

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. 1 May 3

Wk. 2 May 10

Wk.3 May 17

CHORISTER

Dianne High

Praise Team

Allen Rebman

WORSHIP LDR

Gary Bashore

Praise Team

John Wise

CHILD STORY

Mike & Sarah Kolbe

Ashley Koch

Abby Christ

PIANIST

Diane Duell

Praise Team

Sarah Brubaker

AUDIO

Alan Bashore

Todd Rebman

Todd Rebman

WORSHIP CTR

Tanya Feathers

Sandra Keeney

Sandra Keeney

USHERS

Bob & Wendy Lingle
 S. Forry & L. Rebman

Gerald & Jim Bowman
 Scott Bohn & J. Brubaker

Ken Duell / John High
 Jacob Koch/Dennis Umberger

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


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.



JOHN 1:9, ESV

The
TRUE LIGHT,
 WHICH GIVES
LIGHT TO EVERYONE,
 WAS COMING INTO
THE WORLD.



May 3, 2026

Volume LXXVI May 3, 2026 Number 18
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 3, 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
 Hempfield COB



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

Challenge Question

How can we know Jesus is the Messiah? What difference would it make?

Family Style Love Feast Today
 following the 10:30 AM service
 in the Fellowship Hall



Please remember to check your church mailbox

REMINDER

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

GIVING LAST SUNDAY

General Fund	\$	4,158.50
Building	\$	70.00
Family Assistance	\$	
Maintenance	\$	172.50
Sunday School	\$	68.00
Feed Them	\$	
Global Food Initiative	\$	25.00
Food Pantry	\$	100.00
Mission of the Month	\$	325.00
Women's Fellowship	\$	
The Gathering Place	\$	100.00
Total	\$	5,019.00

GENERAL FUND BUDGET
 2026
 \$ 347,035.00

Last Sunday's Attendance

Worship 17 - 290
 Virtual Worship - 25
 Sunday School - 38

Large Print Bulletins & Children's Bulletins are on the table in the back of the sanctuary. Please help yourself.

Welcome & News

Humor

Sharing & Prayer

Worship Songs

- "Remind Me Who I Am"
- "Fear is Not My Future"
- "History Maker"

Scripture - John 1: 1

Catch of the Day - "The Word"

Deep Dive

1. How does knowing Jesus (the Word) existed "in the beginning" affect your view of Him?
2. What does it mean for your life that Jesus is not just from God, but is God?
3. How should this truth shape your trust in Christ?
4. In what ways can you better listen to and follow "the Word" in your daily life?

Kids Praise - "This Little Light of Mine"

Prayer

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

May 3, 2026

10:30 AM Worship Service

Welcome and announcements

Call to Worship (Unison)

In Christ, there is new life, and that life is the light we shine.
That light is the true light we come to worship.

Opening Hymn “For the Beauty of the Earth” #89

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Senior Choir “shout to the Lord”

Offertory Thought and Prayer

Hymn “All Creatures of Our God and King” #48

Children’s Moment

Senior Choir “Oh, Let the Son of God Enfold You”

Message - “The Word before the Word”

Scripture - John 1: 1-10

Closing Hymn “You are the Salt for the Earth” #226

Sending Forth



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 or leave items in the collection bin located in the narthex/

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

Mother-Daughter Banquet

Saturday, May 9th at 6 PM
LSCOB Fellowship Hall

Please join us!

Today is the last day to sign-up

Sign-up sheet is on the table in the narthex



The May-June issue of the **Upper Room** has arrived
& is on the table in the narthex.

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 6, and May 13 at 7:00 PM
(no Bible Study on May 6th)



LITTLE SWATARA CoB
2026 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
JULY 13—17, 2026
8:30 am - 11:30 am

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



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.

The next Widows luncheon
will be

Tuesday, May 13th
11:30 a.m.

Country Fare Restaurant Myerstown, PA



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



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







May
Mission of the Month
Feed Them



What's Happening in:

May

- 3 Spring Love Feast
National Youth Sunday
- 5 7:00 PM Leadership Team meeting
- 6 8:45 AM Women's exercise class / FH
10:00 AM Seated exercise class / FH 
- 7 8:30 AM Quilting 
6:00 PM 50+ Club meeting / FH
- 9 6:00 PM Mother-Daughter Banquet / FH
- 10 Mother's Day
Food Pantry collection
- 11 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 
- 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

CHOIR PRACTICE SCHEDULE

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