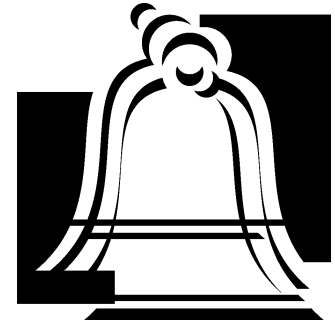


The Bell



Bergstrasse Evangelical Lutheran Church

October 2021

Sunday October 10
Bergstrasse will celebrate Pastor Jim's
10 ½ year anniversary of
Ordination to Word & Sacrament in the ELCA

The festivities begin at 10:30 am with worship & communion.
Rev. Glenn Beard and the Heidelberg Brass Band
will be leading their Polka Mass!

A luncheon follows at 12:00 noon.
Storytelling during and after lunch are being planned too!

RESERVATIONS are appreciated for the luncheon.
Sign up at church or call or email the church office before October 1.

ORDINATION
ANNIVERSARY



Ephrata Lutheran Ministry Blessing of the Animals!

Sunday October 3

2:00 PM

Held at The Grove
on the Bergstrasse campus

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

November 14 following worship service

The Congregation Council (aka Leadership Team), announces our Annual Congregational Meeting to be held on Sunday November 14, 2021 immediately following our morning worship.

We will elect new persons to our Congregational Council, review the proposed budget for 2022 for adoption, and to receive the annual reports of our ministries in 2021.



Congregational Meeting



Learn about Thrivent Action Teams with Ann Seitz-Brown - Sunday October 24, immediately following Sunday worship.

What is an action team? Seed money for mission activities that support the mission of the church. Thrivent offers up to two action teams (\$250 each) for each person enrolled with Thrivent. Come find out how you can support the mission of Bergstrasse Church! Sign ups appreciated too!

Ephrata Lutheran Ministry Update

The Ephrata Lutheran Ministry Task Force (Gladys Horvath, Peggy Rushton-Witmyer, Dave Wilhelm and Pastor Jim represent Bergstrasse) has been busy at work imagining what cooperative ministry might look like in Ephrata. Curtis Boos, Winnie Gerlach, John Weiss and Pastor Mark from Holy Trinity are also on the Task Force. They will present their findings and hopes to a joint meeting of both Congregation Councils on Tuesday October 19. We ask for your prayers to guide our work and to welcome the Holy Spirit into our conversations and journey forward.

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)

Due date for the **November** newsletter is **October 17**.

Financial Update: Ending August 31, 2021

	MONTH	2021 YTD	2020 YTD
Net Operating Income	(\$7,836.97)	\$10,168.62	\$7,203.73
Operating Income	\$8,600.82	\$109,372.26	\$102,351.62
Operating Expense	\$16,437.79	\$99,203.64	\$95,147.89
Net Other Income	(\$181.00)	(\$4,330.15)	(\$4,009.96)
Net Income from all sources	(\$7,655.97)	\$5,838.47	\$3,193.77
Available funds		\$118,998.25	\$96,204.33



Greetings Bergstrasse Disciples,

As many of you know, we begin our Sunday worship sharing God sightings – Where have you seen God in humanity? When I first introduced this, I was met with inquisitive eyes and nodding of heads – God is all around us, I heard. That is correct. The difference is, where have you seen God in humanity – people, you and I, and anyone else we see. I imagine it felt strange to think God might be seen in people. After all, people are made in the image of God!

Perhaps you, like myself, were led to believe “I” was too broken to be right with God; that God wanted me to be perfect. I struggled to understand my relationship with God. It all sounded impossible, no matter what I tried. I heard “just believe in God and God will take care of you!” How would God take care of me? Surely other people need more help than me! How can God take care of EVERYONE! I went to work trying to repair myself, always striving for perfection so that God would love me, while knowing perfection was unattainable!

It was during a visit to my doctor while in seminary that I began to re-examine this thinking. I was feeling ‘out of sorts’, nothing seemed out of the ordinary. My doctor asked what was going on in my life. Without thinking, I named six happenings that I thought had no significance! The doctor pointed out that together those events were weighing me down. I soon learned the importance of building relationships where I felt safe to share my feelings. My doctor visit was a God moment! Not my doctor as God, but as a moment in time that I was offered new life from a stranger (it was only my second visit with this doctor). My doctor pointed me to God’s work in the world. At the time, I had no idea the encounter with my doctor would yield a huge impact in my life.

Nearly fifteen years later, I continue to practice sharing my life story, not so much that I might be restored to life. Rather, I hope others might see God’s reflection back to them through my words, my presence, or my actions to life situations. I hope it also allows others to make themselves vulnerable to share their story. Sharing your story, it is a reflection to others of the presence of God in your life. We continue to grow in faith when we recognize even the smallest of examples of love. May we as a congregation continue to practice ‘seeing God in everyday life’.

Bergstrasse Lutheran Church

October 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 10:30am ELM Worship 11:30am Pig Roast	27	28 9:00am Stitches of Love 5:00pm Private Music Lessons 6:00pm God on Tap at New Cloister Restaurant	29	30	1 6:00pm Simores and More	2
3 10:00am Worship 2:00pm Blessing of the Pets	4	5 5:00pm Private Music Lessons	6 6:30pm Yoga Place FH	7	8 6:00pm Simores and More	9 8:30am LWR Ingathering
10 10:30am Polka Mass 12:00pm Pastor Ordination Anniversary Luncheon	11 7:00pm Council	12 5:00pm Private Music Lessons	13 6:30pm Yoga Place FH	14	15 6:00pm Simores and More	16 Yard Sale/Craft Fair
17 10:00am Worship	18	19 5:00pm Private Music Lessons 7:00pm ELM and Council at Bergstrasse	20 6:30pm Yoga Place FH	21 7:30pm Meditation by Yoga Place	22 6:00pm Simores and More	23
24 10:00am Worship	25	26 9:00am Stitches of Love 5:00pm Private Music Lessons 6:00pm God on Tap at New Cloister Restaurant	27 6:30pm Yoga Place FH	28	29 6:00pm Simores and More	30
31 Reformation Day 10:00am Worship	1	2 5:00pm Private Music Lessons	3 6:30pm Yoga Place FH	4	5 6:00pm Simores and More	6

Worship participants for October

October	3	10	17	24	31
Greeters	Sandy Lausch			Peggy Rushton-Witmyer	Alice Krahl
Acolyte	Becky Martin	Franklin Wartlust			Judith Brewster
Lector		Becca Brewster		Peggy Rushton-Witmyer	Becca Brewster
Prayers		Deb Hornberger			Deb Hornberger
Communion Assistant	Becky Martin	Deb Hornberger			Deb Hornberger
Counters	Becky and Pattie Martin				
Flowers	Becky and Pattie Martin			Donna Ruhl	
Bulletin	Yvonne Gehr	Andrea Martin	Andrea Martin		

We've been expecting you!

On Sunday October 31, Reformation Day, Bergstrasse Church will officially welcome six persons into our faith community during worship. Each has been involved in our ministries the past several months and now desire to be an 'official' disciple of God's redeeming work in the world from atop the Hill in East Ephrata! We welcome these persons to our table of grace:

Deb Hornberger, Rebecca Brewster & daughter Judith, Andrea Martin, Suzanne Accardo, and Kristi Pannebecker. We will also acknowledge Becky Martin and Pattie Martin who made their profession of faith last winter. At that time, we were not meeting for in-person worship.

Persons interested in making public professions of their faith and desire to be included in our faith community are asked to meet with Pastor Jim on Sunday October 17 immediately after worship. Please let Pastor Jim know if you plan to attend on the 17th.



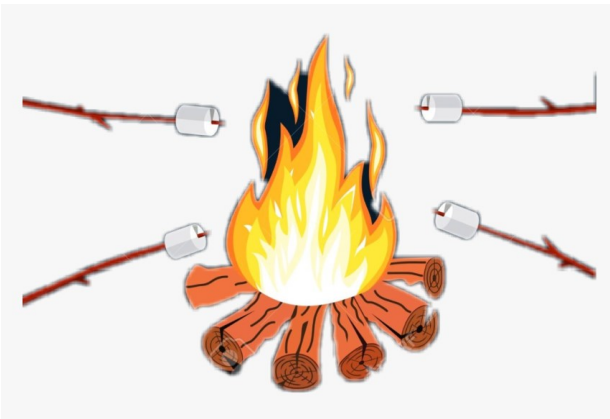
Congregation Council

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, Peggy Rushton-Witmyer, Nevin Rutt and Dave Wilhelm. Are you being called to serve in this role? See any of the above persons for more information. Thank you in advance for your consideration.



S'MORES AND MORE! Every Friday



Our popular Friday night hangouts in the Grove around a Fire Pit have been a huge hit for conversation, meeting new people, and of course Smores and so much more will continue as long as we have favorable weather! Come on over after 6pm and join the fellowship!

*Winter idea – gather in Fellowship Hall for board games? Let's talk!!

God on Tap – Tuesday October 26

God on Tap – October 26 will be at THE NEW CLOISTER RESTAURANT
6:00 – 7:00 pm for dinner;
Topic of Conversation begins 7:00 pm.

Dinner reservations appreciated by contacting Bergstrasse office or Pastor Jim by Friday October 22. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board.

LWR Ingathering

Saturday October 9 - 8:30am on Bergstrasse Campus. Help is needed to unload donated items and reload onto a larger truck for shipment to LWR Warehouse in New Windsor MD. Coffee & donuts available!!!!



October

- 3 Pancake mix you make with water, pancake syrup
- 10 Peanut butter, jelly
- 17 Toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, powder
- 24 Instant coffee, hot chocolate, instant oatmeal, soup
- 31 juice, cereal, oatmeal



For Healing: Inez Hare, Peggy Rushton-Witmyer, Irene Smith, Matt DeWalt, Travis and Jess Engle, Ann and Ken Greider, Ed Hall, John Matthews, Rodney Weitzel, Adah, Helena and family, Shannon, Tom, Sara and family, our homebound members.

For Grieving: family and friends of Cody Delp, Naomi Goshert, Don Bauer, Pauline Matthews



Church Yard Sale

**Saturday,
October 16
Yard Sale/Flea
Market/
Craft Fair**

**Look for more
information in the
bulletins**



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

Trini-Mini, and after school ministry at Holy Trinity, Tuesdays & Thursdays 3:30 - 5:30 pm is looking for loving adults to be with elementary school age children to offer a listening ear, engage with games and homework help.

Show up, show love! Enter the building by rear entrance and proceed to the social hall. Everyone is asked to wear a face mask. More questions - contact Winnie Gerlach or Darryll Kuhns at Holy Trinity!



Home Visits – Home Communion

The current pandemic, and the desire to be responsible for each other's well-being, limits in-person meetings, especially if indoors. The unseen coronavirus is easily transmitted, primarily through microscopic droplets in our breath. In recent weeks, the number of positive case counts exceeded those of last spring. The delta variant is easily transmitted, and more potent than previous virus strands. Although vaccinations will not eliminate the possibility of contracting the coronavirus, they are effective in controlling its severity. Face masks that cover nose and mouth, frequent use of hand sanitizer, and practicing social distancing are key to ensure the safety of each other.

I realize for some people home visits and or home communion are important to sustain your faith. For your consideration, I will offer to visit those who have not been able to attend worship during the pandemic, or who prefer to remain home until such a time they feel safe to be among others. I will gladly offer communion also. During our time together, I expect we would do our best to maintain safe social distancing, and to wear a face mask if indoors, regardless of vaccination status.

Please contact the church office or Pastor Jim directly to arrange a good time to visit. Generally, afternoons are ideal except Monday which I use as a personal Sabbath day.

Church Office	Bergluth@dejazzd.com	717-733-7808
Pastor Jim	revchef@gmail.com	717-676-3954 (phone or text)

The Yoga Place

We are pleased to announce that The Yoga Place is now operational in the lower level west wing. Suzanne maintains an office there to meet with her life coaching and grief recovery clients. Most of their yoga classes continue to be offered online. They are hopeful for an in-person yoga class to begin in October using a portion of the fellowship hall.

Once the lower level center section is vacant, and cosmetic updates are made, the Yoga Place will use that space for in-person classes. We are grateful for their presence in our facility and welcome them as a ministry partner of Bergstrasse Church. Most of the updates to the lower level were taken care of by the Yoga Place.

Before moving to the Bergstrasse Campus, the Yoga Place was at the Porch & Rail Shoppes on North Reading Road. To learn more about the Yoga Place, visit their website at <https://theyogaplaceinephrata.com>. Scheduling of all activities offered by the Yoga Place, including registration for classes, can be found on the website.

Full Moon Meditation

Seriously, have you ever **really** looked at the Full Moon? What do you notice as it peeks over the horizon? What else is going on in the sky or on the horizon or around you as you sit in silence noticing your miniscule presence in the wide world? Come be amazed at what you never noticed before! Thirty meditation students sat on the eastern hillside at Bergstrasse Church to watch the Harvest Moon rise over the distant horizon. After about 40 minutes of silence, we shared our experience.

The Full Moon Meditation is offered by the Yoga Place at no charge to the Bergstrasse community. The next Full Moon Meditation will be around October 20. Watch for the specific date and time to be a part of this holy experience.

Council Minutes

September 13, 2021

The members present were Nevin, Almanara, Peggy, Ben, Dave and Lisa.

August's treasurer's report reflects the lack of J. D. Eckman rental funds and Lynn feels it provides a representation of our true financial status, since their contract will be ending soon.

Nevin made a motion to accept the treasurer's report and Peggy seconded the motion.

Almanara made a motion to accept the secretary's report from the August 1st meeting and Nevin seconded it.

Ben was given sincere thanks for his many hours of work as the property committee chair. Kristi Pannebacker may be the next person to fill that role and she met with Nevin, Dave and Pastor Jim to discuss the possibility. A job description and appropriate methods for project approvals will be written.

Kristi conducted an inventory of items that are stored at Bergstrasse that may possibly be sold, pending the congregation's approval. There are color photos available in Neidamyer Hall. Some of the items could be listed on ebay, some sold by donation to interested parties, and some sold at the yard sale on October 16th.

The ELM task force and council members from Holy Trinity and Bergstrasse will meet on Tuesday, Oct. 19th at 7pm at Bergstrasse to share goals and coordination of activities.

The Fellowship team is planning the Ordination Anniversary Celebration on Sunday, Oct. 10th and volunteer help may be needed to prepare and clean up on that day. Help to set up Saturday, October 9 too.

Council members decided not to have a luncheon on the day of the annual congregational meeting in November.

There is a boy scout who is interested in an Eagle scout badge project that involves Major Dick Winters' burial site at Bergstrasse. He and his scout leader will meet with Nevin on Friday, Sept. 17th to share more information about the possibility.

Almanara made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Peggy seconded it.

Bergstrasse Facility & Property Update

Over the past two years, Ben Gunzenhauser has been responsible for the care and upkeep of our building and property. Our Leadership Council recently received and accepted a letter of resignation from Ben as Property Chairperson. Ben spent countless hours making sure fallen tree limbs were removed, the cemetery kept neat, peeling paint and plaster was repaired, light fixtures operating properly, monitoring the workings of the furnace & air conditioners, working with Wanda our sexton, and so much more that only Ben and God know about!!!

On behalf of a grateful congregation, "Ben, we thank you for your attention to the care of our facility and property." When you see Ben next, offer your thanks and gratitude for his faithful service to our congregation.

Our Leadership Council, after several conversations, appointed Kristi Pannebecker to serve as our Property Caretaker. Kristi will continue work begun by many before her to care for our buildings and property. Kristi comes to us through the Yoga Place. As Kristi becomes more familiar with these responsibilities, she will certainly be asking for our hands and feet to help with the work to maintain our property.

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, black, cursive script. The letter 'O' is particularly large and loops around. The 't' has a long, sweeping tail that extends over the 'o' and 'b'. The 'e' is also large and loops. The 'r' has a long, sweeping tail that extends over the 'e'. The word is set against a background of a stylized leaf or branch with a small cluster of berries or grapes at the top right. The entire word is underlined with a simple, horizontal line.