

Newsletter

Little Swatara Church of the Brethren

Office Phone (717)933-4723 Office Fax (717)933-9223

www.LittleSwatara.org

"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 a.m.

Volume XLX

June, 2016

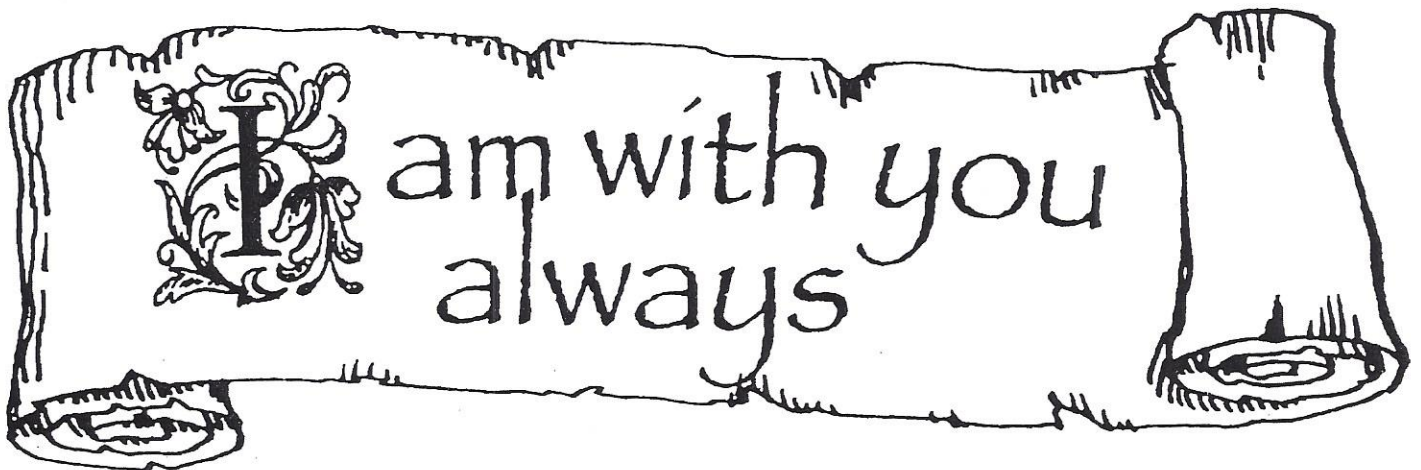
Number 6

Elmer Towns mentions in his book parts of modern-day Jerusalem have been walled in since at least the age of Abraham, when the Jebusites had their city Jebus there. In fact, some of that original wall is still visible in the southeast of the city. Seven and a half years into his reign, David conquered Jebus and adopted it as his capital (2 Samuel 5:1-10). At that time, there was at least some wall in the vicinity (2 Samuel 18:24), but Solomon was responsible for building both the temple and the wall around the city (1 Kings 3:1), fulfilling David's prayer in Psalms 51:18. Today, the wall of Jerusalem is approximately two and a half miles long. It has an average height of almost 40 feet and an average thickness of 8 feet. The wall also contains over thirty watchtowers and eight gates.

I'd like us to simply imagine the enormity of this wall. In terms of protection from the impending enemy, this wall had what it took. I often wonder if any such walls have been built up in our lives. Perhaps they're so tall and thick, no one stands a chance if really getting to know us. Whether it's past hurt from personal relationships or a deep sense of security, walls are often built around our lives to guard and protect our well being. While this may be a viable option to isolate ourselves and distance our feelings, God may very well have another plan in store for us.

Could it be he intentionally made us for community? That he desires us to be in fellowship with one another? I think so. Even His very nature is triune and He works in perfect harmony through the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Maybe today could be the start of letting these walls fall to the ground. Find comfort in the love and warmth of others God has placed in us. I believe intentionally with our church body for such a time as this.

- Pastor Matt



CHRISTIAN LOVE AND SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF...

-Arlene and Richard Dundore on the death of Arlene's brother, Elwood Graby, who died April 27, 2016
-Naomi Moyer and children and families, Cindy Bradley, Mellissa Hipps, Errol Moyer, on the death of Lloyd Moyer, who died May 12, 2016.

CONGRATULATIONS TO: Sarah Wise who graduated from Lebanon Valley College, May 14, 2016 with a degree of Doctor of Physical Therapy.

Lindsey Hetrick who graduated with a Dr. degree of Veterinary Medicine from Ohio State University

CHILD AND PARENTS DEDICATION – May 22, 2016 –

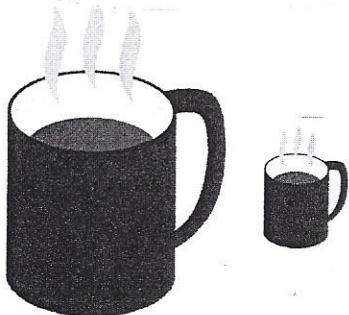
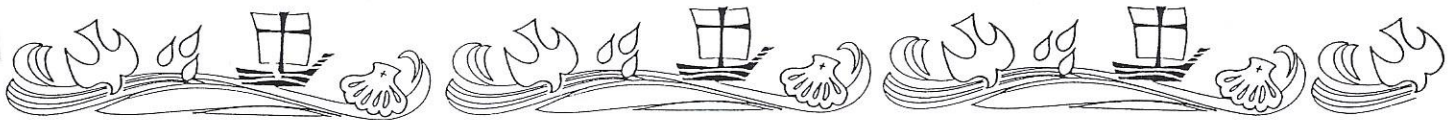
-Chloe Elizabeth Brubaker, daughter of Andrew and Chelsea Brubaker

THANK YOU - Jean Eberly and Patty Timmins would like to thank everyone for all the prayers, thoughts, and sympathy cards after their loss of Brother and Best Friend, Jim Mills. Also, thanks to everyone who donated to the Benevolence Fund in lieu of flowers. God Bless All of You!



Members Birthdays for June:

Rodney Lebo	2				
Eric Sholly	2	Norman Nolt	10		
Bonnie Sholl	3	Arlene Rebman	11	Jenna Gagliano	16
Dorothy Merkey	4	Matthew Sanchez	11	Jenny Luckenbill	17
Dale Haupt	5	Judy Coots	12	Emma Stupp	18
Jayne Seifrit	5	Lester Bashore, Sr.	12	Gerald Houser	19
Tyler Riegel	6	Sheila Raup	12	Tyler Snyder	20
Earl (Buddy) Seigfried	6	Scott Sweigart	12	Chelsea Brubaker	22
James Rockett	7	Spencer Kelly	13	Christopher Duell	23
Norman Wenger, Jr.	7	Glenna Lebo	13	Patricia Stupp	24
William Brightbill	8	Anita Hoffa	13	Michael Frantz	27
Dennis Bross	8	Kelly Stertzel	13	Louise Schwartz	27
Ray Keeney	8	Michele Decosta	14	Mae Claman	29
Connie Manbeck	9	Joann Yenser	14	Timothy Reinhard	29
Krystal (Lebo) Grecco	10	Kaitlyn (Boswick)	15	Miles Weinhold	30
		Boehmer			



THE GATHERING PLACE

I heard it at the café. . . .

The town of Bethel is experiencing growth. A new convenient Super Store is being built. A Café customer commented that it probably would not have much effect on the café as it has it's own nitch, especially with the local community.



Bethel-Tulpehocken Council of Churches

CLOTHING GIVEAWAY

free used clothing

Friday, June 3rd - 9am to 4 pm
Saturday, June 4th - 9am to noon

Salem Lutheran Church

(Next to the Bethel Center School on Route 501)

Bethel, Pennsylvania

Bring clean, good, used clothes to the church before June 2 at 6:00 pm. or after 6 pm to Salem Lutheran Church, Bethel. Help is needed to sort clothes, June 2-4, 2016

This is a charity event where everyone is welcome. These clothes are freely given and NOT for resale or profit. There will be a donation box at the doorway where anyone can make a voluntary donation to the Bethel/Tulpehocken Council of Churches for the continuation of their work in the community, including the Food Pantry.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Little Swatara Church of the Brethren

July 11-15, 2016 - 8:30-11:00 a.m.

Grownups, consider helping with VBS where kids will learn more about God's presence with them wherever they go! If you have not already been contacted and would like to help for a day, a few hours, or all week, contact:

Sara Kolbe, 717-571-4268

CHILDREN'S DAY and CHURCH PICNIC June 12, 2016

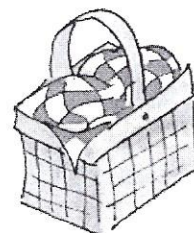
CHILDREN'S DAY

The Children's Day program will be on June 12, 2016 at the 10:30 am. service, **(One Service Only)**. Entertainment arranged for children, as well as adults, will be presented, so come and see what the feature for the day will be!

CHURCH PICNIC

Everyone is invited to attend the Annual Church Picnic, June 12, at noon (following the 10:30 am service). Please bring a Covered to share. B-B-Q Chicken, Beverage, and Ice Cream, and your place setting will be provided.

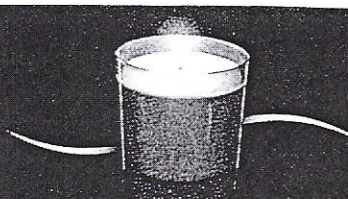
Come and enjoy an afternoon of fellowship!



KICKOFF DINNER - 2016 June 11, 2016 - 6:00 p.m.

You are invited to a great experience of fellowship, entertainment, and food at the Kickoff Family Style Dinner of the Disaster Relief Auction, at Yoder's Restaurant in New Holland. The Jim Brady Trio will supply entertainment. The price of tickets is \$30.00 per person. For more information go to the web site: www.brethrenauction.org





Carry the Light

Annual Conference • Greensboro, NC • June 29 – July 3, 2016



**CONFERENCE MODERATOR
ANDY MURRAY**

LITTLE SWATARA CONFERENCE DELEGATES

Richard and Michelle Yenser



Join us in Greensboro

Why should you come to Annual Conference this summer?

- Singing and worshipping with 2,500 sisters and brothers.
- Great hotel and convention center all in one building, so everything is under one roof.
- \$108 hotel rate at the Sheraton Greensboro—our one hotel this year, with enough sleeping rooms for all of the conference participants. Plus free parking and free wi-fi. This is the lowest Annual Conference hotel rate in nine years!
- A Jubilee afternoon on Friday, July 1, with:
 - an Ice Cream Social
 - special activities in the Exhibit Area
 - musical concerts
 - intergenerational activities
 - service projects
- Equipping Workshops with tools and resources to take back to your congregation.



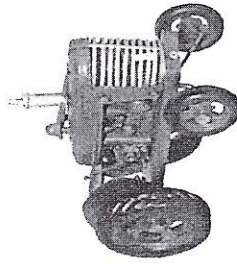
CONFERENCE BRIEFING: The District Church of the Brethren 2016 Annual Conference Briefing with the Conference Moderator, Andy Murray, will be held at the Hempfield Church of the Brethren, Manheim, PA, Saturday, June 4, 2016 from 8:30 – 11:00 a.m. Conference Delegates, and anyone interested may attend – no registration is required.

Tractor, Truck, Car & Motorcycle Show

**LITTLE SWATARA CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
REHRERSBURG, PA**

Saturday, June 18, 2016

8 am – 1 pm



**Lawn & Garden Equipment,
Hit & Miss Engines, etc.**

also WELCOME!

Flea Market

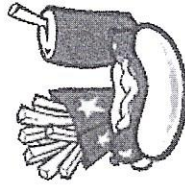
New! Tool Sale

& VENDOR SALE

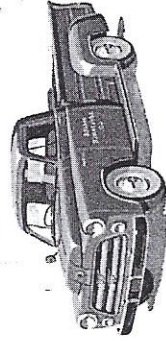
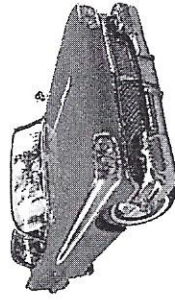
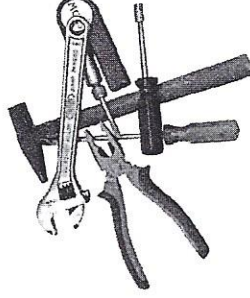
To Enter vehicles, Contact Paul
Sweigart @ 717-821-9701

Tables for RENT @ \$10.00
Contact Sally Emerich
717-304-2856

Tools to Sell? Contact Gary
Bashore at 610-488-7603



FOOD AVAILABLE



Children's Activities include a
PEDAL TRACTOR PULL
at 10am ****for ages 4 to 10.

NO PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED

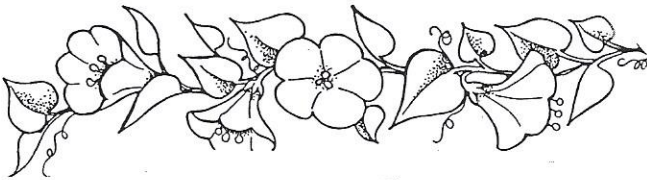
The Church is not responsible for accidents, injuries or thefts.

New sec/posters

WESTERN BERKS SHEPHERDING MINISTRIES

Save the Date

Summer months are so busy with vacations and outdoor activities. So, we are asking you to please save the date, **Wednesday, September 14, at 10:00 am.** (put on your calendar now) for our next Western Berks Shepherding Ministries training for new volunteers. Training lasts one hour and is held at St. John's (Hain's) UCC Wernersville. Just a reminder that our volunteers are only asked to drive once a month, are covered with insurance, can request mileage reimbursement, DON'T have to drive in icy or snowy weather, and most important, are providing much needed help to those in our communities who are no longer able to drive. Please call Cheryl Young at 610-670-5945 if you have any questions.



COUNCIL MEETING HAPPENINGS

At the quarterly Council Meeting held May 9, the following business items were discussed: The first quarter financial and the Gathering Place reports were given. The second reading of the Constitution and ByLaws was presented and approved and will be printed for distribution shortly. The East end of the church roof will be completed this summer.

A proposal to have a walk way from the east end of the church to the canopy area was denied.

Many future activities of the church were passed on for our involvement.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Help is needed in the kitchen for the Tractor, Car, Truck and Motorcycle show. Baked Goods would be greatly appreciated. Bring your donations to the pavilion the day of the show, Saturday, June 18, 2016, which begins at 8:00 a.m.

If you would like a table for the Yard Sale, contact Sally Emerich, at \$10.00 a table.

Come on June 18 – there is something for everyone!

Chicken BBQ & Auction

JULY 22 & 23, 2016

LEBANON VALLEY BRETHREN HOME

1200 GRUBB RD, PALMYRA, PA • (717) 838-5406 • WWW.LVBH.ORG



For information concerning purchasing tickets, call 717-838-5406 ext. 3052 or visit www.lvbh.org under "News and Events" and follow the BBQ & Auction link. Volunteers are needed for the Saturday BBQ. A volunteer sign-up sheet is placed in the Narthex. You may sign-up for the job and time slot of your choice. Snickerdoodle cookies are also needed. Contact Becky Rebman if you will bake cookies. Proceeds to benefit the Home's "Good Samaritan Fund".

MISSION AND EVANGELISM TEAM

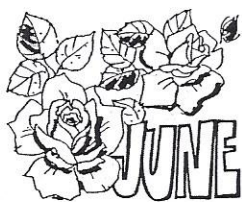
Items will be collected to take to ANNUAL CONFERENCE to support the "Backpack Beginnings" Ministry in Greensboro.

ITEMS NEEDED (ALL NEW):

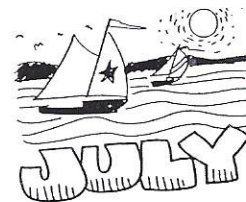
Toothbrushes, toothpaste, backpacks, shampoo, wash cloths, spiral notebooks (wide ruled), comb or brush, fleece blankets (the kind rolled with ties).

Drop-off boxes are placed in the Narthex for your items donated. Thanks!

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH are planning a work camp trip to South Carolina, July 3-9, 2016. There is room for one more youth for this camp so contact one of the advisors: Mark and Karen Myers, or Rich and Shelly Yenser.

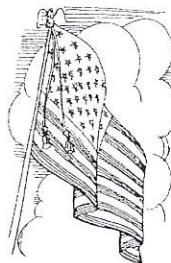


2016 EVENTS



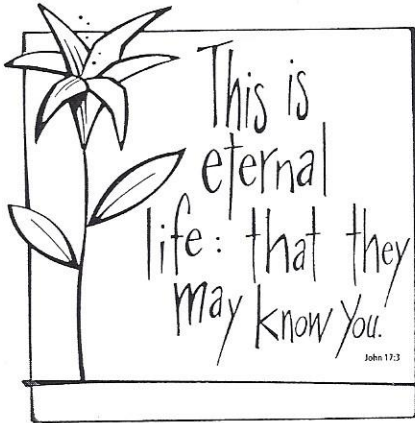
- 1, 5pm, FH, K RES.
6pm Vacation Bible School Orientation
- 2, 7pm FH 50 Plus Program
- 3, 9am-4pm CoC Clothing Drive
6pm Tiger Scouts meet
- 4, 9am-12pm, CoC Clothing Drive
9am ANE Annual Conf. Briefing
- 5, 6pm Café, Christian Poetry Fellowship
6pm Scout Leader Mtg
- 6, 7pm, Women's Business Meeting
- 7, 7pm, Leadership Team Meeting
- 8, 7pm, Praise Team Practice
- 9, 7pm, Christian Ed Meeting
- 11, 8am-3pm Pav RES. W.Lingle
4pm Pav RES. Graby Reunion
6pm (off-site) BDRA Kick-off Dinner
- 12, Food Pantry Collection
Mission of the Month: Work Camps
10:30am ONE SERVICE, Children's Day
Pav RES. ALL-Church Picnic
- 13, 9am Parsonage, Ladies Bible Study
- 14, 12:30pm FH, 50 Plus Meets
6:30pm Den Meeting
- 15, 9:15am 50+Bus Trip
7pm Praise Team rehearsal
- 17, 2pm Bethel Food Pantry
6pm Tiger meeting
- 18, 8am-1pm Vehicle Show, Flea Mkt, Tool Sale
6pm Young Family Fellowship
- 19, FATHER'S DAY
- 21, 7pm, Ministry Team Meetings
- 22, 7pm, Praise Team rehearsal
- 25, 7am Men's Ministry Prayer Breakfast
8am Pav RES. K.Zielger
- 26, Newsletter Deadline
Pav RES. S.Forry
12noon, Spiritual Nurture Mtg
- 27, 9am Parsonage, Ladies Bible Study
- 28, Ministry Team Minutes Due
12:30pm FH, K 50 Plus Meets
6:30pm Den Meeting
- 29, Annual Conference, Greensboro, NC
7pm Praise Team rehearsal
- 30, Annual Conference, Greensboro, NC

- 1, Annual Conference, Greensboro, NC
6pm O, Tiger meeting
- 2, Annual Conference, Greensboro, NC
- 3, Annual Conference, Greensboro, NC
Youth Mission Trip begins
6pm Café, Christian Poetry Fellowship
6pm O, Scout Leader Meeting
- 4, INDEPENDENCE DAY, office closed
- 5, 7pm, Leadership Team Meeting
- 6, 7pm Praise Team rehearsal
- 7, 7pm 50 Plus Program
- 9, Bible School Set-up Day
- 10, Vacation Bible School Kick-Off Sunday
Food Pantry Collection
Mission of the Month, Bible School
12-5pm Pav RES. S.Forry
- 11, 8:30-11am Vacation Bible School
- 12, 8:30-11am Vacation Bible School
12:30pm 50 Plus meets
6:30pm O, Den meeting
- 13, 8:30-11am Vacation Bible School
7pm Praise Team rehearsal
- 14, 8:30-11am Vacation Bible School
7pm Christian Ed meeting
- 15, 8:30-11am Vacation Bible School
2pm Bethel Food Pantry
6pm tiger Cubs meet
6pm Bible School Program
- 16, Bible School Clean-up day
6pm Young Family Fellowship
- 17, Pav RES. W.Lingle
- 18, 8:45am 50 Plus Bus Trip
- 19, 7pm Ministry Teams Meet
- 20, 7pm Praise Team rehearsal
- 23, 7am Blue Star, Men's Ministry Prayer Breakfast
- 24, Newsletter Deadline
8:15 & 10:30am Bread & Cup Communion Services
- 25, 9am Parsonage, Ladies Bible Study
- 26, Ministry Team Minutes Due
12:30pm 50 Plus Meets
6:30pm Den Meeting
6:30pm Pav RES. Farm Women Grp #2
- 27, 7pm Praise Team rehearsal
- 31, WLBR Broadcast Sunday
Pav RES W.Lingle





Little Swatara Church of the Brethren
31 Rehrersburg Road
P O Box 437
Bethel, PA 19507



June 2016

HOORAY FOR FATHERS

A Houston newspaper asked readers to send in thoughts about their fathers. Letters flooded in, and what people wrote about their fathers is most inspiring. A few comments:

*Dad was always there for me. He sacrificed to make sure we had what we needed.

*When disappointment came my way, Dad said, "Son, real life ain't about getting what you want but more about doing something with what you get."

*My dad was disabled, but he worked hard to make sure we children had a good education and lived moral lives. He would say, "I want you to succeed more than I did."

*My dad wanted us to be Christians and took us regularly to church.



"Many an excellent man is tempted to forget that the best offering he can make his children is himself."

-Henry Neuman