

### 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—Dianne Younker, 717-269-0803. 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:** Nov.- Patricia Timmins Dec.- P. Timmins / S Forry Jan.— Sam Forry

#### Wk. 4 November 23

#### Wk. 5 November 30

#### Wk. 1 December 7

#### CHORISTER

Praise Team

Pam Gerberich

Dianne High

#### WORSHIP LDR

Praise Team

S. Metzler / K. Myers

Gary Bashore

#### CHILD STORY

Savannah Metzler

S. Metzler / K. Myers

Mike & Sarah Kolbe

#### PIANIST

Praise Team

Diane Duell

Diane Duell

#### AUDIO

Todd Rebman

Todd Rebman

Alan Bashore

#### WORSHIP CTR

Jennifer Speraw

Worship Center

Worship Center

#### USHERS

Richard & Michelle Yenser  
Andrew & Chris Brubaker

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Andrew & Chris Brubaker

Bob & Wendy Lingle  
Sam Forry & Ken Duell

### 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)

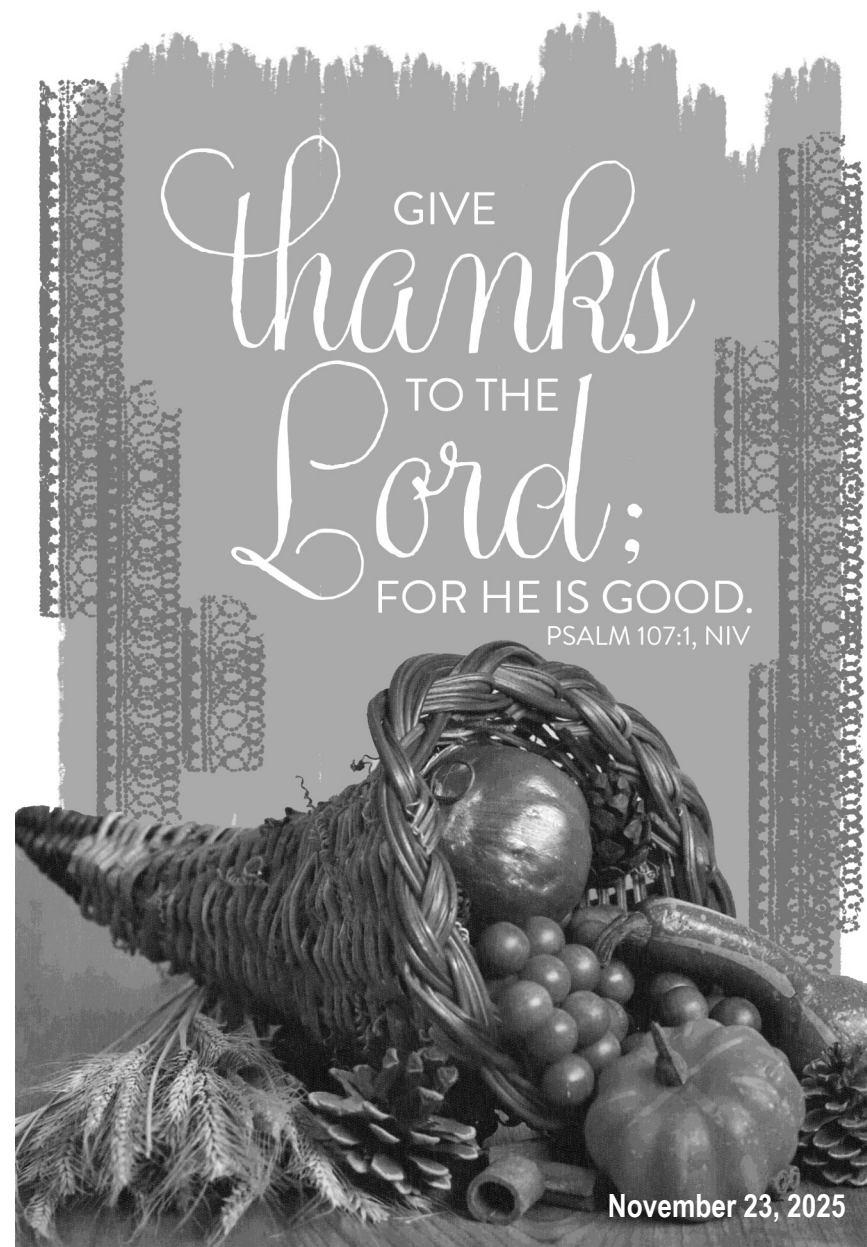
#### Adults

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.



Volume LXXIV November 23, 2025 Number 47  
**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.

Lester Bashore  
 Wendy Lingle  
 Darren Raup  
 Lebanon COB



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

### **Community Thanksgiving Eve Service**

**November 26th at 7:00 PM**

Trinity United Church of Christ  
 17 Maria Street  
 Rehrersburg, PA

There will be a collection of canned &/or boxed goods for the Food Pantry

Pastor Matt will be on vacation from November 24th to November 30th. Please contact Gary Bashore, Deacon Chair with any needs.

The November issue of the **Newsletter** has arrived and is on the countertop at the mailboxes in the narthex.

**Church office will be closed Thursday, November 27th**

### **GIVING LAST SUNDAY**

General Fund	\$	5,217.50
Building	\$	140.00
Family Assistance	\$	
Maintenance	\$	202.50
Sunday School	\$	
Feed Them	\$	
Global Food Initiative	\$	
Food Pantry	\$	
Women's Fellowship	\$	
Mission of the Month	\$	1,177.00
	\$	
	\$	
	\$	
<b>Total</b>	\$	<b>6,845.00</b>

GENERAL FUND BUDGET 2025  
 \$ 349,661.00

### Last Sunday's Attendance

Worship 16 + 93  
 Virtual Worship - 20  
 Sunday School - 45

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



**November 23, 2025**  
**8:30 AM Service**

**Welcome & News**

**Humor**

**Prayer**

**Worship Songs**

"Here I Am To Worship"  
 "Lord | Lift Your Name On High"  
 "God of Wonders"  
 "Better Is One Day"

**Scripture - Psalms 107:1 NIV**

**Catch of the Day - "Give Thanks"**

**Deep Dive**

1. What are we thankful for?
2. When is difficult to be thankful?
3. How do we show our gratitude?
4. In what ways does God show his love?
5. Do you think God is thankful? How so?

**Kids Praise - "Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes"**

**Prayer**

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

**November 23, 2025**

**10:30 AM Worship Service**

**Prelude** "Heal Our Land"  
"Blessed"

**Welcome and Announcements**

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

**Bell Choir** "Medley for Thanksgiving Season"

**Call to Worship** (Unison)

Lord, you reign and we gather with thanksgiving for this beautiful life you've blessed us with. Lead us to living Godly lives, knowing what to say and do at all times. Forgive us when we fail in doing so. We bring you praise for who you are and all that you do to reveal your majesty.

**Opening Worship** "Lord Reign In Me" projected  
"Hosanna Praise is Rising" projected

**Sharing of Joys and Concerns**

**Pastoral Prayer**

**Response to Prayer** "Give Thanks" projected

**Offertory Thought and Prayer**

**Offertory Music** - "To Leave the Stones Unthrown" Purple Hymnal #580

**Children's Moment**

**Worship Song** "As the Deer" projected

**Scripture** - Ephesians 4: 29; James 1: 19-20

**Sermon** - "Always, Never, Only"

**Closing Worship** "Yes Lord Yes" projected

**Sending Out**



**ANNOUNCEMENTS**



**Faith and Family Night at the Reading Royals  
Saturday, December 6th at 7:00 PM**

Join us as we fellowship at the Reading Royals on Faith & Family Night. We have a section of seats tentatively reserved for us. Use the link below to purchase tickets. Tickets cost \$20 (+fees).  
<https://www.gofevo.com/event/>

LittleSwatara12625

As a group sale on this special night, we would be able to attend a Q&A before the event with the team chaplain and possibly some players., each individual would receive a Reading Royals hat, and if the group is 20 or more, we can have an on-ice picture after the game. Any



**2025 Christmas Greetings for Stockings**

Stockings are placed in the narthex for home-bound persons, group home residents, and those in assisted living / elderly homes. Our goal is to fill them with Christmas cards thus giving some cheer to the recipients that cannot attend church for various reasons. Cards may be placed in stockings from **Sunday, November 9th to Sunday, December 7th**. Cards and a small gift will be taken to shut-ins during the Christmas Season.

ARLENE DUNDORE	VERA GROSS	JOANN EBLING
ANNETTA KEENEY	RANDY KEENEY	MARY BASHORE
JOHN KELLY	DOROTHY LUTZ	FERN PHILLIPY
DARRELL YOUNKER	MARTIN BASHORE	JEAN KEENEY
MARVIN LUCKENBILL	LESTER BASHORE	NOLAN & DORIS KEENEY
ROBERT & LINDA HOUSER	PASTOR MATT, DENISE & FAMILY	

Any questions or additions please contact: Dianne High



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

- Help is needed to pack Tulpy Packs on Wednesday morning at 9:30 AM at the Bethel Elementary School on the morning of
- December 3rd & 17th

Please check your mailbox





## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Advent Project, we will be collecting shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child.

To participate:

- Take home a pre-printed, foldable shoe box, label, and gift suggestion guide.
- Fill your box with blessings for a child (new items, please)
- Return your box with the label attached to the church by the closing of the 10:30 AM church service on **Sunday, November 23rd**

Postage will be paid by the church, however if you attach a paper with your name, you will receive a tracking number to follow your box around the world!

Contact Sue Hartranft with any questions.

## Volunteers Needed to help with Live Nativity December 13th from 6—8 pm

Looking towards the Christmas Season – the Music and Worship team is planning to have a Live Nativity for December 13<sup>th</sup> with a rain date of December 14<sup>th</sup>. Previous years showed this to be a great outreach opportunity for the community. We need VOLUNTEERS for actors, live animals, setup people, refreshments and more!! **A sign-up sheet is on the table in the narthex.**



Did you miss the Christmas bazaar on Nov. 1st?

Well, you have a second chance to shop!!!

The Women's Fellowship Craft Group will have a stand at

**Heidelberg Lioness Christmas Bazaar**

**St. Paul UCC Social Hall, N. Carpenter St, Schaefferstown, PA**

**Saturday, December 6th from 8 AM—1 PM**



## NEED A CHRISTMAS GIFT OR A HOSTESS GIFT?

Cookbooks are an easy Christmas gift or hostess gift. We have the newest and the older cookbooks available for sale. If you are interested, see any member of the Women's Fellowship or the church secretary. The new version (with the red cover) is \$5.00 and the older version (with the yellow cover) is \$3.00

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



## November Mission of the Month Blankets of Hope

### What's Happening in:

#### November

25 Ministry Team Minutes due

26 8:45 AM Women's exercise class / FH  
10:00 AM Seated Exercise class / FH  
7:00 PM Thanksgiving Eve Service / Trinity UCC, Rehrersburg, PA



27 Thanksgiving Day  
Church office closed



30 First Sunday of Advent



#### December

3 8:45 AM Women's exercise class / FH  
10:00 AM Seated Exercise class / FH  
7:00 PM Online Bible Study



4 8:30 AM Quilting



6 1:00 PM 50+ Club mtg / Christmas Banquet

9 11:30 AM Widows Luncheon / Ctry Fare



10 8:45 AM Women's exercise class / FH  
10:00 AM Seated Exercise class / FH  
7:00 PM Online Bible Study

11 8:30 AM Quilting



#### CHOIR PRACTICE SCHEDULE

**No rehearsals this week**