

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



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

From Pastor Kurt

“I must decrease and he must increase.”

These words come from the Gospel of John and were spoken by John the Baptist when he encountered Jesus. They describe how I see this next month as you prepare to welcome your new pastor. Not that I am in any way suggesting that Vicar (soon to be Pastor) Brubaker is another Jesus! No pastor is a congregation’s savior; there is only one savior. Rather, it is now my time to bow out and make way for the new pastor to come on board and begin serving you in ministry.

When I arrived nineteen months ago you were preparing to celebrate the ministry of Pastor Dennis Trout. Though he had just retired the banquet was held a little over a month after I began. That meant I was privileged to participate in what turned out to be a loving celebration of a pastoral rela-

tionship that spanned a half-century. As the new kid on the block I saw the high regard you hold for your former pastor. I wondered if anyone following Pastor Trout would be able to serve Swamp Lutheran in the same way.

Almost immediately after the banquet the Covid-19 pandemic struck and life changed dramatically. Together we spent the next several months trying to figure out how to provide a ministry of Word, Sacrament, and Service for the church and the wider community. We tried new things, such as online worship and making weekly meals for the community. We “zoomed” Bible study at home and learned new technologies. Throughout these months we grew in relationship together. I quickly learned that you were able to transition from one pastor to another. You continued to honor

your previous pastor, holding Pastor Trout in high regard, even as you embraced your future.

Now you face another time of letting go and embracing a future. My last Sunday with you will be October 24. Pastor Brubaker’s first Sunday will be October 31, Reformation Sunday, a fitting day to begin a new ministry I believe. Though I will no longer be serving you in an official capacity, I believe the graciousness you exhibit towards your former pastor will continue with me. I have come to see Swamp is a congregation that honors its past but also looks to its future.

As you begin this new time of your congregational life I will be praying for you and your new pastor that together you will find ways to serve the Lord in creative and life-affirming ways. You have a wonderful future ahead of you as Jesus calls you into this exciting adventure called ministry.

IN PERSON INSIDE WORSHIP CONTINUES

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.



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.

Edgar Gress
Katie Houck
Sue Kittler
Joan Long
Hunter Leisey
Josie Reitz
Pastor Jim Miller
Ashton Faust
Susan Levan
Janice Moyer Kelly
Claire Sweigart
Nancy Kulp
Marie McQuate

Jean Wolf
Debbie Myers
Sharon Fremont—friend of Sue Kreitz
Shirley Achey—neighbor of Sue Kreitz
Mary Kring—aunt of Linda Ream
Shirley Martzall—friend of Ranck family
John Frantz
Margaret Elser
Family of Judy Sauder
Lauren Krall



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.

The church needs volunteers to deliver flowers to our sick and shut-ins after our worship service each Sunday. The church secretary, Brenda, will coordinate this effort for the worship team. Please call the church or email Brenda at: secretary@swampluthera.org if you are willing to be part of a rotating group of volunteers for this vital outreach. This will begin on September 12th. *Thank you for volunteering!*



ALTAR FLOWERS



The church would like to recognize those who are celebrating 50+ wedding anniversaries or 50th anniversary of membership. Please notify the church office by email at secretary@swamplutheran.org or by phone at 717-336-2849 if you fall into one of these categories.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

CONNIE TAYLOR 45 CARDINAL DRIVE STEVENS, PA 17578	10/1	GLENN BEARD 753 SOUTH FOURTH ST. DENVER, PA 17517	10/22
LARRY KRAMER 2685 HEIDELBERG AVE. NEWMANSTOWN, PA 17073	10/2	EDITH SNYDER 27 STONECREEK COURT EPHRATA, PA 17522	10/23
MARY ANNE WEITZEL MENNONITE HOME 1520 HARRISBURG PIKE LANCASTER, PA 17601	10/4	ELLA SHIRK MENNONITE HOME 1520 HARRISBURG PIKE RM 330 LANCASTER, PA 17601	10/27
BARBARA NICHOLAS 570 BLUE LAKE ROAD DENVER, PA 17517	10/16	MARGARET ELSE 250 PARKVIEW HEIGHTS RD APT. 101 EPHRATA, PA 17522	10/27
		CLAIR SWEIGERT 120 WOODCHUCK DRIVE EPHRATA, PA 17522	



Connie Taylor	01
Melissa Troutman	01
Larry Kramer	02
Connie Malafarina	02
Danielle Witmer	02
Rachel Roseboro	03
Emily Oropollo	04
Courtney Pannebecker	04
Brian Koehle	05
Tom Laudenslager	05
Rolf Eckenroad	07
Jennifer Reimer	11
Jodi Showalter	12
Bonnie Trout	12
Nichole Weitzel	13
Barb Nicholas	16
Julie Witmer	16
Scott Zook	16
Darrick Keppley	17
Kaitlyn Martzall	18
Glenn Beard	22
Richard Shirk	23
Edie Snyder	23
Chris Chirigos	23
Annie McQuate	26
Lisa Sweigert	26
Margaret Elser	27
Ryan Ranck	27
Ella Shirk	27
Achilles Salas	28
Garrett Strunk	29
Nick Ferry	29
Chris Pannebecker	31
Clair Sweigart	31



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,

(October 14, 2021) 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 party are: canned fruit, canned soup, toilet paper individually wrapped and Kleenex Watch the weekly bulletin for updates on this list.

UPDATES ON MEMBERS



Helen Werner
250 Parkview Heights Rd. #109

Clyde Showalter
Mary Ann Weitzel
Rev. Jim Miller
Margaret Elser
Michael A. Crowther
Clarice Hasws
Betty Hornberger
Charles Moyer
Ella Shirk
Alverta Showalter



CHURCH COUNCIL
MEETS MONTHLY ON
THE THRID
WEDNESDAY OF THE
MONTH. AT 7:00PM

CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS SEPTEMBER 22, 2021

Your Council met Wednesday September 22, 2021. Highlights include:

Learning Committee: Rally day was held September 19th with a successful Touch a Truck event to kick off the Sunday School season. Sunday School will start October 3.

Love, Inc: The current family has moved out and they are currently seeking a new family.

Service Committee: The community meal will be held Thursday, October 14. If you would like to help, contact Dave Kupp.

Helping Hands: Our food bank has provided food to 10 families in September.

They prepared a funeral luncheon for Jim Beard's memorial service 65 folks attended.

75 folks attended the church picnic

Prepared Judy Sauder's funeral luncheon.

Prepared food for Vicar Brubaker's meet and greet session yesterday.

Welcome Committee: Prepared the meal for the church picnic. Mailed out 75 cards

Call Committee—Two Question and Answer sessions were held after church to discuss any questions about Vicar Scott.

The meet and greet was held yesterday with 35 folks attending.

Will vote today at the congregational meeting after the worship service.

Other items discussed: Pastor Strause is working on a transition plan depending on the vote outcome today. His contract stipulates 30 days notice for him.

If the call is made today for Vicar Scott, Pastor Strause will preach till October 24th and his send off party will be held after the service.

He also made mention that the call committee and your Council followed an exemplary process for the calling of a new pastor.

Now the most important item....The Phillies are I game out. I have to mention, the Phillies did lose on Monday night when the Orioles beat them, but they won the series. Pastor Strause and I had a friendly wager on the game and I will be paying the bet in a few weeks. Stay tuned.



Congratulations to Vicar Scott Brubaker who was called to serve as the next pastor of Swamp Lutheran Church. He will begin his pastoral duties here at Swamp at the end of October with his first Sunday leading worship will be Reformation Sunday, October 31. Vicar Brubaker will be ordained into the ministry of Word and Sacrament at a service in November. Please welcome him as he begins his new ministry in the congregation.

PIG STOMACH DINNER

We are delighted to advise that we will have our Pig Stomach Dinner on Saturday, October 30. This year it will be for **TAKE OUT** only between the times of 12N –5:00PM or until sold out. Your dinner will include: pig stomach, pepper cabbage, green beans, dessert, rolls and butter. Plan ahead so that you do not miss out. Call the church at 717-336-2849 to Preorder your dinner and/or a whole cooked stomach!

POINSETTIAS and CYCLAMENS

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

NAME _____ Phone Number _____

Poinsettias RED _____ WHITE _____

Cyclamens RED _____ WHITE _____

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

Cub Scout Pack 95 meets Mondays at the church at 6:00PM. In October they will continue with their *meat sticks fundraiser* which will run until October 18th (Look for us in the church one Sunday in October)



October 8th and 9th
Breakfast hike at CAMP MACK

October 22nd to 24th
Halloween CAMPOUT & Halloween PARTY

Pack 95 is always looking for new youth and adult members. Anyone interested can contact Justin at 717-466-9932 or Travis at

717-381-1608

ZOOM BIBLE STUDY FOR FALL

Pastor continues a zoom Bible study on **Tuesdays at 7PM**, titled; *Lutheranism: A Movement Rooted in Grace*. A proposed outline for the study is:



- Session 1: Where Did We Come From? A Fast History of Christianity from 33 to 1500 AD.
- Session 2: The Reformation: Luther 1517, and ALL That
- Session 3: Theology: The Word of God Deep in the Flesh
- Session 4: Theology: The Heart of the Matter—Justification by Faith.
- Session 5: Lutherans Today: From Europe to North America and beyond.
- Session 6: Where are the Lutherans Headed?

Link information is on our webpage.

CHOIR MEETS
WEEKLY AT 7:00PM
on WEDNESDAYS



THE NIGHT OF MUSIC IS BACK, LIVE AND IN PERSON!

Swamp's Night of Music will be held on Sunday, December 12 at 7:00 PM. Anyone interested in sharing their talent, please contact Sue Kreitz at 717-283-9444 or speak to me anytime at church. Also, donations of cookies for refreshments after the program are always appreciated. Thank you!



The Altars Where We Worship

Lois Strause will begin an Adult Sunday School study on **October 3, 2021 following our worship service**. This will be an in person class. The study will discuss how we replace our relationship with God, which we call religion, with other idols that are part of our every day living. The Bible teaches us that we should put righteous living above all other pursuits of the flesh and mind. Together we will consider how we might inadvertently replace God with other idols such as: *Entertainment Sports Consumerism Popular Culture*. Plan to join us on Sunday mornings after the church service.

Can you believe that this is the **20th Year** of our bell choir? Some of our ringers were not even born when this group began (And No, Lori, I'm not talking about you!?) We will continue to follow all health guidelines issued by the Church Council, but hopefully we are back to ringing in a more traditional way. I would once again ask that you are diligent in letting me know if you will be missing any rehearsals or performances so that I can fill spots in a safe and timely manner. This year, I would also like to invite and encourage any new ringers to join our group! We are meeting on Monday nights at the church from 7:30-8:30. As always, I look forward to seeing all of your returning faces (ok - at this point, seeing anybody out in public is a welcome sight!) and sharing our musical talents at the upcoming practices and worship services!



**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

BELL CHOIR SCHEDULE – 2021/2022

Practices from 7:30 – 8:30

Mon. Oct. 18
Mon. Oct. 25
Mon. Nov. 8
Mon. Nov. 15
Mon. Nov. 22
Mon. Nov. 29
Mon. Dec. 6

Mon. Dec. 20
Mon. Jan. 3
Mon. Jan. 10
Mon. Jan. 24
Mon. Jan. 31
Mon. Feb. 7
Mon. Feb. 21
Mon. Mar. 7
Mon. Mar. 14
Mon. Mar. 28
Mon. Apr. 4
Mon. Apr. 11
Mon. Apr. 25
Mon. May 9
Mon. May 16

Possible Play Dates

Play Sun. Oct. 10

Play Sun. Nov. 14

Play Sat. Dec. 11 (Chapel Concert)

Play Sun. Dec. 12 (Morning and Night
of Music)

Play Fri. Dec. 24 (Christmas Eve)

Play Sun. Jan. 30

Play Sun. Feb. 27

Play Sun. Mar. 20

Play Sun. Apr. 17 (Easter)

Play Sun. May 22

www.swamplutheran.org

Next Council Meeting :
October 20, 2021

Newsletter Submission for
NOVEMBER

Friday, November 22, 2021