

MAILING ADDRESS:

Bern Evangelical Lutheran Church 820 West Leesport Road Leesport, PA 19533 Phone: 610-374-4343 / Fax: 610-374-1014 Email: <u>bernlutheranchurch@gmail.com</u> Website: <u>www.bernchurch.org</u> Facebook Page: <u>https://www.facebook.com/Bern-</u> Lutheran-Church-103625754955228

WORSHIP:

In-Sanctuary Worship on Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

MINISTERS: ALL THE MEMBERS EVERYDAY

PARISH SECRETARY:

Korinne Hotzman, 610-790-7195 (cell) Office Hours: Tuesday 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Wednesday 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Thursday 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

MUSIC DIRECTOR:

Jane Battaglieri, Phone: 610-370-0965

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Michael Braucher, President Richard Gruber, Vice President Theresa Shurr, Secretary Pat Yocum, Financial Secretary David Hartman, Treasurer Jane Battaglieri Christopher Becker Matthew Kasisky Linda Lash Dianne Leininger Erin Readinger

BUILDING PRINCIPLES:

- Devotion to Jesus as Lord and Savior
- Compassionate Sharing and Community Service
- Persistent Faithfulness
- Courageous Witness
- Flexible Leadership

<u>PURPOSE STATEMENT</u>:

God's purpose for our congregation is to: <u>Learn</u> God's mission <u>Share</u> God's love <u>Witness</u> through Word and Service <u>Welcome</u> all to a fellowship of forgiveness and thankful praise

BERN BUGLE NEWSLETTER SPONSOR

The *Bern Bugle* for October is given to the Glory of God in appreciation of our church family by the Schuler's.

COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The following discussions took place and decisions made at our council meeting on Monday, September 18th:

- A Thankoffering will be taken on Sunday, November 5, 12, and 19 to collect money to supply clothing for underprivileged children in Berks County.
- B&B Integrations is scheduling a walk-through for the new sound system installation. A motion was also made to add a recording and playback component to the system.
- Our Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, November 19, 2023.

OUR NEXT COUNCIL MEETING will be on Monday, October 16th at 7:00 p.m.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Articles for the November *Bern Bugle* are due by **Tuesday, October 17th.**

FOOD & FAITH

Epler's UCC will be holding their Food & Faith worship service on **Friday**, **October 6**, with a fellowship meal at 6:00 p.m. The worship service will begin at 7:00 p.m. The special guest speaker will be Rev. Zack Jackson who will be talking about Harvesting Hope: Celebrating Halloween's Christian Roots and Triumph over Darkness. Kathryn Mogel will be providing special music on her violin. Come out for an evening of worship and fellowship.

OUR DESIGNATED PASTOR, Gary Rarick,

will be on vacation from Saturday, October 7 through Friday, October 13. Pastor Fran Merkel will be covering for Pastor Rarick. If you would need pastoral care during this time, please contact Terri Shurr at 610-372-7229.

SECRETARY KORINNE VACATION

Korinne will be on vacation from Monday, October 9 until Friday, October 13. She will be back in the office on Tuesday, October 17. Phone messages and emails will be checked regularly. If you would need immediate assistance, please contact Terri Shurr at 610-372-7229. Thank you!

CHICKEN POT PIE DINNER

Epler's UCC will be holding a take-out only Chicken Pot Pie Dinner on **Saturday, October 14.** Pick-up time from 4:00-6:00 p.m. **Pre-orders are required**. To place an order online go to <u>www.eplerschurch.org</u> or call Judy at 610-926-1753. Please see the flyer on the bulletin for the items available for purchase.

FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTION

Bern Lutheran Church is scheduled to help at the next food pantry distribution on **Saturday, October 21, at 7:30 a.m.** at Lutheran Church of the Holy Trinity, 102 Apple Street, Leesport. If you are able to participate, please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board in the hallway. See Doug Myers, our liaison for the food pantry, for more information.

FALL CLOTHING DRIVE

Our clothing drive is off to a great start! Hope Rescue Mission just recently opened their Lighthouse Women and Children's Center and is looking for donations of clothing, especially with the children returning to school this year. We will be collecting gently-used men's, women's, and children's clothing until **Sunday, October 22**. Rob Turchi, CEO of Hope Rescue Mission, will be leading our worship service on that Sunday. Thank you for your support!

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION LUNCHEON RESERVATION FORM

After our worship service on Sunday, November 12, we are going to continue our celebration with a catered luncheon. Bern Church has graciously offered to pay for all expenses related to the luncheon. If you would like to join us for lunch afterward, please fill out the enclosed reservation form so we can give the caterer an accurate count of how many will be attending. You can also call the church office at 610-374-4343 or email us at bernlutheranchurch@gmail.com. The reservation deadline is Sunday, October 29. Thank you!

"Faith is not a once-done act but a continuous gaze of the heart at the Triune God."

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

Would you be interested and willing to serve as a Communion Assistant on Sunday morning when we have communion? If so, please see Terri Shurr.

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

We will be taking orders for wreaths to remember our military veterans. The laying of the wreaths will take place on Saturday, December 16th. A service will take place before the laying of the wreaths at 1:00 p.m. at Bern UCC. Please come into the church building at 1:00 p.m. for the service and your assignments. If you are interested in helping to lay the wreaths, contact Barry Shurr at 610-372-7229. See the order form included in this newsletter for more details and to place your order. **The deadline for orders is Friday, December 1st**.

CATECHETICAL CLASS AND ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

Below is the schedule for our Confirmation classes and the acolytes scheduled for the month of October:

Acolvte

October 1 – Class	Aiden Angstadt
October 8 – NO CLASS	Hannah Lash
October 15 – Class	Derian Readinger
October 22 – Class	Jameson Kasisky
October 29 – Class	Aiden Angstadt

JOY IN THE WORD OF GOD

Oh! how great and glorious a thing it is to have before one the Word of God! With that we may at all times feel joyous and secure; we need never be in want of consolation, for we see before us, in all its brightness, the pure and right way. He who loses sight of the Word of God, falls into despair; the voice of heaven no longer sustains him; he follows only the disorderly tendency of his heart, and of world vanity, which lead him on to his destruction.

—The Table Talk of Martin Luther





Starting this October, three of our Synod leaders will be hitting the road to visit, listen and talk with all 243 congregations and their leaders across the Northeastern PA Synod. **Bishop Christopher deForest, Synod Vice President Nancy Reichelt, and Deacon Kat Tigerman, our Director for Evangelical Mission**, will be traveling to 19 different locations on Monday afternoons and evenings giving every congregation an opportunity to sit down together and share who they are, what they do, challenges we face, and ideas for thriving and serving together in Christ.

This synod-wide tour will give an opportunity for synod leaders and members to build new connections and understanding. Both Vice President Nancy Reichelt and Deacon Kat Tigerman are new to their positions, and Bishop deForest who took office in 2021, at the height of COVID-19, is looking forward to getting out and meeting folks in a way that was not possible during the pandemic. Another blessing of these visits is to illustrate the different leadership roles in our church and how they work together to serve.

The plan is to meet Monday evenings with lay persons. Congregations will be grouped geographically, 6 to 12 congregations at a time. Each congregation will be invited to send 3 or 4 lay persons to represent them in the evening conversation, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. The meetings will be hosted by one of the congregations in each group.

Invitations are going out now, to clergy and to congregational leaders across the Northeastern PA Synod.

More details to follow at a later date.

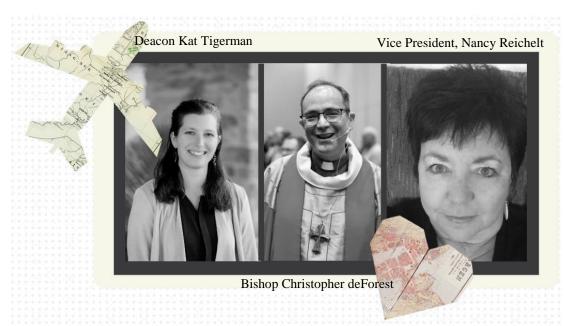






GROWING YOUNG GAINING STRENGTH

BEYOND DEATH TO LIFE





(* Denotes 80 years young)

- 4 Brenda Reichart
- 5 David Haas
- 6 Jennifer Noecker
- 9 Kate Schuler
- 11 Andrew Lash
- 12 YuYun Greener *
- 12 Michael Knabb
- 14 Evelyn Drobnick *
- 15 Abigail Angstadt
- 19 Nancy Schoener *
- 19 Doris Supplee *
- 22 Emily Starr
- 24 Bonnie Eiche
- 27 Christine Gruber
- 31 Janet Leh *



- 14 Mark and Tara Lash (28 years)
- 15 Jason and Julie Riker (12 years)
- 17 Rev. Kenneth and Carol Ann Gould (20 years)
- 17 Michael and Cheryl Knabb (37 years)
- 18 David and Dianna Greenwood (37 years)
- 20 Kenneth and Debra Beissel (44 years)
- 23 Chris and Kristen Schera (24 years)



REDNER'S GROCERY RECEIPTS

Thank you to everyone who brings in Redner's receipts. When you shop at Redner's with a rewards card, bring your receipts to church and place them in the box in the hallway near the guest book. Those small pieces of paper turn into dollars for our congregation. By saving up your receipts, Bern Lutheran Church received a check for \$315.31 from Redner's. Thank you all!

ALTAR FLOWER, BULLETIN, AND NEWSLETTER SPONSORSHIPS

You can sponsor Altar Flowers for \$35.00/week, Bulletins for \$20.00/week, or our monthly Newsletter for \$40.00/month. Please sign up on the bulletin board in the hallway with your name and dedication next to the date(s) you want to sponsor.

If you wish to sponsor Altar Flowers, but don't want to pay the cost for both vases, you can split the cost with another member. Each vase would cost \$17.50 and each sponsor could still include a dedication in the bulletin. Thank you!

Altar Flower Sponsors:

October 1 – The Schuler Family October 8 – Richard Greener October 15 – David and Beth Hartman October 22 – The Kasisky Family October 29 – Linda Lash

Bulletin Sponsors:

October 1 – The Schuler Family October 8 – Lois Ondik October 15 – Lois Ondik October 22 – The Kasisky Family October 29 – Barry and Terri Shurr

Newsletter Sponsor: The Schuler Family

Church Openers:

October 1 – Dianne Leininger October 8 – Richard Gruber October 15 – Erin Readinger October 22 – Linda Lash October 29 – Richard Gruber

Church Greeters:

October 1 – Barbara Auchenbach October 8 – Barbara Auchenbach October 15 – Barbara Auchenbach October 22 – Barbara Auchenbach October 29 – Barbara Auchenbach

Lectors:

October 1 – Barbara Braucher October 8 – Richard Gruber October 15 – Kate Schuler October 22 – Brenda Reichart October 29 – Beth Hartman

Supply Pastor Schedule:

October 1 – Pastor William Fryer October 8 – Pastor William Fryer October 15 – Pastor Kenneth Gould October 22 – Rob Turchi, Hope Rescue Mission October 29 – Pastor David Kistler



MEMBERS:

Family and friends of Doris Schlappich, Family and friends of Ronald Stonefelt, Nancy Malandra, Brooke Noecker, Evelyn Drobnick, Robert Hissinger, Donna Marks, Pauline Shuman, Lisa Miller, Tim Moyer, Myra Bernhart, and Ruth Keeney

FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Stephanie Burkart, Kelly Cockrum, Terri Hine, Ziomara, Ginny and Nelson Eyrich, Nick Odagis, Lara Pappas, Danielle Roberts, Alex Vasquez, Paul, Sheri Mafeo, Eleanor, Ann Skinner, Glenva, Warren, Courtney Davis, Giselle Davis, Joanne King, Tim Brown, Robin Brown, Matt DeLeon, Pastor Joyce Seip, family and friends of Joan Carpenter, Arthur W. Zimmerman, Natalie, Bob Stoner, Ashley Rizzuto, Philip Triantis, Mike, Peggy Deemer, Joe and Karen Young, Brian, Jamie Hey, Glenn Jones, Kailey, Renee Fullmer, Patrick, Susan, Joyce, Rev. Fred Foerster, Brenda Frey, and Lesley Wegman

(If you would like to add anyone to our prayer list, please contact Korinne in the church office. Please also notify her of anyone that could be removed.)

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

On All Saints' Sunday on November 5, we will remember those who have gone before us to the triumphant church in heaven. We believe they surround us even now as we continue our course on earth. They support and cheer us on. You are invited to bring framed pictures of your loved ones who have gone before us to be displayed around the sanctuary, reminding us of their presence with us. A candle will be lit and a bell will toll as the names of those who have died this year are read. If you have a loved one who passed away since November 2022 and whose funeral was held somewhere else, please call the church office if you would like their names included. This will be a day of both remembrance and celebration.



"What do we really own?"

'Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return there; the Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord.' --Job:1-21

There's the joke about the nosy neighbor attending a rich woman's funeral. Peering into the coffin with a friend, he asked, "How much money did she leave?" The friend smiled and replied, "All of it, of course!"

As Job laments, we come into the world naked and leave the same way. We may be dressed in our best clothing on our way out, but we take it to the grave, not the afterlife.

The joke and Job reveal a basic concept of stewardship: We don't really own anything. We may take possession of it for a period of time, but we eventually leave it for others.

Yet we spend so much of our energy and life accumulating more and more - as if we were going to have it forever, as we were going to live forever. The danger is that absorbed with accumulating wealth, we shortchange the most valuable treasures – loving the Lord our God with all our being and loving our neighbors as ourselves.

That's why the Bible consistently warns us about wealth. Jesus repeatedly points out the pitfalls. Money and possessions can turn us inward, stunting our growth and preventing us from being the people God created us to be.

Generosity is the preventative cure for this malady. The Bible counsels that tithing – giving away 10 percent of our income – is a good benchmark for faithful giving (although on several occasions Jesus told his disciples to give away ALL their possessions).

Giving 10 percent, or any amount substantial enough to be sacrificial, is a declaration that you are free from the power that money might have over you. Because however much money you can accumulate in life, you will be like the rich woman in the joke: You will leave it all.

--Rob Blezard

Copyright © Rev. Robert Blezard. Used by permission. Pastor Blezard serves part-time as web editor for the Stewardship of Life Institute and full-time as pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Aberdeen, MD.





Ronald Dwain Stonefelt, 88, of Lower Heidelberg passed away on Thursday, August 24, 2023. He was the husband of Monica Phyllis Stonefelt and the son of the late Elmer G. and Wilmot (Johns) Stonefelt. Ronald was born in Oak Park, Illinois on May 5, 1935. He was a

member of Bern Evangelical Lutheran Church where he served six years on church council and seven and a half years as chairman of the property committee. Services were private. Contributions in Ronald's memory may be offered to Wounded Warriors by clicking the link below: <u>https://support.woundedwarriorproject.org</u>. Condolences may be expressed at www.kuhnfuneralhomes.com.



Doris Anne (Krause) Schlappich, 86 of Leesport, passed away on August 27, 2023 in the Reading Hospital. Born on November 7, 1936 she was the daughter of the late Ray P. and Annie (Unger) Krause. Doris was the wife of the late Herbert Schlappich with whom she

shared 31 years of marriage at his time of passing in 1986. Doris was an active member of Bern Lutheran Church and also the Senior Berners. Doris is survived by her sons, Randall S. Schlappich, husband of Bonnie, and Darryl Schlappich. Also surviving are granddaughters Courtney and Kiley Schlappich and one sister-in-law, Phylis Krause. A viewing and memorial service was held on Friday, September 1, 2023 at the Milkins Trymbiski Funeral Home. Her burial was in Bern Cemetery, Leesport. Memorial donations may be made in Doris' name to Bern Lutheran Church. Condolences can be received at

www.milkinstrymbiskifuneralhome.com.

We extend our heartfelt sympathies to the families of Ronald and Doris. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers.



WREATHS across AMERICA

Please help Bern Cemetery Company remember our military veterans by sponsoring a wreath in either the Bern Cemetery and/or the Bern Historic Graveyard this holiday season.

The cost for the wreath is \$17.00. They are live wreaths from Maine and are 22 inches in diameter with a red bow. They will be placed at the graves on Saturday, December 16, 2023. Wreaths across America will be having a ceremony prior to the laying of wreaths on Saturday, December 16, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. in the Bern Reformed UCC Church. Please come into the church building for the service and assignments.

We are also looking for volunteers to help with the laying of the wreaths on the cemetery. Please let Barry Shurr know if you are able to help. You can speak with him either at church or by calling 610-372-7229. Thank you!

Checks are to be made out to "Bern Cemetery Company." **Deadline is Friday, December 1st** and could be put into the offering plate or given to cemetery board member, Barry Shurr. You can also mail your check to Barry Shurr at 118 Berkley Street, Reading, PA 19605.

Please fill out and return the bottom of this form with your check by Friday, December 1st. Thank you!

Sponsor (your name):

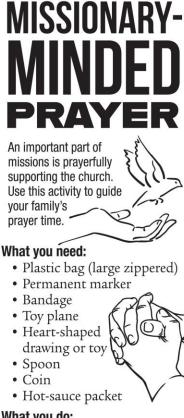
Place on Grave of ______ or where needed _____

Number of wreaths _____

Total Amounts: \$_____



OCTOBER 2023 ACTIVITIES

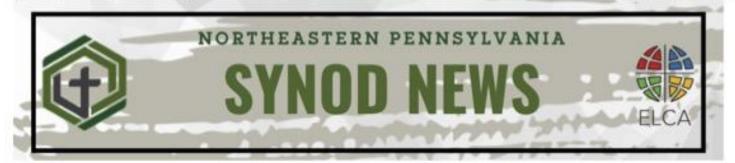


What you do:

- 1. Label the bag with details about the missionaries you'll be praying for (names, location, specific needs).
- 2. Add small prayer-prompt objects to guide your prayer time (bandage = health, plane = travel, heart = relationships, spoon = cultural connection, coin = finances, hot sauce = boldness).
- 3. Include other objects that will prompt prayer for missionaries' specific needs.
- 4. Place the bag where it will remind your family to pray regularly.



Answers: Salamis, Paphos, Perga, Antioch, Iconium, Lystra, Derbe



MISSION: GAINING STRENGTH, GOING BEYOND DEATH TO LIFE AND GROWING YOUNG IN THE PROCESS

In our journey of faith, we often hear about the transformative power of mission. Mission is not just a buzzword; it is the heartbeat of our church. It is the force that propels us forward, enabling us to grow younger in spirit, gain strength as a community, and go beyond the boundaries of life and death. In this newsletter article, we will explore the profound importance of mission in our lives as individuals and as a church family.

One of the remarkable aspects of **mission** is its ability to rejuvenate our spirits and keep our faith nourished. When we engage in meaningful outreach, extend a helping hand to those in need, and share the gospel with others, we are infused with the energy of youthful enthusiasm, a childlike faith that brings us back to the main thing: Jesus. Missional work often challenges us, taking us out of our comfort zones and pushing us to rely on God's strength, leading to a deeper and more vibrant connection with our faith. By embracing a missional life, we as transported back to a faith that's continually renewing our commitment to Christ and consequently, our community.

Christ's Church is like a mighty tree with deep roots, a strong trunk, and branches that stretch far and wide. Mission is the lifeblood that flows through our spiritual tree, strengthening its core and expanding its reach. When we unite in the pursuit of a common mission, we grow closer as a community. We learn to rely on each other's strengths, support one another in times of challenge, and celebrate our victories together. In this process, our church gains resilience and vitality, better equipped to weather the storms of life. With our synod's new focus on 6-2-6-1 we will see the lifeblood of our churches expand and grow, nourishing not just out space in time but beyond.

Mission work takes us beyond the limits of this earthly existence. It reminds us of the eternal perspective of our faith. When we share the hope and love of Christ with others, we are sowing seeds that transcend the boundaries of time and mortality. These seeds of faith have the potential to flourish long after we have left this world. Through mission, we participate in a legacy of faith that extends beyond our own lifetimes, carrying the message of salvation from generation to generation.

Mission is not merely a task; it is a calling, a privilege, and a source of abundant blessings. It helps us grow young individually and collectively, gain strength as a community, and go beyond the limitations of this life to embrace the promise of eternal life in Christ. Let us continue to be a Church known for our unwavering commitment to living missionally, in all we do let us weigh our values, so all we do lends to progress - It is through mission that we will thrive, make a lasting impact, and experience the fullness of God's love.

As we embark on this journey of mission together, may we remember the words of Jesus in Matthew 28:19-20: "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you." Let these words guide our mission and inspire us to grow, gain strength, and go beyond death to life in Christ.







120 INTERCONNECTED CONGREGATIONS BY 2028

Ministry Communities

Sharing Staff

6 congregations sharing 2 full-time pastors, 6 lay leaders, and 1 full-time deacon.

Some 6261 Ministry Communities may even include our Ecumenical partners.

Happening Anywhere

6261 Ministry Communities will be formed across the Synod - in rural 8 urban areas, with congregations of any size, and with congregations who currently have staff as well as those experiencing a vacancy.

For the Sake of the Gospel

Calify Or Re : - 6.

Each 6261 Ministry Community will have its own primary ministry project centered in the love of Jesus and focused on addressing a justice issue within the surrounding community.



- www.godslove.org/6261mc
- Start a Narrative Inventory Form

OCTOBER 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <u>18th Sunday after Pentecost</u> 9:00am-Confirmation Class 10:00am-Worship 11:00am-Sunday School	2	3	4	5	6 6:00pm- Food and Faith Worship Service, Epler's UCC	7
OPENER: Dianne Leininger LECTOR: Barbara Braucher ACOLYTE: Aiden Angstadt					6:00-8:00 pm – Frog Pond	
8 <u>19th Sunday after Pentecost</u> 10:00am -Worship 11:00am -Sunday School	9	10 6:00pm-Hawk Mountain Boy Scouts (Social Hall)	11 6:00pm-Hawk Mountain Boy Scouts (Social Hall)	12	13 6:00-8:00 pm – Frog Pond	14 4:00-9:00pm-Social Hall Rental (Laura Berger)
OPENER: Richard Gruber LECTOR: Richard Gruber ACOLYTE: Hannah Lash	Korinne -Vacation COLUMBUS DAY	Korinne -Vacation	Korinne -Vacation	Korinne -Vacation	Korinne -Vacation	4:00-6:00pm -Epler's UCC Chicken Pot Pie Dinner (take-out only)
15 <u>20th Sunday after Pentecost</u> 9:00am-Confirmation Class 10:00am-Worship 11:00am-Sunday School OPENER: Erin Readinger LECTOD: Kata Scholar	16 7:00pm-Council Meeting	17 9:00am-Berks Quilters Guild (All-day Workshop - Social Hall)	18	19	20 6:00-8:00 pm – Frog Pond	21 7:30am-Food Pantry Distribution, Lutheran Church of the Holy Trinity, Leesport
LECTOR: Kate Schuler ACOLYTE: Derian Readinger 22	23	NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 24	25	26	27	28
21st Sunday after Pentecost 9:00am-Confirmation Class 10:00am-Worship 11:00am-Sunday School -Fall Clothing Drive Deadline OPENER: Linda Lash LECTOR: Brenda Reichart ACOLYTE: Jameson Kasisky		4:00-7:00pm –Berks Festival of Faith			6:00-8:00 pm – Frog Pond	
29 <u>Reformation Sunday</u> 9:00am-Confirmation Class	30	31				
9:00am-Confirmation Class 10:00am-Worship 11:00am-Sunday School -Anniversary Reservation Deadline OPENER: Richard Gruber LECTOR: Beth Hartman		TRICK OR TREAT				
ACOYTE: Aiden Angstadt		HALLOWEEN				

Bern Lutheran Church ■ 820 West Leesport Road, Leesport, PA 19533 ■ Phone: 610.374.4343 ■ Email: bernlutheranchurch@gmail.com



OF BERN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

You are cordially invited to help us celebrate our 25th Anniversary on Sunday, November 12, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. as we gather together to praise God for the work he has done through the ministry of Bern Evangelical Lutheran Church. We are excited to announce that Pastor Kenneth Gould and Pastor William Fryer will be leading this special worship service.

Immediately following our worship service, we will continue our celebration with a catered luncheon in our Social Hall. There is no cost to you for the luncheon. We only ask that you **fill out and return the reservation form below by Sunday, October 29, 2023** indicating how many adults, children 3-11, and children under 3 will be joining us so we can give an accurate count to the caterer. You can also contact Secretary Korinne in the office with your information.

Our desire is to glorify God in our celebration. We would love to have you join us in praising the Lord for all that he has done and is going to do in the future.

"The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy." -Psalm 126:3

Nai	me(s)	
Adults	Children 3-11	Children Under 3