



536 N. Main Street Bernville, PA 19506 610-488-6702 stchurchbv@verizon.net www.stthomasbernville.org

**Sunday Service Schedule** 

Sunday School - 9:00 a.m. Fellowship-Beatrice Hall - 10:00 a.m.

Worship Service - 10:30 a.m.

### **Supply Pastor**

Rev. Scott L. Shay

**Director of Music Ministries** 

Brian P. Luckenbill

**Facilities Attendant** 

Shirley J. Shupe

Office Administrator

Kathy A. Oberly

Join us for a "NATURE" Presentation
by Stanley Lessig
Saturday, September 13 at 6 PM
Ice Cream Social
in Beatrice Hall
Then meet in Sanctuary at 7 PM
for the Presentation Sponsored by Ministries of God's Servants

Nature Presentation & Ice Cream Social – September 13 The Ministries of God's Servants invites you to a special evening of fellowship and wonder on Saturday, September 13, at 6:00 PM.

We'll begin the evening with a **delicious Ice Cream Social.** Come enjoy a bowl of ice cream topped just the way you like it and spend some time connecting with friends, old and new.

Following the Social, we're excited to welcome **Stan Lessig** for a **Nature Presentation**. Stan will share a stunning photo slideshow featuring images of **God's amazing creations**, captured through his lens.

Bring a friend and join us for a sweet evening celebrating fellowship and the beauty of God's world!

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### The Pastor's Epistle "Let's Look at Our Motives"

"And in process of time it came to pass, that Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering unto the

Lord. And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. And the Lord had respect unto Abel and to his offering; but unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect and Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell. And the Lord said unto Cain, "Why are thou wroth? And why is thy countenance fallen? If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? And if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door. And unto thee shall be his desire, and thou shalt rule over him." Genesis 4:3-7

On several occasions people have said to me, "I don't think it's fair that God rejected Cain's offering, but accepted his brother Abel's." Well, I guess that at first glance it might seem that God was showing some partiality between Cain and Abel. However, a closer examination of this passage reveals the true reason why God rejected Cain's offering. In verse seven (7) we read "If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted?" It becomes clear from this passage that God who alone can judge the

sincerity and intentions of the heart saw a flaw in Cain's motives. Perhaps Cain gave out of an attitude of **resentment**, feeling that it wouldn't look right to others if he didn't give an offering to God. Another possibility is that he gave out of an attitude of **competition** wanting to outshine the offering of his brother. Perhaps he gave out of an attitude of **seeking glory for himself**. In Matthew 6:1-3 we read that we should not boast or look for praise when we do something good for man or God. We should be content with the fact that we are obeying "God's Will" for our lives and remember that God will reward the righteous.

The story of Cain and Abel often causes me to examine my motives as I serve my risen Lord and Savior. We must never forget that Jesus Christ alone is worthy of praise, honor, and glory.

As opportunities for service arise may our motives be pure. It is only when we are humble and selfless in our motives that God can truly use us for Kingdom Building

May God Bless You! Pastor Shay

### Why Not Join Us?

There are two adult Sunday School classes. One is in the chapel on the lower level and the other class is on the mezzanine above the kitchen in Beatrice Hall. We hope that each class, through interesting, thought-provoking programs, will help to strengthen your faith walk. The chapel class traditionally begins with the singing of several hymns, a short devotional and prayer by individuals in the class, currently followed by a video presentation of *The Chosen*.

The mezzanine class, led by Bill Brandt, is currently exploring options for the next video/discussion presentation that they will use.

On September 7 and 14, Pastor Steve Hollinger, who will be preaching those Sundays, will also be teaching the combined classes, which will meet in the chapel.

Please consider attending either class any Sunday morning, from 9:00 to 10:00. We would love to welcome you!

### SUMMERTIME SUNDAY SCHOOL

By Nancy Luckenbill



In the Ark Builders Sunday School Class, Noah, his family, and the animals were finally able to leave the ark.



It only took us a while to get to that point, but in reality they were on the ark for many months.

### ARK BUILDERS



Our class is now studying about Abraham. The boys are searching for food for Sarah to make for the three visitors.





Time to take a rest in Abraham's tent.

### Lots of summer fun in the HIS KIDS Class.











Combined class for KFC (KIDS FOR CHRIST) and BLT (BIBLE LIVING TEENS).





There is always singing fun in Sunday School.







A group hug called for by one of our own youth. Our Sunday School is filled with some pretty amazing youth. But there is plenty of room for more.



### **Clothing Drive**

Time to clean out your closets and Bring those old clothes to St. Thomas

Sunday, October 5, 12 or 19

Friday, October 17, 6 - 9pm

Saturday, October 18, 9am - 2pm

**Drop off in Beatrice Hall** 



### All Clothing needed

Shoes, belts, coats, gloves, socks, sweaters, shirts, pants, etc

Men, Women and Children

Sponsored by Ministries of God's Servants— See Kelly Groff, Shirley Saunders with Questions

### In Loving Memory of Stephanie Troutman,

The Ministries of God's Servants



are collecting for

### **MARY'S SHELTER**

during September.





### All baby/mom items appreciated—Most NEEDED:

Diapers (all Sizes) **Baby Wipes** 

Baby wash/shampoo/lotion **Diaper Bags** 

Twin Bedding- sheets/blankets/pillows

**Bath Towels and washclothes** 

Support the St. Thomas Shoebox Project at the Annual Christmas Bazaar on December 6 🎜

**Donation Wish List** 

We welcome handmade or like-new items, including

Dishtowels, potholders, dishcloths

**Ceramics & pottery** 

Wreaths & table centerpieces Holiday tote bags or aprons

Christmas ornaments & décor

Candles & candle holders

Holiday mugs, plates, or serving dishes Small framed artwork or prints

Handmade scarves, hats, or mittens

Christmas knick-knacks you no longer use

If it's festive, pretty, practical, or giftable—it's perfect for our table!

All Profits support 2026 Shoebox Project Donation bin in the library or see Kelly Groff

### Ministries of God's Servants – Serving Our Church & Community

The Ministries of God's Servants are busy finding new and meaningful ways to serve both our community and our church family.

### **September Events**

- Ice Cream Social & Presentation Friday, September 13 at 6:00 p.m. in Beatrice Hall. Join us for an Ice Cream Social. At 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary, Stan Lessig will present on the Florida Everglades. Everyone is welcome...bring a friend or neighbor!
- Baby Item Collection for Mary's Shelter Throughout the month of September, we will be collecting baby items in memory of Stephanie Troutman. Please consider donating diapers, wipes, or crocheted/knitted baby blankets. Collection area will be located in the library.

#### **October Events**

- Clothing Collection Clean out your closets! We will be collecting all types of clothing for Hope Rescue and LightHouse. Donations can be brought to church on October 5, 12, or 19, or dropped off during our special collection times: Friday, October 17 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. and Saturday, October 18 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in Beatrice Hall.
- Light in the Night Friday, October 31, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Join us for this community outreach event! We will need volunteers to greet guests, run games, prepare and serve food, and help hand out treats.
  - o **Donations Needed** We are collecting candy for treat bags (bin in the library) and monetary gifts to purchase food. Candy donations are due by October 19.
  - Candy Bag Packing We will meet in Beatrice Hall after worship on Sunday, October 26 to pack treat bags.
  - Monetary gifts can be given to Kelly Groff.

### **Looking Ahead – December Bazaar**

Mark your calendar for our Church Bazaar on Saturday, December 6. We have room for vendors. See Shirley Saunders to reserve a table. We will also need cookie bakers for our popular cookie sale. Last year we sold out early, so the more bakers, the better! This fundraiser helps support our ministry's efforts and church needs not covered in the regular budget.

### Join Us

We would love to have you join our meetings:

- Saturday, September 27 at 10:00 a.m.
- Saturday, October 25 at 10:00 a.m.

Meetings are held in the craft room (B9) near the office entrance.

"For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve." – Mark 10:45 Jesus gave us the perfect example of leadership through service. How might you serve?

### The Sounds of Worship

Have you ever paused to listen — really listen — to the world around you?

"Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!" (Psalm 98:4, ESV)

The hum of morning birdsong. The laughter of children. The comforting voice of a friend. Even the quiet moments of stillness. These aren't just background noise — they're invitations to worship.

God designed a world that sings. Worship isn't limited to Sunday mornings or formal songs; it's woven into the everyday moments that tune our hearts to Him. And when we pause to truly hear it, we are drawn into praise, right where we are.

What sound lifts your heart toward God today? Take a moment to listen. Let it remind you of His love and nearness.

### **Shoebox Packing Party and Why It Matters**

### Packing Party – Sunday, September 28, 2025

Mark your calendars! Our annual Shoebox Packing Party will be held **Sunday**, **September 28**, immediately after worship. Everything will be set up downstairs in the Sunday School hallway and Room B1 to make packing smoother and easier for everyone.



- Sunday School Youth will pack during their class time.
- During fellowship time, stop by and pack a box or two.
- After worship, we encourage everyone to take a few minutes to help fill these special gifts.

These shoeboxes are more than toys and supplies. They are an opportunity for children around the world to learn about Jesus, receive the Gospel message, and experience His love through a tangible act of kindness.

### **Shoebox Store – October 19 & November 2**

Once again, we will offer a Shoebox Store after worship in the B1 classroom on **October 19** and **November 2**, or by appointment. Whether you just need a few items to complete your box or want to fill an entire box from our bulk-purchased and handmade items, this is a convenient and affordable way to participate.

### Why This Matters

Many children who receive these shoeboxes live in poverty or crisis situations. Some have never owned their own toy, school supplies, or hygiene items. Your shoebox may mean:

- A child can go to school because they now have pencils and paper.
- A boy can play with a real soccer ball instead of rags tied together.
- A girl no longer must share a toothbrush with her siblings.
- A family receives small gifts they could never afford on their own.

Each box is also a doorway to the Gospel, shared through **Operation Christmas Child's discipleship program**, helping children grow in their faith.

### **Shoebox Display in the Library**

Before the Packing Party, stop by the display in the library to see the **beautiful**, **handcrafted items** made with love by St. Thomas members. These items include dresses, scarves, doll clothes, stuffed animals, and toys. These one-of-a-kind gifts remind each child that they are seen, valued, and loved.

We are grateful for the many talented crafters and assemblers, including Donna & Ken Heffner, Eleanor Stickler, Helen Renninger, Ashley Stoltzfus, Blanche Schlappich, Gale Hoey, Millie Lessig, Louise Kiehl, Susan Himmelberger, Carol & Kevin Zellers, Ginny Schmehl, Kathy Luckenbill, Colonna Family, Rowena Henderson, Bill Brandt, Milli Smith, Cindy Albert, Jane Hardick, Janet & Dennis Renninger, and Ruth Lafollette.

During the Youth Back to School event, our church youth helped assemble school packs, craft kits, and fold 150 shoeboxes. Thank you for your hard work!

#### **Get Involved**

Even as we wrap up this year's shoeboxes, we're planning for next year. You can help by:

- Crafting handmade items (patterns & supplies provided)
- Donating supplies
- Cutting items to be sewed
- Assembling kits
- Shopping for bargains year-round

Contact Kelly Groff or Ruth Lafollette to learn how you can be part of this ministry.



### Final Collection and Dedication – Sunday, November 16

On November 16, we will dedicate all our shoeboxes during worship before delivering them to the collection center. Remember, soap is not allowed in boxes this year.

Thank you for helping share the love of Jesus in a simple, powerful way--one shoebox at a time.



If anyone is planning a trip to Dollywood amusement park, we have a few tickets available. Tickets are good through January 4, 2026. See Kelly Groff for more information. Money from the tickets will go to the Shoebox Project.

### Grocery Shopping = Mission Support!

- **Use Your Cards:** 
  - o Redner's Reward Card Save receipts & drop them in the library box.
  - **Boyer's Card** Just swipe at checkout.
- **Church Gets:** 1% of your purchases from both stores.
- Funds Help: Our children's mission projects.
- Shop as usual
- Use your cards every time
- ✓ Turn groceries into blessings!





### Support the Shoebox Project at the Christmas Bazaar

Saturday, December 6

The Shoebox Team will have a table at the Annual Christmas Bazaar, and we need your donations!

All proceeds from our sales will help purchase items for next year's Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes.

#### **Donation Wish List**

We welcome **handmade** or **like-new** items, including:

- Dish towels, potholders, dish cloths
- Wreaths & table centerpieces
- Ceramics & pottery
- Christmas ornaments & décor
- Candles & candle holders
- Holiday mugs, plates, or serving dishes
- Small framed artwork or prints
- Handmade scarves, hats, or mittens
- Holiday tote bags or aprons
- Christmas knick-knacks you no longer use

If it's festive, pretty, practical, or giftable, it's perfect for our table! See Kelly Groff for more information.

Your holiday treasures can help share the love of Jesus with children around the world!



# St. Thomas Shoebox Store

We will have our excess shoebox supplies available for you to add to your family shoeboxes. You can purchase a few items or fill your entire box for \$25.00. We have school supplies, hygiene items, toys, dolls, cars, games, sewing kits, clothing, coloring books, and balls.

### Shoebox Store will be open after worship on

### October 19 and November 2 or by appointment

No time to stop by? Our Shoebox team can assemble a box for you. Place your order for a fun-filled shoebox for \$25.00 + \$10.00 for shipping for each shoebox you would like packed for you.

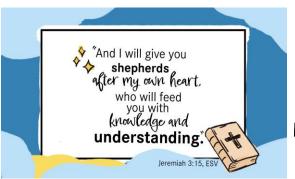
Select which group you would like a box(es) packed for:

Boy 2-4	Girl 2-4
Boy 5-9	Girl 5-9
Boy 10-14	Girl 10-14

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed (\$35/box)

Return to Kelly Groff and box(es) will be prepared for you.



October is October is Appreciation Pastor Appreh



St. Thomas parking lot 10 a.m. to 12 noon September 26 & October 24



Adult & Teen Challenge is still looking for calendars, cards for holidays throughout the year, and non-holiday cards as well. Drop off in the box on the office door on Sunday or, the office is open Monday thorough Friday from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon to drop them off. Please be sure to call in advance to make arrangements before stopping by.

### A Prayer for Autumn's Arrival

Lord of all seasons,

As the leaves change and the days grow cooler,

help me embrace the rhythm of your creation.

Teach me to let go of what I no longer need

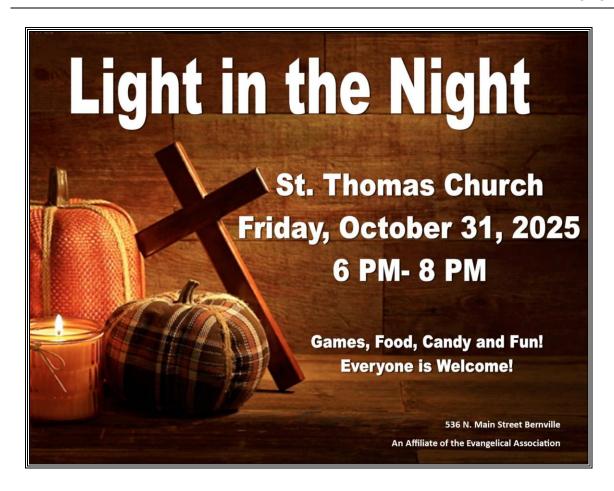
and to trust your timing in every part of life.

Thank you for the beauty of autumn—for crisp mornings, golden trees, and the promise of harvest.

May this season deepen my gratitude, renew my spirit,

and draw me closer to your heart.





Monetary
donations for
food and
individually
wrapped
candy are
needed.

Donation bin
is in the
library.
Monetary
donations can
be given to
Kelly Groff.





If you, or someone you know, is in need of prayer, you will find bright orange "Prayer & Praise Request" cards throughout the church. A Prayer Box is located in the library to drop off the cards after filling in your request. You can also place them in the offering plate.

### **Prayer Requests**

Current: Heather Edgar, Pastor James Snyder, Beth Stoltzfus, Daniel Wolf, Jr., Clair and Karen Hess, Mary Eaken, Shawn Stauffer, Troy Corson, Deb Rumbel, Gary & Louise Rubright, Jesse Dutcher, Riley Rejniak, Denise Troutman, Chaun Walter, Ernie Ebling, Sr., Gloria Gassert, Rachel Croyle, Stefani Walter, Alicia Rodriguez, Raul Torres, Leonilda Rivera, Dan Wenrich, Haden Long, Barbara Kuhns, Carletta Potteiger, Jo Ann Stockholm, Joel Jackson

Nursing Home / Homebound: Betty Henne, Kim Kissling, Anna Mae Smith, Sandra Fox, Phyllis Krause, Donald Triviets, Scarlett & Charles Seifrit, Myrle Schlappich, Corrinne Wagner

Other: Care Givers, Pastoral Search Committee, Missionaries, Persecuted Christians, United States (especially elected persons in authority), Community Requests

Military: Brandon Adams, Nicholas Englehart, Cassandra Englehart, Zachary Rollins, All Veterans



#### Fiction:

The Angel of Second Street—Barbara Tifft Blakey

Leaning on Air—Cheryl Grey Bostrom

The Long March Home; A World War II Novel of the Pacific—Marcus Brotherton and Tosca Lee

The Peacemaker—Wanda E. Brunstetter

The Marriage Pact—Kathleen Fuller

The Song of Sourwood Mountain—Ann H. Gabhart

Sandcastle Inn—Irene Hannon

Meet Me at the Starlight—Rachel Hauck

With All Her Heart—Kelly Irvin

The Pharisee's Wife—Janette Oke

### Nonfiction:

The Chosen: 40 Days with Jesus by Amanda Jenkins and others



Donna Heffner

Here is the group of the most wonderful people who help distribute the food for Helping Harvest. I really appreciate them all. Without their help it would be impossible to have Helping Harvest each month.



Photos by Alyssa Messner, Helping Harvest.

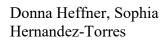
Special thanks to our youth helpers. I love it when we have them helping us with the distribution of food.



Bob Stockholm, Laney Staab, Luis Hernandez-Torres, Sophia Hernandez-Torres, Avalynn Brown, Coralee Brown, Logan Staab



Photos by Daren Zellers



Taking client information. Sophia was a big help with our Spanish speaking clients.

Helping Harvest collects, purchases, stores, and distributes over nine million pounds of food annually to the more than 350 programs which feed the hungry in Berks and Schuylkill counties.

Rowena Henderson, Owen Staab, Logan Staab, Laney Staab, Thane LaFollette



Denise Brandt, Luis Hernandez-Torres, Logan Staab

### St. Thomas History – *The Herald*, 1919 – Advertisements

The very first *Herald* was published in January, 1919. We believe Rev. Frank W. Ruth solicited the advertisements for *The Herald* to cover the cost of printing.

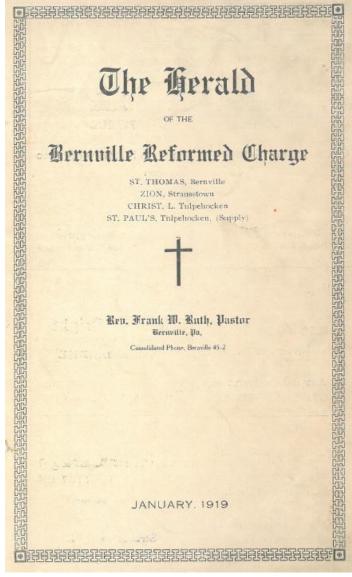
The Herald of the Bernville Reformed Charge included the following churches, as listed on the cover:

- ST. THOMAS, Bernville
- ZION, Strausstown
- CHRIST, L. Tulpehocken
- ST. PAUL'S, Tulpehocken

Today we know the second church on the list as "Zion Blue Mountain" and the third church as "Christ Little Tulpehocken." In 1919, the little town we know today as New Schaefferstown was called "Tulpehocken."

This article reproduces all the advertisements in the 1919 *Herald*. Most businesses were from Bernville and Strausstown, with one from "Tulpehocken" (New Schaefferstown). Information on the Bernville businesses is given, based on the Bernville history book published in 1976<sup>1</sup> and the Main Street walking tour booklet published in 2007.<sup>2</sup> See also location diagram.

Some businesses have a "consolidated phone' and others have "both phones." The Bernville history book (page 69) explains that the Bethel & Mt. Aetna Telephone & Telegraph Company was granted a franchise in 1909 to operate and maintain telephone



service in Bernville. The first Bernville telephone exchange was installed on the second floor of the present-day laundromat. The Bell Telephone Company was also operating in the area. We are theorizing that "consolidated phone" and "both phones" refer to these two phone systems.

There were several hotels in Bernville in 1919 but there are no hotel advertisements in *The Herald*. It was probably considered unsuitable for a church publication to advertise establishments that served liquor.

Advertisements were present in *The Herald* up to and including the January 1962 edition.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Bernville Pennsylvania 1851-1976, Mrs. Pearl B. Kline and Mrs. Janice C. DeLong, Collaborators, published by the Bernville Bicentennial Committee, 1976. Page citations are given as: BP # denoting page numbers in this book.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Self-Guided Walking Tour of Main Street, Borough of Bernville, Pennsylvania, compiled in 2007 by Bernville Heritage & Cultural Society. Citations to this booklet are noted as: WT. The booklet has no page numbers but is numerically organized by Main Street address. See also the diagram at the end of this article. It shows the Bernville location of some 1919 Herald advertisers.

### The First National Bank, Bernville

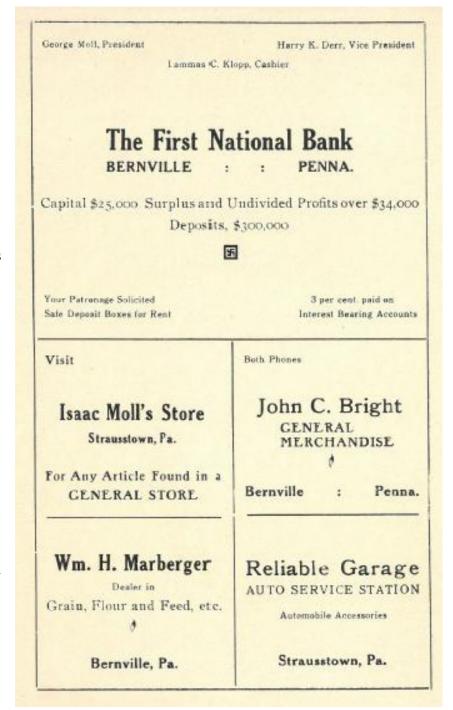
The bank building that still stands at 201 Main Street was not built until 1928. In 1919, the bank was operating in the nolonger-existing Lammas C. Klopp home at 209 Main Street (the bank in the front and Mr. Klopp's residence in the back). Mr. Klopp is listed as the bank "Cashier" in the advertisement. The bank opened for business on October 15, 1907. (BP 70, 127)

From the advertisement: "Capital \$25,000 – Surplus and Undivided Profits over \$34,000 – Deposits \$300,000 – 3 per cent paid on Interest Bearing Accounts."

Compare this to the Strausstown National Bank advertisement from *The Herald*: "Capital \$25,000 – Surplus and Undivided Profits \$12,000 – Total Resources \$225,000 – Pays 3 per cent interest on Certificates, Savings Accounts and Christmas Savings."

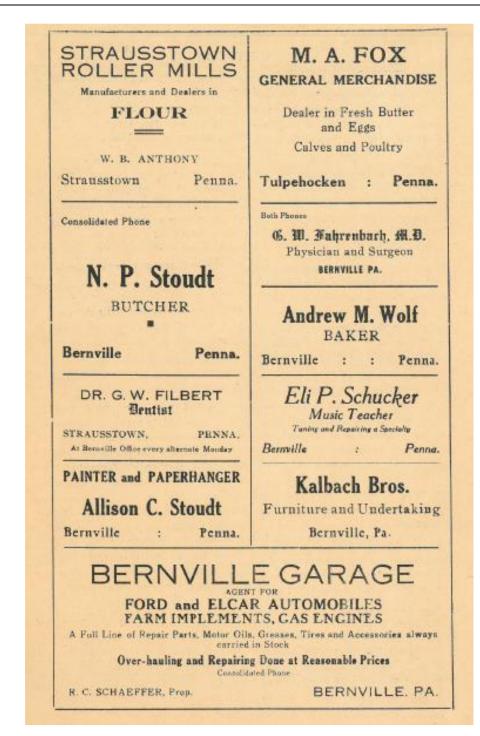
John C. Bright, General Merchandise
Located at 202 Main Street from 1916 to
1942. This was originally the Jonathan
B. Miller store built in 1867. "One of
the largest fully stocked general stores in
the county" that "became known as a
'Model Store'." The P.O.S. of A.
(Patriotic Order of the Sons of America)
Lodge had meeting rooms on the top
floor of this building. The building is
now a private residence. (BP 127)

This store had "both phones."



#### Wm. H. Marberger, Dealer in Grain, Flour and Feed etc.

William H. Marberger was in the lumber, flour, feed and coal business until his death in 1923. His son, Raymond, continued the business until 1969. William originally operated what is known as Kissling's Mill in Penn Township, but later moved his business to the center of Bernville at 334-338 Main Street. This building is now an apartment building. (BP 67, 130)



#### N. P. Stoudt, Butcher

Nathaniel Stoudt had "a large patronage and supplied meat to the residents of Bernville and the vicinity, engaging the use of three wagons and four employees." The shop was located at the rear of the lot at 137-139 Main Street, on what is now Wolf Street (the alley). The butcher shop was destroyed by fire on November 22, 1915 and rebuilt in the same location. (BP 126-127)

The butcher had a "consolidated phone."

### G. W. Fahrenbach, M.D., Physician and Surgeon

The George W. Fahrenbach residence and office was at 422 Main Street. Dr. Fahrenbach practiced medicine here from 1900 to 1943. Today this is an apartment building. (BP 48, 131)

The doctor had "both phones."

#### Andrew M. Wolf, Baker

Located near the Route 183 and Third Street intersection, on the far side of Route 183, the Bernville Bakery was established in 1894 and operated by several bakers over time. The first baker, Peter Becker, a German baker, was "famous for his spice cakes, potato cakes, and rusks." Andrew M. Wolf was a "baker of bread, cakes and pretzels, both for wholesale and retail." The

former Bethel Ambulance building (next to Borough Hall) is now near the former bakery location. (BP 135)

Eli P. Schucker, Music Teacher notes "tuning and repairing a speciality."

### Allison C. Stoudt, Painter and Paperhanger

Located at 113 Main Street, an interior and exterior painting and paperhanging business was operated by Allison Stoudt from 1912 to 1955, hiring "from five to six journeymen painters." (BP 50, 125)

<u>Kalbach Bros.</u>, Furniture and <u>Undertaking</u> (*Herald* advertisement on previous page) Thomas G. and C. P. Kalbach operated this business at 317 Main Street. (BP 56, 60; WT)

Furniture and undertaking frequently went together in business. The C. V. Reber (Strausstown) advertisement notes the sale of "furniture, rugs, carpets, chairs, etc." with "undertaking a speciality."

Bernville Garage, R. C. Schaeffer, Prop. (Herald advertisement on previous page)

Ray C. Schaeffer first opened a garage in 1917 at West 3<sup>rd</sup> Street and Rt. 183. In 1922 he moved to the property at the corner of 4<sup>th</sup> and Main Street (345 Main Street). From the advertisement: "agent for Ford and Elcar automobiles, farm implements and gas engines" with "a full line of repair parts, motor oils, greases, tires and accessories" and "over-hauling and repairing done at reasonable prices." The Bernville Garage became "one of the largest sales and service garages in rural Berks County with 16-18 employees." (BP 130, 135; WT)

### South Bernville Roller Mills (Berger & Bro.)

Henry and Amos Berger were dealers in grain, feed, and O.K. and PRIDE flour, near the former Union Canal locks in South Bernville.

South Bernville was also known as Newport during the time of Union Canal operations, from 1828 to 1884. (BP 36, 66)

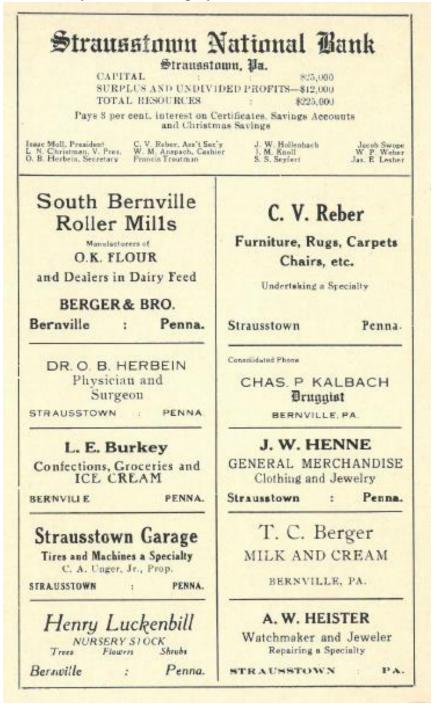
### Chas. P. Kalbach, Druggist

Located at 306-308 Main Street, this was the home and apothecary shop of Charles P. Kalbach. There was also a soda fountain here. It was the first house wired for electricity in Bernville – in October 1903 – and the first private telephone ran from Kalbach's Drug Store to Kalbach's Electric Plant (later Shower's Electric Plant) which was located a mile and a half south of Bernville. (BP 59, 128; WT)

The druggist had a "consolidated phone."

### L. E. Burkey, Confections, Groceries and Ice Cream

Located at 309 Main Street, Lehman Burkey purchased this food business in 1908. "A speciality of Mrs. Cora Burkey was the 25 cent oyster platter or three fried oysters for 10 cents." Burkey's Restaurant closed in 1994. (BP 58; WT)



### W. L. BRIGHT BERNVILLE, PA. General Merchandise HEADQUARTERS FOR Dry Goods, Notions, Shoes, Boots Groceries and Hardware The Stock of Dry Goods and Notions was never as large \$7500.00 Stock of Shoes, Rubbers and other Foot-Wear always on hand Latest Styles Remember, a PARKE STAMP given to a Ten Cent Purchase in nearly every Department Liberty Bonds like Cosh here. \$10,000 worth will bk accepted on any purchase Parcel Post Packages Sent Out with First Mail

WILLIS L. BRIGHT

Both Phones

PENNA.

### W. L. Bright General Merchandise

Willis L. Bright operated Bright's Store and had his residence at 400 to 404 Main Street from 1907 to 1948. The residence was at the corner. Today these buildings are apartment buildings. (BP 130)

From the advertisement:
"Headquarters for Dry Goods,
Notions, Shoes, Boots, Groceries
and Hardware – The Stock of
Dry Goods and Notions was
never as large."

"\$7500.00 Stock of Shoes, Rubbers and other Footwear always on hand – Latest Styles."

"Remember, a PARKE STAMP given to a Ten Cent Purchase in nearly every Department."

Parke's Blue Point Trading Stamps could be redeemed for merchandise from the L. H. Parke Company, headquartered in Philadelphia and elsewhere.

"Liberty Bonds like Cash here. \$10,000 worth will be accepted on any purchase."

Liberty Bonds were issued to finance American involvement in World War I. They were "bearer bonds" that belonged to whoever was holding them, which allowed Bright's Store to accept the bonds like cash.

The store had "both phones."

BERNVILLE

Diagram: Location of Some Bernville Businesses That Advertised in the 1919 Herald

	Rou		Fox	M	below are Main Street addressin We	olf
	18	33	Stree	t Str	reet Str	eet
						↑ 5 <sup>th</sup> Street ↑
				422 G. W. Fahrenbach,		
				M.D.		
				400-404 W. L. Bright's Store		
				_		↑ 4 <sup>th</sup> Street ↑
				334-338 Wm.		
				H. Marberger Mill	317 Kalbach Bros. Furniture, Undertaking	
				306-308 Chas. P. Kalbach	309 L. E. Burkey	
				Druggist	Restaurant	
						↑ 3rd Street ↑
	Andrew M. Wolf Baker	Bernville Garage				
				202 John C.	209 First National Bank (in home)	
				Bright's Store		↑ 2 <sup>nd</sup> Street ↑
					127 120 (***)	
					N. P. Stoudt Butcher	
South Bernville Roller Mills					113 Allison P. Stoudt Painting, Paperhanging	
$\downarrow$					1 2 2	↓ Front Street ↓

### St. Thomas History – *The Herald*, 1919 – Marriages, Baptisms, Funerals

The Herald of the Bernville Reformed Charge, 1919 also lists marriages, baptisms and funerals performed by Rev. Frank W. Ruth in 1918. This was the start of information of interest to genealogists and family historians in over 100 years of *The Herald*.

How wonderful that Beatrice Ellen Sheidy was part of the first "Baptisms" list in *The Herald*. Miss Sheidy was a very important person in the history of St. Thomas. Her estate made possible the 2003-2004 addition to our church building – with Beatrice Hall named in her memory.

### BAPTISMS IN 1918.

Beatrice Ellen Sheidy, a daughter of Calvin T. and his wife Naomi E., nee Bright, was born September 5, 1918, in Jefferson Township, and was baptized November 2, 1918.

### We are Looking for Pre-2025 Herald Issues - Can You Donate Unneeded Issues to the Church?

We are currently organizing extra issues of all years of *The Herald*, which will be carefully stored in case they are needed in the future. We'd like to have 5-10 copies of each year and we have that for many years, but not all. Thankfully, we do have one copy of each year in the church office, but we'd like more extra issues.

Our historical "extra issues" collection has proved useful over the years. For example, recently there was a family history question received in the church office and we were able to supply a copy of the requested older Herald. The church received a \$100 donation from the caller in gratitude for our help.

Following are the years that would be especially helpful in our "extra issues" collection, but we will be happy to receive any pre-2025 issues.

1923, 1925, 1926, 1928, 1932, 1959, 1963, 1982, 2000, 2005-2009, 2012-2024.

Please leave any Herald issues you wish to donate at the church office door or call the office to make other arrangements. Thank you so much for your help with this project.

### Worship Choir

Worship choir rehearsals will begin the first Thursday in September at 7:00 p.m. Whether you have been with us in the past or have just thought about participating, come out and join us. We sing during worship services one or two times each month. We also practice our Christmas musical during this time. All are welcome! We'd really love to have some new faces!



### **Jubilation Ringers**

Thanks to the generosity of several donors, we are currently having our hand bells and chimes refurbished. This is a lengthy process that may go into the month of October. Watch the bulletin for our first fall rehearsal. During the next month, we are looking for new bell ringers. We rehearse on Thursday evenings at 6:00 p.m. Some basic music background is helpful but not always necessary. All ages are welcome. If you played an instrument or sang in a choir or chorus in your younger days, or if you are a teen who is participating in band or chorus in school, consider joining us. New players often start by playing only one or two bells. We try to make your experience noteworthy. Why not give it a try? Please let Brian know if we can count on you!





Time: 10:10 till the start of the service.

Where: Main Street entrance or the lobby of Beatrice Hall (portico entrance) to welcome members and visitors entering from either the rear entrance (along Rte. 183) or the portico entrance.

How: Provide a warm smile and a hello to those entering, as well as directions for visitors. Bulletins will usually be on the table next to the Main Street entrance or on the table in the Beatrice Hall lobby. Please hand them out as you extend a greeting.

Thank you to Rowena Henderson who is the greeter in the sanctuary at the library entrance.

Individual members of the youth of St. Thomas may be joining you in greeting. Please encourage them as they seek to serve as greeters alongside you.

### Thank you!

	Main Street Entrance	Portico Entrance
Sept. 7	Trevor Brown	Carol Zellers
Sept. 14	Cindy Albert & Tom Bair	Peg Henderson
Sept. 21	Jay Umbenhauer	Vaughn & Shirley Saunders
Sept. 28	Grace Reber	Chris & Brittany Cornwell
Oct. 5	Millie Lessig	Bill Brandt
Oct. 12	Kathy Luckenbill	Beverly Hinnershitz
Oct. 19	Thane LaFollette	Burner Family
Oct. 26	Dan & Shirley Berger	Colonna Family
Nov. 2	Betsy Reifsnyder	Jeff & Shelly Hirneisen
Nov. 9	Helen Renninger	Wenrich Family
Nov. 16	Carol Zellers	Fritz Wolf
Nov. 23	Thane LaFollette	Trevor Brown
Nov. 30	Vaughn & Shirley Saunders	Jay Umbenhauer

If you are not already a greeter, please consider joining this important ministry. Contact Peg Henderson at 610-693-8039, email at juncofan@yahoo.com.

### St. Thomas Church 2025 Committee Listing

### **Elders:**

Shirley Adam Bill Brandt Rowena Henderson

### **Deacons:**

Cynthia Albert
Thomas Bair
Shirley Berger
Nicole Henne-Brown \*
Frank Colonna
Pattie Kerschner
Jo Ann Stockholm
Dan Wenrich

#### **Trustees:**

Rosann Becker Glenn Rumbel Kevin Zellers

### **Endowment:**

Thomas Bair Donna Heffner Thane LaFollette Ted Sweeney (Advisor) Eleanor Stickler Daniel Wolf

### **Finance:**

Kelly Groff Thane LaFollette Shirley Saunders Eleanor Stickler

### **Audit:**

Millie Bross Donna Heffner Grace Reber Betsy Reifsnyder

### **Nominating:**

Cindy Albert Tom Bair Peg Henderson Ruth LaFollette

### **Missions / Outreach:**

Kelly Groff Russ Hinnershitz Brian Luckenbill Grace Reber Deb Rumbel Jo Ann Stockholm \*

### **Ministries of God's Servants:**

**Bridget Brandt** Millie Bross **Brittany Cornwall** Kelly Groff, Secretary Larry Groff **Beverly Hinnershitz** Louise Kiehl Millie Lessig Kathy Luckenbill Grace Reber Deb Rumbel, President Shirley Saunders, Treasurer Vaughn Saunders Eleanor Stickler, Vice-Pres. Jo Ann Stockholm Becca Wenrich Daniel Wenrich Louise Wolf

### **Christian Ed:**

Bill Brandt
Bridget Brandt \*
Erika Colonna
Chris Cornwell
Rowena Henderson
Nicole Henne-Brown
Gale Hoey
Pattie Kerschner
Brian Luckenbill
Nancy Luckenbill
Ginny Schmehl
Louise Wolf

#### **Tech Team:**

Frank Colonna Gio Colonna John Demko Kelly Groff Larry Groff \* Ruth LaFollette Brian Luckenbill Jay Umbenhauer

### **Congregational Care:**

Bill Brandt
Bridget Brandt
Millie Graeff
Judy Guthier \*
Peg Henderson
Rowena Henderson
Beverly Hinnershitz
Gale Hoey
Brian Luckenbill
Nancy Luckenbill
Jo Ann Stockholm
Fritz Wolf
Louise Wolf

### **Worship Ministries:**

Rosann Becker John Demko Judy Guthier \* Peg Henderson Rowena Henderson Brian Luckenbill Deb Rumbel Bob Stockholm Louise Wolf

### **Pastor Search:**

Shirley Adam Nicole Henne-Brown\* Brian Luckenbill Jay Umbenhauer Dan Wenrich



- 1 Coralee Brown
- 3 Pattie Kerschner
- 6 William Straw
- 6 Deb Rumbel
- 6 Louise Kiehl
- 7 Andrew Adams
- 7 Cheryl Bogert
- 9 Sage Guthier
- 10 Karen Degler

- 10 Dennis Schlappich
- 12 Rebecca Wenrich
- 12 Erika Colonna
- 13 Patricia Brimmer
- 14 Darryl Himmelberger
- 17 Millie Lessig
- 17 Corrinne Wagner
- 17 Alyssa Bond
- 17 Chelsea Kramer

- 18 Nancy Lynn
- 18 Daniel Wenrich
- 18 Adam Rabenold
- 19 Anna Reinhart
- 21 Aidan Smith
- 21 Jeremy Fox
- 26 Carla Kessler
- 30 Douglas Burner



If you know of a name that has been omitted from the birthday or anniversary list, please contact the church office so that we can update our records. Thanks!



- 2 Leshane Troutman
- 3 Jim Stricker
- 4 Cory Gassert
- 5 Nicole Brown
- 5 Lisa Hetrick
- 6 Pauline Paulson
- 8 Kathy Luckenbill
- 8 Brittany Cornwell

- 10 Kaytlin Kramer
- 11 Carol Zellers
- 13 Roger Steffen
- 13 Giovanni Colonna
- 14 Kirstin Rabenold
- 16 Phyllis Krause
- 17 Doris Evans
- 18 Zachary Rollins

- 21 Russell Hinnershitz
- 24 Kevin Zellers
- 25 Nora Harms
- 26 Scott Hetrick
- 26 Violet Hartman
- 28 Randy Weidman
- 28 Bridget Brandt
- 31 Vaughn Saunders

## 🖊 Happy Anniversary



- 5 Zachary & Kaytlin Kramer (10 years)
- 10 Scott & Pattie Kerschner (48 years)
- 12 Walter & Linda Focht (61 *years*)
- 14 David & Barbara Hannigan (51 years)
- 19 Jeff & Shelly Hirneisen (44 *years*)
- 24 Bruce & Marlene Good (65 years)
- 25 Randy & Debra Weidman (43 years)
- 26 Dan & Heather Edgar (10 years)



- 1 Earl & Mildred Graeff (70 *years*)
- 1 Vaughn & Shirley Saunders (42 years)
- 6 Darryl & Susan Himmelberger (41 years)
- 13 Daniel & Shirley Berger (46 *years*)
- 16 Daniel & Barbara Miller (15 years)
- 19 Jeff & Gail Stamm (34 years)
- 20 Daniel & Molly Harms (18 years)
- 21 Ronald & Jamie Tomko (2 years)
- 29 Daniel & Rebecca Wenrich (9 years)

**Bible Quiz** 

For years, King David showed special kindness to the son of King Saul's son Jonathan, because David and Jonathan had been dear friends. Which of the following statements is not accurate?

- A. The name of King Saul's grandson was Mephibosheth.
- B. He was lame in both feet.
- C. His feet had been injured when he was 5.
- D. He was injured while playing with his brothers.



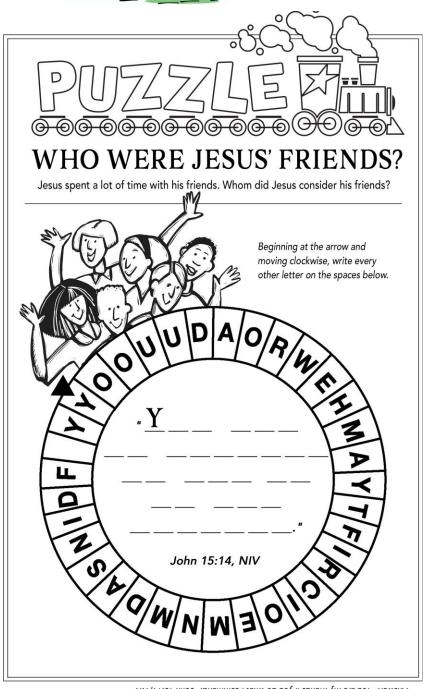


Patriot Day September 11



All your children shall be taught by the LORD, and great shall be the peace of your children.

**Isaiah 54:13** 







Sunday School-9:00 a.m. Fellowship-10:00 a.m. Worship Service-10:30 a.m.



### Sunday School

With outstretched arms and loving hearts, we welcome you and invite you to join us for Sunday School. We have classes for the youngest children up to the oldest adults. Please join us in our journey of faith and see where God leads us!



Ark Builders-Up to Preschool HIS Kids-Kindergarten to Second Grade KFC (Kids for Christ)-Third to Sixth Grade Bible Livin' Teens-Seventh to Twelfth Grade

> Chapel Class-Adults Mezzanine Class-Adults



Breakfast & Bible Study-Held the first Saturday monthly. Men and women meet for great food and a time of Bible study and sharing. Currently on hold and to be continued.

Ministries of God's Servants-Monthly meetings and various projects and social events, as well as the Christmas Vendor Bazaar offer times for fun and friendship (formerly the Women's Guild and Social Committee).

Service Opportunities-Service to our church and community is a meaningful and satisfying way to show God's love and get to know other members of your church family. No matter what your talents or interests are, there is a place for you. Consider serving with the Care Team, Children's and Youth Ministries, Meals Ministry, Music Ministry, Helping Harvest Food Bank, Greeter Ministry, Missions/Outreach Committee, and various other committees and teams.

Outreach Opportunities-These include Light in the Night, Easter Egg Hunt, Family Promise of Berks, Bernville Community Day, GriefShare, Angel Tree Project, and others.