

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:

Brenda Johnston

ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR

Susan Kreitz

ASSISTANT ORGANIST

Grady Daub

BELL CHOIR

Doug Kulp

SEXTON

Jonathan Gyorke

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

NOVEMBER 2023

From Pastor Scott

Giving Thanks Generously

This month, we celebrate Thanksgiving for God's abundance. Scripture teaches that God owns the world and everything in it because God created it (Genesis 1). It's a time for us to reflect on our many blessings, giving thanks to God for all that we have. Even though we know in faith that God's creation is abundant, many of us live with a sense of scarcity.

Lynne Twist, an expert on money and our relationship to it, writes, "Regardless of where you live, how much money you make, or how successful you are, there's a message you've been fed your whole life that is reinforced daily by the media, in television, magazine and internet advertising... And that message is that you don't have enough, you are not enough, and there is always something more that you need to get or be in order to be successful, happy, and worthy of respect and love. And the worst part is that you've heard it so many times now, you believe it's true." Scripture teaches otherwise.

Over the last two years as your pastor, I have seen the Holy Spirit active here at Swamp. The generous work of this congregation is most certainly pleasing to God. The Spirit continues to lead us forward to new things as we are invited to grow in generosity to God's work.

As Mike Ward argues in his book, *Abundance*, God provides us everything and we need to recognize that it is not only enough, but enough to share. Soon, we will be sending out information for our fall generosity appeal to fund the ministries of Swamp for 2024. As you follow the lead of the Holy Spirit in your giving decisions, understand that, as Christians, we give in response to the Gospel.

As we celebrate Thanksgiving, remember that we at Swamp Lutheran have a critical mission to be God's church in the world, living in God's abundance and sharing that abundance to further the gospel. Let us all prayerfully trust in God's abundance and live believing Jesus when he teaches that in letting go, we receive, and in grasping, we lose (see Luke 12:13-21; 16:1-13). "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Matt. 6:21).

In Christ,

Pastor Scott

Upcoming EVENTS

November 5	DAYGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS	
November 7	6:00PM	Zoom Bible Study
	7:00PM	Welcome Committee
November 8	1:00PM-4:00PM	EASS Food Distribution
November 9	6:30PM	Learning Committee
November 11	11:00AM-1:00PM	Homes of Hope Cheesesteak Fundraiser St. John's UCC, Denver
November 12	8:30AM	Polka Mass Service Breakfast
	2:00PM	LDR Mission Planning, Luther Acres
November 13	6:00PM	Church Council
November 14	6:00PM	Zoom Bible Study
November 18	8:00AM-2:00PM	Holiday Bazaar & Breakfast Luther Acres
November 19	5:00PM-8:00PM	SLY Thanksgiving Meal
November 22	7:00PM	Thanksgiving Eve Worship
November 28	6:00PM	Zoom Bible Study
	7:00PM	Homes of Hope
December 3	10:15AM	Hanging of the Greens
December 10	8:30AM	One Service
	9:30AM	Congregational Meeting
	7:00PM	Night of Music
December 16	12:00PM	Wreaths Across America Fairview Cemetery, Denver
December 24	7:00PM	Christmas Eve Service

Next Council Meeting

NOVEMBER 13, 2023
6:00PM

SANCTUARY SOUND SYSTEM UPGRADE



LIFT UP YOUR VOICES PLEDGE

We have raised \$6,000 towards \$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.



LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE MISSION TRIP

The first planning meeting with Pastor Glenn Beard, Jr. for the upcoming mission trip will be held on Sunday, November 12 at 2:00PM in the Community Room at Luther Acres, 600 E. Main Street, Lititz. Invite all who might be interested in taking part in our next trip which will be in April 2024.

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 Brubaker at 717-598-4663.
- 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

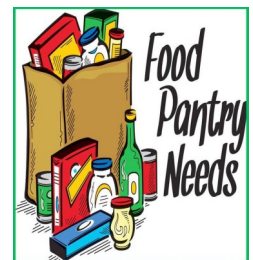
Ed Miller
Nettie Kriener
Grace Ranck
Reba Ranck
Faith Moyer
Gene Miller
John Wesner
Kelly Martin
Jackson Sensenig
John Elser
Edie Snyder
Michael A. Crowther
Joan Long

Shirley Achey
Russ Herbein
Marilyn Gelsinger
Doreen McGonnell
Bobby Hershey
Anna Hershey
Anna Habecker
J.J. Johnson
Charles Moyer
Sharon Levan
Lucille Lorah
Robert Bachman
Earl Myers

Teresa Sweigart
Mel & Troy Ulrich
Janey Malafarina-West
Brandon Bailey



Swamp Food Pantry & Ephrata Area Social Services continue on a monthly cycle to partner with food distribution. Monthly on the second Wednesday we distribute food boxes on behalf of EASS. We are so grateful to the congregation for their continued support of this outreach. Currently, there is an urgent need of canned fruits and vegetables, canned meat & chicken, noodles, pasta, canned pasta, soups, cereal and toilet paper. Our shelves are empty. Thank you!



ALTAR FLOWERS



Altar Flowers
Ministry Opportunity

Grumbine Flowers, is providing our weekly altar flowers and candle. The flower price is \$40.00 and the candle price is \$5.00. The flower calendar is posted on the Narthex bulletin board or call Joyce at 717-336-7077.

Flowers are available on November 12.
Candle is available the entire month of November.

CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS OCTOBER 18 2023

Your Council met Wednesday, October 18. Highlights include:

General:

- \$4,970 contributed by the congregation for our sound system, as of 9/31/23. We appreciate the donations and continue to collect for the project.
- A candidate has been chosen for the Sexton position, Jonathan Gorke. Council approved the position for 20 hours a week.

Love Inc:

Family has been approved for a rental and will move out of the Love Inc. home on 11/1/23

Service:

- 15 people participated in the crop walk and raised over \$1,000
- 69 people were served @ the community meal

Helping Hands:

- The helping hands committee provided food for Reverend Miller's funeral
- Food bank provided food for 25 families
- Pig stomach take-out was a success on 10/21/23
- Disaster trip breakfast on 10/28/23 from 7 a.m. to 10 a.m.

Welcome Committee:

- Blessing bags for Veterans (Items being collected until 10/29/23)
- Items will be packed on 11/11/23 and delivered on 11/12/23
- 12/5/23 the committee will do in person shopping at Walmart, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Scouts:

- Meat stick sale will be held again this year
- Halloween sleepover on 10/28-29
- Scouting for food (bags handed out on 11/4/23, food collected on 11/11/23)

Youth Ministry/Learning:

- Fall fest on 10/29
- Thanksgiving meal on 11/19
- Hospitality basket items due on 11/19, delivered on 12/3
- Harvest home – collecting canned goods until 11/29 (benefits our own food bank)

Go Phillies. Our council president says stay patient and calm, they will win this series against Arizona!!!

Next Council Meeting

November 13, 2023

Council Finance Report

Swamp Evangelical Lutheran Church						
Treasurers Report						
Sep 01, 2023 through Sep 30, 2023						
Account	Budgets September 2023	Actuals September 2023	2023 BUDGET	2023 ACTUAL	% OF BUDGET	DIFFERENCE
Income	\$ 26,679.25	\$ 20,518.90	\$ 320,151.00	\$ 234,062.00	73.11%	\$ 86,089.00
REGULAR	\$ 26,679.25	\$ 20,518.90	\$ 320,151.00	\$ 234,062.00	73.11%	\$ 86,089.00
INCOME	\$ 26,679.25	\$ 20,518.90	\$ 320,151.00	\$ 233,840.00	73.04%	\$ 86,311.00
Expense	\$ 27,581.55	\$ 40,248.13	\$ 320,151.00	\$ 275,141.56	85.94%	\$ 45,009.44
OPERATIONS	\$ 3,745.82	\$ 250.99	\$ 44,950.00	\$ 34,343.11	76.40%	\$ 10,606.89
ADMINISTRATION	\$ 1,741.64	\$ 1,353.58	\$ 21,250.00	\$ 21,483.43	101.10%	\$ (233.43)
BENEFITS	\$ 2,590.40	\$ 435.64	\$ 31,085.00	\$ 24,459.48	78.69%	\$ 6,625.52
THROUGH STAFF	\$ 9,125.50	\$ 8,637.83	\$ 109,506.00	\$ 81,516.83	74.44%	\$ 27,989.17
REIMBURSED EXP.	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,745.25	0.00%	\$ (4,745.25)
YOUTH MINISTRY	\$ 66.66	\$ -	\$ 800.00	\$ -	0.00%	\$ 800.00
PROPERTY	\$ 5,251.63	\$ 20,784.40	\$ 61,220.00	\$ 53,668.34	87.66%	\$ 7,551.66
WORSHIP	\$ 762.48	\$ 459.36	\$ 6,900.00	\$ 4,342.21	62.93%	\$ 2,557.79
SERVICE	\$ 83.32	\$ 532.75	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 2,098.91	209.89%	\$ (1,098.91)
GENEROSITY	\$ 41.66	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ 35.49	7.10%	\$ 464.51
WELCOME	\$ 466.64	\$ 737.90	\$ 5,600.00	\$ 2,465.66	44.03%	\$ 3,134.34
LEARNING	\$ 437.48	\$ 199.00	\$ 5,300.00	\$ 3,029.49	57.16%	\$ 2,270.51
BENEVOLENCES	\$ 3,251.66	\$ 6,856.68	\$ 31,840.00	\$ 42,953.36	134.90%	\$ (11,113.36)
Income less Expense	\$ (902.30)	\$ (19,729.23)	\$ -	\$ (41,079.56)	0.00%	\$ 41,079.56



HOMES OF HOPE FUNDRAISER – Steak sandwich sale on Saturday, November 11 from 11:00AM – 1:00PM at St. Johns United Church of Christ, 659 S. Fourth St., Denver.

POINSETTIAS



It is that time of the year again to consider your holiday orders for poinsettias. Jodi Showalter (717-413-7149) will be handling the orders. Pricing will not be known until sometime later in October. Jodi or the church office should be contacted with questions. The following information needs to be provided. Deadline for ordering is November 26.

NAME _____ Phone Number _____

Poinsettias RED _____ WHITE _____

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

DONNA HILL 11/5
24 ASPEN DRIVE
MANHEIM, PA 17545

GAIL BACHMAN 11/24
675 BLUE LAKE ROAD
DENVER, PA 17517

DEB HENLY 11/03
505 S. SIXTH STREET
DENVER, PA 17517

ROBERT HERSHEY, JR. 11/26
46 STONY RUN VILLAGE
DENVER, PA 17517

TESS SHANK 11/07
712 LINCOLN GARDENS RD
EPHRATA, PA 17522

DOLORES D'AIELLO 11/17
62 SPECK ROAD
MOHNTON, PA 19540



- Shawn Moyer 02
- Deb Henly 03
- Jonathan Templin 03
- Samantha Showalter 04
- Hanna Weller 04
- Tess Shank 07
- Bill Knauer 07
- Dylan Koehle 08
- Samantha Young 09
- Melody Ulrich 10
- Noah Roseboro 11
- Leslie Diestel 12
- Debbie Carvell 14
- Maren Rineer 15
- Eric Long 17
- Melissa Miller 17
- Laraine Kramer 21
- Gail Bachman 24
- Missy Kramer 24
- Nick Troutman 24
- Nathan Keppley 25
- Robert Hershey Jr. 26
- Janelle Kerr 26
- Abigail Martzall 26
- Lori Gockley 27
- Collin Hall 27
- Haylee Martin 28
- Josh Rapp 29
- Fallon Hagy 29

Gift cards are available through December 3. The order forms are on the Narthex table. Contact Missy Ragan with any questions at 717-314-5658.



<https://swamplutheran.org/gift-card-sale-order-form-1>

NIGHT OF MUSIC

Swamp's Night of Music will be held on Sunday, December 11 at 7:00 PM. Anyone interested in sharing their talent, please contact Sue Kreitz at 717-283-9444 or speak to Sue anytime at church.

Donations of cookies for refreshments after the program are always appreciated. Thank you!



CHANGE OF ADDRESS



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
- Leona Showalter
- Anna Adams
- Edie Snyder
- John Elser



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



TAKE NOTE

- November 4 Scouting for Food Bag Hanging
- November 6 Deadline Orders Meat Sticks
- November 11 Scouting for Food Bag Collection
- November 20 Spooky Nook Sports Complex

Sunday, December 10
ONE SERVICE 8:30AM
 Congregational Meeting follows Service



OFFICERS of COUNCIL

- Lori Gockley, President,
- David Sauder, Vice President,
- Danielle Kauffman, Secretary
- Deb Kohl, Financial Secretary
- Guy Templin, Co-Treasurer
- Sue Knauer, Co-Treasurer

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

- Danielle Kauffman - Communications
- Sue Ellen Knauer - Constitution; Personnel
- Lee Showalter –Disaster Response
- Guy Templin - Finance
- Deb Sweigert –Love, Inc.
- Randy Krater - Property
- Tom Showalter-Safety & Security
- Pastor Scott Brubaker - Scouts
- Deb Kohl– Service

- Fritz Fichtner – Generosity
- Jen Weitzel - Welcome; Learning
- Alan Worley –Youth Ministry



Advent Calendar

Service Committee will be selling chocolate Advent calendars in Nov. The cost is \$10 per calendar. Proceeds will go toward the cost of the new sound system. See Jane Leshner for a calendar !



Have you updated your will and remembered the ministry of Christ at Swamp Lutheran?

Swamp Lutheran Church can be named a beneficiary in your will and/or in your life insurance policy.

.....
Give a gift that celebrates your life and commitment to Christ!



KNITTERS AND CROCHETERS NEEDED

The VA Hospital has advised the church that they can not accommodate any more lap robes at the moment. In the meantime, we have been advised by a number of nursing homes that the need of prayer shawls continues. So we are asking that our knitters and crocheters will change their focus once again to go back to making Prayer Shawls. Your donations can be left in the library. Thank you to all who continue to work on this outreach.

LUTHERAN CAMPING CORPORATION FALL EVENTS

Go to Lutherancamping.org to register and for more information/events or call 717-677-8211.

QUILT/CRAFT AUCTION/NAWAKWA NOVEMBER 5, 2023

This fun-filled day of bidding raises money for the Camping Corporation's Endowment Fund, which helps to financially sustain our fine ministry activities. Dinner follows the Live Auction.

2:00 pm – Silent Auction of Handmade Craft Items

3:00 pm – Live Auction of Quilts

Oct 28 – Nov 2 – Online Bidding – High bids will become starting bids on Nov 5.

WOMEN'S CRAFT RETREAT/NAWAKA NOVEMBER 10 - 12

Try new techniques, share your latest creations, work on UFO's, and enjoy the relaxed atmosphere of camp in the fall. Worship led by Rev. Cindy Brommer. All meals provided. Please register (\$175) by November 1 or earlier as this retreat will fill up!

ADVENT DAY APART DECEMBER 9/THE WITTEL FARM

9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

We don't like to wait for anything, especially Christmas. With all its secular attraction, this holiday is often a focus on over-indulgence, and too often neglected is the best gift of all...one worth our waiting. You are invited to The Wittel Farm for a day apart from the busyness of life for prayer and contemplation as we journey toward the celebration of Christmas.



STUDENTS STUDYING ABROAD

Grady Daub is studying at Kingston University, Kingston upon Thames. Abigail Brubaker is studying at King's College London. I'm sure they would love to receive a note if you feel so called.

Grady Daub
BLOCK 54 FLAT C ROOM 4 CLAYHILL HALLS OF RESIDENCE
81 BURNEY AVENUE
SURBITON, KT5 8DF
UNITED KINGDOM

Abigail Brubaker
FLAT 1, 1A STAMFORD STREET APARTMENTS
127 STAMFORD STREET
LONDON SE1 9NQ
UNITED KINGDOM



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EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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secretary@swamplutheran.org

Office Hours:8:30-12Noon



Wreath Sponsorship

What does it mean to sponsor a wreath? It means you'll honor an American hero at one of more than 2,800 locations nationwide this year on Wreaths Across America Day. It's a day that's been set aside to lay wreaths at the places where we remember, honor and teach about our veterans: cemeteries, monuments, parks... Anywhere we can pay tribute to their sacrifices. We can't do that without your support, though. Your sponsorship will ensure that a wreath is hand-crafted of all-American balsam and hand-tied with a red velvet bow here in Columbia Falls, Maine. It will then be sent to one of our participating locations, where a volunteer will place it on the marker of a fallen hero. That volunteer will then "say their name" to ensure that the legacy of duty, service and sacrifice of that veteran is never forgotten. So, what does it mean to sponsor a wreath? It means you have the opportunity to join a grateful nation in saying "thank you" to our veterans.

Wreath sponsorships are available for \$17 each. Five dollars of every wreath purchased is returned to the Swamp Lutheran Youth Group to help support our activities throughout the year. **Checks can be made payable to the Swamp Lutheran Youth Group.** Look for the youth and youth leaders to be in the narthex over the next few weeks to collect sponsorship money and answer questions.

Please join the Swamp Lutheran Youth Group at noon on Saturday, December 16, 2023, to lay a wreath at Fairview Cemetery in Denver.

SWAMP
EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH

www.swamlutheran.org

Newsletter Submission
DECEMBER

Friday
November 24

Polka Mass

with the Heidelberg Brass Band
under the direction of Pastor Glenn Beard, Jr.

November 12, 2023

One Service at 8:30 AM

Breakfast Reception Follows Worship



LIVESTREAM TECHNICIAN

We need volunteers to learn and share in the livestreaming and sound control for Sunday worship. We need additional helpers so that we can create a rotation schedule. If interested or to learn more, contact Pastor Scott.

DONATIONS FOR HOSPITALITY BASKETS (Shut-Ins and Sick) TO BE LEFT BY EITHER ENTRANCE TO CHURCH November 12 & 19 ONLY

We need **single, individual serving or package size** of:

Tissue, cereal, raisins, breakfast bars, cookies, crackers, canned fruit, pudding, peanut butter, fruit juice, hand sanitizer, wrapped toothbrush, individual tooth paste.

PLEASE NOTE THE SIZE : Must be small, individual package of each item.

Baskets will be packed on December 3 during the Hanging of the Greens.

*Thanks for helping to make the holidays
brighter for our sick and shut-ins.*



Generosity Minute

Thanksgiving's path to contentment

"Now there is great gain in godliness with contentment, for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content." –**Hebrews 13:5**

What would it take to make you happy? Really. In our culture, advertisements sell us on the idea that true happiness is always just one more purchase away. When we believe this, we put ourselves on the hamster wheel of want. No matter how hard we run, we will never get to happiness.

More often than happiness, the Bible speaks of contentment. The two concepts are often confused, but the distinction is important. Whereas happiness is a pleasurable sensation that rises and falls like the tide, contentment is a state of satisfaction that remains calm, like the surface of a pond.

God calls us to live contentedly, finding sufficiency in our lives, our relationships, and all we possess. We are enough. We have enough. When our essential needs are met, incessant wants do not infest our soul like itchy fleas.

How do we find contentment? Thankfulness provides a way. We give thanks for all we are and all we have, appreciating every blessing. Since this is the month of Thanksgiving, make a pledge to yourself this November to find contentment through giving thanks. Make a "Gratitude List" of everything for which you are thankful. Review it daily, praying over each blessing, "I thank God for" Add to it as you think of new things.

May you finish November as someone who is not only thankful, but also content with all you are and all you have.

–**Rob Blezard**

Copyright © 2021, Rev. Robert Blezard. Pastor Blezard serves as pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Aberdeen, MD, and works as content editor for www.stewardshipoflife.org. He blogs at www.thestewardshipguy.com.



Gently Used Sneakers Needed. Cub Pack 95 is collecting sneakers as a fundraiser. Used sneakers (pairs only; athletic shoes only) may be deposited in the bins located in the Narthex and the social hall lobby. The sneakers will be purchased from the Cubs by an organization that resells or recycles them, saving landfill space

and natural resources while helping the Scouts raise money to fund their activities. The Cubs are **not** able to accept any non-athletic footwear including but not limited to dress shoes, heels, rain boots, sandals, slip-ons, water socks, wedges, and work boots of any kind. Questions may be addressed to Cubmaster Travis Leed at 717-381-1608 or email at

pack95reinholds@gmail.com

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Please join us for our

HOLIDAY BAZAAR & PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Saturday, November 18
Luther Acres Towne Center
250 St. Luke Drive, Lititz, PA

Holiday Bazaar | 8 AM - 2 PM

Handmade Crafts / Jewelry
Hand-carved Wooden Caricatures
Unique Items by Local Artisans
Knitted & Crocheted Items / Baked Goods
Christmas Gifts / Quilt Raffle



Pancake Breakfast | 8-10 AM

Fuel up before you shop!

2 Pancakes, 2 Sausage Links, Juice, Coffee & Tea
\$8.00 (cash only)

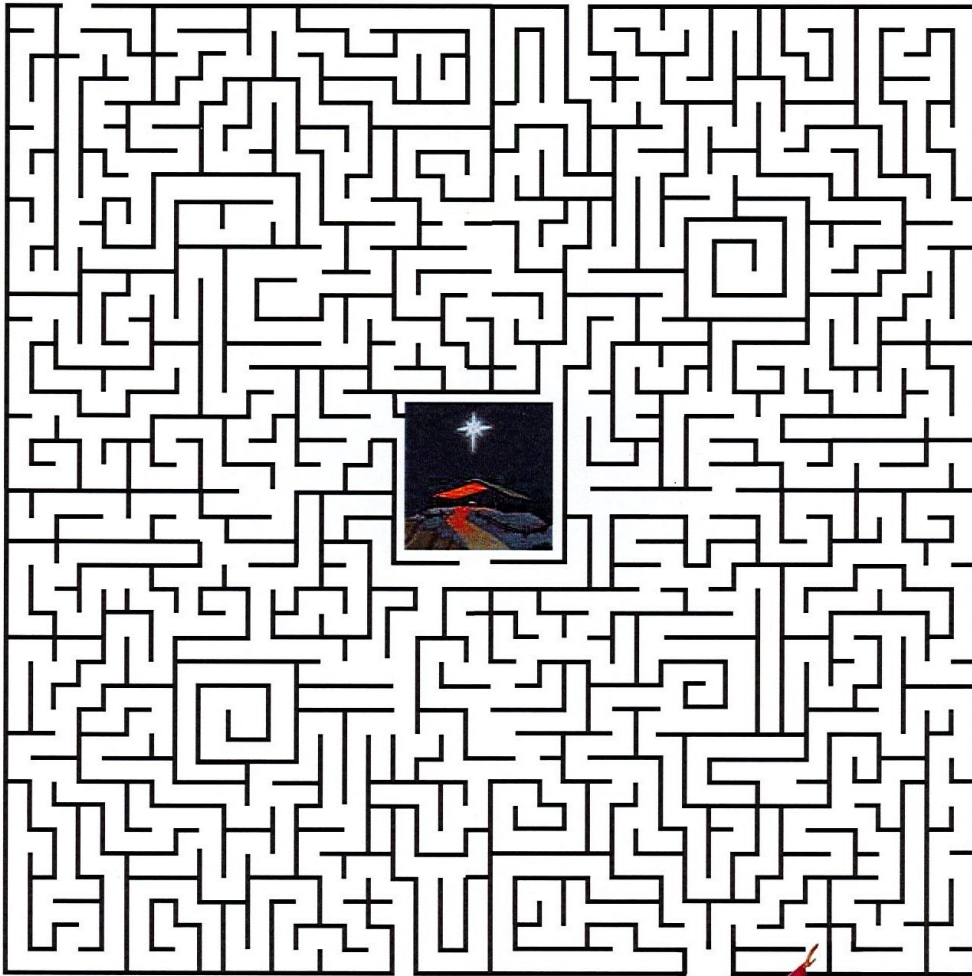
All proceeds benefit the Luthercare Caring Fund.
Event sponsored by the Luther Acres Residents' Council.
717.626.1171 | www.Luthercare.org



Pastor Scott is leading a ZOOM Bible Study weekly on Tuesdays at 6:00PM. Our study this year focuses on the Gospel reading from the previous Sunday. Look for a weekly email with the Zoom Link.

Maze for The Shepherd's Story

Help each shepherd and sheep find their way to the manger.



EXPOSURE TO THE SON
MAY
PREVENT BURNING

Swamp Lutheran Church
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