February 2024

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:

SEXTON: Jonathan Gyorke

ORGANIST/ CHOIR DIRECTOR: Susan Kreitz

ASSISTANT ORGANIST: Grady Daub

> BELL CHOIR: Doug Kulp

IN PERSON WORSHIP

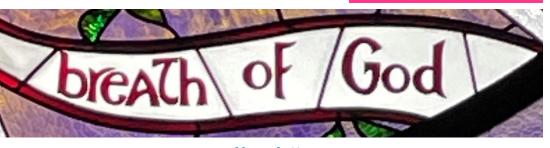
8:00AM 9:00AM

Sunday School 10:15AM

TWO OPTIONS AVAILABLE

I. Watch live stream

video on YouTube 2. Join us inside for in person worship



Newsletter

Swamp Evangelical Lutheran Church

Pastor's Message

I recently read a story about a pastor who led a missionary trip to Romania shortly after the fall of the oppressive communist regime in the 1990s.*

During a break in their hotel, they observed a hotel employee paint a wardrobe in the hallway. The employee would brush on a few strokes of paint, disappear into the hotel room for 30 seconds or so, reappear to brush on a few strokes, then disappear again. This pattern repeated.

Curious why the painter was doing his job like this, the pastor peered into the room to discover that the can of paint was in the middle of the room, so the painter was walking into and across the room for every dip of paint.

It seems that this employee was in such a state of conformity by the previously repressive regime that he had been socially, mentally, and emotionally programmed not to think for himself. Conformity was rewarded, and innovation was not.

It never occurred to the painter to perform one simple step that would have made his job exponentially easier, faster, and better: move the can.

Like the tired painter in that hotel hallway, it's tempting to leave things where they are now and keep going through the motions instead of "moving the can," so to speak, to enrich our lives and our church.

As we continue to seek God's will for us here at Swamp, prayerfully ask yourself what paint cans need to be moved in your life and here at Swamp to improve our witness to the Gospel entrusted to us.

Let's move some cans and keep on painting for Christ!

In Christ,

Pastor Scott

* Karl Vaters, 100 Days to a Healthier Church (Chicago: Moody Publishers, 2020), 23-25.

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Please call the church office at 717-336-2849 when:

 \Box 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.

 \Box You are confined to your home for an extended period of time $\mathsf{because}$ of illness or accident.

 \Box You are going to a rehab center or a nursing home.

□ **There is a change in your family status** (birth, death, marriage, or divorce).

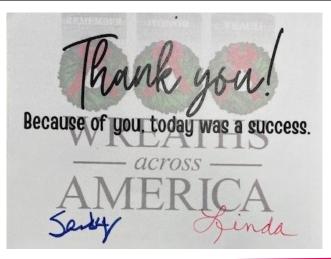
☐ You move to a new home, move out of the area, or go away to college or graduate school. Important for keeping data base current.

□ 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 Amber Weaver Katie Krater Judy Habecker



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 Shirley Achey Karen Klingensmith Marilyn Gelsinger Doreen McGonnell Bobby Hershey Anna Hershey Anna Habecker J.J. Johnson Charles Moyer Sharon Levan Lucille Lorah Robert Bachman Earl Myers Joan Long Anna Rose Schannauer



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

LUCILLE LORAH 236 FIELDCREST LANE EPHRATA, PA 17522	2/1	BARBARA MIZDAIL 107 MUSTANG TRAIL REINHOLDS, PA 17569	2/20	Phil Ke
KENNETH MARTIN 74 HAWK VALLEY LANE DENVER, PA 17517	2/3	MICHAEL WARGO 123 E. WASHINGTON ST WERNERSVILLE, PA 175565	2/21	Lucille Noah Maya B
NANCY MCQUATE 423 SPRUCE STREET DENVER, PA 17517	2/6	SUSAN KREITZ PO BOX 76 REAMSTOWN, PA 17567	2/28	Ken M Missy I Nancy
ANNA ROSE SCHANNAUER 65 FIELDCREST LANE EPHRATA, PA 17522-2913	2/10			Karen Dan M Dakot



ALTAR FLOWER UPDATE

After 17 years of service, Joyce Stoner is stepping down from organizing the altar flowers and candle. Joyce has been a faithful servant and we thank her for her commitment to the church in this arena.

A new 2024 flower calendar is in the Narthex.

Costs remain at \$40.00 for flowers and \$5.00 for the candle. Year to year altar orders are placed on the calendar but we have many open Sundays for flowers and the candle.

Sue Kreitz, 717-283-9444 or John Frantz, 717-606-8994 will be your new contact for these orders. They will keep track of the calendar sign-ups or you can just call them. Thank you for your continued support of this ministry.



Marion Bergman I Reading Dr. Apt 162 Wernersville, PA 19565 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 Marion Bergman Anna Adams Edie Snyder John Elser



Lucille Lorah	01
Noah Weller	01
Maya Bingaman	03
Ken Martin	03
Missy Ragan	05
Nancy McQuate	06
Karen Klingensmith	08
Dan McQuate	08
Dakota Moyer	08
Patti Walmer	08
Nate Sauder	09
Stevie Posegay	09
Anna Rose Schannauer	10
Katie Krater	Ш
Lori Sauder	11
Missy Van Zant	11
Ros Bansner	12
Toni Showalter	12
Troy Ulrich	12
Janice Lorah	14
Michael Higgins	14
Tim Chynoweth	15
Jack Pannebecker	15
Karen Krater	16
Mikalee Kerr	18
Jamie Pannebecker	18
Barbara Mizdail	20
Cameron Hall	21
Michael Wargo	21
Ann Hilton	22
Stella Roseboro	22
Kendall Melcher	23
Gabe Leed	24
Tammy Higgins	26
Pastor Scott Brubaker	26
John Frantz	27
Isaac Zook	27
Sue Kreitz	28

CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS January 17,2024

Your Council met Wednesday January 17, 2024. Highlights include:

Kitchen Krew: 33 families with a total of 102 folks were given food from our food bank 75 meals were prepared for the Community meal Upcoming dates:

> February 14—Supper prior to Ash Wednesday service March 10—Snacks for Game day March 28, 29—Breakfast 6:00 am Easter Sunday—Breakfast after 6:00 service April 7—Breakfast after Choralaries May 9--Ascension Day—snacks after service

Welcome: Swamp has multiple organizations that will take our prayer shawls, so we are continuously looking for folks to keep making them. One of the groups was the Ann B. Barshinger Cancer Institute in Lancaster. They recently included our shawls in care packages for infusion patients. They are planning a game day for the congregation on March 10 starting at noon.

 Scouts: They are looking for more young folks to join the pack Upcoming events: February 4--Scout Sunday during 9 am service. February 24—Pinewood Derby with Pack 132 Denver @ 4 pm.

Youth Ministry: Upcoming Events Laser tag event will be January 28th. Souper Bowl collection will run until February 11. Game night-March 18 from 5-8pm Flashlight Egg Hunt and sleepover-March 22-23

Worship Committee: Upcoming Dates:

Feb. 14—Ash Wednesday 7pm. Mellingers joining us. March 24—Palm Sunday 8:00 and 9:00 March 28—Maundy Thursday 7:30 pm March 29—Good Friday 8pm March 31—Easter 6am and 8:30 service April 7 — Choralaires; one service at 8:30 am May 9—Ascension Day May 19—Pentecost 8:30 service; Last day of Sunday School May 26—Holy Trinity; First day of summer schedule at 8:30

Worship Study Committee: The Committee met with the Worship Committee and they will bring their findings and recommendations to the February Council meeting.

Syrian Family update: The family moved into their house on December 31.

Other items discussed:

In the spring, the service committee will be doing personal health kits The Easter Egg hunt will be held March 30 from 10-12 noon. One application has been received for the Secretary's position

Next Council Meeting : February 19, 2024

Newsletter Submission for March Monday, February 18, 2024

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Council Report continued:

Thanks to:

Lee and Matt Showalter for fixing a few plumbing issues Tom Showalter for building a desk for the live stream area Steve Kauffman and Ray Weitzel for snow removal

The pictorial directory will be started later this year. Coffee and cookies will again be available after the 9:00 service.

> 24 days until pitchers and catchers report for spring training. Let's go Phils!!

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!





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.

LIFT UP YOUR VOICES SOUND SYSTEM CAMPAIGN \$20,000 GOAL



SANCTUARY SOUND SYSTEM UPGRADE

LIFT UP YOUR VOICES PLEDGE We continue to stretch towards our goal of \$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.

Give now via QR code:





MARK YOUR CALENDAR

7 pm

2024 Cluster Lenten Services

Date	Location	Preacher	Theme/Scripture
Wed. Feb. 21, 7 pm	Faith United, Denver	Pastor Scott Brubaker	Open My Eyes, Lord Isaiah 42:5-9 Psalm 119:17-24 Acts 26:4-18
Wed. Feb. 28, 7 pm	Bergstrasse, Ephrata	Pastor Marissa Becklin	Open My Hands, Lord Deuteronomy 15:17-11 Psalm 139:1-10 Mark 6:1-5
Wed. Mar. 6, 7 pm	Muddy Creek, Denver	Pastor Jim Goodyear	Open My Ears, Lord Isaiah 50:4-5 Psalm 40;1-8 Matthew 13:10-17
Wed. Mar. 13, 7 pm	Mellingers, Schoeneck	Pastor Sandy Gideon	Open My Heart, Lord 2 Corinthians 6:1-13 Psalm 28 Acts 16:11-15
Wed. Mar. 20, 7 pm	St. John Center, East Earl	Pastor Peter Schwabe- Fry	Open My Life, Lord Deuteronomy 30;15-20 Psalm 16 Galatians 2:15-21
Thurs, May 9 Ascension	Swamp, Reinholds	Pastor Tim Craven	Ascension of Our Lord Acts 1:1-11 Psalm 47 Ephesians 1:15-23 Luke 24:44-53

Cub Scout Update

February



4th: Scout Sunday- scouts will help with church service. 24th: Annual Pinewood Derby Tournament partnered with Pack 132 (Denver) at 4 PM. (Open to the Public. Come out and watch the scouts race the cars they built.)

Recruiting: If anyone can help us recruit kids to join the pack we are open to ideas. We have 3 kids on the roster and a minimum of 5 is required to continue the pack for 2024/25 scout year. The challenges are many and we will appreciate any help.

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

Cub Scout Update **Nbqate Cnp Scont**

ALAHMAD FAMILY UPDATE

The Alahmad family moved into their new home in Lancaster City on Saturday, December 30th. The move went quite well. Thank you to everyone who participated in the move. There are still items the landlord has to repair in the home and the punch list to complete.

Since then, a lot has happened. The children continue to attend the Pequea Valley School District. This will continue until the end of the 2024 School year in June.

Everyone in the family now has their Social Security Cards, Jihad (father) has changed the address on his PA Driver's License. Everyone, including his bank, has been notified of their change of address. Medical Insurance cards have finally been received for all but one child after months of trying to track them down.

Jihad met with Bethany Christian Services with an interpreter to set up and review his budget. We are working closely with them to adhere to that budget. This is a family which didn't even know what a budget was. At the end of the month, the family is in the hole. We are working with them to pinch their pennies.

Ruth Kramer continues to tutor the parents in English. The children have two classes per day to learn English but the parents have nothing. Snaa, the mother, is doing quite well but Jihad is not progressing as fast.

This family still needs our help. Below is a list of items the family could use. Unfortunately, they do not have the funds to buy these items. Call Ray Weitzel at 717-405-5586 to coordinate.

- 3 full length mirrors
- 2 blankets
- 4 clothes hampers
- 6 plastic milk crates

Dear Welcome committee, Thask you so very much for the generous & beaulifue donation of the hand-croched shawls for our patients at see Am & Barshinger Concer Institute. your thought follows will bring comfort to so many patients. Jaco pw! nedope wenjone has a blessed anomas helday. The Ly Hearn pundaron

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 LIAISONS

Damene Rauman — Communication
Sue Ellen Knauer — Constitution; Service; Personnel
Lee Showalter — Disaster Response
Guy Templin — Finance; Worship
Deb Sweigert — Love, Inc.
Randy Krater — Property
Pam Leisey — Learning
TBD—Safety & Security
Pastor Scott Brubaker — Scouts
Denise Kidwell — Kitchen Krew
Fritz Fichtner — Generosity
Jen Weitzel - Welcome
Alan Worley –Youth Ministry

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SWAMP EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

www.swamplutheran.org

Next Council Meeting : February 19, 2024

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2024 Lutheran Camping Corporation Events

January 2024	Summer Staff Recruitment begins
January 5-7	Winter Youth Retreat at Kirchenwald
January 14	Winter Fun Day at Kirchenwald
January 14	Chicken & Waffles at Nawakwa
January 14	CampPerson Meeting at Kirchenwald & Nawakwa
January 16	CampPerson Meeting - ZOOM
February 18	Winter Fun Day at Kirchenwald
February 24	Lenten Day Apart at The Wittel Farm
March 15-17	Women's Quilting Weekend at Kirchenwald
March 17	Summer Camp Open House at Kirchenwald & Nawakwa
April 1	Facility reservation book opens for 2025
April 6	Summer Camp Early Full-Pay Registration Discount deadline
April 14	Summer Camp Open House at Kirchenwald & Nawakwa
April 21	Earth Day Celebration at Kirchenwald
April 27	Work Day at Nawakwa
May 4	Work Day at Kirchenwald
May 19	Summer Camp Kick-off Worship & Picnic at Kirchenwald
June 16	Summer Camp begins at Kirchenwald & Nawakwa
July 7-12	Elder Camp at Nawakwa
July 14-19	Family Camp I at Nawakwa
August 4-9	Family Camp-K-tion (Family Camp) at Kirchenwald
August 4-9	Family Camp II at Nawakwa
September 28	Party with a Purpose at Kirchenwald
October 1-3	Adult Study Retreat at Nawakwa
October 6	Capture the Flag at Kirchenwald
October 27	Fall Foliage Day at Kirchenwald & Nawakwa
November 3	Annual Quilt Auction at Nawakwa
November 8-10	Women's Craft Retreat at Nawakwa
December 7	Advent Day Apart at The Wittel Farm
January 3-5, 2025	Winter Youth Retreat at Kirchenwald

Always check LutheranCamping.org for the most updated calendar!



The Lutheran Camping Corporation of Central Pennsylvania Kirchenwald, Nawakwa, and The Wittel Farm PO Box 459, Arendtsville, PA 17303 717-677-8211 • www.LutheranCamping.org



Handbell Practice Schedule Reminder UPDATED

Mon. Feb. 5 Mon. Feb. 12 Mon. Feb. 26 Mon. Mar. 11 Mon. Mar. 18 Mon. Mar. 25 Mon. Apr. 8 Mon. Apr. 15 Mon. Apr. 29 Mon. May 6 Mon. May 13

Play Sunday, March 3

Play Sunday, March 31 (Easter)

Play Sunday, April 21

Play Sunday, May 19

Choir Rehearsal Schedule

Note changes in day due to Lent



7 pm Wednesday, February 7 Tuesday, February 20 Tuesday, February 27 Tuesday, March 5 Tuesday, March 12 Tuesday, March 19 Wednesday, March 27

Ephrata Area Social Services and Swamp Lutheran Church



From EASS Director: Casey Ellis

I wanted to share some of the data collected around EASS's food bank at Swamp Lutheran Church. I encourage you to share the information with your congregation and volunteers. Sometimes we can lose perspective month to month on the impact that is happening but when you look over a years' time, it is AMAZING what is happening.

From July 2022-June 2023 (This is PA Government Fiscal Year) 163,485 pounds of food was distributed 136,238 meals provided 4,431 individuals served (includes duplicates from month to month) 37 pounds of food on average is distributed each month to families from Swamp Food Bank .

Thank you to Swamp Lutheran Church for your Generous Hearts!



IT IS THAT TIME OF 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 11, 2024

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

Who: Benefits Swamp Food Pantry



SWAMP EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

275 Swamp Church Rd Reinholds, PA 17569

717-336-2849 secretary@swamplutheran.org

Office Hours:8:30-12Noon Monday—Friday

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SWAMP EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

2024 Pick Six Lenten Offering

This year, Swamp Lutheran will again offer a special giving opportunity for Lent: Pick Six. For the six weeks of Lent, we are encouraging you to give a special, weekly offering in addition to your regular giving. The benevolence giving options listed below are opportunities to give to ministries operating in or through our church. Giving to multiple options each week is encouraged.

Envelopes with these options listed on them are available on the table in the narthex. Please grab a pack of six envelopes (one for each week of Lent). Call the office if you need them mailed to you. Online giving an option too.

Contributions help cover the cost to send Swamp Youth 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering and Advisors to the **2024 Youth Gathering** in New MYLE the table Orleans, LA.



Swamp Lutheran Property Fund: Help with needed property improvements such as paying off the new sound system, replacing windows in sacristy and robing rooms, sealing and painting the parking lot, among many other needs.



Syrian Family Fund: Help the Syrian family we are co-sponsoring to get a firm start on their new life in the US.



Community Meal: Contributions to this ministry support the purchase of food and supplies for the monthly community meal Swamp supports in the community.



Help bring God's hope, healing and renewal Lutheran Disaster Response to people whose lives have been disrupted by Evangelical Lutheran Church in America disasters in the United States and around the world. God's work. Our hands.



EPHRATA AREA Contributions help provide services to people in our SOCIAL SERVICES community in the areas of food, clothing, fuel, transportation, and meals on wheels.



Swamp Food Pantry: Contributions support Swamp's ministry of food to those challenged by food insecurity.



Contributions to this ministry support the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America work to eradicate hunger in the United States and throughout the world.



Jan's Circle of Friends: Contributions to this organization fund efforts to assist children coping with domestic violence and FRIENDS parental loss.



HOMES Contributions support the Cocalico Area Homes of Hope transitional housing home in Adamstown and provides housing, mentoring, and OF HOPE budget coaching to participants.

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www.swamplutheran.org

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KNITTERS AND CROCHETERS NEEDED Thank you for chang-Prayer ing your focus back to making Prayer Shawls. Your donations can Shawl be left in the library. Thank you to all who continue to work on this outreach.

Easter Flowers

Orders are being taken for Easter Lilies and Tulips. Price will not be known until the time of actual purchase. The final day for orders will be February 25. Please give the following information to the church office or to Jodi Showalter (717)413-7149.

Name		-	
Phone Number		_	
Lily	_ Tulip	_	
In Memory of		·····	
In Honor of			EVANG LUTHERAN C



Bible STUDY Pastor Scott is leading a ZOOM Bible Study weekly on Tuesdays Join us! 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.

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

SWAMP ELICAL HURCH

Swamp Church Rd Reinholds, PA 17569

717-336-2849 secretary@swamplutheran.org

Office Hours:8:30-12Noon Monday—Friday

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SWAMP

KIDS PAGE

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH	B	ible Pathway Wenture				
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www.swamplutheran.org	1. I am your	God. You will h	ave no other			
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	3. You shall not ta	3. You shall not take the of Yahweh				
	your God in vain.	your God in vain.				
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For more free Bible resources, Activity Books, and Teacher Packs including coloring pages, worksheets, quizzes and more visit our website at: www.biblepathwayadventures.com

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF PERSONAL CARE KIT PROJECT

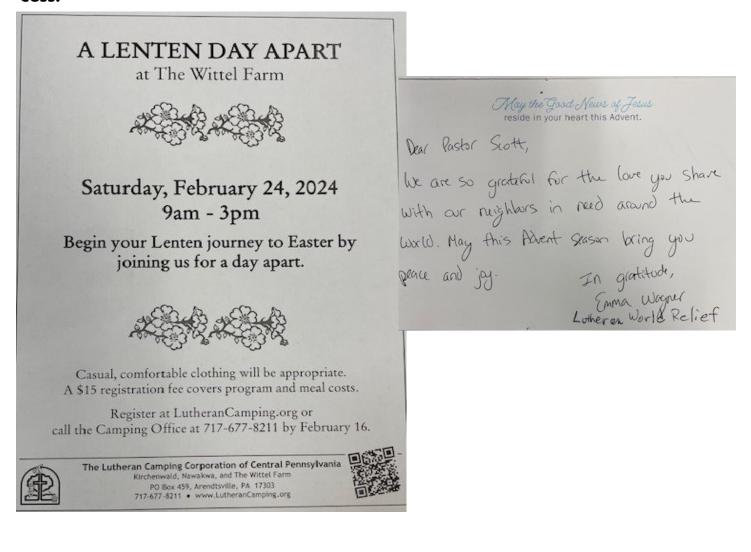
We are currently accepting donations for the LWR Personal Care Kit Project. We will be collecting items through the end of April. Donations may be given to **Jane Lesher, Denise Null, Connie Taylor and Debbie Carvell.** Questions to Debbie at 717-336-5638.

We appreciate everyone following the guidelines below, as Lutheran World Relief will not send anything that does not adhere to their specified guidelines. Each kit will contain:

- One bath-size towel (approximately 52" x 27") dark color recommended.
- Two bath-size (4 or 5 oz) of soap, in its original wrapping.
- One adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging.
- One sturdy comb, (wide tooth preferred), remove packaging.
- One metal nail clipper, remove packaging.

Wrap all items in the towel and tie with ribbon or yarn. Please do not add other items or leave out any of the items listed.

If you don't feel comfortable wrapping an entire kit, we will accept donations of any of the items, and gladly assemble the kits! *Hint: Last year we bought these exact towels at Big Lots for \$4.00 each!* As always, thank you for making this project a success!



Swamp Lutheran Church 275 Swamp Church Road Reinholds, PA 17569