

## Little Swatara Church- Pastor Matthew S. Christ

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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](mailto:secretary@littleswatara.org)  
**Treasurer**—Jamie Wise, 717-269-1569. Email: [treasurer@littleswatara.org](mailto:treasurer@littleswatara.org).  
**Newsletter Editor**: Connie Davis Email: [secretary@littleswatara.org](mailto:secretary@littleswatara.org)

### WEEKLY VOLUNTEERS

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

CHURCH SIGN CHANGER: Feb.—Diane Long March - Patricia Timmins April - Tony Fazio

	<u>Wk. 1 February 1</u>	<u>Wk. 2 February 8</u>	<u>Wk.3 February 15</u>
<u>CHORISTER</u>	Dianne High	Praise Team	Allen Rebman
<u>WORSHIP LDR</u>	John Wise	Praise Team	Gary Bashore
<u>CHILD STORY</u>	Mike & Sarah Kolbe	Ashley Koch	Abby Christ
<u>PIANIST</u>	Diane Duell	Praise Team	Sarah Brubaker
<u>AUDIO</u>	Alan Bashore	Todd Rebman	Todd Rebman
<u>WORSHIP CTR</u>	Sandra Keeney	Sandra Keeney	Jennifer Speraw
<u>USHERS</u>	Bob & Wendy Lingle Sam Forry & Lucas Rebman	Gerald & Jim Bowman Scott Bohn & J. Brubaker	Ken Duell / John High Jacob Koch/Dennis Umberger

### WORSHIP SERVICES 8:30 am & 10:30 am

<u>Children/Youth</u>	<u>Adults</u>
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)	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.



*"I am your brother, Joseph..."*

**GOD SENT ME**  
*before you to preserve life."*

Genesis 45:4-5

February 1, 2026

Volume LXXIV February 1, 2026 Number 5  
**LITTLE SWATARA CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN**  
31 Rehrersburg Rd, PO Box 437, Bethel, PA 19507  
Church Web Page - [www.LittleSwatara.org/](http://www.LittleSwatara.org/) phone: 717-933-4723  
FB: @Little SwataraCoB \*\*\* Wi-Fi Guest/pw: brethren

Outreach: *The Gathering Place Café*, 8490 Lancaster Ave, Bethel  
Contact: [gatheringplacecafe.com](http://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.

Ralph Wanner  
Lampeter COB



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

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Randy Keeney will be celebrating his birthday on February 6th. Let's shower him with birthday wishes. You may mail cards to:

2803 Clark Avenue  
West Lawn, PA 19609

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Violet Frantz will be celebrating her 100th birthday on February 26th. Let's shower her with birthday wishes. You may mail cards to:

6295 Four Point Road  
Bethel, PA 19507

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

## GIVING LAST SUNDAY

General Fund	\$	.2,065.00
Building	\$	135.00
Family Assistance	\$	75.00
Maintenance	\$	210.00
Sunday School	\$	
Feed Them	\$	
Global Food Initiative	\$	
Food Pantry	\$	
Mission of the Month	\$	10.00
Messenger		
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>2,495.00</b>

GENERAL FUND BUDGET 2025  
\$ 349,661.00

## Last Sunday's Attendance

Worship - 53  
Virtual Worship - 47  
Sunday School - N/A

## Challenge Question

To where is God leading me?"



**Ash Wednesday**  
6:00 pm Service & movie  
"The Passion of the Christ"  
*In the Fellowship Hall*



February 1, 2026  
8:30 AM Service

## Welcome & News

### Humor

### Prayer

### Worship Songs

"Indescribable"  
"I Could Sing of Your Love Forever"  
"How Great Thou Art"  
"Lord, I Need You"

**Scripture:** John 10: 14-15

**Catch of the Day** - "Known"

### Deep Dive

1. How would you describe a sheep and a shepherd ?
2. What happens in someone's life that they feel they don't need God?
3. How is someone known in our society?
4. How's that different from being known by God?
5. Can we ever change the way God feels about us?

**Kids Praise** - "Jesus Loves Me"

### Prayer

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

February 1, 2026  
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)

**Senior Choir**      "We are Singing for the Lord is Our Light".

**Joys and Concerns**

**Pastoral Prayer**

**Call to Worship**

God, our hearts long to live for you, glorifying your Holy Name. Help us to set aside those things that distract us and draw us ever so close to you. Give us courage. Give us strength. We come to worship you.

**Opening Hymn**      "Father, We Love You"      *projected*

**Offertory Thought & Prayer**

Offertory Music—Bell Choir      "A Mighty Fortress is Our God"

**Senior Choir**      "The Light of Glory"

**Children's Moment**

**Hymn.**      "Will you let me be your servant"      #307

**Message:** "Misunderstood"

**Scripture:** Genesis 45: 1-15

**Closing Hymn**      "My life flows on"      #580

**Sending Forth**



**ANNOUNCEMENTS**



**News from Camp Swatara**

**Registration for Camp will be opening  
February 2nd, 2026 at 10:00 AM**

2026 Summer Camp Theme: "Into the Wilderness", Matthew 4:4  
<https://www.campswatara.org/resident>

Don't miss out on the \$25 Early Bird Discount which runs until 3/31/26.

**Camp Swatara - Help Wanted**

Begin your journey as part of the Camp Swatara staff community which includes leadership opportunities in communication, team-work, group dynamics, specific skill development, and being a mentor and role model. These contribute to strengthening you as a person, preparing and sharpening you for your future . . . AND, having a pocket of time to build into the lives of the campers who come to Camp Swatara.

We're hiring for the summer beginning at 14 years old and have positions in Counseling, Buildings & Grounds, Housekeeping, and Pool & Waterfront. Don't have a full summer to be with us - come serve for a week or two.

Staff & Volunteer Applications for 2026 are ready for you to APPLY!!  
<https://www.campswatara.org/employment-opportunities>



We need someone to lead our Craft Committee. For more information, please contact any member of our Women's Fellowship.

We aren't making scrap books any more, so we won't need anything dropped off for that purpose. Thank you to anyone and everyone who helped us out in the past.

We are respectfully requesting that no donated items are to be placed in the Ladies Aid Room. We will be happy to take your donated items at the designated time a few days before the Tractor Show and Yard Sale.

**Volunteer Needed:** Seeking volunteers to help with snow clean-up. If you have any availability and are willing to serve the church, by helping to clean sidewalks or plow the parking lot, please contact John High

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

## 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.

### We're Hiring: Groundskeeper Wanted!!

We are seeking a dependable and hardworking **Groundskeeper** to help care for our church property and maintain the beauty of our grounds.

#### Responsibilities include:

- Lawn care, trimming, mulching, and general landscaping
- Seasonal tasks (leaf removal, snow/ice clearing (sidewalks and steps), pruning, etc.)
- Light maintenance and upkeep of outdoor areas
- Ensuring the church grounds are welcoming and safe for all

This is a part-time hourly rate position with flexible scheduling.

For more information or to apply, please contact Jamie Wise or any other member of the Stewardship and Property Team.



**Save the Date**  
**Spiritual Renewal 2026**  
**March 15-18th**

### Volunteers Needed to Help Pack "Tulpy Packs" !

Help is needed to pack Tulpy Packs on Wednesday, Feb. 4 & 18, 2026 at 9:30 AM at the Bethel Elementary School



Please check your mailbox



February Mission of the Month

## **Global Food Initiative**



### What's Happening in:

#### February

3	7:00 pm Leadership Team meeting	
4	8:45 AM Women's exercise class / FH 10:00 AM Seated Exercise class / FH	
5	8:30 AM Quilting	
7	1:00 PM 50+ Club mtg / FH	
9	<b>7:00 PM Every Member Council meeting</b>	
10	11:30 AM Widow's Luncheon / Ctry Fare	
11	8:45 AM Women's exercise class / FH 10:00 AM Seated Exercise class / FH	
12	8:30 AM Quilting	
15	10:30 AM Anointing Service Potluck meal following 10:30 service Food Pantry Collection	
18	<b>6:00 PM Ash Wednesday Prayer Service &amp; Movie / FH</b> 8:45 AM Women's exercise class / FH 10:00 AM Seated Exercise class / FH	
19	8:30 AM Quilting	

### 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