

# **THE RISING S N NEWSLETTER**

## **SWAMP EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**275 SWAMP CHURCH ROAD, REINHOLDS, PA 17569**

Church Telephone 717-336-2849; Fax 717-336-2840; e-mail [swampluth@dejazzd.com](mailto:swampluth@dejazzd.com)

**Eucharist Worship Service 8:000 a.m. & Eucharist Worship Service 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m.**

**APRIL, 2020**

### **Staff:**

#### **Ministers**

Congregation

#### **Pastor**

The Rev. Kurt Strause

#### **Adm. Assistant**

Judith Sauder

#### **Organist/Choir Director**

Susan Kreitz

#### **Hand Bell Director**

Doug Kulp

#### **Sexton**

John Frantz

#### **Officers of Council**

Lori Gockley, President

David Kupp, Vice Pres.

Jodi Showalter, Sec.

Deb Kohl, Fin. Sec.

Guy Templin, Co-Treas.

Sue Knauer, Co-Treas.

#### **Congregational Council**

Sandy Clouser

Randy Krater

Deb Kohl

Pam Leisey

Mike Mixell

Jan Risser

Ryan Ranck

David Sauder

Tom Showalter

During this time when the whole nation is "sheltering in place" in order to maintain "social distancing" the Church Council is taking the extraordinary step to suspend public worship. This action is an appropriate and necessary way for our congregation to participate in our society's collective action to slow the spread of this novel coronavirus, COVID-19. We will resume public worship when state and federal officials tell us it is safe to gather together again in public.

In the meantime, we are exploring ways that we can ***be church together*** even when we aren't gathering for public worship. We will need to maintain and even increase our ability to communicate with one another. We don't want to lose touch with each other. During this time the church office will continue to maintain our regular hours of Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. until noon. We will post regular updates on our Facebook page and website. Please call either the church office or the pastor if you or someone you know is in any need.

Even though we cannot gather for public worship you can still pray. We will be developing weekly prayer resources based on our Sunday lessons and hymns. You might own a Lutheran hymnal, even an old Service Book and Hymnal (the "Red Book") or a Lutheran Book of Worship (the "Green Book"). Bring it off your shelf and find Morning Prayer (Matins) and pray this wonderful resource. We are exploring more modern ways of worshipping together, such as video devotions or live-streaming. Your worship can be simple: reading scripture, reciting the Apostles' Creed, and praying the Lord's Prayer. Rediscover the riches of the Small Catechism by Martin Luther. Above all, pray for each other and for those listed on our prayer list.

We are certainly hoping this temporary shut-down of public gatherings is short-lived. It could last just a couple of weeks, which means that by the time you read this it could all be over. However, it's possible it could be longer than that, which means we will need to be conscious of those in our congregation who are sheltering in place with no or little contact with others. Please inform us if you know of someone in this situation. This is how we can be church together even though we aren't coming together on a weekly basis.

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." -Philippians 4:4-7

Your servant in Christ,

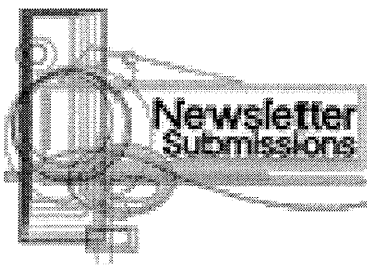
Pastor Kurt Strause



## 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 order for the pastor to visit, someone needs to inform the church. 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;**
  
- ☐ **You schedule a meeting or an event of a group or committee.** In an effort to be open and communicative with everyone, we would like to include all scheduling on the Church Calendar and in the Weekly Bulletin.



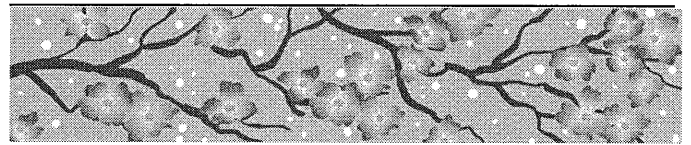
**Wednesday April 15  
2020 for May/June Newsletter.**

**Anything received after this date will  
go in the following newsletter.**



## Committee

Lori Gockley, President	Lori Gockley
David Kupp, Vice President	Safety and Security
Sandy Clouser	Welcome
Randy Krater	Property
Pam Leisey	Learning
Mike Mixell	
Ryan Ranck	Youth Ministry
Jan Risser	Love, Inc.
David Sauder	Stewardship/social media
Tom Showalter	
Jodi Showalter, Secretary	Service
Sue Ellen Knauer Co-Treasurer & Personnel	
Guy Templin, Co-Treasurer	Finance & Worship
Deb Kohl	Financial Secretary



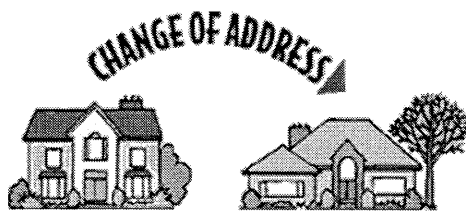
## Newsletter Change

Due to all the changes that will be happening in  
April because of the  
COVID-19 virus, the newsletter  
April calendar will not be published.

## "Beneath the Cross of Jesus"

I take, O cross, thy shadow for my abiding place;  
I ask no other sunshine than the sunshine of his  
face;  
Content to let the world go by, to know no gain nor  
loss,  
My sinful self my only shame, my glory all the  
cross.

—Elizabeth C. Clephane



Please put these changes in your new  
Pictorial directory

**Ilse Hemmerich**  
4 Conestoga Drive  
Room 350  
Lititz, PA 17543

**Betty Hornberger**  
**Mailing Address:**  
Room 109EC  
P. O. Box 1495  
Reading, PA 19603

**Physical Address:**  
Berks Heim Nursing and Rehab.  
1011 Berks Road  
Leesport, PA 19533



Harold Kauffman



Tom and Deb Henly  
deborahhenly@gmail.com

## **Special Edition Updates**

### **CORONA VIRUS/COVID-19 UPDATE**

**Your Church Council met Tuesday evening March 17. Due to the requests from the Federal Government to limit groups to no more than 10 and the ongoing threat of the spread of the virus. Council decided to suspend regular Sunday Services at this time. We will continue to monitor the situation and update you on any changes**

**Please be aware that the church is not shutting down. The office will be open and committees will continue to meet. We will continue to do our mission work as appropriate and continue to seek out those in our communities that need assistance during this time.**

**Even though we may not be worshiping together we still need to be in Prayer with one another.**

## PRAYER FOR A PANDEMIC

May we who are merely inconvenienced

**Remember those whose lives are at stake.**

May we who have no risk factors

**Remember the most vulnerable.**

May we who have the luxury of working from home

**Remember those who must choose between preserving their health  
or making their rent.**

May we who have the flexibility to care for our children when their  
schools close

**Remember those who have no options.**

May we who have to cancel our trips

**Remember those that have no safe place to go.**

May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult of the economic  
market

**Remember those who have no margin at all.**

May we who settle in for a quarantine at home

**Remember those who have no home.**

As fear grips our country,

**Let us chose love.**

During this time when we cannot physically wrap our arms around  
each other,

**Let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace of God to our neighbors.**

**Amen.**

(Unsure of author)

**SWAMP LUTHERAN CHURCH  
CORONAVIRUS (COVID 19) GUIDELINE**

COVID-19 is a respiratory illness, with symptoms such as fever, cough, difficulty breathing and shortness of breath, appearing 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. It is spread by respiratory droplets (infected person coughs/sneezes and lands in the mouth or nose and or possibly inhaled into the lungs of those close by). Close contact is defined as being within 6 feet of a person with COVID-19 for a prolonged period of time and having direct contact with bodily fluids, including blood, phlegm, and respiratory droplets, from an individual with COVID-19.

*(Source: PA Dept. of Health)*

This is a very fluid situation and the updated guidance and recommendations of the Pa. Department of Health (DOH) and Federal Center for Disease Control (CDC) shall be followed and may override the guidance of this guideline.

Effective immediately, there shall be no Sunday worship services, Sunday School, Lent services, or other church-sponsored activities until such time as state/federal guidance is relaxed.

Frequent hand washing and good hygiene should be practiced at all times by all members.

Church members and professional staff (Minister, Secretary, Sexton, Organist, Music Staff) shall practice "Social Distancing" by standing or sitting 6 feet away from persons whenever practical and possible.

Shaking of hands should not be done during this time, but may be replaced by elbow rubs, nods, waves, etc.. While hugging is not recommended, there are times when hugs are appropriate and needed.

During this time, in line with federal recommendations, groups such as Committees and church sponsored organizations should limit themselves to 10 people or less when inside the church.

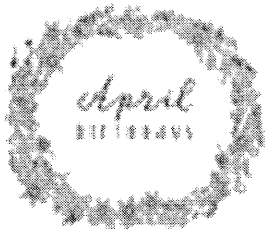
During normal church hours, people entering the building should check into the office.

This is especially difficult in times should there be a funeral or memorial service. The Minister and Funeral Director may have discussion and discretion as to the type of service. (example: If approximately 50 people or less are expected and social distancing can be achieved, it may be possible to have the church service in the building; or a service may be limited to immediate family members).

There may be times when individuals and small groups may want to enter the church for private prayers and meditation. This is to be welcomed keeping in mind that security procedures for access are to be followed.

Any use of the church or questions not covered by this guidance shall be at the discretion of the pastor or ranking member of Church Council in the pastor's absence.

Adopted by Church Council  
March 17, 2020



Dear Members of Swamp:

Thank you so much for your generous donation of \$1,000.00 to LutherCare. Because of you, we're able to come together in community to help families throughout Lancaster and Lebanon Counties.

Carl R. McAloose  
President/CEO

Dear Members of Swamp:

O want to thank you for all the cards, telephone calls, flowers and well wishes during my surgery. I am doing well. Hope to see you soon. I also want to thank Rev. Kurt Strause for his visits.

Thank you again,  
Gladys I. Eckenroad



The Service Committee is sponsoring a Lenten Season Service Project. We will be collecting items for the Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits. These kits, along with the School Kits that we

assemble in Sept. will be part of the Oct.

Ingathering. Containers will be placed at the front and back doors to collect these items.

Personal Care Kits

Include the following items in each Personal Care Kit:

One bath-size towel, (approximately 52"X27" ), dark color recommended

Two bath-size bars ( 4 or 5 oz ) of soap, in its original wrapping

One adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging

One sturdy comb, ( wide-toothed preferred ) remove packaging

One metal nail clipper, remove packaging

RUTH SWEIGART 4/5  
725 GREENVILLE ROAD  
DENVER, PA 17517

BETTY KRAMER 4/7  
250 PARKVIEW HEIGHTS  
APT. 209  
EPHRATA, PA 17522

RONALD STONER 4/7  
720 S. COCALICO ROAD  
DENVER, PA 17517

JUDY HABECKER 4/19  
637 N 11<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE  
LEBANON, PA 17046

SALLY HAGY 4/20  
500 BLUE LAKE ROAD  
DENVER, PA 17517

RONALD ARTZ 4/21  
PO BOX 53  
390 BLUE LAKE ROAD  
REINHOLDS, PA 17569

SANDRA HAWS 4/22  
712 VINEMONT ROAD  
REINHOLDS, PA 17569

LARRY WOLF 4/25  
75 REINHOLDS ROAD  
REINHOLDS, PA 17569



Thank you for the prayers, cards, visits, flowers, meals and rides to appointments as I recuperated from my foot surgery. I truly appreciate your caring.

God bless,  
Sue Kreitz

I would like to express my sincere thank you and appreciation of the wonderful Retirement Party you planned and executed with brilliance on Saturday, March 7. To say it far exceeded anything I could have imagined would be putting it mildly. Not because I doubt your talents, but because the sheer scope of the party was amazing. The number of people attending, the grandeur of the surroundings, the excellence of the food, the well thought out program and last but not least the most thoughtful comments, speeches and gifts. It was all just amazing! I wish there had been time to go to each table and greet and thank each one there in person. But since there wasn't, I want to thank all of you in this letter for taking the time out of your schedules to celebrate with us. As I looked out at all those tables filled with familiar faces, I saw family and friends that I hold dear. I appreciate the sentiment and love given to Denny, who I believe has one of the kindest hearts of anyone I know. There is literally love for everyone he meets, unconditional love at that, and he does his best to help anyone in need. He also, somehow, knows exactly what is needed and what to say. "Somehow" I know is God working through him. You must know that you have never just been parishioners to him, but family! What I saw was after 50 years of planting seeds, I was looking at the lovely bouquet that has been created by his ministry. I am so proud to call you my family and friends and so very proud to be Denny's wife. Love to you all,

Bonnie Myers Grant

# Bonnie Myers Trout

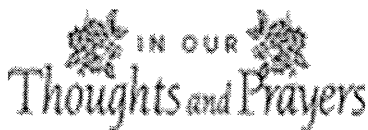
This morning Bonnie showed me this letter and asked me if I would like to write anything. Then I read what she wrote! Well, my first thought was that I would try to express my feelings. But after reading her thoughts, there's no way to say it better. In fact, I am still at the "WOW" stage of thought. Somewhere along the line, God said, "do this"; I did it and here's that word again, "WOW". Thank you for the opportunity---- what a Blessing. God is Blessing us!!

*Dennis J. Hunt*  
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## Love, Pastor Trout



Michael Crowther  
Clarice Haws  
Ilse Hemmerich  
Betty Hornberger  
Charles Moyer  
Henry Rehlich  
Ella Shirk  
Alverta Showalter  
Clyde Showalter  
Mary Ann Weitzel



The Family of Marie Jenkins – Sister of Sue Kreitz and Ruth Kramer  
The Family of Harold Kauffman  
The Family of Dale Trout – Brother of Pastor Trout  
Nolan Weitzel – Son of Andy and Nichole Weitzel  
Carl and Shirl Tobias  
Carol Jenkins – Friend of Sue Kreitz  
Doris Kopp  
Jan and Don Risser  
Janice Kelly  
Susan Levan  
Earl and Irene Myers  
Barbara Mizdail  
Ray Showalter  
Jim and Mary Jane Miller  
Charles Moyer  
Lloyd Templin – Father of Guy Templin  
Dawna Meese – Friend of the Templin's  
Grace Ranck  
Nancy Kulp  
Elmo Lorah – Friend of Connie Taylor  
Lisa Buckles – Friend of Sue Knauer  
Mary Kring – Aunt of Linda Ream  
Chester Peachy – Neighbor of Sue Kreitz  
Bill Sweigart – Neighbor of Sue Kreitz  
Kyle Lord – Cousin of Kim Houck  
Andy Etman  
Bryand Rincher - Nephew of Connie and Tony Malafarina  
Ivy Erb-Willard – Friend of Kim Houck  
Christina Ayala – Brain Tumor – Friend of Kim Houck  
Dottie Smith - Friend of Connie Taylor  
Betty Custer - Mother of Tony Malafarina  
Sandy Heisey – Sister-in-law of Jenn Weitzel  
Tracey Pajski – Daughter of Andrew Kelly  
Cheryl Black – Friend of the Gockleys  
Tom Schalata – Stepfather of Katie Koehle  
Judith Esterly – Friend of Janice Kelly  
Kristen Ramsey (kidney transplant) Fiancé of Eric Long  
Bryan Miller – Friend of the Reedys

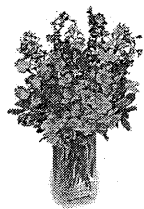
**Please let us know when we can remove people from the sick and shut-in list.**



Our condolences to the Family of Dale Trout, Pastor Trout's brother. Dale passed away Wednesday, March 4, 2020.

Condolences to the family of Harold Kauffman. Harold passed away Monday, March 9, 2020 at home. His funeral was held Friday, March 13, 2020 at the church. Interment in Swamp Cemetery.

Condolences to the family of Marie Jenkins, sister of Sue Kreitz and Ruth Kramer. Marie died Tuesday, March 17, 2020.



**Chancel Flowers are needed for April 19; also, May 17 and 24, 2020**

*(See Joyce Stoner if interested)*



Service Committee will be checking blood pressures (BP) after the 8:00 service on Sunday April 5<sup>th</sup>. Please stay for a few minutes after the 8 am service

or come a little early for the 9:00 am service and have your BP checked.



## SWAMP EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN

## Treasurer's Report by Major Group

February of Fiscal Year 2020

Responsibility: All

Fund: 01 - CHECKING ACC'T

	February Actual	Year-to-date Actual	Annual Budget	Percent of Budget
<b>Income</b>				
REGULAR	24,113.48	49,595.65	0.00	0.00 %
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>24,113.48</b>	<b>49,595.65</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00 %</b>
<b>Expense</b>				
Group 00	3,078.37	6,042.24	34,840.00	17.34 %
LEARNING	173.95	848.95	4,700.00	18.06 %
WELCOME	228.15	228.15	4,300.00	5.31 %
STEWARDSHIP	0.00	0.00	200.00	0.00 %
SERVICE	567.53	708.45	1,150.00	61.60 %
WORSHIP	0.00	1,172.70	6,450.00	18.18 %
PROPERTY	130.50	1,449.50	13,170.00	11.01 %
YOUTH MINISTRY	0.00	0.00	800.00	0.00 %
REIMBURSED EXP.	14.00	538.95	0.00	0.00 %
REBUILDING	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00 %
THROUGH STAFF	10,979.50	22,828.58	142,189.00	16.06 %
BENEFITS	468.85	4,705.64	48,900.00	9.62 %
ADMINISTRATION	388.24	2,192.53	22,000.00	9.97 %
OPERATIONS	2,761.22	8,749.76	48,200.00	18.15 %
INVESTMENTS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00 %
RESTORATION	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00 %
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>18,790.31</b>	<b>49,465.45</b>	<b>326,899.00</b>	<b>15.13 %</b>
<b>Income Less Expense</b>	<b>5,323.17</b>	<b>130.20</b>	<b>-326,899.00</b>	

# WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

## Bread and Wine Donors:

April Denny and Judy Habecker  
May Guy and Sue Templin

## Altar Guild:

April Linda Ream, Judy Habecker  
May Ruth Kramer, Gayle

## Communion Assistants:

April 5  
8:00 David Borrell, Missy Ragan  
9:00 Anita Kupp, Karen Krater, Katie Houck, Larry Kramer  
April 9  
Anita Kupp, Debbie Carvell,  
Jake Hill, Brian Reedy  
April 12  
6:00 David Borrell, Linda Ream  
8:30 Connie Malafarina, Deb Sweigart, Karen Krater,  
April 19  
8:00 John Frantz, Brian Reedy  
9:00 Jane Leshner, Krystal Brown, Kim Houck, Dylan Koehle  
April 26  
8:00 David Borrell, Missy Ragan  
9:00 Katie Houck, Debbie Carvell, Anita Kupp, Larry Kramer

## Lector:

April 5 Sue Kittler  
April 9 Denise Null  
April 10 Lowell Haws, Michael Wargo, Connie Taylor  
April 12  
6:00 Guy Templin  
8:30 Missy Ragan  
April 19 Deb Sweigart  
April 26 Sue Kittler

## Flower Delivery:

April 5, 12 John Frantz, Jerry Landis  
April 19, 26 Mike and Julie Witmer  
May 3, 10 Sally Hagy

# APRIL (SUBJECT TO CHURCH)

## Disaster Relief:

April 26 Adam Laudenslager,  
Nathan Laudenslager, Isaac Zook,

## Crucifer:

April 5  
8:00 Missy Ragan  
9:00 Anita Kupp  
April 9  
April 10 Church Council Members  
April 12  
6:00 Chace Smith  
8:30 Jake Hill  
April 19  
8:00 Brian Reedy  
9:00 Dylan Koehle  
April 26  
8:00 David Borrell  
9:00 Anita Kupp

## Acolytes:

April 5  
8:00 Chace Smith  
9:00 Brooke Koehle, Dylan Koehle  
April 10  
8:00 Isaac Zook  
9:00 Nathan Laudenslager, Beckah Koehle  
April 12  
6:00 Molli Smith  
8:30 Hanna Weller, Zach Brown  
April 19  
8:00 Hanna Weller  
9:00 Krystal Brown, Nathan Laudenslager  
April 26  
8:00 Isaac Zook  
9:00 Krystal Brown, Sunnie Young

**Greeters, 8 AM**

April 5 Jodi Showalter  
April 12 (6 AM) Mike Mixell  
April 19 Sandy Clouser  
April 26 Tom Showalter  
May 3 David Kupp

**Security/Ushers, 8 AM**

April 5 Tom Showalter, David Sauder  
April 12 David Kupp, Sue Ellen Knauer  
April 19 Ryan Ranck, Jodi Showalter  
April 26 David Sauder, Mike Mixell  
May 3 Sue Ellen Knauer, Sandy Clouser

**Greeters, 9 AM:**

April 5 Sue Ellen Knauer  
April 9 Council Members  
April 10 Council Members

**Security 9:00 AM**

April 5 Pam Leisey  
April 9 Council Members  
April 10 Council Members

**Greeters, (8:30 AM)**

April 12 David Sauder  
April 19 Deb Kohl  
April 26 Sue Ellen Knauer  
May 3 Ryan Ranck

**Security, (8:30 AM)**

April 12 Jan Risser  
April 19 Pam Leisey  
April 26 David Kupp  
May 3 Jan Risser

# Homes of Hope Mentor Workshop



*"You have a unique role to fulfill in God's story"*

**Saturday, April 18, 2020**

8:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Lancaster Brethren In Christ Church  
1865 Fruitville Pike, Lancaster, PA 17601

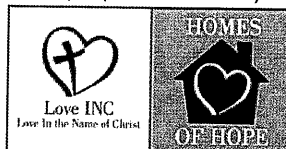
Cost: \$65.00- includes lunch & materials  
(scholarship available; please inquire)

**Contact Shawn Moyer by April 10<sup>th</sup> to register:**

(717) 735-7540 Ext 105, or  
[smoyer@loveinclancaster.org](mailto:smoyer@loveinclancaster.org)

Love INC is excited to have **Donna Keener** facilitate this workshop. Donna has had an incredible opportunity to develop and share her "Life Skills Curriculum" through her extensive work with Heartsease Home (New York) and the Saigon South International School (Vietnam). Donna and her husband have two young adult daughters. They currently provide a home for international high school students.

Workshop sponsored by:



# All-You-Can-Eat Breakfast Buffet



**SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2020**

**7:00-10:00 AM**

**BREAKFAST INCLUDES:** EGGS, HOME FRIES, CREAMED CHIPPED BEEF, PANCAKES, FRENCH TOAST, BACON, SAUSAGE, HAM, COFFEE, TEA, JUICES, VARIOUS PASTRIES AND FRUIT.

**ADMISSION BY DONATION**

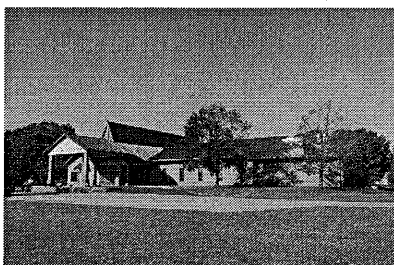
**PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE  
TO: NORTH LANCASTER  
CONFERENCE DEAN'S FUND**

*PROCEEDS BENEFIT NORTH LANCASTER CONFERENCE  
DISASTER RESPONSE MINISTRY IN 2020*

**SWAMP LUTHERAN CHURCH FELLOWSHIP HALL**

**275 SWAMP CHURCH ROAD,  
REINHOLDS**

**PHONE 717-336-2849**



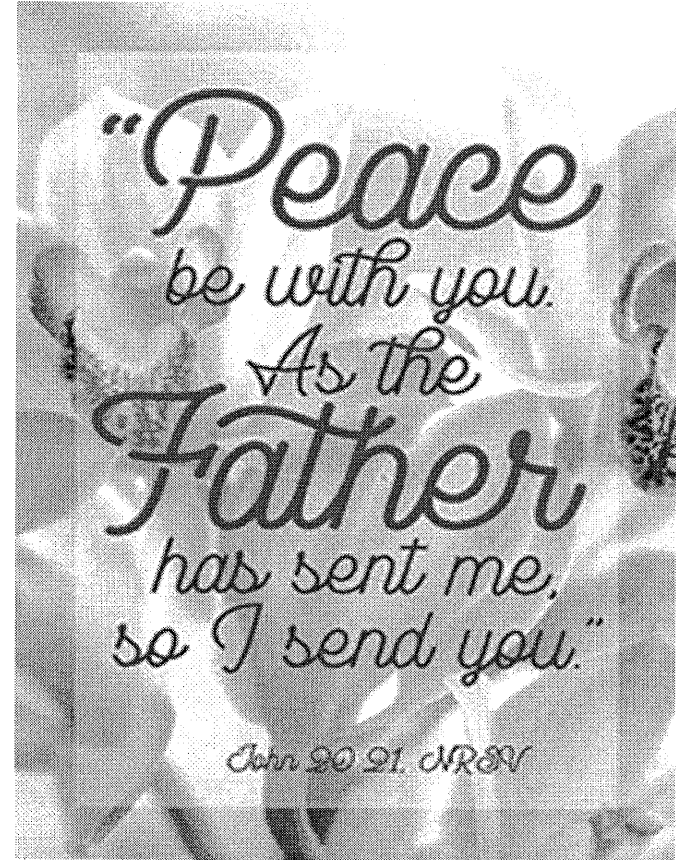
**GOD'S WORK...OUR HANDS.**

**SWAMP EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
275 SWAMP CHURCH ROAD  
REINHOLDS, PA 17569**



**Return Service Requested**

**APRIL**



**SWAMP EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
THE REV. KURT STRAUSE, PASTOR  
OFFICE PHONE 717-336-2849  
FAX NUMBER 717-336-2840  
CHURCH E-MAIL [swampluth@dejazzd.com](mailto:swampluth@dejazzd.com)  
SWAMP WEB PAGE [swamplutheran.org](http://swamplutheran.org)**