

BERN BUGLE'S JOYFUL NOTES



March 2021

VOLUME 24, ISSUE 3

Bern Evangelical Lutheran Church
820 West Leesport Road, Leesport PA 19533
610-374-4343

bernlutheranchurch@gmail.com

www.bernchurch.org

Worship Availability

Sundays 9:00am

In House Service following strict CDC guidelines

Parking Lot Service (91.7fm)

Video on Website

Ministers: ALL THE MEMBERS EVERYDAY

Pastor: The Rev. Phyllis Wolkenhauer

727-543-3537

pastorphylliswolkenhauer@gmail.com

Parish Secretary: Beverly Whipple

Parish Nurse: Toni Sweitzer

610-372-3753

Music Director: Jane Battaglieri

610-370-0965

Missionaries: The Rev. Robert & Kathy Moore,
Germany



Bern Lutheran Church Sends March Birthday Greetings To



*Denotes 80+ years young!

03/07 Christopher Knabb
03/07 Nicole Knabb
03/09 Phyllis Stonefelt*
03/10 Verna Speicher*
03/11 Adam Schuler
03/12 Gerald Pawlyk
03/13 C. Jacob Stricker*
03/14 Pat Brown

03/14 Linda Heck
03/20 George Zimmermann, Jr
03/21 Barry Shurr
03/21 Emily Goetz
03/22 Jean Lash*
03/23 Cerina Readinger
03/24 Barbara Braucher*
03/26 Bella Landis

03/27 Cassandra Cote
03/29 Mike Reichart
03/30 Linda Lash
03/30 Derian Readinger
03/31 Dennis Egan
03/31 Gladys Krick*

Happy March Anniversary To

03/06 Bob & Tina Hissing (50yrs)

03/08 Gary & Evelyn Drobnick (16yrs)

March Bugle Sponsor

The Bern Bugle this month is sponsored by Philip & JoAnn Ketz
in memory of JoAnn's sister Paula and in honor of JoAnn's sister Kathy's birthday

Building Principles

Devotion to Jesus as Lord &
Savior

Compassionate Sharing &
Community Service
Persistent Faithfulness
Courageous Witness
Flexible Leadership

Newsletter Deadline

Articles for the March Bern
Bugle are due by 03/16

Purpose Statement

God's purpose for our
congregation is to:

Learn God's mission

Share God's love

Witness through Word & Service

Welcome all to a fellowship of
forgiveness & thankful praise.

February Congregational Council Meeting Highlights

- Decision to investigate options for Propane Supplier due to escalating costs.
- Inspection of Heating and Cooling system has been completed - awaiting final report.
- Interest in a First Communion class has been expressed. Pastor Phyllis will schedule.

A graphic for Church Office Hours. It features a photograph of a spiral-bound notebook, a pen, and a small potted plant. Overlaid on the image is the text "Church Office Hours" in a large, bold, black font. Below this, the text "Pastor Phyllis" is followed by "Tuesdays 9:00 - 12 noon" and "(Pastor Phyllis can be contacted at other times by her cell 727-543-3537)". To the right, the text "Parish Secretary Beverly" is followed by "Tuesday 830am-330pm", "Wednesday 1230pm-400pm", and "Thursday 830am-1230pm". At the bottom, it says "Beverly will be on vacation 3/31-4/2".

Church Office Hours

Pastor Phyllis
Tuesdays 9:00 - 12 noon
(Pastor Phyllis can be contacted at other times by her cell 727-543-3537)
Her day off is Friday.

Parish Secretary Beverly
Tuesday 830am-330pm
Wednesday 1230pm-400pm
Thursday 830am-1230pm
Beverly will be on vacation 3/31-4/2



Maundy Thursday 04/01 at 7:00 pm
Good Friday 04/02 at 7:00 pm
Easter Sunday 04/04 at 9:00 am
In-person Worship is available, using strict CDC guidelines, or you can view online at bernchurch.org



Is Church Service Cancelled?

Want to know if church service or other church activities are cancelled? You can check WFMZ news, the church voicemail, our Facebook page, our website (bernchurch.org), or sign up to receive text messages from Remind. To be added to Remind, please send a text to 81010 and text this message: @bernl.



Pastor Phyllis is making plans for a First Communion class for those whose parents feel they are ready to receive the Sacrament. Please call or email Pastor Phyllis, if you are interested in attending the class.
(pastorphylliswolkenhauer@gmail.com; or 727-543-3537) The dates and times will be determined by those who are interested.

Now that the COVID-19 vaccine is being offered to some members of the community, please review the attached information from the CDC about the benefits of accepting the vaccine and precautions that need to be continued even after receiving it. As always, consult your healthcare provider to discuss any specific concerns that you may have about the vaccine as you make your decision.



Facts about COVID-19 vaccines

Vaccines (shots) are one of the tools we have to fight the COVID-19 pandemic.



To stop this pandemic, we need to use all of our prevention tools. Vaccines are one of the most effective tools to protect your health and prevent disease. Vaccines work with your body's natural defenses so **your body will be ready to fight the virus**, if you are exposed (also called immunity). Other steps, like wearing a mask that covers your nose and mouth and staying at least 6 feet away from other people you don't live with, also help stop the spread of COVID-19.

Studies show that COVID-19 **vaccines are very effective** at keeping you from getting COVID-19. Experts also think that getting a COVID-19 vaccine may help keep you from getting seriously ill even if you do get COVID-19. These vaccines cannot give you the disease itself.



The vaccines are safe. The U.S. vaccine safety system makes sure that all vaccines are as safe as possible. All the COVID-19 vaccines that are being used have gone through the same safety tests and meet the same standards as any other vaccines produced through the years. A system in place across the entire country that allows CDC to watch for safety issues and make sure the vaccines stay safe.



Different types of COVID-19 vaccines will be available. Most of these vaccines are given in two shots, one at a time and spaced apart. The first shot gets your body ready. The second shot is given at least three weeks later to make sure you have full protection. If you are told you need two shots, make sure that you get both of them. The vaccines may work in slightly different ways, but all types of the vaccines will help protect you.



www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/vaccines



The vaccines may cause side effects in some people, like sore muscles, feeling tired, or mild fever. These reactions mean the vaccine is working to help teach your body how to fight COVID-19 if you are exposed. For most people, these side effects will last no longer than a day or two.

Having these types of side effects does NOT mean that you have COVID-19. If you have questions about your health after your shot, call your doctor, nurse, or clinic. As with any medicine, it is rare but possible to have a serious reaction, such as not being able to breathe. It is very unlikely that this will happen, but if it does, call 911 or go to the nearest emergency room.



When you get the vaccine, you *and* your healthcare worker will both need to wear masks.

CDC recommends that during the pandemic, people wear a mask that covers their nose and mouth when in contact with others outside their household, when in healthcare facilities, and when receiving any vaccine, including a COVID-19 vaccine.



Even after you get your vaccine, you will need to keep wearing a mask that covers your nose *and* mouth, washing your hands often, and staying at least 6 feet away from other people you do not live with. This gives you and others the best protection from catching the virus. Right now, experts don't know how long the vaccine will protect you, so it's a good idea to continue following the guidelines from CDC and your health department. **We also know not everyone will be able to get vaccinated right away, so it's still important to protect yourself and others.**

2021 Bulletin & Newsletter Sponsorships Are Open

[Click Here to Sponsor a Bulletin](#)

In order to provide high quality weekly bulletins & cover mailing costs we invite you to become a sponsor for only \$20. You are welcome to do this in honor of loved ones or important anniversaries or in memory of someone or to the glory of God.

[Click Here to Sponsor a Newsletter](#)

By sponsoring our monthly newsletter you are helping us to share our faith, our church, our family. We are able to share news of birthdays, upcoming events, and so much more!

WBMD Midweek Lenten Worship Series
LET'S WORSHIP TOGETHER IN LENT!
Wednesday Evenings

Wednesdays in Lent will focus on the theme “**Created for Community.**”

These 20-30 minute Zoom services will be offered each week at 7:00 PM using leadership from across the WBMD.

To join the service on your computer click the link below.

Meeting ID: 885 5323 5621

Passcode: 321147

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88553235621?pwd=bGVBTdZTb1lvTWgyMWN3bmFmbTVjZz09>

At 7:30 PM you are invited to join Trinity Robesonia for a brief service of Holden Evening Prayer live-streamed on Facebook at this link: <https://www.facebook.com/Trinity-Lutheran-Church-Robesonia-Pennsylvania-143665935665429>

Worshippers are invited to make a special Lenten offering through their congregations to Helping Harvest Food Bank to help feed our neighbors in need.



St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland, is one of Christianity's most widely known figures. But for all of his prevalence in culture, namely the holiday held on the day of his death that bears his name, his life remains somewhat of a mystery.

St. Patrick was born in Britain, not Ireland, to wealthy parents near the end of the fourth century. He is believed to have died on March 17, around 460 A.D.

At the age of 16, Patrick was taken prisoner by a group of Irish raiders who were attacking his family's estate. They transported him to Ireland where he spent six years in captivity. During this time, he worked as a shepherd, outdoors & away from people. Lonely & afraid, he turned to his religion for solace, becoming a devout Christian.

After more than six years as a prisoner, Patrick escaped. According to his writing, a voice, which he believed to be God's, spoke to him in a dream, telling him it was time to leave Ireland.

To do so, Patrick walked nearly 200 miles from County Mayo, where it is believed he was held, to the

Irish coast. After escaping to Britain, Patrick reported that he experienced a second revelation, an angel in a dream tells him to return to Ireland as a missionary. Soon after, Patrick began religious training, a course of study that lasted more than 15 years.

After his ordination as a priest, he was sent to Ireland with a dual mission: to minister to Christians already living in Ireland & to begin to convert the Irish.

Familiar with the Irish language & culture, Patrick chose to incorporate traditional ritual into his lessons of Christianity instead of attempting to eradicate native Irish beliefs. For instance, he used bonfires to celebrate Easter since the Irish were used to honoring their gods with fire. He also superimposed a sun, a powerful Irish symbol, onto the Christian cross to create what is now called a Celtic cross, so that veneration of the symbol would seem more natural to the Irish.

His influence is still felt to this day as Nations the world over commemorate him on March 17th of every year.

We are on Facebook!



You can follow us on
Facebook for
information on

Worship, Events, Cancellations, & other news.

<https://www.facebook.com/Bern-Lutheran-Church-103625754955228>



Coffee Hour

March 14th at 2:00pm

On Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88043352420?pwd=bFNmejhYZEhMTIA>

Help Decorate our Sanctuary for Easter!

*This year we will have lilies, tulips and
daffodils for sale.*

*Click Here to Order Easter
Flowers*



INCOME AND ATTENDANCE

\$3259.19 IS NEEDED PER WEEK TO MEET 100% OF THE BUDGETED EXPENSES

BUDGET REPORT - YEAR TO DATE

Income	\$11,921.67
Congregational fund raising	\$0
Total funds	\$11,921.67

BENEVOLENCE

01/01/21-01/31/21

	YEAR TO DATE	2020 PLEDGE
Synod & ELCA	\$278.00	\$3,000.00
World Hunger	\$45.50	\$1,500.00
Mission Field	\$51.50	\$1,300.00
W.B.M.D.	\$33.00	\$600.00
Other	\$0.00	\$0.00

ACTUAL INCOME/EXPENSES

	YEAR TO DATE	YEAR TO DATE
BUDGETED INCOME	\$11,751.00	\$11,751.00
NON-BUDGETED INCOME	\$170.67	\$170.67
BUDGETED EXPENSES	\$12,787.08	\$12,787.08
NON-BUDGETED EXPENSES	\$15.89	\$15.893
BENEVOLENCE TO BE PAID		\$0.00
SURPLUS/DEFICIT		

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT ACCOUNT

Member contributions	\$50.00
Interest	\$0.00
Expense	\$0.00
	\$39,640.12

ORGAN FUND

Income - December 14 - December 31	
Member contributions	\$0.00
Interest	\$0.06

		\$2,265.46
	SAVINGS ACCOUNT	
Income - December 14 - December 31		
Thrivent Choice Dollars		\$0.00
Interest		\$3.03
Expenses		\$0.00
		\$131,109.85
	PIANO FUND	
Income - December 14 - December 31		
Member contributions		\$0.00
Interest		\$0.11
Expense		\$0.00
		\$4,257.55

As of January 31, 2021 our general checking account balance is \$61,710.06

Saint Patrick Prayer



Christ shield me today
 Against wounding
 Christ with me,
 Christ before me,
 Christ behind me,
 Christ in me,
 Christ beneath me,
 Christ above me,
 Christ on my right,
 Christ on my left,
 Christ when I lie down,
 Christ when I sit down,
 Christ in the heart of everyone who thinks of me,
 Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me,
 Christ in the eye that sees me,
 Christ in the ear that hears me.
 I arise today
 Through the mighty strength
 Of the Lord of creation