

### Little Swatara Church- Pastor Matthew S. Christ

PHONE: 717-675-3946 Email: [pastormatt@littleswatara.org](mailto: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](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:** Jan.— Sam Forry Feb.—Diane Long March - Patricia Timmins

#### Wk.3 January 18

**CHORISTER** Allen Rebman

**WORSHIP LDR** Gary Bashore

**CHILD STORY** Abby Christ

**PIANIST** Sarah Brubaker

**AUDIO** Todd Rebman

**WORSHIP CTR** Tanya Feathers

**USHERS** Ken Duell / John High  
Jacob Koch/Dennis Umberger

#### Wk. 4 January 25

Praise Team

Praise Team

Savannah Metzler

Praise Team

Todd Rebman

Tanya Feathers

Richard & Michelle Yenser  
Andrew & Chris Brubaker

#### Wk. 1 February 1

Dianne High

Gary Bashore

Mike & Sarah Kolbe

Diane Duell

Alan Bashore

Sandra Keeney

Bob & Wendy Lingle  
Sam Forry & Lucas Rebman

### 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)

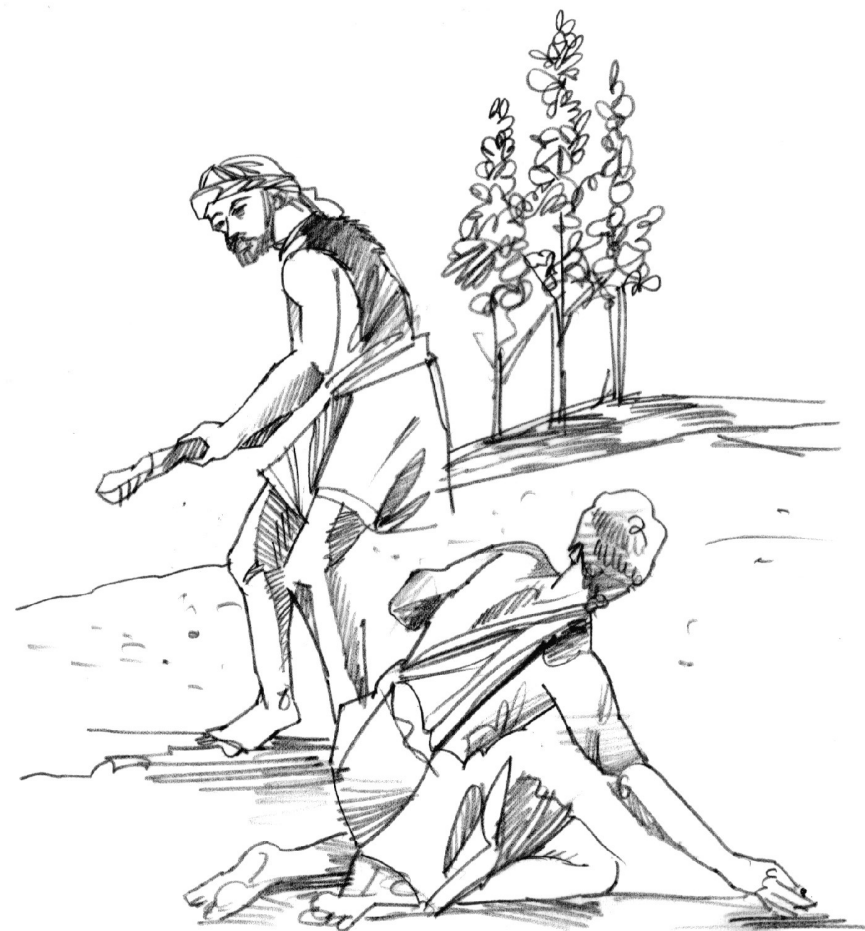
#### Adults

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.



# Cain and Abel

January 18, 2026

Volume LXXIV January 18, 2026 Number3  
**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**

### Prayer Concerns

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

Ralph Wanner  
 Arbor Park Project, Columbia, PA



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

>>>>>>>>>>>>  
**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.

### *Thank You !*

Thank you so much for the beautiful Christmas cards & good wishes given to the Ebling Family. Also, thank you to the Women's Fellowship for the beautiful Christian coffee mug. Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated.

~ The Eblings - Joann, Deneen, Tara

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

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

### GIVING LAST SUNDAY

General Fund	\$ .4,983.50
Building	\$ 80.00
Family Assistance	\$ 100.00
Maintenance	\$ 402.50
Sunday School	\$ 80.00
Feed Them	\$
Global Food Initiative	\$
Food Pantry	\$
Mission of the Month	\$ 125.00
Messenger	\$

**Total** \$ 5,783.00

GENERAL FUND BUDGET 2025  
 \$ 349,661.00

### Last Sunday's Attendance

Worship 24 + 73  
 Virtual Worship - 30  
 Sunday School - 35

### **"Challenge Question"**

What do I need to release from the past?



**January 18, 2026**  
**8:30 AM Service**

### Welcome & News

### Humor

### Prayer

### Worship Songs

If I got Jesus"  
 "Still Waters" (Psalm 23)  
 "A Thousand Times"  
 "Brighter Days"

**Scripture:** Genesis 4: 6-10

**Catch of the Day** - "Brother's Keeper"

### Deep Dive

1. Who do you feel people look out for the most and why?
2. What are the most common things people are jealous of?
3. What did God mean by "If you do what is right, will you not be accepted?"
4. What about the meaning behind "But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must rule over it."
5. What's an example when someone might say "what have you done?"

**Kids Praise** - "I am a C-H-R-I-S-T-I-A-N"

### Prayer

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

**January 18, 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)

**Call to Worship** (*unison*)

God, we thank you for caring and for sharing life with us. We ask you Lord, to lead us through those challenging times. We pray your blessings over us and pray we'd be a blessing to others. Let our lives be filled with praise and gratitude.

**Opening Hymn** "There is a place of quiet rest" #5

**Joys and Concerns**

**Pastoral Prayer**

**Hymn** "O worship the King" #66

**Offertory Thought and Prayer**

**Senior Choir** "Shine, Jesus, Shine"

**Children's Moment**

**Senior Choir** "There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit"

**Message:** "What Was I Thinking?"

**Scripture:** Genesis 4: 1-16

**Closing Hymn** "I am thine, O Lord" #505

**Sending Forth**



**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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



**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		



The next Women's Fellowship Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 20, 2026 at 9:00 A.M.

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.

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

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



**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

### 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.

### 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.

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

Please check your mailbox



## January Mission of the Month **"We Care Packages"**

### **What's Happening in:**

#### January

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  
Newsletter deadline



22 8:30 AM Quilting



24 7:00 AM Men's prayer breakfast / café

27 Ministry Team Minutes due

28 8:45 AM Women's exercise class / FH  
10:00 AM Seated Exercise class / FH



29 8:30 AM Quilting



31 Deacon Retreat / Ctry Fare cottage



Deacon Retreat

#### February

3 7:00 pm Leadership Team meeting

4 8:45 AM Women's exercise class / FH  
10:00 AM Seated Exercise class / FH



#### **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