

BERN BUGLE'S

October 2021



JOYFUL NOTES

Volume 24, Issue 10

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 AVAILABILITY:

Sundays at **10:00 a.m.**
In Sanctuary Worship
Parking Lot Service (91.7 FM)
Video on our Website

MINISTERS:

ALL THE MEMBERS EVERYDAY

PASTOR:

The Rev. Phyllis Wolkenhauer
Phone: 727-543-3537
Email: pastorphylliswolkenhauer@gmail.com
Office Hours: Monday and Tuesday 9:00-11:00 am, and
Thursday 10:00-11:30 am

PARISH SECRETARY:

Korinne Hotzman
Office Hours: Tuesday 8:00 am-2:00 pm, Wednesday
12:00 pm-4:00 pm, and Thursday 8:00 am-1:00 pm

MUSIC DIRECTOR:

Jane Battaglieri
Phone: 610-370-0965

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 SPONSOR

The *Bern Bugle* for this month is provided by Beth Hartman in celebration of our church family.

COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS:

Next meeting: October 18th at 7:00 p.m.

The following discussions took place and decisions made at our council meeting on Monday, September 20th:

- Blessing of the Pets will be held on Sunday, October 3, during the worship service.
- Selected Sunday, November 21, for the Annual Congregation meeting immediately following the worship service.
- Will investigate options to hold a Live Nativity program with the support of the Catechetical Class.

BLESSING OF PETS – Sunday, October 3, 2021 (The commemoration of St. Francis of Assisi who died on October 3, 1226)

Bring a picture of your pet(s) or a favorite animal(s) to worship. The whole congregation will participate in blessing them and all God's creatures.



CONFIRMATION CLASSES will be held October 3 and 17 at 11:00 am. **Please note:** We will walk in the CROP Walk on October 10 at 12:30 p.m. at Gring's Mill. There will be no classes on October 24 and 31. See you in the Youth Room!

CROP WALK – Ending Hunger One Step at A Time – October 10, 2021

Find our Confirmation students after worship carrying a bucket or box. Donations to help alleviate hunger, globally and locally, can be placed in the hand-made containers. Support our youth with any amount and help them in their endeavor to put an end to hunger. **THANK YOU!**

THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Join Pastor Phyllis the first 3 Thursdays in October, November and December, or as often as you are able, at 9:00 am to study the lessons for the upcoming Sunday. It is a meaningful way to study God's Word and learn from one another. We enjoy prayer together as well as lively discussion. Meet in the Library.

WEEKLY BIBLE VERSE TEXT MESSAGES

If you would like to resume receiving weekly bible verse text messages, please type @bernlut on your phone and send to 81010 to sign up.

LUNCH BUNCH

A group of women from Bern and Trinity Lutheran in Reading meet monthly for lunch and fellowship. We have been meeting under the drive-through at Bern Church during the summer. Everyone brings their own lunch and a lawn chair. When it gets cold, we will move inside. This month, we will meet on **October 18th at 12 noon**. Come and enjoy the fellowship and meeting new friends.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Articles for the November *Bern Bugle* are due by October 19th.

PASTOR PHYLLIS will be on vacation from October 22 to the 31. If you would need pastoral care during this time, please contact Pastor Gary Rarick at 610-401-1545.

ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY – November 7, 2021

On all Saints' Sunday we 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 (during any year) 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 2020, whose funeral was somewhere else, call the church office, if you would like their names included. Please remember to take home your framed pictures after the worship service. This is a day of both remembrance and celebration.

GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS

We aren't finished yet! This project that began on September 12th will come to an end as we send off

the Rev. Tom Scornavacchi, pastor of Common Ground Recovery Ministry, with a love offering for his congregation. The warm coats, sweaters, pants, socks, knit hats and gloves bearing notes of inspiration, will be a sign of God's love wrapped around those who often feel rejected by their families or society. We still need warm socks, hats, and gloves. The last day to drop off a donation is October 10th. Thank you for your love and concern for those who often find themselves on the margins of society. Remember: we only need adult size clothing.

2021 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 to help us share our faith, our church, and our family. We are able to share news of birthdays, upcoming events, and so much more for only \$40.00/month. Or you can help in presenting our best before God as we worship by sponsoring Altar Flowers for \$30.00/week. You are welcome to do all these things in honor of important birthdays/anniversaries, in honor of or in memory of someone, or to the Glory of God. Sign-up sheets are now available on the bulletin board in the hallway. Please consider signing up for one of the open sponsorships below. Thank you!

Altar Flower sponsors for October:

October 3 – David and Beth Hartman
October 10 – Richard Greener
October 17 – *sponsor needed*
October 24 – sponsored
October 31 – *sponsor needed*

Bulletin sponsors for October:

October 3 – The Schuler family
October 10 – *sponsor needed*
October 17 – *sponsor needed*
October 24 – *sponsor needed*
October 31 – *sponsor needed*

Newsletter sponsor for October:

Beth Hartman

Church Openers and Greeters for October:

October 3 – Dianne Leininger
October 10 – Richard Gruber
October 17 – Terri Shurr
October 24 – Evelyn Drobnick
October 31 –

A VOLUNTEER will be needed to post the Sunday worship service to YouTube after the end of this year. Please contact Mike or Brenda Reichart if you are willing to take over the posting. Training will be provided if needed.

OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS are with the family and friends of Ruth A. Mease who passed away on September 16, 2021. A Celebration of Life service will be held on Sunday, October 17, at 3:00 p.m. from Leibensperger Funeral Home, 233 Peach Street, Leesport. Visitation will begin at 1:30 p.m.

ADDRESS CHANGE

Please update your Member Directory with the following new address for one of our members. Margaret Reagan, 455 Spruce Street, Pottstown, PA 19464.

HEALTH MINISTRIES TEAM

Terri Shurr has taken over the Health Ministries Team and is available for blood pressure checks. If you have any questions, she will answer them if she is able. You can contact her at 610-372-7229.



GLOSSY MAGAZINE RECYCLING PROGRAM for Ronald McDonald House.

We have restarted this program and are actively collecting glossy magazines. You will find a black bin under the coat racks to place your magazines.



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.

BERN CEMETERY COMPANY

Lots are for sale on the lush green hillside across the street from Bern Reformed UCC. Prices are: 1 grave \$500, 2 graves \$600, 4 graves \$800, 8 graves \$1,000. These prices include the \$200 perpetual care fee. Two cremations may be buried in one grave. If interested, contact Cemetery Secretary, Barbara Reed at 610-678-2890 or Ed Fisher at 610-488-1967.



THANK YOU FROM PAULINE SHUMAN

To Pastor Phyllis and members of Bern Church: Thank you for your caring thoughts, prayers, and other get well support during my recent hospitalization. It is uplifting and appreciated. Several years ago I wrote a verse (set to music) for the young people in Zion Lutheran, Womelsdorf. I see how it expresses the kind of love shown by members of Bern Church.

“The Jesus Kind of Love”

I want the Jesus kind of love for the whole world to see. I want the Jesus kind of love to bring out the best in me. I want the Jesus kind of love to lead other ones to thee to show the happiness that it has brought to me. The Jesus kind of love is not for sale in any store. It's not something that you borrow and it isn't make-believe. It is not something that you steal and hide for selfish use. Instead it grows and flourishes. In abundance overflows.

That is the kind of love shown to me and others over the years at Bern. – *Pauline Shuman*



Please be sure to use your Save-a-Tape card when making your purchases at Redner's. We can only use receipts that have used this card. For more information about this program, please visit: <https://www.rednersmarkets.com/redners-save-a-tape-program.html>

“It is in your hands to create a better world for all who live in it.” — Nelson Mandela

IN OUR Thoughts and Prayers

MEMBERS:

Jim Bernhart, Warren Lengel, Ruth Keeney, family and friends of Ruth Mease

FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Bob Stoner, Betty Gruber, Ashley, Kim Peth, Stacy Laroche, Philip Triantis, Mike, George Frey, Dennis Hettinger, Peggy Deemer, Joe and Karen Young, Ryder Knechtle and family, Brian, James Hey, Glenn Jones, Kailey, Renee Fullmer, Patrick, Susan, Owen Hey, Joyce, Rev. Fred Foerster, Brenda Frey, Erin Ascencio, and Lesley Wegman

A LOOK AT BEAUTY

Remember kaleidoscopes—those tubes you hold up to your eye and point toward the light to see colorful shapes?

When the far end of the optical instrument is turned, fragments of material inside an “object cell” shift and mirrors set at

angles reflect light through the pieces, forming ever-changing patterns. A multi-hued flower might become sunlight through a round stained-glass window or fireworks on a clear night.

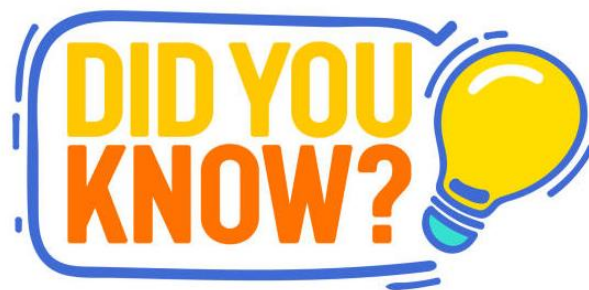


Various materials can be placed in the cell — tiny figures, twisted bits of metal, lace, viscous liquid —but often broken bits of glass are used, to beautiful effect! In

fact, David Brewster, inventor of the kaleidoscope in 1817, named it after the Greek word *kalos*, for “beauty.”

Everyone feels broken, twisted or shattered at times. But when God’s perfect light shines in and through us, reflecting among the fragments of our imperfect lives, we, too, become beautiful. Out of our sinfulness and brokenness shines the beauty of compassion, kindness, perseverance, hope, love — delightful patterns to brighten this hurting world.

Reprinted from *The Newsletter Newsletter*



RAINBOW

The Rainbow represents God’s pardon and his promises. It also symbolizes his reconciliation to faithful Christians. After the Flood, God placed a rainbow in the sky as a symbol of his promise to never destroy the earth that way again (Genesis 9:12-16). A rainbow can also represent the throne of Christ, as well as his glory and final judgment.



Reprinted from *The Newsletter Newsletter*

DON'T FORGET TO ORDER YOUR TICKETS TODAY!



Friday, October 22, 2021
3:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Drive Thru Pick Up Only

(Dinners not picked up by 6:30 p.m. will be sold)

\$9.00 Dinner Includes

■ ½ Chicken ■ Baked Potato ■ Apple Sauce ■ Bottled Water

To order, call 610-374-4343 or 610-678-5954
or

Order online at www.bernychurch.org



(* Denotes 80 years young)

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



- 14 Mark and Tara Lash (26 years)
- 17 Walter and Bonnie Bohnenblust (40 years)
- 17 Michael and Cheryl Knabb (35 years)
- 18 David and Dianna Greenwood (35 years)
- 20 Kenneth and Debra Beissel (42 years)
- 23 Richard and Lisa Miller (11 years)
- 23 Chris and Kristen Schera (22 years)
- 26 Michael and Cindy Reilly (53 years)

"Nothing [is] more truly artistic than to love people." — Vincent Van Gogh

INCOME AND ATTENDANCE

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

Budget Report – Year to Date

	<u>August</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Income	\$11,919.03	\$112,672.17
Congregational Fund Raising		
- Chicken BarBQ	<u>700.00</u>	<u>1,520.74</u>
Total Funds	<u>\$12,619.03</u>	<u>\$114,192.91</u>

Actual Income / Expenses	<u>August</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Budgeted Income	\$11,502.34	\$89,126.26
Non-Budgeted Income	1,116.69	25,066.65
Budgeted Expenses	10,492.15	104,112.36
Non-Budgeted Expenses	105.00	668.55
Benevolence to be Paid	554.00	3,703.00
Surplus/Deficit	1,467.88	5,709.00


Benevolence	<u>YTD</u>	<u>2021 Pledge</u>
Synod and ELCA	\$2,126.50	\$3,000.00
World Hunger	995.50	1,500.00
Mission Field	609.00	1,300.00
W.B.M.D.	403.00	600.00
Other	--	0.00

Capital Improvement Acct.	<u>August</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Member Contributions	\$160.00	\$990.00
Interest	.69	5.31
Expense	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
		<u>\$40,389.76</u>

Savings Account	<u>YTD</u>
Thrivent Choice Dollars	\$318.00
Interest	26.01
Expenses	<u>0.00</u>
	<u>\$131,453.86</u>

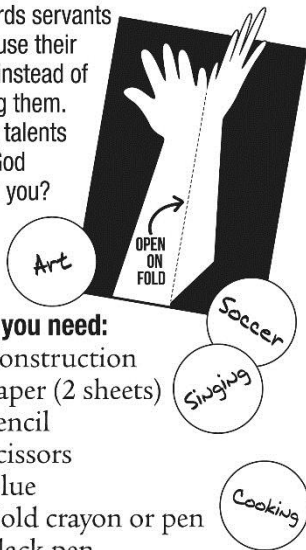
AW-FALL!

Share some laughs—or groans—with these autumn-themed jokes:

- What did the tree say to autumn? "Leaf me alone!" 
- How do you fix a broken pumpkin? With a pumpkin patch.
- Why are trees very forgiving? Because in the fall they "let it go" and in the spring they "turn over a new leaf."

FULL OF TALENT

In Matthew 25:14-30, the master rewards servants who use their gifts instead of hiding them. What talents has God given you?



What you need:

- Construction paper (2 sheets)
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Glue
- Gold crayon or pen
- Black pen

What you do:

1. Fold one sheet of paper in half lengthwise. Trace your hand and lower arm so your arm touches the folded edge. Cut out the arm and hand, keeping the folded edge uncut.
2. Glue the folded hand to the other sheet of paper.
3. In gold, draw five coins in the hand. In black, write the skills and gifts God has given you.
4. Open the fold and draw 10 gold coins in the two open hands. In black, write how you can use your skills and gifts to help others and honor God.



MASTER MULTIPLICATION

Jesus tells a parable about faithful servants who multiply their master's money. How does the master respond?

Directions: Solve the math problems. Find the letters that match the answers and write them in order to complete Matthew 25:21, NIV.

1. 5 x 3 =	6. 6 x 6 =
2. 7 x 4 =	7. 9 x 3 =
3. 4 x 6 =	8. 3 x 8 =
4. 2 x 10 =	9. 10 x 4 =
5. 9 x 5 =	10. 11 x 8 =

KEY

A = 28	J = 50	S = 88
B = 35	K = 21	T = 45
C = 14	L = 63	U = 64
D = 25	M = 15	V = 32
E = 33	N = 24	W = 80
F = 72	O = 77	X = 56
G = 40	P = 54	Y = 20
H = 36	Q = 9	Z = 48
I = 27	R = 16	

"His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant!

You have been faithful with a few things;

I will put you in charge of _____.

Come and share your master's happiness!"

MATTHEW 25:21, NIV

Answer: 15, 28, 24, 20, 45, 36, 27, 24, 40, 88, many things



SYNOD NEWS

NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA SYNOD, ELCA

OCTOBER 2021 • ISSUE 10 • VOLUME 29

CONGREGATIONAL LEGACY & PURPOSE

BY DEACON TRAVIS WOODFIELD

I have to admit, I'm a sucker for history, especially church history. I love learning about times in the past that I'll never get to experience, in places I can only aspire to visit. I've been fortunate to go to some of those places: I've stood in churches that were 1,000 years old across Europe and marveled at the engineering, been in the cradle of the Roman Empire, lived in New York City and Philadelphia, laid down, in the rain, in the grass of monasteries from 800 years ago that is now in ruins. In all of these places, I try to imagine what it was like to be part of a community from long ago. Sometimes it's easier than others, I know something unique about a place or I know how a building was built, but the end is the same- I am in a place, remembering what I can about it, being part of its history and life.

There is a cycle to these things. Empires come and go. Leaders and rulers come and go. Institutions come and go. All of these life cycles, being born, going through a growth period, living adulthood, moving into the twilight of life, and finally, death, are all part of our lives, whether on a personal or institutional level. Part of the incredible message of Christ's suffering, death, and resurrection is that death does not have the final word. However, no matter how much we try to avoid it, duck it, or deny it, death will have a word. Jesus himself understood that the only way to resurrection was through death - after all, if there's no death before resurrection, what we are really talking about is immortality, which is certainly not the Christian message.

These "deaths" can come in many forms in the church. Maybe it's moving a worship time, moving from 2 services to 1 so that the community might be one and ministry might be effective. It may be struggling with how to do "virtual" church in the time of a pandemic. Maybe it's letting a go special ministry that the church can no longer support with financial or labor. Maybe it's giving up a building to move to a building that fits the congregation. Maybe it's merging or closing.

The truth is that none of these realities, these deaths, are easy to imagine or even embrace. There is real grief, fear, anxiety, anger, and sadness that comes with even thinking about them. It's also true that we are not alone in these decisions. We do not know what resurrection may look like, but we know that it is Christ's promise. History always seems short when we are the ones participating in it. Christ sees the long view and, I think, wondering how we can participate in trying to see that long view is part of our call as a Christian. We cannot see the end but we can think and pray about what next, faithful steps may be. As a church, we have to start thinking about what those faithful steps might be, both as individuals, as a church, and as a synod.

Four years ago, I had the chance to go to the Isle of Iona in Scotland and visit the Benedictine abbey there, which is now a retreat center. Could a group of Benedictine nuns, living in the 1200's on a remote island of Scotland, possibly imagine that a guy from a land that had not been discovered yet to come visit their monastery? That, I would lay down, in the rain, in the ruins of their chapel, and imagine what it was like to worship there? 800 years ago, it would have been simply impossible to dream. What they did do was make faithful decisions that allowed that moment to happen and, even in the literal ruins of their communal life, there was a moment of that community's resurrection in my mind and heart, remembering them. As we move forward as a church, locally and as a synod, I pray that we can make faithful, prayerful decisions that are resurrection decisions and not immortality ones.



Synod Staff:

STACEY BURKE

Stacey Burke is the Lutheran Center's receptionist and the friendly voice you will most likely hear when calling the Synod office. Her main responsibilities will be scheduling supply pastors and maintaining the database of congregations.

Stacey graduated with a graphic design and TV/Film degree and plans to use her positive attitude and creative mindset to fulfill God's work throughout the Synod office and beyond. Being an active member at Hope Lutheran Church in Cherryville for over 30 years, Stacey has volunteered her time in various committees including youth group, Vacation Bible School, choir, orchestra, and worship arts.

Stacey is inspired daily by her husband Kevin and their new baby boy. They love spending time together as a family, which also includes a cat named Duncan and a dog named Red. Stacey resides in Bethlehem and enjoys attending art festivals and concerts. In her free time, Stacey likes to capture photography, play the guitar, perform in theater arts and spend time outdoors. She is very excited to have the opportunity to join the Synod staff, and she looks forward to growing within the Lutheran Center and watching God inspire and work all around her.

OCTOBER 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3 19 th Sunday after Pentecost 10:00 am – Worship / Blessing of the Pets 11:00 am – Confirmation Class Opener: Dianne Leininger	4 Pastor: 9:00-11:00 am	5 Pastor: 9:00-11:00 am Secretary: 8:00-2:00 pm	6 Secretary: 12:00-4:00 pm 7:00 pm – Boy Scouts	7 Pastor: 10:00-11:30 am Secretary: 8:00-1:00 pm 9:00 am – Bible Study	1 6:00-8:00 pm – Frog Pond	2
					8 6:00-8:00 pm – Frog Pond	9
10 20 th Sunday after Pentecost 10:00 am – Worship 12:30 pm – CROP Hunger Walk Opener: Richard Gruber	11 Pastor: 9:00-11:00 am 1:00 pm – Senior Berners	12 Pastor: 9:00-11:00 am Secretary: 8:00-2:00 pm 7:00 pm – Boy Scouts	13 Secretary: 12:00-4:00 pm 7:00 pm – Boy Scouts	14 Pastor: 10:00-11:30 am Secretary: 8:00-1:00 pm 9:00 am – Bible Study	15 6:00-8:00 pm – Frog Pond	16
17 21 st Sunday after Pentecost 10:00 am – Worship 11:00 am – Conf. Class Common Ground (sorting) 2:00 pm – Schlottman Social Hall Rental 3:00 pm – Celebration of Life Service for Ruth Mease. Visitation at 1:30 pm Opener: Terri Shurr	18 Pastor: 9:00-11:00 am 12:00 pm – Lunch Bunch 7:00 pm – Council Meeting	19 Pastor: 9:00-11:00 am Secretary: 8:00-2:00 pm 9:00 am – Common Ground (pack clothes) 3:30 pm - Quilters NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	20 Secretary: 12:00-4:00 pm	21 Pastor: 10:00-11:30 am Secretary: 8:00-1:00 pm 9:00 am – Bible Study 3:00 pm – Festival of Faith	22 3:00-6:30 pm – Kauffman's BBQ Chicken Dinner Pickup at Bern Church 6:00-8:00 pm – Frog Pond Pastor Phyllis on vacation until October 31	23 Pastor – Vacation
24 22 nd Sunday after Pentecost 10:00 am – Worship Pastor Tom Scornavacchi Opener: Evelyn Drobnick	25 Pastor - Vacation	26 Pastor - Vacation Secretary: 8:00-2:00 pm	27 Pastor – Vacation Secretary: 12:00-4:00 pm	28 Pastor - Vacation Secretary: 8:00-1:00 pm	29 Pastor – Vacation 6:00-8:00 pm – Frog Pond	30 Pastor - Vacation
31 Reformation Sunday 10:00 am – Worship Pastor Ginny Biniek Pastor - Vacation Opener:						

