge Haven dates of July 12-17, 2027.

Youth:
- M/A to approve RYM Florida dates of July 13–18, 2027.
- M/A to approve Youth Ski Trip January 3–4, 2027.

Women:
- M/A to approve January 17, 2027, for the Annual WIC General Meeting.

The Session received the following Ministry Staff Updates:
- M/S/A to receive the Youth Ministry Intern's Report, with thanks. A copy of the report is appended to the file copy of these Session minutes.
- M/S/A to approve Isak filling the pulpit at Temple Presbyterian Clover November 15, 2026.
- M/S/A to give the TE Mark Kozak the privilege of the floor.
- M/S/A to receive the Assistant Pastor's Report, with thanks. A copy of the report is appended to the file copy of these Session minutes.
- M/S/A to approve the Senior Pastor's Report, with thanks. A copy of the report is appended to the file copy of these Session minutes.

New Business:
- M/S/A to ratify email of October 20, 2026, proposing Rebecca Wallace to serve as the 2027 MNA/MTW WIC Board member.
- RE Ross Love presented the results of TE Kozak's performance review. M/S/A to receive the report, with thanks.
- M/S/A to table the discussion regarding TE Kozak purchasing a private home in the area.

With no other business to conduct, M/S/A to adjourn at 4:50 pm. The meeting was closed in prayer by RE Tim Marsh.

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 King's Family Tree: Part 2

Matthew 1:1-17

events

Kids' Quest
11/22 at 5:00 pm

Youth
11/22 at 5:00 pm

volunteer schedule

Infant Nursery
Cathy Robinson and Abby Chidester

Toddler Nursery
Savannah McCall and Judi Love

Worship Training
Kristine DeRousse and Peggy Long