



**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

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## **“PEACE”**

As we read this article, the world continues to be on lockdown. Essential workers continue to travel to work daily but much of society is settling into what they are calling a new norm. We are discovering ways to communicate and care without being in person. Zoom bible study is happening Wednesday's at 7pm. Online church services are broadcasted live every Sunday at 10:30. But friends I refuse to call this the new norm. This is where God has us at such a time as this. Though we may never go back to fully normal from what we understood it before, this won't be the new norm. Gods people are rising up and being the Church. Family units are connecting through the stay at home routines which indicates the necessity for parents to thrive together to meet daily demands. Every one is going through this together. But God knows what he has planned long before this came along. This month we will celebrate mother's and it's important for us to do just that. Moms are unsung heroes in our lives and they deserve a special place in our hearts for all they do to demonstrate love and show compassion. As things unfold, I pray we remain steadfast in prayer. I pray we keep his word secure in our hearts. I pray we find a way to connect with others. I pray this too shall pass and we can join together at church again soon. But until then, trust in Gods provision. Believe in the resurrection power. And hold tight to the promises he has given us. May his arms secure us as these days ahead flow by. Know you are very deeply loved. May Gods will be done.

*Pastor Matt*

## **Social Distancing Getting You Down?**

Come! Join us online. Feel a part of the community again! There are two different chances to gather with the Little Swatara Church Family.

### **1. Wednesday Evening Prayer Service**

Wednesday Evenings At 7pm, Join us for prayer and devotional. This is a "Zoom" meeting. If you have not received the email on how to attend this meeting, please email the church, or pastor Matt to find out more information.

### **2. Sunday Live Church Service**

Every Sunday at 10:30 our church service is live. Go to the church website to find out how to watch our live church service. Also make sure you are signed up for our email announcements, they make it so easy , all you have to do is click the link!

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**Now is a great time to make sure you are technologically connected to the church. Ask your self the following questions...**

1. Are you following the church on facebook?
2. Have you subscribed to the churches email list?
3. Have you signed up for text notifications?

If you answered no to any of these questions, head on over to the church's website for information. [www.littleswatara.org](http://www.littleswatara.org)

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## ***YOU WERE MADE FOR MORE***

*I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which He has called you, the riches of His glorious inheritance in His holy people, and His incomparably great power for us who believe. – Ephesians 1:18-19*

### Members Birthdays for May

Lois Reinhard	1	Dianne High	18
Heather Claman	3	Ruth Hoover	18
Andrew Donkel	3	Ann Hock	20
Sally Emerich	3	Ronald Snyder	21
Richard Bechtold	4	Curtis Wanner	21
Jill Amspacher	5	Aidan Schwalm	22
Doris Keeney	5	Daniel Bostwick	24
Roberta Bashore	6	Patricia Bross	24
Ashley Mill	6	Alonzo Brown	26
Jason Bashore	7	Wendy Lingle	26
Larry Hartranft Sr	11	Ruth E. Frantz	28
Brenda Kelly	11	Thelma Nelson	28
Valerie Bashore	12	Jason Schwalm	28
Earl Ebling	13	Emma Landis	29
Craig Ziegler	14	Lindsay Hetrick	31
Alane Riegel	16	Suzanne Wichert	31
Darlene Rockett	16		
Lauren Cass	17		
Nicole Emerich	17		

### Cancellations and Updates:

Mother Daughter Banquet: Cancelled

May Love Feast : Postponed

Church Building remains closed through May 8th.

Leadership continues to meet each Tuesday evening.

COBY's is looking for foster families and anticipates a higher need than normal when COVID restrictions are lifted. Prayerfully consider if foster care or adoption through foster care is right for you and your family. Visit [www.cobys.org/isittime](http://www.cobys.org/isittime) for more information.

### **May's Mission of the Month ~ Family Assistance**

Each month we have the opportunity to designate a portion of our offering to a specific missional fund or "mission of the month" In May we have the opportunity to donate towards the *family assistance fund*. This fund has a pretty large range of people and situations that benefit from it. When you donate to the family assistance fund, you are helping the hungry, thirsty, and families in need in our own community and even our own church. Some needs this fund has attended to in the past was filling heating oil tanks, having gift cards to local grocery stores and gas stations ready to give to those searching and in need, supporting families in situations where lay offs occur and sometimes even paying for surgeries. We like to think that in a very small way this fund is allowing us to fulfill the **RED** letters in Matthew 25.

*"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in.... The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'"*

# Family Time

With a great deal of our church family stuck at home with their family, running out of things to talk about is bound to happen...(just kidding), but in case you really did run out of things to talk about. Here are some great conversation starters. Ask your family these questions around the table or, they work great on zoom calls too.

What is the best way for people to show you they love you?

What is your favorite month of the year and why?

What is the best thing for you to do when you feel sad?

If you could make a rule for a day and everyone had to follow it, what would it be?

Tell me about a time when you really had fun with your family.

What makes you unique?







Which 3 words best describe you?

Complete this statement. The best day of the past week was:

**These are fun “would you rather questions”. My kids love asking and answering them. They make fun conversation starters as well.**

1. Would you rather lick a dirty trash can or the bathroom floor?
2. Would you rather have a magic carpet that flies or your own personal robot?
3. Would you rather be the worst player on a team that always wins or the best player on a team that always loses?
4. Would you rather have one eye in the middle of your head or two noses?
5. Would you rather see a firework display or go to a concert?
6. Would you rather go water skiing or snow skiing?
7. Would you rather eat donuts or candy?
8. Would you rather fly a kite or ride on a scooter?
9. Would you rather only be able to crawl on all fours or only be able to walk backwards?
10. Would you rather be able to create a new holiday or create a new language?
11. Would you rather be the funniest person alive or the smartest person alive?

**MAY 2020**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>26</b> <b>12:00 PM</b> Spiritual Nurture Mtg	<b>27</b> <b>6:00 PM</b> Pre-School meeting	<b>28</b> <b>Ministry Team Minutes Due</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>1</b> <b>6:30 PM</b> Den Meeting	<b>2</b> Preparations for Love Feast
<b>3</b>  LOVE FEAST - NOON (after 2nd worship service)	<b>4</b> <b>8:45 AM</b> FH/Women's Exercise Class <b>10:00 AM</b> Seated Exercise Class <b>7:00 PM</b> Women Fellowship Mtg	<b>5</b> <b>7:00 PM LEADERSHIP TEAM Mtg</b>	<b>6</b> <b>8:45 AM</b> FH/Women's Exercise Class <b>10:00 AM</b> Seated Exercise Class <b>6:30 PM</b> Jubilee Choir Practice <b>7:00 PM</b> Joy Choir Practice <b>8:00 PM</b> Praise Team Practice	<b>7</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> Quilting <b>7:00 PM</b> 50 + Mtg <b>7:00 PM</b> Sanc/Sr Choir Practice	<b>8</b> FH & K Res/Mother/Daughter Banquet prep	<b>9</b>  <b>Mother-Daughter Banquet CANCELLED</b>
<b>10</b>  Food Pantry Collection MOTHER'S DAY <b>10:30 AM</b> Praise Team	<b>11</b> <b>8:45 AM</b> FH/Women's Exercise Class <b>10:00 AM</b> Seated Exercise Class <b>7:30 PM</b> EVERY MEMBER COUNCIL MEETING	<b>12</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Crafters Meet <b>11:30 AM</b> Widows Luncheon/Ctry Fare	<b>13</b> <b>8:45 AM</b> FH/Women's Exercise Class <b>10:00 AM</b> Seated Exercise Class <b>6:30 PM</b> Jubilee Choir Practice <b>7:00 PM</b> Joy Choir Practice <b>8:00 PM</b> Praise Team Practice	<b>14</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> Quilting <b>6:30 PM</b> Bethel 4-H Club Meets/FH <b>7:00 PM</b> Sanc/Sr Choir Practice	<b>15</b>  <b>2:00 PM</b> Bethel Food Pantry <b>6:30 PM</b> Den Meeting	<b>16</b> Pav Res/Wise Reunion
<b>17</b> Pav Res/Scouts PRESCHOOL SUNDAY/10:30 worship service	<b>18</b> <b>8:45 AM</b> FH/Women's Exercise Class <b>10:00 AM</b> Seated Exercise Class	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> <b>Newsletter Deadline</b> <b>8:45 AM</b> FH/Women's Exercise Class <b>10:00 AM</b> Seated Exercise Class <b>6:30 PM</b> Jubilee Choir Practice <b>7:00 PM</b> Joy Choir Practice <b>8:00 PM</b> Praise Team Practice	<b>21</b> PS Recognition Night <b>8:30 AM</b> Quilting <b>7:00 PM</b> Sanc/Sr Choir Practice	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>  <b>7:00 AM</b> Men's Prayer Breakfast <b>7:00 AM</b> Sue Hartranft/PAV
<b>24</b> Pav Res/S Hartranft	<b>25</b>  <b>MEMORIAL DAY</b> <b>8:45 AM</b> FH/Women's Exercise Class <b>10:00 AM</b> Seated Exercise Class	<b>26</b> <b>Ministry Team Minutes Due</b>	<b>27</b> <b>8:45 AM</b> FH/Women's Exercise Class <b>10:00 AM</b> Seated Exercise Class <b>6:30 PM</b> Jubilee Choir Practice <b>7:00 PM</b> Joy Choir Practice <b>8:00 PM</b> Praise Team Practice	<b>28</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> Quilting	<b>29</b> <b>6:30 PM</b> Den Meeting	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b> <b>6:00 PM</b> Baccalaureate/Sanct/FH/ CANCELLED	<b>1</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Womens Fellowship Mtg	<b>2</b> <b>7:00 PM LEADERSHIP TEAM Mtg</b>	<b>3</b> <b>8:00 PM</b> Praise Team Practice	<b>4</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> Quilting <b>9:00 AM</b> Women Fellowship Mtg <b>7:00 PM</b> 50 + Mtg	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>



Keep your face to the **SON**



*your shadows will fall  
behind you.*

## May Newsletter 2020



### Good News!

**Thank you!** To all who contributed to the newsletter for the month of May. The deadline for the June edition is Wednesday May 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 [ashlylynn21@gmail.com](mailto:ashlylynn21@gmail.com)

**Live Church Service info**

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### Cancellations

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IN MY WRESTLING  
AND IN MY  
DOUBTS, IN MY  
FAILURES, YOU  
WONT WALK OUT  
~REND COLLECTIVE

"For **God** so *loved* the world, that He gave His *only* Son, that whoever believes in **Him** shall **not** perish, but have EVERLASTING LIFE."

~John 3:16

**Pastor Matts Letter**

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