

**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**: Jan.— Sam Forry Feb.—Diane Long March - Patricia Timmins

**Wk. 4 January 25**

**CHORISTER**

Praise Team

**Wk. 1 February 1**

Dianne High

**Wk. 2 February 8**

Praise Team

**WORSHIP LDR**

Praise Team

Gary Bashore

Praise Team

**CHILD STORY**

Savannah Metzler

Mike & Sarah Kolbe

Ashley Koch

**PIANIST**

Praise Team

Diane Duell

Praise Team

**AUDIO**

Todd Rebman

Alan Bashore

Todd Rebman

**WORSHIP CTR**

Tanya Feathers

Sandra Keeney

Sandra Keeney

**USHERS**

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**

**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**

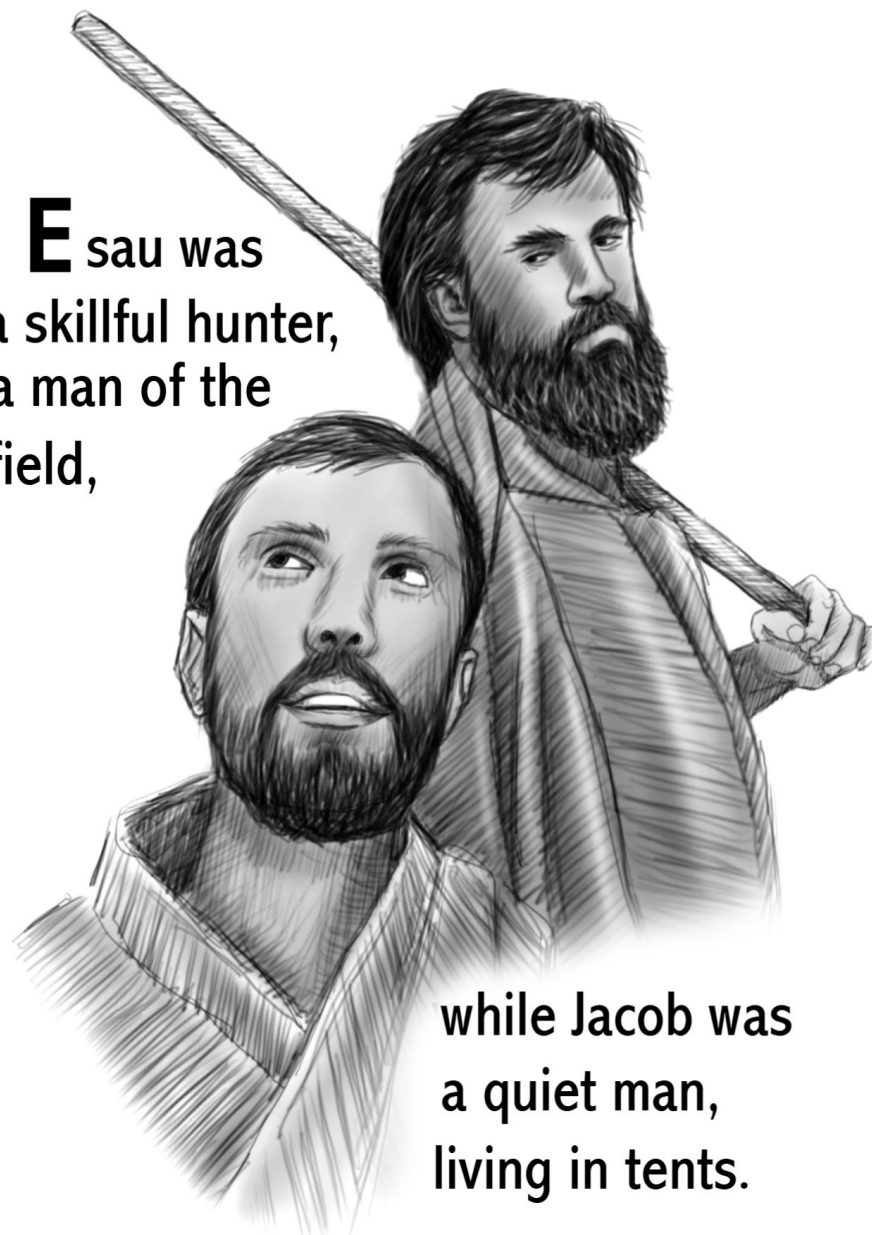
Young Adults – Oak Room (Fellowship  
Hall Level)

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.

**E** sau was  
a skillful hunter,  
a man of the  
field,



while Jacob was  
a quiet man,  
living in tents.

January 25, 2026

Volume LXXIV January 25, 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  
 Parker Ford, Pottstown, PA



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

>>>>>>>>>>>>  
**ANNUAL**  
 Committee  
**REPORTS**  
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### **Attention Committee Chairpersons**

Needed—team accomplishments in 2025 for the Annual

Report booklet due **January 31st**. Please email your report to the church secretary.

## **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

The February 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	\$	2,755.00.
Building	\$	45.00
Family Assistance	\$	
Maintenance	\$	45.00
Sunday School	\$	58.00
Feed Them	\$	25.00
Global Food Initiative	\$	25.00
Food Pantry	\$	
Mission of the Month	\$	100.00
Messenger		

**Total** \$ 3,053.00

GENERAL FUND BUDGET 2025  
 \$ 349,661.00

### Last Sunday's Attendance

Worship 6 + 42  
 Virtual Worship - 28  
 Sunday School - 22

## **"Challenge Question"**

Where can I change my  
 focus on where I  
 Started?



**January 25, 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*

**January 25, 2026**  
**10:30 AM Worship Service**

**Prelude** "Holy Water"

**Welcome and Announcements**

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

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

Lord we gather with gratitude, calling upon your great name to be the change in our lives. We embrace your love and we praise your holy name forever

**Opening Worship** "Forever" *projected*  
"All Because of Jesus"

**Sharing of Joys and Concerns**

**Pastoral Prayer**

**Worship Song** "All the Earth Shall Worship" *projected*

**Offertory Thought and Prayer**

**Offertory Music** "Blessed be the Lord God Almighty"

**Children's Moment**

**Worship Song** "Blessed be the Name" *projected*

**Message:** "Embraced"

**Scripture:** Genesis 33: 1-12

**Closing Worship** "Ancient of Days" *projected*

**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		



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, Feb. 4 & 18, 2026 at 9:30 AM at the Bethel Elementary School



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

**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.

If you have prayer concerns, please contact Pastor Matt, Dianne High or your Deacon. You may also email the church secretary

**Spiritual  
Renewal**

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

Please check your mailbox



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

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

#### January

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



5 8:30 AM Quilting



15 10:30 AM Anointing Service  
Potluck meal following 10:30 service  
Food Pantry Collection



18 Ash Wednesday  
8:45 AM Women's exercise class / FH  
10:00 AM Seated Exercise class / FH



19 8:30 AM Quilting



20 3:00 PM Bethel Food Pantry /  
Salem Evang. Lutheran Church

#### **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