



Good News!

Church's Office Phone (717)933-4723 Church's Office Fax (717) 933-9223 www.LittleSwatara.org

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What's it worth?

In the world today we place a value on a significant number of things. Aaron Rogers recently signed a 50 million dollar deal to remain with the Green Bay Packers. My 2012 Jeep Grand Cherokee had a KBB instant cash value of \$11,915. A pair of Jordan 1's goes anywhere from \$300-3000 a pair. Values can be based on demand. They can be based on how rare the item is. A value can change day by day. A stock is \$10 one day and \$25 the next. The value of relationship however has no price tag. We can add value by the time we spend with each other or the amount we invest in each other.

But there's one value unlike any other. It's found in the person of Jesus Christ. This fully God, fully man born of a virgin, living a sinless life, gave his all. He never held anything back. He was all in all the time. His value is not based on anything we can do. It's based on who he is. He loved us that much he gave his life as a payment in full for our sins. We are no longer separated by that sin. We can have an eternal relationship with our Heavenly Father through his one and only Son Jesus Christ. This Easter we celebrate his resurrection. We celebrate new life. If we're looking for value, we find it in Jesus our Lord.

Blessings :)
Pastor Matt Christ



Richard Yenser	1	Roger L. Himmelberger, Jr	14
Robin A. Bashore	1	Kara Henning	17
Amanda Heckman	2	Loretta Hollenbach	18
Marie Ziegler	2	Shirley Groff	19
Beth Ann Stuck	2	Jayne E. Diamond	19
Greg Bryant	4	Ashley J. Dunning	20
Terri Holden	4	Lori Seitzinger	22
Katie Light	4	Carol Lane	23
Gerald Bowman	5	Rebecca Rebman	23
Gary L. Emerich	7	Eric Dreibelbis	27
Sara Haag	8	Janelle Rebman	27
Chris Boehmer	10	Dennis Ulrich	27
Pauline Seiler	10	Jean Keeney	28
Steve R. Bostwick	10	Stephan Bross	30
Ashley M. Koch	12	John Brown	30
Eric Stupp	13		

Our Sincere Sympathy

Our deepest sympathy is extended to Richard & Beatrice Frantz, Janet Costic, and Dennis Ulrich on the passing of their brother, Ronald Ulrich on Sunday, March 6th.

Our deepest sympathy and Christian love to Mark Landis, family & friends on the passing of Mark's wife, Elaine Landis on Sunday, March 6th



Prayer for Peace

Lead me from Death to Life,
from Falsehood to Truth.
Lead me from Despair to Hope,
from Fear to Trust.
Lead me from Hate to Love,
from War to Peace.
Let Peace fill our Heart,
Our World, Our Universe.

—Mother Teresa

UPCOMING EVENTS

- April 5 - 7:00 pm Leadership Team mtg
- April 10 - 10:30 am Palm Sunday service
- April 15 - 7:30 pm Good Friday service
- April 17 - 10:30 am Easter Sunday service
- April 20 - Newsletter Deadline
- April 24 - Pre-school Sunday service
- April 26 - Ministry Team minutes due



Information Updates from Little Swatara



Our Women's Fellowship Meetings will be on Monday, April 4 and Monday, May 2 starting at 9:00 A.M. Please let any member of Women's Fellowship know if you are interested in joining us, but the day and/or time is inconvenient for you.

The Mother/Daughter Banquet is scheduled for Saturday, May 7, 2022. More information will be forthcoming as we get closer to that date. **This is dependent on the Covid situation, of course. We have to be able to gather safely, so check the Church Bulletins or ask a member of Women's Fellowship closer to the date to make sure that this event will take place.**

Our Annual Tractor, Truck and Car Show is scheduled for Saturday, June 18, 2022. It runs from 8:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. If you have any items to donate to our yard sale/flea market, please put them aside until closer to the date.

Every Member Council Meeting

Based on feedback from members of the congregation, the leadership team has voted to change the starting time of our next Every Member Council Meeting from 7:30 to 7pm. This change will take place at the May 9th Council Meeting.



Easter Flowers will be available for purchase to enhance the Worship Center. There will be a sign-up sheet in the narthex for: Lilies \$7; Mums: yellow, lavender or white \$7; or azaleas: pink, red or white \$8. Cash or checks made out to *Little Swatara COB* can be given to Pam Gerberich. Deadline for orders is April 3rd.

The Leadership Team

would like to thank you for being diligent in self monitoring your Covid



status. With rising positive counts in Berks and Lebanon Counties, however, we would like to remind you that while not required, masking is encouraged indoors. If you have any cold like symptoms or covid exposure, we ask you to be a loving neighbor, and join us via Live Stream until your symptoms clear.

Worship isn't an event to attend and watch,
It's a lifestyle to be lived.

~Unknown



The next luncheon will be Tuesday, April 12th at 11:30 a.m. at The Country Fare Restaurant, Myerstown, PA



Missions and Evangelism

Brethren Housing Association



Last October a representative from Brethren Housing Association visited our congregation to explain the project of furnishing and supplying an apartment in Harrisburg for single women and mothers with young children. Interest was shown for our congregation to "adopt" an apartment. The Ministry Team is seeking a volunteer(s) to coordinate this project. Responsibilities include collecting or purchasing the necessary furniture and basic supplies. The items then need to be transported to the apartment in Harrisburg. This can be a "one-time" project or a continuation. Contact Becky Rebman for additional information.

April's Mission of the Month - Little Swatara Pre-school



April's Mission of the Month is our own Little Swatara Preschool. The Preschool has been a mission of our church for more than 25 years, and has even seen some students return as parents and teachers. The purpose of our schedule is to provide spiritual and academic instruction for children, ages 3 through kindergarten, where they can joy full adjust to being away from home. The school provides opportunities for development of wholesome social relationships and provide quality learning experiences. The school uses a Christian Preschool

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Curriculum including Bible stories, singing and crafts, pre-reading and pre-math skills, and supervised play. As our mission of the month, you can help reduce tuition expenses for families in our area. The school services children from 3 years old through kindergarten.



April 10 - 10:30 am Palm Sunday
Services at LSCOB

April 14 - 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday
Services at Mt. Aetna Bible
Church, 11 N. Chestnut St., Mt.
Aetna, PA

April 15 - 7:00 pm Good Friday
Services at LSCOB

April 17 - 7 am Community Easter
Sunrise services at Trinity UCC,
27 Maria St., Rehrersburg, PA

10:30 am Easter Sunday Service
at LSCOB

"Lent is spring training.
Easter is opening day!"

Second Sunday Evening Programs

May 8th - "The Honeycomb"

Our 2nd Sunday program in May will feature Jeff Raught. A singer, song writer, and actor from Lancaster County, Jeff offers an evening of original songs and stories that dig deep into life, and into faith in both humorous and poignant ways. He is also known for working with Ted Swartz from Ted and Company, and has frequently performed with Ken Medema.

The current plan is for Jeff's program to be on May 15th (technically the 3rd Sunday, but we're skipping Mother's Day) and is titled "The Honeycomb" First written in 2018, this show contains stories about being a dad, a husband, and a son. It is an honest look at a life filled with laughter and tears. Jeff's shows are highly unique and very flexible.



Jeff's performance is sponsored by "The Gathering Place Café" and all proceeds will go to benefit "Feed Them", our recently kicked off effort to help underprivileged families in the Bethel-Tulpehocken area with at least one good cooked meal each month. Spearheaded by Jenny and Craig Luckenbill, this program has already helped several hundred families in the area.



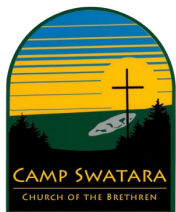
The Gathering Place

is in need of volunteers.

Contact Mike Peace if you can help with this important ministry of Little Swatara to the community of Bethel.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this month's Newsletter. The deadline for the next edition is the 3rd Wednesday of the month. Open to all. Feel free to share Little Swatara Church related events, thoughts, pictures of past events, articles summarizing past and future events, or anything else.

Email: secretary@littleswatara.org



News from Camp Swatara

Trail Mix & Maintenance

Saturday, March 26, 2022

8:00 AM to 2:00 PM



Volunteers needed: Join us for a day of service, cleaning up the trails and finding some treats along the way! Bring a packed lunch, snacks and tools are provided.

RSVP Online: www.CampSwatara.org or calling the Camp Office (717-933-8510)

Family Camp Opening Work Weekend

Friday, April 1, 2022 @3:00 PM to Sunday, April 3, 2022 @ 3:00 PM



Join us to open the Campground for the season! We will be doing yard work and cleaning to prepare the grounds for the summer. All ages are welcome to join. Volunteers are welcome to camp for FREE for the weekend. We provide donuts and lunch. Hope to see you there!

Call (717)933-5244 or Email familycamp@campswatara.org to make your reservation

Spring Camp

Friday, April 8 2022 @ 7:00 PM to Saturday, April 9, 2022 @ 7 PM

What's better than going to summer campgoing to Spring Camp! This camp is for anyone who can't wait for June. It might only be a weekend but it's still packed with everything in a normal week such as arts & crafts, nature, Bible, & music. Can't wait to see you there! Registration is available at [Http://cwngui.campwise.com/Customer/swatara/browser-check-reg.html](http://cwngui.campwise.com/Customer/swatara/browser-check-reg.html)

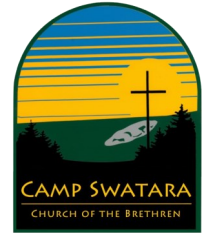
Camper's Fees

(Updated 2/2021)

Little Swatara Sunday School will pay up too half of a regular season camp fee to children and youth who attend Sunday School or church at Little Swatara. This amount doesn't need to be used for just the summer camps but may also be used for a spring or fall camp.

(Note: Campers will pay the deposit according to the camps registration form online. Then the camper will notify the church's Camp Representative who will contact camp about the credit.)

Kitchen volunteers needed.



Dear Friends of Camp Swatara,

The year of 2021 has been challenging in many ways, but we are preparing for a better 2022. We have a limited number of kitchen staff during retreat season, and our summer staff does not begin work until Wednesday, June 1, 2022. We are in need of volunteers to help with school groups and large retreat groups during the spring and summer. Experience is not necessary and individuals will be trained on any tasks they are asked to perform. We need many pairs of hands to help with the many tasks that need to be performed. Please check your schedule and see if you could block out just a few hours to help us out on a weekday or weekend. Individuals can sign up for a four hour shift or sign up for as many shifts as they choose based on their own schedule. The times we need help are the following:

1. Work from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm and stay for lunch.
2. Work from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm and stay for dinner.
3. Work from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm with a break for dinner.

The following are the dates for school groups and large retreats that you could mark on your calendars to provide a great service to camp:

30-Apr. SAT QUAKERS	26 May THU PALMYRA
1-May SUN QUAKERS	27 May FRI PALMYRA
16 May MON PALMYRA	2-Jun THR ELCO DINNER
17 May TUE PALMYRA	3-Jun FRI BREAKFAST
18 May WED PALMYRA	16-Jul SAT SETABAID
19 May THU PALMYRA	17-Jul SUN SETABAID
20 May FRI PALMYRA	18-Jul MON SETABAID
23 May MON PALMYRA	19-Jul TUE SETABAID
24 May TUE PALMYRA	20-Jul WED SETABAID
25 May WED PALMYRA	21-Jul THR SETABAID
	22-Jul FRI SETABAID

Decide when you want to help and contact me at camp. My phone number is 933-8510 Ext 106 or email me at jerry@campswatara.org. When I have a list of volunteers who want to help, I will contact you to set up and confirm dates and times. Thanks in advance for your willingness to serve camp.

Sincerely,
Gerald Sutyak



How well do you know.....

Mark and Karen Myers



Son of Jean Myers and the late Carl Myers, Mark was born December 4, 1966 in Coon Rapids, MN. (Yes, that actually is the name of the town, and it's not a joke! Jean strongly advocated for "Anoka MN but was overruled by hospital officials.) Mark has one brother, Dan, who is deceased. According to his parents, Mark was a handful, to put it nicely, until he reached his mid-teens. When he was about 1 and a half old, the family moved to Birdsboro, PA for a year before moving to Lincoln Park in West Lawn. Mark attended the Lincoln Park Elementary school through the 5th grade until the family built a house in Lower Heidelberg Township, and they started attending Little Swatara. He graduated

from Wilson High School in 1984 and continued his education at Elizabethtown College, graduating in 1988 with a BS in Communications and Business Management.

At the age 6, Mark and his brother were playing, throwing stones at each other. Mark jokes that Dan's aim was far better, and Mark was hit in the eye. This led to early onset cataracts later in life. When the eye healed, he began piano lessons and continued into a piano performance minor college. He enjoyed bicycling and camping every summer. He played the trumpet in school bands, but photography and video became his passion in high school. At Little Swatara COB Mark accompanied, and sang in the Youth Choir, performed in the plays and played with the bell choir. He was part of the choir that played at National Youth Conference in 1982. Mark was baptized in 1985.

His first job after graduating from college was at WGAL-TV, in the news department. At the same time, he worked with Smokey's Divers Den and Creative Video. Mark and Karen, along with a partner purchased the business in 1994, and added scuba diving instruction to their list of activities.

Karen, the daughter of Judy and Richard Kaechele, was born October 7, 1966 in Princeton, N.J. and attended Steinert High School where she was active in the marching band, concert band, choirs and drama clubs. She has one brother, Glenn, who lives with his family in Philadelphia. Karen's family traveled and camped extensively when she was growing up and she still enjoys camping and travel. She attended the Dutch Reformed Church in Blawenburg, and the Presbyterian Church in Yardville, N.J. where she was active in youth activities. According to her mother Judy, who attends the Lititz COB, unlike Mark, Karen was a wonderful child, but became a handful in her teens. Karen also attended Etown College.

Continued >>>>>>>>>

where she met Mark singing in the Concert Choir and playing intermural volleyball and was one of the very last nursing students before the major was discontinued going into her junior year. Karen finished her degree in Nursing at Seton Hall, Orange, NJ and they were married in 1991. Karen transferred her membership to Little Swatara in 2006.

They have 2 children, Savannah Jean, the wife of Jacob Metzler and John (Jack) Clark. Savannah is currently working on her Masters to become a Nurse Practitioner. Jack attends Elizabethtown College but is undecided in his career path.

When Mark and Karen were dating, he often told her about this country church they attended where everyone was related except his family. The first time they sang in church, however, Karen was approached by Gail Malsbury - who asked if she was Judy Kaechele's daughter. It turns out they all attended the church in Blawenburg NJ, where Judy was in Sunday school with Gail's brother, and Ruth Conover was one of Karen's Sunday school teachers. Mark's mother, Jean, had babysat Gail's granddaughters Heather and Leeza for most of their childhood and no one ever knew the connection!

Karen and Mark spent several years at Little Swatara as youth advisors, attending 3 National Youth Conferences, where Mark worked as staff, and many work camps and other activities. Mark has worked extensively with the young person's brass and music programs, bell choirs, and accompanied several groups at Little Swatara. He also does our projection each week, maintains our live streaming systems, website, and Facebook pages, and helps with office technology. Along with daughter Savannah, Karen is also a frequent children's story contributor, worship leader and soloist. When their children were in elementary and high school, Mark and Karen volunteered extensively with Warwick School District's music programs, including musicals, marching band, concert and jazz bands. Mark even got his CDL so he could drive the marching band's equipment truck, and Karen was frequently the "medical person" for school activities.

Karen and Savannah were also very active in the Girl Scouts organization, camping and earning many badges. They even forced Mark to join as a Girl Scout for several years.

Karen has worked for Lititz Family Practice for more than 25 years, where she is in charge of the practice's "Anticoagulation" or Coumadin services, and frequently works directly with doctors and handling the triage phone lines. After many years of wrangling employees and budgets, Mark closed down their business, and now works as a freelance photographer and video producer, creating TV commercials, and training videos, but most frequently working with large scale projection systems at large events such as sales meetings, banquets, and concerts.

Riding a Vespa scooter, traveling and trips to the beach are favorite leisure activities. When not working on various church and home projects, Mark and Karen can be found spoiling a "pack" of their, Jean's, Savannah's and friend's dogs, all of which put in frequent appearances in their Facebook pages. Eventually they hope the dogs will be supplemented by grandchildren.

With their interests and expertise in a number of areas, Mark and Karen have been a blessing and great asset to Little Swatara.

--Jean Myers

The Lord doesn't ask about you ability,
only your availability, and,
If you prove your dependability,
the Lord will increase your capability.



Little Swatara Preschool

April 2022



Dear Friends,

Hello and spring greetings to all! We are especially thankful for the warm weather that is comes with the spring season. Everyone is ready to get outside to play and exercise. We need to stretch our muscles and get our bodies moving and feet running. Please remember to send a warm sweater or light weight jacket for your child to wear during outside play. April will be a busy month at Preschool.

The Pre Kindergarten classes will be visiting Kindergarten at the Bethel Elementary School on April 6th. And, the entire Preschool program is getting ready for Preschool Sunday.

The Preschool and PK children have been asked to provide special music for Little Swatara Church on Sunday, April 24th. At this time we are beginning to practice the songs we will sing for this event. Please look for the Preschool Sunday heading for more information.

Please know the Preschool Staff, has enjoyed being a part of God's plan for each child's progress and growth. If you have any questions or concerns about your child or the Preschool program, contact me at either the Church (717)933-4500 or my email cindy.bradley@littleswatara.org.

With Love, Miss Cindy

EASTER CELEBRATIONS

We will be celebrating Easter this month. Each class will have their own egg hunt and celebration on the following days:

-M/W class Wed, April 13 -Pre K classes 1 & 3 Wed, April 13

We are **not** using hard boiled eggs for the egg hunts. Preschool will supply recyclable plastic eggs that can be colored. The eggs will be colored in class. We will also use traditional plastic eggs. Sign-up sheets for families to help provide items for our celebrations are located in the classroom hallways. If you are wanting to add items to the Egg Hunt please talk with your child's teacher. If your child is in the Mon/Wed class or the Pre K 1 class, please provide 12 identical items. If your child is in the Pre K 3 class, please provide 6 identical items for the hunt. Thank you for your support and help.



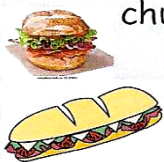
EASTER VACATION

At this time April 18 will be an Easter vacation day. Please note this could change due to weather.



SUB SALE

The Preschool Board is sponsoring a Sub Sale. R & K Subs will be sold April 11-25. The subs and sandwiches will be delivered May 4. All orders will be delivered to the church and need to be picked up by the selling family between 10:30AM and 1:00PM. The subs will be packed separately for each seller. They funds raised will go towards preschool expenses like our end of the year trip to Camp Swatara and graduation. Thank you for helping with the sub sale. Your effort is greatly appreciated.



2022-2023 Preschool Year

Registration began March 1. We are offering the following classes:

Preschool-

Preschool 1 class = Mon/Wed/Fri 9 to 11:30 a.m.

Preschool 2 class = Tues/Thurs 9 to 11:30 a.m.

Pre Kindergarten-

Pre Kindergarten 1 class = Mon/Wed/Thurs 9 to 11:30am. With 17 extended Wednesdays (9a.m.—3p.m) beginning January 11.

Pre Kindergarten 3 class = Mon/Tues/Thurs 12:30 to 3p.m., with 17 extended Tuesdays (9a.m.—3p.m) beginning January 10.

***Please note the Pre Kindergarten classes are intended for children who will be enrolling for Kindergarten in 2023. Registration cost is \$25 before May 1, \$35 after May 1.

A registration form may be picked up at Preschool or printed from the website. We are online at littleswatara.org/preschool. If you are interested in any of our programs contact Miss Cindy at (717) 933-4500.



PRESCHOOL SUNDAY ~ April 24, 2022

The Little Swatara Church has invited the Preschool children to sing during the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Our three classes will sing as a group. All preschool and pre kindergarten families are invited to attend for our 26th year of this special celebration. We have a great time singing together as a large group. It is an exciting time for all of the children.



Please sign-up on the sheet posted in the classroom hallways or telephone Miss Cindy if you plan to attend on April 24th. We will be sending home lyrics to the songs and a sheet with specific information as to arrival and meeting location later this month. Please consider being a part of this memorable day.

Visiting Bethel Elementary

The Pre K classes will be visiting the Kindergarten classes at Bethel Elementary school this month. Our teachers will meet their students at Bethel Elementary. Parents will drop-off and pick-up their child at the Bethel Elementary School. Preschool is not providing transportation. PLEASE note drop-off and pick-up times.



Pre K 1 and Pre K 3 will visit Wednesday, April 6.








Drop-off time 9:15AM at Bethel Elementary.

Pick-up time 11:30AM at Bethel Elementary.



This visit is for our students only. We want the children to experience a day in a Kindergarten classroom, and to have a positive experience while familiar Preschool staff is on hand. **All students are asked to wear sneakers.** No snacks will be available, please make sure your child eats at home. This has become an annual visit for the pre Kindergarten students. In the past the preschool children really enjoyed their visit. Look for a permission slip in your child's book bag. The permission slip must be completed and returned to Miss Diana for your child to participate in this activity.

APRIL 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27  Fourth Sunday in Lent	28	29	30 8:45 AM Women's Exercise Class / FH 10:00 AM Seated Exercise Class / FH 6:00 PM Jubilee Choir Practice/Sanct.	31 8:30 AM Quilting 7:00 PM Senior Choir Practice/Sanct	1	2 Family Camp Workday - Camp Swatara
3  Fifth Sunday in Lent	4 9:00 AM Women's Fellowship Meeting	5 7:00 PM LEADERSHIP TEAM Mtg	6 8:45 AM Women's Exercise Class / FH 10:00 AM Seated Exercise Class / FH 6:00 PM Jubilee Choir Practice/Sanct.	7 8:30 AM Quilting 7:00 PM 50+ club mtg/FH 7:00 PM Senior Choir Practice/Sanct	8	9
10  Third Sunday in Lent Food Pantry Collection 8:00 AM Youth Group / Kitchen 10:30 AM Palm Sunday Service (Praise Team)	11	12 11:30 AM Widows Luncheon/Cry Fare	13 8:45 AM Women's Exercise Class / FH 10:00 AM Seated Exercise Class / FH 6:00 PM Jubilee Choir Practice/Sanct.	14  Maundy Thursday 8:30 AM Quilting 9:30 AM Packing food bags for Bethel Food Pantry/Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church, Bethel 7:00 PM Maundy Thursday comm. worship service / Mt Aelna Bible Church 7:00 PM Senior Choir Practice/Sanct	15  GOOD FRIDAY 8:00 AM Feed Them / Kitchen 3:00 PM Bethel Food Pantry 7:30 PM Good Friday Service / LSCOB	16
17  EASTER SUNDAY 7:00 AM Easter Sunday Community Sunrise Service / Trinity UCC, Rehrersburg, PA 10:30 AM Easter Sunday Service	18	19	20 Newsletter Deadline 8:45 AM Women's Exercise Class / FH 10:00 AM Seated Exercise Class / FH 6:00 PM Jubilee Choir Practice/Sanct.	21 8:30 AM Quilting 7:00 PM Senior Choir Practice/Sanct	22	23 7:00 AM Men's Prayer Breakfast / Cafe
24  Preschool Sunday 10:30 AM Preschool Sunday 12:00 PM Spiritual Nurture Team Meeting	25	26 Ministry Team Minutes Due	27 8:45 AM Women's Exercise Class / FH 10:00 AM Seated Exercise Class / FH 6:00 PM Jubilee Choir Practice/Sanct.	28 8:30 AM Quilting 7:00 PM Senior Choir Practice/Sanct	29	30 8:00 AM Baking & set-up for Love Feast / K & FH