

Church's Office Phone (717)933-4723 Church's Office Fax (717)933-9223

*"Little Swatara is a Christ-centered Community of caring and serving people committed to peace and following Jesus Christ to : Grow Spiritually. Build Christian Community. and Share the Good News."*

Worship Services 8:15 and 10:30 a.m.

**Matthew S. Christ, Pastor**

Sunday School 9:30

## KEEPING THE FLAME BURNING

As the new year rolls in, we have been busy or will be gathering as families to celebrate the birth of our Savior. The season includes gift giving, thoughtful cards, visits to those you may not have seen for awhile but even more so a joyous attitude amidst the calamity. I often see a Christmas letdown in the new year not because you didn't get the gift you wanted but because it's all over. All that preparation has come to an end. It's as if we finally exhale and when we start to clean up and kick back, the reality sets in. The baby boy Jesus is growing and maturing in stature and it's reason for us to do the same.

One of my favorite pastimes is sitting by a campfire and keeping the flames going as long as I possibly can. I'll add more wood and stoke the coals to keep the fire appeal alive and well. I wonder in our Christian walk what that might look like after the Christmas season has passed. How do we keep the flames burning. And I have to believe the answer is easier than we think. Remember how prepared you were for your guests arrival and how Christ was a thought in the front of our minds as we kept telling ourselves the reason for the season. Jesus hasn't gone anywhere. He's still as near as ever but our thoughts may have wandered. Christ is still in the picture but the frame got larger to include a new tool or household gift you received. Can you imagine if we spent as much time learning about God as we do putting together gifts? But God patiently waits for us to return to our primary focus on Him. And when we catch that Jesus spark the flames start to soar again and others sense our new love is critical to who we are. Keep the joy and attitude of prayer. Live like there is no tomorrow and tell the good story of Jesus coming to save us from our sins. It's a gift that can keep on giving.

Happy joyous new year,

*Pastor Matt*



# OUR CHURCH FAMILY

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## CONGRATULATIONS TO...



~ Congratulations Newlyweds Ryan Snyder and Kristen Schueller, were married in December. Parents are Michelle and Scot Snyder.

~ Wyatt Dean Bashore born December 10, 2018 to Ricki Bashore Jr and Christine Oellig.

~ Congratulations to Dave & Amanda Heckman. Amanda had a baby boy on Wednesday, November 21, 2018. Lucas Claude Heck-man was 7lbs 12oz. Lisa Gagliano is the grandparent, Jenna an Aunt and Dottie Lutz great-grandmother.

## OUR SINCERE SYMPATHY...

~Peace and prayers for the Edris Family as they mourn the loss of Susan Patches in December 2018, to a long battle with cancer. She was a sister to Fern Phillipy, Dorothy Gensemer, Terry Edris and Phyllis Baylor. May you all feel love and comfort from this church family at this time of loss.



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## MEMBERS BIRTHDAYS FOR JANUARY

John C. Ziegler	5	Elizabeth Hershey	14	Gilbert Bashore	25
Lisa Mahaffey	5	Rufus Bashore	15	Russell Lutz	25
Daniel Wilson	5	Janet Bashore	16	Colton Weinhold	25
Linda Blondheim	6	Austin Wise	16	Michael Graby	27
Savannah Myers	6	Robert Snyder	17	Michelle Snyder	27
Jean Smith	6	Christie Zellers	18	Scott Corbin	29
David Sholl	6	Judith Emerich	18	Lori Williams	29
Jason Miller	7	Kathryn Swift	18	Fred Soliday	31
Diane Long	8	Mary Stewart	19	Leah Blatt	31
Susan Hastings	9	Michael Snyder	20		
Erik Motta	9	Robert Bashore	21		
Dennis Emerich	12	Audrey Brown	21		
Richard Dundore	12	Carl Brightbill	22		
Amber Horst	13	Denise Christ	22		
Barry Bashore	14	Chase Weinhold	23		
Renee Brown	14	Terry Edris	24		

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I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for He has clothed me with the garments of salvation, He has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

-Isaiah 61:10



# LITTLE SWATARA CHURCH NEWS



## DOMINICAN REPUBLIC MISSION TEAM

There is a Giving Tree in the foyer downstairs. Feel free to take an item from the tree and leave any donation. We thank you for your donations.

THE TRIP IS THIS MONTH. JANUARY 19TH TO THE 26TH. PRAYERS WOULD BE VERY MUCH APPRECIATED.



## WHEN BAD WEATHER ARRIVES

And a decision is made to cancel services for the day, an announcement will be made on

**WJTL 90.3 FM Lancaster** and on the Little Swatara church website: <http://www.LittleSwatara.org>

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



## WIDOWS LUNCH

January 8, 2019 At Country Fare Restaurant. 11:30 a.m. All widows are invited to attend.

*"To get the full value of joy you must have someone to divide it with."*

-Mark Twain

## WACKY WEDNESDAYS

What a joyous time it's been gathering in the fellowship hall with the K-5th graders. We've enjoyed various activities and informative devotional times. We meet 6-7pm and those interested in singing with the Jubilee choir are invited upstairs til 7:30. A good rule of thumb is if there's no school or early dismissal, there won't be Wacky Wednesday's. Approved volunteers with clearances are much appreciated. This is open to our church and community. Feel free bring friends.

-Pastor Matt

## DIRECTORY 2019

please look at your info in the current church directory that may pertain to you and if you see anything needing changed, please let the church secretary know **before the end of the year**. This may be done in writing, an email or by phone.

## THE BRETHERN HOUR

The Brethren Hour 60 years of broadcasting to the Lebanon Valley Area by the Church of the Brethren will be coming to an end Sunday, December 30, 2018. Different things have taken place that makes it impossible to continue. We THANK ALL CONGREGATIONS and INDIVIDUALS who have supported this radio ministry all these years.

BRETHERN HOUR COMMITTEE

Kenneth Wagner, Chairman

# MORE LITTLE SWATARA CHURCH NEWS

WE REQUEST ANY NEW COLLEGE STUDENTS PLEASE PROVIDE THEIR ADDRESS FOR THE DIRECTORY AND THIS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

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## **IT'S "WE CARE" PACKAGE TIME!**

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.

### **ITEMS NEEDED FOR CARE PACKAGES**

*Keep looking in the bulletin for more information on the deadline for these items*

CRACKERS	COOKIES	GRANOLA BARS
HOT CHOCOLATE MIX	INSTANT SOUP MIX	CANDY BARS
GUM	HARD CANDY	Q-TIPS
POST IT NOTES	BAND AIDS	LIP BALMS
QUARTERS (10/\$2.50) EA.	LIP BALMS	SMALL TISSUES
WRITING UTENSILS	TRAVEL SIZE—HAND LOTION	
HAND SANITIZER		

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Items will be boxed/shipped in February to the students.

Library Update: The church library is currently not accepting any donated books. Please contact Judy Emerich with any questions.

[717-933-5364](tel:717-933-5364).

While the Children's Sunday School program welcomes your supply donations, please contact Sandy Manbeck before leaving donations in classrooms. [717-933-4921](tel:717-933-4921) There are designated places for supply donations. Thank you!

The 2-5 year old Sunday school class is in need of helpers and teachers. No experience is necessary, just an hour or two of your time each month. Contact Renee Brown for details

[724-809-6433](tel:724-809-6433).

## **WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP NEWS**

Londonderry Village Auxiliary is having their annual Membership Drive beginning in January and ending in March. Please give your donation directly to Linda B., who will be writing one check for the total amount of our contribution. The forms are on the table in the Narthex. If you have any questions, please contact Linda.

Our next Womens Fellowship Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 3, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. Please join us.

The Crafters Group will meet Tuesday, January 8 from 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. The group will be getting together the second Tuesday of each month.


The ladies will be quilting every Thursday morning from 8:00 a.m. until noon

We have both pint and quart jars of chow chow for sale. Let us know how many you would like to have.





# JANUARY 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 Morning Speaker, R. Frantz	31 Office Closed	1 7:00 PM <b>LEADERSHIP TEAM Mtg</b>	2 6:00 PM <b>Wacky Wednesday for Kids</b> 7:00 PM Jubilee Choir 8:00 PM Praise Team Practice	3 8:00 AM Quilting 9:00 AM <b>Women's Fellowship Mtg</b> 7:00 PM Senior Choir Practice	4	5 1:00 PM 50 Plus Program
6 Remembrance Service 5:30 PM <b>Scout Den Meeting</b>	7 7:00 PM PreSchool Mtg	8 9:00 AM Crafters Meet 11:30 AM <b>Widows Luncheon/Ctry Fare</b> 6:30 PM Den Meeting 7:00 PM <b>Christian Ed Mtg</b> 7:00 PM Mission & Evangelism Mtg	9 6:00 PM <b>Wacky Wednesday for Kids</b> 7:00 PM Jubilee Choir 8:00 PM Praise Team Practice	10 8:00 AM Quilting 6:30 PM <b>Bethel 4-H Club Meets</b> 7:00 PM Senior Choir Practice	11	12
13 Food Pantry Collection 8:15 AM ANOINTING SVC 10:30 AM Praise Team	14 8:45 AM FH/Women's Exercise Class 10:00 AM Seated Exercise Class	15 7:00 PM <b>Music &amp; Worship Mtg</b>	16 8:45 AM FH/Women's Exercise Class 10:00 AM Seated Exercise Class 6:00 PM <b>Wacky Wednesday for Kids</b> 7:00 PM Jubilee Choir 8:00 PM Praise Team Practice	17 8:00 AM Quilting 7:00 PM Senior Choir Practice	18  18-19 Sr. high Winter Retreat @ Camp Sw. 2:00 PM Bethel Food Pantry	19 COBYS Gym Night Jr/Sr High Event <b>Dom Rep Mission Trip 19-26</b>
20 <b>Dom Rep Mission Trip 19-26</b> Morning Speaker, Gary Bashore	21 <b>Dom Rep Mission Trip 19-26</b>	22 <b>Dom Rep Mission Trip 19-26</b> <b>Ministry Team Minutes Due</b> 6:30 PM Den Meeting	23 <b>Dom Rep Mission Trip 19-26</b> 6:00 PM <b>Wacky Wednesday for Kids</b> 7:00 PM Jubilee Choir 8:00 PM Praise Team Practice	24 <b>Dom Rep Mission Trip 19-26</b> 8:00 AM Quilting 7:00 PM Senior Choir Practice	25 <b>Dom Rep Mission Trip 19-26</b>	26 <b>Dom Rep Mission Trip 19-26</b> 7:00 AM Men's Prayer Breakfast
27 Newsletter Deadline	28 8:45 AM FH/Women's Exercise Class 10:00 AM Seated Exercise Class	29	30 8:45 AM FH/Women's Exercise Class 10:00 AM Seated Exercise Class 6:00 PM <b>Wacky Wednesday for Kids</b> 7:00 PM Jubilee Choir 8:00 PM Praise Team Practice	31 8:00 AM Quilting 7:00 PM Senior Choir Practice	1	2 Deacon Retreat @ C.Swatara 1:00 PM 50 Plus Program



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**JANUARY 2019**



Our greatest weakness may be our  
failure to ask for God's strength.

