



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings, Cousins!

You are invited to attend the 100th Annual Barner Reunion. The reunion will be held June 15th at Barner's Church, 5 Barner Road, Liverpool, PA.

WOW, we've made it to 100 reunions! I'm guessing the first one was a gathering or picnic to bring together family that was scattered across the area for a special occasion, maybe a birthday or anniversary. From what I've been told, these reunions were quite the big deal. It was treated as a holiday. New clothes and shoes, and they spent the day at the church. Sometimes there was entertainment.

We will celebrate with a cemetery tour given by Brad Lowe, a local historian who goes to Barner's Church. (He gave us a tour once before the pandemic.) He also gave tours during the church's 150th anniversary celebration.

If anyone has any pictures, postcards or any type of memorabilia that you would like to show to the reunion, please bring it along. We would love to see and hear about them. My favorite time of the reunion is when we go around introducing ourselves and sharing stories from the past. We should have someone writing down these stories! I think we would have quite a book by now!

Hoping to see you all on June 15th for the 100th Reunion!

Respectfully,

Beth Sowers President

TREASURER'S REPORT 2023-2024 BARNER REUNION FUND

2023 Balance	\$5,083.63
Contributions	\$265.00
Expenditures	\$681.89
2024 Balance	\$4,666.74

Respectfully submitted,
Eunice L. Barner, treasurer

On the internet:

<http://www.adambarner.family> (Note the change in address!) The Adam Barner Family Reunion website, including the genealogy database.

<http://www.usgwarchives.net/pa/perry/tsimages/barners-al.htm>
Barner's Church Cemetery webpage, with links to photos of the grave markers.

Facebook: Search for "Adam Barner Family of PA".

CURRENT OFFICERS AND STAFF

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Christopher Barner (2025)
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Wayne D. Barner
Bruce I. Barner
Beth Byers Sowers
Charlie Barner
Matt Pryber

Tentative reunion schedule:
9:30 a.m. Registration, games
memorabilia, view old photos
11:00 Group photo
11:30-1:00 Business meeting, election of
officers, etc.
1:00-1:15 Invocation, memorial service,
wreath-laying
1:15-2:00 Lunch
2:00 Cemetery tour with Brad Lowe
2:45 Socializing
Website demos available throughout the
day.

**101st Annual Barner Reunion
At Barner's Church
Liverpool, PA
Saturday, June 21, 2025
Hope to see you all there!!**

Minutes of the Barner Reunion—2023

The 99th annual Barner Reunion was held on June 17, 2023, at the St. John's (Barner's) Lutheran Church in rural Liverpool, PA. The weather was partly sunny, cool, and breezy. Attending were 31 family members.

The business meeting was held in the church. President Beth Sowers presided. The minutes and treasurer's reports were accepted.

The president, vice president, secretary/treasurer and two members of the executive committee were up for re-election. A motion was made that the present officers be re-elected. The motion passed. Beth Sowers will continue as president, Charlie Barner will be vice-president, Eunice Barner will be secretary/treasurer, and Chris Barner and Matt Pryber will serve on the executive committee for the next two years.

Charlie Barner gave the history committee report. He reminded us to access the family website, <http://www.adambarner.family> to see the huge amount of data that is there. Family members can register for an account to be able to access everything; for privacy reasons, no living person is listed or their information available to the general public. Corrections to demographics may be submitted directly on the website. Charlie receives many obituaries to place on the website, and this is an important service to grieving families. However, he would like to be able to list marriages, births, and other happy family news also. (This holds true for the newsletter as well.) He reminded us that the next reunion will be the 100th, so all are urged to come and bring others! Charlie was applauded for his work in maintaining the website.

Beth Sowers reported on the activities of Barner's Church in the last year. Their production of candy Easter eggs netted 13,500 eggs! The proceeds raised by this means were given to local charitable causes. The Apple Butter Boil also was held. The apple butter and the potpie dinner both sold out. Plans are being made to hold it again this year on the 2nd Saturday of October. Because of a lack of volunteers, apple butter will be made on only one weekend. There will be no potpie meal, though the food stand will still be available. The church celebrated its 150th anniversary with many activities on the first weekend of June.

Pastor Bob Lescallette spoke briefly about the history of Barner's Church. He has published a book on the subject, which is available for sale.

There was a motion to donate \$200 to St. John's Lutheran (Barner's) Church in appreciation for their hospitality, and a second motion that \$300 be given to the Barner Learning Center in the Philippines. Both motions were carried unanimously.

All in attendance introduced themselves and shared some thoughts. A cash offering was taken. It amounted to \$220. A picture was taken of those in attendance.

The group gathered at the cemetery, and the wreath was placed at the Adam Barner memorial by Beth Sowers and the youngest family member present, Lilyana Jones.

A luncheon was served by the ladies of the church. As always, the meal was enhanced by conversation, laughter, and good fellowship.

Respectfully submitted,
Eunice L. Barner



Apple Butter Boil at Barner's Church

Apple Butter Boil will be held on Saturday, October 12th starting at 10:00 AM. This will be a one-day boil; we will not have the pot pie meal. We will be boiling apple butter only on that Saturday. Everything will be in the grove. There will be soup, sandwiches, crafts, and apple butter for sale. The apple butter is boiled in antique copper kettles and sold on the grounds. The craft tent features the members' many talents, and you can find anything from homemade baked goods to stained-glass ornaments.



Adam Barner Family Website - <http://www.adambarner.family>

As we prepare to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Adam Barner Family Reunions, I want to remind everyone that we have a website that will provide you with access to the genealogy file. The genealogy file was prepared by others much more familiar with the genealogy research process and contains a database of well over 20,000 names of individuals.

By default, users will only be able to see the detailed information we have relating to individuals who are deceased. Information on living persons is very limited and you will only see initials and surname of these individuals. However, if you wish to see the database in its entirety, you can either log in using your username and password or, if you never registered for an account, you can register for a user account. Accounts are free but the account will give you much more information that the general public cannot see. We limit access to the detailed information as a matter of protecting the privacy of the living.

I often receive information regarding cousins who have passed away. I try to get this information updated as often as I can but I do ask for some patience as it may take a few days to get the revisions made. While I do receive obituaries, it would be nice to receive marriage and birth notices as well. There is a "Contact Us" link on the website that you can use to contact me.

We also have some documents that you might want to look at (or download). For example, many people ask about the brown book that was published years ago. Although the book itself is no longer available in print, the entire text is available in .pdf format on the website.

I will be bringing my laptop to the reunion and will be available to show people how to use the site and register for a user account.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as can possibly make it at this year's reunion. 100 years is a significant milestone and it would be great to see a huge crowd this year!

Charles (Charlie) Barner
<http://www.adambarner.family>
[cwbarner \(at\) protonmail.com](mailto:cwbarner@protonmail.com)

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Please send information about births, weddings, deaths, and other family happenings to Charlie Barner or Paul Barner; addresses are on page one.

OBITUARIES

Full obituaries for many of these folks are available on the website, <http://www.adambarner.family>. In the upper right corner enter the first and last names, and hit the arrow button below. Find the person in the list, and the full obituary will be in "notes" at the bottom of the page.

Curtis Wade "Curt" Barner, 48, of Hamilton, MI, formerly of Huntington, IN, passed away at 6:10 AM on Friday, January 5, 2024, at his home in Hamilton. He was born on Wednesday, November 12, 1975, to John & Carolyn Barner in Wells County, IN. Curt is survived by his mother, Carolyn J. (Kimmel) Barner, Warren, (Heritage Pointe) IN, brothers, Chris (Erminia) Wamsley, Culver, IN, Steve Wamsley, Marquette, MI, nephew, Ryan C. Wamsley, Fort Wayne, IN, niece, Lorelei Wamsley, Culver, IN, and niece, Heather Wamsley, Poestenkill, NY. He was preceded in death by his father, John W. Barner (August 4, 2004). Burial in the Keystone Friends Cemetery in Keystone, IN, Wells County.

Elaine Williams Barner, 95, of Hershey, passed away peacefully on Sunday, May 14, 2023 at the Masonic Village Evergreen Hospice unit in Elizabethtown, PA. Born March 18, 1928 in Scranton, PA, she was the daughter of the late Thomas J. and Elizabeth (Evans) Williams. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Warren M. Barner and sister, Ruth Elizabeth Zeidler. Elaine is survived by her daughter, Lauren (Peter) Daems of Eagleville, PA; niece, Carol Ertle of Massachusetts; nephew, Paul (Maureen) Zeidler of New Hampshire; Sue (Gorham) Brigham of Massachusetts; one great niece, and two great nephews. She was interred privately in the Indiantown Gap National Cemetery.

Margaret Drucilla (Glenn) Barner, 90 years old, of Millbrook, AL, passed away on July 5, 2022, from natural causes. She was born Feb. 19, 1932. She married Robert M. Barner (deceased) June 8, 1952 in Greenville, MS. Drucilla is survived by her daughter, Drucilla (Barner) Nesom and her husband Robert M. Nesom of Hernando, Mississippi, and her son, Robert M. Barner and his wife Susan (Montgomery) Barner of Wetumpka, Alabama, and two grandchildren. Drucilla was laid to rest on Saturday, July 9 at 10:00, in the historic Greenville Cemetery.

B. Bruce Boyer, 92 years old, of Millerstown, passed away Saturday April 13, 2024 at the Shippensburg Health Care Center. He was born Feb 21, 1932 in Perry County to Rufus and Katie (Barner) Boyer.

Bruce was the widower of Wanda (Super) Boyer and is survived by his children Christopher Boyer, Arlene Kratzer and Darlene Joseph; eight grandchildren and several great grandchildren. He was also preceded in death by son, James Boyer Sr. and sisters Erma McGowan, Millie Hulbert, Vera Naylor and Beatrice Kimmel. Burial in the Riverview Cemetery, Millerstown.

Rev. H. Paul Leap, 97, died on September 24, 2017 in St. Petersburg, Florida. He is survived by daughter, Marjie Ruth and husband Steve of St Petersburg and four other children; 10 grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Diane D. Lehrman, 72, of Harrisburg died Monday, February 1, 2021. She was born on July 7, 1948, to the late Glenn M. Deckard and Evelyn M. (Shipe) Deckard. Diane was preceded in death by her son, Jeffrey Lehrman, and a brother, Roy Deckard. She is survived by two sisters, five nephews, three nieces, four great-nephews, and three great-nieces.

Jeffrey A. Lehrman, 35, of Tulsa, Oklahoma, and formerly of Harrisburg, died Monday, January 3, 2011 in his home. He was preceded in death by his maternal grandparents, Evelyn and Glenn Deckard and is survived by his mother, Diane Deckard Lehrman; two maternal aunts, Glenda and husband Bill Stahl, Harrisburg and Lois & husband Tim Garnett, York.

Celia Lyn Lysaght, 74, of Duncannon, formerly of Dauphin, PA., passed away on July 9, 2023. Celia was born in Harrisburg, PA., to Edward and Madelyn (Gamby) Lysaght on November 4, 1948. Celia is survived by two brothers, Gary Lysaght of Harrisburg, and Daniel (Tammy) Lysaght, of Newport, PA. Interment was in Barner's Cemetery, Liverpool, PA.

Suzanne M. "Sue" Reisinger, 74, of Enola, entered eternal rest on Monday, August 21, 2023, at UPMC West Shore Hospital. Sue was born on March 18, 1949, in Liverpool Township, Perry County, a daughter of the late George C. and Erma K. (Boyer) McGowan. Sue is survived by her daughter, Amy Reisinger and her fiancé Eric Dinkins; her son, Benjamin Reisinger and his wife Lynn; three grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; siblings, Richard McGowan and his wife Linda, Henry McGowan, Donna Delancey and her husband John, and Janet Barnes and her husband Jeffrey; sister-in-law, June McGowan. She was preceded in passing by her parents and brother, Jack McGowan. Interment was in Wright's Presbyterian Church Cemetery.

William C. "Bill" Sheaffer, 79, of Orval Drive, Beavertown, PA, passed away Sunday, Nov. 29, 2020, at his home. He was born Dec. 19, 1940, in Oriental, a son of the late W. Clair and Anna Jean (Crissman) Sheaffer. He was married for 63 years to Sue Ann (Knouse) Sheaffer. Surviving in addition to his wife are one daughter, Denise Sheaffer; four sons and three daughters-in-law, Dennis Sheaffer, Douglas and Angie Sheaffer, Darin and Suzanne Sheaffer and David and Rita Sheaffer; 12 grandchildren; six great-grandchildren and one on the way; one sister, Lorraine Troutman; and one brother-in-law, Don Ackard. He was preceded in death by one daughter-in-law, Lisa Sheaffer; two sisters, Janet Gingrich and Dorothy Ackard; three brothers-in-law, Ted Troutman, Jack Knouse and William "Tip" Knouse. Burial was in Leininger's Lutheran Church Cemetery, Mount Pleasant Mills, PA.

Harold N. Swanger, 89, of Shippensburg, PA passed away the morning of Friday, September 2, 2022 at the Laurel Lakes Rehabilitation & Wellness Center. He was born on February 26, 1933 in Shippensburg, a son of the late John A. and Celia A. (Nye) Swanger. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Suzanne (Ruth) Swanger; three children, Wade (Donna) Swanger, Lauren (William) Kennedy, and Greta (Bobby) Mozingo; six grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by two brothers, David (Olivia) Swanger and Glenn (Dorothy) Swanger; several half-brothers and half-sisters; one grandson, Brandon Seeders; and one great-grandchild. Burial was in Spring Hill Cemetery.

2023 Reunion Group Photo



- Row 1** – Valerie Mitchell
- Row 2** – Sue Barner Byers, Eunice Barner, Chris Barner
- Row 3** – Charlie Barner, Marilou Barner, Kenneth Deckard, Bruce I. Barner
- Row 4** – Harold Fogle, Dave Barner, Doris Barner, Amanda Cosentino, Lilyana Jones, George Barner
- Row 5** – Dale Frymoyer, Scott Frymoyer, Terry Goodling
- Row 6** – Cecelia “Mitzi” Kerstetter Hannah, Matt Pryber, Bruce L. Barner, Katie Sowers
- Row 7** – Beth Sowers, Pastor Bob Lescallete
- Present but missing from photo** – Alice Kerstetter Vilk, Karen Kerstetter, Shirley Barner



Wreath Laying at the Adam Barner Memorial

Beth Sowers and Lilyanna Jones



Places to stay in the area:

Snyder's Knob Bed and Breakfast, 1925 Winding Hill Rd, Newport, PA 17074, phone 717-275-5367

The Bison Farm Bed and Breakfast, 110 Elk Dr, Richfield, PA 17086, phone 717-694-3807

Lake Heron Retreat (campground), 171 Barners Rd, Liverpool, PA 17045, phone 929-464-3766

Ferry Boat Campsites, 32 Ferry Ln, Liverpool, PA 17045, phone 717-444-3200

Longhorn Family Campground, 226 W. Juniata Pkwy, Millerstown, PA 17062, phone 717-589-3422

Dressler's Campsite, 815 Susquehanna Trail, Liverpool, PA 17045, phone 717-444-3234

Teats' Bed and Breakfast, Liverpool, PA 17045, phone 717-554-9800
(This was Mike Barner's property, and Teats has restored the whole property.)



Lunchtime at the 2023 Reunion



Barner's Church was once known as Dupp's Church. It dates back to 1794 but may have had congregational organization as early as 1786. It was of the Reformed faith with union arrangements with the Mennonites. The earliest church structure was reportedly on the site of the present-day Adam Barner Monument. The Church in this 1990 photo was built in 1872. In 1927, the congregation became Lutheran and the church is officially known as St. John's Lutheran Church, but it is still widely known as Barner's Church. Land for the church and cemetery was given by Adam Barner's son, George. It was re-deeded in 1926 to the Lutheran Church by Mary F. Wilt, granddaughter of George. It is about 2 miles north of Liverpool.

Reprinted from [The Adam Barner Family of Pennsylvania](#)

Directions to Barner's Church from Liverpool, PA

(For your GPS, the address is: 5 Barners Road, Liverpool, PA 17045)

Liverpool, PA - When you are on US 11/15 ...

Turn onto PA Route 17 (at the south edge of town);

Travel 1.6 miles to route 235 (pond on the right). Turn right onto Route 235;

Travel 0.8 mile to a Y in Barner's Church Road (another pond on the right);

Take the right branch of the Y;

Travel 0.9 mile - Cemetery at top of hill. Barner's Church is on the left;

Turn left at Church and park on the grass on the left, just past the church.