

BERN BUGLE'S JOYFUL NOTES



April 2021

VOLUME 24, ISSUE 4

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

bernlutheranchurch@gmail.com

www.berchurch.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

Happy Birthday

*Denotes 80 Years Young!

04/01 Kristen Schera	04/19 Michael Braucher
04/02 Tracey Leh	04/20 Dianne Leiningner
04/03 Dallas Fix	04/20 Deannan Stoudt
04/04 Ruth Bleacher	04/21 Cheryl Knabb
04/04 Richard Miller	04/22 Caroline Eichner*
04/04 Lori Schlottman	04/22 Anne Spieker
04/07 Shawn Hissinger	04/24 Jack Kochan*
04/08 Myra Bernhart*	04/25 Jeffrey Reichart
04/10 Beatrice Kauffman*	04/26 Keric Rollman
04/16 Warren Lengel	04/28 Aidan Slusser
04/17 Wendy Miller	04/30 Ann Myers*
04/18 Tammi Shiller	

Happy Anniversary

04/14 Craig & Ann Myers (59)
04/18 Timothy & Maria Mogford (22)
04/19 Wendy & Andrew Miller (41)
04/20 Jeffrey & Dolores Gruver (20)
04/25 Donna & Kenneth Marks (23)
04/27 Mitzi & Chris Cote (23)

Bugle Sponsor

THE BERN BUGLE THIS MONTH IS PROVIDED

Welcome Easter

Christ is Risen, Halleluiah

Building Principles

Devotion to Jesus as Lord &
Savior
Compassionate Sharing &
Community Service
Persistent Faithfulness
Courageous Witness
Flexible Leadership

Newsletter Deadline

Articles for the May Bern Bugle
are due by 04/13

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

Congregational Council Meeting Highlights

- Voted to move our mission support from the hospitality mission of Pastor Robert and Kathy Moore in Germany to ELCA Global Missions. Please see the 2021 ELCA Global Missions article to see the type of missions this will support.
- Voted to begin singing the first two verses of the closing hymn starting on Easter Sunday.
- Scheduled Sunday March 28 for the Installation of Council Members.

Church Council Meeting

April 19th at 7pm

Church Directory Corrections

Ruth Keeney Phone # is 610-386-2109

George & Jane Schaeffer address is
79 Legacy Blvd, Apt 108
Sinking Spring PA 19608



Catechetical Instruction

Youth in 7th grade and above are invited to join us for a few weeks of Catechetical Instruction before the summer break. Pastor Phyllis will lead the group via Zoom on Sundays for an hour, starting at 11:00 am. The dates are: May 2, 9, 23, and June 6. We will resume in September with a full schedule, and hopefully in person. Contact Pastor Phyllis, if you haven't already, and are interested in participating.

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

We are on Facebook!



You can follow us on Facebook for information on

Worship Services, Events, Cancellations, and other news.

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

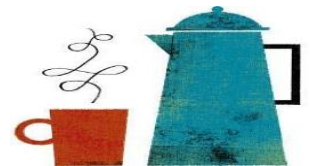
Coffee Hour

April 11th at 2:00pm

On Zoom

Meeting ID: 880 4335 2420 Passcode: 653151

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



Church DIRECTORY

Now Available

Contact the office
for your copy



There will be First Communion instruction on Sunday, April 18th at 11:00am – 12:30 pm. This will be a Zoom gathering. Those who complete the class will receive their First Communion during worship at 9:00 am on Sunday, May 2nd. If you have not yet been in contact with Pastor Phyllis and you are interested in your child participating, please call or email her as soon as possible.



Do you have a child graduating High School or College this year?

If yes, please let us know!

[Click Here to share your student's name, attending school, and plans for after graduation](#)

Bulletin & Newsletter Sponsorships Opportunities

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.

Sponsor a Bulletin

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!

Sponsor a Newsletter

INCOME & ATTENDANCE

\$3259.19 is needed per week to meet 100% of the Budgeted Expenses

Budget Report - Year to Date

	<u>February</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Income	\$11,921.67	\$22,315.34
Congregational		
Fund Raising	\$0.00	\$243.44
Total Funds	\$11,921.67	\$22,315.34
Benevolence	<u>YTD</u>	<u>2021 Pledge</u>
Synod & ECLA	\$363.50	\$3,000.00
World Hunger	\$78.50	\$1,500.00
Mission Field	\$114.50	\$1,300.00
W.B.M.D.	\$8.50	\$600.00
Other	\$143.00	\$0.00
Actual Income		
/Expenses	<u>February</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Budgeted Income	\$9,968.50	\$20,393.00
Non-Budgeted Income	\$422.05	\$592.72
Budgeted Expenses	\$11,209.07	\$23,996.15
Non-Budgeted		
Expenses	\$91.78	\$91.78
Benevolence to		
be Paid	\$370.00	\$778.00
Surplus/Deficit	-\$910.30	-\$1,772.59

Capital Improvement		
Account	<u>February</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Member Contributions	\$115.00	\$115.00
Interest	\$0.61	\$0.61
Expense	\$0.00	\$0.00
		\$3,9640.73
Organ Fund		<u>YTD</u>
Member Contributions		\$0.00
Interest		\$0.12
		\$2,265.58
Savings Account		<u>YTD</u>
Thrivent Choice dollars		\$61.00
Interest		\$5.91
Expenses		\$0.00
		\$11,9467.30
Piano Fund		<u>YTD</u>
Member Contributions		\$0.00
Interest		\$0.19
Expense		\$0.00
		\$4,257.74



Nation Day of Prayer – May 6, 2021

Do you find comfort in prayer? Have you seen the impact that prayer can have in your life, or the life of those that you pray for? I hope that you can answer yes to both of those questions. We all have different ways of praying and different times that we do it, and that is ok.

What is most important is that we continue to pray at all times and under all circumstances. Think of how powerful it could be if Christians throughout the country were all praying at the same time. That is what is going to happen on **Thursday, May 6, 2021**. That date has been designated as the National Day of Prayer for 2021. This year I would like Bern Lutheran Church to participate in this event by having members commit to 30 minute slots of time from 8 AM to 8PM and spend that time in prayer. You are invited to do this from the comfort of your home.

Some of you may be thinking that 30 minutes is a long time to spend in prayer. I bet most of you have a friend that you can easily talk with for 30 minutes...or more. God is ready and willing to listen to us just as our closest friend would. If we also take time to quiet our minds and listen, we may also hear His response. If you would like to participate but aren't sure how to prepare for 30 minutes of prayer, here are a few suggestions:

- Make a list of things to thank and praise God for. He has accomplished some incredible things in spite of the challenges of this past year.
- Make a list of those you will pray for. This can include family, friends, neighbors, co-workers, leaders in government, leaders in our community and leaders in our congregation. You may even want to take our Membership Directory and pray for each member listed. Even if you may not know who they are, God does and he also knows what they need that we may not.
- You can also use prayer books you may have or prayers that have been shared with you by others.

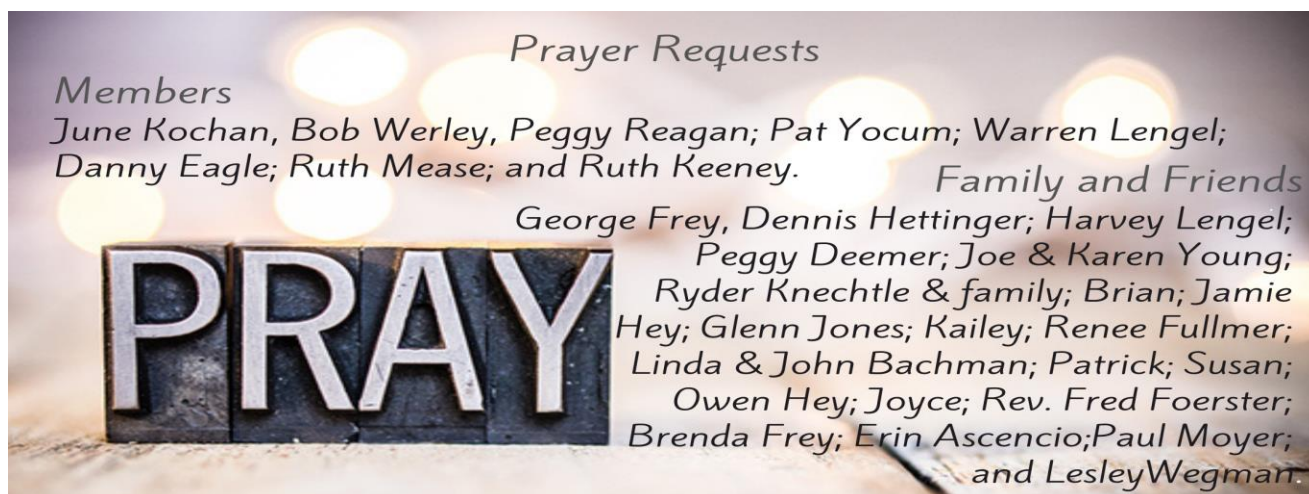
The list is endless, and you may find that 30 minutes is not enough once you get started. That is perfectly fine, it is not a problem if there is an overlap and you have not finished as the next person has already started.

I hope that many of you will be willing to participate in these 12 continuous hours of prayer from our congregation. Please choose the time that works best for you from the schedule Beverly has posted in the link below or call the church and she can add your name to the schedule. If the time that you prefer has been taken and there is not an opening that works for you, that is ok too. I don't think God will mind if we double up.

[Click Here to Sign Up for Your Prayer Time](#)

Think of the impact that a day devoted to prayer could have for our country and our world.

Praying you will join me,
Brenda Reichart



2021 ELCA Global Missions

FIVE CORE ACCOMPANIMENT VALUES GUIDE US

MUTUALITY: A commitment to relationships in which we receive one another's gifts and expertise.

INCLUSIVITY: A commitment to relationships that address exclusion in communities.

VULNERABILITY: A commitment to relationships that are open to Christ's transformation and reconciliation.

EMPOWERMENT: A commitment to relationships in which we build one another's strengths and capacity for God's mission.

SUSTAINABILITY: A commitment to relationships of accountability that steward God's given gifts for the present and future.

Tanzania: "Patients come with a lot more than their illnesses," said Dr. Victoria Adonicam of Marangu Lutheran Hospital in the Northern Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania (ELCT). "They come with their lives, their family problems. The process of healing makes me feel like we are healing together." She was able to complete her medical training through an ELCA-funded program of the ELCT that prepared students to serve rural hospitals where doctors are hard to retain. The ELCT health department also operates an extensive home-based care program for recovery and end-of-life care.

Ghana: was hit particularly hard by COVID-19. At the Good News Theological Seminary, local coordinators of the seminary's skills development program took to the radio with Muslim community leaders to teach about virus transmission. Then they took to the streets, providing masks and modified buckets for handwashing to motorcycle taxi drivers, market women and other high-risk groups. Masks were sewn by people the program had previously trained in making tie-dye. Of everyone helping, local coordinator James Akoeshiehu said, "God will bless you." James Akoeshiehu coordinates the seminary's skills development program, which equips marginalized members of Ghanaian society with skills to make a living.

Malawi: (Africa) Attending a farmer field school offered by Evangelical Lutheran Development Service helped Rose Kolokhwa and her husband feed their children. Farmers such as Rose research, test and adopt sustainable agriculture methods, boosting yields and family incomes. Now her children are in school, a new iron sheet roof protects their home, and two bicycles and a motorcycle make family travel easier. A lead farmer in the Phalome District, Rose motivates others to make the community food-self-sufficient. "Many families are asking me what magic I used to transform from a beggar to a giver!" she said. Farmers in Malawi's Chole District come together to learn sustainable-farming practices that enhance yields and the local ecosystem.

Indonesia: Last year over 600 students applied for admission to Huria Kristen Batak Protestan (HKBP) Theological Seminary. Only 125 were admitted. Most come with a deep sense of a call from God. Many come with a family blessing. Syaiful Siburian always wanted to be a pastor, but he didn't have the support of his family. He tried law school, but it was not a fit, and he enrolled in seminary despite ongoing family opposition. The words of Jeremiah 29:11 reassure him that God has a plan for him "to give you a future with hope."

Lebanon: Cut off by COVID-19 from friends and relatives who helped and cooked for her, 80-year-old Fatmeh was lonely. Staffers from Our Lady Dispensary, which assists Fatmeh with health care and medications, now visit and shop for her. The dispensary is affiliated with the Middle East Council of Churches (MECC), which builds bridges between Middle Eastern churches, between Christians and Muslims, and between regional churches and the global Christian community, all for the good of humanity. ELCA funds helped MECC purchase food vouchers for Fatmeh and 149 other families and individuals during the pandemic.

Colombia: Danna Nicoll Guevara loves being part of the "Projecting My Future" group because she meets new friends and learns about women's rights. The 11-year-old even shared what she is learning with her classmates in a school presentation, and often reminds friends in her neighborhood of the importance of women's rights. Thanks to this initiative of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Colombia (IELCO), young women in marginalized communities are being empowered to fight for a better world — with less gender-based violence — for women and girls.

El Salvador: Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, even those who are virus free must cope with the stress and trauma caused by high infection rates and extended confinement. Some years back, Pastor Vilma Rodriguez of the Salvadoran Lutheran Church, who is also a psychologist, helped create a special training program for pastors and lay leaders on how to treat trauma victims. The first 16 graduates of that program have been providing vital psychological care to church members and the larger community since the onset of the pandemic. The Rev. Vilma Rodriguez equips church leaders to provide psychological care during the COVID-19 pandemic.



FOR, LO, THE WINTER IS PAST,
the rains are over and gone; the flowers appear on the earth;
the time of the **SINGING OF BIRDS** has come.
SONG OF SOLOMON 2:11-12

