

BERN LUTHERAN CHURCH

820 West Leesport Road

Leesport, PA 19533

Address Service Requested





BERN BUGLE'S

August 2025

JOYFUL NOTES

Volume 28, Issue 8

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

DESIGNATED PASTOR:

Pastor Gary Rarick, Phone: 610-401-1545 (cell)

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 August *Bern Bugle's Joyful Notes* is sponsored in memory of Tim Moyer by Beverly Moyer and Barbara Speicher.

Council Meeting Highlights

There are no highlights due to not having a council meeting in July.

The next Council Meeting will be held on Monday, August 18th at 7:00 p.m. at Chris Becker's house.

Epler's UCC Summer Food & Faith Worship Service

You are invited to join the members of Epler's UCC on **Friday, August 1**, for the return of their Food & Faith services. The topic will be: When things need to change (and how we can keep our faith through it all). This will be an outdoor worship service (weather permitting) and potluck meal at 6:00 p.m. Please bring a dish to share. Hot dogs and drinks will be provided by Epler's. Special music will be provided by Mr. Delsi Atchina on guitar.

Flea Market in the Grove

St. John's Gernant's Church, 13 Gernants Church Road, Leesport, will be holding a Flea Market on **Saturday, August 2, from 7:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** Cost is \$10.00 per space for a 10' x 10' space. You must bring your own tables and chairs. Held rain or shine. Refreshments will be available. For more information or to reserve your space, contact Barb Parznik at 610-562-5086 or the church office at 610-926-2384.

Peach Festival

Bern Reformed UCC will be holding a Peach Festival on **Saturday, August 2, from 4:00-8:00 p.m.** in the grove. Come out for food, fun, and good music. The event is open to the public.

August Lunch Bunch

The ladies will be meeting on **Monday, August 4, at 12 noon** for their monthly fellowship luncheon in the Social Hall.

Newsletter Deadline

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

Secretary Korinne Meeting

If you notice the secretary's door closed on **Wednesday, August 6**, Korinne will be attending a Church Administrator's Zoom meeting from **12:00-2:00 p.m.**

Semi-Annual Contribution Statements

If you made any contributions from January 1 through June 30, 2025, you should have received a statement in the mail reflecting those contributions. Please let Secretary Korinne in the church office know if you have not received one or if you have any questions regarding your statement. Thank you!

Pastor Gary Rarick Vacation

Our Designated Pastor, Gary Rarick, will be on vacation from Monday, August 11 until Sunday, August 17. Pastor William Fryer will be filling in for him while he is on vacation. If you would need pastoral care during this time, please contact Terri Shurr at 610-372-7229.

August Social Hour

Our Social Hour will be held on **Sunday, August 31st**. A host and contributors are needed. Please sign up on the sheet in the hallway if you can help.

Schuylkill Valley Food Pantry

Distribution: Volunteers Needed!

Please mark your calendars for **Saturday, August 16**, which will be Bern Lutheran Church's turn to help distribute food at the Schuylkill Valley Food Pantry and we can sure use your help. A sign-up sheet is available on the bulletin board in the hallway. Please see Doug Myers if you have any questions. Thank you!

Blessing of Students and Teachers

On **Sunday, August 17**, we will have a blessing of students and teachers as they head back to school. Children may bring their backpacks to be blessed during the worship service.

"God's Work. Our Hands." Sunday

Sunday, September 7th is God's Work. Our Hands. Sunday. Please keep watch for more information in the weekly bulletin on how we will be participating in this event.

Sunday School

Classes will resume on **Sunday, September 7th**. See you then.

Schuylkill Valley Food Pantry Summer Request

With summer upon us, here are a few suggestions of items that are nutritious and easy for young people to prepare as well as fun for snacks: fruit cups and

dried fruit, snack packs of pudding and gelatins, jerky, granola bars, snack-size cereals and crackers, individual serving-size mac and cheese and soups. The collection will run through August. Besides the summer collection, the food pantry is in need of a few food items: canned fruit and vegetables, pasta sauce (no glass jars), peanut butter, and canned soup. Thank you for your support to this mission.

Thank You!

Thank you to everyone for all the prayers, cards, and well wishes during my on-going recovery from my surgery. I am blessed to have a church family that is very supportive. God bless you, Barb Speicher



(* Denotes 80 years young)

2	Zackery Schlottman
7	Robert C. Hissinger
14	Audrey Henderson *
17	Aiden Angstadt
18	Janna Kneeream
22	Bristol Long
24	Lanny Werley
25	MaryEllen Grace Reichart
28	Rich Myers
29	George Schaeffer *
30	Ted Mountz
30	Ethan Wismer
30	Emma Wismer



2	E. Berry and Margaret Hey (39 years)
6	Philip and JoAnn Ketz (59 years)
12	Barry and Bonnie Eiche (47 years)

There are blessings, every day.

Find them.

Create them.

Treasure them.

IN OUR
Thoughts and Prayers

MEMBERS:

FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

(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.)

- Spiritually, growing numbers of Christians are moving away from defining themselves by lists of beliefs and toward a way of life defined by love.
- Theologically, believers are increasingly rejecting the image of God as a violent Supreme Being and embracing the image of God as the renewing Spirit at work in our world for the common good.
- Missionally, the faithful are identifying less with organized religion and more with organizing religion—spiritual activists dedicated to healing the planet, building peace, overcoming poverty and injustice, and collaborating with other faiths to ensure a better future for all of us.

Thank you again to everyone who brings in food items for the SV Food Pantry. Doug Myers and Gail Landis made another trip to the food pantry to drop off your donations. This time we had 26 soup, 11 peanut butter, 6 canned vegetables, 12 applesauce, 22 snack bags, 48 fruits, 12 pudding, 20 cracker snacks, 16 small cereal, 8 large cereal, 28 mac and cheese, 12 beef ravioli, and 2 pasta. Your continued support of this mission is greatly appreciated. Thank you!



SUNDAY, AUGUST 17TH
DURING THE 10:00 A.M.
WORSHIP SERVICE

INCOME AND ATTENDANCE

<u>For the Week Ending</u>	<u>Income toward Budget Expenses</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
6/04/2025	\$2,813.00	38
6/11/2025	\$1,720.00	35
6/18/2025	\$1,915.00	44
6/25/2025	\$1,699.00	38

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

Budget Report – Year to Date

	<u>June</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Income	\$8,493.00	\$67,925.00
Congregational Fundraising		
Residual Chicken BBQ	144.00	3,092.00
Total Funds	<u>\$8,637.00</u>	<u>\$71,017.00</u>
Actual Income / Expenses	<u>June</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Budgeted Income	\$8,091.00	\$55,612.00
Non-Budgeted Income	546.00	13,765.00
Budgeted Expenses	8,705.00	58,665.00
Non-Budgeted Expenses	104.00	7,674.00
Benevolence to be Paid	.00	.00
Surplus/Deficit	-172.00	+3,038.00
Benevolence	<u>YTD</u>	<u>2025 Pledge</u>
Synod and ELCA	\$612.00	\$3,000.00
World Hunger	525.00	1,500.00
Mission Field	542.00	1,300.00
W.B.M.D.	260.00	600.00
Other	493.00	.00
Capital Improvement Acct.	<u>June</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Member Contributions	\$125.00	\$780.00
Interest	95.96	571.31
Expense	<u>.00</u>	<u>.00</u>
		\$48,279.06
Savings Account (new)	<u>June</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Thrivent Choice Dollars	\$.00	\$ 965.00
Interest	.00	4,394.22
Expenses	.00	<u>.00</u>
		\$281,394.95
Savings Account (small)		<u>YTD</u>
Interest		\$1.01
Contributions		.00
		<u>\$14,985.00</u>

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:

August 3 – Barbara Auchenbach
August 10 – Reichart Family
August 17 – Phil and JoAnn Ketz
August 24 – The Schuler Family
August 31 – Pat and Harry Yocum

Bulletin Sponsors:

August 3 – Beverly Moyer and Barbara Speicher
August 10 – Reichart Family
August 17 – Reichart Family
August 24 – Reichart Family
August 31 – ***sponsor needed***

Newsletter Sponsor:

Beverly Moyer and Barbara Speicher

Church Openers:

August 3 – Christopher Becker
August 10 – Richard Gruber
August 17 – Brenda Reichart
August 24 – Linda Lash
August 31 – Richard Gruber

Church Greeters:

August 3 – Barbara Auchenbach
August 10 – Barbara Speicher
August 17 – Hannah Lash
August 24 – Beverly Moyer
August 31 – Nancy Malandra

Lectors:

August 3 – Tracey Leh
August 10 – Richard Gruber
August 17 – Rich Myers
August 24 – David Greenwood
August 31 – Jay Field

Communion Assistants:

August 3 – Tracey Leh
August 10 – Dianne Leininger
August 17 – Rich Myers
August 24 – Linda Lash

Supply Pastor Schedule:

August 3 – Pastor William Fryer
August 10 – Pastor Kenneth Gould
August 17 – Pastor Kenneth Gould
August 24 – Pastor Kenneth Gould
August 31 – TBA

AUGUST 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 6:00pm-Epler's UCC Food & Faith Meal 7:00pm- Worship Service 6:00-8:00pm – Frog Pond (AA Group)	2 7:00am-2:00pm St. John's Gernant's Flea Market 4:00-8:00pm-Bern UCC Peach Festival
3 <u>Eighth Sunday after Pentecost</u> 10:00am- Worship Opener: Christopher Becker Lector: Tracey Leh Greeter: Barbara Auchenbach Comm Asst: Tracey Leh	4 12:00pm-Ladies Fellowship Luncheon in the Social Hall	5	6 12:00-2:00pm-Church Administrator's Zoom Meeting, 6:30-7:45pm-Epler's UCC Bible Study	7	8 6:00-8:00pm – Frog Pond (AA Group)	9
10 <u>Ninth Sunday after Pentecost</u> 10:00am- Worship -Bair Family Reunion Opener: Richard Gruber Lector: Richard Gruber Greeter: Barbara Speicher Comm Asst: Dianne Leininger	11 Pastor Gary Rarick on vacation until August 17	12	13	14 7:00-8:30pm-Hawk Mountain Council Meeting (Social Hall reserved)	15 6:00-8:00pm – Frog Pond (AA Group)	16 7:00am-SV Food Pantry Distribution, Lutheran Church of the Holy Trinity, Leesport
17 <u>Tenth Sunday after Pentecost</u> 8:45am-Outreach Committee Meeting 10:00am- Worship -Blessing of Students and Teachers Opener: Brenda Reichart Lector: Rich Myers Greeter: Hannah Lash Comm Asst: Rich Myers	18 7:00pm-Council Meeting and Picnic at Chris Becker's House	19 9:00am-Berks Quilters Guild All-day Workshop (Social Hall reserved) Newsletter Deadline	20	21	22 6:00-8:00pm – Frog Pond (AA Group)	23
24 <u>Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost</u> 10:00am- Worship -Jane Battaglieri (Vacation) Opener: Linda Lash Lector: David Greenwood Greeter: Beverly Moyer Comm Asst: Linda Lash	25	26 4:00-7:00pm-Berks Festival of Faith	27	28	29 6:00-8:00pm – Frog Pond (AA Group)	30
31 <u>Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost</u> 10:00am- Worship -Social Hour after worship -Jane Battaglieri (Vacation) Opener: Richard Gruber Lector: Jay Field Greeter: Nancy Malandra						



NATIONAL WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA DAY

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2025

Each December on National Wreaths Across America Day, our mission to Remember, Honor, and Teach is carried out by coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery, as well as at more than 1,600 additional locations in all 50 U.S. states, at sea and abroad.

WHY WE DO IT

We understand we have Veterans Day in the fall and Memorial Day in the spring, but our service members sacrifice their time and safety every single day of the year to preserve our freedoms. In many homes, there is an empty seat for one who is serving or one who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country. There is no better time to express our appreciation than during the hustle and bustle of the holiday season. We hope you will join us at any of our more than 1,600 participating locations to show our veterans and their families that we will not forget. We will never forget.

Please help Bern Cemetery Company remember our military veterans by sponsoring a wreath in either Bern Cemetery or the Bern Historic Graveyard this holiday season.

The cost for the wreath is \$17.00. They are live wreaths from Maine and are 22" in diameter with a red bow. **The Wreaths Across America service will begin at 1:00 p.m. at Bern Reformed UCC, on Saturday, December 13, 2025.** Wreaths will be placed at the graves following the service.

Please make checks payable to "Bern Cemetery Company" and give to Barry Shurr or place in offering plate. Checks may also be mailed to: Barbara Reed, Treasurer, Bern Cemetery Company, 3 Brossman Lane, Wernersville, PA 19565 or Barry Shurr, 118 Berkley Street, Reading, PA 19605. **The deadline is Monday, December 1st.** If you are interested in assisting with the laying of the wreaths that day, please let Barry Shurr know.

Please return this bottom portion with your check by Sunday, December 1st. Thank you!

Sponsor (your name): _____

Place on grave(s) of _____ or where needed _____

Number of wreaths _____