

**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:

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

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 September is given to the Glory of God and grateful for 5 years cancer free by Barbara Auchenbach.

COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

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

- B&B Integrations has been selected to upgrade the sound system.
- A fall clothing drive will be held after Labor Day until October 22, 2023.
- We will be having only one service on Sunday, December 24 (Christmas Eve) at 7:00 p.m.
- Communion Cards have been put back in the pews.

OUR NEXT COUNCIL MEETING will be on **Monday, September 18th at 7:00 p.m.**

SEPTEMBER SIGN-UP SHEETS

We are in need of Bulletin sponsors for Sunday, September 3, 10, and 24. Please sign up on the sheet in the hallway if you are interested in sponsoring these dates. Thank you to all who signed up!

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Articles for the October *Bern Bugle* are due by **Tuesday, September 19th.**

SUNDAY SCHOOL RESUMES on Sunday, September 10, following the worship service. All children are welcome to attend.

CATECHETICAL CLASS PLANNING

MEETING will be held on **Sunday, September 17, at 9:30 a.m.** All returning students and their parents are invited to attend as well as anyone 12 or older who has not yet been confirmed and would like to join the class. Please see Brenda Reichart for more information or if you have any questions.

COMMUNION CARDS

When the pandemic hit, the communion cards were removed from the pews. They have now been returned to the pews. Please fill out a card whenever you commune so a record can be kept. Thank you!

HANDBELL CHOIR

Wouldn't it be wonderful to get our handbell choir going again and to play for our anniversary service in November?!!! I would absolutely love it! Could we have a short organizational meeting following worship on September 24? (in the front of the sanctuary).

Even if you have never picked up a handbell but would like to play, just "come on down." All you need to know is how to count to 3 or 4 and to know your colors! We do need a minimum of six players but would love to have a dozen! (or more!) You can talk to Jane after worship or call her at home if you have any questions at 610-370-0965. She would love to hear from you. Please consider participating in this special contribution to our worship service. – *Jane Battaglieri*



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

The Water Miracles of Jesus VBS was held July 23-27. It was a great week with about 23 children participating throughout the week. Thank you to everyone who helped or donated food or other items.

Check out the pictures from the week of VBS elsewhere in our newsletter.

Mark your calendars for next year's VBS to be held July 21-25, 2024.

FALL CLOTHING DRIVE

We did it once, we can do it again! 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 are going to hold another clothing drive to see if we can help them. Look for the big cardboard box to

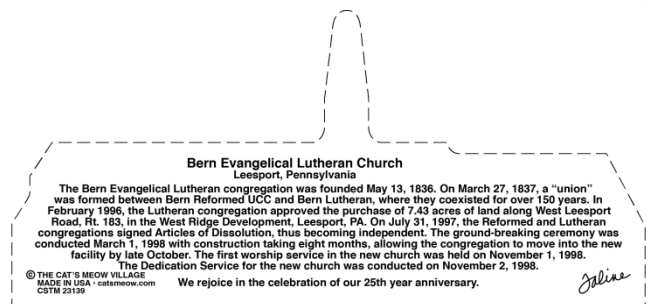
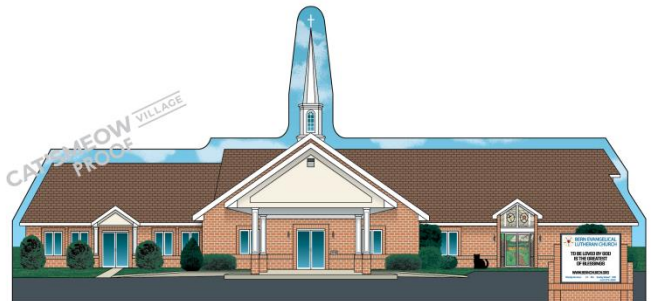
show up sometime after Labor Day. We will collect gently-used clothing until Sunday, October 22, when Rob Turchi, CEO of Hope Rescue Mission, will be leading our worship service on that Sunday. Thank you for your support!



25TH ANNIVERSARY UPDATE

On November 1, 2023 we will be celebrating 25 years as Bern Lutheran Church. An anniversary worship service will take place on **Sunday, November 12, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.** In celebration of this very special occasion, we are taking orders for a handcrafted wooden keepsake replica of our church building (see the sample below). The cost is \$20.00 each. An order form is included with this newsletter or forms can be found on the bulletin board in the hallway. You can give your order form and payment to Barry Shurr, place it in the offering basket on Sunday morning, place it in the mail slot of the secretary's office, or mail in your order form with payment to Bern Lutheran Church. Please make your check payable to "Bern Lutheran Church" and write *Cat's Meow* on the memo line of your check.

Orders are due by Sunday, September 3, 2023.



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 and return by October 29 so we can keep an accurate count of how many will be attending.



(* Denotes 80 years young)

- 10 Joseph Borkey
- 10 Kristi Reichart
- 11 Annette Becker
- 11 Matthew Kasisky
- 11 Mark Lash
- 14 Rowbee'C Kasisky
- 16 Rachel Mountz
- 18 Sally Koch
- 19 Harold Leh *
- 19 Randall Schlappich
- 19 Devin Schlottman
- 20 Jeremy Goetz
- 21 Craig Myers *
- 22 Walter Schlottman
- 23 Donna Marks
- 23 Sharon Mogel
- 24 Jeffery Gruver
- 26 Lucy Moyer *



- 2 Jeffrey and Andrea Shurr (17 years)
- 14 Harold and Janet Leh (60 years)
- 16 Christopher and Annette Becker (34 years)
- 17 Michael and Beth Braucher (29 years)
- 23 George and Jane Schaeffer (73 years)
- 23 G. Michael and Marian Zimmermann (28 years)
- 25 Kyle and Tabitha Angstadt (19 years)

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:

- September 3 – Phil and JoAnn Ketz
- September 10 – David and Beth Hartman
- September 17 – Phil and JoAnn Ketz
- September 24 – Bob and Tina Hissinger

Bulletin Sponsors:

- September 3 – *sponsor needed*
- September 10 – *sponsor needed*
- September 17 – Beth Braucher
- September 24 – *sponsor needed*

Newsletter Sponsor:

Barbara Auchenbach

Church Openers:

- September 3 – Christopher Becker
- September 10 – Richard Gruber
- September 17 – Jane Battaglieri
- September 24 – Theresa Shurr

Church Greeters:

- September 3 – Barbara Auchenbach
- September 10 – *open*
- September 17 – Barbara Auchenbach
- September 24 – *open*

Lectors:

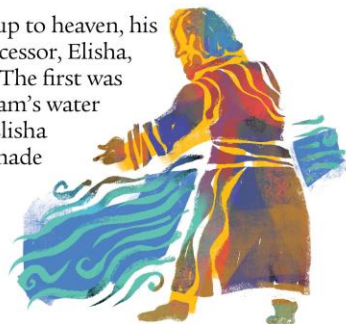
- September 3 – Jay Field
- September 10 – Brenda Reichart
- September 17 – Richard Gruber
- September 24 – Barbara Braucher

Supply Pastor Schedule:

- September 3 – Pastor William Fryer
- September 10 – Pastor Kenneth Gould
- September 17 – Pastor Kenneth Gould
- September 24 – Pastor David Kistler

Bible Quiz

After Elijah was taken up to heaven, his newly commissioned successor, Elisha, performed two miracles. The first was making a poisonous stream's water safe to drink. What did Elisha toss into the water that made it wholesome?



- A. a stick
- B. a new bowl
- C. bread
- D. salt

Answer: D (See 2 Kings 2:19-22.)

"Prayer is an acknowledgment that our need of God's help is not partial but total."

—Alistair Begg, *Made for His Pleasure*

Upcoming COMMUNITY EVENTS

FOOD & FAITH

Epler's UCC will be holding their Food & Faith worship service on **Friday, September 1**, with a fellowship meal at 6:00 p.m. The worship service will begin at 7:00 p.m. Special music will be provided by Fran Merkel on flute. Come out for an evening of worship and fellowship.

15TH ANNUAL LEESPORT COMMUNITY DAYS

Presented by the Leesport Area Historical Society, the Leesport Community Days will be held on **Friday,**



September 8, from 5:00-10:00 p.m. A vintage car cruise from 5:00-8:00 p.m., Jeff Krick, Jr.: Elvis Tribute from 5:00-6:30 p.m., and the Dutch Platter Band: Classic Rock from 7:00-10:00 p.m. On **Saturday, September 9, from 4:00-9:00 p.m.** there

will be music by DJ Eddie Ed from 4:00-6:00 p.m., The Youngers from 6:00-9:00 p.m. and fireworks at 9:00 p.m. sharp. (rain date is Sunday, September 10, from 3:00-8:00 p.m.) There will be rides, games, food, music, cash bingo, raffle prizes, and food trucks. Visit www.leesporthistory.org or follow their Facebook page.

4TH ANNUAL BASKET SOCIAL

Bern UCC, 3196 Bernville Road, Leesport, will be holding their 4th Annual Basket Social on **Friday, September 15, from 4:00-7:00 p.m.** to view the baskets and purchase tickets (red tickets are 10 for \$5.00 and green tickets are 3 for \$5.00). On **Saturday, September 16**, the doors open at 10:00 a.m. with the drawing starting at 1:00 p.m. You can also enjoy some great food! Pulled pork sandwiches, hot dogs, and soup along with snacks, baked goods, and drinks served on both days. At our last event we had 115 unique baskets. Stop by and check them out. Come out and enjoy the fun!



FREE COMMUNITY MEAL

Epler's UCC, 1151 West Leesport Road, Leesport, will be sponsoring a FREE community meal on **Tuesday, September 19, from 4:30-6:00 p.m.** (no reservations necessary). Bring your friends, family, neighbors, and anyone who could use a good free meal. This will be drive-through (take-out) only event.

Mark your calendars for our other upcoming free community meals to be held on Tuesday, October 24, from 5:00-6:00 p.m. at Bern UCC in the church grove; Tuesday, November 21, from 5:00-6:00 p.m. at Salem Belleman's Church; and Tuesday, December 12, from 5:00-6:00 p.m. at St. John's Gernant's Church.

THE GREAT APPLE BAKE-OFF!

Epler's UCC youth group will be hosting an Apple Bake-off on **Saturday, September 23, from 1:00-4:30 p.m.** at Epler's UCC, 1151 West Leesport Road, Leesport. The categories are: cakes, cookies/crisps, pies, jams/jellies/butters/sauces, and candies/miscellaneous. \$10.00 per entry (donation to taste and judge baked goods). There will also be a basket raffle.

MEDITATION AND SLEEPING TIPS PRESENTATION

Who doesn't have some stress in their lives? Or experienced interrupted sleep? Come to an informational program conducted by psychologist, Heather Uczynski.

Heather holds a Master's degree in psychology and has been working as a business

psychologist and executive coach or the past 14 years. Held at Epler's UCC on **Sunday, September 24**, after the worship service, Heather will present a talk on "Guided Meditation and Helpful Tips for Better Sleep." A light lunch will be included. To sign up, contact Epler's UCC church office at www.eplerschurch.org.



CROP HUNGER WALK

ENDING HUNGER ONE STEP AT A TIME

2023 READING-BERKS CROP WALK

Here it is September already. Plans for this year's Reading-Berks CROP Hunger Walk are well underway.

The CROP Walk will be held on **Sunday, October 8, at Gring's Mill**. Everyone is encouraged to come back for the large, in-person walk this year.

The fundraising/kick-off event at Isaac's (94 Commerce Drive, Wyomissing) is scheduled for **Thursday, September 7, from 11:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.** Isaac's will share 15% of their dine-in, take-out, and online orders with curbside pick-up and gift cards purchased that day for anyone who shows the CROP Hunger Walk fundraiser flyer, either printed or on their phone.

If you have any questions or need more information, please call Dawn at 610-223-2305 or go to www.crophungerwalk.org/readingpa, or check out their Facebook page.

2022 CROP Walk Report – Total amount raised was **\$22,924.00!!!!** Thank you!

MAKING SENSE OF MARTIN LUTHER

A four-morning, eight-session study on the life and theology of Martin Luther will be held in the Social Hall at Trinity, Robesonia (100 S. Robeson Street, Robesonia) on **Tuesday mornings, October 3, 10, 17, and 24**. Sessions begin at 8:00 a.m. each day and end at 12:00 p.m.

During the four sessions, we will explore how Luther's dynamic understanding of God's life-changing gospel informs day-to-day faith and life in the world today. We will also see how Luther's legacy continues to influence our own way of life. The course is based on the series *Making Sense of Martin Luther* written by the Reverend Doctor David J. Lose. Copies of the movie, *Luther: One Man's Faith in God Launched the Greatest Revolution of All* will be available for loan during the course.

The course instructor will be Jeff Culp. Please RSVP to Jeff at esmjrc33@comcast.net by September 12, 2023.

A Participant Guide is required for the course. Couples are encouraged to share a copy. You can order one from Augsburg-Fortress at the single price or they can be picked up at Trinity church office after September 19 at the group price.

IN OUR Thoughts and Prayers

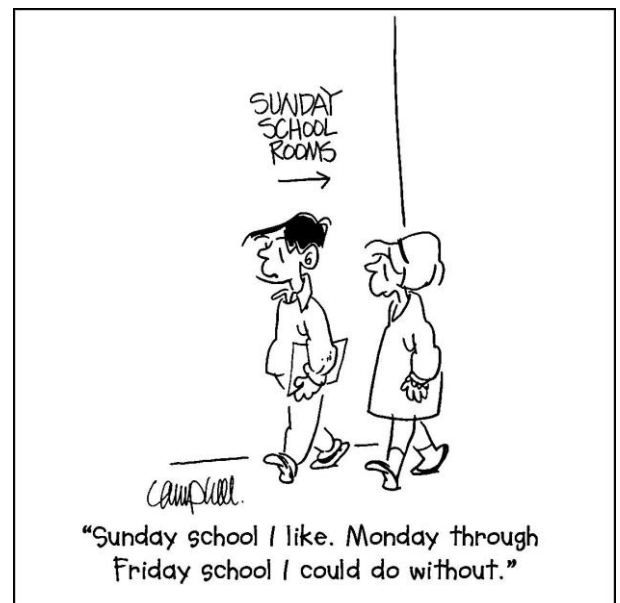
MEMBERS:

Nancy Malandra, Brooke Noecker, Evelyn Drobnick, Robert Hissinger, Donna Marks, Pauline Shuman, Lisa Miller, Tim Moyer, Myra Bernhart, and Ruth Keeney

FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Mary Ann, Ziomara, Patricia, the family, friends, and neighbors of R. M. Palmer, 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, Peter and wife, Bill and 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, Owen Hey, 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.)



CLEAN WATER PROJECT IN CHAD, AFRICA

This year's VBS program between Bern Lutheran Church and Epler's Church is around the "Water Miracles of Jesus." There is a large mission project that the churches are going to work on together. A member of Epler's, Delsi Atchina, comes from Chad, Africa, and still has family there. His family is going to assist us in this direct project to get water to a small village. We will be raising the funds between the two churches over the next few months. Please give as you are able. Please read the article below for more information.

INTRODUCTION

Every day in rural communities and poor urban communities throughout sub-Saharan Africa Chad, hundreds of people, if not millions, suffer from a lack of access to clean and safe water. Bern Lutheran Church and Epler's Church can make a lasting difference in the village of Sousi Ziboui by partnering with the community to implement a clean water solar project. Finding water is a daily challenge for young girls, moms, and sons. The solar-powered water system will provide a reliable and sustainable source of clean water for the entire village and not just one family. The solar water system will be sustainable, harnessing renewable energy to power the water pump and reducing the reliance on traditional, unreliable water sources.



The solar water project will be implemented in Sousi Ziboui, a rural village in Chad, where access to clean and safe water is currently limited. By focusing our efforts on the entire village, we aim to bring sustainable change and benefit to the entire community.

PROJECT COMPONENTS NEEDED

- Submersible pump
- 750 gallon tank
- Solar panels and its components

- Installation cost (this will be the village's contribution to the project)

The cost breakdown shows that the project is cost effective and has a long-term impact; making it a worthwhile investment. It is helpful to look at the cost broken down by benefit over time. For example, in a village where a \$3,000 water project is installed, this will provide water for over 150 families for the next 10 years. The cost is equivalent to:

- \$20 per family for 10 years, or
- \$2 per family per year, or
- 1/2 a penny per family per day, or
- 1/10th of a penny per gallon

Engaging the villagers in the project by involving them in the installation process, such as providing labor and local materials at cost of \$1,000, fosters a sense of ownership and sustainability.

The villagers themselves can take care of the labor and materials required for the project. By providing training and education for the villagers on how to use and maintain the solar water system which is crucial for the project's sustainability, the churches can empower the community to be self-sufficient and capable of handling any maintenance or repairs that may be required in the future.

Bern Lutheran Church and Epler's Church can make a lasting difference in Sousi Ziboui by addressing the water scarcity issue and improving the overall well-being of the village residents.



CONCLUSION

The primary goal of this project is to ensure that the entire village of Sousi Ziboui has access to clean and safe water for drinking, cooking, and hygiene purposes. By addressing the water scarcity issue, we can enhance the overall health and well-being of the community by reducing waterborne diseases and improving sanitation. Please help as you are able. An offering envelope is included in this newsletter.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Thank you to all who volunteered their time and contributed items for this year's Vacation Bible School. It was a fun-filled week. Here is some of what we learned and some activities we did:

The theme for the first night of VBS was Jesus changing water into wine at the wedding in Cana. The word for the night was "SERVE." Just as Jesus served others at the wedding, we can serve others.



The theme for the second night was Jesus walks on water (check out the water jello and Peter and Jesus bears on the left). We learned that Peter had "FAITH" to walk on water.



The science lesson showed the miracle of cutting a piece of chocolate bar up and still having 16 pieces.



On the third night we talked about the miracle of the five loaves and two fishes. The game let our kids send their fish and rocks into the basket.



On the fourth night we heard about Jesus calming the storm. The kids had a great storm outside with the "disciples" in the blankets.



Our last night of VBS we had a pizza party for all.





SEARCHING FOR SILVER

Godly, biblical wisdom is more valuable than gold or silver. Make this do-it-yourself toy to practice your searching skills.

What you need:

- 12 small, smooth rocks
- An empty, clean egg carton
- Paintbrush
- Acrylic paint (gold or silver)
- Black permanent marker

What you do:

1. Clean the rocks and egg carton. Place newspaper on a table to protect it from paint.
2. Paint all sides of the rocks and carton. Let dry. Add a second coat, if desired.
3. When rocks are dry, number each rock (1-12) with marker. Place rocks in the carton.
4. Play hide-and-seek with a friend. Take turns hiding the rocks in a room, sand-box or backyard. Give clues, if needed, and count the rocks as they're returned.
5. Use your imagination to incorporate a treasure hunt into study time or family devotions.



A PATH TO PRAYER

God's Word offers lots of insights about how to pray.

Directions: Use the code to fill in the blanks and complete a Bible passage about prayer.



ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
ZYXWVUTSRQPONMLKJIHGFE DCBA



R G S Z M P N B T L W

 V E V I B G R N V R

 I V N V N Y V I B L F

 R M Z O O N B

 K I Z B V I H U L I Z O O

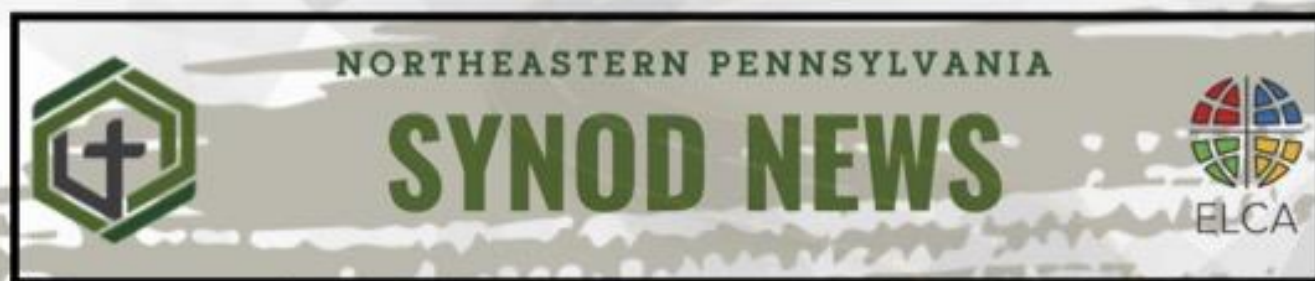
 L U B L F R Z O D Z B H

 K I Z B D R G S Q L B

 K S R O R K K R Z M H

1:3-4, NIV

Answer: I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy. Philippians 1:3-4, NIV



THE THREE ROADS TO VITALITY

As we gather together in the embrace of faith and fellowship throughout the synod (from assemblies, worship, ordinations, anniversaries, and to other synod-wide events) we are reminded of the powerful journey we are on as a Church with a capital C. Our commitment to Christ's teachings has allowed us to evolve beyond mere existence and instead embrace life abundantly. Throughout our synod over the past few years, we've been celebrating three key phrases that define our thriving communities: Growing Young, Stronger Together, and Going Beyond Death to Life.

Growing Young

Embracing life is not limited to any particular age group; it is a concept that transcends generations. We are proud to be a church that nurtures an intergenerational atmosphere, where the wisdom of our elders and the enthusiasm of our youth combine to create a vibrant and dynamic community.

In the teachings of Jesus, we find the encouragement to become like children, embracing a childlike faith that is open, eager, and receptive to God's grace. Our thriving churches have taken this message to heart, fostering an environment that allows every member, regardless of age, to experience spiritual growth and development, to participate in leadership roles, and exude the various elements of the growing young wheel. In doing so, we not only remain young at heart but also enrich each other's lives by sharing diverse perspectives and experiences.

Stronger Together

In unity, we discover strength. Our churches embody the spirit of togetherness, recognizing that we are bound by a shared faith and a common purpose. When we face challenges or trials, we do so as a united body, drawing support from one another, and standing firmly rooted in God's love.

As the Apostle Paul once wrote, "For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ, we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others." (Romans 12:4-5, NIV). This unity allows us to overcome obstacles, reach out to those in need, and fulfill our mission to be the hands and feet of Christ in the world.

Going Beyond Death to Life

In a world that often fixates on the inevitability of death, our church communities boldly choose to focus on the promise of resurrection and life. We are reminded of the words of Jesus when he said, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die." (John 11:25, NIV). This powerful message resonates within our hearts, filling us with hope and joy.

As a Church and as individual churches, we understand that life is not confined to this earthly existence alone. Our spiritual journey extends beyond the boundaries of mortality, and we find solace in knowing that a greater, eternal life awaits us. By embracing this profound truth, we are empowered to live with purpose, spreading love, compassion, and the Gospel to all corners of the world.

As we continue to journey together as a church that goes beyond death to life, grows young, and stands stronger together, let us celebrate the joy of living in God's grace. We invite you to participate actively and fully in our synod's diverse ministries, outreach programs, and spiritual growth opportunities, as they allow us to deepen our understanding of God's love and make a lasting impact in the lives of others. Remember, the limitations of this world do not define us but rather by the boundless life that Christ offers us. Let us carry this message of hope and transformation into our communities, touching lives, and inspiring others to embrace the abundant life that comes through knowing and following Jesus.

May God bless each one of you abundantly, and may our churches continue to be a beacon of light, love, and life in a world that desperately needs it.

The Reverend Lauren Wolfe Blatt
Director of Communication and Events, NEPS
Pastor at Calvary Lutheran Church, Laureldale
Pastor at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Reading



GROWING YOUNG



GAINING STRENGTH



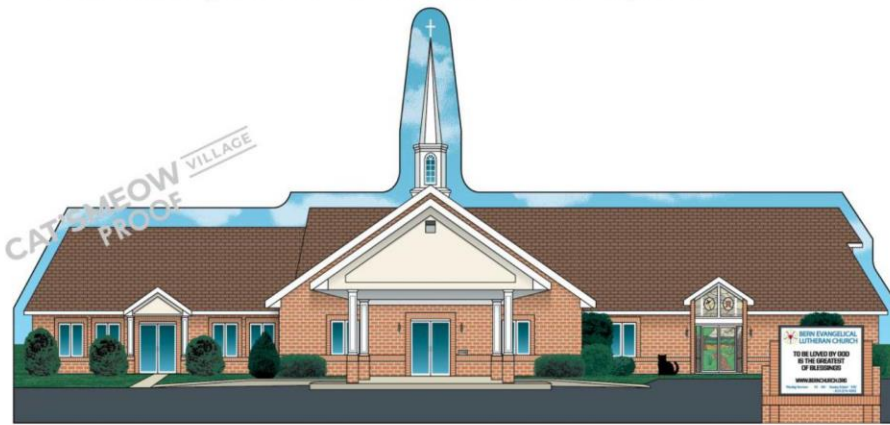
BEYOND DEATH TO LIFE



OF BERN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

In November of this year, we will be celebrating our 25th anniversary as Bern Lutheran Church. In celebration of our anniversary, we are taking orders for a handcrafted wooden keepsake replica of our church building designed by Cat's Meow Village. Give yourself or someone you love a gift to remember this historic year to celebrate our church's 25 years of continuous faith and service. The cost is \$20.00 each.

To place an order, contact Barry Shurr at 610-372-7229, place your order form with payment in the offering basket, in the mail slot of the Secretary's office, or mail in your order form with payment to Bern Lutheran Church at 820 W. Leesport Road, Leesport, PA 19533. Please make your check payable to "Bern Lutheran Church" and write *Cat's Meow* on the memo line of your check. Orders are due by Sunday, September 3, 2023. Below is a sample of the front and back of the keepsake.



Bern Evangelical Lutheran Church
Leesport, Pennsylvania

The Bern Evangelical Lutheran congregation was founded May 13, 1836. On March 27, 1837, a "union" was formed between Bern Reformed UCC and Bern Lutheran, where they coexisted for over 150 years. In February 1996, the Lutheran congregation approved the purchase of 7.43 acres of land along West Leesport Road, Rt. 183, in the West Ridge Development, Leesport, PA. On July 31, 1997, the Reformed and Lutheran congregations signed Articles of Dissolution, thus becoming independent. The ground-breaking ceremony was conducted March 1, 1998 with construction taking eight months, allowing the congregation to move into the new facility by late October. The first worship service in the new church was held on November 1, 1998. The Dedication Service for the new church was conducted on November 2, 1998.

© THE CAT'S MEOW VILLAGE
MADE IN USA - catsmeow.com
CSTM 23139

We rejoice in the celebration of our 25th year anniversary.

Joline



Please fill out this order form with the number of keepsakes you would like to purchase and return this portion to Bern Lutheran Church. Make your check payable to "Bern Lutheran Church" and please write *Cat's Meow* on the memo line of your check. Orders are due by Sunday, September 3, 2023.

Name: _____ Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Qty. @ \$20.00 each _____ Total: \$ _____

SEPTEMBER 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 6:00pm-Food and Faith Worship Service, Epler's UCC 6:00-8:00pm-Frog Pond	2
3 <u>14th Sunday after Pentecost</u> 10:00am-Worship with Holy Communion -Deadline for Cat's Meow Opener: Christopher Becker Lector: Jay Field Greeter: Barb Auchenbach	4  Labor Day	5	6 6:00pm-Hawk Mountain Boy Scouts (Social Hall)	7 11:00am-7:30pm- Isaac's Kick-off Event for the CROP Walk, 94 Commerce Drive, Wyomissing	8 5:00-10:00pm-Leesport Community Days 6:00-8:00pm-Frog Pond	9 4:00-9:00pm-Leesport Community Days
10 <u>15th Sunday after Pentecost</u> 10:00am-Worship with Holy Communion -Sunday School Resumes Opener: Richard Gruber Lector: Brenda Reichart Greeter: <i>open</i>	11 PATRIOT DAY	12 5:30-8:00pm-Berks Festival of Faith Choir Practice (sanctuary and fellowship hall reserved)	13	14	15 4:00-7:00pm-Bern UCC Basket Social 6:00-8:00pm-Frog Pond	16 10:00am-Bern UCC Basket Social; Basket Drawing at 1:00 p.m.
17 <u>16th Sunday after Pentecost</u> 9:30am-CAT Class Planning Meeting 10:00am-Worship with Holy Communion -Sunday School Opener: Jane Battaglieri Lector: Richard Gruber Greeter: Barb Auchenbach	18 7:00pm-Council Meeting	19 9:00am-Berks Quilter's Guild (all-day workshop) 4:30-6:00pm-FREE Community Meal Drive- thru Event, Epler's UCC NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	20	21	22 6:00-8:00pm-Frog Pond	23 1:00-4:30pm-The Great Apple Bake- off, Epler's UCC  First Day of Autumn
24 <u>17th Sunday after Pentecost</u> 10:00am-Worship -Sunday School -Bell Choir Meeting Opener: Theresa Shurr Lector: Barbara Braucher Greeter: <i>open</i>	25	26 4:00pm-Berks Festival of Faith Choir Concert	27	28	29 6:00-8:00pm-Frog Pond	30



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



Name(s) _____

Adults ____ Children 3-11 ____ Children Under 3 ____