



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,

Helping Hands

David Kupp, Vice President,

Safety & Security, Scouts

Danielle Kauffman, Sec., Service

Deb Kohl, Fin. Secy, Stewardship,
Social Media

Guy Templin, Co-Treas, Finance

& Worship,

Sue Knauer, Co-Treas, Personnel &
Constitution

CONGREGATIONAL

COUNCIL

Dave Borrell -Welcome

Randy Krater - Property

Pam Leisey -Learning

Jan Risser -Love, Inc.

Ryan Ranck -Youth Ministry

David Sauder - Stewardship

Social Media

Lee Showalter

Tom Showalter

From Pastor Kurt

For many years my family keeps a July 4 tradition. We watch the movie version of the Broadway musical "1776." The movie brings to life the events surrounding the debate in the Continental Congress in Philadelphia whether or not the 13 English colonies in America should declare independence from Great Britain, the drafting of a Declaration of Independence, and its final passage. Watching the movie each year reminds us these were real people struggling with an idea never tried before; the breaking away from a mother country and creating a new nation.

As citizens of the United States of America we celebrate our nation's founding on July 4, this year

falling on a Sunday. We do well to take this time to remind ourselves of the founding principles enshrined in those original documents. "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness." An unanswered question at the time of the Declaration's drafting concerned who was to be included in the phrase "all men are created equal." Many of our nation's conflicts centered on defining and struggling over expanding who was to be included in that phrase and allowed and encouraged to participate in the voting fran-

chise; Blacks, Native Americans, Women. In many ways the struggle continues to the present day.

"All people are created equal." As faithful Christians we are committed to such a statement. The origin story (Genesis 1:26-27, 2:5-25) of God creating the first human beings enshrines this basic truth in our lives. Whatever divisions arise between people, whether based on race, culture, or gender, are of human origin and not divine origin. As Christians we are called to affirm this "self-evident" truth. As citizens of this nation we are called to continue the work of ensuring that no one is excluded from this basic truth of our founding.

IN PERSON INSIDE WORSHIP CONTINUES MASKS REQUIRED

THREE OPTIONS AVAILABLE

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.

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

Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise—the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. Hebrews 13.15



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
Patricia Gress
Pastor Jim Miller
Ashton Faust
Susan Levan
Janice Moyer Kelly
Claire Sweigart
Nancy Kulp
Tony Malafarina
John Frantz

Jean Wolf
Sharon Fremont—friend of Sue Kreitz
Shirley Achey—neighbor of Sue Kreitz
Mary Kring—aunt of Linda Ream
Shirley Martzall—friend of Ranck family
Margaret Elser
Matt Hollinger—friend of Weitzel family
Lisa Buckles—friend of Sue Ellen Knauer
Phyllis Miller—cousin of Jen Weitzel
Kelly O'Hara—friend of Jen Weitzel
Debbie Meyers—daughter of Earl & Irene



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.



**EPHRATA
AREA
SOCIAL
SERVICES**

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. Watch the weekly bulletin for current needs.



JULY BIRTHDAYS

JOAN LEED 7/1
250 GALEN HALL RD
REINHOLDS, PA 17569

CLARICE HAWS 7/8
GARDEN at STEVENS, Rm 104,
400 LANCASTER AVE.
STEVENS, PA 19578

PAT MCQUATE 7/9
423 SPRUCE STREET
DENVER, PA 17517

JOAN REDDIG 7/10
21 STONE CREEK CT.
EPHRATA, PA 17522

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

LARRY HAGY 8/1
500 BLUE LAKE ROAD
DENVER, PA 17517

LINDA REAM 8/3
230 EDMONT LANE
NEWMANSTOWN, PA 17073

LINDA BEARD 8/4
753 SOUTH FOURTH ST.
DENVER, PA 17517

RONALD BINGEMAN 8/4
580 GOCKLEY ROAD
STEVENS, PA 17578

LOUETTA FRANCK 8/8
8 EDIE DRIVE
DENVER, PA 17517

JANICE KELLY 8/12
104 BURROWS STREET
SINKING SPRING, PA 19608

BEATRICE GRESS 8/16
155 S. BLAINSPORT ROAD
REINHOLDS, PA 17569

GARY REDDIG 8/17
21 STONE CREEK CT
EPHRATA, PA 17522

HOWARD REAM 7/10
230 EDMONT LN
NEWMANSTOWN, PA 17073

ANNA HERSHEY 7/15
46 STONY RUN VILLAGE
DENVER, PA 17517

MARION BERGMAN
17 RAY DRIVE
DENVER, PA 17517

IRENE MYERS 8/20
1845 FURNACE HILL RD
DENVER, PA 17517

DOTTIE GOOD 8/20
P.O. BOX 101
BOWMANVILLE, PA 17507

ALVERTA SHOWALTER 8/20
400 LANCASTER AVE
RM 111
STEVENS, PA 17578

ELIZABETH BRUBAKER 8/28
104 MECHANIC ST
REINHOLDS, PA 17569

BARBARA WERNER 8/28
88 EAST MAIN ST
REINHOLDS, PA 17569



JULY

PAT WENZEL	01
KIM HOUCK	02
JOAN LEED	02
AUSTIN SWEIGART	03
CATHY CAMMAUF	04
NATE OROPOLLO	05
JEAN WOLF	05
DYLIN SWEIGART	06
MAGGIE KRATER	06
BYRON REEDY	07
CLARICE HAWS	08
PAT MCQUATE	09
JENNIFER METZLER	09
JAKE HILL	09
ALEXANDER POPE	10
HOWARD REAM	10
JOAN REDDIG	10
TIM LORAH	12
JOY MAIER	13
LAURA MARTIN	14
JEFF MILLER	14
MADISON WEAVER	14
DAN CLOUSER	15
ANNA HERSHEY	15
NANCY LEFFLER	16
KIM WEACHTER	16
GRETA HIGGINS	18
ANDREW HAGY	19
JASON HERSHEY	20
LUKE ZOOK	23
CODY LEISEY	24
NATHAN ARTZ	24
OWEN HAGY	25
ROSS HOUCK	25
KAREN LAUDENSLAGER	25
JESSE MARTIN	25
KAYE MARINI	26
RICHARD ECKENROAD	27
JIM HICKERNELL	27
KATHY TROUTMAN	27
GLADYS ECKENROAD	29

CINDY GOLDEN	01
LARRY HAGY	01
PAM LEISEY	01
CAMERON NYE	01
JANET ALBERT-HERMAN	02
MELLA VAN ZANT	02
LINDA REAM	03
HEATHER WEAVER	03
LINDA BEARD	04
RONALD BINGAMAN	04
BETH NUE	04
ALEX KUPP	05
CHELSEA HAGY	06
ERIK POSEGAY	06
LOUETTA FRANCK	08
KATHY WORLEY	08
JERRY HOWE	09
ZAC BROWN	11
JAMICE KELLY	12
TOM SHOWALTER	12
DENISE WELLER	15
BEATTY GRESS	16
JERE MARTIN	16
SHAWNA MOYER	17
GARY REDDIG	17
GILLIAN CHIRIGOS	20
DOTTIE GOOD	20
IRENE MYERS	20
DALE SWEIGERT	20
RONALD CRILLS	21
JOHN LEVAN	22
BETH SWEIGERT	24
ALVERTA SHOWALTER	26
MICHELKLE BROWN	27
NATHAN SHUGARTS	27
LAURIE SAUDER	27
CLYDE SHOWALTER	27
SUSIE HEYDENREICH	31

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www.swamlutheran.org

SCHOOL KITS

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 Lesher, 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 1/2" – 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 1/2" erasers – 1 per backpack



To All Swamp Lutheran Members:

Words seem so inadequate to express my gratitude to you all for the many ways you expressed your love toward my dear wife and to me, with her passing. Here are just a few of the ways Through the present Pastor, the committee or group that served the meal, people who sent cards in large numbers

to our family from the area, as well as far away from home. Its just unbelievable the piles of cards sent to the family.

The power of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ has certainly shown our membership at work. This was Mary Jane's church form her Baptism at Swamp Church until her death. Thanks Be to God!

Thank you all. Pastor Jim Miller

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Fax: 57173362840

Email:

secretary@swamplutheran.org

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Why Three Baptismal Fonts at Swamp?

by Pastor Denny Trout



Baptism is a pivotal sacrament in the Christian/Lutheran Church. Jesus asked his followers to “do” two specific works— communion and baptism. (Luke 22:14-23 and Matthew 28:19). “Go and Baptize” and “Do this in remembrance of me”.

When Swamp was built in 1959, the first font was dedicated. This modern dish design is now located in the Narthex. The positioning, at the entrance of the building, is appropriate because Baptism is how one enters the Christian faith.

The second font is located between the Nave and the Chancel area. Both fonts are used but the latter is more convenient during worship services. This font was designed by Pastor Trout and skillfully created by Raymond Weitzel for the 200th Anniversary of the Swamp Congregation, 1806-2006. (Ray also made the library table in honor of that anniversary date). The idea for the font was to have running water representing alive in Christ. (nothing lives, is nourished or cleansed in this world without water, a symbol of Baptism). The use of water is no accident, therefore, realizing three fourths of the earth's surface is water and about the same percentage of the human body is water. In this font there three tiers. They represent the Trinity. The sea shell is the Christian symbol of Baptism.

The third font is at the back door of the building as a symbolic memorial of “whose” we are! This marble font was salvaged from the Zion Lutheran Church in Union Deposit (5 West Main Street). Pastor John Vought, who is Pastor Trout's close friend, was not sure what to do with the font when they remodeled the building. Pastor Trout volunteered to rescue this hand carved piece of marble. At first he was not sure what to do with it either, so it stood as a bird bath in his garden. Seemingly not appropriate, Pastor Trout moved it to the church where it sits now. It was one of the few things that survived the fire of 2010, which now gives it even more significance. “In Christ We Endure”!

2nd SUMMER SUNDAYS -

Learning Committee would like to invite EVERYONE to “2nd Summer Sundays” on July 11, 2021. We will have fun activities revolving around our theme of “Christmas in July”. This will start after the Church Service at 9:30

AM. We hope to have this outside – weather permitting. Come join us!!



Our theme on August 8, 2021 will be “Growing in Grace”. All to be held outside – weather permitting. We hope to see you there!

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Council Meeting Highlights 16 June 2021

Your council met Wednesday June 16, 2021. Highlights include:

Learning Committee: They are planning the second installment of Summer Second Sunday to be held on July 11th. The theme will be Christmas in July.

They are having Rally day September 19th. Touch a Truck will be the event to kick off the Sunday School season.

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

They will be working with Learning Committee to collect for school kits. Looking to collect for personal care kits during next Lenten season.

Helping Hands—Our food bank distributed boxes to 12 families this month. They prepared a luncheon for after Mary Jane Miller's funeral and will be doing Tim Lorah's funeral on Saturday

Property: Lighthouse services have been contracted to do the cleaning while John is recuperating. They will do general vacuuming and cleaning the bathrooms. They aren't doing the classrooms or kitchen at this time.

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

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

Candidate #1 has withdrawn their name from consideration at Swamp....They accepted another call

Candidate #2 second interview was held Thursday June 17th. The committee is currently discerning this candidate.

The committee will reach out to the Synod next week for additional candidates.

Other items discussed:

- 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.

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Next Council Meeting :
August 18, 2021

Newsletter Submission for
SEPTEMBER
Friday, August 20, 2021

- Worship and Music committee made a recommendation to return to singing during the worship services on Sundays. After a discussion, Council approved the recommendation to sing a few verses of 3 hymns each Sunday. We will continue to use a spoken liturgy until September when we can, if conditions are good, resume a sung liturgy. We will start this June 26/27.
- We will also remove ribbons on pews, return hymnals and Bibles to pew holders, remove markers down the aisles and lift capacity limits.
- Pastor will be on vacation from July 23-July 31. Pastor Glenn Beard will be the supply pastor.

The Phillies are currently in second place 4 games out. Doing a lot better than the Orioles who sit in last place 19.5 games out.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

	ACTUAL May 1-31, 2020	ACTUAL January 1, 2021-May 31, 2021
INC.	\$25,909/59	\$115,960.90
EXP	\$21,886.76	\$121,950.08
DIFF	\$ 4,022.83	\$ (5,989.18)



Michael A. Crowther
Clarice Haws
Betty Hornberger
Charles Moyer
Ella Shirk
Clyde Showalter

Rev. Jim Miller
Mary Ann Weitze
Sue Kittler
Margaret Elser
Alverta Showalter

Sue Kittler
Maple Farm
604 Oak Street
Akron, PA 17501

