

BERN BUGLE'S

April 2022



JOYFUL NOTES

Volume 25, Issue 4

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.berchurch.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
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
Terri Shurr, Secretary
Pat Yocum, Financial Secretary
David Hartman, Treasurer
Jane Battaglieri
Matthew Kasisky
Dianne Leininger
Erin Readinger

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 NEWSLETTER SPONSOR

The *Bern Bugle* for this month is given to the Glory of God by D. Barry and Terri Shurr.

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

The following discussions took place and decisions made at our council meeting on Monday, March 21:

- A motion was made to distribute \$750.00 from the Endowment Fund to each of these committees: Worship and Music, Christian Education, Property, and Outreach.
- A motion was made to distribute \$500.00 to each of the following organizations: Berks Women in Crisis, St. Francis Home, and Schuylkill Valley Food Pantry.
- Still receiving bids for the sound system and parking lot sealcoating.
- Updated worship guidelines to include optional masking in the church building. Those members who wish to continue wearing masks, are encouraged to do so for their health and safety.

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING will be on

April 18 at 7:00 p.m.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Please join us from 11:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on April 3, 10, 17, and 24. We meet in the second classroom on the right.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Articles for the March *Bern Bugle* are due by **Tuesday, April 19.**

EASTER FLOWER ORDERS

We are planning to beautify our sanctuary with flowers and decorating the Lily Cross on Easter Sunday (we will need 28 lilies to fill the Easter Cross). Please click on the link below to order online or there are order forms on the table in the narthex. Orders are due by Wednesday, April 6th.

[Easter Flowers](#)

REMIND TEXT ALERTS

We needed to establish a new text alert account so everyone who would like to receive them will need to sign up. If you received them in the past and would like to continue to receive them, you will need to sign up again. These alerts have been used for daily scripture, announcements and reminders as well as service cancellations due to inclement weather. If you would like to receive text messages, please type **@bernlut** on your phone and send to **81010** to sign up. If you want to register an email account, please provide your email address and you can be added to the group. If you need help signing up, please see Korinne in the office and she can help you. If you don't text or email, please contact Korinne in the office, and you can be added to a phone chain and contacted that way if the situation arises.

UPDATED WORSHIP GUIDELINES

At our Council Meeting on Monday, March 21, council approved to revise our worship guidelines. If you choose, face masks are no longer required to be worn in the building during worship. Those individuals who wish to continue masking are encouraged to take the precautions they think necessary to protect their health.

MAUNDY THURSDAY & GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

As we begin Holy Week, you are invited to worship with us. Please join us on April 14 at 7:00 p.m. for our Maundy Thursday service as we gather together in remembrance of Jesus' last supper with his disciples. We will share in Holy Communion together. We will continue with our Good Friday service on April 15 at 7:00 p.m. At this service, our focus turns to the mystery and awe of the passion, as we follow Jesus on the journey to his death on the cross. We welcome Pastor Rod Sutliff as he presides at both of these services.



CHOIR AND BELL CHOIR MEMBERS

Our organist, Jane Battaglieri, is going to be starting up Choir and Bell Choir beginning in the fall. If you are interested in being part of either choir, please see or contact Jane at 610-370-0965.

WITH SYMPATHY

Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends of Jason Spieker who passed away on March 9, 2022. A Celebration of Life service was held at Bern Church on March 19, 2022 with Pastor Jim Bertoti officiating.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Rachel Mountz and her family. Her father, Alan Hattendorf, passed away on March 10, 2022. A funeral service was held at St. John's Reformed Church on March 15, 2022.

DESIGNATED PASTOR

Pastor Gary Rarick of Epler's UCC in Leesport has agreed to be our Designated Pastor. What this means is Pastor Rarick will be available for homebound visits and communion, funerals and weddings, and other pastoral care needs. Feel free to contact him at 610-401-1545 or email him at pastorrarick@gmail.com. If anyone would want home communion, please contact Korinne in the office and arrangements can be made.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEEDED

Much of the work of the church is accomplished by the various committees that have been established within it. Many of these groups lost momentum... and members during the pandemic. In order to move forward and get ourselves "back on track," we are asking that all committees resume meeting again in 2022, if they have not already done so. There are a few groups that could use some additional volunteers. Please consider joining.

Finance Committee – If you are interested in how the finances of our congregation are managed and how we prepare and work to stay in line with our annual budget.

Christian Education – If you are interested in providing opportunities for learners of all ages to increase their knowledge and their faith.

Outreach – If you would like to explore opportunities and plan activities that allow us to share our faith with our community and provide opportunities for fellowship within and beyond our doors. We are looking for new members and a member to chair this committee.

If you would like to learn more about any of these committees, or are ready now to take advantage of any of these opportunities, please see any member of council. We welcome new members and new ideas!

Congratulations

Brent and Kate Schuler, along with their children, Hattie and Adam, welcomed a baby girl into their family. Millie Louise Schuler was born on the morning of March 9th weighing 7 lbs., 10 oz. and 19¾ inches long.



Dear members of Bern Lutheran Church, I would like to thank everyone for their prayers and cards during my recent surgery. – *Christine Gruber*

CHILDREN'S TAKE-HOME EASTER KITS

Epler's UCC, 1151 West Leesport Road, has put together take-home Easter kits. This is a special opportunity for young people to learn about Holy Week and the Easter story through crafts, scripture, and activities. Registration is open now through April 8th on their church website at www.eplerschurch.org. Registration is free and open to anyone. The activities may be best suited for elementary-aged children but could be enjoyed by older children or by younger children with some help. The packet pick-up date is April 10th between 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Epler's parking lot. Please register your children or grandchildren for as soon as possible. Families can do all of the activities in one day or spread them out throughout Holy Week and Spring/Easter breaks. If you have any questions, contact Pastor Gary at 610-401-1545 or pastorrrarick@gmail.com.



DO YOU NEED TO UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION?

Has your address changed? Did you drop your landline phone? Changed email providers? Do you notice something wrong in the directory? Please click on the link below to update your information or contact Korinne in the church office to make any changes to your personal information. Thank you!

God is always creating, always doing something new. (Isaiah 43:18-19)

MEMBER TEMPORARY ADDRESS CHANGE

Listed is a temporary address change for Gladys Krick: Mifflin Center, Room 209, 500 Philadelphia Avenue, Shillington, PA 19607. Please continue to mail her correspondence to the address listed in your Member Directory. Her phone number is 610-796-7106.

BULLETIN, NEWSLETTER, AND ALTAR FLOWER SPONSORSHIPS

In order to provide high quality weekly bulletins and cover mailing costs, we invite you to become a Bulletin sponsor for only \$20.00/week. You can also sponsor our monthly Newsletter for \$40.00/month, or you can help by sponsoring Altar Flowers for \$35.00/week. You are welcome to sponsor any of these items in honor of important birthdays/anniversaries, in honor of or in memory of someone, or to the Glory of God. Sign-up sheets are available on the bulletin board in the hallway.

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.

Altar Flower sponsors for April:

April 3 – Gary and Evelyn Drobnick
April 10 – Michael and Beth Braucher & family
April 17 – Donna Marks
April 24 – Tim and Beverly Moyer

Bulletin sponsors for April:

April 3 – The Kasisky family
April 10 – The Kasisky family
April 17 – Harry and Pat Yocum
April 24 – The Reichart family

Church Openers for April:

April 3 – Pat Yocum
April 10 – Dianne Leininger
April 17 – Terri Shurr
April 24 – Erin Readinger

Church Greeters for April:

April 3 – Nancy Malandra
April 10 – Barbara Auchenbach
April 17 – Barbara Auchenbach
April 24 – Nancy Malandra

Supply Pastor Schedule:

April 3 – Pastor Will Lockhart
April 10 – Pastor Kenneth Gould
April 17 – Pastor Kenneth Gould
April 24 – Pastor David Kistler

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. Thank you to everyone who shares their receipts.

WEST BERKS MISSION DISTRICT (WBMD)

LENTEN PRAYER BREAKFAST – Join together with members of other Lutheran congregations on **Wednesday, April 6, at 8:00 a.m.** at Bern Lutheran Church, for the WBMD Lenten Prayer Breakfast. The cost is \$10.00 and will include a continental breakfast. The guest speaker will be Travis Woodfield, Director of Congregation Legacy and Purpose for NEPS. Registration forms are on the table in the narthex.

FAITH FORMATION SATURDAY

Leaders of the Christian Church from 100-500 A.D.: The new Christian movement had many people who stood out as leaders and teachers, from Clement to Constantine, to those how met at the Council of Nivea. This month's session will be held on **Saturday, April 9, on Zoom from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 pm.** and will introduce you to key leaders of that period of history and what they did to help Christianity grow throughout Europe and eventually the world. This session will be led by Scherelene Schatz, a member of the Faith Formation Resource Ministry Team. She is a retired librarian and a member of Christ Lutheran Church in Allentown. To register, click on the link below or go to the synod website at www.godslove.org.

[Register Here](#)

BERKS ENCORE CARE

Berks Encore Care+ is a new program offering care management services to the Berks County aging population and their caregivers. Under the Berks Encore umbrella of services for older adults, our goal is to assist individuals 60 and older and their families with comprehensive care planning throughout the aging process. As a community partner, we recognize many different groups in the community may be working with individuals that could benefit from this type of assistance. Please check out the flyers on the bulletin board in the hallway to see if this program would benefit you or anyone in your family.

IN OUR Thoughts and Prayers

MEMBERS:

Verna Speicher, George Schaeffer, Myra Bernhart, Gary Drobnick, Bob Frey, Ruth Keeney, and family and friends of Jason Spieker

FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Family and friends of Alan Hattendorf, Linda Bachman, Bob Stoner, Betty Gruber, Ashley, Philip Triantis, Mike, Peggy Deemer, Joe and Karen Young, Ryder Knechtle and family, Brian, Jamie Hey, Glenn Jones, Kailey, Renee Fullmer, Patrick, Susan, Owen Hey, Joyce, Rev. Fred Foerster, Brenda Frey, and Lesley Wegman

GLOSSY MAGAZINE RECYCLING PROGRAM for Ronald McDonald House.

We continue to collect glossy magazines. You will find a black bin under the coat racks to place your magazines. Thank you to all who have brought magazines in.

Why do we do this?

To help each other and the environment.

When the containers are full, Ronald McDonald House calls Consolidated Scrap Resources, Inc. to pick up the containers. They process the contents and sell them to a paper mill, which turns the discarded paper into new magazine paper. A portion of the proceeds from each ton of paper collected comes directly to RMHC-CP. Since this program began in 2004, over **\$371,000** has raised by recycling over **14,000 tons** of glossy paper.



JOB OPPORTUNITY

Epler's UCC is seeking a Digital Communications Director. The appropriate candidate will have experience with Facebook, website development, and email marketing platforms (such as Mailchimp). This position will be 3-5 hours per week and may be a telecommuting position. Please send your resume and questions to Rev. Gary Rarick at pastorrarick@gmail.com. A full job description and qualifications can be found at www.eplerschurch.org.

INCOME AND ATTENDANCE

<u>For the Week Ending</u>	<u>Income toward Budget Expenses</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
03/06/22	\$ 3,112.00	37
03/13/22	2,851.00	34
03/20/22	1,530.00	34
03/27/22	3,143.00	46

***\$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	\$10,200.21	\$23,749.15
Congregational		
Fund Raising	<u>.00</u>	<u>226.84</u>
Total Funds	<u>\$10,200.21</u>	<u>\$23,975.99</u>

Actual Income / Expenses	<u>February</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Budgeted Income	\$9,106.58	\$ 22,199.82
Non-Budgeted Income	1,093.63	1,776.17
Budgeted Expenses	11,521.14	25,337.24
Non-Budgeted Expenses	90.00	1,121.50
Benevolence to be Paid	417.00	417.00
Surplus/Deficit	(1,827.93)	(2,899.75)

Benevolence	<u>YTD</u>	<u>2022 Pledge</u>
Synod and ELCA	\$370.50	\$3,000.00
World Hunger	58.00	1,500.00
Mission Field	63.00	1,300.00
W.B.M.D.	74.50	600.00
Other	.00	.00

Capital Improvement Acct.	<u>February</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Member Contributions	\$130.00	\$260.00
Interest	.63	1.33
Expense	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
		<u>\$41,103.80</u>

Savings Account	<u>YTD</u>
Thrivent Choice Dollars	\$ 152.00
Interest	6.82
Expenses	<u>.00</u>
	<u>\$131,742.99</u>



(* Denotes 80 years young)

- 1 Kristen Schera
- 2 Tracey Leh
- 3 Dallas Fix
- 3 Gwyneth Kneeream
- 4 Ruth Blecher
- 4 Richard Miller
- 4 Lori Schlottman
- 7 Shawn Hissinger
- 8 Myra Bernhart *
- 10 Beatrice Kauffman *
- 16 Warren Lengel
- 17 Wendy Miller
- 18 Tammi Shiller
- 19 Michael Braucher
- 20 Stephen Kneeream
- 20 Dianne Leininger
- 20 Leanna Stoudt
- 21 Cheryl Knabb
- 22 Caroline Eichner *
- 22 Anne Spieker
- 24 Jack Kochan *
- 25 Jeffrey Reichart
- 26 Keric Rollman
- 28 Aiden Slusser
- 30 Ann Myers *



- 14 Craig and Ann Myers (60 years)
- 19 Andrew and Wendy Miller (42 years)
- 20 Jeffrey and Dolores Gruver (21 years)
- 25 Kenneth and Donna Marks (24 years)
- 27 Chris and Mitzi Cote (24 years)
- 29 Stephen and Janna Kneeream (5 years)

“We are each a God-carrier and a
sanctuary of the Holy Spirit.”
– Archbishop Desmond Tutu



and

 Sycamore Farm's 
APPLE DUMPLING SALE

BERN LUTHERAN CHURCH

820 West Leesport Road

Leesport, PA 19533

Phone: 610.374.4343

(2 blocks off Route 183, just 2 miles north of the Reading Airport)

Thursday, May 26, 2022

3:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Walk-in Pick-up (dinners not picked up by 6:30 p.m. will be sold)



Apple Dumpling
Tickets are \$5.00

Call to order at
610.374.4343 or
610.678.5954. You
can also order online
on our website at
www.bernchurch.org

Chicken Dinner
Tickets are \$10.00

Dinner includes:

- 1/2 Chicken
- Baked Potato
- Apple Sauce
- Bottled Water

HOLY WEEK i-spy

Create this craft to share the events of Holy Week with a younger sibling or friend.



What you need:

- Clear bottle or jar with lid
- White rice
- Small items that symbolize Holy Week events

What you do:

1. Pour rice into bottle or jar so it's about two-thirds full.
2. Add the small items. Ideas: leaf, donkey, cup, towel square, praying hands, coin, bird, nails, thorn, cross, dice, stick, lamb, stone, white fabric.
3. Fasten the lid. Then shake and turn the bottle to "spy" each item.

PUZZLE

Resurrection refresher

All four gospels confirm Jesus' resurrection, and each one offers important details.

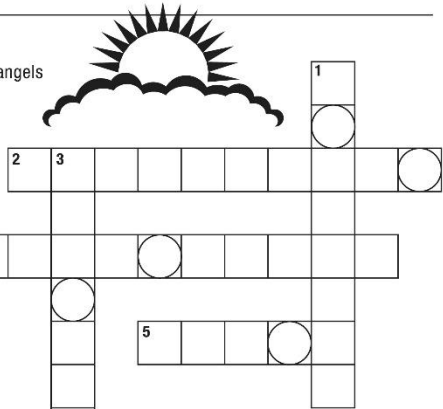
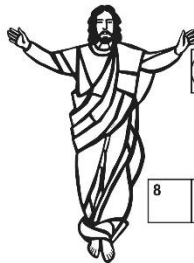
Directions: Complete the crossword. Then insert the circled letters (in order of the clue numbers) to complete John 20:17 below.

ACROSS

2. The women did this when they heard the angels talk about Jesus' death. (Luke 24:8)
4. The women at the tomb did this when they saw Jesus. (Matthew 28:9)
5. The man in Jesus' empty tomb wore this color robe. (Mark 16:5)
7. Jesus instructed his brothers to go here. (Matthew 28:10)
8. Peter saw strips of this in the tomb. (Luke 24:12)

DOWN

1. At first, Mary thought Jesus was this person. (John 20:15)
3. As an angel came from heaven, this happened. (Matthew 28:2)
6. She went with Mary to anoint Jesus' body. (Mark 16:1)



What did Jesus want Mary to tell his brothers?

"I _ m ascen _ ing _ o my
Fat _ er and your Fa _ her,
to _ y _ od and your God."
Joh _ 20:17, NIV

Answer: ACROSS 2. remembered, 4. worshipped, 5. white, 7. Galilee, 8. linen;
DOWN 1. gardener, 3. earthquake, 6. Salome; "I am ascending to my Father and
your Father, to my God and your God." John 20:17, NIV



SYNOD NEWS

NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA SYNOD, ELCA



APRIL 2022 • ISSUE 4 • VOLUME 30

Easter 2022 – No Idle Tale

“I love to tell the story...” So goes the great old hymn. But the world is filled with stories today, that are tough to tell. As Covid lingers. As the war in Ukraine breaks our heart. What’s next? And will it be worse? Just as much, I worry: can we trust each other anymore? Trust enough to share any kind of news, and believe it, together? Do we still hold in common, any of the assumptions, beliefs, and causes we used to share? Or is our world now filled only with suspicions and deceptions – “fake news” from all sources, on all sides?

On that first Easter Sunday, still overshadowed by Good Friday, bleakness and distrust were also all around. Even when those energized, overjoyed women burst in, announcing the most amazing thing they had ever seen and heard – HIS TOMB IS EMPTY! JESUS IS RISEN! – even then, “all the rest” dismissed their report as nothing more than “an idle tale” (Luke 24:11).

We are the church. We are called to be different. If the prevailing winds of our world today are seeking to blow us apart, the Holy Spirit winds us back together. God calls us to come to the places of sadness and sickness and doubt and despair – where all hope is dead and buried – and be ready to be amazed. Ready to see (and say!) what was dead – is now ALIVE. What was lost – is now FOUND. What was impossible – is now POSSIBLE. Real. True. And trustworthy. Jesus is risen, and we shall arise. The Bible prophets foretold it. Jesus said it, again and again. But almost nobody could trust it. Until God made it true, and sent people out to spread the word, the good news, the gospel. God is still sending us today. This Easter Sunday is like the first: a world full of doubt and distrust. A world full of conflict and separation. In the midst of it all, Christ is standing here with us. The Holy Spirit is in us and giving us courage. And God is making all things new, even now.

Jesus is risen, and we shall arise. Let us share this good news, for ALL people, for ALL creation. Holy God, give us the power to trust it, and to share it. Rebuild in us: trust in you. And through us: rebuild trust throughout our world, with justice, with peace, with faith, hope and love.

Blessed Easter to you and yours!
Bishop Christopher deForest

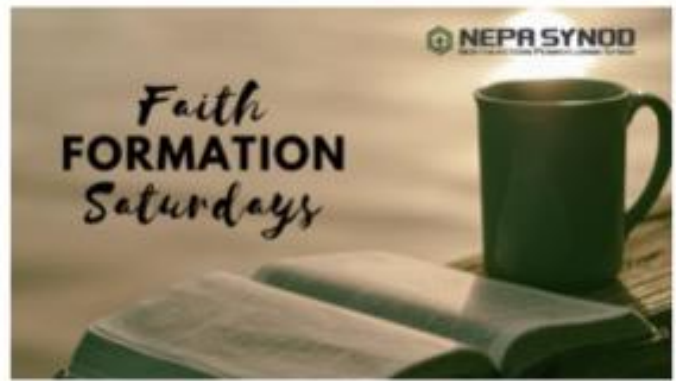


Our 2022 Assembly will be held online on June 10-11. Each congregation is entitled to bring two voting members. If you are interested in attending the synod assembly as a voting member please reach out to your congregation's leadership for more information.



**check out
our new
website**

godslove.org



Join us on the 2nd
Saturday of every month!
(more information on our website)

STEWARDSHIP EXTRAVAGANZA

JUNE 18, 2022
**TRINITY LUTHERAN
CHURCH, LANSDALE**
AN EVENT ORGANIZED BY THE
SEPA AND NEPA SYNODS
(REGISTRATION FORTHCOMING)



APRIL 23 & 24, 2022, 1PM-4PM
RAIN OR SHINE, BAREBONES EVENT, BRING
YOUR OWN KNIFE, CUTTING BOARD, DRINKS,
AND SNACKS. WE'LL BE CUTTING THE SEED
POTATOES FOR PLANTING SEASON! ALL ARE
INVITED! JUST WALK-IN AND HELP!

BECKER'S ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
265 MAIDENCREEK ROAD
FLEETWOOD, PA 19522

APRIL 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Secretary Office Hours: Tuesday: 8am - 2pm Wednesday: 12pm - 4pm Thursday: 8am - 1pm					1 6:00-8:00 pm – Frog Pond	2
3 <u>Fifth Sunday in Lent</u> 10:00 am – Worship with Holy Communion Supply Pastor: Will Lockhart 11:00 am-Sunday School Opener: Pat Yocum Greeter: Nancy Malandra	4	5	6 7:00-10:00 am-West Berks Mission District Lenten Prayer Breakfast Easter Flower Order Deadline	7 Secretary Korinne – out of office	8 6:00-8:00 pm – Frog Pond Deadline for Take-home Easter Kits from Epler's UCC	9 9:00-6:00pm-Jennifer Miller Social Hall Rental 10:00-12:00pm-Faith Formation on Zoom
10 <u>Palm Sunday / Passion Sunday</u> 10:00 am – Worship with Holy Communion Supply Pastor: Kenneth Gould 11:00 am-Sunday School 11:30-12:30pm-Easter Packet Pickup at Epler's UCC Opener: Dianne Leininger Greeter: Barb Auchenbach	11 1:00 pm – Senior Berners	12	13 6:00 pm – Boy Scouts	14 7:00 pm-Maundy Thursday service Opener: Dianne Leininger	15 7:00 pm-Good Friday service Opener: Rick Gruber	16
17 <u>Resurrection of Our Lord</u> 10:00 am – Worship with Holy Communion Supply Pastor: Kenneth Gould 11:00 am-Sunday School Opener: Terri Shurr Greeter: Barbara Auchenbach	18 7:00 pm – Council Meeting	19 8:30 am-9:00pm-Quilters Guild Workshop Newsletter Deadline	20	21	22 6:00-8:00 pm – Frog Pond	23
24 <u>First Sunday of Easter</u> 10:00 am – Worship Supply Pastor: David Kistler 11:00 am-Sunday School Opener: Erin Readinger Greeter: Nancy Malandra	25	26 3:00 pm-Berks Festival of Faith	27	28	29 6:00-8:00 pm – Frog Pond	30