

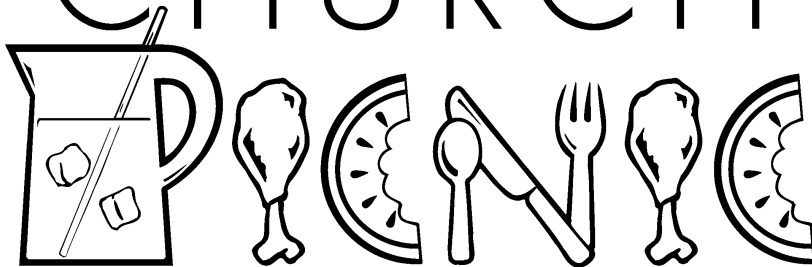
The Bell



Bergstrasse Evangelical Lutheran Church

September 2018

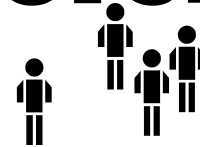
CHURCH



Sunday, September 16

Church picnic Sunday, September 16 following worship, outside under a tent, weather permitting. It will be in the fellowship hall in case of rain. Hot dogs and drink will be provided. We will also have bbq and baked beans. Please bring a dish to share. We will be playing bingo following lunch. Please sign up on the bulletin board.

JOIN OUR BIBLE STUDY



Bible Studies will begin again on Thursday, September 13th at 10:30 AM.

The subject for the fall will be a comparative study of the Gospels. The text will be "The Gospel Story of Jesus", a Sunday School book that we found during the Spring clean-up of the Sunday school rooms.

We have about 20 copies of the book and it is very readable and is perfect for studying Jesus' life and message.

We will begin with a discussion of the early history of the Gospels and then go into Chapter one, the early life of Jesus.

**Organ recital at
Bergstrasse
Sunday, October 21
3:00 PM
Kenneth Krause,
organist**



Beginning September 2 Worship is at 10:30 AM.

OFFICE HOURS



Beginning September 1, 2018 the office hours will be

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

On September 9th a group of visitors from the other Northern Lancaster County Lutheran Churches will be attending our Worship Service.

The group is a committee that is concerned about the future and how the churches of the Northern Lancaster County Area can begin cooperative ventures to better utilize our resources.

After the Worship Service they will have a committee meeting. They would like to hear from you and have your opinion on how we can have greater cooperation among the churches and do more things and programs together. What will work and what will be difficult to accomplish. Chad Landis and Curt Hare serve on the committee for Bergstrasse.

**Handbell rehearsal
Thursday,
September 6 at
7:00 PM**



**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.**

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

Worship - 10:30 AM

The Rev. Robert Kramer, Interim Pastor
717-405-0044 (cell)

Jean Wilhelm, newsletter editor

Due date for the **October** newsletter is **September 16.**

Dear Pastor Kramer (and the Bergstrasse congregation),

Warm greetings! I returned home after a very hectic trip to Bangladesh and Vietnam on Tuesday midnight (Aug 14).

I had the opportunity to visit our project in Shambhuganj village during this trip and meet the two orphans along with their grandparents who have been the custodians. They, along with the pastor and his family and our management team, have set some rules and regulations as we take responsibility for these children for an indefinite period. I am glad that the grandparents are taking good care of these two children and the Pastor and family is responsible to ensure that they are in good hands.

Thank you so much for your generous contributions for these unfortunate kids and also for our project in Bangladesh. I look forward to seeing you soon.

With kind regards,
Richard Sarker



In addition to enjoying ice cream and one another's presence, a thought to be explored at the Ice Cream Rally Day is "My Dream for Bergstrasse is..." I hope you will complete a "dream card" that shares your dreams for the future of Bergstrasse. Even though the Rally Day is now in the past, it is not too late for you to share your dream; it will be included on the dream board.

I would like to expand this thought. What is **God's dream** for Bergstrasse? To answer that question we need to hear God speaking to us. There are some key practices that can be used in listening for God's voice - listening to the community; listening to God; listening to each other; studying Scripture; and praying about it. The Bible tells of many and diverse ways in which God speaks to the people – a burning bush, in a still moment while hiding in a cave, angels, a woman who encountered Jesus at the town well, two people on a journey to Emmaus, a blinding light, to name a few. The point is God does speak to us in 2018.

I invite you to partner with God while dreaming about the future of Bergstrasse. In what ways do you see that God's presence might benefit your neighborhood or the larger community; what possibilities might emerge from there for Bergstrasse? In what ways have you experienced God's presence in times of worship; what possibilities might emerge from there for Bergstrasse? In what ways have you experienced God's presence while engaging with others here at Bergstrasse; what possibilities might emerge from there for the future? In what ways has God spoken to you during your personal devotions; what possibilities might emerge from there for Bergstrasse?

For example, what was God saying in the August 5th anthem *I Don't Know about Tomorrow*; as meals were served at the Ephrata Community Meal; during the funeral and luncheon for Larry Lausch; in the worship led by the Worship team; as the Tuesday crew put the fellowship hall back together; in transportation provided for a wife to visit her husband in nursing care; in the interviews with prospective pastors ??????

Yes, this is hard work. Here is a prayer that you may find helpful.

God of the future, you have a dream that we often struggle to see. Often you call, and we resist out of fear or blindness. Give us eyes to see what you are doing and faith to follow, even when we are not sure where you lead.

I look forward with great anticipation to hear what you and God together see as possibilities for this congregation.

Pastor Bob

*Let God speak to you
and open the door
to many possibilities.*

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. We ordered some backpacks online and ask for a \$2 donation per backpack to cover the cost.

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)

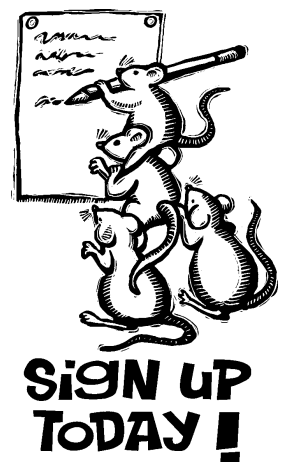
Do not add other items or leave out any of the items listed. All items should be new and in good condition. Remove any excess packaging, pack all items in bag and close. Do not enclose the Kit or any of its contents in plastic bags.

The cost to handle and ship one school kit overseas is \$1.40. Please consider a monetary donation to help with this cost.

Ephrata Fair parking lot September 25-29

We received permission to use Ephrata National Bank's parking lot as a fundraiser. Please sign up on the bulletin board if you can help.

We are in need of someone to be in charge of the parking lot. See Cathy Feather if you are willing to do this.



Worship participants for September

September	2	9	16	23	30
Greeters	Darlene Kreider	Betty Evans	Jane Pittman	Ben and Polly Gunzenhauser	Cleone Rudisill
Lector	Deb Burkholder	Cleone Rudisill	Selma Hainley	Cathy Feather	Bonnie Grater
Acolyte	Jaidyn Feather	Bishop Villarreal	Deb Burkholder		Jaidyn Feather
Counters	Dave and Jean Wilhelm	Dave and Jean Wilhelm	Bonnie Grater Mary Duing	Bonnie Grater Mary Duing	Selma Hainley Cathy Feather
Flowers					
Bulletin				Bonnie Grater	

	Ushers	Communion Ushers Sept. 2	Altar Guild
September	Debbie Stone Cathy Feather Glenn and Almanara Buffenmyer	Cathy Feather Dave Heisey	Jane Pittman Mabel Bolar

**Holiday Bazaar
at Bergstrasse Lutheran Church
Saturday, October 20
8 AM to 2 PM**

Some of the vendors include:

- Tupperware
- 31
- Tastefully Simple
- Pampered Chef
- Color Street Nails
- Dried Flower Arrangements
- Origami Owl
- Jewelry
- Greeting Cards
- Table Runners
- Unruffled All Natural Products
- And more



We will have a bake sale and also barbeque, chips and drinks available for sale.

Donations for the bake sale would be appreciated. There will be a sign up sheet on the bulletin board. Donations for the bake sale should be at the church by Friday, October 19 or may be dropped off at Darlene Kreider's home.

There will be a silent auction with donations from the vendors and a quilt from Stitches of Love.

Contact Darlene Kreider for more information.

All proceeds will be used toward the seed money for projects.

**Holy Trinity offers 150th anniversary program
during Reformation Weekend, Oct. 27**

Do you ever stop to think: "Who am I?" And: "What does it mean to be a Christian?"

As part of the 150th Anniversary Celebration of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Ephrata, Dr. Jean E. Godsall-Myers, of Harleysville, will present a self-written skit, "Katie, Anna and Me ... Who Are You Anyway?"

The program will be included at a Women's Luncheon event from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 27, at the church, 167 E. Main St. Those in attendance will have the opportunity to participate in a question-and-answer session following the performance.

For Women's Luncheon reservations, please call the Holy Trinity church office, (717) 733-4134 by October 8th. The meal will include soup, salad, dessert and beverage. A free-will offering will be collected.

Worship With Us

September, 2018

Sunday, 2nd – Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost – Word & Sacrament – Pastor Glenn Beard presiding

Texts: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9; Psalm 15; James 1:17-27; Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Jesus protests against human customs being given the weight of divine law, while the essence of God's law is ignored. True uncleanness comes not from external things, but from the intentions of the human heart. Last week Jesus told us "the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life." Now James says God has given us birth by the word of truth. We, having been washed in the word when we were born in the font, return to it every Sunday to ask God to create in us clean hearts.

Sunday, 9th – Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost – Service of Word & Prayer

Texts: Isaiah 35:4-7a; Psalm 146; James 2:1-10 [11-13] 14-17; Mark 7:24-37

James tells us to stop showing favoritism in the assembly, treating the rich visitor with more honor than the poor one. Jesus himself seems to show partiality in his first response to the Syrophoenician woman in today's gospel. Was he testing her faith in saying Gentiles don't deserve the goods meant for God's children? Or was he speaking out of his human worldview, but transcended those limits when she took him by surprise with her reply? Either way, the story tells us that God shows no partiality. Everyone who brings her or his need to Jesus is received with equal honor as a child and heir.

Sunday, 16th – Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost – Service of Word & Prayer

Texts: Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 116:1-9; James 3:1-12; Mark 8:27-38

Three weeks ago we heard John's gospel's version of Peter's confession of faith. This week we hear Mark's version, when Peter says, "You are the Messiah." In John, the stumbling block is Jesus' invitation to eat his flesh, given for the life of the world. In Mark too the scandal has to do with Jesus' words about his own coming death, and here Peter himself stumbles over Jesus' words. But Jesus is anointed (the meaning of "messiah") in Mark only on the way to the cross (14:3); so we are anointed in baptism with the sign of the cross.

Sunday, 23rd – Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost Service – Service of Word & Prayer

Texts: Jeremiah 11:18-20; Psalm 54; James 3:13--4:3, 7-8a; Mark 9:30-37

This Sunday we hear James warn against selfish ambition, while the disciples quarrel over which one of them is the greatest. Jesus tells them the way to be great is to serve. Then, to make it concrete, he puts in front of them an actual flesh-and-blood child. We are called to welcome the particular children God puts in front of us, to make room for them in daily interaction, and to give them a place of honor in the assembly.

Sunday, 30th – Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost Service – Service of Word & Prayer

Texts: Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29; Psalm 19:7-14; James 5:13-20; Mark 9:38-50

Someone is casting out demons in Jesus' name who isn't part of Jesus' own circle, and the disciples want him stopped. They appeal to Jesus, as Joshua did to Moses about the elders who prophesied without official authorization. Like Moses, Jesus refuses to see this as a threat. Jesus welcomes good being done in his name, even when it is not under his control. The circle we form around Jesus' word must be able to value good being done in ways we wouldn't do it, by people we can't keep tabs on.

Seed Money Received for Projects

	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

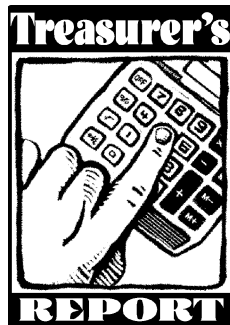
Funds still needed for projects \$7,391



Jerry Troutman died July 5, 2018
Larry Lausch died August 5, 2018
Please keep their families in your prayers.

Balance as 7/31/18

General Fund	\$ 17,568.94
Improvement Fund	\$ 4,179.48
Mission Plus	\$ 74,516.87
Mission Plus 2	\$ 2,727.04
Parsonage Security/Memorial Fund	\$ 11,384.82



THE BAPTISMAL FONT has found a new location in the worship area. We are baptized once, but every Sunday, we are reminded of our baptism. Every day we live out our baptismal callings. So our baptism is central to our expressions of faith. The font has been moved to a prominent location where it can be seen and gathered around providing a tangible sign of baptism's centrality. You are invited to dip your hand in the water of the font and use it to make the sign of cross on your forehead as a reminder of God's grace given to you in baptism.

Council highlights July 15, 2018

The church is still in need of someone to supervise the cemetery.

Pastor has created a pamphlet that presents the church and its mission to be given to visitors and prospective members and at church functions. Council approved the pamphlet and copies will be made.

Penn Medicine informed the church that the AED unit acquired in 2009 is now outdated, and said they will replace the unit upon receipt of our application. Council approved, and the application will be sent. Upon the new unit's installation, a meeting of ushers will be held to instruct them in the use of the AED.

At the request of the Worship and Music Committee, Council approved having an organ recital by Kenneth Krause, organist at St. John's in Lancaster, on October 21 at Bergstrasse.

Zimmerman's Excavating has been contacted to plow the driveways and parking areas (not the sidewalks) after snowstorms.

The church's insurance agent has informed us that our liability premium may be increased 7 to 9 percent in the near future.

Pastor's son and grandson are making new lattices for the church windows. Several have been finished.



Thank You!

Salem would like to extend a big thank you to Bergstrasse for helping with the Community Meal on August 9th. Our combined team of 26 people provided a meal of chicken corn noodle soup and barbeque sandwiches to 103 guests, along with a variety of tempting desserts.

On behalf of the board of directors of Ephrata Area Social Services, our staff, and those we serve, I want to thank you for your generous contribution of \$50.

Joy N. Ashley, Executive Director EASS

Concordia Historical Institute received our donation of a set of books, The Fatherland Series (25) Thank you for your support of our work by your gift of this material. You are helping us build an important collection of resources on our Lutheran history and heritage.

Todd D. Zittlow, Archives and Accessioning

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
 Shirley Martin
 Lawrence Rice
 Randy Rice
 Ellie Root
 Polly Schmuck
 Erma Snader
 Noah and Joan Stahl
 Nancy Sweigart
 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)
 Carolyn Houck (friend of Betty Evans)
 Patricia Houck (Deb Burkholder's sister)
 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)
 Sharon (friend of Alice Krahl)
 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



Congratulations to those with September birthdays:

10 Nancy Sweigart
 12 Debbie Burkholder
 19 Neil Althouse
 22 Edie Lausch
 24 Pauline Schmuck

Anniversaries

5 John and Mabel Bolar
 27 Harold and Evelyn Coldren
 29 Howard and Beverly Jorgensen



Food Bank

September

- 2** canned vegetables and fruit, cereal, peanut butter, jelly
- 9** instant potatoes, rice, rice mixes, macaroni and cheese
- 16** canned meats, tuna, canned pasta meals
- 23** pancake mix (just add water), syrup
- 30** pasta, pasta sauce