



Jan 2026

## Swamp Evangelical Lutheran Church Newsletter

[www.swamplutheran.org](http://www.swamplutheran.org)

Swamp Lutheran Church  
275 Swamp Church Rd  
Reinholds, Pa 17569  
717-336-2849

Ministers :  
Congregation

### Staff

Pastor:  
Rev. Scott V. Brubaker

Admin Asst:  
Teresa Renninger

Sexton:  
Jonathan Gyorke

Organist/Choir Director:  
Susan Kreitz

Assistant Organist:  
Grady Daub

Bell Choir:  
Doug Kulp

In person worship  
8:30AM

Two options available:

- Watch live stream video on YouTube
- Join us inside for in person worship

## Welcome to the Season of Epiphany

This is the part of the church year where we celebrate the revealing (Epiphany) of Jesus' divinity through events like the Magi's visit, Jesus' Baptism, and the Transfiguration, showcasing God's light shining in the world and calling believers to share that light. The season begins on January 6 (Feast of the Epiphany-Wise Men) and ends the day before Ash Wednesday (Shrove Tuesday, February 17 – or for us dutchmen, Fasnacht Day!). The Liturgical color is **green**—don't forget to check out Pastor Scott's sneakers.

### The Tradition of Chalking the Door

C+M+B is a traditional Christian inscription of blessing for one's home, often chalked on doorways during Epiphany, symbolizing either the supposed names of the Three Wise Men (Caspar, Melchior, Balthazar) or the Latin phrase "Christus Mansionem Benedicat," meaning "May Christ bless this house," with the plus signs representing the cross and the numbers indicating the year, like 20+C+M+B+26 for 2026.

Instead of chalking, cut out the below inscription and tape above your door (inside is fine) or make your own.

**20 + C + M + B + 26**  
*May Christ Bless this House*



### IT'S THAT TIME OF THE 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 8, 2026

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

**Who:** Benefits Swamp Food Pantry

## Pastor's Message



Dear friends in Christ,

As we step into a new year together, the season of Epiphany invites us to pause and notice the light of Christ being revealed among us. Epiphany is the season of manifestation—when God's love, first made known to the Magi, continues to shine into the world through Jesus and through us.

The star that guided the wise men still guides God's people today. In a world that can feel uncertain or divided, Epiphany reminds us that Christ's light is not hidden or reserved for a few, but generously shared with all. That light leads us outward—to serve, to welcome, and to love our neighbors in tangible ways.

Here at Swamp Lutheran Church, we see that light reflected in the faithful work of our congregation. One meaningful example this month is the Souper Bowl of Caring food collection drive, led by SLY (Swamp Lutheran Youth). As football fans across the nation gather for the Super Bowl, our youth are reminding us that caring for those who are hungry is a faithful response to God's love. Through this effort, we live out the Epiphany message by letting Christ's compassion shine through simple acts of generosity.

As we begin 2026, I encourage you to ask: Where is God's light being revealed in my life? And just as importantly, how might God be calling me to reflect that light to others? Whether through prayer, service, generosity, or kindness, each of us has a role in making Christ known.

May this season of Epiphany fill your hearts with hope, guide your steps with wisdom, and renew your joy in following Jesus—the Light of the world.

Grace and peace to you in the new year,

*Pastor Scott*



# Generosity Minute

## Renewed by God's Generosity

As we step into a new year, we are invited once again to trust in the One who makes all things new. The turning of the calendar reminds us that God's mercies are renewed every morning (Lamentations 3:22–23). Each day is a fresh opportunity to live in response to God's grace—to live generously, faithfully, and with hearts open to the movement of the Spirit.

From the very beginning, God has been a giving God. Out of love, God created the world and breathed life into it. Out of compassion, God entered our human story in Jesus Christ, giving God's own self for the sake of the world. As St. Paul reminds us, "For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though Christ was rich, yet for your sake Christ became poor, so that you through Christ's poverty might become rich" (2 Corinthians 8:9).

This gift of grace shapes how we live and how we give. As Luther taught, all that we have—our lives, our abilities, and our resources—come from God's boundless generosity. We are stewards, entrusted to use these gifts for the good of others and for the glory of God. When we give, whether through tithing, serving, or acts of compassion, we bear witness to the abundance of the One who provides all things.

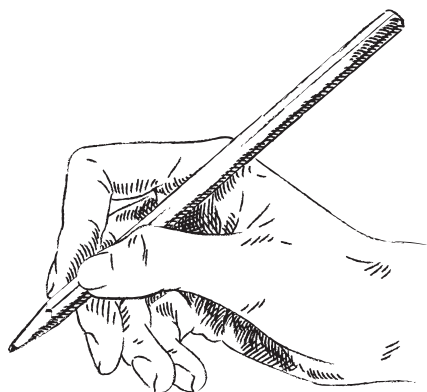
God's promises are sure: "Bring the full tithe into the storehouse... and see if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need" (Malachi 3:10). This is not a promise of worldly wealth, but of spiritual fullness—joy, peace, and trust in God's ongoing care.

As 2026 begins, may our lives and our congregation reflect this deep trust in God's provision. Let us give generously, serve gladly, and walk boldly into the future, knowing that the same God who has blessed us in the past will continue to sustain us in the days to come.

"the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully...And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work." —2 Corinthians 9:6,8

**In Christ's grace,**  
—Generosity Committee

# Notes from the Pastor



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 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 Calender and in the Weekly Bulletin.

## Prayer Requests

Hunter Leisey  
John Frantz  
Ed Miller  
John Wesner  
Jeff Kappenstein  
Nettie Kreiner  
Clair Sweigart  
Faith Moyer  
Michael A. Crowther  
Reba Ranck  
Grace Ranck  
Ray Fox  
Gene Miller  
Larry & Jean Wolf  
Bobby Hershey  
Marilyn Gelsinger  
Edie Snyder  
Teresa Sweigart  
Mel and Troy Ulrich  
Earl Myers  
Elizabeth Sherman  
Judy Habecker  
AnnaRose Schannauer  
Jerry Landis

Mary Beth Jenkins  
Evelyn Gehman  
Joan Leed  
Ron Adams  
Kevin Williams  
Susan Levan  
Larry Eberly  
Janet Bingaman  
Gladys Eckenroad  
Bonnie Koehle-Koon  
Ross Houck  
Chris Zander  
Kathleen Troutman  
Sally Bergman  
Keith Reimert  
Pam Heisey  
Connie Malafarina  
Ted Heisey  
Regina Reinecker  
Karen Klingensmith  
Debbie Leed

Sue Van Zant  
Alex Merionfeld  
Sandy Clouser  
Helen Werner  
Susan Kreitz  
Cody Leisey  
Lou Smith  
Lowell Haws  
Steve Kauffman  
Anson Kauffman  
Randy Krater  
Michelle Moyer  
Tayler Moyer  
Janet Craley  
Lisa Evans  
Scott Zook  
Dianna Becker  
Clarice Haws  
Sue Templin  
Glenn Beard Sr  
Ray Weitzel  
Clyde Showalter  
Michael Hagy  
Laurie Sauder



**"The fewer the words,  
the better the prayer".  
Martin Luther**



## January 10+ Birthdays

RANDY GOCKLEY 62 ROBERT RD EPHRATA PA 17522	1/2
ROBERT SHANK 712 LINCOLN GARDENS RD EPHRATA PA 178522	1/3
LINDA CHRISTY 67 HAWK VALLEY LANE DENVER, PA 17517	1/8
ROBERT BACHMAN 675 BLUE LAKE ROAD DENVER, PA 17517	1/11
JAN RISSE 46 STONY RUN VILLAGE DENVER PA 17517	1/17
MARIE MCQUATE 723 PINE ST DENVER PA 17517	1/17



LOWELL HAWS 712 VINEMONT ROAD REINHOLDS, PA 17569	1/18
SALLY BERGMAN 75 SYCAMORE DR #372 ELIZABETHTOWN PA 17022	1/19
DEWEY TATE 1016 GENERAL SUTTER AVE LITITZ, PA 17543	1/24
LINDA PRESTON 149 PRESTON RD WERNERSVILLE PA 19565	1/29
JAY HERTZOG 7417 N VIA CAMELLO DEL NORTE #156 SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85258-3634	1/30

Please advise the office if this is the magic year that you turn 70! Just give Terri a call at 717-336-2849 or email her at [secretary@swamplutheran.org](mailto:secretary@swamplutheran.org)

## Happy Birthday to others born in January

Garrett Bansner	01
Dale Drake	01
Pat Weitzel	03
Cheryl Chmielewski	06
Dorothy McDonough	06
Jeffrey McDonough, III	06
Ruby McDonough	06
Ryan Martzall	11
Jenna Weachter	11
Bobby Bachman	11



Aubrey Leisey	16
Emily Bansner	16
Alan Worley	20
Avery Posegay	22
Lindsay Matter Showalter	22
Dewey Tate	24
Maya Van Zant	26
Blakely McCafferty	29
Adam Laudenslager	30
Kristin Gockley	31

### CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Please let us know if you  
have a change of  
address, email or  
phone number.  
[secretary@swamplutheran.org](mailto:secretary@swamplutheran.org)

### Nursing Home RESIDENTS

Clyde Showalter	Anna Adams
Mel & Troy Ulrich	Edie Snyder
Michael A. Crowther	John Elser
Earl Myers	Marion Bergman
Clarice Haws	Gary & Joan Reddig
Joyce Stoner	Bobby Hershey

## Jan Sound Tech Schedule

04 Steve Laudenslager  
11 Steve Laudenslager  
18 Steve Laudenslager  
25 Steve Laudenslager

## Feb Sound Tech Schedule

01 Steve Laudenslager  
08 Steve Laudenslager  
15 Steve Laudenslager  
22 Steve Laudenslager

## Jan Vid Stream Schedule

04 Josh Garrison  
11 Alan Worley  
18 John Frantz  
25 Josh Garrison

## Feb Vid Stream Schedule

01 Alan Worley  
08 John Frantz  
15 Josh Garrison  
22 Alan Worley

## Jan Coffee Schedule

04 Deb Sweigert  
11 Ray Weitzel  
18 Pam Leisey  
25 Randy Gockley

## Feb Coffee Schedule

01 Ray Weitzel  
08 Pam Leisey  
15 Deb Sweigert  
22 John Frantz

## Jan Greeters Schedule

04 Deb Sweigert  
11 John Frantz  
18 Brian & Katie Koehle  
25 David & Laraine Kramer

## Feb Greeters Schedule

01 Lee & Jodi Showalter  
08 Steve & Karen Laudenslager  
15 John & Sharon Levan  
22 Denise Kidwell

# UPCOMING EVENTS

January 1 NEW YEAR'S DAY  
January 1 OFFICE CLOSED  
January 2 OFFICE CLOSED  
January 5 7:00pm Bell Choir  
January 6 6:00pm Zoom Bible Study  
January 6 7:00pm Welcome Cmte  
January 7 7:00pm Choir  
January 8 6:30pm Learning Cmte  
January 13 6:00pm Zoom Bible Study  
January 14 1-4:00pm EASS Food Distribution  
January 14 7:00pm Choir  
January 19 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR DAY  
January 19 OFFICE CLOSED  
January 19 7:00pm Bell Choir  
January 20 6:00pm Zoom Bible Study  
January 21 7:00pm Choir  
January 21 7:00pm Church Council  
January 23 1:00pm Widow & Widowers Reading Museum,  
January 26 7:00pm Bell Choir  
January 27 6:00pm Zoom Bible Study  
January 27 7:00pm Cocalico Builders of Hope  
January 28 7:00pm Choir



**In case of inclement weather.** Notice of church cancellation will be shared via email to those who are signed up to receive church emails, posted on our website [www.swamlutheran.org](http://www.swamlutheran.org), posted on WGAL's website, and Swamp Lutheran's Facebook page.

12/16/2025

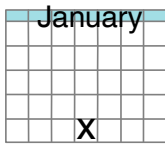
Swamp Lutheran Church  
November 2025 Financial

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Treasurers Report November 2025					
	Nov 2025 Actual	This Year Budget	% of Budget	Remaining	Year-To-Date Actual
Income	\$ 49,466.46	\$ 326,063.00	15%	\$ 276,596.54	\$ 359,654.55
Expense	\$ 31,024.81	\$ 326,063.00	10%	\$ 295,038.19	\$ 393,605.69
OPERATIONS	\$ 739.00	\$ 53,590.00	1%	\$ 52,851.00	\$ 46,401.95
ADMINISTRATION	\$ 6,109.56	\$ 21,350.00	29%	\$ 15,240.44	\$ 40,752.87
BENEFITS	\$ 3,535.56	\$ 36,435.00	10%	\$ 32,899.44	\$ 40,114.76
THROUGH STAFF	\$ 11,637.34	\$ 146,148.00	8%	\$ 134,510.66	\$ 141,167.35
REIMBURSED EXP.	\$ 560.00	\$ -		\$ (560.00)	\$ 3,593.84
PROPERTY	\$ 605.12	\$ 18,050.00	3%	\$ 17,444.88	\$ 19,676.90
WORSHIP	\$ 1,197.87	\$ 7,550.00	16%	\$ 6,352.13	\$ 6,773.84
SERVICE	\$ -	\$ 900.00	0%	\$ 900.00	\$ 992.10
COMMUNICATIONS	\$ 22.28	\$ 750.00	3%	\$ 727.72	\$ 806.97
GENEROSITY	\$ -	\$ 500.00	0%	\$ 500.00	\$ -
WELCOME	\$ -	\$ 5,350.00	0%	\$ 5,350.00	\$ 1,821.03
LEARNING	\$ 238.71	\$ 3,850.00	6%	\$ 3,611.29	\$ 902.71
BENEVOLENCES	\$ 6,379.37	\$ 30,790.00	21%	\$ 24,410.63	\$ 64,336.44
Insurance Claim - Broken Pipe	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ 26,264.93

Thank you for serving as greeters.

Please try to be at the front door by 8:10AM



## January 27 is the deadline for the February Newsletter.

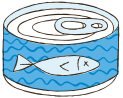
Please reach out to Terri Renninger at 717-336-2849 or email [secretary@swamplutheran.org](mailto:secretary@swamplutheran.org)

*Your cooperation is appreciated. Thank you!*



**ALTAR FLOWERS:** Altar flowers are needed for February 1<sup>st</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to sponsor a Sunday for the flowers or candle in 2026, please contact Sue Kreitz at 717-283-9444 or John Frantz at 717-606-8994.

**Grumbine's Flowers** is looking to relocate and will not guarantee fresh altar flower arrangements beyond February 2026. In the event that Grumbine's discontinues service, the flower committee will be discussing options and/or alternatives. In the meantime, please continue to sign up for flower sponsorships via Sue, John, or the flower calendar. Candle sponsorships will not be changing.



**FOOD BANK** – Needs of the food bank are ongoing and need replenished monthly. There is a need for canned chicken, tuna, soup, paper towels and toilet paper. Please check for a current expiration date. Thank you for helping as you are able. We distribute on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wed each month.



**Special Request - BOXES.** EASS uses approx. 100 boxes monthly for food bank- distribution. Please place them near the youth room entrance. *Thank you!*



**THANK YOU** to the congregation for purchasing wreaths for Wreaths Across America. Also, thank you to the congregation for participating in laying the wreaths at the Swamp Cemetery.

*Kristin and Swamp Lutheran Youth*



**US FLAGS** When a US flag becomes worn, faded, torn or soiled, it should be retired and replaced with a new flag. For those of you interested in retiring your worn US flags, please bring them to the church. We will collect them in the church library and deliver them to the Reinholds VFW who will arrange for them to be retired in proper fashion. Thank you for your consideration.



**Gently Used Sneakers Needed.** SLY 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. SLY is 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 Pastor Scott Brubaker at 717-336-2849 or email [pastor@swamplutheran.org](mailto:pastor@swamplutheran.org)



**Knitters and Crocheters** have been asked to provide baby blankets for Veteran Families. Please use soft yarn with not too loose of a pattern and no more than 32" X 32", but not less than 27" square or rectangular. There are some copies of baby blanket patterns in the church library where the shawls/blankets are being collected. We need more boy colors than girl colors.



**The church needs your help** as a volunteer. From time to time members of the church need assistance in getting somewhere or even to get to church. It is not often but when the need arises we would appreciate having some folks who are willing to drive if available. Please call or email Terri at the office to identify yourself as a willing volunteer driver. 717-336-2849 or [secretary@swamplutheran.org](mailto:secretary@swamplutheran.org). God needs our hands and feet to assist those in our church family. Thank you for your consideration.



## SAVE THE DATE – January 18

Intergenerational Sunday School Class – Theme is Epiphany

January 18 @ 9:45 AM in Social Hall

Ages 5<sup>th</sup> grade and older – come one, come all

Next Council Meeting  
Jan 21 at 7:00PM

## Church Council Highlights

December 17th, 2025

### Builders of Hope, TL:

- The house they rented is no longer available. They are looking for a 3 bedroom house in the Cocalico School District.
- Fundraising and grant applications will begin in hopes of purchasing a house.

### Service:

- The next community meal will be January 8<sup>th</sup>.

### Kitchen Krew:

- Our food bank provided food boxes for 56 families with 148 folks in December.
- Also, gave 4 boxes of food to the EASS families we shopped for their kids.
- Assisted the youth with their Thanksgiving meal.

### Worship Committee:

- Christmas Eve services will be 4pm and 7pm. At 6:30pm, enjoy pre-service musical prelude.
- The first Sunday after Christmas will be Lessons and Carols.

### Welcome:

- 8 folks participated in shopping for 9 EASS kids.
- Total bill was around \$1100.
- Caroling on the 21st after church. Hot chocolate and cookies were served afterward.

### Learning:

- They will be collecting soup for souper bowl Sunday after the New Year.

### Youth Ministry:

- Youth prepared a meal for a family of 6 and for the youth and adults to eat. 13 folks helped prepare the meal and 16 ate the meal.
- Youth sold 26 wreaths for Wreaths Across America. Thank you to the congregation that purchased wreaths and for participating in the event.
- Special thanks to Laraine and David Kramer for their leadership with Wreaths Across America
- 6 youth and 2 adults will be attending the Winterfest event at the Lancaster Wyndham Convention Hotel January 2-4, 2026.

### Property:

- For the safety of our congregation, we contracted with a snow removal service for clearing the parking lot and sidewalks. This cost was \$400 and was not totally covered in the budget.
- The A/C will move forward with Rodney Good Mechanical doing the work.

### Generosity:

- The Jars of Joy final total was \$621.52.
- The Good Gifts collected \$470 so far.

### Directory:

- The directory is ready to print.

### Other items discussed:

- The Pinewood Derby track will be gifted to Pack 61 in Adamstown.
- Inclement weather info—The survey responses indicated that folks would like to cancel as opposed to having a delay. Cancellation info will be sent via email and facebook.
- We are aware of issues with the live streaming and are working on fixing it. We thank you for letting us know.
- Carillon update: Cody talked to several folks about repair. The least amount it would cost would be \$8000. He will continue to work on it.
- Your slate of officers for next year are:  
President: Cody Leisey                      Vice President: Lee Showalter  
Secretary: Danielle Kauffman              Co-Treasurers: Sue Ellen Knauer and Guy Templin  
Financial Secretary: Deb Kohl

### OFFICERS of COUNCIL

Cody Leisey, President,  
Lee Showalter, Vice President  
Danielle Kauffman, Secretary  
Deb Kohl, Financial Secretary  
Guy Templin, Co-Treasurer  
Sue Knauer, Co-Treasurer

### CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL LIAISONS

Danielle Kauffman —  
Communication, Directory

Sue Ellen Knauer —  
Constitution; Service;  
Personnel, Generosity

Denise Kidwell — Disaster  
Response, Kitchen Krew

Guy Templin — Finance;  
Worship

Deb Sweigert — Cocalico  
Builders of Hope

Lee Showalter — Property

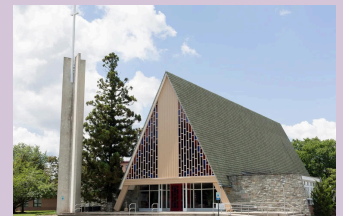
Pam Leisey — Learning

George Philippopoulos—Safety  
& Security

Jen Weitzel - Welcome

Alan Worley –Youth Ministry

Cody Leisey- Worship Study



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!**



## Living Lutheran Launches New Site and Features

The new LivingLutheran.org launches on Monday, December 8. Members of congregations in our synod will be able to set up a free digital membership that offers these perks:

- A welcoming, easy-to-access format.
- A personalized dashboard prioritizing the stories that interest them.
- Access to members-only content, and the ability to save and “like” articles.
- E-news delivery options to get the stories they want, both online and in their email inboxes.

Please visit [livinglutheran.org/subscribe](https://livinglutheran.org/subscribe) to sign up for your free digital membership. Living Lutheran tells the stories of the ELCA, bonding us as a church across congregations, synods, states, regions and countries. For more information, visit [livinglutheran.org/subscribe](https://livinglutheran.org/subscribe). You'll also find options for individual and group subscriptions to the print magazine. Please email questions to [livinglutheran@elca.org](mailto:livinglutheran@elca.org).

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## Lower Susquehanna Synod Lutheran Disaster Response Team updates:

1. LSS Disaster Response Mission Trip 2026 Planning Meeting: Sunday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, at 4:00 p.m. in the Community Room at Luther Acres, 250 St. Luke Drive, Lititz. The 26<sup>th</sup> trip of the Lower Susquehanna Synod LDR Team will take place April 26– May 2, 2026. It will be a return to the western North Carolina region devastated by Hurricane Helene last fall.
2. The second opportunity is an invitation to anyone interested in hearing about our most recent trip to North Carolina. Also on February 1<sup>st</sup>, our disaster response team will be gathering to tell our stories and show our pictures from the work we did and the experiences we had in North Carolina in November. The presentation will take place in the Community Room at 7:00 p.m. We thank everyone who supported our work and invite them to come and see what they helped make possible. If you have any questions, please let me know!

Questions? Contact Pastor Glenn Beard at [gbeard@lutheracare.org](mailto:gbeard@lutheracare.org)

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## Swamp Needs Your Help!

Tell Pastor Scott if you can help or want to learn more  
Most pressing needs include:



**Communion Extender:** We need helpers to take communion to our homebound members. Training provided.

**Choir:** We welcome singers for Swamp's Chancel Choir.

**Bell Choir:** Ringers needed for this music ministry.

**Learning Committee:** We could use new committee members interested in fostering the faith of our disciples, both young and old.

**SLY:** We need additional leaders on our team to guide this ministry.

**Sunday School teachers:** Helpers and teachers needed.

**Worship Committee:** We can always use fresh perspectives on worship.

**Generosity Committee:** We need additional disciples to help promote generosity to God's work at Swamp.

**Property Committee:** We need help attending to the property needs of Swamp. Consider adopting a flower bed to maintain or giving of a skill (electrician, plumbing, carpentry, painting, etc.).



# Thank You



Council,

Words cannot express just how grateful my family is for the love and support from our church family. My mother's passing was a painful event, but everyone's kindness has helped ease that pain. Thank you so very much!!

Pastor Scott, Jim, Abbey & Jay



Swamp Family,

Thank you so much for the hospitality basket and Christmas cards.

Thank you for all the birthday cards I got for my 95th birthday

Also thanks for the visits

Ruby Nandy

Paster Scott + Congregation

*The best gifts*

*aren't always*

*under the tree...*

*they're people like you.*



Thank you for the fruit basket and beautiful cards.

Love  
Jean Wolf

Swamp Church Family,

Thank you to all who gave gracious Christmas gifts and thoughtful Christmas cards. I am thankful for the friendships and kindness from the Swamp congregation.

Happy New Year to ALL!

Thanks again,  
Terri

**Attention Thrivent Financial Members.** The Thrivent "Action Teams" program is an opportunity for Thrivent members to lead projects that provide service and outreach to the community. Thrivent Financial will provide funds of \$250 for each project to get started and pay for associated expenses. You may request two grants per year. Swamp Lutheran has many needs, like the monthly food pantry, events, etc. that qualify under this program. If you wish to direct your grant request to help with Swamp Lutheran's activities, please reach out to Lori Gockley who will assist you with the process. Email: [lgockley2@gmail.com](mailto:lgockley2@gmail.com) or call 717-203-8551



## Welcome to our New Members!



**Todd, Michelle, and Tayler Moyer.** The Moyer's come to Swamp via transfer from Zion Lutheran, Leola. Todd grew up at Swamp with his childhood home across the street from the church.

Todd is a graduate of Cocalico and earned a BS in Math Ed from Shippensburg University, a MS in Math Ed from Millersville University and an Ed.D. in CITE (Curriculum, Instruction, and Technology in Education) from Temple University. Dr. Moyer is a professor at Towson University in Maryland. Michelle is a graduate of Conestoga Valley and earned her BS in Accounting from Shippensburg University. Michelle is Senior Enterprise Risk Manager for Fulton Bank.

Todd and Michelle are the proud parents of Lauren (Maloney) and Tayler. They enjoy activities at the Lancaster Liederkrantz and with their family. Todd enjoys the Phillies, golf, and APBA baseball.

Tayler is an Ephrata graduate and earned her MS in Mathematical Economics with a minor in German. She is employed and an Economist by the US Department of Labor-Bureau of Labor Statistics. She enjoys hanging out with her fiancé Dylan, her friends and family. She has served as the Treasurer for the Friends of Eberbach for the last two year.

The Moyer's list childhood church, the people and Pastor Scott as reasons for coming to Swamp.



**Lauren (nee Moyer) and James Maloney.** The Maloney's were married at Swamp on December 5. Lauren is the daughter of Michelle and Todd Moyer. Lauren is a graduate of Ephrata and the University of Maryland with a BS in Bioengineering and a BA in Germanic Studies. She is employed as a Test Engineering Lead at Kymanox (medical device testing). James is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh-Johnstown with a BS in Biochemistry and minor in Biology. He is employed as a Field Service Engineer at Agilent Technologies.

Lauren's hobbies include Lancaster Liederkrantz, golf, gardening, the Phillies, and craft breweries. James enjoys gaming, golf, hockey and craft breweries.

When asked what attracted them to Swamp, Lauren wrote, "I attended Swamp with my grandparents (Charlie and Anna Mae Moyer) and fell in love with the community and the church. We knew this was the church to have our wedding and start our faith journey together."



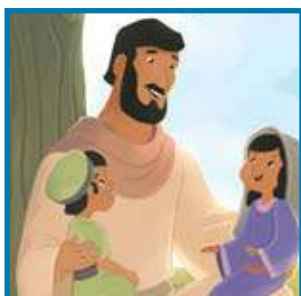
**Robert and Linda Preston.** The Preston's come to Swamp via transfer from St. Daniel's Lutheran in Robesonia. The Reverend James B. Miller officiated their wedding in 1969. The Preston's are the proud parents of two daughter, Elizabeth Schiffert (Christopher) and Laura McNutt (Neal) and six grandchildren.

Robert earned a BS from Elizabethtown College and a M.Ed from Kutztown University. He taught mathematics for four years before a 33 year career as a Project Cost Accountant. Linda graduated from Conrad Weiser and earned her BS in Elementary Education and M. Ed from Kutztown University. She served as a 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher at Wilson for three years. She then balanced mothering with substitute teaching and serving as the Manager of Elderly Housing (low income) for Phoebe Ministries.

Robert and Linda have been very active at St. Daniels. Robert served on church council as a member and as president; treasurer, finance and property committees. Linda served on the social ministry and Christian education committees and the choir and food pantry. Linda also volunteered at the Center for Dyslexic Children, Reading.

Robert enjoys gardening while Linda enjoys cooking, baking, and feeding people. They both enjoy their grandchildren very much.

Asked why they chose to join Swamp, they listed a full-time pastor younger than them, excellent hymns and sermons, children's sermons, leadership, zoom bible study, active committees and welcoming parishioners like Bobby Hershey.



## Jesus and the Children Word Search

Find the words on the list that are hidden in the puzzle. The words can be left to right, up and down, or diagonally.

```

l o v e t b h e n l s m o d
i o n s e d i s c i p l e s
a i q b a t n o n t e c t e
u k d o l o r e d t l i q u
o i e r s e c t e l d h t w
u n l a m c s n s e q e i e
o g s e q u i s c i l a a l
r d v e l e x e e i r v u c
a o r e m o l o r d i e e o
u m i n e n d r e t a n e m
c h i l d r e n g a i t v e
u m i n e n d r e t a t v e
r e b u k e d l a f a c i d
n t a l i i n d i g n a n t
  
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blessed  
Children  
disciples  
heaven

indignant  
kingdom  
little  
love

rebuked  
welcome