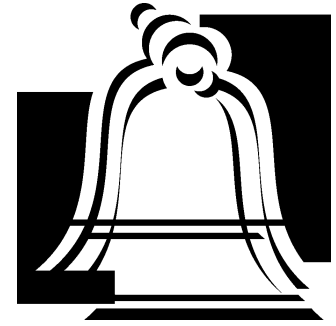


# The Bell



Bergstrasse Evangelical Lutheran Church

October 2020

**Outdoor Worship w/Holy Communion** - 9:00 am Sunday, in the Pines on Bergstrasse Campus. Spoken liturgy led by Pastor Mark Luscombe. Bring your own lawn chair. Face masks, social distancing expected.

worship  
WITH US

**Indoor Worship** - 10:00 am Sunday, Bergstrasse Sanctuary, spoken liturgy, instrumental music, led by Pastor Jim Goodyear. Limited to 50 participants. Face masks, social distancing expected.

**Online Worship** - Made available on [sermon.net](http://sermon.net) at <http://holytrinitylutheranchurchephratapa.sermon.net/main> It will also be posted on Facebook and YouTube. Online worship will continue in this form until live streaming is made available.



**Ephrata Lutheran Ministry  
Blessing of the Animals!  
Sunday October 4  
2:00 PM**

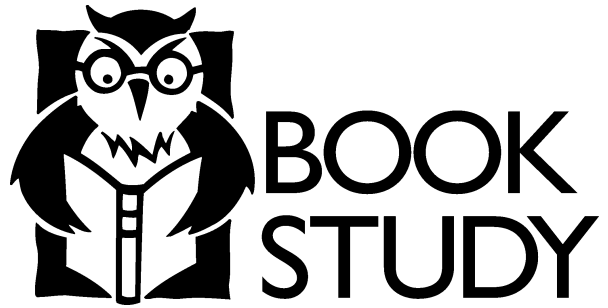
**Held at The Grove-God's Cathedral  
on the Bergstrasse campus**

Indoors if inclement weather. Please have all animals leashed. Bring a lawn chair too!

**Online Faith Scholars Wednesdays at 7 PM on Zoom** - You are invited to join the conversation Racism in America.

We will use Rev. Lenny Duncan's book "Dear Church" and the included discussion guide to form our discussion. The book is available on Amazon in copy and kindle editions.

Be sure to give your email to Pastor Jim to receive the zoom link!



## November 8 following worship service

The Congregation Council (aka Leadership Team), announces our Annual Congregational Meeting to be held on Sunday November 8, 2020 immediately following our morning worship.

We will elect new persons to our Congregational Council, review the proposed budget for 2021 for adoption, and to receive the annual reports of our ministries in 2020.



**The Bell** is published monthly (except a combined July-August edition) by  
Bergstrasse Lutheran Church  
9 Hahnstown Road  
Ephrata, PA 17522  
(717) 733-7808  
bergluth@dejazzd.com

Worship - 10:00 AM

The Rev. James Goodyear, Pastor  
717-676-3954 (cell)

Jean Wilhelm, newsletter editor

Due date for the **November** newsletter  
is **October 18**.

### Financial Update: Ending August 31, 2020

	MONTH	2020 YTD	2019 YTD
Net Operating Income	(\$2,488.80)	\$7,125.80	(\$3,410.68)
Operating Income	\$12,067.51	\$102,273.69	\$87,653.13
Operating Expense	\$14,556.31	\$95,147.89	\$91,063.81
Net Other Income	\$2,539.33	(\$4,109.96)	\$6,908.80
Net Income from all sources	\$50.53	\$3,015.84	\$3,498.12



## From the Pastor's Desk

The results are in from our recent Ministry Survey! Each person was asked to name their top three Marks of Discipleship - those disciple actions that have the most meaning for their faith journey. They included Worship, Prayer, Education, Growing Personal Relationships, Serving in/beyond our Walls and Generosity. Of the 13 returned surveys, Worship was the unanimous top choice! Serving in/beyond Our Walls and Growing Personal Relationship round out the top three respectively.

Ten respondents indicated being affiliated with Bergstrasse for 20 years or more, while the other three, less than 10 years. All feel the future of Bergstrasse is stable to very positive. A strong majority, 11 respondents are very supportive of what Ephrata Lutheran Ministry might look like too. And the top three means of communication are telephone calls, email, and text messaging!

What does all this mean for Bergstrasse Church? How might this information help us to continue our ministry together? Where is God at work through Bergstrasse disciples? I certainly don't have the exact answer; what I do see is a bright future filled with hope and love! It appears the key to our current ministry is being together with people. There are deep roots in our congregation indicated by the number of 20+ year respondents. Additionally, there is new growth shoots forming. In our fast-paced world the telephone, email, and texting are the means to keep connected.

I sense Bergstrasse Church is ripe for mission – to go beyond our walls to proclaim God's love! The strong core of disciples is poised to take further steps. I see small steps taking place as we begin to form Ephrata Lutheran Ministry, as people step up to explore new ways to serve our neighbor, as we work together to stay connected when our current normal calls for social distancing.

I also see a challenge to our work together - that is growing a deeper understanding of Jesus in each other. In my experience, perhaps yours also, I've learned a lot about who is Jesus. I've heard countless times the stories of the New Testament. I struggled with the Old Testament understanding of God. Knowing God, knowing Jesus is good. Our work today calls us to be Jesus in the world. To be the person who like Jesus, stands with the least, the lost, the lonely, the left behind; to engage in forming a relationship with persons unlike ourselves separated by race, ethnicity, creed, social status, gender identity, sexual orientation, familial structure, etc. To be like Jesus offering an abiding hope to live life more fully. I agree, this has always been the mission of the Church; however, that has not always been the experience of many people inside and outside the Church. Ask anyone why they no longer feel connected to a Church? You might be surprised to learn how hurtful, exclusive, unwelcoming Church has been for people you love.

Are you able to share a personal experience where a Jesus teaching transformed your life? If so, that is the heart of the Gospel of Jesus Christ! To be able to identify a Jesus story with your story so that you can be in the world offering hope and abundant love. It is taking the knowledge in our minds to dwell in your heart so that your behavior and action speak louder than your words.

I see a bright future for Bergstrasse where together we practice seeing Jesus in each other. Ministry is 'together work' where individuals are respected, cared for, and loved even amidst our differences. The common link between us is God's love for us as lived through the life and teachings of Jesus Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit that dwells among all people. May our work together transform each other, and the world around us.

# Bergstrasse Lutheran Church

October 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>27</b> 9:00am Outside Worship with Communion 10:00am Worship	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 5:00pm Private Music Lessons 7:00pm Book study on Zoom	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b> 9:00am Outside Worship with Communion 10:00am Communion 2:00pm Blessing of Animals	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 5:00pm Private Music Lessons 7:00pm Book study on Zoom	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 8:30am Ingathering Truck
<b>11</b> 9:00am Outside Worship with Communion 10:00am Worship	<b>12</b> 7:00pm Council	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 5:00pm Private Music Lessons 7:00pm Book study on Zoom	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b> 9:00am Outside Worship with Communion 10:00am Worship	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 7:00pm ELM at Holy Trinity	<b>21</b> 5:00pm Private Music Lessons 7:00pm Book study on Zoom	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> 9:00am Outside Worship with Communion 10:00am Communion	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 9:00am Stitches of Love	<b>28</b> 5:00pm Private Music Lessons 7:00pm Book study on Zoom	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> Reformation Day



## Meet our Members

### Welcome to Bergstrasse's newest member/disciple\*

Greetings! My name is Lois Burkman and I have spoken with Pastor Jim concerning joining your delightful congregation. Everyone has been so kind and welcoming to me, and I truly appreciate it.

I am a retired widow who is a lifelong animal lover. Currently, I volunteer at the ReUZit store in Ephrata. Not much in the way of family, as most have died. Remaining are my two much beloved brothers. I am looking forward to having a church family!

So that's the scoop, folks! Hope to get to know all about you much better post COVID.

Blessings,  
Lois Burkman

\*A word about member/disciple. Membership in an organization maintains information about the member's expectations within the organization, along with statistical data relating to the member. For generations, churches maintained membership status to measure worthiness. Yet in all of Jesus' teachings, he never asks about members; he always calls us to a life of discipleship. Matthew 28:19-20, Jesus commissions the disciples, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." Making disciples is the call of Church, to walk with each other as we grow in our relationship with God. At Bergstrasse, our work is to nurture disciples; and to maintain pertinent information to keep our disciples connected with each other. Bergstrasse members are expected to commune at least once a year, and to give financially of record each year. Additionally, members are expected to vote at duly called congregational meetings.

## Congregation Council

Our council or Leadership Team is a small group of Bergstrasse disciples charged with oversight of our mission and ministry in the world. They gather monthly to review our work, to set congregational goals, to vision our future, all to ensure that our work in mission continues to build the Kingdom of God on earth.

Our current council persons include Almanara Buffenmyer, Lisa Conway, Cathy Feather, Ben Gunzenhauser, Inez Hare, Nevin Rutt and Dave Wilhelm. Are you being called to serve in this role? See any of the above persons for more information. Ideally, we'd like to have 1-3 more persons be a part of the Leadership Team. Thank you in advance for your consideration.



# October

Ushers: Almanara Buffenmyer and Cleone Rudisill

Bulletin Sponsor: October 11, Bonnie Grater



Congratulations to those with October birthdays:

- 3 Anna Mumma
- 11 Selma Hainley
- 12 Carl Smith
- 19 Toni Rice

Anniversaries

- 1 Brad and Susan Hagen
- 10 Ronald and Shirley Martin
- 15 Noah and Joan Stahl



“Faith, like light, should always be simple and unbending; while love, like warmth, should beam forth on every side and bend to every necessity of our brethren.”

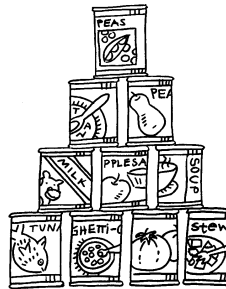
Martin Luther

October

- 4 Pancake mix you make with water, pancake syrup
- 11 Peanut butter, jelly
- 18 Toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, powder
- 25 Instant coffee, hot chocolate, instant oatmeal, soup

## ELM Food Drive

All foods collected through October 11 designated for Ephrata Lutheran Ministries, Fall Food Drive. EASS needs include: Beverage products, cake mixes, canned fruits/vegetables/meats/soups, cereal, hamburger helper, Jell-O snacks, pancake mix/syrup, instant potatoes, laundry detergent, toiletries, cleansing products. Can we overflow the shopping cart? Monetary donations also accepted.



**FOOD DRIVE**



Inez Hare, Shirley Clough, Ronnie Martin (Ron and Shirley Martin's son), Selma Hainley



# Council Minutes

## September 14, 2020

Almanara, Nevin, Dave, Ben, Lisa and Pastor Jim were present.

Ben made a motion to approve the treasurer's report and Almanara seconded it.

A 2021 budget meeting including Nevin, Dave and Lynn with Pastor Jim is planned for Tuesday, Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7pm at the parsonage.

Jean Wilhelm will get more detailed information about online giving using the Vanco company, with which the ELCA is partnered. Ben made a motion to start making electronic donations available, then re-evaluate it in a year's time. Nevin seconded the motion.

The secretary's report from July was revised to remove the word "dividends" and Almanara made a motion to approve it. Ben seconded the motion.

The congregational survey results were reviewed.

"Shepherding" team members are ready to begin periodic check-ins with 4-6 households each.

Since the wireless microphones aren't FCC compatible, Nevin made a motion to have SKD Electronics upgrade them at an estimated cost of \$1,300.00 and Almanara seconded it.

The Worship and Music Committee met on Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> and is considering holding a shared Thanksgiving service with Holy Trinity. Approximately \$75 will need to be spent for the annual upgrade for the music license required for Livestreaming. Bergstrasse's social media presence could be expanded if the Brossman/Sweigart grant is approved.

Council decided to hold the annual congregational meeting in the sanctuary on Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> without lunch. Jean will combine the committee reports. We'd like to nominate at least one new council member for 2021. Announcements will be made in the newsletter and bulletins.

The Ephrata Lutheran Ministry ("ELM") will meet on Tuesday, Sept. 15<sup>th</sup> to review strengths and weaknesses and to approve the design logo.

Nevin made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Ben seconded it.



# 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.**

*October*

The word "October" is written in a large, bold, black cursive font. The letter "O" is particularly large and loops around. The "t" has a small leaf-like flourish above it. The "o" has a small leaf-like flourish above it. The "b" has a small leaf-like flourish above it. The "e" has a small leaf-like flourish above it. The "r" has a small leaf-like flourish above it. The word is underlined with a simple horizontal line.