

www.swamplutheran.org

Swamp Lutheran Church
275 Swamp Church Rd
Reinholds, PA 17569

717-336-2849

STAFF

MINISTERS:

Congregation

PASTOR:

Rev. Scott V. Brubaker

ADMIN ASST:

SEXTON

Jonathan Gyorko

ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR

Susan Kreitz

ASSISTANT ORGANIST

Grady Daub

BELL CHOIR

Doug Kulp

IN PERSON WORSHIP

8:00AM

9:00AM

Sunday School 10:15AM

TWO OPTIONS AVAILABLE

1. Watch live stream video on YouTube
2. Join us inside for in person worship



Swamp Evangelical Lutheran Church

From Pastor Scott

JANUARY 2024

⁶I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. ⁷So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. ⁸The one who plants and the one who waters have one purpose, and each will receive wages according to their own labor. ⁹For we are God's coworkers, working together; you are God's field, God's building. – 1 Corinthians 3:6-9

2023 at Swamp has been an active year of ministry, both inside and outside our church building. Many lives have been positively impacted by our ministries.

As we enter 2024, the church year is already a month old, having begun with Advent. We now continue our ministry reflecting on the glow of Christmas and the new beginning it represents in our faith journey.

A foundation has been laid on Jesus Christ by those who came before us. It has been entrusted to us for a time, to build upon it. According to the grace of God given to us, let us take care how we build upon it, for our work will become manifest on the Day of the Lord.

Consequently, now is a great time to reflect on how God is calling our congregation to grow our ministry in 2024. Some of us will plant new seeds of faith into the hearts of others while some of us will water those ministries with our treasure.

So, whether we have five talents, or three talents, or one, and whether we invest them in 5, 3 or 1 ministry efforts, our mission is to **do something, together**, to sow, water, and grow God's kingdom.

Let us spend January praying and asking for God's guidance on where we'll spend our collective efforts as this assembly of believers in Christ moving forward. God promises to lead us, and God will do so.

Together in God's Word and love, we boldly go to sow, water, and grow God's kingdom.

In Christ,

Pastor Scott



Church Office Requests

Please call the church office at 717-336-2849

when:

- You are in the hospital or prior to going to the hospital** (or have a relative call for you). . In an emergency, call Pastor Strause at 717-475-4377.
- You are confined to your home for an extended period of time** because of

illness or accident.

- You are going to a rehab center or a nursing home.**
- There is a change in your family status** (birth, death, marriage, or divorce).
- You move to a new home, move out of the area, or go away to college or**

graduate school. Important for keeping data base current.

- You schedule a meeting or an event** of a group or committee. To be open and communicative with everyone, we would like to include all scheduling on the Church Calendar and in the Weekly Bulletin.

Katie Houck
 Hunter Leisey
 Susan Levan
 Clair Sweigart
 Michael Wargo
 Jan Lorah
 Jean Wolf
 John Frantz
 Ray Fox
 Honey Notobartolo
 Sandy Clemens
 Shirley Hoppman
 Pastor Denny Trout
 Amber Weaver
 Katie Krater
 Judy Habecker



Ed Miller
 Nettie Kriener
 Grace Ranck
 Reba Ranck
 Faith Moyer
 Gene Miller
 John Wesner
 Kelly Martin
 Jackson Sensenig
 John Elser
 Edie Snyder
 Michael A. Crowther

Shirley Achey
 Karen Klingensmith
 Marilyn Gelsinger
 Doreen McGonnell
 Bobby Hershey
 Anna Hershey
 Anna Habecker
 J.J. Johnson
 Charles Moyer
 Sharon Levan
 Lucille Lorah
 Robert Bachman
 Earl Myers
 Joan Long
 Anna Rose Schannauer

We give thanks for the time, talent and finances that have gone into our celebration of Christ's birth. From the hanging of the greens, to the Night of Music, to the Sunday School Program and of course our many outreaches. Much manpower dedication was required and provided by a giving congregation and your team of staff members
 Thank You!!



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

LINDA CHRISTY 67 HAWK VALLEY LANE DENVER, PA 17517	1/8	SHIRLEY HOPPMAN 519 S. SIXTH STREET DENVER, PA 17517	1/22
ROBERT BACHMAN 675 BLUE LAKE ROAD DENVER, PA 17517	1/11	DEWEY TATE 225 VERA CRUZ ROAD REINHOLDS, PA 17569	1/24
JAN RISSER 38 KEELER AVENUE STEVENS, PA 17578	1/17	DIANNE CRILLS 137 MEADOW VALLEY RD #119 EPHRATA, PA 17522	1/24
LOWELL HAWS 712 VINEMONT ROAD REINHOLDS, PA 17569	1/18	DAVID BORRELL 972 WHITE OAK RD DENVER, PA 17517	1/29
SALLY BERGMAN 268 W. MAIN STREET REINHOLDS, PA 17569	1/19	JAY HERTZOG 7417 N VIA CAMELLO DEL NORTE #156 SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85258-3634	1/30
		CHARLES MOYER 300 SAINT MARK AVE. APT. 606 LITITZ, PA 17543	1/30



Garrett Bansner	01
Randy Gockley	02
Robert Shank	03
Corbin Showalter	03
Patrick Weitzel	03
Carol Chmielewski	06
Linda Christy	08
Steve Weller	09
Bobby Bachman	11
Ryan Martzall	11
Andrew Showalter	14
Reagan Kerr	17
Jan Risser	17
Lowell Haws	18
Sally Bergman	19
Jolynn Leed	20
Alan Worley	20
Shirley Hoppman	22
Avery Posegay	22
Lindsay Matter	22
Dianne Crills	24
Dewey Tate	24
Darrin Weaver	24
Missy Strunk	25
Maya Van Zant	26
Derek Miller	27
Steve Strunk	28
David Borrell	29
Jay Hertzog	30
Adam Laudenslager	30
Charlie Moyer	30
Kristin Gockley	31

ALTAR FLOWER UPDATE



After 17 years of service, Joyce Stoner is stepping down from organizing the altar flowers and candle. Joyce has been a faithful servant and we thank her for her commitment to the church in this arena.

A new 2024 flower calendar is in the Narthax.

Costs remain at \$40.00 for flowers and \$5.00 for the candle. Year to year altar orders are placed on the calendar but we have many open Sundays for flowers and the candle.

Sue Kreitz, 717-283-9444 or John Frantz, 717-606-8994 will be your new contact for these orders. They will keep track of the calendar sign-ups or you can just call them. Thank you for your continued support of this part of worship.



Please put these changes in your pictorial directory.

Please let us know if you have change of address, email or phone number.

secretary@swamplutheran.org



Clyde Showalter
Mary Ann Weitzel
Michael A. Crowther
Clarice Haws
Charles Moyer
Marion Bergman
Anna Adams
Edie Snyder
John Elser

CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS DECEMBER 20, 2023

Kitchen Krew: Served 20 folks cookies after the Thanksgiving Eve Service
Served a light lunch after Hanging of the Greens
Served 50 folks cookies and hot chocolate after The Night of Music
They provided food for 28 families from the Food bank.
Served 20 members cookies and milk after the Sunday School program
Provided food from the food bank for 2 EASS families with a total of 11 kids

Welcome: Went shopping for 11 EASS children. The families picked up food and the gifts on Tuesday.

Scouts: Re-charter has been completed.
They are looking for more young folks to join the pack
Upcoming events:
February 3rd—Pinewood derby in the afternoon.
February 4 -Scout Sunday

Youth Ministry: Four Swamp youth and 1 additional youth prepared a Thanksgiving meal for the Syrian family
Two youth and 3 adults participated in Wreaths across America
Laser tag event will be January 28th.

Generosity: The intent cards for 2024 will be going out next week'
They will meet to decide the recipients of the Lenten Pick-6

Worship Study Committee: The next meeting will be January 7 after Sunday School and the Worship committee will offer their thoughts on the service.

Syrian Family update: The family will be moving into their new home on December 30. If you are able to help with the move, meet up at Ray's shop in Schaefferstown at 8:00am.

Other items discussed: The next community meal will be held January 11th.

Elections were held and the officers will remain the same:

President	Lori Gockley
Vice-President	Dave Sauder
Secretary	Danielle Kauffman
Co—Treasurer	Sue Ellen Knauer
Co--Treasurer	Guy Templin
Financial Secretary	Deb Kohl

Forty Nine days until Pitchers and Catchers report for Spring Training.

Super Bowl for the Eagles this year!

Let's Go Phils!

Fly Eagles Fly!

Next Council Meeting :
JANUARY 17, 2024

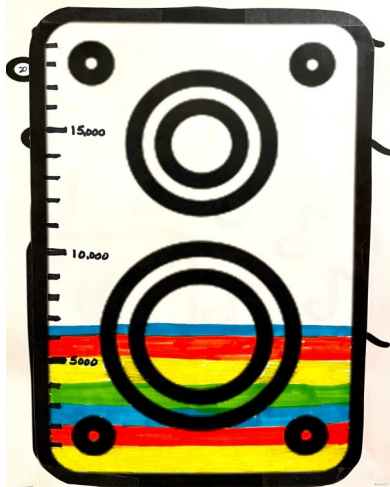
Newsletter Submission for
FEBRUARY
Wednesday, January 24, 2022

Swamp Evangelical Lutheran Church					
Treasurer's Report					
Nov 01, 2023 through Nov 30, 2023					
Account	Budgets November 2023	Actuals November 2023	Remaining	YTD Budgets	YTD Actuals
Income	\$ 26,679.25	\$ 39,428.57	\$ (12,749.32)	\$ 293,471.75	\$ 296,273.44
INCOME	\$ 26,679.25	\$ 39,428.57	\$ (12,749.32)	\$ 293,471.75	\$ 296,051.44
Expense	\$ 25,746.55	\$ 22,824.42	\$ 2,922.13	\$ 292,769.45	\$ 316,135.01
OPERATIONS	\$ 3,745.82	\$ 1,745.80	\$ 2,000.02	\$ 41,204.18	\$ 37,016.16
ADMINISTRATION	\$ 1,641.64	\$ 3,064.80	\$ (1,423.16)	\$ 19,508.36	\$ 25,365.67
BENEFITS	\$ 2,590.40	\$ 2,717.72	\$ (127.32)	\$ 28,494.60	\$ 29,894.92
THROUGH STAFF	\$ 9,125.50	\$ 8,787.83	\$ 337.67	\$ 100,380.50	\$ 99,092.49
REIMBURSED EXP.	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,921.25
YOUTH MINISTRY	\$ 66.66	\$ -	\$ 66.66	\$ 733.34	\$ 800.00
PROPERTY	\$ 5,026.63	\$ 1,036.82	\$ 3,989.81	\$ 55,968.37	\$ 56,869.15
WORSHIP	\$ 412.48	\$ 907.32	\$ (494.84)	\$ 6,387.52	\$ 5,475.53
SERVICE	\$ 83.32	\$ -	\$ 83.32	\$ 916.68	\$ 2,398.91
GENEROSITY	\$ 41.66	\$ -	\$ 41.66	\$ 458.34	\$ 35.49
WELCOME	\$ 466.64	\$ 469.54	\$ (2.90)	\$ 5,133.36	\$ 3,118.05
LEARNING	\$ 437.48	\$ 287.00	\$ 150.48	\$ 4,812.52	\$ 3,961.44
BENEVOLENCES	\$ 2,091.66	\$ 3,807.59	\$ (1,715.93)	\$ 28,588.34	\$ 47,185.95
Income less Expense	\$ 932.70	\$ 16,604.15	\$ (15,671.45)	\$ 702.30	\$ (19,861.57)

Outreach Update

Jihad and Snaa's family were moved into an apartment at the end of December with the help of our congregation. As representatives of God's family we have been generous with our gifts to help them furnish their new, "permanent" home. Jihad has secured a job with the assistance of one of our members. Ray and Jenny Weitzel continue to be the point contact for this outreach. As the family settles into their home please watch the bulletin for updated needs. We remain grateful to God for the opportunity to help.

LIFT UP YOUR VOICES
SOUND SYSTEM CAMPAIGN
\$20,000 GOAL



SANCTUARY SOUND SYSTEM UPGRADE

LIFT UP YOUR VOICES PLEDGE

We continue to stretch towards our goal of \$20,000.

Pledge Cards are available at each entrance to the Sanctuary. A one time gift or a weekly, monthly, quarterly pledge is welcome. Feel free to call or email the office if you want a pledge card mailed to you.





MARK YOUR CALENDAR

2024 Cluster Lenten Services

Date	Location	Preacher	Theme/Scripture
Wed. Feb. 21, 7 pm	Faith United, Denver	Pastor Scott Brubaker	Open My Eyes, Lord Isaiah 42:5-9 Psalm 119:17-24 Acts 26:4-18
Wed. Feb. 28, 7 pm	Bergstrasse, Ephrata	Pastor Marissa Becklin	Open My Hands, Lord Deuteronomy 15:17-11 Psalm 139:1-10 Mark 6:1-5
Wed. Mar. 6, 7 pm	Muddy Creek, Denver	Pastor Jim Goodyear	Open My Ears, Lord Isaiah 50:4-5 Psalm 40:1-8 Matthew 13:10-17
Wed. Mar. 13, 7 pm	Mellingers, Schoeneck	Pastor Sandy Gideon	Open My Heart, Lord 2 Corinthians 6:1-13 Psalm 28 Acts 16:11-15
Wed. Mar. 20, 7 pm	St. John Center, East Earl	Pastor Peter Schwabe-Fry	Open My Life, Lord Deuteronomy 30:15-20 Psalm 16 Galatians 2:15-21
Thurs, May 9 Ascension	Swamp, Reinholds	Pastor Tim Craven	Ascension of Our Lord Acts 1:1-11 Psalm 47 Ephesians 1:15-23 Luke 24:44-53

January has just a few den meetings.



February

3rd: Annual Pinewood Derby Tournament in afternoon. (Open to the Public. Come out and watch the scouts race the cars they built.)

4th: Scout Sunday- scouts will help with church service.

Recruiting: If anyone can help us recruit kids to join the pack we are open to ideas. We have 3 kids on the roster and a minimum of 5 is required to continue the pack for 2024/25 scout year. The challenges are many and we will appreciate any help.

Questions may be addressed to Cubmaster Travis Leed at 717-381-1608 or email at pack95reinholds@gmail.com

Cub Scout

Update

nbqstc

Cub Scout

Ephrata Area Social Services and Swamp Lutheran Church



From EASS Director: Casey Ellis

I wanted to share some of the data collected around EASS's food bank at Swamp Lutheran Church. I encourage you to share the information with your congregation and volunteers. Sometimes we can lose perspective month to month on the impact that is happening but when you look over a years' time, it is AMAZING what is happening.

From July 2022-June 2023 (This is PA Government Fiscal Year)
163,485 pounds of food was distributed
136,238 meals provided
4,431 individuals served (includes duplicates from month to month)
37 pounds of food on average is distributed each month to families from Swamp Food Bank .

Thank you to Swamp Lutheran Church for your Generous Hearts!

SYRIAN FAMILY DONATION NEEDS/COLLECTIONS

Apartment/Move-In Items STILL NEEDED	Items ALREADY Collected
<p>Bedrooms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 5- dressers• Armoires (no Closets in house)• 4 - Mirrors (Full Length)• Sheets - 9 Sgl• Blankets/Comforters - 9 Sgl 1 Dbl <p>Kitchen:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Microwave• Electric griddle• Glasses• Pots and Pans• Mixing bowls <p>Basement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shelving <p>Money to buy mini blinds</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Large living room sectional• 3 table lamps• 2 TV's• 5 dressers• End Table• Desk, Book Shelf & Chair• Hall Table• Full set dishes, 2nd set of dishes• Patio table and 4 chairs• Oval kitchen table• 2 - Benches for kitchen table• Patio table and 4 chairs• Set small mixing bowls• Some cooking utensils• 2 Pots• Cup Cake Pan• Silverware• 2 -Cookie Sheets• 2 - cake pans• Measuring cups• Teas Kettle• Towels• 1 Comforter• 1 small table• TV Mount• Electric fry pan• 1 End Table



**SWAMP
EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

www.swamlutheran.org

Next Council Meeting :
JANUARY 17, 2024

Newsletter Submission for
FEBRUARY
Wednesday, January 24, 2022

2024 Lutheran Camping Corporation Events

January 2024	Summer Staff Recruitment begins
January 5-7	Winter Youth Retreat at Kirchenwald
January 14	Winter Fun Day at Kirchenwald
January 14	Chicken & Waffles at Nawakwa
January 14	CampPerson Meeting at Kirchenwald & Nawakwa
January 16	CampPerson Meeting - ZOOM
February 18	Winter Fun Day at Kirchenwald
February 24	Lenten Day Apart at The Wittel Farm
March 15-17	Women's Quilting Weekend at Kirchenwald
March 17	Summer Camp Open House at Kirchenwald & Nawakwa
April 1	Facility reservation book opens for 2025
April 6	Summer Camp Early Full-Pay Registration Discount deadline
April 14	Summer Camp Open House at Kirchenwald & Nawakwa
April 21	Earth Day Celebration at Kirchenwald
April 27	Work Day at Nawakwa
May 4	Work Day at Kirchenwald
May 19	Summer Camp Kick-off Worship & Picnic at Kirchenwald
June 16	Summer Camp begins at Kirchenwald & Nawakwa
July 7-12	Elder Camp at Nawakwa
July 14-19	Family Camp I at Nawakwa
August 4-9	Family Camp-K-tion (Family Camp) at Kirchenwald
August 4-9	Family Camp II at Nawakwa
September 28	Party with a Purpose at Kirchenwald
October 1-3	Adult Study Retreat at Nawakwa
October 6	Capture the Flag at Kirchenwald
October 27	Fall Foliage Day at Kirchenwald & Nawakwa
November 3	Annual Quilt Auction at Nawakwa
November 8-10	Women's Craft Retreat at Nawakwa
December 7	Advent Day Apart at The Wittel Farm
January 3-5, 2025	Winter Youth Retreat at Kirchenwald

Always check LutheranCamping.org for the most updated calendar!



The Lutheran Camping Corporation of Central Pennsylvania
Kirchenwald, Nawakwa, and The Wittel Farm
PO Box 459, Arendtsville, PA 17303
717-677-8211 • www.LutheranCamping.org



Handbell Practice Schedule Reminder UPDATED



Mon. Jan. 8	
Mon. Jan. 15	
Mon. Jan. 22	Play Sunday, January 28
Mon. Feb. 5	
Mon. Feb. 12	
Mon. Feb. 26	Play Sunday, March 3
Mon. Mar. 11	
Mon. Mar. 18	
Mon. Mar. 25	Play Sunday, March 31 (Easter)
Mon. Apr. 8	
Mon. Apr. 15	Play Sunday, April 21
Mon. Apr. 29	
Mon. May 6	
Mon. May 13	Play Sunday, May 19

Swamp Lutheran Youth
Invites you



This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY-NC-ND

LASER TAG

@ **THE LASER MILL**

1109 Bern Rd., Wyomissing

Next to the Works ®

\$10 for Swamp Youth and their Guests

\$30 for non-Swamp Youth & Adults

Sunday, January 28, 2024

11:15 AM to 3 PM

Pizza Lunch at 11:15 am

Leave for The Laser Mill at noon

Return to Swamp Lutheran at 3 pm

RSVP to Kristin Gockley 717.330.0628 kgock261@live.kutztown.edu

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Monday—Friday

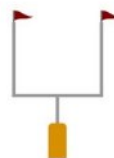


IT IS THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN!!

What: The Souper Bowl of Caring is a national movement across the nation working together to fight hunger and poverty in their communities around the time of the Super Bowl football game.

When: Until Super Bowl Sunday, February 11, 2024

Where: Bring canned soup and other nonperishable food items and place them beneath the goal post in the Narthex.





SWAMP
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Next Council Meeting :
JANUARY 19, 2022

Newsletter Submission for
FEBRUARY
Monday, January 24, 2022

IN MEMORY OF

Parents, James and Nancy Frantz by John and Jerry
Parents, Miriam and Jeff Landis and brother Musser by John & Jerry
His father, John Sauder, by Jeff and Laurie Sauder
Her grandmothers, Leila Cryn & Betty Snyder by Jeff & Laurie Sauder
His mother, Judy Sauder, by Jeff & Laurie Sauder
His grandparents, William & Helen Hershey by Jeff & Laurie Sauder
Her stepfather, Kenneth Lerch, by Jeff & Laurie Sauder
Our friend, Jan Roseboro, by Jeff & Laurie Sauder
Charlie Boyer by Jeff & Laurie Sauder
Their grandparents, Mr. & Mrs. Paul Kauffman, by Debbie, Dwayne, Peggy & Gary
Their grandparents, Mr. & Mrs. Linton D. Myers, by Debbie, Dwayne, Peggy & Gary
Their favorite Meme, Irene Myers, by the Earl Myers family
Tom Wenzel by Pat Wenzel
Polly Knauer by Bill Knauer
Nancy Kulp by Doug Kulp
Husband, father & grandfather, Bob Christy, by Linda Christy & Laura & Ashlynn Rapp
His parents, Mr. & Mrs. Edmund Chmielewski by John & Carol Chmielewski
Parents, Mary & Russell Derr & Carolyn & Charles Leshner, by Tom & Jane Leshner
Mahlon & Lucy Sweigart by the family
Harry (Ducky) Lorah by Lucille Lorah and family
Tim O'Neal Lorah by Lucille Lorah and family
His parents, Vincent & Etta Brubaker, by Pastor Scott & Jen Brubaker
Parents & grandparents, Mr. & Mrs. Richard Hileman, by Connie & Jennifer
Father and grandfather, Glen H. Taylor, by Jennifer, Chace & Molli
Parents, grandparents, Bobby Christy, Irene Myers, & Alverta Showalter by Randy, Lori & Kristin Gockley
Parents & grandparents, Gil & Joann Gockley, by Lee, Jodi, Matthew & Eric Showalter
Parents & grandparents, Edith & Vernon Showalter, by Lee, Jodi, Matthew and Eric Showalter

IN HONOR OF

Children, Debbie, Dwayne, Peggy, & Gary by Earl Myers
His favorite grandson, P. Casey Coble by Earl Myers
His favorite granddaughter, Stevie Nicole & Erik Posegay by Earl Myers
His great granddaughters, Avery Ann & Olivia Nicole Posegay by Earl Myers
Her mother, Mrs. Ruth Mummah, by John & Carol Chmielewski
Loved ones by Judy and Denny Habecker

Sherrilyn & Ron Artz's 60th wedding anniversary by their family
 Birthday of Emily Wagner by Jane and Tom Leshner
 Helpful neighbors by Chris Zander
 Jen's parents, Jay & Maggie Kiralfy, by Pastor Scott & Jen Brubaker
 Sherry Brubaker, John & Jerry, Denny & Bonnie Trout and Scott & Jen Brubaker by Randy, Lori, & Kristin Gockley
 Our parents, Randy & Lori Gockley, by Laura & Kristin Molli, Chace, & Jennifer by Connie
 Our family by John & Jerry
 Our church family by John & Jerry
 Our children, Matthew & Kiersten & Eric & Lindsay by Lee & Jodi Showalter
 Our granddaughter, Emily Joann, by Lee & Jodi Showalter
 Our grandson, Noah Lee, by Lee & Jodi Showalter

Orders are being taken for Easter Lilies and Tulips. Price will not be known until the time of actual purchase. The final day for orders will be February 25. Please give the following information to the church office or to Jodi Showalter (717)413-7149.



Name _____

Phone Number _____

Lily _____ Tulip _____

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

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 EVANGELICAL
 LUTHERAN CHURCH**

275 Swamp Church Rd
 Reinholds, PA 17569

717-336-2849
 secretary@swamplutheran.org

Office Hours: 8:30-12 Noon
 Monday—Friday



For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given: And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
 Isaiah 9:6

To my friends @ Swamp Lutheran Church.....

Thank You....
 At this Holy season and through the year,
 May God Quiet you with His Peace,
 Comfort you with His Presence,
 And Bless you with His Love.

God bless you. I was thrilled to receive such a lovely gift from you. And also thanks for the lovely card. Love, Angela Rose

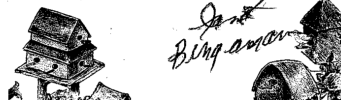
Thanks for the many
 cards & well wishing
 Hospitality basket.
 Helen Werner



stjude.org

to our friends
 at Swamp
 Thanks you
 for the Christmas
 cards and lots of
 goodies!

Ronnie
 and
 Jan
 Bingham



KIDS PAGE

SWAMP
EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH



Angels of the Bible Word Search

F R I E N D L Y B E M L S M B
 T N E I D E B O C B E L D I J
 A S H E A V E N E S S W N N D
 N E G N I S U A E O S O A I E
 G I E N C O U R A G E R S S T
 E T N V N T V J P W N S U T A
 L U S N I E L I V E G H O E E
 D D A F T H G I R B E I H R R
 O F U P R O T E C T R P T T C
 G L S B O J E L B I S I V N I

- | | |
|-------------|------------|
| ANGEL | JOBS |
| ANNOUNCE | LIVE |
| BEAUTIFUL | MESSENGERS |
| BRIGHT | MINISTER |
| CREATED | OBEDIENT |
| DUTIES | PROTECT |
| ENCOURAGERS | SERVE |
| FRIENDLY | SING |
| GOD | THOUSANDS |
| HEAVEN | WORSHIP |
| INVISIBLE | |



10 Stewardship Principles

1

Respond gratefully

to what God has first given us. All that we do is a response to God's grace.

Everything we are, have, and use comes from God. Best of all, God gives the gift of Jesus Christ and the community of believers. It all begins with God. Our confession of faith in Jesus Christ, as our Lord and Savior is not of our doing. Grateful stewards put God first.

"...but they gave themselves first to the Lord."
2 Corinthians 8:5

3

Sacrifice proportionately

as Christ sacrificed for us. For our sake Jesus gave up everything to make us rich through the cross and the resurrection. We are called to sacrifice so others may share in God's word and blessings.

"...gave according to their means, and even beyond their means."
2 Corinthians 8:3

Our role as God's stewards is one of many dimensions - grateful, responsible, self-sacrificing, willing, sharing, proportionate, committed, regular, genuine, and challenged. By generously giving of ourselves, we discover joy in Christ.

"... you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."
2 Corinthians 9:7

4

Give willingly

as moved by the Holy Spirit. We have been prepared to give of ourselves. We give our time, talents, and resources freely.

"For, as I can testify, they voluntarily gave..."
2 Corinthians 8:3

2

Obey responsibly

to glorify God as a faithful proclamation of God's word. We acknowledge our faith and show our faith in the gospel for the glory of God and for the building up of the body of Christ. This takes courage. It involves our life-long obedience, including the ways we treat our families, others, and ourselves.

"...you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ."
2 Corinthians 9:13

8

Contribute regularly

means practicing our stewardship on a daily basis. By doing so this becomes a lifestyle. Paul instructs us:

"On the first day of every week, each of you is to put aside and save whatever extra you earn."
1 Corinthians 16:2

9

Live genuinely

means putting your faith into action. This is the tangible demonstration of what is sincerely on our hearts and where our treasure is, not simply a verbal expression. The Macedonians set an example that Paul called to the attention of the Corinthians.

"I am testing the genuineness of your love against the earnestness of others."
2 Corinthians 8:8

6

Give proportionately

is our way of giving in relation to our abundance. We are to give according to our "means," not according to an income or a budget.

"If the eagerness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has—not according to what one does not have."
2 Corinthians 8:12

7

Commit intentionally

means making a statement about your intent and following through. As members in the body of Christ, we are asked to make a commitment of our time, talents, and resources as a faithful response to God and as a statement of support for God's work.

"...arrange in advance for this bountiful gift that you have promised."
2 Corinthians 9:5

10

Accept a challenge

means recognizing the dynamic nature of our faith. As our faith grows so will our blessings, and our responsibilities. Paul writes,

"...the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully."
2 Corinthians 9:6



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Living in God's amazing grace

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