

Little Swatara Church- Pastor Matthew S. Christ

PHONE: 717-675-3946 Email: 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
Treasurer—Jamie Wise, 717-269-1569. Email: treasurer@littleswatara.org.
Newsletter Editor: Connie Davis Email: secretary@littleswatara.org

WEEKLY VOLUNTEERS

VIDEO PROJECTION Mark Myers—CVLI#502613280; CCLI#157691

ORGANIST Marlene Blatt

CHURCH SIGN CHANGER: May - Sam Forry June - Diane Long July - Patricia Timmins

Wk. 2 May 10

Wk.3 May 17

Wk. 4 May 24

CHORISTER	Praise Team	Allen Rebman	Praise Team
WORSHIP LDR	Praise Team	John Wise	Praise Team
CHILD STORY	Ashley Koch	Abby Christ	Savannah Metzler
PIANIST	Praise Team	Sarah Brubaker	Praise Team
AUDIO	Todd Rebman	Todd Rebman	Todd Rebman
WORSHIP CTR	Sandra Keeney	Sandra Keeney	Jennifer Speraw
USHERS	Gerald & Jim Bowman Scott Bohn & J. Brubaker	Ken Duell / John High Jacob Koch/Dennis Umberger	Richard & Michelle Yenser Andrew & Chris 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) Revelations Study – Fellowship Hall
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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.



May 10, 2026

Volume LXXVI May 10, 2026 Number 19
LITTLE SWATARA CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
 31 Rehrersburg Rd, PO Box 437, Bethel, PA 19507
 Church Web Page - 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 / Phone: 717-933-5958
 Café Hours: Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri., & Sat. 6-10am (closed Wed.)



May 10, 2026
8:30 Worship Service

Prayer Concerns

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

Pastor Randy Fiske
 Ralph Wanner
 Light of the Gospel Fellowship



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

Challenge Question

What can our church do to share this light with those in our community and world?

Thank You!

Thank you for all the prayers, cards, and telephone calls during my heart problem. I am still seeing doctors to determine what the real problem is.

~ Joann Ebling



Please remember to check your church mailbox

REMINDER

Every Member Council Meeting
Monday, May 11th @ 7:00 PM



Sunday, May 17th
 immediately following
 the church service

GIVING LAST SUNDAY

General Fund	\$	4,862.50
Building	\$	50.00
Family Assistance	\$	100.00
Maintenance	\$	312.50
Sunday School	\$	63..00
Feed Them	\$	
Global Food Initiative	\$	375.00
Food Pantry	\$	20.00
Mission of the Month	\$	200.00
Women's Fellowship	\$	
The Gathering Place	\$	
Total	\$	5,,983.00

GENERAL FUND BUDGET
 2026
 \$ 347,035.00

Last Sunday's Attendance

Worship 11 - 96
 Virtual Worship - 26
 Sunday School - 51

HAPPY
Mother's
 DAY

Welcome & News

Humor

Sharing & Prayer

Worship Songs

"Help is on the Way"
 "Egypt"
 "Run to the Father"
 "First"

Scripture - John 14:5-7 NIV

Catch of the Day - "The Way"

Deep Dive

1. How can someone grow in truly "knowing" Jesus rather than just knowing about Him?
2. In a culture with many beliefs, how should Christians respond to Jesus' exclusive claim?
3. How would you explain this passage to someone unfamiliar with Christianity?
4. How does this passage challenge or encourage your faith personally?
5. Why do you think Thomas asked his question—what does it reveal about doubt or confusion?

Kids Praise - "My God is So Big"

Prayer

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

May 10, 2026

10:30 AM Worship Service

Prelude "The Lord is My Light"
"Build Your Kingdom Here"

Welcome and Announcements Pastor Matt

Sharing of Joys and Concerns Pastor Matt

Pastoral Prayer Pastor Matt

Call to Worship Lucas Rebman

L: Come, gather together in this sacred moment. Come as you are—
carrying the joys of your week, the worries of your heart, and the quiet
hopes you may not have spoken. Today we remember that God's light
lives within us. Not a light we create on our own, but one placed in us
with purpose.

P: We come to remember that we are called to shine.

L: In a world that can feel dim with uncertainty, we gather to rekindle
God's light within our souls.

P: We come to let God's light grow brighter.

L: You are not meant to hide what God has placed inside of you. Like a
lamp on a stand, your kindness, courage, compassion, and faith are
meant to illuminate the path for others!

P: We come ready to shine with love, grace, and truth.

L: So come into this time of worship. Bring your whole self, your whole
light, your questions, and your faith.

**P: We gather to worship, to reflect, and to let our light shine before
the world.**

**All: May the light within us glow brightly, guiding others towards
hope, love, and the goodness of God. Amen**

Invocation Prayer Remmy Wengert

Opening Hymn "Here I Am to Worship" Purple Hymnal #227
"Thy Word is a Lamp" Purple Hymnal #398

Offertory Thought and Prayer Olivia and Remmy
Offertory Music "The Heart of Worship"

Children's Moment Chloe Brown

Hymn "This Little Light of Mine" projected

Scripture Jam Chloe, Lucas, Naomi, & Olivia

Skit "Chat at Church Podcast" Chloe, Lucas, Naomi, Olivia, &
Remmy

Hymn "Christian, let your burning light" Blue Hymnal # 402

Message: "Let It Shine" Pastor Matt

Closing Hymn "You shall go out with joy" Blue Hymnal #427

Benediction Naomi Brown

Sending Music



ANNOUNCEMENTS

2026 ANNUAL CONFERENCE—OFFERING **Witness to the Host City**

Alive Community Outreach is a faith-based organization with a mission to cultivate a community of nonviolence through relationships and education. They support families impacted by homicide and partner with schools to train high school students as peacemakers, building a culture of peace through violence prevention, restorative intervention, and survivor support. Rooted in Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s philosophy of nonviolence, maintaining that violence is ultimately a symptom of deeper issues that must be addressed in order to bring about lasting change. Todd & Janelle Rebman will be attending conference and are willing to take donations along for this program. You may drop-off donations at the church office during the hours of 8:30 am—12 noon M-F

How you can help: These items will be collected at Annual Conference. Monetary contributions can be made by check or credit card during the Tuesday night worship offering or through the AC website offering page.

colored pencils	glue sticks
markers	paint pens
pens	feminine hygiene products
paper in different colors	
shelf-stable, individually wrapped snacks	



Friends by the Fire

I can't think of anything better than the sound of a crackling fire and the joy of fellowship around a campfire. Join us on Friday, May 15th, at 7:00 PM at the pavilion area for a blessed time.



You are invited to a Hymn Sing
Sunday, May 31st, 2026 at 3:00 PM
at the historic Bucher Meeting House
376 Schaeffer Road (PA-419), Lebanon, PA

Our next Women's Fellowship Meeting will be
Tuesday, May 19th at 9:00 A.M.
Any and all women of our church are welcome



Annual Conference

Lancaster COB is chartering a 56-seat motor coach to the 2026 Church of the Brethren Annual Conference in Fort Wayne, Indiana, and invites others to join. 41 of 56 seats are filled - reserve yours soon! Information is on the table in the back of the sanctuary or see Todd Rebman.

Zoom Bible Study **May 13 at 7:00 PM**



Vacation Bible School
Needs Your Help

VBS July 13 - 17, 2026

Please help us make the 2026 Vacation Bible School a fun experience for the local children. The committee is in need of additional members as well as volunteers to help during this year's Vacation Bible School. There are several opportunities in which to help. All skills are needed for this amazing outreach opportunity. Please contact Melissa Emerich if you are able to help 717-269-1669 or mmemerich@gmail.com.

Volunteers are needed to help paint decorations for our upcoming VBS program—"Snowball Mountain Challenge"

May 4th - 9:00 AM—12 noon
May 18th - 12:30 PM - 3:00 PM

In the Fellowship Hall

Contact Melissa Emerich if you have any questions:

The next Widows luncheon will be

Tuesday, May 12th

11:30 a.m.

Country Fare Restaurant Myerstown, PA

WIDOWS



LUNCHEON

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



Annual Tractor, Truck & Car Show
Saturday, June 20th, 2026
8:00 am - 1:00 pm

If you have any items to donate to our yard sale/flea market, please put them aside until closer to the date.



2026 Vacation Bible School

July 13 - 17, 2026

8:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Little Swatara Church of the Brethren

31 Rehrersburg Road, Bethel, PA 19507

For more information, call 717-933-4723 (church office)
or 717-269-1669 (Melissa Emerich).

Visit www.LittleSwatara.org for the link to register online in advance
or bring a completed registration form the first day your child attends
(forms available in the church narthex).

For children and youth ages 3 (children must be potty-trained)
to grade 8.








May
Mission of the Month
Feed Them



What's Happening in:

May

- | | | |
|----|---|---|
| 10 | Mother's Day
Food Pantry collection |  |
| 11 | 7:00 PM Every Member Council mtg | |
| 12 | 11:30 AM Widows luncheon / Ctry Fare | |
| 13 | 8:45 AM Women's exercise class / FH
10:00 AM Seated exercise class / FH
7:00 PM Zoom Bible Study |   |
| 14 | Ascension Day
8:30 AM Quilting
9:30 AM packing food bags for Bethel Food Pantry/ Salem Luth. Ch |  |
| 15 | 8:00 AM Feed Them / K
3:00 PM Bethel Food Pantry/Salem. Lutheran Church
7:00 PM Friends by the Fire / pav. Area | |
| 16 | Wise Reunion / pav | |
| 17 | Potluck Sunday
12:00 PM Spiritual Nurture meeting |  |
| 18 | 7:00 PM Music & Worship Team meeting | |
| 19 | 9:00 AM Women's Fellowship meeting / FH | |
| 20 | Newsletter Deadline
8:00 AM Preschool Recognition / Sanct., FH & K | |

CHOIR PRACTICE SCHEDULE

Praise Team / Wed. 7:15pm
Senior Choir / Thurs. 7:00 PM