

**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

**Wk. 4 February 22**

**Wk. 1 March 1**

**Wk. 2 March 8**

	<b>Wk. 4 February 22</b>	<b>Wk. 1 March 1</b>	<b>Wk. 2 March 8</b>
<b>CHORISTER</b>	Praise Team	Allen Rebman	Praise Team
<b>WORSHIP LDR</b>	Praise Team	Gary Bashore	Praise Team
<b>CHILD STORY</b>	Ashley Koch	Mike & Sarah Kolbe	Ashley Koch
<b>PIANIST</b>	Praise Team	Diane Duell	Praise Team
<b>AUDIO</b>	Todd Rebman	Alan Bashore	Todd Rebman
<b>WORSHIP CTR</b>	Jennifer Speraw	Tanya Feathers	Sandra Keeney
<b>USHERS</b>	Richard & Michelle Yenser Andrew & Chris Brubaker	Bob & Wendy Lingle Sam Forry & Lucas Rebman	Gerald & Jim Bowman Scott Bohn & J. Brubaker

**WORSHIP SERVICES 8:30 am & 10:30 am**  
**SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES 9:30 – 10:15 am**

**Children/Youth**

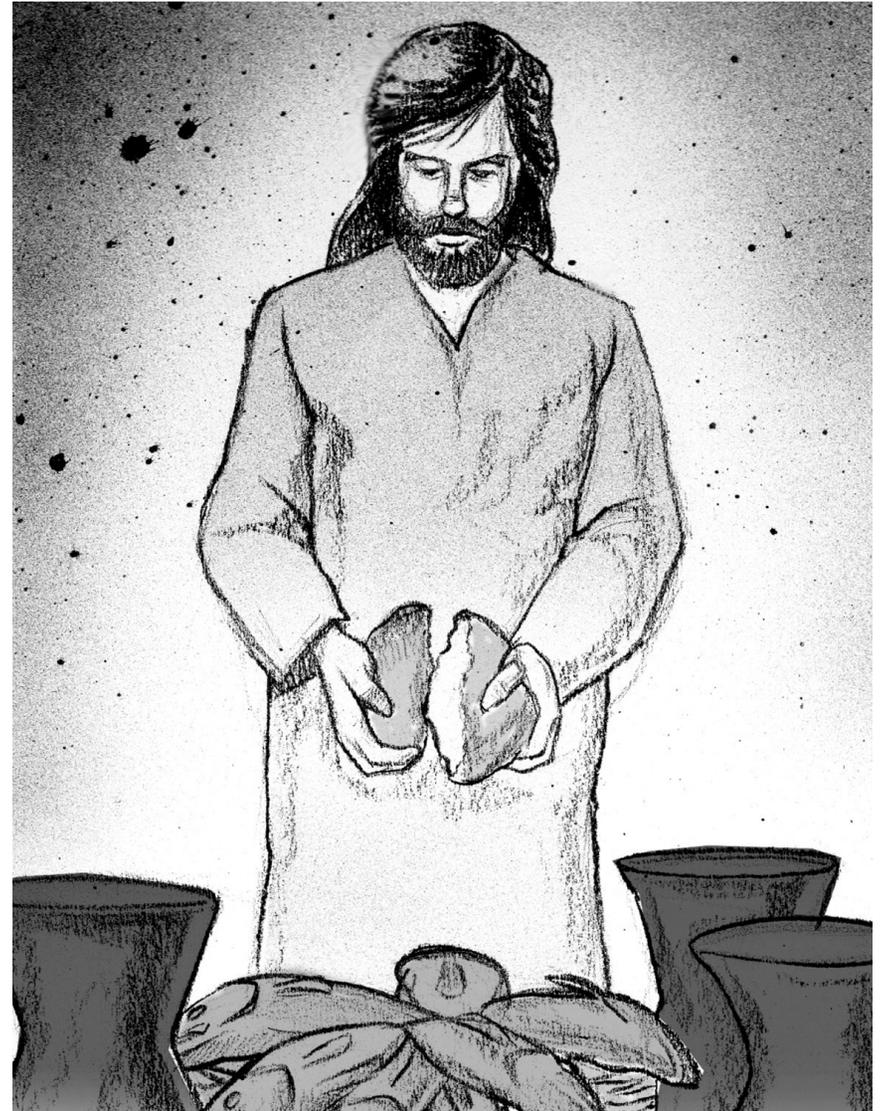
Preschool – Preschool Room, Sanctuary Level  
 Children’s (Grades K to 5 – Pine Room  
 (Fellowship Hall Level)  
 Youth (Grades 6 to 12) – Youth Room (Fellowship  
 Hall)

**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.



MAN DOES NOT LIVE ON  
 BREAD ALONE BUT ON  
 EVERY WORD THAT COMES FROM  
 THE MOUTH OF THE LORD.  
 DEUTERONOMY 8:3

Volume LXXIV February 22, 2026 Number 8  
**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: @LittleSwataraCoB \*\*\* 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**



**February 22, 2026**  
**8:30 AM Service**

**Prayer Concerns**

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

Ralph Wanner  
 Heidelberg COB



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

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

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

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Marlene Blatt will be 91 yrs young on March 10th. Let's shower her with birthday wishes. There's a box on the table in the narthex or mail to:

PO Box 332,  
 Bethel, PA 19507



Our deepest sympathy & prayers to Mark and Jo Lyn Light & family on the passing of their daughter-in-law, Heather Light. Continued prayers for Heather's husband, Michael & their children, Brayden and Oakley. Heather passed away on February 13th.

**GIVING LAST SUNDAY**

General Fund	\$
Building	\$
Family Assistance	\$
Maintenance	\$
Sunday School	\$
Feed Them	\$
Global Food Initiative	\$
Food Pantry	\$
Mission of the Month	\$
Messenger	\$
Women's Fellowship	\$
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ TBD</b>

GENERAL FUND BUDGET 2025  
 \$ 349,661.00

**Last Sunday's Attendance**

Worship 24 + 93  
 Virtual Worship - 16  
 Sunday School - 48

**"Challenge Question"**

What areas in my walk with Christ do I need to improve to better face the wilderness temptations?

**Welcome & News**

**Humor**

**Sharing & Prayer**

**Worship Songs**

- "What an Awesome God"
- "Good Day"
- "Miracles"
- "Up+Up"

**Catch of the Day - "Wilderness"**

**Scripture:** Matthew 4:1-11

**Deep Dive**

1. Where do people find themselves in their own wilderness?
2. How do people resist temptation?
3. Describe how a temptation turns to sin?
4. Did Jesus struggle with temptation?
5. What did he use to keep himself from falling prey to sin?

**Kids Praise - "Giants"**

**Prayer**

*Every turning point brings us closer to the cross—  
 and the cross is where everything finally changes.*

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

**February 22, 2026**  
**10:30 AM Worship Service**

**Prelude** "Thrive"  
"I Will Follow"

**Welcome and Announcements**

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

**Lenten Reading**

**Opening Worship:** "Blessed Be Your Name" Purple Hymnal #637  
"God Make Us Your Family" Hymnal Supp. #36

**Sharing of Joys and Concerns**

**Pastoral Prayer**

**Worship Hymn** "This is the Air I Breathe" Purple Hymnal #139

**Offertory Thought and Prayer**

**Offertory Music** "God Really Loves Us"

**Children's Moment**

**Worship Hymn** "Voice of Truth" *projected*

**Message:** "The Wilderness"

**Scripture** - Matthew 4: 1-11, Deuteronomy 8: 2-3

**Closing Worship** "Jesus Tempted" Purple Hymnal #307

**Sending Out**



**ANNOUNCEMENTS**



We are seeking a dependable **Substitute Church Secretary** to provide temporary office support as needed. Duties include answering phones, basic correspondence, and administrative tasks. Office and computer skills preferred. Please contact Rich Yenser or a member of the Stewardship and Property Committee for more information.

**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.



**Spiritual Renewal Services  
with Pastor Walter Heisey**

March 15, 2026 at 10:30am and 7pm  
March 16—18 at 7pm



Easter flowers may be purchased to enhance the sanctuary for Easter. Variety of flowers and prices available. Order sheet located on table in Narthex or contact Pam Gerberich. Checks or cash accepted for payment. Checks should be made out to *Little Swatara COB*  
Orders will be taken until March 8th

**Zoom Bible Study**  
**Cancelled for Feb. 18, Feb. 25 and March 4**

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



## News from Camp Swatara

### Registration for Camp is open.

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.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, February 24th at 9:00 AM.

**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 March-April issue of the **Upper Room** has arrived  
 and is on the table in the narthex.



February Mission of the Month

## Global Food Initiative



### What's Happening in:

#### February

- 24 9:AM Women's Fellowship meeting / FH  
Ministry Team Minutes due
- 25 8:45 AM Women's exercise class / FH   
10:00 AM Seated Exercise class / FH
- 26 8:30 AM Quilting   
12 PM R. Brown Home School Group / FH
- 27 Preschool Art show—FH (set-up)
- 28 7:00 AM - Men's Prayer Breakfast / café   
1:00 PM Preschool Art Show / FH

#### March

- 1 10:30 AM Bread & Cup Communion 
- 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 
- 8 Daylight Savings starts
- 10 11:30 AM Widows Luncheon /  
Ctry Fare

#### **CHOIR PRACTICE SCHEDULE**

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