

The Bell



Bergstrasse Evangelical Lutheran Church

July/August 2021

Covid Update

We are approaching the time when nearly all covid safety precautions will be lifted in Pennsylvania. There is a desire to go back to everything that was in place before March 2020. Science and medical researchers warn the virus is not, nor will it ever be, eradicated. As we learn how we've been changed by this pandemic, we can move forward in new ways that build the Kingdom of God in Ephrata.

Our Leadership Council has agreed to move forward with these best practices:
A communal Offering plate will remain on the Bounty Tree.
Persons arriving for worship will Sign-in. This allows us to keep track of our community.
A Prayer Card will be at the Sanctuary entrance.
To use an inclusive bulletin for worship.
To continue the practice of continuous communion distribution.

On or before July 1, 2021

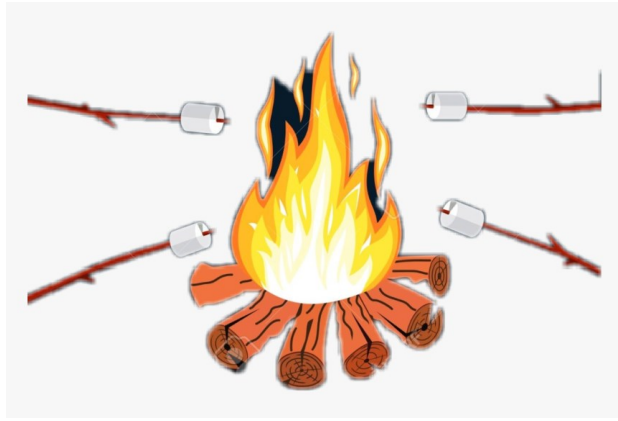
Face masks will be optional. We strongly encourage unvaccinated or immune-compromised persons to wear a face mask.
Social distancing markers will be removed.
Congregational singing may include full hymns.
Resume using bread for communion (Person distributing bread will wear gloves).
Resume offering our Fellowship Hall for public use.
Return prayer request cards and pencils to pew racks.
Place hymnals in storage.

Institute on or before September 1, 2021

Add a Worship Assistant (acolyte, read lesson, lead prayers, communion assistant).
Resume practice of Offering counting teams.
Resume designated greeters (assist with sign-ins, distribute worship bulletins, direct guests).
Add service music in worship (Kyrie, hymn of praise).
If interest exists, to re-establish a Handbell Choir or Choir

Interested in serving as a Greeter or Worship Assistant or on an Offering Counting Team or participating in a Choir or Handbell Choir? No experience necessary to share God's gifts!! Please let us know your interest – see signup sheets in Fellowship Hall!!

S'MORES AND MORE! Every Friday



Looking for an opportunity to be outside with friends? Head on over to The Grove at Bergstrasse every Friday through Labor Day weekend. Arrive any time after 6:00 pm, weather permitting. Bring a lawn chair, flashlight, non-alcoholic beverage to share.

Bring a favorite yard game too. Croquet will be available. All supplies needed for the activity will be in the left side of the garage. Grab what you need, and return when done.

Ephrata Lutheran Ministry

The Ephrata Lutheran Ministry (ELM) task force is made up of six laypeople, three each from Bergstrasse (Gladys Horvath, Peggy Rushton-Whitmyer, Dave Wilhelm) and Holy Trinity, Pastors Jim and Mark and Rev. Larry Hummer who serves as facilitator. The ELM Task Force is charged with discerning a future Lutheran ministry model that grows disciples in and around the Ephrata area.

The Task Force has begun to imagine what our ministry future might look like. Our current conversation topics include:

- How might we inform ourselves and others of our mission and ministry purpose?
- What might worship look like?
- What are best practices for our congregations to engage more fully?

Our work is continually evolving. Hold the ELM Task Force in prayer for guidance as we engage with the Holy Spirit.

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9 Hahnstown Road
Ephrata, PA 17522
(717) 733-7808
www.bergstrasselutheran.com
bergluth@dejazzd.com
Worship Sundays 10:00 AM

The Rev. James Goodyear, Pastor
717-676-3954 (cell)
Jean Wilhelm, newsletter editor

Due date for the **September** newsletter is **August 15**.

Financial Update: Ending May 31, 2021

	MONTH	2021 YTD	2020 YTD
Net Operating Income	(\$2,254.60)	\$4,390.07	\$16,119.47
Operating Income	\$9,500.15	\$62,412.09	\$71,712.82
Operating Expense	\$11,754.75	\$58,022.02	\$55,593.35
Net Other Income	\$243.63	(\$3,308.15)	(\$7,432.89)
Net Income from all sources	(\$2,010.97)	\$1,081.92	\$8,686.58
Available funds		\$114,367.12	\$101,524.21



From the Pastor's Desk

Organizations, regardless of size, have mission statements to define the purpose of the organization. Mission statements are the cornerstone of marketing efforts so that others can know the value of the organization. They are usually ten words or less so that they can be easily remembered or repeated. At Bergstrasse our mission statement appears on the front cover of our worship bulletin. It reads, ***“Our mission at Bergstrasse is to widen the community of people who know, love, and follow God.”***

Have you ever thought about these words? Words are important. Words can be confounding at times, especially when we find a word difficult to pronounce or unsure of its meaning. Words have many meanings. Words that were used decades ago might now have different meanings. Words can be written, spoken, sung or shared

via sign language. Words have power. For example, when a person is angered, excited, quiet or loud the inflection of the voice invokes a sense of power for the listener or reader to discern a responsible reaction.

“To widen the community of people who know, love, and follow God” is our purpose for being; how we accomplish living out our mission is called our vision for ministry. In our organizational context we are called to serve the needs of others by making God’s presence known so that others might have a relationship with God. A vision is the outward sign(s) of living out our mission. Words are important; action in response to words are support for the other. The people who have made a difference in my life responded in action. I couldn’t tell you what they said, but I can tell you what they did to give me life.

In our worship we hear God’s Word spoken through the scriptures, ancient and contemporary prophets, and conversations with other worshipers. God’s Word grounds us in our understanding of a loving God who promises to be in relationship (covenant) with us every moment. The world in which we live is clamoring to hear God’s Word of love, compassion, and accompaniment along the journey.

My hope for the faith community of Bergstrasse Church is that God’s Word dwells in your heart so that you invite others (widen the community of people) into a relationship (know, love and follow) with God. May God’s peace sustain you in your ministry.



September 21 – 25, 2021

**Can you be counted on to help
with parking? A great
fundraiser for Bergstrasse...**

**Looking for someone to
organize our Parking Team!!!
See Pastor Jim**

Worship Assistants

Worship involves active participation regardless of who is present, what is involved, where worship happens, or when worship happens. Worship happens when God's people gather to offer praise and thanksgiving to their experiences of God in everyday life so that when they go into the world, they are empowered to share God's love with others. Worship is central to anyone who desires to more fully engage with God in the world.

This fall, you have an opportunity to engage in worship as a worship assistant! Don't let that scare you – God already knows you're scared! I envision the role of worship assistant to include serving as acolyte (light candles), lector (read non-gospel scripture readings), lead prayers (prayer of the day, prayers of the church) and serve as a Communion Assistant distributing either bread or wine.

Worried about which candle to light first, or the big words in the scripture texts or having the right words for prayers, or what if I spill the wine or breadcrumbs fall on the floor...none of those concerns matter to God! Those big words – 'sound them out'; prayers – already created ready for you to insert names; wine & breadcrumb spills – happen every day!

A willing heart is the only requirement! Contact Pastor Jim if interested.



Memorial Day Service

Despite the rain, nearly 50 people gathered at Bergstrasse Church Cemetery to remember those persons who died while serving in the US Armed Forces at home and abroad. It brought together a number of local groups – Scout Troop 73, Living History groups, WWII re-enactors from around PA, a bugler and bagpiper from Lititz and the VET 21 Honor Guard of Lancaster. Remarks were offered by Larry Alexander.

Special thanks to Gladys, Nevin, Ben, Polly for their work with inventorying the veteran burials and creating the memory box of items left at the Winters grave. Did you know 225 veterans are buried at Bergstrasse?

We look forward to offering a Memorial Day Service annually on the Sunday of Memorial Day Weekend.



Thank You!

Thanks to the following organizations for their financial contributions to help maintain the Bergstrasse Cemetery:

Ephrata Veterans of Foreign Wars, Lancaster County Office of Veteran Affairs and AMVETS

Summer BS – Book Study, Bible Study or both!

Two unique opportunities for learning and fellowship as we delve into a personal relationship with the spirit that guides everyday life (hopefully it is a God of hope and love!) OR we will look at the story of Corinth where St. Paul founded the Christian Church. Corinth has been occupied since around 3000 BCE! You can imagine it has been through a lot of life. You might be surprised to learn that ancient Corinth mirrors Ephrata!

Sign up in advance for your choice of day/time at church or by calling the church office. We will set aside up to 8 weeks for each series of conversations beginning in mid-June.

EVERYDAY SPIRITUALITY



Discover a Life of Hope,
Peace and Meaning

JAMES HAZELWOOD

“Everyday Spirituality: Discover a Life of Hope, Peace and Meaning”

written by James Hazelwood offers new insight into recognizing that our everyday experiences are indeed spiritual! Hazelwood does not demand to take up some mindful activity, but instead to gently view everyday life as sacred. James Hazelwood currently serves as the Bishop of the New England Synod of the Lutheran Church (ELCA).

IN PERSON - Wednesday evenings 6:45 pm, beginning June 16 on lawn by flagpole / fellowship hall

What was all the fuss about in Corinth? Paul brought together a group of Jesus followers around 55 AD, within a few years it seemed to be in disarray! Join the conversation as we look at the church in Corinth for similarities to the church in Ephrata!

IN PERSON - Sunday mornings 11:15 am following worship; bring a bag lunch

IN PERSON - Wednesday mornings 10:00 am lawn by flagpole / fellowship hall



God on Tap – Tuesday July 27, August 24

God on Tap – July 27 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 July 23. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board.



Save the Date



Sunday September 26 – Ephrata Lutheran Ministry Worship & Picnic on the Bergstrasse Campus! Lunch time picnic includes a Pig Roast. Games for all ages!

Sunday October 10 – Bergstrasse Community celebrates Pastor Jim's 10th Anniversary of Ordination. *Interested in helping to plan? See Dave Wilhelm.



For Healing: Inez Hare, Gail Smith, Irene Smith, Naomi Goshert, Joe Stahl, Dennis Stauffer, Steve Stauffer, Dave W., our homebound members.

For Grieving: family and friends of Samuel Birnie, Steve Lasher, Carolyn Hibshman, Sandra Hoffer

For Celebrating: Mellinger/Ruhl families celebrating the birth of Sadie Lee Mellinger

Salem Preschool

Salem Lutheran Preschool, 1331 W. Main St., Ephrata, is now taking registrations for Fall 2021. 3 and 4 year old classes are available. For more information or to register, please call the Church office at 717-733-6646.

*No act of kindness,
No matter how small,
Is ever wasted.*

Aesop

WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE BERGSTRASSE CAMPUS

The excitement continues on the Hill as more people become aware of our presence on the Hill in East Ephrata.

JD Eckman, the contractor leading the Diverging Diamond project continues to use our lower level for office space. Although the new intersection is operating, a significant amount of cosmetic work remains. We anticipate their work to be completed in the early fall – six months before their contract ends. However, we've been informed we will receive the full amount of the contract!

Our Gardening Team now includes Lois Burkman who tends the garden by the Hahnstown Road sign. She joins Nevin and Gladys who care for the garden alongside the church, around the flagpole and around the McCracken Memorial Garden.

An Eagle Scout Project is in the planning stages with Troop 73 to create an educational marker indicating the history and location of Major Richard (Dick) Winters gravesite.

The Yoga Place in Ephrata is coming to the lower level of Bergstrasse Church! Suzanne Accardo, owner of The Yoga Place, is thrilled to be able to offer her services in a local church setting. She offers yoga, meditation, life coaching, and grief counseling. In addition, she offers a variety of opportunities for people to engage in community building like hiking, zentangle, biking, game nights and so much more!

Suzanne is currently readying the West Double Rooms as office space and individual instruction. Once the Center Double Rooms are vacated, the Yoga Place will occupy this space for group instructions and activities. Until then, she may on occasion rent the Fellowship Hall.

We are excited to have The Yoga Place of Ephrata join with Bergstrasse Church to offer opportunities that draw people closer to the spirit that resides in people. For more information check out

<https://theyogaplaceinephrata.com>.

Bergstrasse Lutheran Church

July 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 10:00am Worship	28	29 5:00pm Private Music Lessons	30	1	2 6:00pm S'mores and More	3
4 10:00am Worship 11:15am Bible Study	5	6 5:00pm Private Music Lessons	7 10:00am Bible Study 6:45pm Book Study	8	9 6:00pm S'mores and More	10
11 10:00am Worship 11:15am Bible Study	12 7:00pm Council	13 5:00pm Private Music Lessons	14 10:00am Bible Study 6:45pm Book Study	15	16 6:00pm S'mores and More	17
18 10:00am Worship 11:15am Bible Study	19	20 7:00am Ephrata Lutheran Ministry 5:00pm Private Music Lessons	21 10:00am Bible Study 6:45pm Book Study	22	23 6:00pm S'mores and More	24
25 10:00am Worship 11:15am Bible Study	26	27 9:00am Stitches of Love 5:00pm Private Music Lessons 6:00pm God on Tap at New Cloister Restaurant	28 10:00am Bible Study 6:45pm Book Study	29	30 6:00pm S'mores and More	31

Bergstrasse Lutheran Church

August 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Lammas 10:00am Worship 11:15am Bible Study 1:30pm Fellowship Hall rental	2	3 5:00pm Private Music Lessons 7:00pm Ephrata Lutheran Ministry Fellowship Committee	4 10:00am Bible Study 6:45pm Book Study	5 Pastor on vacation	6 6:00pm Smores and More Pastor on vacation	7 Pastor on vacation
8 10:00am Worship Pastor on vacation	9 Pastor on vacation	10 5:00pm Private Music Lessons Pastor on vacation	11 Pastor on vacation	12 Pastor on vacation	13 6:00pm Smores and More Pastor on vacation	14 Pastor on vacation
15 10:00am Worship Pastor on vacation	16 Pastor on vacation	17 5:00pm Private Music Lessons 7:00pm Ephrata Lutheran Ministry Pastor on vacation	18 Pastor on vacation	19	20 6:00pm Smores and More	21
22 10:00am Worship	23	24 9:00am Stitches of Love 5:00pm Private Music Lessons 6:00pm God on Tap at New Cloister Restaurant	25	26	27 6:00pm Smores and More	28
29 10:00am Worship	30	31 5:00pm Private Music Lessons	1	2	3 6:00pm Smores and More	4

Lutheran World Relief October 3

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.

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.

We will also be collecting personal care kits:

1 light-weight bath size towel, dark color recommended

2-3 bath size bars of soap in original wrapping

1 adult size tooth brush in its original packaging

1 sturdy comb, remove packaging

1 metal nail clippers

Fold towel in half. Place the rest of the items in the towel, fold and roll so nothing falls out and secure with yarn, ribbon, string or rubber bands

Vacation Bible School at Holy Trinity

A Bible-times adventure for children completing Kindergarten-Grade 5!
Join us as we journey with Moses and the Israelites
as God guides and provides in the wilderness!

Monday, July 26—Thursday, July 29
6:30- 8:00 PM

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
167 E. Main St. Ephrata, PA 17522

Register now by calling 717-733-4134
Masks and Social distancing will be observed.
Free program limited to 50 children.



Please help us! We need Tribal Leaders, Station Leaders, and two registrars to staff our Bible School. Please contact Donna Nace at 717-669-7831 to join our staff!



- July
- 4 canned meats / tuna
 - 11 laundry soap
 - 18 peanut butter / jelly
 - 25 pancake mix / syrup

- August
- 1 spaghetti / sauce
 - 8 instant potatoes / rice
 - 15 kool aid / juice
 - 22 toothpaste / brushes / deodorant / powder
 - 29 canned vegetables

Congratulations to those with July/August birthdays:

- July
- 1 Dave Wilhelm
Ben Gunzenhauser
 - 5 Earl Eshleman
 - 13 Darlene Kreider
 - 17 Gail Smith
 - 20 Sandy Eshleman
 - 21 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



Anniversaries

- July
- 1 Ben and Polly Gunzenhauser
- August
- 19 Joe and Lisa Conway

**Community Picnic in the Park
Saturday, July 3, 2021, 3:30—8:00 PM**

**Brickerville United Lutheran Church
340 E. 28th Division Highway
Brickerville, PA
www.brickervillelutheran.org**

In the shaded picnic grove along Rt. 322 across from the church

Featuring the famous Ringgold Band, 5:00—8:00 PM

Menu

- Homemade chicken corn soup
- Hot dogs and hamburgers
- Hamburger bbq
- Fruit cup
- Garden salad with chicken
- Homemade pies and cakes
- Ice cream

Come and enjoy an evening of food, fellowship and entertainment!
Event will follow Covid-19 CDC guidelines in place at the time.
Bring a chair or blanket to sit in the grove. Assistance available if needed.
Donations accepted at the gate to cover entertainment cost.

Bergstrasse Lutheran Church

Council Minutes, June 14, 2021

Those present were Ben Gunzenhauser, Dave Wilhelm, Nevin Rutt, Lisa Conway, Peggy Rushton-Whitmyer, Almanara Buffenmyer, Cathy Feather and Pastor Jim.

Lynn Hibshman reported that general giving has diminished since we have resumed in-person worship. There are less contributors. The JD Eckman contract will be over on April 30, 2022. Nevin and Dave audited the church financial records and there were no findings.

Nevin made a motion to accept the treasurer's report for May and Ben seconded it.

Almanara made a motion to accept the secretary's report for May and Peggy seconded it.

Pastor Jim attended an EASS event and learned that the #1 service it provides is transportation.

He reported that the Ephrata Public Library is the only Gold Star library in Lancaster County.

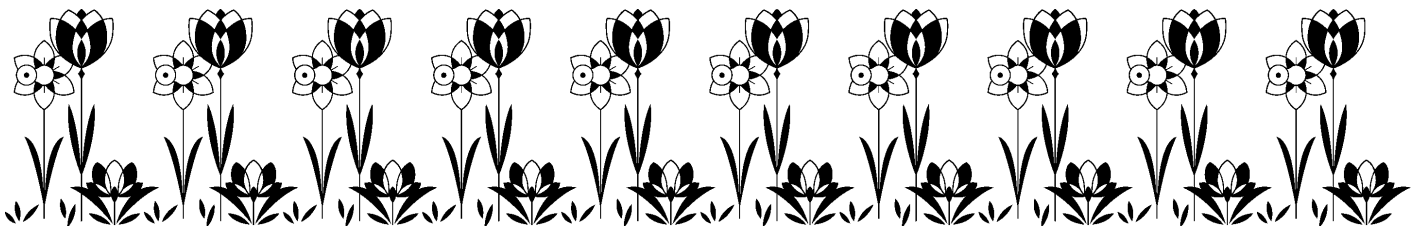
An Eagle Scout project is in the works to create an informational marker to help visitors locate Dick Winters' gravesite. The battery in the carillon was replaced and it will ring at 9:50am Sunday mornings as a call to worship.

Council discussed the removal of some of the Covid protocols at Bergstrasse.

Work to be completed soon at Bergstrasse will include the installation of glass in 4 doors for an estimated cost of \$480.00 and the replacement of 4 malfunctioning outdoor lights in the lower parking lot with LED ones for \$2,000.00. An upgrade to the Windstream internet service is needed, which will cost an additional \$50 per month.

There is a tentative date of Sunday, October 10th for Pastor Jim's 10-year ordination celebration for up to 150 people. A tent may be set up on the Bergstrasse lawn and hearty appetizers will be served.

Ben made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Peggy 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.**

