



THE RISING SUN NEWSLETTER
SWAMP EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
275 SWAMP CHURCH ROAD, REINHOLDS, PA 17569

Church Telephone 717-336-2849; Fax 717-336-2840; e-mail secretary@swamplutheran.org

STAFF

MINISTERS:

Congregation

PASTOR:

Rev. Kurt Strause

ADMIN ASST:

Brenda Johnston

ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR

Susan Kreitz

BELL CHOIR

Doug Kulp

SEXTON

John Frantz

OFFICERS of COUNCIL

Lori Gockley, President,

Welcome

David Kupp, Vice President,

Scouts

Danielle Kauffman, Sec.,

Stewardship & Social Media

Deb Kohl, Fin. Secy, Service

Guy Templin, Co-Treas, Finance

& Worship,

Sue Knauer, Co-Treas, Personnel &

Constitution

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

Dave Borrell –Helping Hands

Randy Krater - Property

Pam Leisey –Learning

Jan Risser –Love, Inc.

Ryan Ranck –Youth Ministry

David Sauder - Call Committee

Lee Showalter –Disaster Response

Tom Showalter-Safety & Security

From Pastor Kurt

Locust Lovers, attention!

Overhead, underfoot, they abound
And they have been seventeen years in the ground.
For seventeen years they were immune to politics and class war and capital taunts and labor taunts,
And now they have come out like billions of insect debutantes.

-- Ogden Nash, 1936

Last week Lois and I visited our daughter Renata and her husband John at their new home in Baltimore, Maryland. They live in an older house in a “first-tier” suburb dating to the 1920’s. Old trees grace their yard providing welcome shade. When we visited we were immediately

struck by the constant humming and drone coming from the trees. “Oh, those are the cicadas,” she told us. It seems their yard was an epicenter for the emergence of Brood X, the 17-year cicadas that are now emerging by the billions across the north-east United States. Thousands of their discarded pupae shells clung to the tree trunks, and the bug-eyed, gentle insects were singing for their potential mates high in the leaves. Its amazing to think these insects have lived underground since 2004 and their offspring won’t see the light of day until 2038.

Moments such as these remind me how wonderful and humbling

God’s creation really is. The Psalmist proclaims, “O Lord, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.” - Psalm 104:24. The world God gives us in grace and love is full of wonder and even mystery.

As we begin to emerge from our year and half hibernation (not nearly 17 years!), let us retain that sense of humility and mystery in light of God’s creation. We are not always in control of our world as the emergence of this coronavirus has taught us. We live in a partnership with God and we are at our best when we continue to acknowledge that God created us to be in relationship with him.

IN PERSON INSIDE WORSHIP CONTINUES MASKS REQUIRED

THREE OPTIONS AVAILABLE

Mask wearing optional for fully vaccinated. All other protocols remain in place.

1. Watch video on YouTube
2. Tune in to FM 87.9 in your car parked in church lot
3. Join us inside for in person worship.

Those who participate from car or outside will be brought communion.

Jeremiah 20.13

Sing to the LORD!
Give praise to the LORD!
He rescues the life of the needy from the hands of the wicked.



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.

Earl Myers
 Katie Houck
 Sue Kittler
 Joan Long
 Hunter Leisey
 Josie Reitz
 Pastor Jim Miller
 Ashton Faust
 Susan Levan
 Janice Moyer Kelly
 Claire Sweigart
 Elmo Lorah
 Nancy Kulp

Jean Wolf
 Randy Krater
 Sharon Fremont—friend of Sue Kreitz
 Shirley Achey—neighbor of Sue Kreitz
 Mary Kring—aunt of Linda Ream
 Shirley Martzall—friend of Ranck family
 Tony Malafarina
 Margaret Elser
 Family of Mary Jane Miller
 Lisa Buckles—friend of Sue Ellen Knauer
 Matt Hollinger -Weitzel family friend
 Phyllis Miller—Cousin Jen Weitzel
 Kelly O’Hara—Friend of Jen Weitzel

When someone is put on the prayers list, we will keep them on for four weeks. After that time, they will be taken off the unless you make another request to have them put back on.

Service committee is in need of new members. Some of our activities are summer lunch program, serving community meals, upkeep of the little library and pantry, Luther Acres activities, and Lutheran World Relief kits. We serve and outreach to our local community and to our global neighbors. Would love to see new members join us and help us reach out more. If interested contact, Jodi Showalter

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

JOHN ELSER 6/6
 250 PARKVIEW HEIGHTS AVENUE
 APT. 101
 EPHRATA, PA 17522

JUNE EBERLY 6/23
 119 MARTZALL ROAD
 DENVER, PA 17517



Ephrata Area Social Services continues to experience high demand during this time of pandemic with a decrease in donations. They are accepting monetary donations to help bridge the gap. Monetary donations can be made out to EASS. Their address is: EASS, 227 North State Street, Ephrata, PA 17522. Thank you in advance for your help.

As a church we continue as a point of distribution for EASS, distributing 20-25 boxes of food once a month on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. We are packing and distributing all dry goods. Our need for non-perishable items and volunteers is an ongoing need. Contributions may be dropped off at the church during the morning hours M-F or on Sunday before or after service. We are unable to distribute items past their expiration date. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Lori Gockley.



Current needs for the pantry are: ketchup, mustard, relish, jam, paper towels, toilet paper individually wrapped, **canned meat**, **canned fruit**, coffee, tea and snacks.



Katie Houck	01
Tyler Leed	02
Chris Laudenslager	03
Kenzie Stopper	03
Ali Templin	03
Pam Hertzog	04
Samantha Donmoyer	04
Bronson Reedy	05
John Elser	06
Larry Knauer	08
Katie Laudenslager	08
Jim Martzall	11
Chace Smith	14
Ashlie Artz	14
Eric Showalter	14
Hailey Ranck	15
Stephen Ranck	15
Colin Reimer	16
Olivia Reimer	16
Lisa Ferry	17
Peggy Coble	17
Adara Kittler	17
Brian Reedy	17
Tom Henly	19
Guy Templin	21
Vanessa Knauer	22
Zach Rineer	22
Maeve Van Zant	22
June Eberly	23
Troy Hagy	23
Faith Stoltzfoos	25
Rachel Young	25
Greg Diestel	27
Jerry Landis	27
Mike Mixell	29

UPDATES ON MEMBERS



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



Michael A. Crowther

Clarice Haws

Betty Hornberger

Charles Moyer

Ella Shirk

Alverta Showalter

Clyde Showalter

Mary Ann Weitzel

Rev. Jim Miller

Margaret Elser

CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS MAY 19, 2021

Learning Committee—is starting a program called Summer Second Sundays. In June, July & August they are planning to do an activity to keep us connected during the summer.

The first one in June will be Fruits of the Spirit...They will be planting a fruit tree.

Service Committee: The community meal on May 13 served 50-65 meals.

The summer lunch program is June 28 and June 30th. Contact Denise Kidwell if you would like to help.

Scouts--Had a campout May 21-23.

The Pinewood Derby was held on May 22.

Helping Hands—Our food bank distributed boxes to 12 families this month.

Social Media-- A suggestion was made to add testimonials to the website from congregation members about why they stay at Swamp/come to Swamp.

Added to homepage and the about us page.

Putting together a form for the bulletin that members could fill out and drop in a box. It would include if they wanted their name shared or to be anonymous.

Questions:

Why do you like Swamp?

What keeps you returning each Sunday?

How many years have you been a member?

Do we have permission to post your response on our website?

Property—Mulching was done on May 12th. Thank you to all that participated.

Welcome Committee—Council approved to have a Church Picnic this year. It will be held September 12 after church.

Rally day will be held the same day for the Sunday School kids

Call Committee—The Committee consists of Chairman Dave Sauder, Chaplain Lowell Haws, Anita Kupp, Sue Knauer, Abbey Rineer and Connie Taylor.

General:

Currently we have 2 candidates presented to us from the Synod that we are interviewing.

Recently Completed:

Interviewed Candidate #1 (5/16/21) - we want to proceed with next step on this candidate
Set-up interview for Candidate #2 (6/13/21)

Next Steps:

Second interview Candidate #1 (first interview was favorable and want to proceed with on-site interview)
Follow-up with any additional candidates presented by the Synod

Other items discussed:

Pastor Strause has been visiting folks as permitted who are shut in or would like Communion.

Confirmation Camp is scheduled for June 20 to June 26 at Camp Kirchenwald. This cooperative program is meant to supplement existing confirmation classes taking place in the individual congregations. We have around 6 students participating. Overall we expect about 35-40 young people from the 6 cooperating congregations. Connie Taylor and Pastor Strause will be the instructors from Swamp.

Ray Weitzel has reached out to the Lighthouse Organization, to contract with them to clean the church once a week while John is out. If anyone would like to make a meal for John Frantz, please let me know.

We will be placing an additional offering plate out on the last Sunday of each month for the Disaster Relief Offering.

After lively discussion on COVID recommendations from the CDC it was decided:

Stop disinfecting after church services
Follow CDC guidelines that fully vaccinated people, two weeks out from vaccinating, have the option to not wear a mask
Singing without masks discussion on hold, until June meeting
Everything else stays the same, social distancing etc.

The Phillies are holding their own only 2 games out of first place.
The Braves are close at 2.5 games out.

Then we go to the American League...the Orioles are 10.5 games out.

**SWAMP
EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

275 Swamp Church Road
Reinholds, PA 17569

Phone: 717-336-2849

Fax: 717-336-2840

Email:

secretary@swamplutheran.org

Office Hours: 8:30am—12noon

www.swamplutheran.org

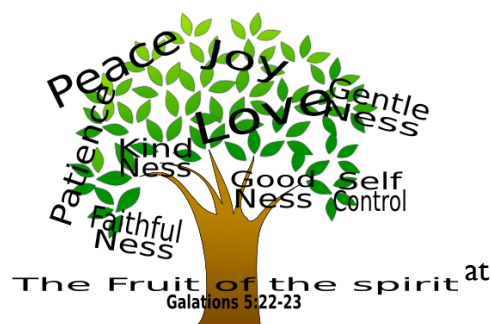
Next Council Meeting :
June 16, 2021

Newsletter Submission for
JULY
Monday, June 21, 2021

2nd SUMMER SUNDAYS -
Learning Committee would like to invite EVERYONE to “2nd Summer Sundays” starting on June 13, 2021. We will have fun activities on “The Fruit of the Spirit”. This will start after the Church Service 9:30 AM. We hope to have this

outside – weather permitting.

We will be hosting another 2nd Summer Sunday in July. Our theme will be “Christmas in July” and also one in August. Our theme will be “Growing in Grace”. All to be held outside – weather permitting. We hope to see you there!



We are presently accepting donations of items for school kits through the end of September for this year’s LWR school kit project. The items most needed are the **notebooks, rulers, and pens**. No backpacks are needed thanks to Jane! All items are listed below. Donations may be given to Jane Leshner, Denise Null and Connie Taylor. Last year, despite the obstacles, we put together 54 backpacks and delivered to the LWR pick-up site. Thank you to all who donated supplies and a special thanks to Beatty Gress for helping us achieve this amount. Thanks for all the help!

While we still have a surplus of pencils, we depleted most of our other supplies last year, so we are starting from “scratch”. We appreciate everyone following the guidelines listed below, as Lutheran World Relief will not send anything that doesn’t adhere to these guidelines.

Thanks so much! Debbie Carvell

70-80 sheet notebooks of wide or college ruled paper approximately 8” x 10 ½” – 4 per backpack

30-centimeter ruler or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other side – 1 per backpack

Pencil sharpeners – 1 per backpack

Blunt scissors (safety scissors). (They must say this on the packaging) – 1 per backpack

Unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers – 5 per backpack

Black or blue ink pens – 5 per backpack

Packs of 16 or 24 crayons – 1 pack per backpack

2 ½” erasers – 1 per backpack

