

The Bell



Bergstrasse Evangelical Lutheran Church

July/August 2018

Bergstrasse Events

The Parish Family Committee has been hard at work with ideas for church events for the upcoming fall/winter months! We are all excited to share our ideas with the congregation.

Ice Cream// Rally Day

Please join us after church in Neidamyer Hall on **Sunday August 26th**, where we will get together and enjoy a mid-morning snack of ice cream and other sweet goodies! This is a chance where we want to express ideas of what we would like to see from the church as we are going through this transitional period. Please feel free to invite a guest along to join us for the service and the social. Remember to bring those ideas! A sign up sheet will be posted in Neidamyer Hall.

Mark your calendar for **Sunday September 16th**, the church Picnic is scheduled for that day! The picnic will be after church, outside under a tent, weather permitting. If the weather does not cooperate, we will have the picnic in Neidamyer Hall. Hot dogs, buns and drink will be provided by the church. We have BBQ being made by Cathy Feather and Mary Duing is bringing her homemade YUMMY baked beans! We will also be playing bingo. We are asking the congregation to bring another side. Sign up sheet will be posted in Neidamyer Hall. Once again, please feel free to bring a guest!

The Parish committee is bringing a Coffee/Doughnut time in a newly created sitting area to Bergstrasse once a month! This is a great time to come together before the service and get to talk with each other, with new happenings and joys in each other's life, while enjoying some yummy treats!! Will be held in Neidamyer Hall.

Mark your calendar for the following Sunday dates at 9:45 am:

September 9th// host Mary Duing & Selma Hainley

October 14th// host Mary Keisling & Cathy Feather

November 11th// host Lisa Conway & Deb Burkholder

December 9th// host Donna Daub & Kathy Landis

January 13th // host Betty Evans & Darlene Kreider

If anyone would like to host a Sunday in 2019, please see one of the Parish committee members, we would love it!

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

More Events coming up with more information to follow:

- Fundraiser for Bangladesh/Richard Sarker: Will be making fresh soup to sell.
- Sunday November 4th //Chili Game Day//after church
- Christmas Cookie/Muffin/Candy Swap

Any questions or ideas for the Parish Committee, please feel free to reach out to any of us!!

Thank you and enjoy the Summer! Don't forget to mark your calendars!!

Donna, Mary, Selma, Cathy, Lisa, Deb, Mary, Betty & Darlene

Veterans' Information



Bergstrasse would like to update the veterans' plaque that was started years ago. If you know of any member who has served in the military, please complete the form and place it in the offering plate or return to the office. **Please return the form no later than September 2, 2018.**

Bergstrasse veteran

Name _____

Branch of Service _____ Job Title _____

Years they served in the service _____

Combat Service if applicable _____

Did they die during the time they were in the service? _____

AN APPEAL ON BEHALF OF SEN CHILDREN

By: Richard Sarker



Sailen and Shantona Sen lived as an active Christian family in Shambhuganj, Bangladesh, along with their two children— Sreamoni and Wilson. Tragedy struck this family 8 months ago when Sailen died in a bus accident when he was returning home from a nearby town where he had gone to look for work. Shantona became a widow with two children in a village where there is very limited resources to begin with.

I met Shantona a few months after Sailen's death, and we were able to provide her with two goats as part of our organization's support to widows in that area who do not have any other sources of income. Her children also attend our school in Shambhuganj and are provided with lunch five days a week as part of our nutrition program for the children there. Shantona usually was not able to provide three meals a day for her children in the past with her limited income and saw this as a blessing. She was eager to go on with her life with her daughter Sreamoni- 9 and son Wilson -7 and accepted the fact that God has a purpose for everything.

On May 4, 2018, Shantona was killed during a lightning storm, while tending to her goats and chicken. As the storm approached, she was trying to usher the animals back to protect them, as many die each year due to lightning strikes in that area and was herself killed as she was struck by lightning.

We do not always understand God's plans. Or why such tragedies happen. However, we do know that Sailen and Shantona left behind two children, who now have very little to live on. The Sens lived in extreme poverty and had nothing to leave behind. The children, who go to our school, are now our responsibility, as their extended family cannot afford to support them financially. We are exploring ways to send the children to a Christian orphanage; however, the orphanage cannot take them in the middle of a school year (the school years run January—December in Bangladesh), and the children have to be provided for their immediate needs and beyond. At this point we hope the nine year old girl may find a place in an orphanage, but not sure about Wilson who is only seven.

We have started a fundraising campaign for food, clothing, and other expenses for these two orphan children to get them through life. Once they can go to the orphanage, their expenses will be much smaller, and only for travels, food, clothing and medical for the time they visit their relatives in Shambhuganj.

We appreciate any help you can provide so we can take care of the children of Sailen and Shantona during this painful time in their life. Please contact Richard Sarker, 717 271 1585 or email rassar47@hotmail.com for more info.

Contributions can be made payable to Bergstrasse Lutheran Church, memo line: Sen children.

Lutheran World Relief October 7

The Stitches of Love group has been making quilts to be sent to Lutheran World Relief.

We will be collecting school kits for Lutheran World Relief Ingathering.

We have some of the backpacks needed for the school kits. Bags may be purchased at Walmart, Target, sporting goods stores. They may not have any logos printed on them.

Include the following items in each School Kit:

- Four 70-sheet notebooks of wide- or college-ruled paper approximately 8" X 10½"; no loose-leaf paper
- One 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other
- One pencil sharpener
- One blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)
- Five unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers; secure together with a rubber band
- Five ballpoint pens (no gel ink); secure together with a rubber band
- One box of 16 or 24 crayons
- One 2½" eraser
- One sturdy drawstring backpack-style cloth bag approximately 14" X 17" with shoulder straps (no standard backpacks)

Do not add other items or leave out any of the items listed. All items should be new and in good condition. Remove any excess packaging, pack all items in bag and close. Do not enclose the Kit or any of its contents in plastic bags.

Back to school sales are in July and August so stock up on the supplies when you see a sale. The cost to handle and ship one school kit overseas is \$1.40. Please consider a monetary donation to help with this cost.

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Ephrata, PA 17522
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www.bergstrasselutheran.com
bergluth@dejazzd.com

Worship - 9:30 AM

The Rev. Robert Kramer, Interim Pastor
717-405-0044 (cell)
Jean Wilhelm, newsletter editor

Due date for the **September**
newsletter is **August 19.**



10-28-18

**The Heidelberg Brass
Band will be returning to
Bergstrasse to lead a
POLKA Mass.**

**What a great opportunity
to celebrate Reformation
Sunday by using great European music
during worship. That's Sunday,
October 28 beginning at 10:30 AM.**



FROM THE PASTOR

In the book The Godbearing Life that he co-wrote with Kendra Dean, Ron Foster tells of an experience he had while sitting on a park bench one summer day eating his lunch and soaking in the surroundings. He noticed a young mother weighted down with

two plastic grocery bags in one hand, gently holding the fingers of her toddler daughter with the other hand as they meandered across the grass. The two-year-old methodically and somewhat awkwardly navigated the grassy terrain. They were headed in a general direction, but in no particular hurry to get there as the mother allowed the little girl the freedom of controlled wandering.

From time to time, the mother would point to a tree, a bird, a flower. The little girl would stop, giggle, point, and sound out a word, and then move on once more on her self-made path. Eventually they got to the other side of the park, and presumably headed to their home in the neighborhood.

This story about hand-holding, finger-pointing and controlled wandering comes to mind as we continue in the summer season of Pentecost. A time when we once again hear those familiar Gospel stories about Jesus. Stories that can serve to remind us how God through the Holy Spirit gently holds our hand and occasionally points to new wonders during our wandering on this earth. Stories told and retold in the midst of a community of faithful people that nourish our faith.

Martin Luther in his explanation of the third article of the Apostles' Creed states that we cannot by our own understanding or effort believe in Jesus Christ, our Lord. But the Holy Spirit has called us through the Gospel, enlightened us with his gifts, and sanctified and kept us in true faith. It is the Holy Spirit that calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it united with Jesus Christ in one true faith.

It is easy, especially during the summer months, to wander away from those gospel stories and to be lax in own spiritual practices. To play hard-to-get with the Spirit. It is my hope that you will diligently continue to explore God's Word, to worship our Lord, and to have frequent conversations with God in the midst of your summertime activities. Have a blessed season of rest and renewal.

Pastor Bob

AN ORDER FOR HEALING. The Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW) resource includes an *Order For Healing* as part of the church's ministry of healing. It provides an opportunity for those who sense the need for God's healing in any aspect of their lives to join in prayer for others and themselves. Our Lord Jesus healed many as a sign of the reign of God come near and sent the disciples to continue this work of healing--with prayer, the laying on of hands, and anointing.

The ELW states, "In this ministry of healing, the church does not replace the gifts of God that come through the scientific community nor does it promise a cure. Rather the church offers and celebrates gifts such as these: God's presence with strength and comfort in time of suffering, God's promise of wholeness and peace, and God's love embodied in the community of faith."

Following the worship service on August 5 you are invited to gather in the front pews of our worship space for a brief time (10 to 15 minutes) for prayers of healing. Together we will offer prayers. Then individual prayer will be shared through the laying on of hands and anointing with oil. And we conclude by hearing God's promise that the name given to us for health and salvation is the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

If you desire to participate in the order of healing but cannot attend on this day, please contact me to arrange a time and place to participate in these prayers.

I plan to continue to offer these prayers on a bimonthly basis with the following one being on October 7.
Submitted by Pastor Bob

Thank You!

A big thank you to everyone for all the years of support in regards to the fundraiser yard sale and baskets.

We raised enough to give each organization \$700 (Power Pak, For Our Kids, ALS (Randy Walker))

It was awesome and hugs for all the support.

The Landis Family



Mitzi Rice died June 15.
Please keep her family
in your prayers.

In Our Thoughts & Prayers

Mabel Bolar
Harold and Evelyn Coldren
John Duing
Earl and Sandy Eshleman
Betty Evans
Jean Fryberger
Polly Gunzenhauser
Carolyn Hibshman
Bill Irvine
Howard Jorgensen
Darlene Kreider
Larry Lausch
Shirley Martin
Lawrence Rice
Randy Rice
Polly Schmuck
Erma Snader
Noah and Joan Stahl
Nancy Sweigart
Jerry and Ruth Troutman
Barbara Alexander
Kaye Biermann
Halley Bittle
Claire Brenner
Evanna Estes (friend of Mary Duing)

David Evans
Kevin Ferguson (friend of Ben and Polly Gunzenhauser)
Rick Gerhart
Elmer and Sheila Gockley
Harold and Norma Good
Earl Goshert (Jane Pittman's step-father)
Naomi Goshert (Jane Pittman's mother)
Ben Gunzenhauser, Jr. (Ben and Polly's son)
Nancy Heiser (Jane Pittman's cousin)
Chris Horbey
Robert L. Hornberger (Polly Schmuck's brother)
Patricia Houck (Deb Burkholder's sister)
Carolyn Houck (friend of Betty Evans)
Orion McMahon (niece's husband of Jane Pittman)
Caitlyn Mertz (family of Jane Pittman)
Mark Mertz (Jane Pittman's cousin)
Weston Rudisill (Cleone Rudisill's grandson)
Luke Shuler (Noah and Joan Stahl's grandson)
Jennifer Sikie (family of Jane Pittman)
Jared Snyder (Gail Smith's grandson)
Tom Stuber (Jane Pittman's brother-in-law)
Joe Suprik (friend of Jane Pittman)
Cosette Sweigart (Polly Gunzenhauser's niece)
Vernon Sweigart (Kathryn Sweigart's son)
Randy Walker (friend of Chad and Kathy Landis)
Harry Werner (friend of Sylvia Smith-Garman)
Randy Wintersohl (Darlene Kreider's grandson)
Miriam Wolf

Worship participants for July

July	1	8	15	22	29
Greeter	Ben and Polly Gunzenhauser	Cleone Rudisill	Mabel Bolar	Mary Keisling	Jean Fryberger
Lector	Curt Hare	Deb Burkholder	Cleone Rudisill	Selma Hainley	Cathy Feather
Acolyte	Jaidyn Feather	Bishop Villarreal	Cleone Rudisill	Deb Burkholder	Jaidyn Feather
Counters	Earl and Sandy Eshleman	Dave and Jean Wilhelm	Dave and Jean Wilhelm	Bonnie Grater Mary Duing	Bonnie Grater Mary Duing
Flowers	Kathy Buck		Sandy Krotowski	Bonnie Grater	
Bulletin				Phyllis Roberts Cleone Rudisill	

	Ushers	Communion Ushers July 1	Altar Guild
July	Curt Hare Nevin Rutt Darlene Kreider Jane Pittman	Cathy Feather Mary Duing	Jane Pittman Darlene Kreider

July Sundays	9:30 AM	Worship
15	10:30 AM	Council
24	9:00 AM	Stitches of Love

July 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Worship With Us

July 2018

Sunday, 1st – Sixth Sunday after Pentecost – Word & Sacrament

Texts: Lamentations 3:22-33; Psalm 30; 2 Corinthians 8:7-15; Mark 5:21-43

The gospel reading tells of a woman finding healing by touching Jesus' cloak, and of a girl restored to life when he takes her by the hand. In both cases a boundary is crossed: in Jesus' time the hemorrhaging woman was considered ritually unclean, polluting others by her touch, and anyone who touched a corpse also became unclean. In Mark's gospel Jesus breaks down barriers, from his first meal at a tax collector's house to his last breath on the cross as the temple curtain is torn in two. We dare to touch Jesus in our "uncleanness" and to live as a community that defines no one as an outsider.

Sunday, 8th – Seventh Sunday after Pentecost – Service of Word & Prayer; Solomon Lausch speaking; Selma Hainley Liturgist

Texts: Ezekiel 2:1-5; Psalm 123; 2 Corinthians 12:2-10; Mark 6:1-13

Jesus does great deeds of power and gives his disciples authority over demons. Yet none of this power is unilateral; it all must be received by faith. Jesus asks his disciples to go out without money or supplies, so that they will be dependent on how others receive them. When we are sent from the assembly to witness and to heal, we are asked to be vulnerable, to be dependent on the reception of others. The Spirit always operates in the between: between Jesus and his Abba, between Jesus and us, between you and me, between us and those to whom we are sent.

Sunday, 15th – Eight Sunday after Pentecost – Service of Word & Prayer

Texts: Amos 7:7-15; Psalm 85:8-13; Ephesians 1:3-14; Mark 6:14-29

When Amos told what he saw when God held up the plumb line of justice next to Israel—that the poor were being trampled—he was a threat to the power of priests and king. John the Baptist also spoke truth to power, and Herod had him beheaded. In Herod's fear that Jesus is John returned from the dead, we may hear hope for the oppressed: that all the prophets killed through the ages are alive in Jesus. We are called to witness to justice in company with them.

Sunday, 22nd – Ninth Sunday after Pentecost Service – Service of Word & Prayer

Texts: Jeremiah 23:1-6; Psalm 23; Ephesians 2:11-22; Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

Mark's gospel makes clear how great was the press of the crowd, with its countless needs to be met, on Jesus and his disciples. Yet in today's gospel Jesus advises his disciples to get away and rest, to take care of themselves. Sometimes we think that when others are in great need we shouldn't think of ourselves at all; but Jesus also honors the caregivers' need. We are sent from Christ's table to care for others and for ourselves.

Sunday, 29th – Tenth Sunday after Pentecost Service – Service of Word & Prayer

Texts: 2 Kings 4:42-44; Psalm 145:10-18; Ephesians 3:14-21; John 6:1-21

This Sunday is the first of five Sundays with gospel readings from John 6, the first four of which focus on Jesus as bread of life. Today Jesus feeds thousands of people with five loaves and two fish. What we have, what we bring to Jesus' table, seems like it is not nearly enough to meet all the needs we see around us. But it is not the adequacy of our supplies or our skills that finally makes the difference: it is the power of Jesus working in the littlest and least to transform this world into the world God desires, a world where all the hungry are satisfied.

Worship participants for August

August	5	12	19	26
Greeter	Evelyn Michael	Glenn and Almanara Buffenmyer	Cathy Feather	Sandy Lausch
Lector	Bonnie Grater	Peggy Rushton-Witmyer	Lisa Conway	Curt Hare
Acolyte	Bishop Villarreal	Cleone Rudisill	Deb Burkholder	Marissa Spacht
Counters	Selma Hainley Cathy Feather	Selma Hainley Cathy Feather	Earl and Sandy Eshleman	Earl and Sandy Eshleman
Flowers			Lisa and Joe Conway	
Bulletin	Bonnie Grater			

	Ushers	Communion Ushers August 5	Altar Guild
August	Cleone Rudisill Peggy Rushton-Witmyer Deb Burkholder	Cathy Feather Deb Burkholder	Jane Pittman Darlene Kreider

August Sundays	9:30 AM Worship
5 10:30 AM	Service of Healing following the worship service
26 10:30 AM	Ice Cream/Rally Day
28 9:00 AM	Stitches of Love

August 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Worship With Us August 2018

Sunday, 5th – Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost – Word & Sacrament

Texts: Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15; Psalm 78:23-29; Ephesians 4:1-16; John 6:24-35

Apparently not satisfied by Jesus' feeding of thousands, some who were there press him for a sign of his power; perhaps it is daily manna they want. As always in John's gospel when people want a sign, Jesus offers himself. He is the bread come from heaven to give life to the world. He calls us to come to him and believe in him, and through that relationship to know the one who sent him.

A Liturgy of Healing will follow this worship.

Sunday, 12th – Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost – Service of Word & Prayer; Chad Landis speaking

Texts: 1 Kings 19:4-8; Psalm 34:1-8; Ephesians 4:25--5:2; John 6:35, 41-51

Jesus says that the bread he gives for the life of the world is his flesh, and whoever eats this bread has eternal life now and will be raised on the last day. In Ephesians Paul tells us what this life Jesus gives us looks like, this life we live as those marked with the seal of the Holy Spirit in baptism. We live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us. The whole purpose of life is giving yourself for the other.

Sunday, 19th – Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost – Service of Word & Prayer

Texts: Proverbs 9:1-6; Psalm 34:9-14; Ephesians 5:15-20; John 6:51-58


Wisdom prepares a feast, sets her table, and invites all to come and eat her bread and drink her wine. The first chapter of John's gospel owes much to the biblical tradition that imagined Wisdom as existing before anything was created and having a role in the work of creation. Christ, the wisdom of God (1 Cor. 1:24), today invites us to eat his flesh and drink his blood. John's gospel includes no account of the institution of the Lord's supper, but here we can't help hearing Jesus' words as an invitation to the meal of bread and wine we share.

Sunday, 26th – Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost Service – Service of Word & Prayer

Texts: Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18; Psalm 34:15-22; Ephesians 6:10-20; John 6:56-69

This Sunday's gospel many people take offense at Jesus' invitation to eat his flesh and drink his blood; even many of Jesus' disciples peel off. This is the backdrop in John's gospel for Peter's confession of faith. "To whom can we go?" asks Peter, in words we sometimes sing just before the gospel is read. "You have the words of eternal life." In order to take such a stand, as Peter and Joshua did, Paul tells us to arm ourselves with the word of God. We pray in the Spirit that we might be bold ambassadors of the gospel.

OFFICE HOURS



Beginning September 1, 2018 the
office hours will be

**Tuesday, Wednesday,
Thursday**
1:00 PM—3:00 PM

Seed Money Received for Projects				
Funds still needed for projects \$7,391				
	Seed Money Collected	20% Congregation	Funds Still Needed	Project Cost
Doors	\$ 2,449	\$5,532	\$3,083	\$27,660
Paving Parking Lot (Church)	\$10,237	\$14,545	\$4,308	\$72,727

Bergstrasse Lutheran Church
Council Minutes Highlights
June 10, 2018

Council is looking for someone to take charge of the cemetery. Ron Daub, who has done a wonderful job for several years, is retiring from the job. Please let Council know if you, or someone you know, will be willing to serve.

Correction from May 13: the Coffee Klatsch beginning in September will be before church, not after.

Council approved the following vacation dates for the Sexton: August 3, 4, and 5 and September 14, 15, 16.

Council approved sending a \$50 donation to the Historical Society of the Cocalico Valley in the memory of Susan Louise Bryson, who died recently. She is the author of the book "Burials in Bergstrasse Cemetery".

Pastor Kramer announced that Pastor Glenn Beard's Heidelberg Band will present their Polka Mass at Bergstrasse on Reformation Sunday, October 28.

Pastor Kramer will make homemade ice cream as our contribution to Holy Trinity's picnic on June 24. Lisa Conway will supply strawberries to accompany the ice cream.

The new forms for reimbursements were approved and are available on the bulletin board in Neidamyer Hall.

The next Council meeting will be on July 15 after church. There will be no meeting in August.

Call committee update

The call committee has completed the Ministry Site Profile and it has been approved by the Bishop. We are now waiting to hear from pastors who might be interested in an interview. The Call Committee will keep you posted as developments happen. The item below is from the ELCA website and is what prospective pastors will initially see when looking at our requests.

**Bergstrasse Evangelical Lutheran Church ,
Ephrata, PA**

Type: Congregation - Organized * Size: Suburb within 10 miles of a large city * Context: Bedroom community

[Full ELCA Trend Report For This Congregation](#)

Ministry Opportunity

Open to: Minister of Word and Sacrament

Position type: Pastor Developer / Redeveloper * Either full or part time

Bergstrasse is a historical church with a good location. We are a small congregation steeped in tradition but who want and embrace a change. We are looking for an innovative and charismatic leader. We need a leader who feels the Holy Spirit has led them here to light this congregation's fire and involve the congregation and the community together in its ministry.



**Food
Pantry
Needs**

July

- 1 canned meats / tuna
- 8 laundry soap
- 15 peanut butter / jelly
- 22 pancake mix / syrup
- 29 toothpaste / brushes /
deodorant / powder

August

- 5 spaghetti / sauce
- 12 instant potatoes / rice
- 19 kool aid / juice
- 26 cereal

Congratulations to those with
July/August birthdays:

July

- 1 Dave Wilhelm
Ben Gunzenhauser
- 3 Jerry Troutman
- 4 Pat Heisey
- 5 Earl Eshleman
- 9 Lisa Stover
- 13 Darlene Kreider
- 17 Gail Smith
- 20 Sandy Eshleman
- 21 Kathy Landis
Kathy Buck
- 31 Randy Rice

August

- 1 Susan Hagen
- 3 Bonnie Grater
- 6 Wanda Mumma
- 13 Kendall Mumma
- 16 Betty Evans
- 17 Shirley Martin
- 20 Mary Keisling
Donna Daub



**Birthdays
& Anniversaries**

Anniversaries

July

- 1 Ben and Polly
Gunzenhauser
- 15 Ron and Donna Daub

August

- 19 Joe and Lisa Conway

Bus trip

Salem Lutheran Church, Ephrata, is hosting a bus trip to Newport, Rhode Island Tuesday Oct. 2 - Thursday Oct. 4. The trip includes lobster boat seaport tour, driving tour with local guide, Elms and Breakers Mansions, buffet lunch and show at Newport Playhouse, winery tour and tasting at Newport Vineyards and more. Two-night stay at Newport Beach Hotel. Reservations are due August 12. Call Stephanie Frymyer at 717-733-6057.

Balance as of 5/31/18

General Fund	\$ 15,159.24
Improvement Fund	\$ 3,557.05
Mission Plus	\$ 74,376.18
Mission Plus 2	\$ 2,724.27
Parsonage Secty Dep/ Memorial Fund	\$ 10,478.56

LOWER SUSQUEHANNA SYNOD ASSEMBLY HIGHLIGHTS – JUNE 1, 2018

- Chaplain Dione M. Klepetka led centering times for assembly participants
- Heard the Report of the Renewal Team and prioritized our steps forward
- Heard exciting stories from R3 congregations and from hunger ministries who are striving to go deeper
- Introduced some important conversations
- Enjoyed a Coffee Break sponsored by Lutheran World Relief
- Heard a stimulating Keynote Address and Bible Study from Mikka McCracken
- Presented Mikka McCracken with a \$20,000 check for World Hunger
- Norma R. Good received the Ken and Ruth Helling Award for faith in action from Lutheran World Relief
- Worshiped in a Service of Word and Sacrament
- Heard an inspiring sermon by Bishop Dunlop
- Installed newly-elected conference deans, the Rev. Elizabeth D. George and the Rev. Jason P. Northridge
- Installed newly-elected conference secretaries, the Rev. Cherie Korte, the Rev. Abigail C. Leese, and the Rev. Ben W. Siebert
- Installed newly-elected members of Synod Council, Carlotta “Chucki” Strevig, Linda J. Long, the Rev. Matthew B. Best, Stella Ludwig, Kay A. Hinkle, and Zachary J. Weiss
- Consecrated David Anderson Hope-Tringali
- Ordained Elizabeth Erin Frey and Ronald Whitley Costen
- Remembered with Thanksgiving our faithful departed: the Rev. Jay Bryan Eickhoff, the Rev. Dr. Robert W. Jenson, the Rev. Frederick Leonard Shilling, the Rev. George Knarr, the Rev. Dr. Elwood Harold Leister, and the Rev. William Charles Butz.
- 468 volunteers from 52 congregations packed 190,390 food packets bound for Haiti
- Visited four synodical feeding ministries and formed relationships with those who benefit from these services

LOWER SUSQUEHANNA SYNOD ASSEMBLY ACTIONS – JUNE 1, 2018

- Adopted the proposed agenda and the proposed Rules of Procedures for the 2018 Synod Assembly
- Approved FY 2019 Budget in the amount of \$2,685,000
- Adopted the beginning minimum base salary and housing allowance for 2019 of \$51,165 for ministers of Word and Sacrament who serve full time at the time of their ordination and the beginning minimum base salary for 2019 when housing is provided of \$35,606 for ministers of Word and Sacrament who serve full time at the time of their ordination.
- Adopted adopt the beginning minimum salary for 2019 of \$43,075 for ministers of Word and Service who serve full time at the time of their consecration.
- Adopted a new bylaw S8.22.01. The vice president shall be a member of all committees and any other organizational units of the synod, except as otherwise provided in this constitution
- Amended bylaw S11.04.01. S11.04.01. The Mutual Ministry Committee shall be composed of 9 persons; 4 ordained ministers and 5 laypersons, with at least 1 of the 9 to be a representative of the Synod Council. No officer of the synod nor any synod staff member shall serve on this Committee unless appointed by the Executive Committee. The term of office shall be 2 years. Persons may serve 2 consecutive terms.
- Amended bylaw S7.11.01. S7.11.01. The regular assembly of this synod shall be held annually during the month of June between May 15 and June 30 at such place as the Synod Council shall designate.
- Adopted CRS9.04.r.A.18, The Preliminary Identification Process Leading to the Election of a Bishop
- Elected the following conference nominees as voting members of the 2019 Churchwide Assembly: Kristina A. Ahrens, Janice S. DuBois, Steven S. Shissler, John D. Swartz, the Rev. Sean S. Titus, the Rev. Patrick P. Wirick Jr., and Justin R. Zullinger.
- Elected the following conference nominees as alternate voting members of the 2019 Churchwide Assembly: the Rev. Matthew B. Best, Eric H. Crump, Jered L. Hock, Linda J. Long, Daniel P. Picone, the Rev. Alan J. Watt, and Linda R. Weaver.
- Adopted the Resolution of Gratitude for the Rev. Thomas E. McKee
- Adopted the Resolution to End Homelessness
- Defeated the Resolution on Synod Assembly Planning
- Amended bylaw S9.03.01. With the exception of nominations for the officers of synod and Panel #1 for the Churchwide Assembly, the Nominating Committee shall present at least two persons for each position available. Nominations for each position may be received also from the floor of the assembly. All elections shall be by a simple majority unless otherwise designed by these bylaws or the constitution of the Lower Susquehanna Synod.

The Bell

Bergstrasse Evangelical
Lutheran Church
9 Hahnstown Road
Ephrata, PA 17522

ADDRESS SERVICE
REQUESTED

**Our mission at Bergstrasse is to widen the
community of people who know, love, and follow God.**

