

BERN LUTHERAN CHURCH

820 West Leesport Road
Leesport, PA 19533

Address Service Requested





MAILING ADDRESS:

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

Brenda Reichart, President
Richard Gruber, Vice President
Jane Battaglieri, Secretary
David Hartman, Treasurer
Pat Yocum, Financial Secretary
Christopher Becker
Richard Greener
Matthew Kasisky
Linda Lash
Erin Readinger
Theresa Shurr

BUILDING PRINCIPLES:

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

PURPOSE STATEMENT:

God's purpose for our congregation is to:

Learn God's mission

Share God's love

Witness through Word and Service

Welcome all to a fellowship of forgiveness and thankful praise

Bern Bugle's Newsletter Sponsor

The April *Bern Bugle's Joyful Notes* is sponsored in gratitude for the changing seasons by the Schuler family.

Council Meeting Highlights

The following discussions took place and decisions made at our Council Meeting on Monday, March 17th:

- We will be doing a clothing drive in the spring and fall for the Hope Rescue Mission.
- A choir is being formed.
- The Northeastern PA Synod Assembly will be held May 30-31 at Christ Hamilton United Lutheran Church, Stroudsburg.

The next Council Meeting will be held on Monday, April 21, at 7:00 p.m.

Sunday School

We invite all children to join us for Sunday School. We meet from 11:00-11:30 a.m. after the worship service. There will be no Sunday School on April 20th.

Newsletter Deadline

Articles for the May *Bern Bugle* are due by **Tuesday, April 22nd.**

April Sign-up Sheets

We are in need of an Altar Flower sponsor for April 13 and Bulletin sponsors for April 6 and 13. Please sign up on the sheets in the hallway if you would like to sponsor any of these dates.

Food and Faith Worship Service

Epler's UCC will be holding their monthly Food & Faith worship service on **Friday, April 4th**. The fellowship meal will be held at 6:00 p.m. with worship following at 7:00 p.m. The theme will be Immigration and Faith with Sean Cooper, Esquire, an immigration lawyer in Reading, and Pastor Gary sharing the preaching time. Brian Gibson will be the special music for the evening. All are welcome!



Easter Flowers

We will be adorning our sanctuary with beautiful flowers for our Easter service on April 20th. We will have daffodils, lilies, and an assortment of different color tulips to pick from. Please return your order form and payment to the church office or offering plate by **Wednesday, April 9th**. Thank you!



thank you

Dear members of Bern Evangelical Lutheran Church, on behalf of the Board of Directors, Paramedics, Emergency Medical Technicians, and Wheelchair Van Drivers, I am writing to thank you for your generous donation of \$250, which you so kindly donated. We appreciate the generosity, commitment and support of Western Berks Ambulance and assure you that the money will be used towards the purchase of much-needed equipment in order to continue providing quality pre-hospital care. Again, many thanks! Sincerely, Anthony Tucci, Executive Director



Bern Lutheran Church, as a fellow community organization, we want to thank you for your recent donation of \$250 to Mt. Pleasant Fire Company. We appreciate our community partners and their support. Without these donations, we could not serve the residents of this area as we have for over 100 years. This donation will help ensure that when Mt. Pleasant responds to an emergency call, the firefighters have the proper training and equipment to provide the services needed. Thank you again for your support and generosity. Sincerely, John Goodman, Captain, Mt. Pleasant Fire Company



Dear folks at Bern Lutheran Church, thank you for the time and money you put into partnering with Advent Lutheran Church to make hygiene kits. The kits are going to two places. First to the Mitzvah Foundation which serves people in crisis all over southeastern Pennsylvania, and second to be stored at Zwingli UCC in Souderton, PA, where they will be held for use when disasters hit, near or far. Sincerely, Julia Frank, Lutheran Congregational Services

"Christ did not come into the world that we might understand him, but that we might cling to him, that we might simply let ourselves be swept away by him into the immense event of the resurrection."

—Dietrich Bonhoeffer

April Lunch Bunch Easter Eggs

Those who ordered eggs can pick them up on **Sunday, April 13**, after worship.

April Social Hour

Our Social Hour on **Sunday, April 27**, will be hosted by our Property Committee. Please plan to stay after the worship service for some refreshments and fellowship.

Midday and Evening Lenten and Holy Week Worship Services

We are joining together with other area churches to celebrate Lent. The midday Lenten services begin at 12 noon with a soup and sandwich luncheon followed by an abbreviated Lenten worship. The evening Lenten services begin at 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services are also held at 7:00 p.m. Below is the schedule:

Wednesday, April 2, 2025

Bern UCC, 3196 Bernville Road, Leesport, **12:00 p.m.** (luncheon)

St. John's Lutheran Church, 33 South Church Street, Mohnton, **7:00 p.m.** (A 6:00 p.m. "Lenten" Soup Supper will precede this service only.)

Wednesday, April 9, 2025

Bethany Evangelical Congregational Church, 308 Main Street, Leesport, **12:00 p.m.** (luncheon)

Advent Lutheran Church, 16 Telford Avenue, West Lawn, **7:00 p.m.**

Maundy Thursday, April 17, 2025

St. John's Gernant's Church, 13 Gernants Church Road, Leesport, **7:00 p.m.** (no meal)

Good Friday, April 18, 2025

Salem Belleman's Church, 3540 Bellemans Church Road, Mohrsville, **7:00 p.m.** (no meal)



SCHUYLKILL VALLEY FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION

Thank you to everyone who donated food for the SV Food Pantry. A total of 19 spaghetti, 36 pasta, 60 mac and cheese, 73 vegetable, 55 peanut butter, 14 tuna, 8 soup, 2 peaches, and 1 applesauce were taken to the food pantry on March 12th. Your generosity is very much appreciated. Thank you to Gail Landis and Doug Myers for packing everything up and delivering the donations.



IN OUR
Thoughts and Prayers

MEMBERS:

Peggy Reagan, Evelyn Drobnick, Tina Hissinger, Berry Hey, Sally Koch, Margaret Hey, Richard Greener, JoAnn Ketz, Donna Marks, Pauline Shuman, Lisa Miller, and Ruth Keeney.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Kathy, Dolores Neidig, Lara and Drayton Pappas, Sheila Becker, Joan Ponzurick, Dick and Janet, Jean, Mary, Charles Trophe, Delores Kistler, Kathy Sutphin, Heather Baum, Eddie Kissling, Bill Manus, Nick Odagis, Danielle Roberts, Sheri Mafeo, Eleanor, Glenva, Warren, Courtney Davis, Giselle Davis, Matt DeLeon, Pastor Joyce Seip, Philip Triantis, Mike, Peggy Deemer, Joe and Karen Young, Brian, Jamie Hey, Glenn Jones, Kailey, Renee Fullmer, Patrick, Susan, and Joyce.

(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.)

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.

Altar Flower Sponsors:

April 6 – Arlene Ensinger
April 13 – *sponsor needed*
April 20 – Donna Marks
April 27 – David and Beth Hartman

Bulletin Sponsors:

April 6 – *sponsor needed*
April 13 – *sponsor needed*
April 20 – Carol Eichner
April 27 – Beverly Moyer and Barbara Speicher

Newsletter Sponsor:

The Schuler Family

Church Openers:

April 6 – Christopher Becker
April 13 – Christopher Becker
April 20 – Christopher Becker
April 27 – Richard Gruber

Church Greeters:

April 6 – Barbara Auchenbach
April 13 – Beverly Moyer
April 20 – Barbara Speicher
April 27 – Nancy Malandra

Lectors:

April 6 – Rich Myers
April 13 – Brenda Reichart
April 20 – Richard Gruber
April 27 – Beth Hartman

Communion Assistants:

April 6 – Dianne Leininger
April 13 – Theresa Shurr
April 20 – Linda Lash

Supply Pastor Schedule:

April 6 – Pastor William Fryer
April 13 – Pastor Kenneth Gould
April 20 – Pastor Kenneth Gould
April 27 – Pastor David Kistler

The message of Easter is not only that Christ is risen, not only that suffering is not the last word, not only that God gives new life, but this: Nothing is impossible with God.

—The Rev. James Martin, S.J.



(* Denotes 80 years young)

- 1 Kristen Schera
- 1 Zoe Westmeyer
- 2 Tracey Leh
- 3 Gwyneth Kneeream
- 4 Ruth Bleecher
- 4 Richard Miller
- 4 Lori Schlottman
- 7 Shawn Hissinger
- 17 Wendy Miller
- 19 Michael Braucher
- 20 Stephen Kneeream
- 20 Dianne Leininger
- 21 Cheryl Knabb
- 22 Caroline Eichner *
- 22 Anne Spieker
- 25 Jeffrey Reichart
- 28 Aidan Slusser



- 19 Wendy and Andrew Miller (45 years)
- 25 Donna and Kenneth Marks (27 year)
- 29 Janna and Stephen Kneeream (8 years)

INCOME AND ATTENDANCE

| <u>For the Week Ending</u> | <u>Income toward Budget Expenses</u> | <u>Attendance</u> |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 2/02/2025 | \$3,474.00 | 40 |
| 2/09/2025 | \$1,921.00 | 31 |
| 2/16/2025 | \$1,402.00 | 35 |
| 2/23/2025 | \$1,250.00 | 31 |

\$3,259.19 is needed per week to meet 100% of the Budgeted Expenses

Budget Report – Year to Date

| | <u>February</u> | <u>YTD</u> |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Income | \$12,333.00 | .00 |
| Congregational Fundraising | .00 | .00 |
| Total Funds | <u>\$12,333.00</u> | <u>.00</u> |

| Actual Income / Expenses | <u>February</u> | <u>YTD</u> |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Budgeted Income | \$6,995.00 | \$14,302.00 |
| Non-Budgeted Income | 5,338.00 | 6,113.00 |
| Budgeted Expenses | 10,939.00 | 25,346.00 |
| Non-Budgeted Expenses | 212.00 | 2,113.00 |
| Benevolence to be Paid | 352.00 | 504.00 |
| Surplus/Deficit | +830.00 | -7,548.00 |

| Benevolence | <u>YTD</u> | <u>2024 Pledge</u> |
|--------------------|------------|--------------------|
| Synod and ELCA | \$221.00 | \$3,000.00 |
| World Hunger | 91.00 | 1,500.00 |
| Mission Field | 116.00 | 1,300.00 |
| W.B.M.D. | 76.00 | 600.00 |
| Other | .00 | .00 |

| Capital Improvement Acct. | <u>February</u> | <u>YTD</u> |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| Member Contributions | \$100.00 | \$325.00 |
| Interest | 87.59 | 184.12 |
| Expense | <u>0.00</u> | <u>0.00</u> |
| | | <u>\$47,311.87</u> |

| Savings Account | <u>February</u> | <u>YTD</u> |
|-------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|
| Thrivent Choice Dollars | \$.00 | \$489.00 |
| Interest | .51 | 1,424.54 |
| Expenses | .00 | <u>.00</u> |
| | | <u>\$257,950.76</u> |





**KAUFFMAN'S BBQ CHICKEN DINNER
& SYCAMORE FARMS APPLE
DUMPLING SALE**

We will be holding our annual Kauffman's BBQ Chicken Dinner and Sycamore Farm's Apple Dumpling sale this year on **Thursday, May 22, 2025**. Pick up for your dinners and dumplings will be between 3:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Prices for the chicken dinners will be \$12.00 and apple dumplings will be \$6.00. Beginning on April 6th, you can place your orders by calling the church office at 610-374-4343, emailing the church at bernlutheranchurch@gmail.com, or go to our website at www.berchurch.org to click on a link for the order form.

Please see the flyer in this newsletter for more information.

WITHOUT JESUS ...

Without the risen Savior in our hearts, life is like:

- A chocolate Easter Bunny — empty on the inside;
- An Easter bonnet — easily blown off kilter;
- Last year's Easter outfit — it doesn't quite fit right;
- An Easter lily — it soon withers and dries up;
- A bag of jellybeans — sugary and sweet but lacking substance;
- An unfound Easter basket — full of gifts that spoil and go to waste;
- A colored Easter egg — looks great but cracks under pressure;
- The Easter bunny — always hopping here and there;
- Marshmallow Peeps — becomes hard when opened up;
- Easter parade — a long journey with no destination;
- An unopened Easter card — a message of love unclaimed.

—David Patterson



YOU ARE INVITED TO AN

Easter EGG HUNT

at Epler's UCC
1151 West Leesport Road, Leesport
Saturday, April 19, 2025 at 12 noon
(held rain or shine)

open to all children up to
and including 5th grade

Made with PosterMyWall.com



**DON'T FORGET TO FILE YOUR
TAXES BEFORE APRIL 15, 2025**



KAUFFMAN'S
BBQ Chicken

&
SYCAMORE FARMS
Apple Dumpling Sale

THURSDAY, MAY 22, 2025

3:00 P.M. TO 6:30 P.M.

BERN LUTHERAN CHURCH

820 WEST LEESPORT ROAD, LEESPORT, PA 19533

TO ORDER, CALL 610-374-4343 OR EMAIL AT BERNLUTHERANCHURCH@GMAIL.COM

YOU CAN ALSO ORDER ON OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.BERNCHURCH.ORG



APPLE DUMPLINGS

\$6
each

CHICKEN DINNER INCLUDES:

- ✓ 1/2 CHICKEN
- ✓ BAKED POTATO
- ✓ APPLESAUCE
- ✓ BOTTLE OF WATER

Only
\$12



BBQ CHICKEN

APRIL 2025

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|--|---|--|--|---|---|
| | | 1  | 2 Midweek Lenten Services 12:00pm -Bern UCC, Leesport (lunch) 7:00pm -St. John's Lutheran Church, Mohnton | 3 | 4 6:00pm -Epler's UCC Food & Faith meal and worship service 6:00-8:00pm – Frog Pond (AA Group) | 5 |
| 6 <u>Fifth Sunday in Lent</u> 10:00am -Worship 11:00-11:30am -Sunday School Opener: Christopher Becker Lector: Rich Myers Greeter: Barbara Auchenbach Comm Asst: Dianne Leininger | 7 12:00pm -Ladies Fellowship Luncheon in the Social Hall | 8 | 9 Midweek Lenten Services 12:00pm -Bethany Congregational Church, Leesport (lunch) 6:00pm -Hawk Mountain Council (Social Hall reserved) 7:00pm -Advent Lutheran Church, West Lawn Easter Flower Orders Due | 10 | 11 6:00-8:00pm – Frog Pond (AA Group) | 12 |
| 13 <u>Palm Sunday/Sunday of the Passion</u> 10:00am -Worship 11:00-11:30am -Sunday School Opener: Christopher Becker Lector: Brenda Reichart Greeter: Beverly Moyer Comm Asst: Theresa Shurr | 14 10:00am -William Kerns Funeral Service at Bern Church. Visitation from 10:00-11:00. Service at 11:00 a.m. | 15 9:00am -Berks Quilters Guild All-day Workshop (Social Hall reserved)  | 16 | 17 7:00pm -Maundy Thursday Service, St. John's Gernant's Church, Leesport | 18 6:00-8:00pm – Frog Pond (AA Group) 7:00pm -Good Friday Service, Salem Belleman's Church, Mohrsville | 19 12:00pm -Epler's UCC Easter Egg Hunt  |
| 20 <u>Resurrection of Our Lord/Easter Day</u> 10:00am -Worship 11:00-11:30am -NO Sunday School Opener: Christopher Becker Lector: Richard Gruber Greeter: Barbara Speicher Comm Asst: Linda Lash | 21 7:00pm -Council Meeting | 22 4:00pm -Berks Festival of Faith (Social Hall reserved) Newsletter Deadline | 23 | 24 | 25 6:00-8:00pm – Frog Pond (AA Group) | 26 |
| 27 <u>Third Sunday in Lent</u> 10:00am -Worship 11:00-11:30am -Sunday School Opener: Richard Gruber Lector: Beth Hartman Greeter: Nancy Malandra | 28 | 29 | 30 | | | |



Easter Flower Order Form

We will be adorning our sanctuary with beautiful flowers for Easter Sunday on April 20th. Please make your selection below and return your order form with payment to the church office or offering plate by **Wednesday, April 9th**.

PLEASE NOTE: We need 25 lilies to fill the Lily Cross.

| | <u>Qty.</u> | <u>Cost</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|-------------------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| 8" Daffodil | _____ | X \$7.00 = | _____ |
| White Lily (5-7 blooms) | _____ | X \$7.00 = | _____ |
| 6" Pink Tulip | _____ | X \$7.00 = | _____ |
| 6" Red Tulip | _____ | X \$7.00 = | _____ |
| 6" Yellow Tulip | _____ | X \$7.00 = | _____ |
| 6" Orange Tulip | _____ | X \$7.00 = | _____ |
| 6" Purple Tulip | _____ | X \$7.00 = | _____ |

Total Amount Due: _____

NAME: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

ENVELOPE #: _____

DEDICATIONS (*In Honor of, In Memory of, or To the Glory of God*):
