

Summer is upon us. School is almost over. Vacations are about to begin. It just seems there is more life and activities happening during the summer months. And sometimes there are sacrifices made – such as not going to church on Sunday morning. We know life happens, and life gets busy, but we pray God remains a priority in your life, no matter what your summer schedule may be. If you are on travel, we encourage you to join us via Zoom. If you do not already get the code for our Zoom broadcasts, reach out to Diane.

As you know, it is the tradition at Schwarzwald to move summer services earlier on Sunday morning so folks can get outside and enjoy their Sunday activities. Beginning June 7th, we will move to a 9:00 AM service. The service will be the same, just earlier. However, one BIG change is that I cannot be in two places at once. St. Mark's holds its service at 9:00 AM year-round. So, I have asked Chaplain MaryAnn to lead worship service at Schwarzwald for the summer. Chaplain MaryAnn has one more semester of seminary and her internship to complete before she graduates from seminary.

I know for many of you, the big question is (because you have already asked me this), will we still have the good bread? The answer is yes. She is the one who makes it. The elements will be sanctified before service so that Chaplain MaryAnn can distribute them.

While I will not be there on Sunday mornings, I will continue to be engaged with the church in all my other normal areas. However, if you need to speak with or meet with me, please reach out to me on my cell phone or through Diane.

We also have a great opportunity to help form another pastor in training. You all know Tina Andrews from playing the organ last summer. Tina has entered seminary to become a pastor and is being assigned to the Schuylkill River Parish as a training parish. As part of her preparations and training, Tina will be leading services at Schwarzwald on the Third Sunday of each month. I ask you to help guide, encourage, and form both these pastors in training so they will be strong church leaders in the future.

I will be leading our Saturday Evening Worship Services under the pavilion and the special service on August 23rd. The Saturday Evening Services will be held on June 20th, July 18th, and August 8th. These services will begin at 6:00 PM, and we always find a place to go to dinner afterward. I hope to see you there.

Pastor Jim

Meet Our



VINNIE D'ANGELO

Vinnie is completing his freshman year of high school. In his free time, he eats, sleeps and breathes football and is excited to be playing for the high school team this coming fall. He enjoys spending time with his family and is focused on sports statistics and commentating as his future career goal! He enjoys playing video games for fun. He is the son of John and Christy D'Angelo and the brother of Tony. His grandparents are Chip and Cindy Mohr.



CARA DOBBINS

Cara is an avid runner, enjoying cross country and track. She loves to draw and paint and spend time at the beach. Cara plays the violin at school and also played in the Jr. County Orchestra. She loves animals and playing with her mini beagle, Ollie. When she is not working on the weekends, she enjoys spending time with her friends and reading. She is the daughter of Jeff and Jenny Dobbins and the sister of John.

Confirmands!



COLETTE JORDAN

Colette is a freshman at Exeter HS, where she is a member of band, chorus, orchestra and student council. She participated in county honor ensembles and successfully auditioned for Reading Musical Foundation merit scholarship. She is an avid dancer with Berks Ballet Theater and enjoys spending summers in New York City for the School of American Ballet dance intensive. She has been a member of Schwarzwald Lutheran Church her whole life and is looking forward to the next chapter with the church. She is the daughter of Michael and Crystal Jordan and the sister of Michael and Scarlet.



JEREMY KERBER

Jeremy grew up in Schwarzwald Lutheran Church. He was baptized here, his faith grew through Sunday Services, Sunday School, Cherub/Youth choir and MAD Camp. Growing up in a church like SLC, there were many opportunities. In his free time, Jeremy is the owner of JD's Residential Services. At the age of 13, he had a vision and ran with it. Today he is extremely successful with his business and helping Exeter residents as well as neighboring communities! He is the son of Frank & Melissa Kerber and the brother of Joshua and Samantha.

We invite you to join us!

SUMMER FESTIVAL OF PRAISE

August 23, 2026

Schwarzwald Lutheran Church

Outdoor worship

beginning at

11:00

★ service music by:
THREFOOLD BLESSING

★ post-service entertainment by:
THE HAPPY DUTCHMEN

Kauffman's BAR-B-QUE
12:00-2:00

order your tickets online, or contact:
administrator@schwarzwaldlutheran.org



Get your
chicken!



Get your ice
cream!



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

. . **from** Ruth Hoover—Dear Friends, Thank you so much for the lovely flowers. They brighten up my room. I miss you all and hope to see you soon. There seems to be lots going on at SLC according to the bulletins and *Pulpit and Pew*. I feel blessed with all your prayers.

. . **from** Denton and Barb Quick—Thank you. Thank you. Heartfelt thanks and blessings to our wonderful Schwarzwald family. Your cards, prayers, thoughts, calls and food are deeply appreciated. We are recovering well and are anxious to be back with all of you. You have encouraged us more than we can say. God has blessed us by having you in our lives.

. . **from** Property Committee—Please take a moment to thank the following individuals for their hard work in helping to keep our property looking beautiful: John D'Angelo, Mike Gumpert, Frank Kerber, Bob Loughery, Chip Mohr, and Bob Rutherford. We performed our annual spring clean-up of the grounds, including weedwacking the bank along the rear driveway and weeding and mulching the flower beds. We still have a few flower beds to finish up, but the property looks so much better. If anyone would like to join the Property Committee, please contact me. - from Kevin Kennedy, Chair

. . **from** Hope Rescue Mission—Thank you so much for hosting and facilitating a clothing drive for HRM and LightHouse. Your thoughtfulness and kindness are deeply appreciated, and your contribution will directly help those in our community who need it most. We want you to know that your gift of clothing is already making a difference by providing comfort and safety for our residents. With donations like yours, we can better provide essential supplies and help us continue our mission to support individuals transitioning out of homelessness. We are so grateful for your support and for helping us create a more positive environment for everyone we serve.

Summer Early Service

BEGINNING SUNDAY, June 7, our worship services will begin at 9:00 a.m. for the summer. **The Coffee Café will open at 8:30 a.m.** The worship services will be led by Chaplain MaryAnn Farnsworth. The 3rd Sunday of each summer month will be led by Seminarian Tina Andrews. This is in place of the regular 10:45 a.m. worship time.



VBS 2026

June 8 - 12

Want to be a volunteer? Contact Ellen Focht!

Registration form on next page.

"Let the children come to me"

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW FOR A WEEK FULL OF FAITH,
FELLOWSHIP AND FUN!**

AGES 4-12

DINNER WILL BE SERVED EACH EVENING

BEGINNING AT 5:45 PM.

**THE EVENING WILL INCLUDE A GROUP OPENING, BIBLE STORIES, MUSIC
CRAFTS AND ACTIVE PLAY.**

PICK-UP AT 8:00 PM.

**THE CHILDREN WILL PROVIDE SHOWCASE OF THE LESSONS THEY HAVE
LEARNED ON FRIDAY, 6/12 AT 7:00 PM .**

WITH AN ICE CREAM SOCIAL TO FOLLOW.

**WE ENCOURAGE ALL PARTICIPANTS, THEIR FAMILIES AND FRIENDS TO ATTEND CHURCH ON
JUNE 14TH SO THE CHILDREN CAN SHARE ALL THEY HAVE LEARNED WITH
OUR CHURCH FAMILY.**



VBS 2026

June 8 - 12

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.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
JUNE 2026	1 10:00am Soup Group (FH / K) 5:30pm Girl Scout Troop 1867 (CR) 5:45pm Girl Scout Troop 11135 (SS) 7:00pm AA mtg. (SR)	2	3 10:00am Fellowship (FH) 7:00pm NA Meeting
	7 9:00am Worship Service (S) 7:00pm AA meeting (SR)	8 5:45pm Girl Scout Troop 11135 (PV) 5:45pm VBS dinner (FH / K) 6:15pm VBS (FH / S / SS) 7:00pm AA mtg. (SR)	9 11:00am Prayer Group (FH) 5:45pm VBS dinner (FH / K) 6:15pm VBS (FH / S / SS)
	14 9:00am Worship Service (S) 7:00pm AA meeting (SR)	15 10:00am Social Ministry Comm. Mtg. (FH) 7:00pm AA mtg. (SR)	16 12:00pm Exeter Schools Admin. Bldg. (FH) 7:00pm NA Meeting
	21 FATHER'S DAY 9:00am Worship Service (S) 7:00pm AA meeting (SR)	22 7:00pm AA mtg. (SR)	23 11:00am Prayer Group (FH) 7:00pm NA Meeting
28 9:00am Worship Service (S) 7:00pm AA meeting (SR)	29 9:00am Fellowship Hall / Choir Room in use (FH/CR) 7:00pm AA mtg. (SR)	30	

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

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	4	5	6
Ship Hall in use Meeting (SR)	2:00pm Worship and Music Comm. Mtg. (FH)	Synod Assembly at Split Rock Lodge	
	11	12	13
Senior (FH / K) / S / SS Meeting (SR)	9:00am Breakfast Bunch (BH) 5:45pm VBS dinner (FH / K) 6:15pm VBS (FH / S / SS)	5:45pm VBS dinner (FH / K) 6:15pm VBS (FH / S / SS) 7:00pm VBS Showcase followed by Ice Cream Social (S / FH)	Youth Mission trip through 6/19
Senior Citizens Meeting (SR)	18	19	20
		2:00pm Exeter Area Food Pantry (EAB)	6:00pm Worship Service in Pavilion (PV)
Meeting (SR)	25	26	27

CANCELLATION INFORMATION

**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)**

MUSIC MINISTRY

It's almost impossible for me to believe that June is upon us already! Where has the time gone? I guess many would tell me it's a sure sign I'm getting old!

On June 21st, the Mount Laurel Brass Quintet will enhance our worship experience again. Many of you have graciously mentioned how much you enjoy the beautiful music offered by guest musicians, and we have certainly been graced by their time and talents this past year! That is largely due to your generous giving toward the music fund – and I thank you for that!

The 21st of June will also be my last Sunday at SLC until August 23rd. During the 8 weeks that I am at our home away from home in MN, Clara Worrall will cover the majority of the Sunday services. I am so thrilled that she is willing to lend her organ talents to us for the summer! Because she goes back to her teaching job in early August, she will only cover the first Sunday of August, and Peg Gumpert will fill in for the remaining weeks till I return. I completely realize how fortunate I am (and how fortunate we are as a congregation) to have so many talented musicians in our midst! What a blessing it is!!

Thanks to all the various member of our choirs for making 2025/26 a great musical year! WE STILL NEED MORE PEOPLE TO COME OUT OF THE PEWS TO JOIN US! I am once again setting September as a month of open choir rehearsals for both adult choirs. If you are being nudged (spiritually) to try out one of the performing groups, SEPTEMBER is your opportunity! Though I would NEVER turn down a willing participant, we REALLY need women to join the adult choir – so LADIES – please consider!

Everyone please have a wonderful and safe (also hoping for cooler temperatures this year) summer and I look forward to reconnecting with everyone on 8/23/26!

Blessings...Kathy

Saturday evening services

Pastor Jim will lead us in a monthly Saturday evening service at 6:00 p.m. in the pavilion on June 20, July 18, and August 8. For those who are able, we will then share a meal together at a local restaurant.



SOUP GROUP

Monday, June 1

beginning at 10:00 a.m.

in Fellowship Hall Kitchen

we will make soup,

have some lunch, and package

the soup for distribution!

SOCIAL MINISTRY OUTREACH



The Exeter Area Food Pantry

is requesting donations of school supplies

to distribute to its families in August:

backpacks, binders, pencils, boxes of 24 crayons, glue sticks, 2-pocket folders,

1-subject notebooks, highlighters, rubber erasers, and colored pencils.

Please have your donations at church by July 26.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS



- 1 Pastor Blitch
- 4 Amanda Pawlewicz, Quinn Robinson
- 5 June Noll, Kathryn Lehman, Jay Worrall
- 6 Carrera Robison
- 7 Madeline Doll
- 10 Robert Erisman
- 12 Gwyn Chobot
- 13 Daniel Brickner
- 16 Cecelia Erisman, Scot Griesemer, Richard Rutherford
- 17 Keith Schmehl
- 18 Cody Morgan
- 20 Joseph Specht, Michael Delp
- 21 Rebecca Burkhardt
- 24 Jack Murphy
- 25 Nate Woodford, Reece Wilson, Kinley Guziak
- 26 Evelyn Claus, Melissa Reinert
- 27 Joshua Shaffer
- 28 Nathan Morgan
- 29 Carolyn Worrall, Lisa Bingaman, Abigail Thren
- 30 Jack Coates

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

News and Notes from the Social Ministry Committee

June 2026

It's June! Time for summer activities, like picnics, family gatherings, the pool, and more! Even though it may be vacation time, the Social Ministry Committee will be hosting several opportunities to help our neighbors.

From June 7 until July 12, we will be collecting **new and/or gently used** shoes to support Mary's Selter's community outreach. They are accepting shoes for children, youth, women, and men. The shoes should be placed in bags and put in the marked bin located in the Narthex.

Starting in June and running through until the end of July, we will be collecting **backpacks and school supplies** that will be distributed to the patrons of the Exeter Community Food Pantry in August. See the display in the Narthex for lists of needed items.

The next **Soup Team Event** will be on **June 1**, beginning at 10:00. If you have some time, please join us. You can stay as long as you like. The soup will be delivered to the New Journey Soup Kitchen, which hosts meals for over 300 people daily.

Speaking of food, our **Little Free Pantry** has grown and moved to a new location. While cleaning the "attic" in the fellowship hall, a two-doored cabinet was found. This cabinet has been placed in the office breezeway. We will continue to accept donations of foods throughout the summer. Please check the shopping cart in the Narthex for a list of heat-appropriate foods.

THANK YOU for your continued support of our projects. If you'd like to become a part of this committee, we would love to have you join us!

God's Work, Our Hands!



GIRL SCOUT TROOP #1867
continues to collect 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!)

Christian Education Update



We have made it through another wonderful year of Sunday School. Looking back on the year is both rewarding and overwhelming. There were special events monthly, sometimes a few each month. We began with Rally Day, and we didn't stop until the end-of-year celebration. In between we were going strong with our Trunk or Treat, fall event, Christmas Pageant, Sunday School breakfast, Souper Bowl of Caring, Palm Sunday activities, Egg Hunt, Mother's Day, special guests, and more.

Our time together in the classrooms was equally exciting. We were so fortunate to have teachers who did a wonderful job sharing the love of God and the teachings of Jesus with our children. Our Sunday School is a true family, and we are so blessed to be part of this kind of a church.

There will be events during the summer that send our families out into the world to bring others the light that we have at Schwarzwald. We have children attending Bear Creek Camp and older youth going to Nashville on a mission trip. We are also looking forward to welcoming families to our church for the Schwarzwald Summer Festival of Praise on August 23rd and for our VBS in the beginning of June entitled "Let the Children Come to Me". Do you know you are attending VBS? Fill out a registration form! Invite friends!

Let's keep God's light shining throughout the summer months!



The Prayer Group meets every other Tuesday at 11:00 AM in Fellowship Hall. The June dates are the 9th and 23rd. Please contact Joanne Rutherford for additional information at 610-406-9355 or jmr14290@gmail.com.

PARLOR COFFEE CAFÉ / GREETERS

Scan the QR code or use the Sign-Up Genius link to sign-up to bring a baked good for the coffee café or to be a Greeter on a Sunday morning:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050C4FA9AD2FA7FD0-60582416-schwarzwald>



COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS (April)

Pastor's Report

For the summer we will move the SLC service to 9:00 a.m. with Chaplain MaryAnn Farnsworth as worship leader. The 3rd Sunday of the month will be led by Seminarian Tina Andrews.

Synod Assembly – Katie Rosales and Rochelle Chelius will attend. This year there will be an election of a Bishop.

Old Business:

Cell Tower—We will retain Tower Genius for a \$1,000 non-refundable fee. If we execute with them, they get 4 %. In exchange, we would get that back in a higher offer.

Community Meal results – On March 17 through Exeter schools, we invited community folks with food insecurity for a Shepherd's Pie dinner in our Fellowship Hall. We had 5 families/25 people in attendance.

New Business

Bear Creek Camp camperships – Council approved a \$200 campership to each child attending camp from SLC.

Scholarship Committee - Janice Stanislaw, Carolyn Woodford and Chris Thompson volunteered to review the applications.

August Event - 8/23 outdoor event in the pavilion. Three-Fold Blessing during worship, Kauffman's Chicken BBQ for lunch, Happy Dutchman for entertainment during/after lunch and an ice cream truck or Rita's for dessert. There will be presale of tickets for the Chicken BBQ. For the children - bouncy house, water slide, and cornhole tournament.

July 26 is the outdoor service with the Schuylkill Parish at Daniel Boone Homestead.

Grant Application - We applied for money to fix the Scout Room, \$5,000-\$6,000, to boost the ministries that use that room.

Parish Activity – Veterans' Stand Down in Pottstown is held on the 4th Saturday of the month from 10:00 a.m. to Noon. To enhance the stand down, barber's will be available to give the Veterans free haircuts. Also, so the Veterans can do their laundry, we will collect detergent, small packs of dryer sheets, and fabric softener.

It was decided that we donate a week's worth of motel rent of \$655 to the homeless family that we fed at our community meal, provided they are still there and it be paid directly to hotel /motel.

Budget Information—Monthly totals (April)

Income:

Budgeted Income	\$ 16,557 (Current envelopes)
Actual Income	\$ 16,684 (Current envelopes)

Expenses:

Budgeted Expenses	\$ 28,642 (Amount includes a full-time pastor salary)
Actual Expenses	\$ 17,432

Published monthly by



Schwarzwald LUTHERAN CHURCH

Serving and Loving Christ Since 1737

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Fax 610-779-2777
Website: www.schwarzwaldlutheran.org
Office e-mail: administrator@schwarzwaldlutheran.org

Join our family, share God's love.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Pulpit and Pew

JUNE 2026