

Little Swatara Church- Pastor Matthew S. Christ

PHONE: 717-675-3946 Email: pastormatt@littleswatara.org

Facebook: Matt Christ; Instagram & Snapchat: mdchrist99

OFFICE HOURS: TUE., WED. & THURS. 10:00 AM –12:30 PM

Church Office: 717-933-4723 OFFICE HOURS: Mon - Fri, 8:30 am -12 noon

Secretary—Connie Davis Email: secretary@littleswatara.org

Treasurer—Dianne Younker, 717-269-0803. Email: treasurer@littleswatara.org.

Newsletter Editor: Connie Davis Email: secretary@littleswatara.org

WEEKLY VOLUNTEERS

VIDEO PROJECTION Mark Myers—CVLI#502613280; CCLI#157691

CHURCH SIGN CHANGER: Dec.- P. Timmins / S Forry Jan.— Sam Forry Feb.—Diane Long

Wk. 4 December 28

CHORISTER Praise Team

WORSHIP LDR Praise Team

CHILD STORY Savannah Metzler

PIANIST Praise Team

AUDIO Todd Rebman

WORSHIP CTR Worship Center

USHERS Richard & Michelle Yenser
Andrew & Chris Brubaker

Wk. 1 January 4

Dianne High

Gary Bashore

Mike & Sarah Kolbe

Diane Duell

Alan Bashore

Worship Center

Bob & Wendy Lingle
Sam Forry & Lucas Rebman

Wk. 2 January 11

Praise Team

Praise Team

Ashley Koch

Praise Team

Todd Rebman

Worship Center

Gerald & Jim Bowman
Scott Bohn & J. Brubaker

WORSHIP SERVICES 8:30 am & 10:30 am

Children/Youth

Preschool – Preschool Room, Sanctuary Level

Children's (Grades K to 5 – Pine Room
(Fellowship Hall Level)

Youth (Grades 6 to 12) – Youth Room (Fellowship
Hall)

Adults

Young Adults – Oak Room (Fellowship
Hall Level)

Hymn Study – Fellowship Hall

NOTICE: We are currently running a Livestream ministry. If you cannot join us on Sunday morning in person, you can join us "online" by visiting our Facebook or YouTube page. Our 10:30 service is streamed every week.

PLEASE BE ADVISED: If you do not want you or your child to appear on this Social Media Stream, please contact the camera operator in the back of the sanctuary to make sure you are avoided.



P r e s e n t a t i o n



of our *Lord* in the Temple

Luke 2: 21-24

December 28, 2025

Outreach: The Gathering Place Café, 8490 Lancaster Ave, Bethel
 Contact: gatheringplacecafe.com / Phone: 717-933-5958
 Café Hours: **Mon-Sat 6-10am**

Prayer Concerns

Let us remember the shut-ins and
 elderly not able to be with us today.

Jim Bowman
 Wendy Lingle
 Hempfield COB



(Please contact the secretary if anyone should
 be added or removed from the Prayer List.)

Thank you, Pastor Bream for sharing
 the Word with us today.

Pastor Matt will be on vacation Dec. 25th—
 Dec. 31st. Please contact Gary Bashore,
 Deacon Chair with any needs.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Elizabeth Hershey will be 94 y/o on Jan. 14th
 Let's shower her with birthday wishes. You
 may mail cards to:

2840 W. Mark Drive
 Sarasota, FL 34232

The January issue of the **Newsletter**
 has arrived & is on the counter
 at the mailboxes

GIVING LAST SUNDAY

General Fund	\$ 35,734.20.
Building	\$ 40.00
Family Assistance	\$ 79.00
Maintenance	\$ 4,202.50
Sunday School	\$ 84.72
Feed Them	\$ 25.00
Global Food Initiative	\$
Food Pantry	\$
Endowment Fund	\$ 2,000.00
Brethren Disaster	
Relief	\$ 4,000.00
	\$

Total \$ 46,269.42

GENERAL FUND BUDGET 2025
 \$ 349,661.00

Last Sunday's Attendance

Worship 15 + 115
 Virtual Worship - 18
 Sunday School - 59

Children's Bulletins are on the
 table in the back of the sanctuary
 for two age groups. Please help
 yourself

Little Swatara Church of the Brethren
Transformed by Christ to Love and
Serve Together

December 28, 2025
10:30 AM Worship Service

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

(What a joy to have you join us for worship today. Kindly sign & pass the register)

Call to Worship:

Leader: Arise, shine, for your light has come,

All: And the glory of the Lord rises upon you.

Ldr: See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples,

All: But the Lord rises upon you and his glory appears over you. (Isaiah 60:1-2 NIV)

Ldr: This is what God the Lord says: "I will keep you and will make you, to be a covenant for the people and a light for the Gentiles,

All: To open eyes that are blind, to free captives from prison.

(Isaiah 42:5a,6b-7a NIV)

Ldr: He says: "It is too small a thing for you to be my servant, to restore the tribes of Jacob, and bring back those of Israel I have kept.

All: I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth." Amen. (Isaiah 49:6 NIV)

Opening Hymns

Purple Hymnal for all songs

"Angels from the Realms of Glory" vs 1, 4 #265

"Good Christian Friends Rejoice" #261

"To Us A Child of Hope is Born" #259

"Angels We Have Heard on High" vs 1, 3 #249

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Giving of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Music "Helpless and Hungry" with "What Child is This"

>>>>>

Children's Moment

Hymn "Joy to the World " purple hymnal #240

Scripture: Luke 2:21-24 (please stand in reverence to God's Word)

Message: "To Save the World Through Him"

Closing Hymn "Arise Your Light is Come" purple hymnal #273

Benediction



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attention Committee Chairpersons: Needed—team accomplishments in 2025 for the Annual Report booklet due January 31st. Please email your report to the church secretary.

ANNUAL
Committee
REPORTS

January Mission of the Month
"We Care" Packages

Each year the Mission and Evangelism committee sends packages to the college and military students from our congregation. If you would like to donate items for the students, a box will be provided in the narthex upstairs and foyer downstairs. The last day to bring donations will be February 1st.

ITEMS NEEDED for CARE PACKAGES

Crackers	Writing utensils	Hard Candy
Cookies	Hot chocolate mix	Band-aids
Popcorn	Small tissue packs	Candy bars
Gum	Instant soup mix	Lip Balm
Q-Tips	Post-It notes	Granola bars
Travel size - hand lotion, hand sanitizer, toothpaste, and floss		

2026 DIRECTORY

NEEDED: any corrections or changes for your family listing in our upcoming directory.

- Name changes
- Address changes
- Change in phone number (please indicate if number is a cell phone)
- Email address (if desired)
- New births/adoptions
- Marriages
- Address for child or children in college or military

Please submit all changes by December 31st to Church Secretary

Need a boost? If you would like to receive a weekly Bible encouragement text from Pastor Matt , please text him at 717-675-3946



Attention Committee Treasurers

It's time again for AUDITING of the books. Please bring your updated checking account books and statements to the church office by mid-January for the auditors. Note, if you started a new check register in 2025, please also submit the previous year's check register and the December 2024 statement. Thank you.

A Special Thank You from Tulpy School Families

Anne Balthaser expresses gratitude for generous donations and community support during the holiday season, which enabled Thanksgiving meals and Christmas gifts for 81 students from 30 families. Initiatives included a food drive, Angel Tree program, and Christmas tree deliveries. Families shared heartfelt appreciation for these efforts.

The January-February issue of the **Upper Room** has arrived and is on the table in the narthex.

Notice: Exercise Classes will resume on Wednesday, January 14th, 2026





We have chow-chow available for purchase. Chow-Chow is an easy gift. Quarts & pints are available. See any member of the Women's Fellowship if you are interested.
Quarts \$9.00 Pints \$5.00

Annual Reservations

If you have an annual recurring reservation for the pavilion or fellowship hall, please take a few moments to re-confirm your reservation with the church secretary. Please give her a phone call during office hours or place a note in the box on the secretary's mailbox with your name, phone number and information about your annual reservation. This will help to make sure that the reservations are current & that your place is held with the dates you want to reserve. Thank you.

>>>>>>>>>> ANNUAL Committee REPORTS <<<<<<<<<<<

Attention Committee Chairpersons

Needed: team accomplishments in 2025 for the Annual Report booklet due January 31st. Please email your report to the church secretary.

Volunteers Needed to Help Pack "Tulpy Packs" !

Help is needed to pack Tulpy Packs on Wednesday morning at 9:30 AM at the Bethel Elementary School on the morning of January 7th & 21st, 2026



When Bad Weather Arrives

and a decision is made to cancel Sunday services, the congregation shall be notified immediately. An announcement will be placed on the Little Swatara church website

<http://www.LittleSwatara.org>

The announcement will also be added to Little Swatara's Facebook page. A message will be sent out to all those on the church's E-MAIL list.




Please check your mailbox



December Mission of the Month Family Assistance

What's Happening in:

January

- 1 New Year's Day
Church Office closed
- 6 7:00 PM Leadership Team meeting
- 8 8:30 AM Quilting 
- 11 Food Pantry Collection 
- 13 Widows Luncheon / Ctry Fare
- 14 8:45 AM Women's exercise class / FH
10:00 AM Seated Exercise class / FH 
- 15 8:30 AM Quilting
- 16 3:00 PM Bethel Food Pantry /Salem Evang. Lutheran Church
- 18 Church Potluck Meal following church service / FH
- 20 9:00 AM Women's Fellowship meeting / FH
- 21 8:45 AM Women's exercise class / FH
10:00 AM Seated Exercise class / FH
- 22 8:30 AM Quilting
- 24 7:00 AM Men's prayer break
fast / cafe

CHOIR PRACTICE SCHEDULE

Praise Team / Wed. 7:15pm
Jubilee Choir/Sanct/Thurs. 6:15 pm
Senior Choir/Sanct/Thurs. 7:00 pm
Bell Choir/Sanct/Thurs. 7:45 pm