

# The Vision

September 2021

The Monthly Newsletter of  
Bergen Evangelical Presbyterian Church of Bergen, NY

## VBS / Sports Camp 2021

## Get in the Game!

During August 15 to 19 we had an average of about 60 young people attend VBS / Sports Camp each night. Each night had some crazy Catalino games plus more traditional basketball, soccer, and baseball. Each night had a snack time followed with a Biblical challenge to get your mind, your body, your heart, your soul, and your life in the game! (one each night)

### Campers and Volunteers



### Crazy Catalino games



### "Get in the game" Bible point, skit, bible verse, and songs



### Snack time



Pray for those who heard the Gospel, perhaps for the first time.

Joe will be giving a more complete update on the happenings at Hickory Park on **September 19 during the Moments for Missions** in the morning worship service.

#### Office Hours:

Monday & Wednesday  
9:30 AM – noon

#### Pastor's Hours:

Tuesday – Thursday  
9:30 -noon (flexible)

Phone: (585) 494-1251

email: [fpbergen@gmail.com](mailto:fpbergen@gmail.com)

Pastor Brandt Hammack: [Brandthammack@hotmail.com](mailto:Brandthammack@hotmail.com)

(585-732-6163) Website: [www.bergenepc.com](http://www.bergenepc.com)

You can also find us on Facebook.



## Evangelism & Missions

### How Can I Help Spread the Good News of Jesus Christ?

We're glad you asked. The E&M Committee has several opportunities for you to demonstrate the love of Jesus to our community. See below and sign up for a ministry that fits your passion.

#### FoodLink Food Distribution

Eastern Genesee County (check a map -- that's us!) is woefully underserved when it comes to making food available to those who are in need, according to **FoodLink**. By serving as a distribution point for **FoodLink** free food once a month, our church can help improve that situation. **FoodLink** is back offering food for distribution at what they now call a Pop-Up Pantry (PUP). This is similar to the food distributions our church hosted pre-COVID.

**FoodLink** has some new guidelines for how these PUPs will be handled. We think we can meet those new guidelines if we have the volunteers. That's where you come in. Please see the accompanying list of roles that need to be filled and come help us.

Our first PUP was Aug. 31. Our next dates are Sept. 28, Oct. 26 and Nov. 23. We expect the truck with the food to arrive at 3 pm. Volunteers will be needed starting at that time, but you can come anytime during the late afternoon to help. Check out the list; recruit your friends to help.

Let Gregg McAllister know if you can help:  
greggmca@verizon.net or text 585-738-6141.

For more information, see:

<http://www.bergenepc.com/foodlink.html>

#### Clean Those Spuds

Yes, the Bergen Presbyterian Potato Wash Club is back in action -- and you don't have to be a club member to participate -- just be willing to maybe get a little bit wet and have some fun while cleaning potatoes that have been gleaned from local fields.

The potato washes take place in the church parking lot from 9 to noon, but if you have a commitment that keeps you from attending the whole time, that's OK. Come for what you can. The dates are Sept. 18, Oct. 2 and 16.

Anyone can help. This is a great family project. Sign up by emailing the church office at [fpcbergen@gmail.com](mailto:fpcbergen@gmail.com).

#### Bring Food to Church

When you go shopping, pick up something extra to share with others. Bring it to church on the first Sunday of the month. We collect the food and donate it to the Salvation Army Food Pantry in Batavia. This will happen every month, so you can always buy something extra for others.

Salvation Army reported last month, when we just restarted this ministry, that food has been in short supply since one of the major sources has become irregular in its supply. Our food was welcomed more than ever.

#### You Don't Have to be Crafty

Sewing with a Purpose is always looking for new team members. And don't let their name fool you: You don't have to sew to help out. Many projects require cutting or ironing and no sewing. The team will match the step in the project to your skills. *(See below for two projects that are currently in progress.)*

**So, no excuses! Get involved for Jesus.**

## Sewing with a Purpose

#### Strong Hospital NICU - Hearts

Strong Hospital has requested more flannel hearts for the NICU. We had 35 already made, so we sent those on to the hospital immediately.

Currently, Jodi has cut out 40 hearts and we have passed them along to Grace Leanen who offered to sew the hearts. We need someone to turn hearts to the right side and hand sew the 1-inch opening closed. Then iron. Contact Debbie if you are interested in helping with this ministry.

We need baby flannel for this project. A good price for flannel is \$2.50 - \$3.50 and a yard or 2 would be so appreciated. It is also good to look in the clearance sections of Fabrics at JOANN's, Walmart or Hobby Lobby.

#### Face Masks

With the current COVID increase in cases and new COVID guidelines emerging daily, our **Sewing with a Purpose** Team are able to make new masks for our church family. If anyone would like a new mask which can be washed, please send an email to [debmca@verizon.net](mailto:debmca@verizon.net) and we will provide you with a new mask at no charge.

## School Supplies for Africa

**EduNations** is a mission that we support through our church Evangelism & Missions budget. They focus on sharing the gospel by building and staffing schools in a remote section of Sierra Leone. The organization has strong support within our Presbytery. Our annual support is being used for salaries for teachers. **EduNations** recently opened a secondary (high) school after building several local elementary schools. Here is an update from **EduNations** detailing the current need to provide school supplies for the students.

(See the August Newsletter for more information)

## COVID Relief and Lenten Offering

Your generous contributions raised \$2,104 for the Lenten Offering. The E&M Committee recommended using those funds for local financial needs caused by the COVID pandemic.

Funds were spent as follows:

- \$167 for a Bergen family with significant financial needs caused by COVID
- \$512 to repair a car for a local man who lost work because of COVID, then needed the car repair when he was working again.
- \$500 to Salvation Army in Batavia for back-to-school supplies. The number of families applying for assistance has doubled.
- \$500 to the North Bergen Presbyterian Church Food Pantry to purchase personal hygiene supplies for its clientele. Need for these supplies increased substantially as more families come for assistance.
- \$500 to the Byron-Bergen Backpack program to provide food for school children whose families often don't have food in the home over the weekend when children are not in school.
- \$500 to All Babies Cherished in Batavia to purchase car seats for young families. Young mothers enrolled in the program have steadily increased.

If you're keeping track, the total listed is more than the amount in the funds. The additional \$575 was taken from the COVID Relief Fund. That fund has a current balance of \$3,967.

The E&M Committee continues to monitor missions and local residents who suffer impact from the pandemic in order to help meet the needs.

## Veterans Ministry

Joan D. and Shirl H. visit Eagle Star Housing in East Pembroke monthly. Eagle Star is a home for homeless Veterans transitioning back into our community. There are always veterans leaving and new ones arriving every three months. These veterans are learning to cook, shop for food, balance a budget, cope with their disabilities, as well as get along with others.

Each month four games of bingo are played and each winner receives a small gift bag. On the day of visitation, they are greeted with a smile and refreshments such as fresh fruit, cheese and crackers and a sweet treat. Our most treasured conversations are after the games when we converse on a more personal level. This is a rewarding time for both them and this ministry.

Our church has the opportunity to take part in this ministry, not only by visiting, but donating to our heroes who have served our country so well.

Here are some items you may contribute:

- Socks - New
- Bath Towels
- Irish Spring Soap
- Desk Top Staple
- Deodorants
- Paper Clips
- Locker Type Locks with Keys
- Small Hand Kitchen Helper Items - Spoons, etc
- Small Storage Containers
- Knit Hats and Gloves
- Washcloths
- Small Plain Gift Bags
- Pens
- Tooth Paste
- Sticky Notes

## Deacons

*"For it is God who is at work within you, giving you the will and the power to achieve his purpose." Philipians 2:13*

### Deacon Dossier

Spotlight on Faith Willhoft

- Born in Peoria, Illinois
- Has a son and a daughter -- and 2 grandsons who live in Chicago
- Grew up as a "PK" (preacher's kid), lived in 5 different states and went to 6 different schools
- Loves to sew, scrapbook and read
- Favorite household chore is hanging laundry out on the clothesline
- Washes out Ziploc bags

## Reformation Society

The August 29, 2021 edition of the Westside News contained an article "Reformation Society plans monthly pastor speaker events." It talked about our church in two of the events. I'm sure Brandt would be willing to tell you more about either of these:

- September 9 — **Pastor Brandt Hammack** of Bergen Evangelical Presbyterian Church will speak on "Preaching that Transforms" at Evangelical Church of Fairport.
- June 9, 2022 — Pastor Tony Bartolucci of Christ Church of Clarkson will speak on "Worldview Matters: Essential Elements of a Christian worldview" at **Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Bergen**.

You can read the whole article here:

<https://westsidenewsny.com/news/2021-08-22/reformation-society-plans-monthly-pastor-speaker-events/>

## CE Update

We are looking forward to resuming in-person Sunday School for all ages on September 12, 9:15 - 10:15 AM. With thanks to those who have already agreed to help, we still need a few more adults to support our teachers. If you like children and are willing to sit in class with them during the Sunday School hour, you are qualified! If you are willing to help, please contact Julie Foeller (bfoeller@frontiernet.net or 585-943-9155). We look forward to seeing you on September 12!

## Young Life

Young Lives is a mission of Young Life, a mission that our church supports, that mentors and provides support to teen-aged moms. We have about 7 young women in the Genesee County area that are either pregnant or are raising young children.

We are establishing a 'baby closet' to help these new moms. We would welcome gently used baby items (clothes, car seats, cribs, strollers, etc.), as well as new diapers, and maternity clothing. We have received some maternity and baby clothing. Thank you for your generous support. You may contact Jessica Maskell – Young Lives Genesee County Coordinator at 585-409-7261, gcyounglives@gmail.com and/or Sandy Partridge (committee member) 585-414-4593

## Organ Update

As our church continues its pledge campaign for renovating the organ, many have asked for more information about the instrument, including more detail about its problems. We will use this space in the newsletter to highlight the instrument's three primary problems, one per month in September, October, and November.

The first thing our organ needs is a deep cleaning. Years of use and various sanctuary renovation projects have left much dirt and dust on and inside the instrument. There are approximately 750 pipes contained in the organ chest, each of which needs to be removed by hand, cleaned, and adjusted. The mechanism for each key or pedal—everything in the instrument is mechanical except for the wind chest—includes four dowels connected by small felt and leather hinges. There are 150 keys and pedals, meaning there are approximately 600 dowels and their connectors that will need to be inspected and replaced as necessary. Once the pipes and mechanism are removed, the instrument chest can be deep cleaned by Parsons' technicians, thus restoring the instrument to nearly new condition. *Next month: adjusting the mechanism.*

This month, we will again feature the organ during our worship service on September 12 as well as provide an update on the pledge campaign. We have also invited the Bergen Historical Society to hold their September meeting at the church; Alden Snell will present a brief program describing the instrument and play several selections. Look for a date for this event in the Life of the Church email.

See the page on the church's website for additional information and a link to the pledge form:

<http://www.bergenepc.com/organ.html>

## Engagement

Debbie and Gregg McAllister are happy to announce the engagement of Catherine to Alex Bichler. They got engaged atop Stowe Pinnacle, Vermont in August. Catherine continues to work for Soldier On helping homeless veterans secure housing. She completes her Masters of Social Work (MSW) in December.

Catherine McAllister  
475 Ridgemont Dr.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15220

## Anniversaries & Birthdays

### September Anniversaries

1 – Jim & Amanda Wilson	20 yrs
2 – Paul & Neva Lattimer	54 yrs
6 – Rob & Faith Willhoft	41 yrs
9 – David & Susan Brownell	32 yrs
28 – Ron & Kay Harmon	59 yrs

### October Anniversaries

1 – Jake & Michelle Buckland-Seward	5 yrs
9 – Jeff & Corissa Goodenbery	16 yrs
10 – Keith & Barb Marshall	12 yrs
26 – Dick & Cheryl Saville	47 yrs

### September Birthdays

3 – John Wise	25 – Neva Lattimer
9 – Ron Harmon	27 – Tom Jones
15 – Janet Wise	27 – Barb Marshall
17 – David Hahn	28 – Cheryl Saville
18 – Duncan McNear	28 – Rob Willhoft
19 – Corissa Goodenbery	29 – Amy Stacy
22 – Keith Marshall	

### October Birthdays

1 – Stacie Bridge	25 – Dick vonBergen
6 – Debbie Sheldon	25 – Dale White
13 – Delores Seward	26 – Maddie Buckland
15 – Joan Dermody	30 – Ruth Morse
16 – Chris Hollenbeck	31 – David Baker
17 – Jeff Goodenbery	31 – Chad Caccamise
18 – Mandy Wilson	31 – Diane White

## Prayer

### Those fighting cancer:

- Dan Forno
- Stacy Cline
- Elaine Malkani - Cyndy Jones' sister
- Corky's friend, Sharon, fighting colon cancer
- Rosemary Utz - friend of McAllisters
- vonBergen's grandson - Joe

### Continued healing

- Helen Hill's sister-in-law Dorcas Arbach
- June Hahn's niece Ann Crone
- Joan Miller

### Those with ongoing challenges and needs:

- Aggie Redinger
- Delores Seward
- David Hahn
- Bob and Kathy Cosgrove
- Nancy Alfes
- Janice Langsdon's mother - Jo Files
- Susan Brownell's grandmother - Hazel Newsom - and her caretakers - Susan's parents
- Paul and Sandy Harris
- Melanie Glucksman
- Evelyn Pangrazio - friend of Tom and Cyndy Jones
- Colton Ely
- Rusty Brenton

### Those who have lost loved ones:

- the family of Max Jessop
- the family of Rob Charcholla,
- the Coxeter family
- the Roche family
- the Slavin family

### Those serving as Missionaries:

- Sarah Speer at the Kimia Center for Lepers in the Congo
- Jose Ulinov "Uli" Fernandez in Mexico
- Arber "Berti" Berhami with Campus Crusade in Albania
- Jesse vonBergen ministry to the Middle East through Arabic Bible Outreach Ministry
- Teachers in Sierra Leone with EduNations
- Tim Riley with Genesee County Young Life

### Our Church

- Our Session & Deacons
- Youth Leader, Joe Rebisz, and the youth of our church and our community
- Worship Leader, Christin Snell and those who minister in music each Sunday
- Christian Education, Evangelism & Missions, Finance, Nominating, Personnel, and Property Committees
- Pray for the other local churches in our area (and your area too!)
- The Servicemen & Women of the United States, as well as our Veterans and their families
- Our country's leaders and their advisors

## Peek at Church Calendar

### Weekly

Sunday, 9:15-10:15 – Sunday School (starting 9/12)

Sunday, 10:30-11:45 – Morning Worship

Sunday, 6:00-8:00 – TAG (watch for details on start)

Thursday, 6:00-7:00 AM – Son Risers

### Other meetings

Sunday, 9/5 – Communion and Food Collection

Monday, 9/6 – Office closed

Wednesday, 9/8, 7 PM – Session (at church)

Sunday, 9/19, noon – E&M

Sunday, 9/26, noon – Worship Committee

Tuesday, 9/28, 3 PM – FoodLink

Tuesday, 9/28, 7 PM – Deacon Meeting

## Church Property

If you haven't looked at the floor samples in the lobby, take a couple minutes this coming Sunday. The floors in the fellowship hall, lobby, and halls will be replaced, hopefully, in September.

We are looking for help in completing some projects that need to be done at church.

- Repair SW wall of west stall of downstairs large ladies' room
- Repair front steps
- Repaint outside lower windows and trim
- Make an enclosure for the dehumidifier
- A cover needs to be built over the pipes in the corner of the nursery- See Julie Foeller or Neva Lattimer with questions
- General painting

Please contact David Hahn if you can help!

## New Newsletter Look

We have a new look to the newsletter this month. The newsletter had been done for many years using Microsoft Publisher, a program that most people don't have on their computer. This limited being able to work on the newsletter only to the church computer. It also required skills that are becoming less common in today's workplace. This month's newsletter is done in Microsoft Word, a much more common tool.

This is a work in progress and I would welcome your comments regarding the new format.

Rob Willhoft

## Job Announcements

### Administrative Assistant

Bergen Evangelical Presbyterian Church seeks a part-time (20 hours/week) Administrative Assistant. This person will assist the pastor, perform office tasks, and coordinate various activities of the church. This is a salaried position with the normal working hours being 9:00-2:00, four days a week. Some flexibility in the working hours and some work from home is possible.

We are looking for a person who seeks to serve the Lord and has good interpersonal skills. Skills in working with the computer - MS Office Suite, Google Gmail, and other applications - are required. This person will be responsible for coordinating communication between the various church committees and the congregation, both through email and published documents. The Administrative Assistant is responsible for ordering supplies and the coordination of maintenance of office equipment.

Priority will be given to applicants who already attend Bergen EPC or are willing to attend regularly. Please contact Seth McNear ([fpbergen@gmail.com](mailto:fpbergen@gmail.com)) if you would like to apply for or discuss this position. Application forms are available at the church.

### Assistant Music Coordinator

Bergen Evangelical Presbyterian Church seeks a Christ-centered, Bible-believing musician open to the Holy Spirit's leading, to serve as Assistant Music Coordinator. This person will work closely with the Music Coordinator and Pastor on all music-related activities at the church, including musical participation in the worship service and leading the worship service once per month.

This is a part-time position, 5 - 10 hours per week, negotiable based on the candidate's musical and administrative background. A complete job description is available upon request.

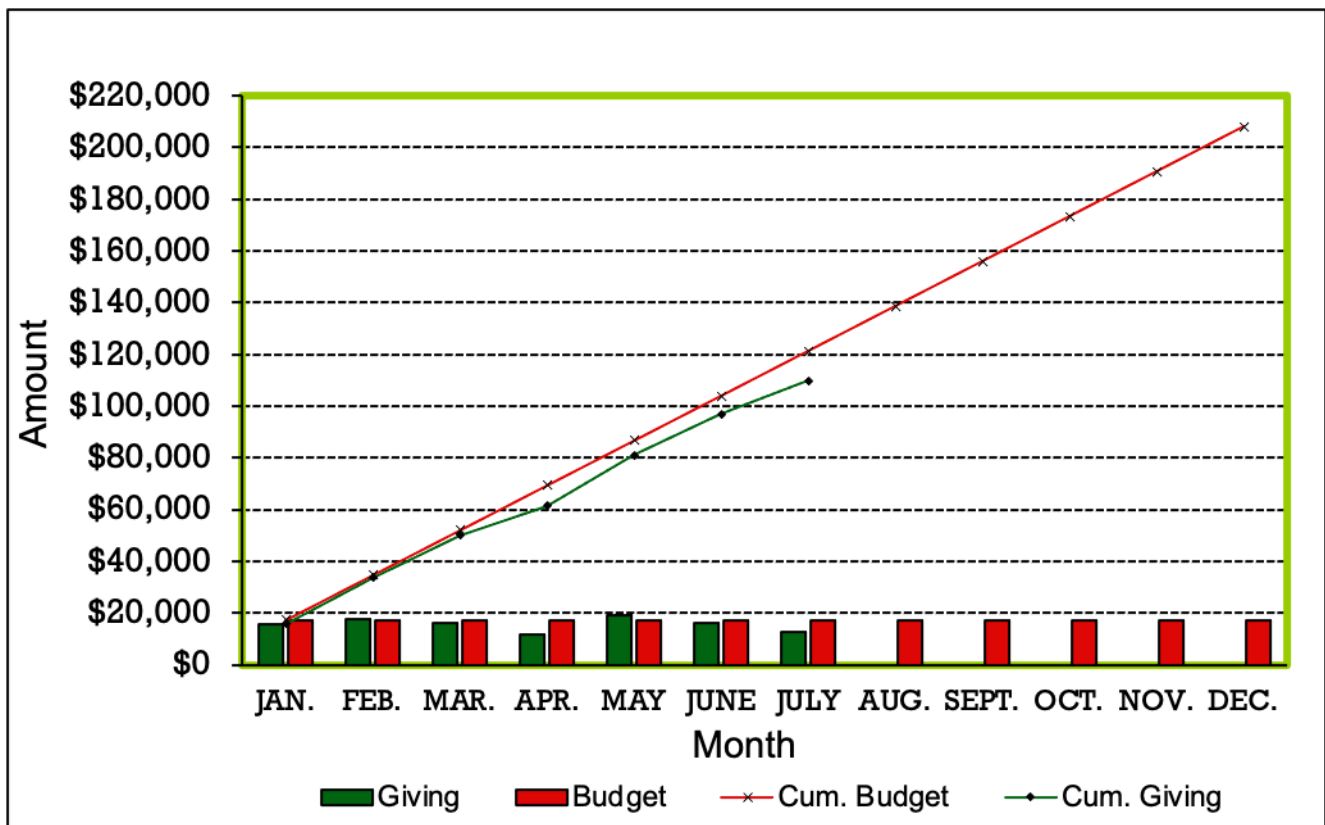
If interested, please submit a letter of inquiry to [fpbergen@gmail.com](mailto:fpbergen@gmail.com); include "Assistant Music Coordinator Search" in the subject line. Questions about the position may be addressed to Rob Willhoft at (585) 293-1304.



*Bring all the tithes into the storehouse so there will be enough food in my Temple. If you do,” says the Lord of Heaven’s Armies, “I will open the windows of heaven for you. I will pour out a blessing so great you won’t have enough room to take it in! Try it! Put me to the test!*

*Malachi 3:10*

Our giving for July was in line with the usual number for this month, quite low – \$12,788 – and significantly below the very good June giving of over \$16,000. We are, however, still running about \$5,000 ahead of the giving at this time last year. Expenses were low, and we did have to use \$3,200 of the Accumulated Income Fund to pay all the bills.



## MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT – JULY 2021

### OPERATING FUND

#### Income

Sunday offering:	\$8,427.00
Building use:	\$200.00
Net Online Offering:	\$1,461.19
<i>*note – online offering reflects \$37.42 fee taken from gross donations from the vendor before deposit</i>	
Amortized one time gifts:	\$2,900.00

---

<i>Total New Receipts</i>	<i>\$12,988.19</i>
<i>Opening Balance (from previous month)</i>	<i>\$1,072.32</i>
<b>Total Funds Available (opening balance + new receipts)</b>	<b>\$14,060.51</b>

#### Expenses

Gross Expenditures for the month	\$14,274.55
Line Item Paybacks received this month that reduce expenses	
• None	\$0.00

---

<b>Net Expenditures for the Month</b>	<b>\$14,274.55</b>
---------------------------------------	--------------------

Accumulated Income Fund Transfer Needed to cover Expenditures	\$2,900.00
Extra Monthly Amortized Gift Overdrawn from the AIF	\$300.00
Monthly Amortized Gift Left in Accumulated Income Fund	\$0.00

**OPERATING FUND BALANCE** **\$85.96**

### DESIGNATED FUND

Opening Balance (from previous month)	\$24,068.63
New Designated Receipts	\$3,607.32
Total Designated Expenditures	\$3,558.29

**DESIGNATED FUND BALANCE** **\$24,117.66**

**TOTAL CHECKBOOK BALANCE (Operating Fund + Designated Fund)** **\$24,203.62**

### OTHER FUND ACTIVITY

#### Accumulated Income Fund

• For July expenses	\$3,200.00
<b>Current Balance (7/31/2021)</b>	<b>\$35,325.47</b>