

Mission of the Month



Family Assistance



Is It Time? to care for children in Foster Care



COBYS is looking to equip loving families

If you have ever considered caring for children in foster care, now is the time to contact COBYS Family Services.

Learn about the ways you can provide a safe and loving home to children in need. Because of COVID-19, we anticipate a greater need than normal as restrictions are lifted.

Please prayerfully consider if foster care or adoption through foster care is right for you and your family. Is It Time?

Visit: www.cobys.org/isittime

COBYS Family Services • 1417 Oregon Road, Leola, PA 17540 • 717-656-6580



HELP WANTED

Little Swatara Preschool is currently seeking an Assistant Teacher in the Pre-K—1st grade class. The commitment would be part-time at three class sessions per week. To inquire contact Cindy Bradley at:

(717) 274-9875

or

cindy.bradley@LittleSwatara.org



“GO HOME TO YOUR OWN PEOPLE AND TELL THEM HOW MUCH THE LORD HAS DONE FOR YOU, AND HOW HE HAS HAD MERCY ON YOU.”

MARK 5: 19

Volume LXX May 3, 2020 Number 18
LITTLE SWATARA CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

31 Rehrrsburg Rd, PO Box 437, Bethel, PA 19507
 Church Web Page - www.LittleSwatara.org/ phone: 717-933-4723
 FB: @LittleSwataraCoB *** Wi-Fi Guest/pw: brethren



Outreach: *The Gathering Place Café*, 8490 Lancaster Ave, Bethel
 Contact: gatheringplacecafe.com / Phone: 717-933-5958
 Café Hours: **Mon-Fri 6-11am & Sat 7-11am**



*Little Swatara Church of the Brethren
 Proclaim Christ as Lord*

May 3, 2020
 10:30 Worship Service

Prayer Concerns

Let us remember the shut-ins and elderly not able to be with us today.

- Daniel Bryant*
- Carl Graby*
- Christine Bashore*
- Sandra Kauffman*
- Dorothy Merkey*
- Naomi Moyer*
- Kenny Zeigler*
- Suzanne Wichert*
- Earl Ebling*
- Hershey & Anna Mary*
- Adele Stupp*
- Berks Heim Nursing Home*



Our country and leaders, healthcare workers, suppliers, transportation workers and carriers, and all essential personnel

GIVING LAST SUNDAY

General Fund	\$ 2,543.00
Building Fund	\$ 70.00
Fam Assistance	\$ 140.00
Maintenance	\$ 120.00
Sunday School	\$ 60.00
Global Food Initiative	\$ -
Nigerian EYN	\$ -
Womens Fellowship	\$ -
Food Pantry	\$ 105.00
Gathering Place	\$ -
Mission of the Month	\$ 25.00
1 Great Hr of Sharing	\$ 100.00
Total	3,163.00

GENERAL FUND BUDGET 2020
 \$ 312,710.

Last Sunday's Attendance
Online Worship - 110

HAPPY BIRTHDAY !!!
 Ruth Hoover will be 82 yrs. old on May 18th. Let's help her celebrate with a card shower. Send your cards to: Ruth Hoover
 Spang Crest Manor—Room 125
 945 Duke St., Lebanon, PA 17042

NOTICE!

Due to the Coronavirus and prohibitions on large gatherings

Every Member Council Meeting

is rescheduled to

May 18th, 2020, 7:30 pm

Instructions and an agenda will be coming out via email for the online meeting. We will also be mailing instructions on how to call in using your phone for those members who are not computer users.

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship

- L:** God, you formed us in our mother's womb.
- P:** You know when we sit and when we rise.
- L:** God, you know us through and through.
- P:** You know every strength and every weakness.
- All:** Create in us pure hearts and clean hands.

Opening Worship "Give us clean hands" *projected*

Joys & Concern

Pastoral Prayer

Monologue - "The Demonic Speaks"

Worship "I'm Forever Grateful" *projected*

Offertory Thought and Prayer

Offertory Music "Go Ye Into the World"

Children's Moment

Worship "And Can It Be" *projected*

Scripture - Mark 5: 1-20

Series - "Firsthand"

Message - "Chained, Changed, Charged"

Closing Praise

"Amazing Grace (my chains are gone) *projected*

Sending Forth

Letter from the Leadership Team

Saturday March 7th, members of our Leadership Team, and our Spiritual Nurture (deacons) Team, held a retreat with Pastor Matt and Rev. Bob Kettering to review and update the Vision and Mission statements of our Church. Little Swatara last visited our Vision and Mission statements more than ten years ago and concern has been raised at our Leadership Team that while we follow the principals of the statements, we do not deliberately use them for guiding principles and documents. The retreat was facilitated by Rev. Kettering, formerly of the Floren, Lititz and Lancaster congregations, who provided us with leadership and the guidance of a leader with fresh ideas from outside our congregation.

The discussions centered around the basic principals and missions that define the Little Swatara Church of the Brethren, and what form we want them to take in the future. All agreed that while our previous Vision and Mission statements are still valid and pertinent today, some simplification and updating was needed. The challenge from Pastor Kettering was to define a mission statement of “Who We Are” – that is a statement of the guiding principals of Little Swatara. There was much discussion of being Christ centered, and community based, both internally and externally. We also discussed our church’s strengths of service and love. After splitting into three groups to discuss potential ideas, we rejoined and shared. In that sharing, several key themes were identified, including the transformational nature of Christ, themes of love for each other and the community, and themes of service.

The group decided on the mission statement: “Little Swatara Church of the Brethren: Transformed by Christ to Love, and Serve Together.” This statement is very similar to the previous vision statement.

Continued from previous page

The next challenge from Pastor Kettering was to come up with a Vision Statement. The Vision Statement is more about how we would like to go about expressing and executing our Mission Statement. It is not a listing of specific ministries, but more ideas of the things we will do to love, and serve together. After some time identifying common themes from each group, we arrived on the statement:

Because we are called by Christ to continue his work we will:

- Provide opportunities for spiritual growth for all ages
- Energize, equip and disciple youth and young adults for Christian service
- Connect and engage with each other and the community
- Introduce others to Christ through service
- Expand our ministries in love.

Again, there were many similarities to our previous statements.

So what does this all mean? Sometime soon, the Leadership Team will recommend that these statements be formally adopted by our Every Member Council as the Mission and Vision of the Little Swatara Church of the Brethren. After that, we will use them as aspirational principals to guide our ministries and decision making, until we revisit and updated them again.



Continued >>>>>>