

One of the things we are encouraged to do during the season of Lent is to increase our prayer life – increase the time we spend talking to God. We can thank him for the blessings he gives us or ask him for special help with some of our needs. We can advocate for our nation or community or individuals we may know who are struggling. We can ask for his guidance in the ministries and life of the church and our work in the world. We can ask him for protection, healing, patience, relief, forgiveness, or simply his love.

Prayer does not have to be poetic or deeply theological or even organized. Prayer is simply a conversation with God: simple, fragmented, heartfelt. It can take place in church, at home, in the car, at the gym. We can pray in the morning, at mealtimes, at bedtime, or whenever we have a free moment. Prayer can last for a few minutes or just a few seconds. We may start a prayer and get interrupted and go back to the prayer later. It's all OK. God will figure it out. Remember, God doesn't need long prayers. He just wants to be in conversation with us.

But some of us are just not confident in our abilities to pray. Just do it. Just talk. But, if you want to use some written prayers. I am going to share some with you from Martin Luther. Each one of these is part of my daily devotions and address particular times of the day.

Luther's Morning Prayer

I thank you my heavenly father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have protected me through the night from all harm and danger. I ask that you would also protect me today from sin and all evil, so that my life and actions may please you. Into your hands I commend myself: my body, my soul, and all that is mine. Let your holy angels be with me, so that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Luther's Noon Time Prayer

Gracious God, you protect us like a mother and nurture us like a father. Grant that at this midday, we would be protected from evil, that our actions would bring justice to the poor and downtrodden, and that we would serve you in perfect joy for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Luther's Evening Prayer

I thank you, Heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you graciously protected me today. I ask you to forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and to protect me through the night. For into your hands, I commend myself: my body, my soul, and all that is mine. Let your holy angels be with me, so that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.

If you ever get stuck and simply do not know what to pray, The Lord's Prayer is always appropriate. I hope you find time to be in more conversation with God during this Lenten Season and throughout your life. God bless you and keep you in His care.

Pastor Jim

CALENDER FOR LENT / HOLY WEEK / EASTER

MID-WEEK LENTEN SERVICES

Wednesdays — April 2, 9 — 7:00 p.m.

We will use the *Holden Evening Prayer Service*

Dinner will be held at 6:00 p.m. on April 9 (see next page)

PALM SUNDAY

April 13

10:30 AM Worship with Holy Communion

Reading of the Passion

MAUNDY THURSDAY

April 17

7:30 PM Holy Communion Service

Stripping of the Altar

GOOD FRIDAY

April 18

7:30 PM Worship Service

EGG HUNT

Saturday, April 19

10:00 AM

EASTER SUNDAY

April 20

8:00 AM Early Service with Holy Communion

9:00 AM Brunch in Fellowship Hall

10:30 AM Festival Worship with Holy Communion





Lenten Soup Supper

6 P.M. April 9

PLEASE JOIN US

FOR A SIMPLE SOUP SUPPER

BEFORE OUR LENTEN SERVICE.

FOOD WILL BE PROVIDED.

A FREE WILL OFFERING WILL BE TAKEN.

PLEASE HELP US PLAN BY TEXTING

610-780-9825 WITH YOUR NAME AND THE NUMBER

ATTENDING....OR CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE

AT 610-779-3480

In Memoriam

Robert Pendi

November 8, 1936 – March 4, 2025



Bob Pendi, 88, of Exeter Township entered eternal rest on Tuesday, March 4, 2025. Born in Birdsboro, PA on November 8, 1936, he was the son of the late Santo J. Pendi and Sandine M. (Madeira) Pendi.

A graduate of Birdsboro High School, class of 1955, Bob enlisted in the U.S. Coast Guard, serving his country with dedication until his honorable discharge in 1963. Bob later built a career as a distribution designer, first with Met-Ed for a decade and then with GTE (now Verizon) for 20 years until his well-earned retirement in April 1998.

A man of faith, he was a member of Schwarzwald Lutheran Church. Bob's spirit will be carried on by his devoted wife of 37 years, Jean M. (Trostle) Pendi. He is also survived by his 2 daughters, Kristina Smith (Scott) of Landisville, PA, and Jennifer Scott (James) of Lititz, PA; his stepdaughter, Tracy Rohrbach (Donald) of Birdsboro, PA; and his 2 sisters, Geraldine Barth and Eileen Henderson. Bob also leaves behind his 4 cherished grandchildren: Taylor Pettenati (Alex), Ethan Smith, Norah Scott, and Michael Willman.

In true Bob fashion, he preferred to keep things simple, so a private funeral service with military honors was held at the discretion of his family.



THANK YOU!
THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!
THANK YOU! . . .

. . **from** Exeter Area Food Pantry—Thank you so much for your generous donation. Your generosity will help to make a difference in the lives of people in need in our community.

. . **to** Lori Bauer, Lauren Batzel, Carol Gunzelmann, Sue McDevitt, Tom and Juanita Spigelmyer and Melissa Thompson for preparing vegetable alphabet soup for the New Journey soup kitchen and to the Jaegers for delivering it.



The Congregation
is cordially invited
to Easter Brunch
April 20, 9:00 A.M.
in Fellowship Hall

“The More the Merrier”

As most of you know, when Pr. Jim begins his term as our Sunday minister on April 27, 2025, we will also begin having Communion every Sunday. For the Worship and Music Committee, this means we need to expand our Communion Team **to include more Communion Assistants.**

The main duty of an assistant is to pour the wine for each communicant. There are no recurring meetings to attend or any other responsibilities outside of Sunday mornings or a few special services such as Ash Wednesday or Maundy Thursday. We are asking each of you to give this opportunity some thought. You can call the church office, 610-779-3480, or myself, 610-777-8981. Diane or I will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

I have scheduled a short meeting for after church on April 13, 2025, to explain fully what the job entails. We will meet in the choir room downstairs. Even if you only think you “might” be interested, please join us.

I hope to see you there, Susan Johns, Chair

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Erica Weaver, Hannah Houp, Rylan Oldham
- 2 Megan Himmelreich
- 3 Julie Ninni, Kathleen Eveland
- 4 James Kohler, Louise Paradiso
- 5 Katherine Rosales
- 6 Kelly Marburger, Connor Marburger, Graham Gibson, Mark Moyer
- 8 Taylor Mack
- 13 Fay Weaver, Samantha Kerber, Becky Thren
- 14 Craig Updegrave, Patricia Grove, Elizabeth Kennedy, Kyle Marburger,
Benjamin Trexler
- 15 Rita Seidel, Evan Burkert
- 16 Janice Smithson, Tami Readinger
- 17 Giovanni Sgroi
- 18 Janice Rigg, Mary Chupkai, Christy Herber, Matthew Gross, John Gibson
- 19 Carey Burkhardt, Katyana Strain, Kailey Batzel
- 21 Edward Hecker, Jr., Jen Morgan
- 22 Ruth Hoover, April Prince
- 23 Christopher Strain, Stephanie Kohler, Joann Rosales
- 24 Matthew Kline
- 25 Barbara Hafer, Denton Quick, Richell Garipoli
- 26 Evan Readinger
- 27 Daniel Heydt
- 28 John Kennedy



If your birthday is in April
and is not listed here, please call the
church office,
610-779-3480, with your full birth date
M/D/Y. Thank you.

Please Mark Your Calendars!

OUR SUNDAY SERVICE TIME WILL OFFICIALLY CHANGE

ON SUNDAY, APRIL 27TH.

THE NEW TIME IS 10:45 AM

WE WELCOME PASTOR JIM FARNSWORTH

AND LOOK FORWARD TO HAVING HIM

WITH US EACH WEEK.



Pastor David Blich

OUR NEW "SUPER SUPPLY" PASTOR!

At our March meeting, Church Council unanimously approved the addition of Pastor David Blich to our staff as a "Super Supply" Pastor. Pastor Blich will be serving our congregation on the Sundays that Pastor Jim cannot be with us and will also be visiting our sick and shut-in members in the hospital and at home. He will also lead Bible Study on Tuesday mornings a few weeks each month. We have some other ideas on ways that he can enrich our experience here at SLC and we are extremely excited to have him join us. Pastor Blich has served the Lutheran Church his entire career, retiring a short while ago. After taking a short break, he returned to service as a Supply Pastor. He resides in the Maiden creek area.

PASTOR BLITCH WILL BE AT SLC ON SUNDAY, MAY 4TH BEGINNING AT 9:15 AM.

HE WILL BE IN THE PARLOR THROUGHOUT SUNDAY SCHOOL AND DURING THE FELLOWSHIP TIME FROM 10:15—10:45. WE WILL INTRODUCE HIM IN CHURCH THAT MORNING.
PLEASE STOP IN THE PARLOR AND EXTEND A WELCOME TO PASTOR BLITCH!

MUSIC MINISTRY SLC

The Easter season is upon us already! The flowers are beginning to bloom and the weather is finally starting to get its act together! As we look ahead to the Easter morning services, we will again host the Center Park Flutes for our early service on Easter Sunday, and Chris Thompson will play trumpet to enhance our worship experience at the later service on that special day. A reminder that your generous envelope donations to the music fund help to make these special musical guest performances possible so thank you for your contributions! As always, please consider ways in which you might help contribute your time and talents to our music ministry program at SLC. We welcome all at whatever musical level. Come join the fun!

Wednesday, April 2nd 7:00 p.m. Lenten Service
Bell Choir rehearsal following service

Sunday, April 6th *The Holy City* – Patty S., solo
8:45 a.m. Youth Chimes rehearsal
9:15 a.m. S.S. Push-In

Wednesday, April 9th 7:00 p.m. Lenten Service

Sunday, April 13th 8:45 a.m. Youth Chimes Rehearsal
9:15 a.m. S.S. Push-In
9:50 a.m. Combined Bells/Chimes rehearsal
10:10 a.m. Choir Anthem rehearsal
10:30 a.m. Palm Sunday, Combined Bell/Chimes

Maundy Thursday, April 17th
6:00 p.m. Youth Chorus rehearsal for Easter morning
7:30 p.m. Patty S. – *Calvary* – solo

Good Friday, April 18th 7:30 p.m. Anthem: *The Cross Was His Own*

Easter Sunday – April 20th
8:00 a.m. – Center Park Flutes
Entrance Hymn: *I Know That My Redeemer Lives*
10:30 a.m. – Chris Thompson – Trumpet
Prelude /Kids Entrance: *Alive! Alive!*
Entrance Hymn: *I Know That My Redeemer Lives*
Choir Anthem: *Step By Step* - Schram

Sunday, April 27th NO CHIMES REHEARSAL
10:45 a.m. Anthem: *Just Two Words* - Lau



Christian Education Update



As our weather gets warmer, we begin looking forward to some of our most treasured Sunday School events. April is full of exciting Sundays as we begin wrapping up the Lent season and look forward to Easter!

Before looking at the upcoming events, let's reflect on what we did to remind our children of the significance of the Lent season. After a fun Mardi Gras event, we calmed down our music time and Sunday School activities to be sure we had the appropriate mindset for Lent. Our teachers made sure to focus on prayer during class time. Our big service project also happened during Lent - Service Sunday! The children prepared items for various charitable organizations:

Care Packages - Tower Health Pediatric Patients

Birthday Boxes - Exeter Food Pantry

Blessing Bags - SLC Shut-Ins

Inspirational Water Bottles - Local Soup Kitchens

April will bring two significant activities for our children. The first is a visit from the Bear Creek Camp director, Collin Grooms, on April 6th. He will talk to us about the Bear Creek Camp experience and lead Worship. He is also planning to do some music activities with our families. Our final pre-Easter activity is on Palm Sunday, April 13th. On this morning the children will rotate through stations during the Sunday School hour and learn about Holy Week.

Spring schedules are ramping up, but we hope you find comfort and calmness in attending Sunday School and Worship with our Schwarzwald families. It is a joy to be together on Sunday mornings!

Looking Ahead...

April 27 - New Sunday School Schedule *more info soon*

May 11 - Mother's Day Fun

May 18 - End of Year Celebration

Social Ministry Committee News and Notes

April 2025 Edition

This month, we will be highlighting the Hope Rescue Mission of Reading and its various programs. Founded in 1894, the mission has been a place of refuge for men, women, and children who have experienced homelessness. The goal of the mission is to assist people as they transition back into the community as productive and independent citizens.

The Men's Center provides “the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of the homeless of Berks County to share the life-changing message of the Gospel with the HOPE of seeing them restored to a productive life.” This care is supported by case managers in order to meet the needs, including mental health, addiction, legal and financial struggles, of each individual.

The LightHouse opened its doors in July, 2023. This center provides temporary housing for single women and women and their children who have experienced homelessness, as well as an emergency shelter where guests may stay from 1 to 3 nights. The guests are offered spiritual guidance and supportive services for medical and/or behavioral health concerns, education, employment, government assistance, and housing search procedures.

HopeThrift is the name of the clothing collection program run by the Hope Rescue Mission. Donations are sorted by volunteers and then made available to the guests from the Men's Center and The LightHouse.

During the month of April, the Social Ministry Committee will be sponsoring a clothing drive for the Hope Rescue Mission. The collection will run from April 1 through April 30. You will find a labeled bin in the Narthex to place your bags of **clean, gently used** items. Donations of toiletries, such as razors, deodorant, and new underwear for men, would also be appreciated.

Sometimes, during the season of Lent, people give up something, a food or habit, etc. in order to focus more on the true meaning of the season. A pastor once preached that we can also “take on” behaviors that can become positive habits in the future. Whatever you choose to make Lent meaningful, thinking of others is always a good place to start.

Thank you for considering being part of this clothing drive. Your donations could help change a life for the better.

God's Work, Our Hands

Carol Gunzelmann, Marlene Harlow, Bill Jaeger, Doris Jaeger, Judi Merkel, Jan Krommes, Mary Phillips, Barb Quick, Denton Quick, Pat Ruffner, and Peg Gumpert

Annual Easter Egg Hunt

SATURDAY, APRIL 19

10:00 A.M.

FOR KIDS OF ALL AGES!

EGG HUNT

MUSIC

STORIES

CRAFTS

PRIZES

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
APRIL 2025		1	2
		10:00am Tuesday morning group / Bible Study (FH) 11:00am Prayer Group (FH)	7:00pm Lenten S 7:00pm NA Meet 7:30pm Handbel
6	7	8	9
BEAR CREEK CAMP PRESENTATIONS 8:45am Youth Choir Chimes reh. (S) 9:15am Sunday School (SS / FH) 10:30am Worship Service (S) 7:00pm AA meeting (SR)	10:00am Social Ministry Comm. mtg. (FH) 6:00pm Girl Scout Troop #1909 meeting (SS) 6:00pm Girl Scout Troops 1867 & 11135 (FH) 7:00pm AA mtg. (SR)	10:00am Tuesday morning group / Bible Study (FH)	6:00pm Lenten D 7:00pm Lenten S 7:00pm NA Meet 7:30pm Church C
13	14	15	16
8:45am Youth Choir Chimes reh. (S) 9:15am Sunday School (SS / FH) 10:30am Palm Sunday Worship 11:30am Comm. Assist. mtg. (CR) 3:00pm Sinfonia Orchestra 7:00pm AA meeting (SR)	7:00pm AA mtg. (SR)	10:00am Tuesday morning group / Bible Study (FH) 11:00am Prayer Group (FH)	12:00pm Exeter (FH) 6:30pm Lions Cl 7:00pm NA Meet
20	21	22	23
No Choir Chimes reh. 8:00am Early Easter Worship Service w/HC (S) 9:00am Brunch (FH) 10:30am Easter Worship Service w/HC (S) 7:00pm AA meeting (SR)	CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 6:00pm Girl Scout Troops 1867 & 11135 (FH) 7:00pm AA mtg. (SR)	10:00am Tuesday morning group / Bible Study (FH) 11:00am Alice Specht Memorial Service and Luncheon (S / FH)	7:00pm NA Meet
27	28	29	30
10:45 WORSHIP TIME BEGINS No Choir Chimes reh. 9:15am Sunday School (SS / FH) 10:45am Worship Service w/HC (S) 12:00pm Confirmation class (FH) 7:00pm AA meeting (SR)	7:00pm AA mtg. (SR)	10:00am Tuesday morning group / Bible Study (FH) 11:00am Prayer Group (FH)	7:00pm NA Meet

Key: HC—Holy Communion FH—Fellowship Hall SR—Scout Room CR—Choir Room CB—Coffee Room
EAB—Exeter Schools Admin. Bldg. SS—Sunday School room(s) PL—Parking Lot LGI - Large Group

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Service (S) Singing (SR) Rehearsal (S)	3 2:00pm Worship and Music Committee meeting (FH)	4	5
Dinner (FH) Service (S) Singing (SR) Council (FH)	10 9:00am Breakfast Bunch (Breakfast Hut Rest.)	11	12
Senior Citizens Club meeting (FH) Singing (SR)	17 6:00pm Youth Chorus rehearsal (S) 7:30pm Maundy Thursday Worship Service w/HC (S)	18 2:00pm Exeter Area Food Pantry (EAB) 7:30pm Good Friday Service (S)	19 9:00am Decorating for Easter (S) 10:00am Easter Egg Hunt (FH / PL / PV)
Singing (SR)	24	25	26 6:30pm Fellowship Hall in use (Girl Scouts) (FH)
Singing (SR)	<u>CANCELLATION INFORMATION</u> Please check your email, our website (www.schwarzwaldlutheran.org), Facebook page (Schwarzwald Lutheran Church), Channel 69 — WFMZ-TV Stormcenter, or our answering machine (610-779-3480).		

Coffee Bar **PV**—Pavilion **S**—Sanctuary **P**—Parlor **N**—Narthex **K**—Kitchen **Z**—Zoom

Instruction Room **SCA**—Schwarzwald Cemetery Assoc. **YR**—Youth Room **CO**—Church Office

EASTER BRUNCH DONATIONS

The brunch will be held April 20 at 9:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.

IF YOU ARE ABLE TO DONATE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING FOR THE EASTER BRUNCH, PLEASE COMPLETE THE BOTTOM HALF OF THIS FORM AND RETURN IT IN THE OFFERING PLATE OR TO THE CHURCH OFFICE BY APRIL 13.

DONATED ITEMS MAY BE PLACED IN THE OFFICE BREEZEWAY, CHURCH KITCHEN OR CHURCH OFFICE BY SATURDAY, APRIL 19.

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BAKED GOODS DONATION

Name _____

_____ Bagels and Cream Cheese

_____ Muffins

_____ Coffee cake

_____ Fruit

_____ Cookies

_____ Danish

_____ Donuts



**DONATIONS OF CANDY FOR THE
EASTER EGG HUNT WOULD BE GREATLY
APPRECIATED. THE DONATED CANDY SHOULD BE
INDIVIDUALLY WRAPPED AND SMALL ENOUGH
TO FIT INTO A PLASTIC EGG.**

**DONATIONS CAN BE PLACED IN THE CHURCH KITCHEN,
THE CHURCH OFFICE OR IN THE SUNDAY SCHOOL AREA.**

THANK YOU!



THE JANET GRIESEMER SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Through Schwarzwald Lutheran Church, two \$750 scholarships will be awarded to applicants (graduating high school seniors only) planning to continue their education beyond high school.

The applicant may attend any school district or be home-schooled.

Scholarship Application Process

The application, which has 4 questions to answer, may be obtained from the church office by calling or emailing.

The completed application, **along with your transcript**, must be returned by Friday, May 9, 2025,

either by dropping it off at the church office, Attention: Scholarship Committee, or by e-mailing it to: administrator@schwarzwaldlutheran.org and placing "Scholarship Application" in the subject line.



EASTER FLOWERS

The cost is \$11.00 per plant.

DEADLINE TO ORDER IS SUNDAY, APRIL 13!

Please fill out the form below and place it with your payment in one of your green *Special Offering* envelopes from your packet or by using a pew envelope and mark it "Easter flowers."

Please place the envelope in the offering plate or drop it off at the church office.

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Easter Flower Sponsor

Name _____
(As you would like it to appear in the bulletin; names only, please)

Envelope # _____

Lily $\frac{\quad}{\#}$ x \$11.00 = \$ _____

Tulip $\frac{\quad}{\#}$ x \$11.00 = \$ _____

Hyacinth $\frac{\quad}{\#}$ x \$11.00 = \$ _____

Daffodil $\frac{\quad}{\#}$ x \$11.00 = \$ _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____





Before Church in the Parlor!

Beginning Sunday, May 4th, (and all through the summer) the Fellowship Committee will be providing coffee, drinks and snacks in the Parlor BEFORE CHURCH.

Please come and socialize with your church family beginning at 10:15! Church will begin at 10:45, so there is plenty of time to enjoy this new offering.

You can also stop in the Parlor after church!

SEE YOU THERE!

In Deep Appreciation!

Sunday, April 20th will be Pastor Bardo's last regular supply Sunday. He has served us for nearly 16 months and has been such a blessing to us. Please be sure to greet him and share your appreciation for his dedication. Those wishing to send him a "Thank You" card, can send it to:

**Pastor Richard Bardo, 3014 Marion Street,
Reading, PA 19605.**

SECURITY AT SCHWARZWALD

After our “bomb scare” last year, we decided it was time to take a close look at our building to make sure that it is as safe as possible for our staff and our members. A representative from the Department of Homeland Security recently toured our building and has made several suggestions. We will be applying for a Non-Profit Security Grant later this year and his report will assist us in this quest. In the meantime, we will be gathering quotes for the suggested work and developing safety guidelines to protect everyone who uses our building. Some of the suggested updates may require a more prompt response. We will keep you up to date as we learn more.

Chuck Heydt has graciously agreed to chair our new Security Committee and he has been very busy meeting with the Exeter Police, Exeter Fire Department and several contractors. He will be working with Kevin Kennedy and the Property Committee as we move towards making sure that our building is a safe and welcoming place for everyone who uses it.



**The Brownie Troop #1867 is collecting
empty drink cans as a
recycling fundraiser for their troop.**

**Please help them out and bring your empties to church.
A box is provided in the narthex for the can collection.
(You can also pull the tabs off and place them in the can tab collection!)**



PRAYER GROUP

The Prayer Group meets every other Tuesday at 11:00 AM in Fellowship Hall. The April dates are the 1ST, 15th and 29th. Please contact Joanne Rutherford for additional information at 610-406-9355 or jmr14290@gmail.com.

Budget Information

Monthly totals (February)

Budgeted Income	\$16,154	(Current envelopes)
Actual Income	\$19,463	(Current envelopes)
Budgeted Expenses	\$28,145	(Amount includes a full-time pastor salary)
Actual Expenses	\$19,350	

COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS (February meeting)

Council Officers: Doris Jaeger, President
Chris Thompson, Vice President
Scot Griesemer, Treasurer
Chuck Heydt, Corporate Secretary



Designated Pastor's Report

Submitted written report with key dates. One week of his vacation is a floater week. Mission trip – 17⁺ are attending -- 14 from St. Mark's, 1 from SLC, and 2 or 3 from Reformation. St. Mark's will pay for the van rental up front, and then we need to reimburse for our share. There are 5 adults going, so we have a good adult-to-kid ratio. All adults will have their clearances.

Met with SLC's Worship and Music Committee. We would like to have a joint outdoor service, with SLC and St. Mark's at Daniel Boone Homestead followed by a cookout. We would also like to have a joint choir/praise band music exchange at some point.

Youth service day is May 10 (this was subsequently changed to May 3) -- a helping harvest day to work on requirements for confirmation.

Kathy Snyder from SLC will be away for the summer, so St. Mark's organist will supply for SLC summer services.

Treasurer's Report

The Finance/Stewardship Committee approved 1) the January disbursements, and 2) the CD renewals with Diamond FCU, Member's First, JPMorgan and Edward Jones. They approve any of those four institutions for our investments.

Any investment documents would require the Treasurer's signature and any two signatures of the remaining three officers.

Old Business

Synod has approved our paperwork for Pr. Jim.

Next two council meetings during Lent - The council meeting will be held immediately following the Lenten service on 3/12 and 4/9 at about 7:30 p.m.

The Fellowship Committee met on Sunday to plan for our summer "Gatherings." It was agreed we will have coffee and snacks at 10:15 a.m. in the coffee bar before our 10:45 a.m. worship during the summer.

New Business

Security grant - the window of time to apply for the grant through FEMA opens up the end of March. The Department of Homeland Security was here on Friday to review our building and logistics. The fact that we had a bomb scare will be helpful on the application as well as the cell tower being an asset, and that Jacksonwald Elementary School will evacuate to here is good. They suggested we need cameras, outside lighting, and a revamp of the main office entrance. There's lots of glass windows, and they feel a solid door would be much better along with a button to let people enter.

We need two delegates for the synod assembly in Stroudsburg on May 30-31. Sarah Gibson volunteered to go again.

At our last meeting, we approved a third, a third, a third for the mission trip – 1/3 by the youth/family, 1/3 by fund raising and 1/3 by the church. It is suggested we have an extra offering/collection on 3/2 to cover costs. We also have the Thrivent grants we can apply.

Beginning 4/27, the service will begin at 10:45 a.m., and we will offer Holy Communion every Sunday.

RINGGOLD BAND



173rd Anniversary Spring Fundraising Concert

Come join the Ringgold Band and the Ringgold New Horizons Band for an enjoyable afternoon of concert band music at our new venue:
Muhlenberg High School, 400 Sharp Ave, Reading, PA 19605



Col. Timothy J. Holtan



Mr. Ariel Metzger

Our 173rd Anniversary Spring Concert will feature The Ringgold Band's talented musicians performing a variety of musical genres under the skilled direction of our conductor, Charles Ebersole. This year's featured guest is the Maryland

Winds conductor, Col. (ret.) Timothy J. Holtan. The band is also proud to feature our Ringgold Band Young Artist Award winner, Mr. Ariel Metzger on Marimba. You will also be treated to the exciting sounds of the Ringgold New Horizons Band.

Sunday, April 6, 2025 — 2:00 p.m.

Doors open at 1:00 p.m.

Tickets \$15.00: available online at ringgoldband.com, from any band member, or at the door | **Students: Free**

Sunday Sinfonia

Music is the Tie That Binds

April 12, 2025

3PM

Bern Reformed UCC

3196 Bernville Rd (Rt 183)

Leesport, PA

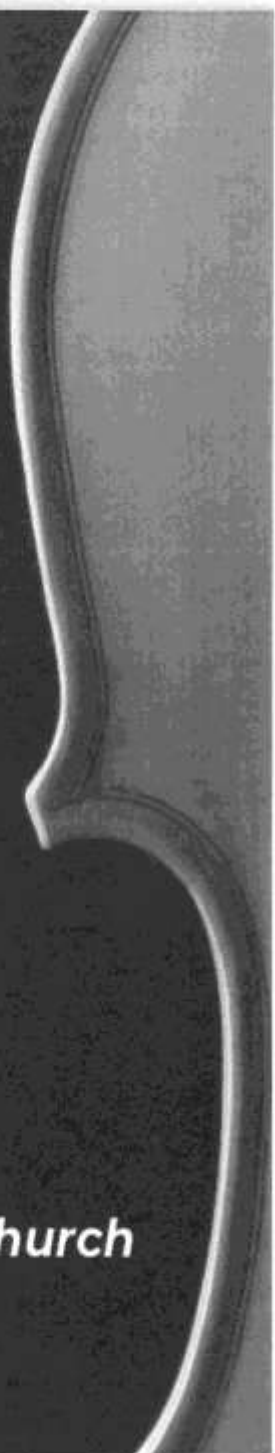
April 13, 2025

3PM

Schwarzwald Lutheran Church

250 Church Lane Rd

Reading, PA





V.B.S. 2025

Living Water

Acceptance of all God's Children and the importance of kindness for everyone.

Monday, June 9 –Friday, June 13

6:00-8:00 PM

Dinner available each evening

at 5:30 PM

Register by completing the form or by calling
the Church office at 610-779-3480.

LEARN ALL ABOUT

Noah's Ark—Genesis 6-9

Jesus's Baptism—Matthew 3:13-17, Mark 1:4-11, Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Jesus Walks on Water—Matthew 14:22-33

Women at the Well—John 4:5-42

Fruits of the Spirit –Galatians 4:5—42

V.B.S. Showcase on Friday, June 13 beginning at 7:00 PM.

An Ice Cream Social will complete the evening!

We will be collecting socks for Mary's Shelter– Holy Socks & Socks for Souls

Come join the fun.....stories, music, crafts, games and food!

Ages 4 and up!



V.B.S. 2025 Living Water

Monday, June 9-Friday, June 13

Registration Form

NAMES OF CHILDREN ATTENDING

AGE/GRADE COMPLETED

STREET ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIPCODE: _____

HOME PHONE: _____ CELL PHONE: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

PARENT NAME/NAMES: _____

WILL PARENTS BE HELPING AT V.B.S.? _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT (IF PARENT CANNOT BE REACHED)

NAME: _____ RELATIONSHIP TO CHILD: _____

PHONE: _____

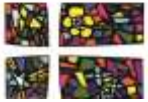
ALLERGIES OR MEDICAL CONDITIONS: _____

HOME CHURCH: _____

ANY OTHER SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: _____

THIS FORM CAN BE SUBMITTED TO THE CHURCH OFFICE OR EMAILED TO: administrator@schwarzwaldlutheran.org.

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Schwarzwald
LUTHERAN CHURCH
Serving and Loving Christ Since 1737

250 Church Lane Road
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