



Oct 2026

Swamp Evangelical Lutheran Church *Newsletter*

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

GOD'S WORK OUR HANDS. Sunday October 4th 2026.

Service committee would like to have our congregation join the ELCA sponsored service opportunity. This is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as a congregation – one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor.

Service activities offer an opportunity for us to explore one of our most basic convictions as Lutherans- an act of service sharing God's grace freely given for all. How can you be of service?

1. Do you know of a local organization that could use a few hours of help?
2. Do you know of a neighbor, friend, or fellow member of the congregation that could use a few hours of help around the house/yard area?
3. Are you interested in signing up and joining in this fun faith filled service activity?

If you have service ideas please contact Pastor Brubaker or Jodi Showalter.

If interested in helping, please sign up on the sign up sheets at the front or back of the church.



Blessing of the Pets - October 11, 11:00 under the carport.
Pastor Scott will give a blessing over your animals.
All are welcome.

**CROP
HUNGER WALK**
ENDING HUNGER ONE STEP AT A TIME

Crop Walk 2026

Sunday October 18th @ 11:00 AM

If we work together, we can end world hunger. That's why Swamp is participating in the CROP Hunger Walk to support CWS and help families who are struggling with hunger. Please join us with your steps and your donations. Together we will provide more meals for the growing number of people in our community who need them and create greater food security in communities around the world. We will donate 50% of our raised donations to our local food pantry.

If interested in joining our team, please contact a service committee member. Please join our team or donate today. using the forms on the Narthax table.

Pig Stomach annual
TAKEOUT DINNER

Annual Pig Stomach takeout dinner 1-3:00pm, Oct 24th, 2026. Cost is 39.00. Pre-orders due Oct 17th. All proceeds benefit Swamp Lutheran's kitchen repairs and upkeep.

Pastor's Message



Living Out God's Love Through Service, Fellowship, and Generosity

Dear Friends in Christ,

October is a wonderful month to celebrate the many ways God calls us to live out our faith—not only within the walls of our church, but out in the community and in the world around us. As we enter this new season, I am grateful for the many opportunities we have to worship, serve, gather, and share God's love with one another.

On **October 4, we celebrate God's Work, Our Hands Sunday**, a reminder that God uses ordinary hands and willing hearts to accomplish extraordinary things. Our acts of service may sometimes seem small, but when offered in love, they become a meaningful expression of our faith. May we continue to look for ways to put our faith into action throughout the year.

On **October 11, we will gather for our Blessing of the Pets**. Our animals bring so much joy, companionship, and unconditional love into our lives. This special service gives us an opportunity to give thanks for God's creatures and to recognize the blessings they bring to our families. All are welcome to bring their beloved pets as we celebrate and pray together.

Then, on **October 18, we will participate in the CROP Walk**. Walking together to help fight hunger is a wonderful way for our congregation to reach beyond ourselves and make a difference in the lives of others. Thank you to everyone who participates, sponsors a walker, or supports this important ministry.

Finally, mark your calendars for **October 24 and our Pig Stomach Take-out Fundraiser!** This annual event is not only a fundraiser, but also a wonderful opportunity for fellowship and community. Thank you to all who volunteer their time and talents to make this event possible—and to everyone who supports it by placing an order.

Each of these October events offers us a different opportunity to live out our calling as God's people: **to serve, to care, to walk alongside others, and to share fellowship**. May we remember that ministry happens in many different ways, and that every act of kindness can be a reflection of God's love. Thank you for being part of the Swamp Lutheran Church family. I look forward to seeing many of you throughout this busy and joyful month. May God bless our congregation, our community, and all that we do together in God's name.

In Christ,

Pastor Scott



Generosity Minute

It's Game Day at Swamp Lutheran!

Fall means football, and football means huddles, touchdowns, questionable referee calls, and somebody insisting, "I could have made that catch!"

But football also reminds us of something important: **a team needs every player.** You need quarterbacks, linemen, receivers, defenders, kickers—and coaches and fans cheering everybody on. Not everyone has the same job, but every position matters.

The same is true at Swamp Lutheran. **Each of us is a valued player on Christ's team.** God has blessed us with different gifts, and we're called to put those blessings into play through our **time, talent, and treasure.**

Some of us are quarterbacks, helping organize and lead. Some are linemen, doing the behind-the-scenes work that keeps things moving. Some are receivers, always ready to catch the next opportunity to help. Others are defenders, caring for and encouraging those around us. And some of us are the fans in the stands—praying, cheering, and occasionally wondering about the coach's play call!

Around here, the fellowship hall might be our 50-yard line, the kitchen could qualify as special teams, and some church meetings may feel like they went into overtime. But through it all, **we're on the same team.**

Our **time** might be given through volunteering, serving, visiting, teaching, or simply showing up when there's work to do.

Our **talents** might include singing, cooking, fixing, organizing, teaching, welcoming, encouraging—or whatever gifts God has given us.

And our **treasure** helps keep the ministry moving down the field, providing the resources that allow Swamp Lutheran to worship, serve, reach out, and care for others.

The best part? **God isn't keeping score the way a football scoreboard does.** We don't earn God's love by what we give. We give because God has already given so generously to us through Christ.

So this fall, listen for the Coach's call. Look for your opportunity to get in the game. Maybe your next play is giving time, sharing a talent, making a financial gift, or encouraging another teammate.

Every player matters. Every gift matters. And every play can help move God's work forward.

And remember: **Christ has already won the ultimate victory.** We aren't playing for the victory—we're playing from the victory that Christ has already given us.

So let's stay in the huddle, encourage one another, and keep moving the ball.

Go Team Swamp Lutheran!

With gratitude,

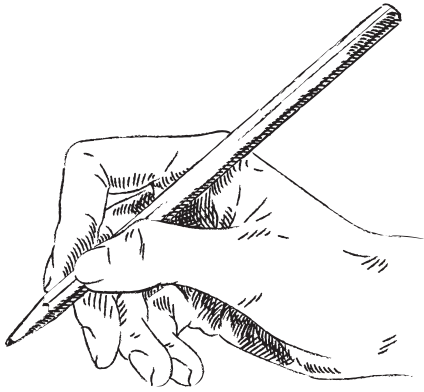
The Swamp Lutheran Generosity Committee



"Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it."

—1 Corinthians 12:27 (NRSV)

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
Jean and Larry Wolf
Bobby Hershey
Marilyn Gelsinger
Edie Snyder
Teresa Sweigart
Mel and Troy Ulrich
Earl Myers
Elizabeth Sherman
Judy Habecker
Anna Rose Schannauer
Jerry Landis
Mary Beth Jenkins
Evelyn Gehman
Joan Leed
Ron Adams
Kevin Williams
Susan Levan

Gladys Eckenroad
Bonnie Koehle-Koon
Kathleen Troutman
Sally Bergman
Kevin Reimert
Pam Heisey
Connie Malafarina
Ted Heisey
Karen Klingensmith
Helen Werner
Cody Leisey
Michelle Moyer
Dianna Becker
Laurie Sauder
Sue Templin
Clyde Showalter
Ashley Milosek
Dave Brown
Pat Miller
Lucille Lorah
Leah Showalter
Mark Stoner
Robert Reaser
Laney Garrison
Sam Reimert

Llew Smith
Bob Shank
Sammy Hanna
Pat Grove & Daphne
Aaron Gasparich
Tina Krall
Wanda Maxey
Chris Zander
Allison Kenawell
Margaret Kroh
Jason Stricker
Laraine Kramer
Mike Sawyer
Linda & Dennis Mohn
Jen Sikie
Keith Weinhold
Melody Eckenroth
Frank Sheets
Karen & Steve Laudenslager
Lori Hartranft
Nettie Kreiner
Lori Page
Karen McCoy
Bindi Chojnacki
Gene Ferrari
Hanna Shank
Ken Olson
Sandra Haws
Bob Fry
Joelle Perlic



**"All who call on God in true faith..
will certainly be heard."
Martin Luther**

October 70+ Birthdays

CONNIE TAYLOR 10/1
45 CARDINAL DRIVE
STEVENS, PA 17578

CONNIE MALAFARINA 10/2
131 W.PENN AVE
WERNERSVILLE PA 19565

LARRY KRAMER 10/2
2685 HEIDELBERG AVE.
NEWMANSTOWN, PA 17073

BONNIE TROUT 10/12
430 BLUE LAKE ROAD
DENVER, PA 17517

BARBARA NICHOLAS 10/16
LUTHER ACRES
200 St. LUKE DR. #124
LITITZ, PA. 17543



GLENN BEARD 10/22
300 ST MARK AVE Apt. #1117
LUTHER ACRES
LITITZ, PA 17543

EDITH SNYDER 10/23
EPHRATA MANOR PC #223
99 BETHANY ROAD
EPHRATA, PA 17522

RICHARD SHIRK 10/23
1286 CRESTVIEW DR
DENVER PA 17517

CLAIR SWEIGART 10/31
120 WOODCHUCK DRIVE
EPHRATA, PA 17522

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

Happy Birthday to all born in October

Melissa Troutman 01
Danielle Witmer 02
Rachel Lacey 03
Emily Oropollo 04
Brian Koehle 05
Tom Laudenslager 05
Jim Miller 06
Allison Van Zant 10
Jodi Showalter 12
Taylor Bender 12
Nichole Weitzel 13



Julie Witmer 16
Darrick Keppley 17
Kaitlyn Martzall 18
Chris Chirigos 26
Annie McQuate 26
Lisa Lorah 26
Justin Blatt 27
Donna Glover 27
Ryan Ranck 27
Achilles Salas 28
John Lewandowski 28
Nick Ferry 29

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Please let us know if you
have a change of
address, email or
phone number.
secretary@swamplutheran.org



Clyde Showalter
Mel & Troy Ulrich
Michael A. Crowther
Earl Myers
Gary & Joan Reddig
Joyce Stoner
Bobby Hershey

Anna Adams
Edie Snyder
John Elser
Marion Bergman
Harold Crills
Sandra Haws
Sally Bergman

Oct Sound Tech Schedule

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

Nov Sound Tech Schedule

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

Oct Video Stream Schedule

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

Nov Video Stream Schedule

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

Oct Greeter Schedule

04 Pam Leisey
11 Bob & Linda Preston
18 Deb Kohl
25 Sue Ellen Knauer

Nov Greeter Schedule

01 Jan Risser
08 Deb Sweigert
15 Jane Leshner
22 Denise Kidwell
29 Larry & Sally Hagy

Oct Coffee Schedule

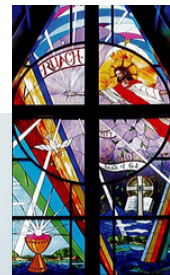
04 Denise Kidwell
11 Deb Sweigert
18 Randy Gockley
25 Pam Leisey

Nov Coffee Schedule

01 Denise Kidwell
08 Deb Sweigert
15 John Frantz
22 Randy Gockley
29 Pam Leisey

Thank you for serving as greeters.
Please be at the front door by
8:10AM

October Calendar



October 1	6:30pm	Learning Cmte
October 4	8:30am	Worship
October 4	9:45am	Sunday School - Better together
October 4	11:00am	Gods Work our hands
October 5	7:00pm	Bell Choir
October 6	7:00pm	Welcome Cmte
October 7	7:00pm	Choir
October 11	8:30am	Worship
October 11	9:45am	Sunday School
October 11	11:00am	Blessing of the Pets
October 12	COLUMBUS DAY	
October 14	1-4:00pm	EASS Food Distribution
October 14	7:00pm	Choir
October 17	9:00am	Widow& Widowers Hike
October 18	8:30am	Worship
October 18	9:45am	Sunday School
October 18	11:00am	Crop Walk
October 19	7:00pm	Bell Choir
October 21	7:00pm	Choir
October 24	1-3:00pm	Pig Stomach Take-out
October 25	8:30am	Worship
October 25	9:45am	Sunday School
October 27	7:00pm	Cocalico Builders of Hope
October 28	7:00pm	Choir
October 31	HALLOWEEN	

BEWARE OF SCAMMERS! Just a reminder that neither Swamp staff, Pastor Scott, nor Swamp members will reach out to you via email or text message asking for gift cards. These emails/texts are from SCAMMERS. Do not reply to them, delete them. When we do ask for donations, we do so in the announcements at worship, via the weekly email, by mail, in the bulletin, or in this newsletter. If you are unsure, please call the church office.



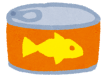
October 27 is the deadline for the Nov. Newsletter.

Please reach out to Terri Renninger at 717-336-2849 or email secretary@swamplutheran.org

Your cooperation is appreciated. Thank you!



FLOWERS If you would like to sponsor a Sunday for the flowers or candle, please contact Sue Kreitz at 717-283-9444 or John Frantz at 717-606-8994.



FOOD BANK – Needs of the food bank are ongoing and need replenished monthly. There is a need for rice, noodles, pasta, mac & cheese, canned chicken, tuna, spam, soup, toilet paper and paper towels. Please check for a current expiration date. Thank you for helping as you are able. We distribute on the 2nd 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!



To our knitters and crocheters, please focus on prayer shawls. When you finish, please bring it to church and leave it in the library. *THANK YOU for supporting this church ministry.*



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. God needs our hands and feet to assist those in our church family. 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



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.



POLKA MASS with the Heidelberg Brass Band under direction of Pastor Glenn Beard, Jr.
Sunday, November 8, 2026 8:30am Worship Breakfast Reception follows Worship

Disaster Trip. A group from the area will be returning to Asheville, NC to continue to help with disaster clean up. This trip will take place from November 15-21. The group has already been assembled, however there are other ways in which to help. Anyone wishing to help can give gift cards to Lowe's, Home Depot or Walmart. Or if you wish, you could write a check payable to LDR Carolinas. This will be the groups 27th trip and the third trip to Asheville. See Missy Ragan, Nancy McQuate, or Denise Kidwell with any questions! Thank you for your support!

POINSETTIAS -It is that time of the year again to consider your holiday orders for poinsettias. Jodi Showalter (717-413-7149) will be handling the orders. Pricing will not be known until sometime later in October. Jodi or the church office should be contacted with questions. The following information needs to be provided. Deadline is Sunday November 29th.

NAME _____ Phone Number _____

Poinsettias RED _____ WHITE _____

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____



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.).

09/09/2026

Swamp Evangelical Lutheran Church
Finance Reports for August 2026

Page 2 of 8

Treasurers Report August 2026					
January 2026 - December 2026 / August					
	Aug 2026 Actual	This Year Budget	% of Budget	Remaining	Year-To-Aug Actual
Income	\$ 27,851.05	\$ 313,068.00	9%	\$ 285,216.95	\$ 244,448.75
> REGULAR	\$ 27,851.05	\$ 313,068.00	9%	\$ 285,216.95	\$ 244,448.75
Expense	\$ 26,303.12	\$ 313,068.00	8%	\$ 286,764.88	\$ 261,159.36
> OPERATIONS	\$ 2,516.66	\$ 50,940.00	5%	\$ 48,423.34	\$ 37,166.89
> ADMINISTRATION	\$ 1,318.66	\$ 19,800.00	7%	\$ 18,481.34	\$ 20,253.15
> BENEFITS	\$ 3,697.62	\$ 37,669.00	10%	\$ 33,971.38	\$ 29,626.70
> THROUGH STAFF	\$ 11,783.92	\$ 148,169.00	8%	\$ 136,385.08	\$ 94,784.71
> REIMBURSED EXP.	\$ 1,395.00	\$ -		\$ (1,395.00)	\$ 3,688.51
> YOUTH MINISTRY	\$ -	\$ 800.00	0%	\$ 800.00	\$ 400.00
> PROPERTY	\$ 943.87	\$ 20,100.00	5%	\$ 19,156.13	\$ 42,366.06
> WORSHIP	\$ 794.56	\$ 6,500.00	12%	\$ 5,705.44	\$ 3,777.88
> SERVICE	\$ -	\$ 800.00	0%	\$ 800.00	\$ 553.22
> COMMUNICATIONS	\$ 668.00	\$ 200.00	334%	\$ (468.00)	\$ 1,438.51
> GENEROSITY	\$ -	\$ 100.00	0%	\$ 100.00	\$ -
> WELCOME	\$ -	\$ 3,050.00	0%	\$ 3,050.00	\$ 778.07
> LEARNING	\$ 186.83	\$ 2,000.00	9%	\$ 1,813.17	\$ 2,156.66
> BENEVOLENCES	\$ 2,998.00	\$ 22,940.00	13%	\$ 19,942.00	\$ 24,169.00

Next Council Meeting
Oct. 21 2026
7PM

Church Council Highlights

September 16th, 2026

Upcoming Events Include:

First day of Sunday school class begins September 27, with a mission focus on homeless youth. God's Work, Our Hands is scheduled for October 4th. CROP Walk is October 18th, sponsor sheets are available on the table in the narthex.

The next mission trip is to Asheville, NC, set for November 15–21.

Community Outreach:

The food bank recently provided food boxes to 43 families (128 individuals). Builders of Hope: Flyers with QR codes detailing regional housing ministry efforts are in the Narthex. They have raised \$160,000 toward purchasing a home and are actively looking for a suitable property.

Property & Financial Highlights:

Property Upgrades: Work is scheduled for the Narthex electric panel, along with replacements for emergency light batteries and a women's bathroom water heater. Quotes are being gathered for sacristy window replacements, security camera upgrades, and parking lot line painting. Organ speakers will undergo repair and pipe cleaning on September 29. A big thank you to the members whose generous donations are fully funding the Narthex electric panel and covering half of the window replacement project. We are aware of issues with the livestream and work is underway to resolve camera and power issues.

Church Picnic:

A note of appreciation to the Welcome Committee, Kitchen Krew, and all who attended and helped make the baseball-themed church picnic a success.

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



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!**



Lutheran Camping Corporation of Central Pennsylvania

Kirchenwald, Nawakwa, and The Wittel Farm

Where Faith is Renewed, the Church is Strengthened

PO Box 459, Arendtsville, PA 17303 717-677-8211 www.lutherancamping.org

September 22, 2026

Swamp Lutheran Church
275 Swamp Church Rd
Reinholds, PA 17569-9562

Dear Swamp:

As the leaves begin to change and the familiar signs of fall surround us, we find ourselves looking back on a summer filled with laughter, adventure, friendship, faith, and so many moments that reminded us just how good God is.

This summer, campers climbed, swam, sang, laughed, prayed, played, created, explored, and gathered together. They tried things that were new and maybe even a little scary. They encouraged one another when things were difficult. Campers also spent time learning about God's love through Bible study, worship, prayer, and conversations with their counselors and friends. Our summer theme reminded us to "**Wear Love**"—to clothe ourselves in kindness, humbleness, calmness, steadfastness, and forgiveness.

Thank you for your gift of \$100.00 given on September 16, 2026, designated for Unrestricted use (no goods or services were provided in exchange for your contribution). Your gift gives the opportunity for campers to discover that God's love isn't something they simply hear about at camp, but it is present in their lives.

Your generous gift makes our camping ministry and God's work here possible.

Thank you for partnering with the Lutheran Camping Corporation in this ministry of welcome, faith formation, and Christian community. We are grateful that you are part of the story God is writing through the ministries of Camp Kirchenwald, Camp Nawakwa, and the Wittel Farm. We look forward to ways we will continue this ministry together through volunteering, participating in events, visiting camp, or retreating at one of our sites. Thank you for being an essential part of this life-changing ministry.

With Gratitude and Blessings,

Yours in Christ,

Thank you for your continuing support!

David Feltner LCC ED

Zach Weiss
Kirchenwald Director

Kelsey Tomlinson
Nawakwa Director

Matthew J. Lenahan
Wittel Farm Growing Project Director



WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA Laying of the Wreaths, Sat. December 19, 2026 at 12:00PM.

The Swamp Church Cemetery Association is proud to announce it will be joining with numerous cemeteries across the United States to honor our veterans by placing wreaths on gravesites of the 232 Veterans interned at Swamp Cemetery. It is important to remember the fallen, honor those who served, and teach the value of freedom. We have invited Swamp's youth group to use this opportunity as a fund raiser as we seek sponsors of wreaths. The cost to sponsor a wreath is \$17.00 and you will be able to designate a gravesite of a veteran interned at Swamp Cemetery. We are also seeking volunteers to help lay wreaths. If you are able to help please let us know. Prior to laying the wreaths we will be holding an opening ceremony at 12:00PM on the grounds of Swamp Christian Fellowship Church. Any questions please feel free to contact Laraine Kramer 717-405-4047 or Kristin Gockley 717-330-0628.

We thank you for your support and participation of this important event.



WIDOW AND WIDOWERS GROUP HIKE/WALK

Let's take a HIKE/Walk and continue our fun for fall!

WHEN: Saturday October 17th
Meet at 9 AM at Weaver Markets parking lot to car pool. (park on the side closest to 897)

WHERE: French Creek State Park in Berks County.
We will hike the 2.2 miles around Hopewell Lake. The trail is not difficult and is mostly level.

NOTE: for those not wanting to hike there are picnic tables there and not too far away at the pool area. If it is a nice fall day, bring a book, a craft, or material for your favorite past time - knitting, crocheting, coloring, sketching, writing, camera, etc.

WHAT: Lunch at 12:30 PM after the hike at Stampede Barbecue.
For those who don't want to go to French Creek, you can still meet for lunch at noon at 12:30 at:
Stampede Barbecue
4372 Morgantown Rd.
Mohnton PA 19540, telephone: (610) 401-0900
Really good barbecue!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

**Please RSVP to this email at bmiz13@hotmail.com
or call the Swamp Church office to RSVP at (717) 336-2849**

TELL US IF YOU ARE CARPOOLING? HIKING? OR JUST MEETING US FOR LUNCH?

Please RSVP by Monday Oct 12th.

Hail to the Queen!



2026 Miss Denver Fair Swamp Lutheran's own Haylee Martin!

Congratulations go out to Haylee Martin, granddaughter of Donna and Peter Glover, who was crowned the 2026 Miss Denver Fair on Wednesday, September 16.

Haylee is a senior at Cocalico High School. She currently plays varsity volleyball. Haylee will start her 4th year of varsity swimming in November. She plays varsity lacrosse in the spring and will swim for the Denver Sharks for the 10th year this summer. She has been a member of Girl Scouts for 13 years and has earned her Bronze, Silver, and Gold Awards. Haylee is a member of Cocalico's National Honor Society and was a member of the middle school NJHS. She has earned the President's Volunteer Service Award five years in a row for her commitment to community service. She is a member of Swamp Lutheran Church and takes part in our youth activities. Haylee loves to do artwork and has recently started her own business making banners for special occasions.

Weaving the Community Together

The second annual Weave retreat will be held Saturday, October 3rd, 2026, from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. at Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church, 26 Owl Hill Road, Lititz, PA 17543.

The day will be spent assembling 12' x 12' crocheted or knitted squares into afghan sized blankets. The squares can be made ahead of time, using any color yarn and any stitch of worsted weight, machine washable yarn. Because of allergies, it is requested wool yarn not be used for the squares. Once assembled into afghans, the afghans will be distributed to several local agencies and organizations serving those in transitional housing. Lunch and light snacks will be available throughout the day. Last year's event featured twenty-two people from nine congregations coming together to assemble twenty blankets. The completed blankets were donated to organizations in Lancaster County assisting with homelessness, including the Lancaster Hub.

Registration can be completed online by using the following link: <https://forms.gle/UjmrKY5JPYbrfVKWA> from now until September 20th.

For more information or questions, please call Pr. Traci Glover at (717) 979-8521.



Swamp's Annual
**CHURCH
PICNIC**
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13



September 20th Highlights

Installation of Christian Educators



Christian Educators were installed by Pastor Scott during our worship service. We give thanks for our educators who devote their time and energy to the faith formation of our congregation. From left to right: Kristin Gockley, Brian Koehle, Katie Koehle, Jenny Weitzel, Jodi Showalter, Pastor Scott, Kenzie Stopper, Abbey Rineer, and Denise Kidwell (missing: Guy Templin, Sue Knauer, and Danielle Kauffman).

Presentation of Bibles



During worship, our younger learners were presented with Bibles to foster their faith journey. Receiving their Whirl Bibles are (back row, L-R) Maren Rineer, Emily Showalter, and Addyson Kauffman). Receiving his Spark Bible is Anson Kauffman (front row).





Swamp Lutheran Church

2026 BLESSING OF THE PETS

October 11, 2026

11 AM

Under the Carport

Bring your leashed and well-behaved pets
for a blessing by Pastor Scott

In honor of the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi and
in remembrance of his love for all creatures,
Swamp's Blessing of the Pets is rooted in the belief
that all creatures, including animals, are part of
God's creation and deserve blessings.





CommunityHive
formerly Ephrata Area Social Services



BBQ BASH

Join us on October 11 from 2–5PM at the Ephrata Elks for an afternoon of food, fun, and community while helping local neighbors access the resources and support they need to thrive.

WHAT TO EXPECT

- * Delicious BBQ food from SEI Catering
- * Alcoholic Beverages from the Antler Bar (cash only)
- * Kid's Zone hosted by Denver Cold Storage
- * Live music
- * Ways to win great prizes
- * A great time supporting a great cause!
- * And so much more!

NEW HALF A STEER RAFFLE

Join us in helping local neighbors in Northern Lancaster County!

Learn More /
Purchase Tickets Here



NEW! Raffle Item!
HALF A STEER
★ — RAFFLE — ★
TICKETS: **\$20** EACH

Purchase ahead by cash or check at the Community Hive office.
Also available for purchase at the event!

Thank You to Our Sponsors and Partners



Learn about Community Hive at community-hive.org.

Proceeds support Community Hive programs, including food access, Meals on Wheels, transportation, housing stability, and other services that help local neighbors thrive.

**ENDING
HUNGER**
ONE STEP
AT A TIME

CROP HUNGER WALK

Sunday, October 18 @ 11 AM

**Leave from and return to Swamp Lutheran Church
5k route**

To participate, tell Jodi Showalter 717-413-7149

If we work together, we can end world hunger. That's why Swamp is participating in the CROP Hunger Walk to support Church World Services hunger ministry and help families who are struggling with hunger. Please join us with your steps and your donations. Together, we will provide more meals for the growing number of people in our community who need them and create greater food security in communities around the world. We will donate 50% of our raised donations to our local Swamp Food Pantry.

God Spoke to Moses Spot the Differences

Compare the picture on the top with the picture on bottom. Circle the 13 things that are different.

