### PULPIT AND PEW

#### **SEPTEMBER 2025**

Volume 63, Issue 9



I have some hot news for our youth in grades 8-12. We have selected our dates and place for the 2026 Youth Mission Trip. Youth from Schwarzwald, St. Mark's, Reformation, and St. Paul's in Douglassville will be coming together for this great event. The dates will be Saturday, June 13th through Friday, June 19th, and we will be returning to Nashville, TN. We will be leaving Saturday morning and staying at a hotel about halfway to Nashville, where we will also find an interesting spot to explore. We will then get to Nashville about lunchtime and have the afternoon to explore the city before beginning our programming with Serve Boldly that evening.

Serve Boldly will have a full schedule for us in Nashville, where we will serve organizations such as Second Harvest Food Bank, Room at the Inn, Cure Medical Equipment Project, local farms providing produce for food pantries, and organizations serving the homeless and hungry. We will have one night out on the town, where we will enjoy the local music and learn line dancing.

The price per person for the trip is estimated at about \$750 per person, which includes our housing, food, meals we must provide, transportation, and the hotel enroute. St. Mark's and Schwarzwald will be splitting this cost between the individual, the church, and fundraising.

We had an awesome time last year and did a lot of great work for the people of Nashville. We hope you will join us this year. We will have our first information meeting about this trip on Sunday, September 21 at 12:15 at Schwarzwald's Fellowship Hall.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Jim





- . . from Mary Phillips—Thank you for all the prayers, cards, messages, flowers, visits, love and support I've received during my hospitalization and rehab. It means so much to have friends who care! I am blessed to be a part of my Schwarzwald family!
- . . from Mary's Shelter—We are so pleased that your congregation held a collection of essential baby items for our shelter. Your donations are so appreciated. We distribute these items with our residents and community families in our Outreach Program. Your congregation has been so generous with helping our shelter year after year! Thank you again, we are grateful for everything, always!
- . . from Mary's Shelter—On behalf of everyone at our shelter, we wish to thank all the kids in VBS for participating in the "Holy Socks" collection for our shelter. You collected so many wonderful pairs of socks for our residents and community families. We are so happy to have received them and distributed them to many in need. Your generosity is truly appreciated! You are all awesome!!
- .. to Pat and Larry Yoder for preparing franks and beans for the New Journey soup kitchen and to the Quicks for delivering it.



## Flower Delivery

Won't you please consider helping? We need a few folks to help deliver altar flowers to our sick and shut-in members.

This is a super easy job. Anyone can do it.

Please consider taking one or two Sundays a year to spread some cheer and share God's love.

Please reach out to Ruth Hoover if you can help.

484-709-5255.

If you already deliver flowers and can take one more Sunday a year....it would be appreciated.

#### Security Update

We have received notice that the new office door will be installed the second week of September. Funded through the undesignated Memorial Fund, this door will protect our office from break- ins and keep our staff safe. This project was determined to be the most important thing we needed to do to begin our security upgrades. It will be very similar to the door we have now but with special glass and other safety features including a new Ring doorbell.

There were several other projects on our more urgent list, including locks for all the Sunday School classrooms and the boiler room doors. There will be 18 locks and 35 keys. We also identified the need for panic hardware leading from the Scout Room to the hallway downstairs and panic hardware at the Fellowship Hall door leading towards the Sanctuary and the Kitchen door heading to the rear exit.

Thanks to a recent insurance beneficiary gift from a former member, we will be able to complete all this work by the end of October. This is very exciting news!

There was a webinar in early August with information on applying for the Non-Profit Security Grant. Several of us watched it and took notes. We have been informed that the Grant application window will be opening soon. We will be ready to start our application as soon as it becomes available. Most of the bids have been received for the lighting and the indoor fire and security features. The lighting and the security costs are each close to \$200,000.00. The maximum grant is \$200,000.00 per applicant. We will need to make some very important decisions soon.

There are no guarantees that we will be selected as Grant recipients, but we do have a lot in our favor. Our cell phone towers are a big plus and we are now the designated evacuation site for the Jacksonwald Elementary School in the event of an emergency. These two items make our property very important to the community.

We will keep you informed as we learn more.

## THE YOUR PRACE

#### **PRAYER GROUP**

The September meeting dates for the Prayer Group are the  $2^{nd}$ ,  $16^{th}$  and  $30^{th}$  at 11:00 AM in Fellowship Hall.

Please contact Joanne Rutherford for additional information at 610-406-9355 or jmr14290@gmail.com.

# In Memoriam

## Patricia Grim September 22, 1946—July 27, 2025



Patricia A. Grim, 78, of Woodbridge, VA, formerly of Exeter Township, passed away on Sunday, July 27, 2025 at Tribute at the Glen Nursing Home. Born in Lyons, PA, she was the daughter of the late Joseph R. and Mae (Hartman) Grim.

Patricia graduated from Kutztown High School and went on to further her education at Kutztown University, from where she earned her Bachelor's Degree and her Masters Equivalent in Education. She worked as a teacher for the Daniel Boone School District for 35 years until her retirement.

Pat was a member of Schwarzwald Lutheran Church. She is survived by many cousins and dear friends. Services and interment were held privately.

#### **Marlene Harlow**

July 1, 1938 – August 4, 2025



Marlene Harlow was the widow of Michael G. Harlow. She was a 1956 graduate of Reading High School and a 1961 graduate of Albright College with a B.A. degree in French and English. She taught French at Garden Spot High School in New Holland, PA, for 5 years, substituted for Berks County school districts for 7 years, and retired from Hamburg Area School District in 2000 after having taught 7th and 9th grade English for 18 years. She is survived by her sister, Anita L. Wentzel, Exeter Township, two sons: Michael E. (Nancy) Harlow, Woodbridge, VA, and Jeffrey A. Harlow, Exeter Township, five grandchildren: Devin, Kayla, August, Gannon, and Lynkyn Harlow, two step grandchildren: Ryan and Candice Diffenbaugh, and a great-step-granddaughter, Gracie Diffenbaugh. She is preceded in death by her brother, Richard C. Wentzel, and grandson, Dillon G. Harlow.

Marlene volunteered at the Exeter Area Food Pantry, had served as recording secretary on the Crestwood Swimming Pool Board, and on the Church Council and Social Ministry Committee of Schwarzwald Lutheran Church. She cofounded the Exeter Area Soccer Club in 1986 and was a faithful and dedicated member of Schwarzwald Lutheran Church.



## News and Notes from the Social Ministry Committee September 2025 Edition

Summer will soon be coming to an end, replaced with cooler days and the beauty of fall colors. Students have begun their schooling, fall sports are beginning, and the days are getting shorter. Change is in the air.

Soon, we will be changing, and perhaps, sorting through our closets. Just in time, the Social Ministry Committee would like to announce its Fall Clothing Drive in support of Hope Rescue Mission. This collection will run from **Sunday, September 7 until Sunday, September 28.** Clothing items for children, women, and men should be bagged and placed in the marked box found in the narthex. These **gently used** items include shoes, purses, coats, pants, belts, shirts, dresses, hats, and gloves. Thank you for supporting this collection.

The Exeter Area Food Pantry has been serving a growing number of families. Donating foods, such as peanut butter and jelly, has been a tradition at Schwarzwald. However, if you would prefer sending a monetary gift, the check should be made out to "Reformation Lutheran Church", 3670 Perkiomen Avenue, Reading, PA. 19606. The third Friday of each month is pantry day which is held at the Exeter Township School District Administration Building, 200 Elm Street in St. Lawrence. Volunteers are always welcome. For more information, contact Doris Jaeger.

Speaking of volunteers, the Social Ministry Committee is always looking for new members. We meet about six times a year to plan various projects, which include preparing meals for Safe Berks, developing various item collections, and supporting charitable organizations. Each year we also highlight the ELCA's World Hunger Campaign and November's Thank Offering. If you would be interested in joining our group, please speak to any of our members. By the way, our next meeting will be on September 22 at 10:00 in the Fellowship Hall. We'd love for you to join us!

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

#### SEPTEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER ARTICLE MUSIC MINISTRY

Greetings to my SLC family! It is so good to be back with you after my time with family in MN! I had the opportunity to visit several different Lutheran churches out there, some reminded me of SLC, and some were quite different, but it was a great learning experience! I hope I am back with a renewed spirit and some new ideas to incorporate into our services here!

PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE consider becoming involved in the music of our service. There are so many opportunities for you to help raise our voices and talents to our Lord in praise and thanksgiving each week. I am including a listing of groups and time requirements below. Please feel free to reach out to me or any choir member for additional details and answers to questions you might have.

YOUTH CHORUS – Sunday School age children to 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Performance one time a month (usually) plus Christmas Eve early service. I rehearse with this group during the first few minutes of Sunday School prior to a performance, or there is a Thursday evening rehearsal at 6:00 which I offer for those who can't attend Sunday School.

YOUTH CHOIR CHIMES – Grades 4 - ? (it is important that your child have some basic music reading skills but does not have to be proficient on any instrument). We will rehearse on MOST Sunday mornings at 9:00 prior to Sunday School. We meet in the front of the sanctuary and the children are dismissed directly to Sunday School from rehearsal. They will perform about one time per month depending on skill levels and attendance. We essentially perform when they are ready! Some students are aging out of this group and we really need to have some new and younger students join us to be able to keep the group going.

ADULT BELL CHOIR — Teens — unlimited ages!! This group is SO dedicated but we sometimes struggle because we don't have enough people to cover parts. We rehearse on a Thursday evening at 6:30 but not every week. We usually rehearse two or three times prior to a performance. The largest commitment of time for this group comes during the Christmas and Easter seasons.

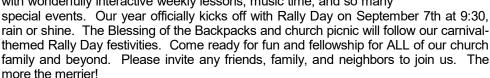
ADULT CHOIR – Teens – unlimited ages! Again, this group has such dedicated people in it. I am ever so grateful for their time and talents! I know sometimes we struggle because we could use additional help, so PLEASE consider this! Our rehearsals and performances are all on Sundays! Reading music helps but is not always required as we practice parts till all feel comfortable with each anthem. I have also started respecting their time commitments by not having them sing an anthem each week. Again, Christmas and Easter provide the most intense rehearsal and performance schedules.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SOLO OR SMALL ENSEMBLE SERVICE MUSIC – If you or your child has a talent on an instrument or voice and would like to perform for special music at some time during the year, please don't hesitate to reach out and let me know your interests!

Musical Blessings! Kathy Snyder

#### **Christian Education Update**

We are ready to welcome our children back to our Sunday School classrooms! Our 2025-2026 Sunday School year calendar is filled with wonderfully interactive weekly lessons, music time, and so many



Regular Sunday School classes will resume on September 14th. All youth Sunday School classes will meet from 9:30 - 10:30. The coffee bar will be open to our children after Sunday School, not before. This is a change from last year. All parents are welcome and encouraged to stop upstairs for drinks and snacks at any time. The coffee parlor is a wonderful space that we want you to enjoy!

Do you want to help our Sunday School program without a full commitment? Sign up to work with our Parent & Me families! We are trying something new this year in that class - teacher sign-ups. Mrs. Fayewicz will be leading many weekly classes, but there are several dates open for you! The sign-up sheet is on the Youth News bulletin board. We will help you through it. No experience necessary!

Check out the fun special events for the year! Note that individually wrapped candy donations are being accepted for Rally Day and Trunk or Treat.

#### **Upcoming Events & Info**

#### Rally Day, Blessing of the Backpacks, Church Picnic - September 7

It's carnival time! Rally Day's carnival will take place from 9:30 - 10:30. There will be balloon art, games, snacks, prizes and more! Students should bring their backpacks so they can be blessed during the worship service. After worship, we will head out to the pavilion for our church picnic. Bring a dessert or side to share. Candy donations for Rally Day can be dropped off in the church office.

#### **Confirmation**

Calling all 8th and 9th grade students! Confirmation classes will take place the 4th Sunday of every month (note this is not always the last Sunday of the month). Students will meet in Fellowship Hall from 12:00 - 2:00. Are you able to provide a meal to our confirmands? If so, please let Crystal know your preferred month.

#### Trunk or Treat - October 19

Trunk or Treat is back! It's easily our biggest outreach event of the year. The event will take place from 4:30 - 6:30. Sign up to decorate a trunk! The sign-up sheet is on the Youth News board. Need some decorations? Talk to Crystal. We have a few premade options. Set-up begins at 3:30.

#### Fall Event - November 16

Ready for a unique Bible-based learning event? Today is your day! Students in grades 4 and younger will work with Amy from Mindful Spirits Yoga. Students in grades 5 and up will work with Painting with a Twist (RSVP required). We are excited to welcome both back to SLC!

#### **Advent Festival - November 30**

Our adult Sunday school class will be hosting an Advent Festival immediately following the worship service. Crafts will be available for all ages, and lunch will be served. More info coming!

#### Christmas Pageant & Cookie Celebration - December 14

Our treasured pageant is back. The pageant will take place during the worship service. The Christmas cookie celebration will occur in Fellowship Hall at the conclusion of the worship service. Bring some cookies to share!

#### **Sneak Peak**

January 4: Party - Happy (belated) Birthday, Jesus!

February 1: Sunday School Breakfast

January 11 - February 8: Souper Bowl of Caring

February 15: Mardi Gras/Lent Intro

#### BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS — SEPTEMBER 7

Preschool through 7<sup>th</sup> grade students are asked to bring their backpacks to the worship service!

The Blessing of the Backpacks and of our students is meant to highlight the work they do all week in school and to bless and pray for them in that work.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

TRUNK OR TREAT

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19 4:30 PM

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESD
SEPTEMBER 2025	1 LABOR DAY CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 7.00pm AA mtg. (SR)	2 11:00am Prayer Group (FH)	3 7.00pm NA Me
7	8	9	10
9:15am Adult Sunday School 9:30am SUNDAY SCHOOL RALLY 10:45am Worship Service / Back 11:45am CHURCH PICNIC (PV) 11:45am Sr. Choir reh. (FH) 6:00pm Fellowship Hall in Use 7:00pm AA meeting (SR)	5:30pm Girl Scout Troop 1867 (FH) 7:00pm AA mtg. (SR)	10:00am Tuesday morning Bible Study / Work Group (FH)	7:00pm Church 7:00pm NA Me
14	15	16	17
9:15am Adult Sunday School (FH) 9:30am Sunday School (SS) 10:45am Worship Service (S) 11:45am Sr. Choir reh. (FH) 5:30pm Fellowship Hall in use for 7:00pm AA meeting (SR)	7:00pm AA mtg. (SR)	10:00am Tuesday morning Bible Study / Work Group (FH) 11:00am Prayer Group (FH)	12:00pm Exeter (FH) 1:00pm SCA Mr 6:30pm Lions C 7:00pm NA Me
21	22	23	24
9:15am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Sunday School (SS) 10:00am Youth Choir Chimes 10:45am Worship Service (S) 11:45am Sr. Choir reh. (FH) 5:30pm Fellowship Hall In use for 7:00pm AA meeting (SR)	10:00am Social Ministry Comm. Mtg. (FH) 5:30pm Girl Scout Troop 1867 (FH) 7:00pm AA mtg. (SR)	10:00am Tuesday morning Bible Study / Work Group (FH)	7:00pm NA Me
28	29	30	
9:15am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Sunday School (SS) 10:00am Youth Choir Chimes 10:45am Worship Service (S) 11:45am Sr. Choir reh. (FH) 12:00pm Confirmation Class (FH) 5:30pm Fellowship Hall in use 7:00p AA mtg. CR	7:00pm AA mtg. (SR)	10:00am Tuesday morning Bible Study / Work Group (FH) 11:00am Prayer Group (FH)	

Key: HC—Holy Communion FH—Fellowship Hall SR—Scout Room CR—Choir Room PCC—Pa

EAB—Exeter Schools Admin. Bldg. SS—Sunday School room(s) PL—Parking Lot LGI - Large Gro

AY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
ting (SR)	4	5	6	
Council (FH) tting (SR)	11 9:00am Breakfast Bunch (Breakfast Hut Rest.)	12	13	
Senior Citizens eting (CO / FH) ub meeting (FH) eting (SR)	18 6:00pm Youth Choir rehearsal (S) 6:30pm Handbell Choir reh. (S)	19 2:00pm Exeter Area Food Pantry (EAB)	20	
eting (SR)	25 6:00pm Youth Choir rehearsal (S)	26	27	
		N INFORMATION		

#### <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).

rlor Coffee Cafe PV—Pavilion S—Sanctuary P—Parlor N—Narthex K—Kitchen Z—Zoom

p Instruction Room

SCA—Schwarzwald Cemetery Assoc.

YR-Youth Room

CO—Church Office

#### SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Zachary Hoover, Clarence Swoyer, Jr.
- 2 Barry Ruppert, Larry Yoder, Amanda Giannotti
- 3 Shannon Darlington, Emma Scalese, Adam Crotty, Jillian Crotty
- 4 Joshua Boone, Crystal Jordan, Frank Kerber
- 5 Elise Kohler, Michael Jordan, III
- 7 David Johns, Ryan Fayewicz
- 9 Richard Sassaman
- 14 Gary Tice
- 15 Janice Stanislaw, Iris Ringler
- 16 Fred Mohr, Jr., Jennifer Oswald, Jordyn Yeager
- 17 Mary Phillips
- 18 Marcia Holbrook
- 19 Cynthia Mohr, Diane Cataldi, Gannon Harlow
- 21 Kaila Zenger, Thomas Herb
- 22 Barbara Herbst, John Dobbins
- 23 Amy Schaeffer, Tanner Karas
- 24 Jennifer Strausser, Steven Moyer
- 26 Karen Darlington, Lori Bauer, David Noecker
- 27 Courtney Marquard, Edward Kroznuski
- 28 Dennis Karas
- 29 William Jaeger, Brian Crotty

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



#### **HARVEST HOME MUMS**

Please help us decorate our sanctuary for HARVEST HOME by sponsoring mums. The cost is \$7.00 per plant for a 9" pot. You may take the plants home after the service on Harvest Home Sunday which is OCTOBER 5. There will be an assortment of colors to choose from at that time.

# PLEASE PLACE YOUR ORDER IN THE OFFERING PLATE OR BRING IT TO THE CHURCH OFFICE BY SEPTEMBER 28.

		· Cl	ut	
	<u>N</u>	IUM ORD	ER F	<u>ORM</u>
#	_ x	\$7.00	=	Total enclosed
Name				
Dhara				

#### **COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS** (No meeting held in July)

Council Officers: Doris Jaeger, President

Chris Thompson, Vice President Scot Griesemer, Treasurer

Chuck Heydt, Corporate Secretary

Members: Mark Bauer

Sarah Gibson
Barry Hoover
Elizabeth Kennedy
Joanne Rutherford
Janice Stanislaw
Chris Thompson
Carolyn Woodford
Larry Yoder

## **Budget Information**

#### **Monthly totals (July)**

Income:

Budgeted Income \$16,154 (Current envelopes)
Actual Income \$11,794 (Current envelopes)

**Expenses:** 

Budgeted Expenses \$25,322 (Amount includes a full-time pastor salary)

Actual Expenses \$17,511



The Exeter Area Food Pantry (EAFP), distributes food monthly to local residents in need. We continue to witness the growing need in our community. EAFP serves an average of 250+ families per month, so we need more volunteer support, including bilingual (spanish/english) volunteers.

The pantry is open the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each month located at Exeter Twp School District Administration Bldg, 200 Elm Street (Former Lausch Elementary School). Volunteers are needed for food distribution/clean-up from 12:45-6:30pm on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday and also for setup on the Thursday prior from 8-11am. Partial hours are fine!

To volunteer or learn more, simply contact eafpvolunteers@gmail.com

#### Penn State Extension webinar on food safety for volunteers

Penn State Extension is offering a webinar on food safety for volunteers on November 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

For more details and information, please visit their website — https://www.psu.edu/news/agricultural-sciences. Additional information is listed below.

Volunteers who help prepare and serve food for their nonprofit organization are encouraged to attend.

"Cooking for Crowds: A Volunteer's Guide to Safe Food Handling" is a condensed, three-hour food safety course developed by Penn State Extension and the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. This webinar will address food safety issues faced by volunteer-based organizations and will help participants understand the risks involved with preparing large volumes of food and the critical food safety practices that they need to follow to ensure a safe event.

Even if an organization has been doing this for years, it is important that volunteers are up to date and knowledgeable about rules and regulations governing food safety, according to Penn State Extension food safety specialists.

Participants will learn safe food handling practices and the causes of foodborne illness. Course topics will include:

- 1. Good personal hygiene for all volunteers involved in food preparation.
- 2. Time and temperature controls that are needed to keep food out of the temperature danger zone.
- 3. Ways to prevent cross-contamination.
- 4. Cleaning and sanitizing within the operation.

Penn State extension educators and faculty serve as instructors and are certified by the National Restaurant Association. All have received training on the most current food safety research.

Participants can receive a certificate of completion after attending the program.



#### A JOURNEY OF HOPE: THE LIEU FAMILY'S PATH TO RENEWAL

Thanks to the compassionate sponsorship of Schwarzwald Lutheran Church—led by the late Pastor Marvin Harding and his wife, the late Dorace Harding—the late Moc Lieu and the late Huong Lieu, along with their five youngest children, were given the opportunity to begin a new life in the United States. As Chinese refugees who fled Vietnam, they left behind thriving businesses seized by the communist regime, choosing instead the uncertain path of freedom and possibility. Their courageous decision marked the beginning of a powerful new chapter rooted in hope, resilience, and gratitude.

Their resettlement sparked a powerful legacy of perseverance and service, with many family members dedicating themselves to giving back through careers in healthcare.

#### **9 THE YOUNGER CHILDREN**

- Jenny, the eldest daughter, became a steadfast pillar of love and care in her parents' later years, tending to their needs with unwavering devotion, tenderness, and grace.
- 2. Stephanie is a devoted mother to two daughters, nurturing them with grace and care.
- 3. Co resides in New Jersey, where he raised 2 wonderful children.
- Amanda with her husband proudly supported their son's journey through medical school, where he is now a doctor.
- Muoi works at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and is the proud mother of a middle schooler.

#### RECONNECTING ACROSS GENERATIONS

The church's sponsorship also helped unite the Lieu family with their older sons, who had resettled shortly before.

- Lam (deceased), the eldest, was a steadfast pillar of support for his parents and siblings.
   Together with his devoted wife Kia—whose strength and determination guided the family's resettlement—Lam forged a legacy rooted in quiet strength and unwavering care. They are the proud parents of Connie, Yen, Carolyne, and Hue, and loving grandparents to two cherished grandsons.
- Jason, together with his late wife Thuy, made their home in California, where he finds joy in being father to two sons and grandfather to three cherished grandchildren.
- Minh and his wife Boi have cultivated a vibrant family life in Reading, raising three sons and delighting in eight grandchildren who continue to bring joy across generations.
- Ha and his wife Joanne are blessed with two children and two grandchildren, and take deep pride in their warm and close-knit family.

This migration journey—marked by sacrifice and guided by faith—was made cossing through the generosity of the church and the unwavering leadership of daughter-in-law Ka. Determination sparked the family's resettlement. It stands as a lasting legacy of hope, healing sparinge.

#### IN LOVING MEMORY OF MRS. DORACE HARDING

A Faithful Servant, Beloved Friend, and Cherished Member of the Lieu Family

With heavy hearts and deep gratitude for a life beautifully lived, we remember Mrs. Harding a woman of grace, wisdom, and unwavering faith. As the devoted wife of the late Pastor Harding, she was not only a pillar of strength in her communities but also a guiding light to all who had the privilege of knowing her.

Mrs. Harding was more than a friend to the Lieu family—she was family. Her thoughtful spirit, kind heart, and extraordinary memory made every moment with her a blessing. She was a gifted teacher to the elder Lieus, sharing not only knowledge but also the quiet dignity of a life rooted in faith and love. Always elegant, always composed, she carried herself with a beauty and class that reflected the light of Christ within her.

Together, she and the late Pastor Marvin Harding were like angels among us—gentle shepherds who led with grace, compassion, and quiet strength. Through Schwarzwald Lutheran Church, they sponsored the late Moc and Huong Lieu (pictured with her) and their family, extending a hand of love and generosity that forever changed the course of their lives. The kindness they showed and the faithfulness they lived out remain a cherished legacy, never to be forgotten.

We shared many joyful memories of Pastor with Mrs. Harding, and we know how deeply she missed him. Now, we take comfort in the hope of their heavenly reunion, where their hearts beat once more as one in the presence of the Lord.

To honor their legacy, the Lieu family is making a \$1,000 donation to their memorial. It is a small token of the immense love and respect we hold for them both. We will miss our angel, Mrs. Harding, dearly. Yet we rejoice in knowing she is reunited with her beloved Pastor Harding, and that their spirits live on in the lives they touched. Their faith, kindness, and love will continue to inspire us, and we will carry their memory in our hearts always.

"Well done, good and faithful servant... Enter into the joy of your master."—Matthew 25:23

With love and remembrance, Jenny Hat Joanna Family Melissay Family

Your Lieu Family

Minh & Boi Family

Amanda & Chaofamily

Amanda & Chaofamily

Amanda & Chaofamily

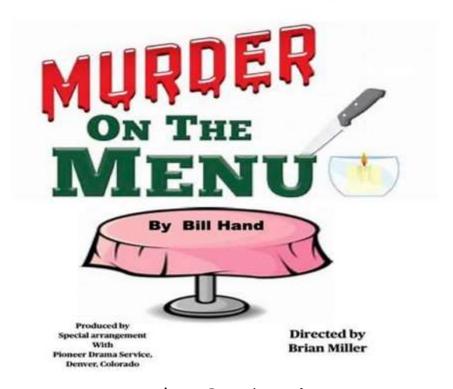
Amanda & Chaofamily

Mooi & Ethan

Jason & Family

# St. Mark's Lutheran Church and

READING COMMUNITY PLAYERS presents



Saturday, October 4 at 5 Brooke Manor, Birdsboro Doors open at 4:30 pm and show starts at 5 pm

Tickets are \$30 including a 3 course Italian Buffet and the show. Tickets are limited. This event is open to the public. Tickets are on sale in office. For more information call 610-582-8167 or email: secretary@stmarkbirdsboro.org

## NYC BUS TRIP



## WITH ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Free Time in the city!

Benefits: St. Mark's Youth Mission Trip

Saturday, December 6th, 2025

Depart from St. Mark's @ 7:30AM

Free time in NYC from

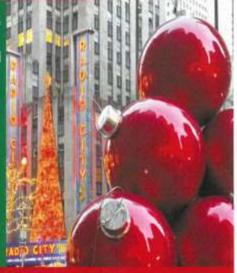
10/30AM to 8PM

Depart from NYC @ 8:00PM

\$75/person

Per Klein's - must be at least 4 yrs old

Due by Oct 31st



SHOP! - SEE A SHOW! - BE A FOODIE! - SIGHTSEE!

Name	S	:
	1-1	£

# of Seats:\_\_\_\_

Total Due: \$\_\_\_\_

Published monthly by



# Schwarzwald

Serving and Loving Christ Since 1737

250 Church Lane Road Reading, PA 19606

Phone 610-779-3480 Fax 610-779-2777 Website: www.schwarzwaldlutheran.org

Office e-mail: administrator@schwarzwaldlutheran.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Join our family, share God's love.

SEPTEMBER 2025