

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 swampluth@dejazzd.com
Eucharist Service 8:00 a.m. Worship service 9:00 a.m. Sunday Church School 10:30 a.m.

D E C E M B E R 2 0 1 1

Swamp Evangelical Lutheran Church is a member of CALM 5 (Cocalico Area Lutheran Ministry). CALM is a cooperative ministry with Faith United Lutheran Church, Denver; PA; Mellinger's Lutheran Church, Schoeneck, PA; Muddy Creek Lutheran Church, Denver, PA & St. Paul Lutheran Church, Adamstown, PA

Staff:

Ministers

Congregation

Pastor

The Rev. Dennis L. Trout

Adm. Asst/Sec

Judith L. Sauder

Organist/Choir Director

Dr. Darryl E. Dech

Sexton

Matthew Lewandowski

Officers of Council

Lori Gockley, President

Sue Ellen Knauer, V. P.

Abbey Showalter, Secretary

Steve Young, Financial Sec.

Deb Sweigert: Treasurer

Laurie Sauder: Asst. Treas.

Congregation Council

Glenn Beard

Lori Hagy

Randy Krater

David Kupp

Michael Mixell

David Sauder

Guy Templin

Ray Weitzel

Michael Witmer



First Sunday in Advent - November 27, 2011

Second Sunday in Advent - December 4, 2011

Hanging of the Greens immediately after Worship Services.

Third Sunday in Advent - December 11

Congregational Meeting immediately after the 9 a.m. service.

Making of baskets and delivery of same and Christmas Cards.

Nite of Music - 7:00 p.m.

Fourth Sunday in Advent - December 21

Sunday School Christmas Program 10:30 a.m.

Christmas Eve Eucharist Worship Service - 7:30 p.m.

Christmas Day Eucharist Worship Service - 8:30 a.m. only

God Bless,

Pastor Trout



DECEMBER

JAMES R. WAGNER 12/2
35 WOODLYN ESTATES
MILLSBORO, DE 19966-9018

PAULINE WASSMER 12/5
585 N. RIDGE ROAD
REINHOLDS, PA 17569

EARL MYERS 12/6
1845 FURNACE HILLS ROAD
DENVER, PA 17517

JOHN BERGMAN 12/6
7 RAY DRIVE
DENVER, PA 17517

PATSY GRESS 12/8
165 S. BLAINSPORT ROAD
REINHOLDS, PA 17569

HAROLD CRILLS 12/9
85 SWAMP BRIDGE ROAD
DENVER, PA 17517

ALICE FASNACHT 12/11
1050 S. COCALICO ROAD
DENVER, PA 17517

SYLVIA FETTER 12/14
360 SANDY HILL ROAD
DENVER, PA 17517

EDGAR GRESS 12/14
155 S. BLAINSPORT ROAD
REINHOLDS, PA 17569

HELEN WERNER 12/19
125 S. BLAINSPORT ROAD
REINHOLDS, PA 17569

RAY HERSHEY 12/22
57 TIMBERLINE DRIVE
LEOLA, PA 17540-1124

Thank you to everyone for the flowers, cards, meals, visits and phone calls while I was in the hospital and home recuperating. Your time and caring helped to brighten my days and were very much appreciated.

Thanks again and God bless.

Sue Kreitz

I want to thank everyone who donated to our Harvest Home food collection and the Lutheran World Relief – In Gathering. A trunk load of food was donated to EASS food bank and 17 crocheted afghans were donated to the Denver Nursing Home (Russell Kurtz, Dale Reinecker, Charles & Carolyn Leshar each received one, also Alice Schannauer received one at Landis Homes.) Lutheran World Relief received 400 bars of soap, 11 quilts, 28 personal care kits and 571 blankets. A special thank you to Randy & Lori Gockley for donating the 571 blankets, packaging them and delivering the boxes to the LWR collection center at Bergstrasse Lutheran Church. I also want to thank Earl & Irene Myers for donating the other boxes and packaging materials and helping to assemble them.

Your generous donations are helping people at home and throughout the world. Thank you again for your support of Harvest Home and LWR – In Gathering.

Jane Leshar

Service Committee Report

Service Committee will again be collecting food for 5 area families for Christmas. These donations will be collected at our monthly December food drive on December 4th. Money for turkeys, hams and any additional food items can be given to Jane Leshar. Thank you for your generous spirit of giving.

Jane

To the Congregation:

Thank you very much for the gift card to The Parsonage Bed & Breakfast in Jim Thorpe. Being one of our favorite places to go, Denny and I will enjoy a great get-away.

Relationships are always a two-way street and being the kind of pastor Denny is to you is made easier by the kind of congregation you are. Thank you for your love, caring and support of us. We love you all and thank you very much.

This is the unabridged letter by Bonnie Trout to The Lutheran that was published in the October issue.

UPDATE (The rest of the story!)

Most of you are familiar with the TV show "Swamp People" which airs on Thursday nights about alligator hunters in Louisiana. I am writing, however, about the swamp people of Swamp Evangelical Lutheran Church in Reinholds, Pa. We acquired that name after most of our church burned down on February 10, 2010. We began worshipping with other congregations in our area while restorations were done in our still-standing sanctuary which had water and smoke damage. These congregations dubbed us "the swamp people". We have taken this name to heart, even so far as a small group of us visiting the Chesapeake Bay in Maryland recently, wrestling a large blow-up alligator pool toy into submission.

All kidding aside, however, Swamp Lutheran Church, after a year and a half, is ready to move into their new wing. The social hall, kitchen, sunday school rooms and offices which were burned to the ground are finished and dedication is set for September 25, 2011. These "swamp people" have done a miraculous job in the interim – carrying on the work of the church has been their focus in this time of rebuilding. Loving hearts and helping hands have worked together and we all now look at a beautiful new building, so much like the old but so much better, and we are thankful. It has been a long road and only through the cohesive work of these "swamp people" could this have been accomplished. We are thankful for the Breath of God, as depicted in our stained glass (RUACH) window, that saved our sanctuary that night; and we are thankful for those who have rebuilt our social wing to the beautiful new structure it is today. But mostly, I thank God for the "swamp people" who never cease to amaze me in their devotion, love, and commitment to our church.



Bonnie Trout
wife of Dennis L. Trout
Swamp Evangelical Lutheran Church
Reinholds, PA 17569

Requests from the Office:

Please call the church at 336-2849 if:

*You are in the hospital or prior to going to the hospital (or have a relative call for you).

*You are going to a rehab center or a nursing home;

*You are confined to your home for an extended period of time because of illness or accident;

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

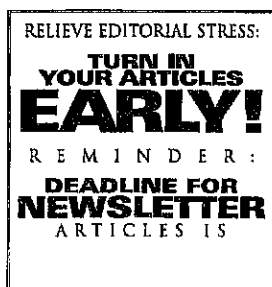
*You move to a new home, move out of the area, or go away to college or graduate school.

Please inform the church office if your mailing address and/or telephone number have been changed or you have moved to a new address. The church is charged a fee of \$.75 for each piece of mail that is returned.

***** As you schedule a meeting or an event of a group, committee or task force of Swamp, please inform the Church Office. 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. Changes to the routinely scheduled meeting should also be shared with the Church Office.**

We want everyone who checks out our bulletin or newsletter to see our activities.

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November 15, 2011

FOR

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER



Congratulations to Ryan & Michelle Brown on becoming members of our church family. Ryan, Michelle and their family live at 140 Hollow Road, Reinholds, PA 17569.

Congratulations to Dan & Sandy Clouser upon their becoming members of our church family. Dan & Sandy live at 275 Mountain Top Road, Reinholds, PA 17569.



Congratulations to Krystal Lynn Brown upon her Baptism today. Krystal was born April 15, 2004 in Lancaster, PA and is the daughter of Ryan & Michelle "Martzall" Brown.

Congratulations to Zachary Ryan Brown upon his Baptism today. Zachary was born August 11, 2006 in Lancaster, PA and is the son of Ryan & Michelle "Martzall" Brown.



Annie Elizabeth McQuate was born October 26, 2011 at 4:11 p.m. at East Jefferson General Hospital, New Orleans, LA. She was 8 lbs. 6 oz. and 21" long. The proud parents are Danny and Shawna Manning McQuate and the proud grandparents are Pat & Nancy McQuate.



Earl & Marion Bashore
Dolores Binner
Dorothy DeLong
John Dillon
Ray Hershey
Edwin Kramer
Russell Kurtz
Caroline Leshner
Dale Reinecker
Alice Schannauer
Lela Trout
Walter Weinhold
Charles Weitzel
Mary Anne Weitzel
Minnie Wenger

Dolores Becker
Elmer Kopp
Anna Mae Moyer



Our condolences to the family of Charles Leshner who died Wednesday, November 9th. Funeral services for Charles were held Monday, November 14th at 2:00 p.m.

Our condolences to the family of Mark Ulrich who died Friday, November 11th. Funeral services for Mark were held Wednesday, November 16th at 11:00 a.m.

Lela Trout
Marlene Boyer
Lori Stoner
Linda Martzall
Brenda Feidler
Julia Crills
June Eberly
The Family of Charles Leshner
The Family of Mark Ulrich
Caroline Leshner
Jere Martin
Sam Leed
Eugene Moyer - Ephrata Hospital
Gilbert Ochs - Brother of Edie Showalter
Deb Sorber - Friend of Jennifer Smith
Joyce Mumma
Dr. Dianne Coraloo - Friend of Bonnie Trout
Tony Ciro - Friend of Bonnie Trout
Michael Hinck - Son of Kathleen Fink
Mary Clark
Esther Hollinger - Friend of Ron & Joyce Stoner
Shirley Land - Friend of Larry Kramer
Becky Christman - Friend of Cindy Golden
Frank Re - Brother of Bernadette Wargo
Maria Re - Niece of the Wargo's
Bernard Re - Brother of Bernadette Wargo
Derry "Gushen" Agnini - Friend of Sue Van Zant
John Maicher - Friend of Connie Taylor
Kathy Herr - Friend of Sue Knauer
Libby Kern - granddaughter of Clarence & Marlene Kern
Clarence Kern
Austin Durand & Family - Friend of Judy Habecker's grandson
Susan Hartman
Shane Stoner & Family - Friends of Jenn Weitzel

(Please let us know when we can remove people from the sick and shut-in list. We do not always get an update on their condition).

OCTOBER TREASURERS REPORT

	<u>1 MONTH</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
INCOME		
ENVELOPE FUND AND SIMPLY GIVING	\$ 17,616.00	\$ 175,262.00
LOOSE OFFERING	\$ 1,124.83	\$ 14,425.96
CHURCH SCHOOL	\$ 58.00	\$ 439.45
TOTAL INCOME TOWARD BUDGET	\$ 18,798.83	\$ 190,127.41
DISASTER RESPONSE	\$ 236.51	\$ 5,275.53
FLOWERS AND BULLETINS	\$ 178.00	\$ 1,843.25
DESIGNATED RECEIPTS	\$ 146.00	\$ 8,394.26
MEMORIALS	\$ 690.00	\$ 1,380.00
MATCHING FUNDS & RETURNS		\$ -
DINNERS		\$ -
NONCASH CONTRIBUTIONS		\$ 236.47
FIRE DONATIONS		\$ 322.00
CAPITAL FUND DRIVE	\$ 885.00	\$ 125,861.00
MISCELLANEOUS INCOME	\$ 127,640.74	\$ 133,869.03
INCOME TOTALS	\$ 148,575.08	\$ 467,308.95
DISBURSEMENTS		
BENOVELENCE	\$ 2,083.33	\$ 20,833.30
SAMARITAN COUNCILING CENTER		\$ 1,000.00
LUTHERCARE	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
OTHER BENOVELENCES	\$ 2,540.50	\$ 2,940.50
LEARNING	\$ 62.42	\$ 4,226.85
WELCOME	\$ 484.40	\$ 596.90
STEWARDSHIP		\$ -
SERVICE		\$ -
WORSHIP	\$ 267.78	\$ 3,803.70
PROPERTY	\$ 2,216.07	\$ 6,387.24
YOUTH MINISTRY	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00
STAFF EXPENSES	\$ 10,748.03	\$ 95,529.95
STAFF BENEFITS	\$ 3,950.04	\$ 39,183.83
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES	\$ 2,635.35	\$ 16,273.67
OPERATIONS OF PROPERTY	\$ 2,443.57	\$ 19,987.75
TOTAL BUDGETED ITEMS	\$ 32,231.49	\$ 215,563.69
UNBUDGETED DISBURSEMENTS		
BENEVOLENCE - ACTION FUND		\$ 610.00
DISASTER RESPONSE	\$ 236.51	\$ 5,358.30
MISCELLANEOUS NONBUDGETED		\$ 2,964.09
MATCHING FUND PAYMENTS		\$ -
FLOWERS/ REIMB EXP	\$ 220.50	\$ 6,629.27
RESTORATION/REBUILDING	\$ 8,031.70	\$ 19,052.61
PAID MEMORIALS		\$ 5,000.00
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$ 40,720.20	\$ 255,177.96
ACCOUNT BALANCE SEPTEMBER 2011	\$ 121,537.61	
TOTAL RECEIPTS OCTOBER 2011	\$ 148,575.08	
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS OCTOBER 2011	\$ (40,720.20)	
ACCOUNT BALANCE OCTOBER 31, 2011	\$ 229,392.49	
This amount includes the following:		
Bible Study Group Money	\$ 78.00	
Personal Choir \$15.40 & Bell Choir Money \$4.32	\$ 19.72	
Memorials	\$ 74,714.80	
*TOTAL INCLUDED IN CHECKING	\$ 74,812.52	

COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

20 November 2011

Your Council met Wednesday, November 16, 2011. Highlights include:

Scouts participated in the Food Drive. They collected 2500 lbs of food in the Reinholds area. They assisted in picking up limbs on the property. They will also have a Bake sale at Weaver's Store on December 3rd from 8-12 noon.

Service Committee will be shopping for food for the 5 families given us from Ephrata Area Social Services. If you would like to donate, see Dave Kupp.

The Constitution has been sent to the Synod for approval. We welcome you to review it before the congregational meeting in December. It will be on our website next week. Also, hard copies will be available from Dave Sauder. We will present this for your approval at the congregational meeting.

Welcome Committee mailed out approx. 60 cards this month. They will continue visitations with our sick and shut ins and also will shop for the children of the 5 families from EASS.

Helping Hands served approximately 100 people at a funeral luncheon on Wednesday.

Property Committee reported that they would like to sell the tractor. It will be offered to the congregation first by having a sealed bid. For details, see Ray Weitzel. The water softener and UV light have been installed. Thank you to Dave Kupp and boys for plowing the driveway after the October snow storm.

Youth Ministry will prepare a Thanksgiving meal for a family today.

Learning Committee will recognize college students on January 1, 2012. December 18 is the Christmas program with a visit from Santa afterwards.

Worship Committee reported they are investigating web-casting Sunday worship services using SKYPE or other means. The Night of Music will be held December 11 at 7:00pm. Practice for Christmas Eve worship assistants will be December 18 at 11:30 am. Christmas Eve Service will begin at 7:30pm. On Christmas Day and New Year's Day, there will be ONE service at 8:30 am with no Sunday School.

The Nominees to replace outgoing Council Treasurer, Deb Sweigert and Co-Treasurer Laurie Sauder are: Guy Templin, Treasurer and Jim Kidwell Co-Treasurer. The nominees to replace Guy and myself, as a council members are: Tom Laudenslager and Don Risser. Their names will be brought to the Congregational meeting for approval.

The Finance Committee presented the spending guideline for 2012. After discussion, the Council approved the Finance Committee's submitted recommendation and it will be presented at the Congregational meeting for approval. The proposed spending guideline will be printed in the December newsletter following this report. If you have any questions, see Bob Christy or myself.

The Congregational Meeting will be held immediately after the 9:00am service on December 11, 2010.

Proposed Church Constitution Changes Swamp Lutheran Church - 2011

Constitution Committee: Pastor Dennis Trout, Council President Lori Gockley, Dave Sauder, Mike Mixell, Guy Templin, Bob Christy
Date Committee Approved Changes: 4/4/11
Date Council Approved Changes: 10/26/11

At the annual congregational meeting on December 11th, 2011, the congregation will vote on proposed changes to our Swamp Lutheran Church constitution. A full copy of the constitution will be available for review on the Swamp Lutheran Church website, or by contacting Dave Sauder for a hardcopy of the document. Listed below are the significant changes that were proposed & approved by church council, and will be voted on by the congregation at the December meeting.

REVISION 1

Update Chapter 11 of the constitution to include voting power & terms for Co-Treasurers. The Chapter 11 changes also include making the Financial Secretary an officer of the congregation, and state the Financial Secretary does not need to be a member of Congregation Council.

Chapter 11.

OFFICERS

C11.01. The officers of this congregation shall be a president, vice president, financial secretary, secretary and co-treasurers.

- a. Duties of the officers shall be specified in the bylaws.
- b. The officers shall be voting members of the congregation.
- c. The Congregation Council will elect its officers and the president, vice president, and secretary shall be selected from the elected membership of the Congregation Council. If the financial secretary is not selected from the elected membership of the Congregation Council, the financial secretary shall have voice but not vote at the meetings of the Congregation Council.

C11.02. The president, vice president, secretary & financial secretary shall be elected by the Congregation Council by written ballot and shall serve for one year. The term shall begin on January 1 and end on December 31.

C11.03. The Co-Treasurers shall be nominated by the Congregation Council, elected by the Congregation and shall serve a term of 3 years, beginning January 1st of their elected year. The Co-Treasurers shall serve no more than 2 consecutive terms, without a break of one year between future terms. For the initial Co-Treasurer election, one Co-Treasurer will be nominated for 2 consecutive terms, and the other for a single term so we will not have both Co-Treasurers leaving office at the same time. The Co-Treasurers shall have both voice & vote at meetings of the Congregation Council.

C11.04. Should a position of the Co-Treasurer become vacant, the Congregation Council shall elect, by majority vote, a successor until the next annual meeting. If the vacated position has remaining years on the term at the end of current year, at the next annual meeting, a successor shall be elected to complete the remaining term of the vacated Co-Treasurer position.

C11.05. No officer shall hold more than one office at a time.

REVISION 2

Changed section 12.03 to provide more specific wording around replacement of council members:

C12.03. Should a member's place on the Congregation Council be declared vacant, the Congregation Council shall elect, by majority vote, a successor until the next annual meeting. If the vacated position has remaining years on the term at the end of current year, at the next annual meeting, a successor shall be elected to complete the remaining term of the vacated Council position.

REVISION 3

Place By-laws into the Constitution that were accidentally dropped from the prior constitution. The new by-laws include defining the date for the congregational meeting, nominations for council members, the church mission statement and further definition for officers of the congregation.

CHANGE 4

Added continuing resolutions to the constitution that list the church committees along with the mission & responsibilities for each committee.

Thank You,

Swamp Lutheran Church Council & Constitution Committee

PROPOSED 2012 SPENDING GUIDELINE

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>
BENEVOLENCE	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
SAMARITAN COUNSELING CENT	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
MISSIONARY SUPPORT	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
GETTYSBURG SEMINARY	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
MEALS ON WHEELS	\$ 440.00	\$ 440.00	\$ 440.00	\$ 440.00	\$ 440.00
LUTHERCARE	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
LUTHERAN CAMPING (UNDERPR	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
EPHRATA AREA SOCIAL SERVI	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00
LOVE INC	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 250.00
HABITAT HOUSE				\$ 1,000.00	\$ 500.00
MISCELLANEOUS	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
TOTAL BENEVOLENCE	<u>\$ 32,840.00</u>	<u>\$ 32,840.00</u>	<u>\$ 33,140.00</u>	<u>\$ 34,140.00</u>	<u>\$ 33,390.00</u>
CONFIRMATION RETREAT	\$ 3,240.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 3,600.00
CURRICULUM	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,750.00	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL	\$ 800.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 750.00	\$ 1,000.00
SPECIAL	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 450.00	\$ 450.00
CHRISTMAS PLAY	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
CHILDREN'S RUGS	\$ 250.00	\$ 350.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
TEACHER EDUCATION		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
MISCELLANEOUS LEARNING	\$ -	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00	\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL LEARNING	<u>\$ 6,640.00</u>	<u>\$ 7,700.00</u>	<u>\$ 5,850.00</u>	<u>\$ 7,250.00</u>	<u>\$ 7,100.00</u>
OUTREACH	\$ 500.00	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,200.00
TOTAL WELCOME	<u>\$ 500.00</u>	<u>\$ 800.00</u>	<u>\$ 800.00</u>	<u>\$ 1,500.00</u>	<u>\$ 1,200.00</u>
STEWARDSHIP	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
TOTAL STEWARDSHIP	<u>\$ 200.00</u>	<u>\$ 200.00</u>	<u>\$ 200.00</u>	<u>\$ 200.00</u>	<u>\$ 200.00</u>
SENIOR CITIZEN BANQUET	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
HANGING OF THE GREENS	\$ 75.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 75.00
EGG HUNT	\$ 75.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 75.00
LUTHER ACRES ACTIVITIES	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00
MISCELLANEOUS	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
TOTAL SERVICE	<u>\$ 1,000.00</u>	<u>\$ 1,000.00</u>	<u>\$ 1,000.00</u>	<u>\$ 1,000.00</u>	<u>\$ 1,000.00</u>
ORGANIST CONTINUED EDUCAT	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00	\$ -
SUPPLY PASTORS	\$ 625.00	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00
.MUSIC	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 1,300.00
SUNDAYS AND SEASONS	\$ 120.00	\$ 125.00	\$ 175.00	\$ 700.00	\$ 720.00
BULLETINS & CELEBRATES	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
ALTAR GUILD SUPPLIES	\$ 300.00	\$ 850.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
CERTIFICATES	\$ 100.00	\$ 225.00	\$ 125.00	\$ 125.00	\$ 125.00
SUPPLY ORGANISTS	\$ 625.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00
CANDLES	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
OIL FOR CANDLES	\$ 350.00	\$ 375.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
ACOLYTE PINS	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00	\$ -
DRY CLEANING	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00
MISCELLANEOUS	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00
TOTAL WORSHIP	<u>\$ 4,620.00</u>	<u>\$ 5,725.00</u>	<u>\$ 5,800.00</u>	<u>\$ 6,000.00</u>	<u>\$ 5,395.00</u>

SEXTON SUPPLIES	\$ 300.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
GROUND UPKEEP	\$ 3,100.00	\$ 3,900.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,100.00	\$ 4,200.00
PIANO TUNING	\$ 120.00	\$ 120.00	\$ 140.00	\$ 140.00	\$ 140.00
BUILDING MAINTAINENCE	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,000.00
PLAYGROUND UPKEEP		\$ 310.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
EQUIPMENT REPAIRS	\$ 250.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200.00	\$ 450.00
FURNITURE AND FIXTURES	\$ 200.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
MISCELLANEOUS	\$ 300.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
TOTAL PROPERTY	\$ 7,270.00	\$ 7,830.00	\$ 5,340.00	\$ 5,940.00	\$ 6,790.00
YOUTH MINISTRY	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00
TOTAL YOUTH MINISTRY	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00
PASTOR'S SALARY	\$ 47,730.00	\$ 47,730.00	\$ 47,730.00	\$ 48,685.00	\$ 50,146.00
HOUSING	\$ 23,537.00	\$ 23,537.00	\$ 23,537.00	\$ 24,007.00	\$ 24,727.00
CONTINUED EDUCATION	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00
SEXTON'S WAGES	\$ 10,609.00	\$ 10,609.00	\$ 10,609.00	\$ 10,821.00	\$ 11,146.00
SECRETARY'S WAGES	\$ 12,480.00	\$ 12,480.00	\$ 12,480.00	\$ 12,729.00	\$ 13,111.00
ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR	\$ 14,420.00	\$ 19,000.00	\$ 19,000.00	\$ 19,000.00	\$ 19,000.00
BELL CHOIR DIRECTOR	\$ 2,575.00	\$ 2,575.00	\$ 2,575.00	\$ 2,626.00	\$ 5,000.00
TOTAL STAFF EXPENSES	\$ 111,751.00	\$ 116,331.00	\$ 116,331.00	\$ 118,268.00	\$ 123,530.00
PENSION	\$ 12,900.00	\$ 12,900.00	\$ 12,900.00	\$ 12,900.00	\$ 13,287.00
LIFE INSURANCE	\$ 4,360.00	\$ 3,760.00	\$ 3,760.00	\$ 3,700.00	\$ 3,700.00
MEDICAL INSURANCE (BLUE CR)	\$ 16,500.00	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 13,579.00	\$ 14,577.00	\$ 13,936.00
PASTOR'S FICA	\$ 12,572.00	\$ 12,572.00	\$ 12,572.00	\$ 12,837.00	\$ 9,980.00
STAFF FICA	\$ 3,067.00	\$ 3,417.00	\$ 3,417.00	\$ 3,456.00	\$ 3,691.00
TOTAL BENEFITS	\$ 49,399.00	\$ 44,649.00	\$ 46,228.00	\$ 47,470.00	\$ 44,594.00
POSTAGE	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
OFFERING ENVELOPES	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
MACHINE REPAIRS	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00
MACHINE SUPPLIES	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
MISCELLANEOUS ADMINISTRATI	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
WORKER'S COMPENSATION	\$ 900.00	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 1,000.00
DISABILITY INSURANCE	\$ 1,044.00	\$ 2,300.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
AUTO EXPENSES	\$ 8,079.00	\$ 9,360.00	\$ 9,360.00	\$ 9,360.00	\$ 10,250.00
COMPUTER EXPENSES	\$ -	\$ 425.00	\$ 425.00	\$ 425.00	\$ 425.00
SECRETARY CONT ED				\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
VANCO FEES				\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00
COUNCIL RETREAT	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL ADMINISTRATION	\$ 17,623.00	\$ 20,785.00	\$ 17,285.00	\$ 18,285.00	\$ 19,775.00
FUEL OIL	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 11,000.00	\$ 11,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 9,000.00
ELECTRIC	\$ 7,900.00	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 9,000.00
TELEPHONE	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,800.00
PROPERTY INSURANCE	\$ 4,700.00	\$ 4,900.00	\$ 5,400.00	\$ 5,600.00	\$ 5,500.00
MAINTAINENCE	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL OPERATIONS OF PROPEF	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 26,400.00	\$ 26,800.00	\$ 20,100.00	\$ 26,300.00
TOTAL PROPOSED GUIDELINE	\$ 257,643.00	\$ 265,060.00	\$ 259,574.00	\$ 260,953.00	\$ 270,074.00

Students, Parents, and Teachers,

The holiday season is fast approaching! Here are some important dates to keep in mind.

Sunday December 4th – Hanging of the Greens We will start decorating during Sunday School. Please stay and help decorate your church with your church family. This is a great tradition to help celebrate Christmas.

Sunday December 11th –Hospitality Baskets The youth group will be packing and delivering fruit and personal care item baskets. We need your help in providing items for the baskets. Each student is asked to bring a few of the following:

Nursery –individual wrapped cracker packs or cookies

Pre k and kindergarten –individual boxes of cereal

1st and 2nd grades – individual serving size canned fruit and pudding

3rd and 4th grades – individual serving fruit juices and individual tissue packets

5th grade – mini jars of peanut butter

6th – 8th grades –individual tubes of toothpaste and individually wrapped toothbrushes

9th – 12th grades – breakfast bars and individual packages of raisins

Adult class –individual hand sanitizer and mini jars of peanut butter

Due to the large number of baskets needed this year, we would like to open it up to the entire congregation. These donations can be brought in any Sunday until December 11th. Boxes will be placed at the front door for donations. We also need drivers to help deliver the fruit baskets.

Sunday December 11th Night of Music please plan on attending this program showcasing the musical talent of Swamp. Sure to put you in the holiday spirit.

Sunday December 18th – Children’s Christmas Program This will be held during Sunday School starting at 10:30.

Sunday December 25th – One worship service at 8:30. No Sunday School

Sunday January 1st - One worship service at 8:30. No Sunday School. Student recognition is also this Sunday.

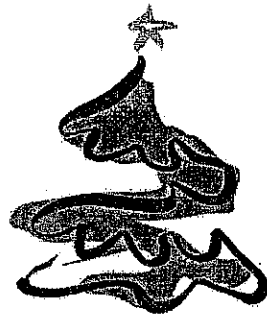
Sunday January 8th – Regular Sunday school resumes 10:30 – 11:30.

(OVER)

Learning committee will again be placing a tree at the back door for donations of hats, mittens, scarves, and canned goods. We have added canned goods to the donation list due to the economic climate and also to honor the 40th anniversary of Ephrata Area Social Services. These items will be given to the Ephrata Area Social Services. This opportunity to share is open to all members of the congregation. Donations will be accepted until Sunday December 18th.

We hope you will join us in celebrating the Birth of our Savior through these activities and thank you for helping to make the winter a little warmer for those less fortunate.

Merry Christmas and God Bless,
Learning Committee



Merry Christmas

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Bread and Wine Donor:

December Jim and Linda Beard
January Matt & Audrey Lewandowski

Altar Guild:

December Judy Habecker, Kaye Shugarts

Communion Assistants:

November 27
8:00 AM Connie Taylor, Linda Ream
9:00 AM Don Risser, Jan Risser,
Guy Templin, Debbie Sweigart

December 4

8:00 AM Guy Templin,
9:00 AM Sue Kreitz, Connie Taylor,
Anna Sweigart

December 11

8:00 AM David Borrell, Connie Taylor
9:00 AM Guy Templin, Debbie Carvell,
Anita Kupp, Leslie Diestel

December 18

8:00 AM Linda Ream, Judy Habecker
9:00 AM Jane Leshner, Michael Wargo,
Bernadette Wargo, Guy Templin

December 24

Connie Taylor, Samantha Young,
Nathan Shugarts, Debbie Sweigart

December 25

January 1 Guy Templin, Janice Moyer
Connie Taylor, Judy Habecker

Crucifer:

December 4
8:00 AM Guy Templin
9:00 AM Gillian Diestel

December 11

8:00 AM David Borrell
9:00 AM Chris Zander

December 18

8:00 AM Chris Zander
9:00 AM Michael Wargo

December 24

Connie Taylor

December 25

Debbie Sweigart

January 1

Debbie Sweigart

Bread Bearer

December 24 Danielle Witmer

Flagon Bearer:

December 24 Taylor Kidwell

Flower Delivery:

Dec. 4 & 11 Michael & Julie Witmer
Dec. 18 & 25 Janice Moyer

DECEMBER

Acolytes:

November 27
8:00 AM Taylor Kidwell, Kylee Kidwell
9:00 AM Megan DeBock, Matt DeBock

December 4

8:00 AM Jonathan Templin, Brett Kupp
9:00 AM Corrine Sweigart, Katie Krater

December 11

8:00 AM Samantha Young, Rachel Witmer
9:00 AM Jake Diestel, Alex Kupp

December 18

8:00 AM Dakota Moyer, Alex Kupp
9:00 AM Megan DeBock, S. Donmoyer

December 24

December 25 Corinne Sweigart, Allison Witmer
January 1 Jonathan Templin, Dakota Moyer
Hunter Leisey, Cody Leisey

Banner Bearer:

December 4 Brett Kupp
December 11 Kristen Gockley
December 18 Taylor Weaver
December 24 Dana Shugarts
December 25 Brett Kupp
January 1 Megan DeBock
January 8 Corinne Sweigart

Lector:

November 27 Wanda Maxey
December 4 Jim Beard
December 11 Lowell Haws
December 18 Jenny Weitzel
December 24 Greg Diestel
December 25 Sue Kittler
January 1 Noretta Burke

Torch Bearers:

December 24 Rachel Young, Kylee Kidwell
December 25 Katie Krater, Kristen Gockley

Bible Bearer:

December 24 Nathan Shugarts
December 25 Guy Templin

Hunger Appeal:

December 25 Eric Showalter, Noah Roseboro.
Nathan Keppley, Alex Kupp

Greeters:

December 4 Glenn Beard, Lori Hagy
December 11 Sue Knauer, Randy Krater
December 18 Ray Weitzel, Michael Witmer
December 24 Council
December 25 Lori Gockley, Davide Kupp

DEC. 18. 11:30 AM Practice

For CHRISTMAS EVE

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel - a celebration of the O Antiphons

As you make your list and check it twice during the Advent time looking forward to Christmas, put on your list to sit in silence for 15 or 20 minutes each day, especially from December 17th through December 23rd. Since the Middle Ages, the church has observed these days in scripture, song, prayer and meditation reflecting on a collage of Old Testament ways of depicting Christ. These messianic messages progress historically from the beginning, before creation, to the very gates of Bethlehem. We will be observing these O Antiphons each Sunday in Advent as the Offertory response by singing two verses of O Come, O Come, Emmanuel each Sunday. Selected verses in the hymn parallel one of the antiphons.

Each O Antiphon begins with an invocation of the expected Messiah, followed by praise of him under one of his particular titles. Each ends with a petition for God's people, relevant to the title by which he is addressed, and the cry for him to "Come." The seven titles attributed to Jesus are:

- O Wisdom (*Sapientia* in Latin)
- O Ruler of the House of Israel (*Adonai*)
- O Root of Jesse (*Radix*)
- O Key of David (*Clavis*)
- O Rising Dawn (*Oriens*)
- O King of the Gentiles (*Rex*)
- O Emmanuel

What is striking is that the initials for each Latin title - *Sapientia, Adonai, Radix, Clavis, Oriens, Rex and Emmanuel* combine to form SARCORE. When this is spelled backwards EROCRAS it means "Tomorrow, I will be." It suggests that Christ is answering the plea of the O Antiphons.

We invite you to sit in silence during the days of Advent and ask yourself these questions as you contemplate the O Antiphons: (1) what word or phrase sticks out for me? (2) what does that word or phrase mean to me? (3) What is God asking me to be, or to do, or to think about in the Antiphon?

Dec 17: O Wisdom, proceeding from the mouth of the Most High,
Pervading and permeating all creation, mightily ordering all things:
Come and teach us the way of prudence.
(based on Sirach 24:3 and Wisdom 8:1)

Dec 18: O Adonai and ruler of the house of Israel,
Who appeared to Moses in the burning bush and gave him the Law on Sinai:
Come with an outstretched arm and redeem us.
(based on Exodus 3:2 and Exodus 6:6)

(continued on the following page)

Dec. 19: O Root of Jesse, who stands for an ensign before the people,
Before whom kings are mute and to whom the nations will do homage;
Come quickly to deliver us.
(based on Isaiah 52:13, 15; 53:2, and Luke 1:32-33)

Dec. 20: O Key of David and scepter of the house of Israel,
You open and no one can close, You close and no one can open:
Come and rescue the prisoners who are in darkness and in the shadow of death.
(based on Isaiah 22:22, Revelation 3:7, Isaiah 42:6-7 and Psalm 107:10, 14)

Dec. 21: O Dayspring, splendor of light everlasting:
Come and enlighten those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death.
(based on Isaiah 9:1, Malachi 3:20 and II Peter 1:19 and Luke 1:78-79)

Dec. 22: O King of the nations,
The ruler they long for, the cornerstone uniting all people:
Come and save us all, whom You formed out of clay.
(based on Isaiah 28:16, Ephesians 2:14, Jeremiah 10:7, Matthew 21:42 and Genesis 2:7)

Dec. 23: O Emmanuel, our king and our Lord,
The anointed for the nations and their Savior:
Come and save us, O Lord our God.
(based on Isaiah 7:14, and Isaiah 33:22)

As your interim choir director, Sue Kreitz, and organist, Bonnie Oplinger, we want to thank each and everyone in the congregation for your support to us as we provide a bridge to your next music director. We especially want to thank all the faithful choir members and instrumentalists who help to make the worship service even more meaningful by their participation, and to the congregation for their participation in the music of worship.

May all of you and your families, find this Holy season one of renewal, a deeper understanding of the meaning for this celebration and the peace of God which passes all understanding as you enter into a new year of opportunities to love, to work and to worship our Lord.

Sue Kreitz

Bonnie Oplinger



The Newsletter[®]

ACTIVITIES PAGE

VOLUME 33, NUMBER 12

SAVIOR ORNAMENT

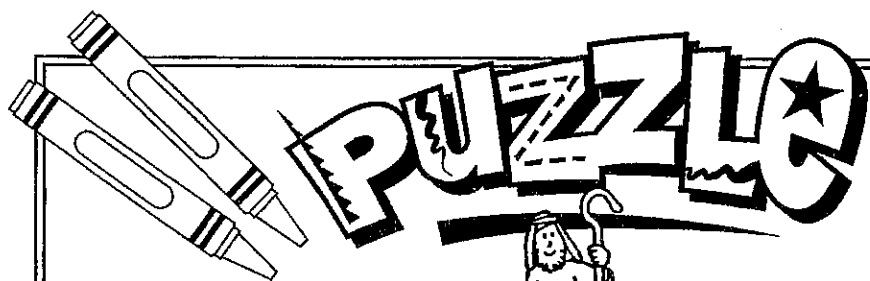
This Christmas, celebrate Jesus' birthday by making this keepsake ornament.

What you need:

- Wooden clothespin with round end
- Black permanent marker
- White cloth or felt
- Small wooden star (available at craft stores)
- Yellow paint
- Paintbrush
- Gold glitter (optional)
- Glue gun (and an adult)
- Straw-colored raffia
- Palm-size wicker wreath (available at craft stores)
- Ribbon

What you do:

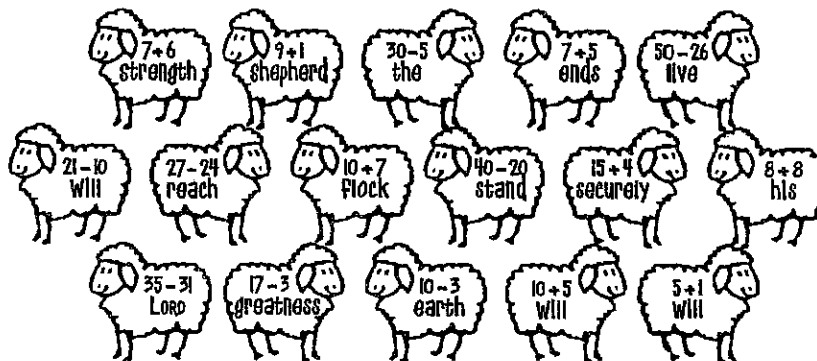
1. On the clothespin's round knob, draw two dots for eyes.
2. Wrap the white cloth around the clothespin, like a swaddled baby.
3. Paint the star yellow; add glitter, if desired.
4. With the glue gun and adult supervision, glue the raffia to the bottom inside of the wreath. Then glue the swaddled clothespin atop the raffia and glue the gold star atop the wreath.
5. Tie a ribbon around the top, near the star.
6. Hang the ornament on your Christmas tree or tie it on a gift.



A PROMISED RULER

Prophets told of Jesus' birth hundreds of years before it happened. Never had a baby's arrival come with such a promise.

Directions: To read what one prophet (Micah 5:4, NIV) said about Jesus, complete the math problems below. Then fill in the words, using the math solutions as your guide.



"He _____ and _____ his _____

15 20 10 17

in the _____ of the _____ And they _____

13 4 11 24

_____, for then _____

19 16 14 6

_____ to the _____ of _____."

3 12 25 7

MICAH 5:4, NIV

Answers: "He will stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord And they will live securely, for then his greatness will reach to the ends of the earth." Micah 5:4, NIV

[KID1211A]

[KID1211B]

DECEMBER 2011

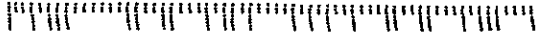
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 Memorial Service Mary Snyder 3 p.m. Reinholds Chapel
4 2 nd Sunday in Advent (Blue/Purple) 8:00 a.m. Eucharist Worship Service 9:00 a.m. Eucharist Worship Service 10:30 Sunday Church School Hanging of the Greens Food Bank SSYP Mtg. 6:30 - 8	5 Scouts 6:30 - 8 p.m. Chancel Choir 7 p.m. Handbells 7:30 p.m.	6 Welcome Mtg. 7 p.m. Service Mtg. 7 p.m.	7 Pastor at Luther Acres @ 10:30 a.m.	8 Women's Bible Study 7:30 p.m.	9	10
11 3 rd Sunday in Advent (Blue/Purple) 8:00 a.m. Eucharist Worship Service 9:00 a.m. Eucharist Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Sunday Church School Congregational Meeting Hospitality Baskets and Card Delivery Night of Music - 7:00 p.m.	12 Scouts 6:30 - 8 p.m.	13 Bible Study 7 p.m. Social Hall Rented All day	14 Chancel Choir 7 p.m.	15 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	16	17
18 4 th Sunday in Advent (Blue/Purple) 8:00 a.m. Eucharist Worship Service 9:00 a.m. Eucharist Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Sunday Church School Christmas Program SSYP Mtg. 6:30 - 8 p.m.	19 Scouts 6:30 - 8 p.m. Handbells 7:30 p.m.	20 Cactus Willies (Lunch or dinner)	21 Council Mtg. 7 p.m.	22 Winter Begins Chancel Choir 7 p.m. Women's Bible Study 7:30 p.m.	23	24 Christmas Eve (White) Eucharist Worship Service - 7:30 p.m.
25 The Nativity of Our Lord Christmas Day (White) 8:30 Eucharist Worship Service (one server only) No Sunday Church School	26 St. Stephen, Deacon and Martyr (Red) Office Closed	27 St. John, Apostle and Evangelist (White)	28 Holy Innocents, Martyrs (red)	29	30	31 New Year's Eve Can Collection 9-Noon - Reinholds Ambulance Building

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275 SWAMP CHURCH ROAD

REINHOLDS, PA 17569



BEHOLD,
BRING YOU GOOD THINGS OF
GREAT JOY

December, 2011

SWAMP EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE REV. DENNIS L. TROUT, PASTOR

OFFICE PHONE 717-336-2849

FAX NUMBER 717-336-2840

CHURCH EMAIL swampluth@dejazzd.com

SWAMP WEB PAGE swamplutheran.org