BERN BUGLE'S

May 2022



JOYFUL NOTES

Volume 25, Issue 5

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

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

Terri Shurr, Secretary

Pat Yocum, Financial Secretary

David Hartman, Treasurer

Jane Battaglieri

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 this month is given to the Glory of God and in honor of all mothers by Donna Marks.

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

The following discussions took place and decisions made at our council meeting on Monday, April 18:

- Pastor Kenneth Gould will be our Interim
 Designated Pastor while Pastor Gary Rarick is on
 Sabbatical from April 25 to June 6.
- We welcome Linda Lash as a new member of council. She is beginning her first 3-year term.
- Endowment checks have been mailed to the following organizations: St. Francis Home, Safe Berks, and Schuylkill Valley Food Pantry.
- Supply pastors are scheduled until the end of August.
- Linda Lash will follow-up with Epler's Church regarding Vacation Bible School for this summer.

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING will be on May 16 at 7:00 p.m.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Please join us from 11:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on May 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29. We meet in the second classroom on the right.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Articles for the March *Bern Bugle* are due by **Tuesday, May 17.**

GERANIUM FLOWER ORDERS

We are planning to decorate our sanctuary with red geraniums for Pentecost Sunday on June 5th. The cost for a 4-1/2" pot is \$3.00 and \$6.00 for a 6" double-bloom pot. Please click on the link below to order online or fill out the order form in your newsletter. **Orders are due by Friday, May 20th**.



Geranium Flowers

CHOIR AND BELL CHOIR MEMBERS

Our organist, Jane Battaglieri, is going to be starting up Choir and Bell Choir beginning in the fall. If you are interested in being part of either choir, please see or contact Jane at 610-370-0965.

WORSHIP GUIDELINES

Council approved to revise our worship guidelines. If you choose, face masks are no longer required to be worn in the building during worship. We respect the decision of those individuals who wish to continue masking. We encourage them to take the precautions they feel are necessary to protect their health.

INTERIM DESIGNATED PASTOR

Pastor Gary Rarick of Epler's UCC in Leesport will be taking a sabbatical from April 25 to June 6. In his absence, Pastor Kenneth Gould will be our Interim Designated Pastor. Pastor Gould will be available for funerals and weddings. If you wish to receive home communion, please contact Korinne in the church office.

COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Please consider being part of one or more of the committees listed below. Volunteers and members are always needed and appreciated.

Finance – If you are interested in how the finances of our congregation are managed and how we prepare and work to stay in line with our annual budget.

Christian Education – If you are interested in providing opportunities for learners of all ages to increase their knowledge and their faith.

Outreach – If you would like to explore opportunities and plan activities that allow us to share our faith with our community and provide opportunities for fellowship within and beyond our doors. We are looking for new members and a member to chair this committee.

If you would like to learn more about any of these committees, or are ready now to take advantage of any of these opportunities, please see any member of council. We welcome new members and new ideas!

DO YOU NEED TO UPDATE YOUR INFO?

Has your address changed? Did you drop your landline phone? Changed email providers? Do you notice something wrong in the directory? Please contact Korinne in the church office to make any changes to your personal information. Thank you!

CALLING ALL YOUTH!!!

"At Home" MISSION TRIP – June 20-23, 2022
Several of the WBMD youth leaders have been working together to plan a local mission trip for this summer. Allegheny Lutheran Church, 1327
Alleghenyville Road, Mohnton, will serve as the home base for the event. It is open to youth in grades 7 and up. There will be a Mini-Mission Trip event on June 21-22 for rising 5th-6th graders. Each work-day begins at 8:00 a.m. and goes until 7:00 p.m. with dinner provided. Cost is \$25.00 (\$10 for 2-day). Registration is required by May 15th. Please contact Kristen Kelly at youthd@aelc.org or 610-777-2520 for registration forms or more information.

GLOSSY MAGAZINE RECYCLING PROGRAM for Ronald McDonald House

We continue to collect glossy magazines. You will find a black bin under the coat racks to place your magazines. Consolidated Scrap Resources, Inc. processes the recycled magazines and sells them to a paper mill who turns the

discarded paper into new magazine paper. A portion of the proceeds from each ton of paper collected goes directly to the Ronald McDonald House.



MEMBERS:

Family and friends of Verna Speicher, George Schaeffer, Myra Bernhart, Bob Frey, and Ruth Keeney

FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Charles Trophe, Michael, Troy, Linda Bachman, Bob Stoner, Betty Gruber, Ashley, Philip Triantis, Mike, Peggy Deemer, Joe and Karen Young, Ryder Knechtle and family, Brian, Jamie Hey, Glenn Jones, Kailey, Renee Fullmer, Patrick, Susan, Owen Hey, Joyce, Rev. Fred Foerster, Brenda Frey, and Lesley Wegman

OUR CONDOLENCES

Please keep the family and friends of Verna Speicher in your thoughts and prayers. Verna passed away on Thursday, April 14th. A Celebration of Life service was held at Bern Church on Wednesday, April 20, with Pastor Gary Rarick officiating.

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 for \$40.00/month, or you can help by sponsoring Altar Flowers for \$35.00/week. You are welcome to sponsor any of these items in honor of important birthdays/anniversaries, in honor of or in memory of someone, or to the Glory of God.

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.

Altar Flower sponsors for May:

May 1 – Tim and Beverly Moyer

May 8 – The Lash family

May 15 – Phil and JoAnn Ketz

May 22 – Tim and Beverly Moyer

May 29 – Brent and Kate Schuler

Bulletin sponsors for May:

May 1 – Barbara Speicher

May 8 – Harry Yocum

May 15 – Carol Eichner

May 22 – Barbara Speicher

May 29 – Donna Marks

Church Openers for May:

May 1 – Pat Yocum

May 8 – Dianne Leininger

May 15 – Erin Readinger

May 22 - open

May 29 – Rick Gruber

Church Greeters for May:

May 1 – Nancy Malandra

May 8 – Barbara Auchenbach

May 15 – Nancy Malandra

May 22 – Barbara Auchenbach

May 29 – Nancy Malandra

Supply Pastor Schedule:

May 1 – Pastor Joyce Seip

May 8 – Pastor Kenneth Gould

May 15 – Pastor Kenneth Gould

May 22 – Pastor Joyce Seip

May 29 – Pastor David Kistler

If you would like to sponsor Altar Flowers, Bulletins, or the Newsletter, please check the signup sheets for any open dates. Thank you!

REDNER'S GROCERY RECEIPTS

Thank you to everyone who brings in Redner's receipts. When you shop at Redner's with a rewards card, bring your receipts to church and place them in the box in the hallway near the guest book. Those small pieces of paper turn into dollars for our congregation.

FAITH FORMATION SATURDAY

Spiritual Leaders of the Church from (500CE-1500 CE): Sometimes calls the "Age of Faith", the thousand years to be covered encompasses a vast number of spiritual leaders, some of whom are still considered saints in the special Roman Catholic use of that term and some of whom were more akin to devils pretending to be in the service of Christ.. This month's session will be held on Saturday, May 14, on Zoom from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 pm. and will explore what this vast period in church history may teach us and warn us against in our spiritual lives today. This session will be led by Rev. Carl Shankweiler, pastor at both Zion in Frackville and Trinity Chapel in Buck Run. To register, click on the link below or go to the synod website at www.godslove.org.

Register Here



The Endowment Fund of Bern Lutheran Church works hard to support programs inside and outside of Bern Church. In 2021, the Endowment Fund supported the Christian Education, Worship and Music, Property, and Outreach Committees with contributions of \$750.00 to each committee. Outside of our congregation, several organizations in the community received aid to support their missions. Safe Berks, St. Francis Home, and Schuylkill Valley Food Pantry each received \$500.00 from the Endowment Fund. These gifts were made possible from interest received on the principal amount invested in various incomeproducing accounts. The Endowment Committee oversees these accounts and plans for the distribution of the interest from these accounts. The committee encourages you to consider making contributions to the Endowment Fund at times when people traditionally would use a Memorial Fund. Thank you for your continued support.

INCOME AND ATTENDANCE

For the Week Ending	Income toward Budget Expenses	Attendance	
04/03/22	\$ 3,456.00	59	
04/10/22	4,007.00	53	
04/14/22 (Holy	14		
04/15/22 (Goo	d Friday)	20	
04/17/22	3,541.00	74	
04/24/22	4,678.00	36	

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

Budget Report - Year to Date

	<u>March</u>	<u>YTD</u>			
Income	\$16,384.00	\$40,133.15			
Congregational					
Fund Raising	.00	226.84			
Total Funds	<u>\$16,384.00</u>	\$40,359.99			
Actual Income / Expenses	March	<u>YTD</u>			
Budgeted Income	\$10,281.00	\$ 32,480.00			
Non-Budgeted Income	6,103.00	7,879.00			
Budgeted Expenses	6,307.00	31,644.00			
Non-Budgeted Expenses	600.00	1,722.00			
Benevolence to be Paid	1,733.00	194.00			
Surplus/Deficit	7,744.00	6,799.00			
Benevolence	<u>YTD</u>	2022 Pledge			
Synod and ELCA	\$710.00	\$3,000.00			
World Hunger	164.00	1,500.00			
Mission Field	159.00	1,300.00			
W.B.M.D.	158.00	600.00			
Other	1,891.00	.00			
(Includes \$1,500.00 Endowment Outreach)					

Capital Improvement Acct. Member Contributions Interest Expense	March \$105.00 .70 	<u>\$</u>	YTD \$365.00 2.03 0.00 641,209.50
Savings Account Thrivent Choice Dollars Interest Expenses (tune piano)		\$ 	YTD 1,045.00 6.82 145.00 32,636.00



(* Denotes 80 years young)

- 1 Beth Braucher
- 3 Austin Beissel
- 5 Ronald Stonefelt *
- 6 Tina Hissinger
- 6 Timothy Mogford
- 6 Hunter Mountz
- 7 Hannah Mogford
- 9 Patricia Yocum
- 13 Gregory Knabb
- 16 Sharon Janiszewski
- 17 Tara Lash
- 18 Tabitha Angstadt
- 19 Dale Egan
- 20 Ruth Keeney *
- 21 Jacob Braucher
- 21 Luke Braucher
- 21 Kimberly Shank
- 28 Jennifer Miller
- 29 Gary Drobnick
- 29 Marian Zimmermann
- 31 Katherine Koch
- 31 Renee Mease



- 6 Richard and Donna Giles (28 years)
- 7 Sandsbar and Arlene Ensinger (34 years)
- 9 Walter and Lori Schlottman (29 years)
- 13 Matthew and Rowbee'C Kasisky (16 years)
- 15 April Riegel and Tammi Shiller (7 years)
- 16 Randall and Bonnie Schlappich (35 years)
- 20 Andrew and Maggie Pawlyk (6 years)
- 23 Carl and Linda Lash (30 years)
- 28 Dennis and Charlene Egan (44 years)
- 30 Brent and Kate Schuler (7 years)

[&]quot;Let us be grateful to people who make us happy; they are the charming gardeners who make our souls blossom."

Thank You

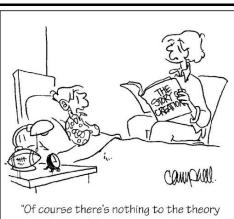
The family of Verna Speicher would like to thank you for your prayers, words of comfort and cards while Verna was in the hospital, rehab and Berks Heim. She enjoyed looking at the cards and reading your messages. She would comment about the cards being beautiful and how everyone was different. God bless you and thank you. – *Barbara, Beverly and Tim*

Thank you for your prayers, expressions of sympathy, and cards when Verna Speicher passed away. Your outpouring of sympathy and support is greatly appreciated and provided comfort. We are truly blessed to have a wonderful church family. May our Lord bless you every day in all you do. – *Barbara*, *Beverly and Tim*



CONGREGATIONAL VITALITY SURVEY AND REFLECTION QUESTIONS FORMS

Congregational Vitality Survey and Reflection Questions forms should be arriving in your mailbox soon. We are asking for your help filling out these forms so we can proceed with the New Pastor Call process. As members of Bern Lutheran Church, your involvement is essential, and we welcome and need your help and input. We are requesting that these two forms be filled out and mailed back to the church office or dropped off at church no later than **Monday, May 16th**. These forms will also be made available on our website www.bernchurch.org if you would prefer to respond that way. Thank you!



"Of course there's nothing to the theory of evolution. If there were, mothers would have more than two hands by now."

KAUFFMAN BBQ CHICKEN DINNERS AND SYCAMORE FARMS APPLE DUMPLINGS

If you haven't ordered your chicken dinners and apple dumplings yet, there's still time. Contact the church office at 610-374-4343, Phil Ketz at 610-678-5954, or order online on our website at www.bernchurch.org. Orders must be received before Thursday, May 19th.



A Mother's Day Hymn

Sing praise to our Creator God! Earth prospers from the way God "mothers" each new child into This world day after day.

God fabricates in motherhood A channel from above That longs to share with every child God's comfort, grace and love!

Sing praise to our Creator God, Who "mothers" us from birth! Providing what we truly need Throughout our lives on earth.

Mother's Day



LAY EUCHARISTIC VISITOR TRAINING

Eucharistic Visitors are members of the congregation who are trained to bring the communion meal from worship to ill and homebound members of their congregation who are unable to attend service.

Lutheran Congregation Services (LCS) training ministry engages learners in the Biblical and theological background of the Sacrament of Holy Communion and teaches potential Eucharistic Visitors about visitation and administration of the sacrament.

The Lay Eucharistic Visitor Training is a one-day event held on **Saturday, May 7, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.** at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 4201 Stoudt's Ferry Bridge Road, Reading, PA 19605. The cost is \$30.00 per person. To register for this upcoming training event click here. You may also download and return the registration form to Julia Menzo at 7002 Butler Pike, Ambler, PA 19002.

WE REMEMBER

More than 150 years ago, Memorial Day took shape amid the backdrop of the U.S. Civil War. Before it ended, women began decorating the graves of fallen soldiers. In 1868, when May 30 was designated as Decoration Day, loved ones placed flowers on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers alike.

By 1882, Decoration Day became known as Memorial Day, and soldiers who died in other wars were honored too. Over time, it became a day to remember all loved ones who have died — in war and otherwise. In 1971, Congress declared Memorial Day a national holiday to be observed on the last Monday in May. On Memorial Day, we pause to remember people who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country and for our freedom. We also pray for those who continue serving, especially those in harm's way.

Reprinted from The Newsletter Newsletter



FIXED HOURS OF PRAYER

As summer approaches, you may look forward to a more relaxed routine. But don't discard all your good habits and commitments! For soul care, try fixed hours of prayer. Simply expand the concept of praying at set times (such as before meals and bed)

your watch or phone and commit to engaging with God at the specified times. You can do this on your own or with family or friends.

into praying regularly each morning,

midday and evening. Set an alarm on

You can pray using Scripture verses, devotional guides, the *Book of Common Prayer* or a resource such as www.ExploreFaith.org. (When I'm tired or overwhelmed, it's helpful to pray someone else's words.) You might want to pray the same prayers morning, noon and evening for a week or a month. This practice isn't meant to replace spontaneous prayers. Instead, use fixed hours of prayer to nurture a consistent habit of conversing with God.

—Janna Firestone

Saturday May 21st, 2022
Trinity Lutheran Church,
Robesonia. PA
2:00 p.m. Service
3:00-4:30 Lite fare and
fellowship, visitation with
family and friends



Please join us for a Celebration of Life Service in memory of Cassandra "Sandie" Evans.

Please join us on this day to celebrate her life, share stories, and reflect on good memories. Since we may be unable to contact everyone that knew and loved her, please extend this invitation to others.

Please wear something inspired by San. She loved the springtime, butterflies, Penn State, carnations, and the color navy blue.

If you will be joining us, we'd love to have a headcount for food. Please kindly RSVP by May 15th, 2022 to Ericka at 610-468-1775 or quelinda13@gmail.com



JUDY SCHWANK

invites you to a

VETERAN'S EXPO

Speaker: Brigadier General Maureen Weigl; PA Deputy Adjutant General for Veterans Affairs

Thursday, May 19, 2022 * 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

The Plex • Alvernia University • 465 Bernardine Street • Reading, PA

Thank you for your service. Serving your country is, in my opinion, one of the most courageous acts one can take. I believe that as a nation, it is our duty to celebrate all of you. The event will also serve to educate you on benefits and programs available.

COMPLIMENTARY LUNCH (with REGISTRATION) & INFORMATION BOOTHS * * *

For more information, or to register, please visit

www. senatorschwank.com/vetexpo or call 610.929.2151



Newsletter[®]

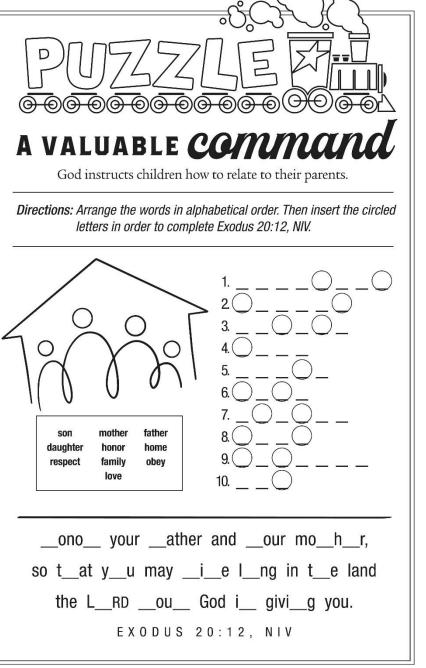


- What you need:
 - Clean cardboard egg carton
 - Scissors
 - Acrylic paint and paintbrush
 - Flat cardboard
 - · Photo, drawing or note
 - Small pom-poms
 - Hot glue
 - Adult help



What you do:

- Bend, stretch and cut the carton cups to make 3-D flower shapes. Also cut leaf shapes from the carton top.
- 2. Paint the flowers and leaves. Let dry.
- 3. Cut the flat cardboard to a size and shape you desire. Leave a border at least 2 inches larger than your photo, drawing or note.
- 4. With hot glue, attach the photo, drawing or note to the cardboard.
- 5. Arrange and glue flowers and leaves around the border. Attach pom-poms for more color and texture.
- 6. Present the gift to your mom or a special woman in your life.



Answer: I. daughter, 2. family, 3. father, 4. home, 5. honor, 6. love, 7. mother, 8. obey, 9. respect, 10. son; Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the LORD your God is giving you.

What's it like to be a Pastoral Intern in NEPA?

MAY 2022 · ISSUE 5 · VOLUME 30

By Melissa Hrdlicka

It is hard to believe I have been on internship with Common Ground Recovery Community for nine months already! My time with Common Ground has been a deep blessing to me and to my education. I have witnessed the presence of God in the open vulnerable sharing during our Wednesday worship, in the heartfelt reverent "thank you's" when serving communion and meals in downtown Reading and in our study of the scriptures and 12-steps. Common Ground truly is a place of radical love and where God's grace embraces our brokenness.

As part of my internship project, I invited our worshiping communities and ministry partners to reflect on these three questions: What does Common Ground mean to you? What does community mean to you? And where do you see God here and in the world? They then drew on white cotton squares that will be sewn together to make an altar cloth to fit all of our communion tables. The responses were profound and beautiful!

There are drawings of stick figures holding hands around the globe, animals peacefully living together, a place of refuge in the storm and in the desert, flowers, hearts, and crosses. There are phrases like, "Freedom, break the chains", "God is love", "We are better together", "Never give up hope because there is hope in everything", and so much more on these 33 squares!

As these squares are knit together to make one, we are reminded that God weaves all of us together in a tapestry of love to bring warmth, comfort, grace, and peace to a weary world! May we live out this good news and may it spill over into thanksgiving! (Colossians 2:2-7)



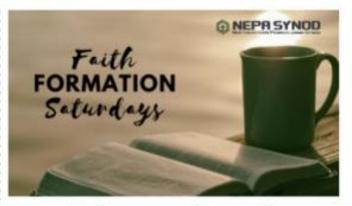
TOGETHER

Our 2022 Assembly will be held online on June 10-11. Each congregation is entitled to bring two voting members. Register on the synod website today! Godslove.org

STEWARDSHIP EXTRAVAGANZA



JUNE 18, 2022
TRINITY LUTHERAN
CHURCH, LANSDALE
AN EVENT ORGANIZED BY THE
SEPA AND NEPA SYNODS
(REGISTRATION FORTHCOMING)



Join us on the 2nd Saturday of every month!

(more information on our website)



APRIL 23 & 24, 2022, 1PM-4PM

RAIN OR SHINE, BAREBONES EVENT, BRING YOUR OWN KNIFE, CUTTING BOARD, DRINKS, AND SNACKS. WE'LL BE CUTTING THE SEED POTATOES FOR PLANTING SEASON! ALL ARE INVITED! JUST WALK-IN AND HELP!

BECKER'S ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH 265 MAIDENCREEK ROAD FLEETWOOD, PA 19522

Three Years of Growth and Change







GAINING STRENGTH



BEYOND DEATH TO LIFE

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MAY 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Third Sunday of Easter 10:00 am – Worship with Holy Communion Supply Pastor: Joyce Seip 11:00 am-Sunday School Opener: Pat Yocum Greeter: Nancy Malandra	2	3	4	5	6 6:00-8:00 pm – Frog Pond	7
Fourth Sunday of Easter 10:00 am – Worship with Holy Communion Supply Pastor: Kenneth Gould 11:00 am-Sunday School Opener: Dianne Leininger Greeter: Barbara Auchenbach	9 1:00 pm – Senior Berners	10	6:00 pm-Boy Scouts	12	13 6:00-8:00 pm – Frog Pond	14
Fifth Sunday of Easter 10:00 am – Worship with Holy Communion Supply Pastor: Kenneth Gould 11:00 am-Sunday School Opener: Erin Readinger Greeter: Nancy Malandra	7:00 pm – Council Meeting Deadline to return Congregational Vitality Survey and Reflection Questions	17 3:30 pm-Quilters Guild Newsletter Deadline	18	Kauffman's BBQ Chicken Dinner and Sycamore Farms Apple Dumpling Order Deadline	20 6:00-8:00 pm – Frog Pond Geranium Order Deadline	21
22 Sixth Sunday of Easter 10:00 am – Worship with Holy Communion Supply Pastor: Joyce Seip 11:00 am-Sunday School Opener: open Greeter: Barbara Auchenbach	23	24 3:00 pm-Berks Festival of Faith	25	26	27 6:00-8:00 pm – Frog Pond	28
First Sunday of Easter 10:00 am – Worship Supply Pastor: David Kistler 11:00 am-Sunday School Opener: Rick Gruber Greeter: Nancy Malandra	30	31				

Bern Lutheran Church ■ 820 West Leesport Road, Leesport, PA 19533 ■ Phone: 610-374-4343 ■ Email: bernlutheranchurch@gmail.com