



## Living in the Light of Resurrection

Easter invites us into a quiet but powerful truth: hope is never lost, even in life's darkest moments. The resurrection of Jesus reminds us that what seems like an ending can become a beginning in God's hands.

In the stillness of the morning, we are reminded of the empty tomb—a symbol not only of Christ's victory over death, but of the promise that renewal is always possible. Whatever burdens we carry, whatever doubts or fears weigh on our hearts, Easter gently calls us to release them and trust in a greater purpose unfolding.

This season encourages us to look inward. Where do we need new life? What parts of our spirit long for restoration? Just as spring awakens the earth, God's grace works within us, bringing growth, healing, and transformation.

Today, take a moment to pause and reflect. Breathe deeply. Give thanks for the gift of life, for the love that surrounds you, and for the quiet assurance that you are never alone.

May this Easter fill your heart with peace, renew your faith, and remind you that light always overcomes darkness.

Peace,  
*Pastor Hoyt*



## Easter Schedule at Bergen United Methodist



Mar 29 – **Palm Sunday:** Service at 10 am at BUMC

April 3 – **Good Friday:**

Good Friday Service at 12 pm at BUMC

Prayer Vigil from 1 – 7 pm

Good Friday Service at 7 pm at Bergen Evangelical Presbyterian Church

April 5 – **Easter Sunday:**

Easter Sunrise Service on the Hill at 6:30 am (click here for directions: <https://www.epcbergen.org/sunrise>)

Easter Breakfast at BUMC at 7:30 am

Easter Celebration Worship Service at 10 am

Fellowship Brunch following worship

Easter Egg Hunt at 11:30 am at BUMC

## Sunday School News

No Sunday School on Easter, April 5. This allows everyone to worship with their families. Classes will resume the following week, April 12.

Happy Easter!  
Sunday School Staff



## From Your Finance & Stewardship Team

The Stewardship & Finance Committee would like to thank all of you for your continued financial support of our church. Without it, we would not be able to continue our mission of serving others so that they will know they are loved by God.



### Little Hands Preschool

We at Little Hands Preschool would like to thank all of you who came out to support our Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser. We so appreciate everyone who purchased breakfast tickets and raffle tickets, all who donated baskets, bid on them or made muffins. We are especially grateful for those who prayed for our event and for those that keep us in prayer throughout the year! Your support means so much to us! May God bless you for your thoughtfulness and generosity!

## Lay Worship Volunteer Schedule for April

### GREETERS:

**April 5** Marcia Lowe  
**April 12** Anne Pocock  
**April 19** Jan Cooper  
**April 26** Mary Ann Hicks

### COMMUNION SERVERS:

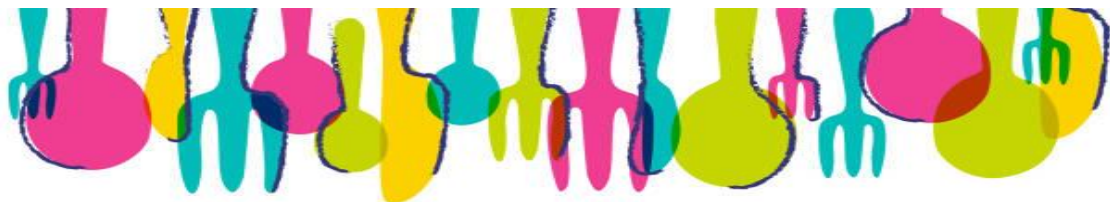
**April 5** Linda Ferguson & Linda Stephens  
**May 3** David Aradine & Jan Cooper

### LAY READERS:

**April 5** Sherry Chraston  
**April 12** Beth Aradine  
**April 19** Ginny Adams  
**April 26** Joy Hammond

### SCRIPTURE READERS:

**April 5** Kevin Kent  
**April 12** Dawn Sprague  
**April 19** Sandy Owen  
**April 26** Rick Woodring



## ~~~~~Wednesday Community Dinner~~~~~

### April Menus:

- April 1 Sloppy Joe's with Tater Tots & Veggies**
- April 8 Scalloped Potatoes and Ham w/Veggies**
- April 15 Mac and Cheese and Veggies**
- April 22 Spaghetti w/Meat Sauce, Salad & Garlic Bread**
- April 29 Soup, Sandwich and Salad**

We need volunteers on April 18<sup>th</sup> beginning at 9:30 am to help deep-clean the kitchen. Please see Dawn if you are willing to help.



## Lay Ministry Directory and Luncheon Celebration

On March 8, BUMC celebrated the publishing/circulation of our Lay Ministry Directory. The Lay Ministry Directory is a current compilation of all the volunteer (lay) ministries engaged here. Each ministry is briefly described, including how it fits into our ministry initiatives and what it accomplishes. The directory is a tool identifying where and how this church serves our Lord.

A delicious lunch (soups, casseroles, and sandwiches) was served after Sunday worship service to celebrate the Lay Ministry Directory rollout. Special thank you to everyone preparing/providing and serving the food for this luncheon and fellowship experience.

Many directories were passed out at the luncheon, but additional copies are available in the church narthex or church office. Please take a copy if you haven't already done so.

### BUMC Admin Board



April 4	Amy Schelemanow	April 17	Tom Zastrocky
April 5	Steve & Kris Taylor*	April 22	Ed Bott
April 6	Ben Fuller	April 26	Bob Gartz
April 7	Donna Krause	April 26	Hannah Wies
April 15	Larry MacConnell		



## Mustard Seed Food Pantry

Bergen United Methodist Church, 27 South Lake Avenue

### April Food Distribution Dates:

Thursday, April 9 – 5 pm to 8 pm

Saturday, April 25 – 9 am to 12 noon

**FOODLINK** at Bergen Evangelical Presbyterian Church on April 16 @ 4 pm

## Sleep In Heavenly Peace



**NO KID SLEEPS  
ON THE FLOOR  
IN OUR TOWN!**

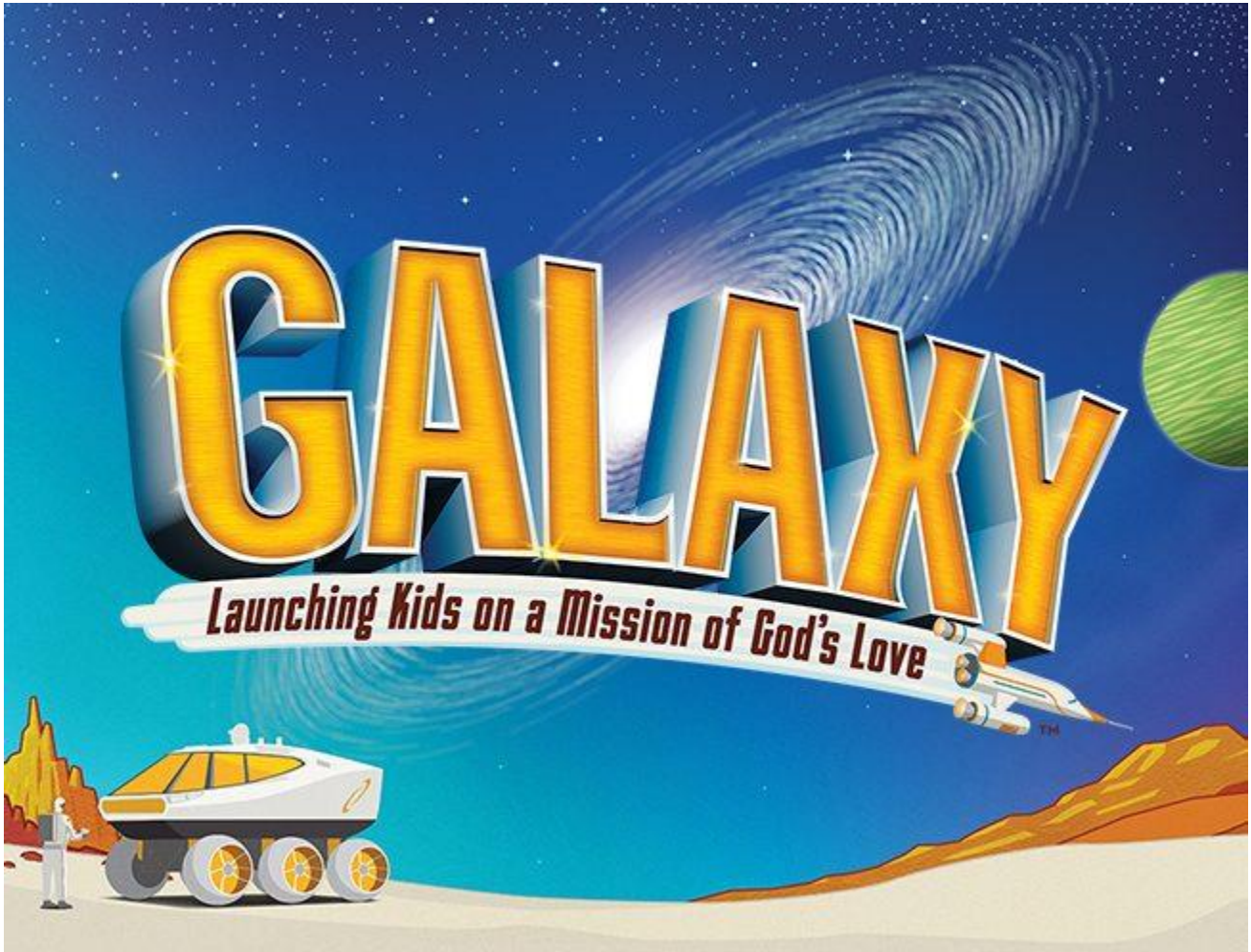
Gillam Grant is an official drop-off site for Sleep In Heavenly Peace – Batavia, NY Hub.

Sleep in Heavenly Peace supplies beds for children ages 3-17 years of age who are sleeping in unsafe or uncomfortable places – such as on the floor, a couch, or sharing with others.

The Batavia, NY Hub services all of Genesee County.

Donations of NEW TWIN-SIZE Comforters – Sheets – Mattress Pads (cloth only) – Pillows – can be dropped off in the bin at Gillam Grant Community Center, 6966 W. Bergen Rd, Bergen, NY 14416.

For more information about this organization, or if your child needs a bed, or you know of a child that needs a bed, go to: <http://shpbs.org> to apply.



The Community VBS 2026 theme is "Galaxy - Launching kids on a mission of God's love"

The VBS dates are Thursday Aug. 19 - Fri. Aug 21. Our next planning meeting is Sunday, April 19th at 11:45am. Anyone who has an interest in VBS is welcome to come attend the planning meeting.



**Bergen United Methodist Church**

***Our Mission***

**Following Jesus Together,  
Sharing Jesus with Others**

***Our Vision***

**Led by Christ, we form disciples through worship,  
service, and study, putting faith into action so that all  
may know they are loved by God.**

Sunday Worship Service  
10:00 am (childcare is available)

Sunday School  
9:45 am

*Check us out on FaceBook!*



# *Chicken BBQ*

*May 2<sup>nd</sup>*

**Drive-Thru ONLY**  
4:30 till gone

**Bergen United Methodist Church**  
27 S. Lake Ave. (Route 19)

**Menu: 1/2 BBQ Chicken    Macaroni Salad    Beans  
Applesauce                      Roll                      Dessert**

**And still the low price of \$15 per dinner  
(reservations requested)**

**To make reservations call 585-494-1312**

**Cash or check made to Bergen UMC**  
*Pay when you pick up!*

**Remain in your car, we will bring your meals to you in your  
vehicle.**