



Little Swatara Church of the Brethren

Matthew S. Christ, Pastor
Sunday Worship: 8:15 & 10:30 AM
Sunday School: 9:30AM

Good News!

Church's Office Phone (717)933-4723 Church's Office Fax (717) 933-9223 www.LittleSwatara.org

Volume LII

April 2020

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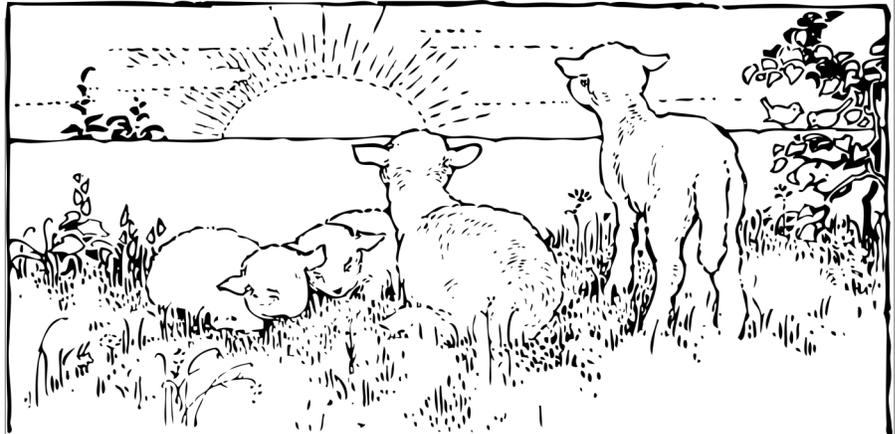
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Brothers and sisters,

We're living in an interesting time as I write this. Schools and non life sustaining businesses are closed. Even the church has needed to cancel services and go online for an uncertain period of time. We're to remain in quarantine and social distance ourselves. It's easy to worry and fear the unknown. But the COVID-19 has nothing on Jesus. This virus has an end. Jesus lives on forever. This momentary lack of community and fellowship will once again thrive. So as Easter is upon us and spring has sprung, let us remind ourselves these fleeting moments are just that. Certainly there are lasting impacts for those that have lost loved ones or have endured the illness. But this time has given is opportunity to repent and turn back to our Lord. It's these wake up calls that remind us who's truly in charge.

A note from our pastor...continued

Easter celebrates the resurrection that changes everything. Death has no final say for the believer. Sin no longer has us in bondage. Good Friday reveals the character of Christ to be the only sacrifice needed to free us from sins hold. God has now given us the command to go and make disciples. These times we're living in give us moments to be the church and reach out as suppliers of food, monetary support and most of all hope. Jesus has overcome. The victory is won. Rest in that assurance until he once again comes and takes the believers with him.

Praying for you always with love,

Pastor Matt

Information Updates from Little Swatara

Our church building is closed to all but essential personal. Please refrain from using your personal keys to enter. While no instance of virus has been yet been found in our congregation, any reintroduction of illness into the building lengthens the amount of time it may have to be closed, and increases the cleaning load on our custodians.

The Gathering Place Cafe is now closed until **MARCH** 30th. We will reevaluate at that time pending state and local requests for action.

The Hershey and Anna Mary sale scheduled for March 21 was postponed. It will be rescheduled at a later date.

Connie is currently working at home – but will be putting together a list of announcements and a bulletin for each week, which we will distribute on line. If you have any announcements you would like included, please email them to her ASAP.

Our One Great Hour of Sharing offering will take place the first Sunday we resume in person services.

Please remember our shut ins (and each other) with telephone calls, emails, and cards. It is important for us to remain connected during this time of stress.

Members Birthdays for April

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Richard Yenser 1 | Kara Henning 17 |
| Robin A. Bashore 1 | Loretta Kollenback 18 |
| Amanda Heckman 2 | Jayne Diamond 19 |
| Marie Ziegler 2 | Shirley Groff 19 |
| Beth Ann Stuck 2 | Ashley Dunning 20 |
| Greg Bryant 4 | Carol Lane 23 |
| Terri Holden 4 | Rebecca Rebman 23 |
| Katie Light. 4 | Kevin Schwenk 26 |
| Gerald Bowman 5 | Eric Dreibelbis 27 |
| Gary L. Emerich 7 | Dennis Ulrich 27 |
| Chris Boehmer 10 | Janelle Rebman 27 |
| Pauline Seiler 10 | Jean Keeney 28 |
| Steve Bostwick 10 | Stephan Bross 30 |
| Ashley Koch 12 | John Brown 30 |
| Eric Stupp 13 | |

Youth Events

Postponed until further notice

All Women's Fellowship activities have been cancelled until further notice. This includes all meetings of the Women's Fellowship, Crafters Group and quilting. The April Sub Sale has been cancelled.

We hope each and every one of you remains free of the virus and can enjoy a blessed and Happy Easter.

The Germ Chant:

(tune: Row, Row, Row Your Boat)

Cover when we cough.

Cover when we sneeze.

Use a tissue. Wash your hands.

Let's keep our own germs, please.

Cover when we cough.

Cover when we sneeze.

Sanitizer is your friend.

Use it when you sneeze.

All rights reserved: filefolderheaven.com it is free from web site.

Hand Washing (tune:

One drop of soap is all you need,

To wash your hands thoroughly.

Rub them together quickly. Or rub them to make them bubbly.

One drop of soap. (bubbles popping: Pop Pop)

For all current closures and updates, keep checking our website or our facebook page, or join our Email list by visiting the "Contact" tab at www.LittleSwatara.org

April's Mission of the Month is our own Pre-school.

Ms. Cindy is continuing to offer activities and lessons for our preschool students via the pre-school Facebook page. Home schoolers are welcome to check them out.

THE BURDEN OF THE CROSS

By Ralph Wanner

Not as a conquering hero he came

A captive Israel to lead... it's glory to reclaim,

But for a world of lost sinners to God's grace restore.

That whosoever believeth not perish but have life evermore.

Of his purpose and destiny the revered Hebrew prophets oft foretold

Yet rejected was he by his own because he fit not their mold.

As the hour draweth nigh when he shall be betrayed

His soul heavy laden with sorrow in the garden he prayed;

"Oh Father if only this bitter cup could it pass from me:

Nevertheless not my will but thy will, thus let it be".

The burden of the cross would be heavy, the crown's sharp would sting.

Awful would be the torture and humiliation that this ordeal to him would bring.

Falsely condemned before his accusers, there in stark silence he stood

Tho ten thousand angels to the rescue at his beckoning, come they would.

As those spikes driven through his hands at his flesh didst painfully tear,

Who can know the terrible agony there upon that cross he bear.

Even as he suffered there were those that mocked him and made ridicule.

Yet prayed he to the Father, "Forgive them they know not what they do".

The midday sun was shrouded by an eerie darkness as the earth rumble, tremble,
and quake,

Signs that surely this be God's own beloved son there affixed upon that stake.

"It is finished", thus he uttered these among his final words on calvary's tree,

As like a lamb led to slaughter there he shed his blood for you and me.

His followers be they discouraged, forlorn, and in much disarray...

As low in the bowels of that dark, dreary tomb the Savior's cold and lifeless
body lay.

But, alas, the grave could not hold him. That stone was rolled away.

And he arose o're sin and death all victorious on that glorious resurrection day.

"Christ the Lord is risen today. Sons of men and angels say. Raise your joys and triumphs high; Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply."

~Charles Wesley

"Embrace uncertainty. Some of the most beautiful chapters in our lives don't have a title until much later."

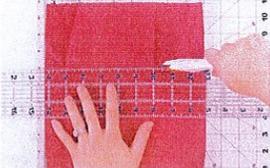
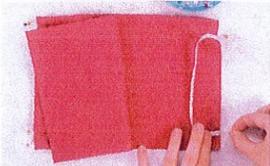
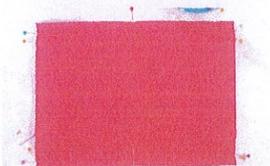
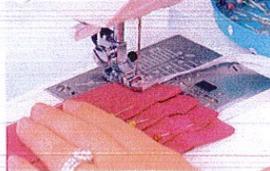
~Bob Goff

NOTE: Our Maundy Thursday and Easter Dawn services are cancelled. We will be having a Good Friday and Easter service in some fashion yet to be decided.

If you have on hand, any UNUSED Face Masks, that you will not be using, would you please mail them to Londonderry Village. We are accepting donations of Unused Face Masks in order to keep our staff and residents safe.

Also, Please spread the word that we are accepting donations of **home-made face masks** in order to keep our staff and resident safe. Please wash the material in hot water before sewing.

We greatly covet your prayers during this time. Peace to you, Mary Eller, Chaplain Londonderry Village

1	CUT FABRIC Cut 2 pieces of Quilting Cotton 9" x 7". Cut 2 pieces of 1/4" elastic 7" long.	
2	PLACE ELASTIC Pin a piece of elastic on the top and bottom of the short ends of the rectangle 1/2" from edge to create an ear loop.	
3	PIN FABRIC Place 2nd piece of fabric on top with right sides together.	
4	SEW FACE MASK Sew around entire facemask leaving a 2 inch opening along the bottom for turning. Backstitch over elastic. Turn right side out.	
5	CREATE PIN TUCKS Fold mask in thirds and press. Create 1/2" pintucks facing upwards using pressed markings as a guide.	
6	TOPSTITCH Sew along the outside of the entire mask using a 3/8ths inch seam allowance.	

Please box them and mail them to:

Jennifer Ginder RN/NHA
VP of Health Services
Londonderry Village
1200 Grubb Road
Palmyra PA 17078

The following is a letter sent out to Tulpehocken School District families from our superintendent. It has a lot of helpful information, that could be valuable for anyone to read.

Dear Parents & Guardians:

As you know, we now have confirmed cases of the COV-19 or coronavirus in Pennsylvania. Since the virus is now in Pennsylvania, I would like to share district procedures we are putting in place as well as reiterate some preventive measures. The procedures outlined in this letter will be implemented in order to provide the safest environment for all students, staff, and families of our Tulpehocken Community. They are as follows:

- Any student or staff who travels outside of the US to Level 2 and Level 3 countries as defined by the CDC will be asked to self-quarantine for 14 days once they return back home from the trip. A list of countries can be found on the CDC's web site: <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices>*
- If your child shows any symptoms of high fevers, coughing, and/or shortness of breath, please do not send them to school. Instead contact your family physician or urgent care so that they can be seen. While it is possible that they have the common cold or flu, all precautions should be taken.*

Many questions have been asked as to why there seems to be so much "hype" around COV-19 and not the flu. While some of the symptoms are the same, the viruses are very different. The incubation period for COV-19 is much longer and can survive in the air and on hard surfaces longer than the flu virus can. Practicing good hygiene and prevention can help to minimize exposure to the virus. Here are some ways to limit your exposure:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.*
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.*
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.*
- Temporarily revisit travel plans & if necessary plan accordingly depending on your destination*

Please know that information and situations are constantly changing on a daily basis and as a district we may have to adjust as new information surfaces. As a collective group, the school superintendents in Berks County have agreed that it is in the best interest to operate schedules and events as normal as possible; while at the same time, trying to take as many precautions as possible. There are currently no plans to shut down schools at this time, but if that time would come, it would be coordinated with the Department of Health and Department of Education. We would operate with the same protocols as we would with inclement weather.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to the schools.

APRIL 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>29</p>  <p>FIFTH SUNDAY <i>by Lent</i></p>	<p>30</p> <p>8:45 AM FH/Women's Exercise Class 10:00 AM Seated Exercise Class</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>1</p> <p>8:45 AM FH/Women's Exercise Class 10:00 AM Seated Exercise Class 6:30 PM Jubilee Choir Practice 7:00 PM Joy Choir Practice 8:00 PM Praise Team Practice</p>	<p>2</p> <p>8:30 AM Quilting 9:00 AM Women Fellowship Mtg 7:00 PM 50 Plus Mtg 7:00 PM Sanc/Sr Choir Practice</p>	<p>3</p> <p>6:30 PM Den Meeting</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Men's Work Day/Camp Swatara</p>
<p>5</p>  <p>PALM SUNDAY 8:15 AM Palm Sunday</p>	<p>6</p> <p>8:45 AM FH/Women's Exercise Class 10:00 AM Seated Exercise Class 7:00 PM Women's Fellowship Mtg.</p>	<p>7</p> <p>7:00 PM LEADERSHIP TEAM Mtg</p>	<p>8</p> <p>8:45 AM FH/Women's Exercise Class 10:00 AM Seated Exercise Class 6:30 PM Jubilee Choir Practice 7:00 PM Joy Choir Practice 8:00 PM Praise Team Practice</p>	<p>9</p>  <p>MAUNDY THURSDAY 8:30 AM Quilting 6:30 PM Bethel 4-H Club Meets/FH 7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service 7:00 PM Sanc/Sr Choir Practice</p>	<p>10</p>  <p>GOOD FRIDAY 7:30 PM GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>12</p>  <p>Food Pantry Collection 6:30 AM Easter Sunrise Service @ LSCOB 10:30 AM EASTER / One Service 10:30 AM Praise Team</p>	<p>13</p> <p>8:45 AM FH/Women's Exercise Class 10:00 AM Seated Exercise Class</p>	<p>14</p> <p>9:00 AM Crafters Meet 11:30 AM Widows Luncheon/Ctry Fare</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Newsletter Deadline 8:45 AM FH/Women's Exercise Class 10:00 AM Seated Exercise Class 6:30 PM Jubilee Choir Practice 7:00 PM Joy Choir Practice 8:00 PM Praise Team Practice</p>	<p>16</p> <p>8:30 AM Quilting 6:00 PM LEGO Night 7:00 PM Sanc/Sr Choir Practice</p>	<p>17</p>  <p>FOOD PANTRY 2:00 PM Bethel Food Pantry 6:30 PM Den Meeting</p>	<p>18</p> <p>2:00 PM LINGLE EASTER DINNER/FH</p>
<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>8:45 AM FH/Women's Exercise Class 10:00 AM Seated Exercise Class</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p> <p>8:45 AM FH/Women's Exercise Class 10:00 AM Seated Exercise Class 3:00 PM Sub Sale/WF Jubilee Choir Practice 7:00 PM Joy Choir Practice 8:00 PM Praise Team Practice</p>	<p>23</p> <p>6:00 AM Sub Sale/WF 8:30 AM Quilting 7:00 PM Sanc/Sr Choir Practice</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>  <p>Men's Prayer Breakfast 7:00 AM Men's Prayer Breakfast</p>
<p>26</p> <p>PRESCHOOL SUNDAY/10:30 worship service 12:00 PM Spiritual Nurture Mtg</p>	<p>27</p> <p>8:45 AM FH/Women's Exercise Class 10:00 AM Seated</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Ministry Team Minutes Due</p>	<p>29</p> <p>8:45 AM FH/Women's Exercise Class 10:00 AM Seated</p>	<p>30</p> <p>8:30 AM Quilting 7:00 PM Sanc/Sr Choir Practice</p>	<p>1</p> <p>6:30 PM Den Meeting</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Preparations for Love Feast</p>



April Newsletter 2020



Good News!

Thank you! To everyone who contributed to the newsletter for the month of April. The deadline for the May edition is Wednesday April 15th. Open to all. Feel free to share Little Swatara Church related events, thoughts, pictures of past events, articles summarizing past and future events, or anything else. Email ash-lylynn21@gmail.com

*ONLY ONE LIFE, 'T WILL
SOON BE PAST,
ONLY WHAT'S DONE FOR
CHRIST WILL LAST.
AND WHEN I AM DYING,
HOW HAPPY I'LL BE,
IF THE LAMP OF MY LIFE
HAS BEEN BURNED OUT
FOR THEE.*

“Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. “

~Galatians 6:9

For all current closures and updates, keep checking our website or our Facebook page, or join our Email List.