

# THE RISING N NEWSLETTER

## SWAMP EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

275 SWAMP CHURCH ROAD , REINHOLDS, PA 17569

Church Telephone 717 -336-2849 Fax 717-336-2840 e-mail [swampluth@dejazzd.com](mailto:swampluth@dejazzd.com)  
Eucharist Service 8:00 a.m. Worship service 9:00 a.m. Sunday Church School 10:30 a.m.

# A P R I L 2012

Swamp Evangelical Lutheran Church is a member of CALM 5 (Cocalico Area Lutheran Ministry). CALM5 is a cooperative ministry with Faith United Lutheran Church, Denver; PA; Mellinger's Lutheran Church, Schoeneck, PA; Muddy Creek Lutheran Church, Denver, PA & St. Paul Lutheran Church, Adamstown, PA

### Staff:

#### Ministers

Congregation

#### Pastor

The Rev. Dennis L. Trout

#### Adm. Asst/Sec

Judith L. Sauder

#### Organist

Bonnie Oplinger

#### Choir Director

Susan Kreitz

#### Sexton

Matthew Lewandowski

#### Officers of Council

Sue Knauer, President,  
David Kupp , Vice Pres..  
Abbey Stopper, Secretary  
Steve Young, Financial Sec.  
Guy Templin, Treasurer  
Jim Kidwell, Asst. Treas.

#### Congregation Council

Glenn Beard  
Lori Hagy  
Randy Krater  
Tom Laudenslager  
Michael Mixell  
Don Risser  
David Sauder  
Ray Weitzel  
Michael Witmer

### "WHOA"

It was about three o'clock that Friday afternoon when Jesus died on the cross. The observance of the Sabbath was to begin three hours later, so prompt action was called for and needed. According to the Jewish law of the day, a crucified victim could not remain on his cross over the Sabbath. Therefore, the body of Jesus had to be quickly taken down and quickly disposed of. (Those were harsh days back then.) And very often, the body of the crucified victim was simply thrown on the city garbage heap and left to be the prey of the circling vultures, the carrion crows, and the pariah dogs of the street.

If that's true, the contrast is fundamentally disturbing. The 21st century tries to sanitize as much as possible. Shiny crucifix charms and beautiful clean sanctuaries polish over what happened back then. Let not that which is practical and expedient dictate our faith.

Fortunately, the followers of Jesus had an influential friend who was able to help them pay what they thought (at the moment) was to be their last tribute to their fallen master. The friend was a powerful man named Joseph of Arimathea. He was rich and devout; a member of the Sanhedrin, and--in secret--he was a follower of Jesus. Joseph of Arimathea went to the Roman governor, Pontius Pilate, and requested to be given the body of Jesus so that a decent burial could be performed. Pilate was surprised that Jesus had died so quickly, but he was willing to grant Joseph's request. So Joseph and Nicodemus (the man who had first visited Jesus by night) came and took the body and buried it in a cave like tomb . How will we keep from, "getting it over with", according to our custom?

WHOA - - - Literally - - - -

What's going on ???

Another Easter, another ?

God Bless and Happy Easter

*Pastor D. Trout*  
Pastor Trout

**Requests from the Office:**

**Please call the church at 336-2849 if:**

\*You are in the hospital or prior to going to the hospital (or have a relative call for you).

\*You are going to a rehab center or a nursing home;

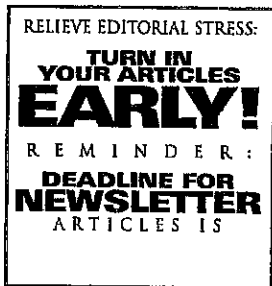
\*You are confined to your home for an extended period of time because of illness or accident;

\*There is a change in your family status (birth, death, marriage or divorce);

\*You move to a new home, move out of the area, or go away to college or graduate school.

Please inform the church office if your mailing address and/or telephone number have been changed or you have moved to a new address. The church is charged a fee of \$.75 for each piece of mail that is returned.

**\*\*\* As you schedule a meeting or an event of a group, committee or task force of Swamp, please inform the Church Office. In an effort to be open and communicative with everyone we would like to include all scheduling on the Church Calendar and in the Weekly Bulletin. Changes to the routinely scheduled meeting should also be shared with the Church Office. We want everyone who checks out our bulletin or newsletter to see our activities.**



**April 15, 2012**

**FOR**

**MAY - JUNE NEWSLETTER**



**Committee**

- Sue Knauer, President – Youth Ministry & Learning
- David Kupp, Vice President – Scouts & Service
- Abbey Stopper, Secretary - Welcome
- Steve Young, Financial Secretary
- Guy Templin, Treasurer - Worship
- Jim Kidwell, Asst. Treasurer - Stewardship
- Glenn Beard – Helping Hands
- Lori Hagy - Finance
- Randy Krater - Property
- Tom Laudenslager - Property
- Michael Mixell - Constitution
- Don Risser - Property
- David Sauder – Love, Inc. & Constitution
- Ray Weitzel - Property
- Michael Witmer – Disaster Response



Dear Pastor Trout, The Welcoming Committee, and The Congregation:

I want to thank you all for the love and support that you have given me throughout my transition to college and adulthood. I also want to thank the Welcoming Committee for sending me the letter and gift card in the mail. It means so much to me to be a part of such an awesome congregation.

Thank you all again!!

Sincerely,  
Lindsey Sauder

I want to thank Pastor Trout and the congregation for all the prayers, visits, cards and other acts of kindness I received during my recent surgery and recovery at home.

Thanks and God bless.  
Edith Showalter



**APRIL**

MILDRED FITTERLING 4/5  
100 HILL ROAD, APT. 130  
DENVER, PA 17517

RUTH SWEIGART 4/5  
725 GREENVILLE ROAD  
DENVER, PA 17517

BETTY KRAMER 4/7  
305 N. FIFTH STREET  
DENVER, PA 17517

RONALD STONER 4/7  
720 S. COCALICO ROAD  
DENVER, PA 17517

HOWARD KRAMER 4/10  
305 N. FIFTH STREET  
DENVER, PA 17517

MARLENE BOYER 4/11  
943 FRITZTOWN ROAD  
SINKING SPRING, PA 19608

BEATRICE HOOVER 4/15  
12 SWAMP CHURCH ROAD  
REINHOLDS, PA 17569

SANDRA HAWS 4/22  
712 VINEMONT ROAD  
REINHOLDS, PA 17569



I would like to thank the Welcoming Committee for sending me the letter and gift card in the mail. It means so much to me to be part of such an awesome family.

Alexis Templin

Welcome Committee and Congregation of Swamp Lutheran Church.

Hello and thank you for your words of encouragement and blessings through prayer and monetary methods (gift card).

I am exultant that you thought of me in these economic times of strife. Promoting education and advocating on behalf of our youth, to further their education, is imperative for them to maintain a sense of economic awareness acquire a stable career and bless others through an unwavering faith in the Lord.

With the sustenance of the Lord as our life supporting stem; any and all things are possible. As Luther taught in the early 1500's; be blessed and receive the gift of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ.

Thank you,  
Josh Hagy

I would like to thank everyone for their birthday cards, get well cards, flowers and visits while I was hospitalized and while I am recuperating at the Denver Nursing Home. Also a special thank you to Pastor Trout for his visits.

Charles Boyer

---

**LWR Personal Care Kits**

During the month of April we will be collecting items for personal care kits. The following items should be included in each kit :

1 light-weight bath size towel (maximum 52"X27"), dark color recommended

2 bath size bars (4 or 5 oz) of soap in original wrapping

1 adult size toothbrush in its original packaging

1 sturdy comb, remove packaging

1 metal nail clippers, remove packaging

Do not add other items or leave out any items listed. All items should be new. Wrap all the items in the towel and tie with ribbons or yarn.

All kits, soap, and quilts can be collected for LWR until Harvest Home Sunday (1st Sun. in Oct.) Thank you for your support of Lutheran World Relief's worldwide mission !  
Jane Leshner

The Easter Egg Hunt is back at Swamp

What: Easter Egg Hunt

Where: Swamp Lutheran Church

When: Saturday April 7<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am

Open to all children up to and including 4<sup>th</sup> graders.

Donations of decorated hard boiled eggs are greatly appreciated. Please bring eggs to the Good Friday service or the morning of the hunt. Any questions, contact Jodi or Sue Ellen. This will be held rain or shine.



## COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

22 March 2012

Your Council met Thursday, March 22, 2012. Highlights include:

Bonnie Oplinger, Guy Templin, Connie Taylor and Pastor Trout will be our church's delegates at the Synod Assembly this year.

Scouts reported that they will be helping to move books for the Adamstown Library book sale in April. They went camping the weekend of 3/23-3/25.

Service committee reported that the pig stomach dinner is coming along and that we should begin to see advertising for it in the local papers and businesses. Also, cards will be mailed out to people from out of town who indicated a desire to be aware of the date. It will be held on April 21. Our week for helping with the Cocalico Ministerium's summer lunch program has been decided. We will be helping August 7, August 8, and August 9. Anyone able to help with our week should see David Kupp.

Welcome committee reported that they received a thank you card from one of the families that were shopped for at Christmas. It included several pictures of the children playing with their new toys. A bus trip is being planned for Saturday August 11 to New Hope. More details will to come. The Senior Celebration was a big success including the entertainment. Congratulations to Earl and Irene Myers for winning the Newlywed Game.

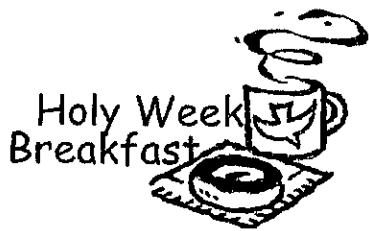
Helping Hands committee reported that there will be Holy Week breakfasts this year beginning at 6:00am.

Disaster Response committee reported Randy Gockley will be presening a program on disaster situations sometime in May here at the church. The group going to Minot, North Dakota is still about \$6,000 short of their fundraising goal. In support of our 8 members going on this mission work trip, we will be having a special offering on Easter Sunday.

Worship reminded us that there will on be 2 services on Easter, 6:00am and 8:30am.

Youth Ministry reported that they raised over \$1500 for World Vision during their 30-hour Famine last month. A flashlight egg hunt and sleepover will be held March 30-31. The other CALM 5 churches have been invited and several are attending.

Learning reported that Vacation Bible School will be held with Mellingers again this year. It will be held at Swamp July 8 - July 12. Confirmation Camp is June 17 - June 23. The Annual Sunday School Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, April 7 at 10:00am for children up to and including grade 4.



Holy Week  
Breakfast

The Helping Hands committee will be serving breakfasts at 6:00 AM Monday through Friday during Holy Week. Pastor Trout will provide a short inspirational message each day.

Donation baskets will be provided. Please give generously. Food prices have risen by 1/3 since our last breakfasts in 2009. Any profits realized will be supplemented by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans for Swamp's Action Fund.



Easter  
Dawn  
Breakfast

Breakfast will also be served by a men's group on Easter Sunday following the sunrise service.

Donation baskets will be provided. Please give generously. Food prices have risen by 1/3 since our last breakfasts in 2009. Any profits realized will be supplemented by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans for Swamp's Action Fund.



### Ham and Pig Stomach Dinner

When: April 21 4:00 p.m. til ?  
Where: Swamp Lutheran Church  
Price: Adults \$12.00  
Children \$6.00  
Under 6 Free

## Lutheran Historical Society of Lancaster County

The spring meeting of the Lutheran Historical Society of Lancaster County will be held on Sunday, April 15 @ 3:00 p.m. @ Zion Lutheran Church, 2 S. Hazel Street, Manheim. The Rev. James Roth, pastor of "The Red Rose" Church, celebrating 240 years, will present a history of the church.

Our guest speaker, Mr. Raymond J. Brunner, a builder, restorer and authority on pipe organs will speak to us on his work. Mr. Brunner is the author of "That Ingenious Business", a book on the work of PA German organ building in the 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> centuries.

A short business meeting and refreshments will follow. All members and friends of the Society are welcome and encouraged to attend. Also, please mark your calendars for July 11 and plan to join us for our annual Heritage Tour as we visit churches in Chester Co.

Betty Albin  
Program Chair, LHSLC

### Volunteer Perks

Celebrate National Volunteer Week (April 15-21 this year) by meeting a need in your church or community.

Volunteering not only helps the people we serve. It also has surprising benefits for the volunteer. Serving others builds social and relational skills, increases self-confidence and boosts physical health. Studies show that volunteering can even ease chronic pain and heart disease.

So do yourself — and others — some good by following Jesus' example of serving. Visit [www.VolunteerMatch.org](http://www.VolunteerMatch.org) for short- and long-term local opportunities.

# Need a Ride?



Beginning on April 1, the Red Rose Transit Authority intends to suspend the state-funded transportation program that delivers people to doctor's appointments, pharmacies and dialysis centers for free. This crisis for our community means that hundreds of people with limited resources, who rely on free transportation for their urgent medical care, will suddenly be left without the means to access it. Love INC is working closely with the medical community on a strategy to meet the most critical needs, but we need your help.

**This is an opportunity for the Body of Christ to stand in the gap and provide a witness to the community, and to those we will have the privilege of serving.** If you currently serve as a transportation volunteer, you may be called upon a little more often. If you have been considering serving through Love INC, this would be a great time to get involved! If your congregation does not have a Love INC Contact Person, please call me at 735-7540 x104, so we can talk about getting your congregation connected. Initially, our primary goal will be to connect dialysis patients with partner congregations who will "adopt" them, and take responsibility to transport them to their appointments between April and June.

Thank you for all you do to serve as the hands and feet of Christ in Lancaster County. We pray that this crisis will give us the chance to bless many lives, as we meet critical, practical needs, and share the Good News of Christ's Love.

Yours in Christ's Service,

Kim Y. Wittel  
Executive Director

## WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

### Bread and Wine Donor:

April Michael & Kathleen Fink

### Altar Guild:

April Anna Sweigart, Corinne Sweigart  
May Jane Lesher, Linda Mohn  
June Julie Witmer, Sally Hagy  
July Kaye Shugarts, Judy Habecker

### Communion Assistants:

March 25  
8:00 AM David Borrell, Kathleen Fink  
9:00 AM Gillian Diestel, Katie Krater,  
Connie Taylor, Debbie Carvell  
April 1  
8:00 AM Danielle Witmer, Guy Templin  
9:00 AM Connie Taylor, Don Risser, Jan  
Risser, Leslie Diestel  
April 5  
Sue Kreitz, Connie Taylor,  
Deb Sweigart, John Frantz  
April 8  
6:00 AM Deb Sweigart, Guy Templin  
8:30 AM Connie Taylor, Nate Shugarts,  
April 15  
8:00 AM Linda Ream, Judy Habecker  
9:00 AM Alex Kupp, Anita Kupp, Guy  
Templin, Connie Malafarina  
April 22  
8:00 AM Missy Beard, David Borrell  
9:00 AM Katie Krater, Deb Carvell,  
Connie Taylor, Greg Diestel  
April 29  
8:00 AM Kathleen Fink, Guy Templin  
9:00 AM Michael Wargo, Bernadette  
Wargo, Connie Taylor, Jane Lesher

### Hunger Appeal:

March 25 Jake Hill, Dylan Sweigart,  
Eric Showalter, Megan DeBock  
April 29 Sarah Zook, Samantha Donmoyer,  
Megan DeBock, Taylor Weaver

## APRIL

### Crucifer:

March 25  
8:00 AM David Borrell  
9:00 AM Gillian Diestel  
April 1  
8:00 AM Guy Templin  
9:00 AM Connie Taylor  
April 5  
Guy Templin  
April 6  
Council Members  
April 8  
6:00 AM Guy Templin  
8:30 AM Michael Wargo  
April 15  
8:00 AM Chris Zander  
9:00 AM Deb Sweigart  
April 22  
8:00 AM David Borrell  
9:00 AM Connie Malafarina  
April 29  
8:00 AM Connie Taylor  
9:00 AM Gillian Diestel

### Banner Bearer:

March 25 Kristen Gockley  
April 1 Taylor Weaver  
April 5 Corinne Sweigart  
April 8  
6:00 AM Brett Kupp  
8:30 AM Dana Shugarts  
April 15 Corrine Sweigart  
April 22 Kristen Gockley  
April 29 Eric Showalter

### Torch Bearer:

April 1 Dana Shugarts, Katie Krater  
April 6 Rachel Young, Samantha Young  
April 8  
6:00 AM Kristen Gockley, Alex Kupp  
8:30 AM Danielle Witmer, Allison Witmer



**Acolytes:**

March 25  
 8:00 AM Kylee Kidwell, Rachel Young  
 9:00 AM Sarah Zook, Katie Krater

April 1  
 8:00 AM Jonathan Templin, Dakota Moyer  
 9:00 AM Megan DeBock, Samantha Donmoyer,

April 5  
 Noah Roseboro, Jonathan Templin

April 8  
 6:00 AM Samantha Young, Rachel Young  
 8:30 AM Kylee Kidwell, Taylor Weaver

April 15  
 8:00 AM Kylee Kidwell, Rachel Young  
 9:00 AM Hunter Leisey, Cody Leisey

April 22  
 8:00 AM Dakota Moyer, Jonathan Templin  
 9:00 AM Dylan Sweigart, Jonathan Templin

April 29  
 8:00 AM Danielle Witmer, Allison Witmer  
 9:00 AM Taylor Weaver, Trent Walter

May 6  
 8:00 AM Rachel Young, Kylee Kidwell  
 9:00 AM Jake Hill, Jake Diestel

**Flower Delivery**

April 1 Michael & Julie Witmer  
 April 8 & 15 Lori Gockley, Jennifer Weitzel  
 April 22 & 29 Vernon & Edith Showalter  
 May 6 & 13 Sally Hagy

**Water Bearer:**

April 8  
 6:00 AM Deb Sweigart  
 8:30 AM Connie Taylor

**Bible Bearer:**

April 1 Leslie Diestel

April 8  
 6:00 AM Michael Wargo  
 8:30 AM Nathan Shugarts

**Lector:**

March 25 Linda Mohn  
 April 1 Greg Diestel  
 April 5 Deb Sweigart  
 April 6 Connie Taylor, Lowell Haws, Michael Wargo  
 April 8 Jenn Weitzel  
 April 15 Connie Malafarina  
 April 22 Jim Beard  
 April 29 Wanda Maxey

**Greeters:**

March 25 Glenn Beard & Tom Laudenslager  
 April 1 Don Risser & Abbey Stopper  
 April 5 Council Members  
 April 6 Council Members  
 April 8  
 6:00 AM Council Members  
 8:30 AM Lori Hagy, David Sauder  
 April 15 Sue Knauer, Michael Mixell  
 April 22 Randy Krater, Michael Witmer  
 April 29 David Kupp, Ray Weitzel

**Confirmation Camp – 2012**

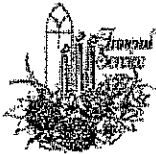
For the young people who are entering 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grades in September, 2012, the Lebanon/North Lancaster Confirmation Ministry's Confirmation Camp for 2012 has been scheduled for June 17<sup>th</sup> to June 23<sup>rd</sup>. Please have your children attending this camp. Put the date on your calendar so it does not interfere with your vacation dates. Thank you.

**Confirmation will be held June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2012 due to Pastor Trout being on vacation.**



Earl & Marion Bashore  
Dolores Binner  
Dorothy DeLong  
John Dillon  
Ray Hershey  
Edwin Kramer  
Caroline Leshner  
Dale Reinecker  
Alice Schannauer  
Lela Trout  
Walter Weinhold  
Charles Weitzel  
Maryanne Weitzel  
Minnie Wenger

Dolores Becker  
Elmer Kopp  
Anna Mae Moyer



Our condolences to the family of Norman Shirk. The funeral for Norman was held Tuesday March 20, 2012 at Swamp Lutheran Church. Interment was in Swamp Cemetery.

Our condolences to the family of Russell Kurtz. His funeral was held Saturday March 24, 2012 at the Roseboro/Stradling Funeral Home, Denver.

Sue Kittler  
The Family of Norman Shirk  
The Family of Russell Kurtz  
Dale Reinecker  
Charles Boyer  
Linda Martzall - Hershey Medical Center  
Tyler Leed  
Karen Winter  
Betty Snyder - Grandmother of Laurie Sauder  
Wallace Lewandowski - Brother of Matt Lewandowski  
Caroline Leshner  
William R. Kase - Friend of Connie Taylor  
Barton "Rocky" Leed - Brother of Sam Leed  
Eugene Moyer  
Tony Ciro - Friend of Bonnie Trout  
Mary Clark  
The Family of Esther Hollinger - Friend of Ron & Joyce Stoner  
Becky Christman - Friend of Cindy Golden  
Lourine Robinson - Friend of Cindy Golden  
Matthew Re - Nephew of Bernadette Wargo - in Afghanistan  
Frank Re - Brother of Bernadette Wargo  
Maria Re - Niece of the Wargo's  
Bernard Re - Brother of Bernadette Wargo  
Derry "Gushen" Agnini - Friend of Sue Van Zant  
John Maicher - Friend of Connie Taylor  
Herman "Shorty" Craig - Friend of Larry Knauer  
Esther Hellyer  
Donna Schalata - Mother of Katie Koehle  
Nancy Sides - Friend of Dane Crowther  
Bob Boyd - Friend of Sue Kittler  
Frank Acri - Friend of Judy Habecker  
Carter Truscott, newborn son of Matt & Nicole "Gockley" Truscott  
Stu Yost  
Sandy "Nicholas" Gibler - Daughter of Barb & John Nicholas  
Karen West - Friend of Sandy Clouser  
Jack Spicer - Friend of Connie Taylor  
Paula Rigers - Niece of Noretta Burke  
Linda & Paul Schuler - Sister & Brother-in-law of Noretta Burke  
Richard & Cindy Taylor - Friends of Larry Knauer  
Shane & Greta Stoner and Family  
Cheri Maurer - Friend of Sue Knauer

*(Please let us know when we can remove people from the sick and shut-in list. We do not always get an update on their condition)*

**"Faith does not struggle; faith lets God do it all."**

**--Corrie ten Boom**

## MUSICAL NOTES - April 2012

Spring came early this year in spite of the groundhog's prediction. It is so refreshing to see new life spring out of the ground and on the trees in such lush and vibrant colors. It makes us come alive again, too. It is no accident the Christian church chose the season of spring to celebrate the coming alive of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in His Resurrection. The only fitting response to that is to spring alive ourselves by singing.

On Easter Sunday and during the Easter season, we will celebrate with songs drawn from the rich history of the Christian church. How many of you ever look at the bottom left corner of the hymn to see when it was written or by whom? Probably only history buffs do that. But try it, especially during this Easter season. Several hymns go all the way back to the 5th and 6th century of the Christian church. Martin Luther wrote an Easter hymn. Do you know which one?

In the Middle Ages, the first liturgical dramas and mystery plays were developed. In many countries in Europe a ceremony of the Easter sepulcher was acted out at Easter Matins. Altar boys took the part of two angels and three deacons represented the three Marys. Yes, only men were allowed to lead in any public worship service. In the dialogue which followed, the angels ask, "Whom seek ye?" to which the Marys replied, "Jesus of Nazareth." At that the angels remove the white altar cloth representing the grave clothes and answered, "He is not here." The Marys then turn toward the choir and sing, "Alleluia, the Lord is Risen." At this point the officiating bishop enters the liturgical drama asking questions to which the Marys reply by singing the *Victimae paschali*, (ELW 371) in which the entire choir joins in. Martin Luther loved this medieval hymn because of its striking description of the conflict between death and life. He incorporated one of its stanzas into his Easter Hymn, *Christ Lag in Todesbanden* (Christ Lay in Death's Bands) (ELW 370). The English translation of the hymn comes to us through Charles Wesley in *Christ the Lord is Risen Today* (ELW 369) which we will sing on Easter Sunday. When you sing the hymn, just think of the long line of saints who have gone before you who have sung that hymn all the way back through the centuries. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Happy Easter!

Sue Kreitz  
Choir Director

Bonnie Oplinger  
Organist

## THE SHAWL MINISTRY

The Welcome Committee would like to begin Swamp's shawl ministry. We want to wrap fellow Swamp members in a prayer shawl whenever the need arises. The pattern to knit or crochet the shawl follows. Please drop off any shawls at the church office or see Bonnie Showalter. If you would like to learn to knit or crochet or have any questions, please email Bonnie Showalter at [tbls@ptd.net](mailto:tbls@ptd.net). Let's wrap our love around those who need it.

*The pattern for the shawl as well as the history of this ministry can be found at [www.shawlministry.com](http://www.shawlministry.com).*

*If you are without a computer access the pattern is simple: Start each shawl with a prayer or blessing for the recipient.*

*Cast on stitches in multiples of three - 54, 57, or 60. Use size 11 or 13 needles*

*First Row: k3, p3, to end*

*Second Row:*

*Always start the next row with the opposite stitch of what you see. For instance, if the first stitch on the needle is a knit, then start with a purl*

*To Complete the shawl:*

*Knit (crochet) until the piece measures from wrist to wrist, or approximately 57-58" long. (Knitting: bind off with a knit row). Use what you have left to cut \*fringe. Suggestion for fringe: you can also do this before tying on the third skein, then continue knitting to the end. Divide the pile in half and slip knot them to the ends, evenly spaced. If the yarn is manufactured loosely wound, you might have to knot the ends of the fringe to keep it from unraveling.*

*Crochet Directions (N Hook)*

*Chain 54 stitches or desired width of shawl.*

*Chain 1, turn, single crochet in each of the stitches to end. Chain 3 and turn.*

*Double crochet in top of each single crochet. Repeat this row 2 more times.*

*Chain 1 and do 1 row of single crochet to end. Chain 3 and turn.*

*Do 3 rows of double crochet. Repeat pattern to end (1 row single, 3 rows double)*

*End with 1 row of single. Finish with fringe.*

light the way

# "Small prayers can add up to big miracles!"

More than 82 percent of Americans believe in the healing power of prayer. And researchers at prestigious institutions such as Duke and Harvard have discovered that people who send well-wishes to others also enjoy amazing benefits. Here, the inspirational experiences of women on both ends of the prayer spectrum. Maybe their stories hold the key to *your* happiness.

## "Strangers' warm wishes speeded my recovery!"

They don't look like much, but just wait...they'll all come together." I told the ladies as I spread out my fabric swatches on a table at my church. It was my turn to teach our quilting group a new pattern. Of course, I knew what the quilt would look like when it was completed. What I didn't know yet was the man or woman whose heart it would warm, much like my heart had been warmed two years earlier.

At the time, I had been diagnosed with breast cancer and was coping with my first bout of chemotherapy. I wanted to put on a brave face for my husband and son, but when I returned home from the hospital I wasn't sure I could. *How am I going to handle this alone?* I thought as I sank into my couch. Then I heard a knock at the door. It was my neighbor, who came inside and spread a quilt across my lap. "Now you'll always be warm and covered in prayer," she said.

I took in all the rich, earth-toned patches, decorated with cats. My neighbor explained that the Prayers & Squares group at her church had



Cynthia Vereen,  
48, La Mesa, CA

joined together to make it for me. With every stitch they had prayed for my recovery. And once the blanket had taken shape, it was displayed so anyone in the congregation could pour their prayers into it. "See the three-inch threads trailing from the top—the ones with all the knots?" my neighbor asked. "Each time someone prayed for you, they ended their

prayer by making a square knot in one of those threads." *You mean hundreds of people I've never even met have been rooting for me?* I thought in awe.

## "It delivered physical and emotional comfort."

I'd never believed much in prayer, but I started taking that quilt along to my chemo treatments, thinking, *I can use all the help I can get.* Little did I know how much comfort it would bring. Once those IVs were hooked into me, I passed the time caressing and twirling the quilt's threads and imagining the faces of the people who had wrapped their powerful prayers into every fiber. I kept my mind busy studying the kitties until I knew every last pointy ear and every strong pose. And when the pain got too hard to handle, I crumpled a corner in my fist and dabbed at my tears.

That "security" blanket was with me through chemo, then radiation and, finally, the day I learned my cancer was in remission. The quilt wasn't a cure, but in some ways it was a miracle. It showed me that I wasn't alone and that prayer was something *real* that I could see and grasp and hug.

## "Now I make prayer quilts for others!"

I recovered, but I felt I'd never fully heal until I could give others comfort, so I joined the Skyline Church and founded a Prayers & Squares chapter. I didn't know a hoot about quilting, but I learned. The first quilt I made was for a woman in my breast cancer support group. Just like me, Adrianna was speechless the first time it was laid on her lap. And like the scattered pieces of a quilt, everything has come together for me. I discovered that hope is the warmest thing to hold onto during our darkest hour.

## Helping miracles happen energizes my body and soul!"

**O**kay, everyone's seatbelt is fastened. I have my purse, my briefcase, my sack lunch, the baby's diaper bag, Fiona's backpack and her lunch money. So the first stop: Kevin's day care. Yikes! Is that a trail of drool on my skirt? Dear God, get me through another day.

That was my morning car ride. I was trying to be a wife, a mother and a career woman, but most of the time I was just exhausted. Then one night while waiting for a load of towels to finish in the spin cycle, I grabbed a newspaper and read an article about shawl-knitting ministries—groups that create prayer shawls for people who are sick or struggling. *Now I know what I can do for Bridgette*, I thought. For weeks, I'd felt helpless in response to my friend's ailment. She'd been suffering from headaches, and the tests indicated she might have a small brain tumor.

### "The activity calmed me during my busy days!"

Even though I didn't have much free time, I turned to the Internet and found an easy pattern to follow, along with some prayers I could recite when casting on and off my stitches. That weekend while running errands, I ducked into a yarn shop and scanned the wall of multicolored skeins. I quickly chose some soft purple string, and later, I started knitting while my kids napped. I loved the quiet contemplation that prayer knitting brought me. There was something sacred about the activity. Every time I'd knit three and purl three I was reminded of the Holy Trinity, and my prayerful thoughts of Bridgette became seamless with the garment. *Dear God, whose hands are instruments of creation, help me grow this fabric so this mantle may be a safe haven for my friend during this time.*

I soon learned that Bridgette felt profoundly protected when wrapped in that shawl. "It's perfect!" she said. "In my yoga class I learned that purple represents the chakra, or energy center, for the head." *I guess that color chose me and not the other way around!* I thought.



Melanie Fahey, 39,  
Houston, TX

### "Joining a universe of prayer made me strong!"

Once I found a knitting ministry, it became clear why that article had spoken to me. God knew that if I prayed for others, my own prayers would be answered, too. Suddenly, my day-to-day worries seemed less daunting. I had more time to get things done and I could deal with stress better, which helped when my company went out of business. The activity also helped me teach my children about faith. They asked about the shawl recipients, learning to be more in tune with people's needs. "A shawl means Mommy is helping someone special!" says five-year-old Fiona.

Best of all, I have witnessed heartwarming miracles. "Melanie, every single time I wrap this shawl around myself, the pain lessens," my priest told me after his shoulder surgery. Another day, my ministry delivered a shawl to a woman who was dying of cancer. The doctors suspected she had only weeks left to live, but once she started wearing our shawl she became convinced the universe was brimming with positive energy for her. She was right—her cancer went into remission!

#### We're here to help!

To learn more about Prayers & Squares, log on to [prayerquilt.org](http://prayerquilt.org). For more information about the shawl-knitting ministry, visit [shawlministry.com](http://shawlministry.com).

## The healing power of collective prayer

Sending group prayers to an unknowing recipient (called intercessory prayer) can make a difference. A study published in the *Western Journal of Medicine* showed that critically ill patients experienced a more than 33 percent decrease in severity of symptoms after they were prayed for by a group of strangers. And offering collective compassion to others is good for you, too, says James Jones, Psy.D., Ph.D., a professor of religious studies at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, New Jersey. "Being engaged spiritually with others fosters a sense of unity and reinforces feelings of hopefulness," Jones explains. "Plus, it relaxes heart rate and reduces levels of stress hormones like cortisol." Here, three simple ways to fuel your prayers with the power of numbers:

**Cyber prayer:** Log on to [prayer.la](http://prayer.la), a website for sharing prayers. Here you can pray for others who have posted a plea (or request prayers from others). Clicking a link sends an anonymous e-mail to the petitioner, letting her know that someone has prayed for her.

**Mail-a-prayer:** The Letters From Home Program forwards prayers, well-wishes and gifts to soldiers who are stationed in the Middle East. To add your prayers or words of encouragement to those of others, send them to: Letters From Home, Chris and Jim Jovenitti, 6631 Ridgway Jbg. Rd., Johnsonburg, PA 15845.

**Synchronized meditation:** The Global Meditation Focus Group offers a prayer topic (like world peace or tsunami relief) every two weeks and invites individuals from around the globe to add their spiritual support on Sundays at 11 A.M. EST. To find out the current topic or sign up to receive alerts about upcoming prayer subjects, log on to [aei.ca/~cep/home.htm](http://aei.ca/~cep/home.htm).

# SWAMP LUTHERAN CHURCH

## 2012 TREASURERS REPORT

	February	YTD Total	Budget
<b>INCOME</b>			
ENVELOPE FUND AND SIMPLY GIVING	\$ 16,655.75	\$ 35,692.25	\$ 22,506.17
LOOSE OFFERING	\$ 1,460.52	\$ 5,712.83	
CHURCH SCHOOL	\$ 62.17	\$ 82.17	
<b>TOTAL INCOME TOWARD BUDGET</b>	<b>\$ 18,178.44</b>	<b>\$ 41,487.25</b>	<b>\$ 270,074.00</b>
DISASTER RESPONSE	\$ 531.89	\$ 1,296.75	
FLOWERS AND BULLETINS	\$ 206.25	\$ 554.25	
DESIGNATED RECEIPTS	\$ 1,945.00	\$ 1,945.00	
MEMORIALS		\$ 150.00	
MATCHING FUNDS & RETURNS	\$ 2,304.00	\$ 2,304.00	
DINNERS		\$ -	
NONCASH CONTRIBUTIONS		\$ 201.45	
FIRE DONATIONS		\$ -	
CAPITAL FUND DRIVE	\$ 1,582.00	\$ 2,999.00	
MISCELLANEOUS INCOME	\$ 26.28	\$ 1,080.40	
<b>INCOME TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 24,773.86</b>	<b>\$ 52,018.10</b>	
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>			
BENOVELENCE	\$ 2,083.37	\$ 4,166.74	\$ 25,000.00
SAMARITAN COUNCILING CENTER		\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
LUTHERCARE		\$ -	\$ 4,000.00
OTHER BENOVELENCES		\$ -	\$ 3,390.00
LEARNING		\$ 59.94	\$ 7,100.00
WELCOME	\$ 300.38	\$ 317.01	\$ 1,200.00
STEWARDSHIP		\$ -	\$ 200.00
SERVICE		\$ -	\$ 1,000.00
WORSHIP	\$ 533.31	\$ 583.31	\$ 5,395.00
PROPERTY	\$ 3,488.25	\$ 3,733.25	\$ 6,790.00
YOUTH MINISTRY		\$ -	\$ 800.00
STAFF EXPENSES	\$ 9,638.54	\$ 20,621.24	\$ 123,530.00
STAFF BENEFITS	\$ 1,747.25	\$ 5,365.62	\$ 44,594.00
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES	\$ 927.43	\$ 2,277.02	\$ 19,775.00
OPERATIONS OF PROPERTY	\$ 16,220.39	\$ 18,224.89	\$ 26,300.00
<b>TOTAL BUDGETED ITEMS</b>	<b>\$ 34,938.92</b>	<b>\$ 56,349.02</b>	<b>\$ 270,074.00</b>
<b>UNBUDGETED DISBURSEMENTS</b>			
BENEVOLENCE - ACTION FUND	\$ 100.00	\$ 265.00	
DISASTER RESPONSE	\$ 541.89	\$ 1,286.75	
MISCELLANEOUS NONBUDGETED	\$ 178.00	\$ 178.00	
MATCHING FUND PAYMENTS		\$ -	
FLOWERS/ REIMB EXP	\$ 197.69	\$ 1,019.89	
RESTORATION/REBUILDING		\$ -	
PAID MEMORIALS		\$ -	
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>\$ 35,956.50</b>	<b>\$ 59,098.66</b>	
ACCOUNT BALANCE PREVIOUS MONTH	\$ 177,120.28		
TOTAL RECEIPTS CURRENT MONTH	\$ 24,773.86		
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS CURRENT MONTH	\$ 35,956.50		
<b>ACCOUNT BALANCE CURRENT MONTH</b>	<b>\$ 165,937.64</b>		

This amount includes the following:

Bible Study Group Money

Personal Choir \$15.40 & Bell Choir Money \$56.32

Memorials

**\*TOTAL INCLUDED IN CHECKING**

# The Newsletter®

## ACTIVITIES PAGE

VOLUME 34, NUMBER 4

### Resurrection COUNTDOWN

Make this interactive craft to use as Easter approaches.

**What you need:**

- An empty egg carton
- Scissors
- Tissue paper (a dark color)
- Pencil
- Bible
- 12 slips of white paper
- Glue
- Marker



**What you do:**

1. Cut the lid and side flaps off the egg carton.
2. Lay the carton open-side down on tissue paper. Trace and cut out the rectangular shape.
3. On the paper slips, write 12 verses from John 12 about Holy Week (including one about Easter).
4. Place each slip in an egg cup, in order, starting at the top left and ending (with the Easter verse) at the bottom right.
5. Put glue around cups and carton edges. Lay the tissue paper on top.
6. Gently mark numbers 1-6 on the tissue paper along the top row and 7-12 along the bottom.
7. Before Easter, punch through one cup each day and read the verse.



### The purpose of the gospel

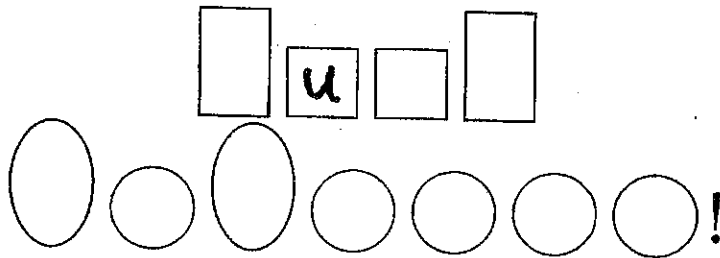
The gospel of John records many signs and miracles that Jesus performed in front of his disciples. Discover why these were written.



Directions: Use a Bible to fill in the missing letters of John 20:31. Then write the shape-enclosed letters in the corresponding boxes and circles below, in order of appearance, to discover John's message.

"...  e  ie  e  hat  es  s  
 is th  es  iah, the S  n  
 of  od,  nd tha  by  
 be    ing  ou m  y  
 ha  e lif  i  hi  na  e."

JOHN 20:31, NIV



Answers: "... believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name."  
 Just Believe!

[KID0412A]

[KID0412B]



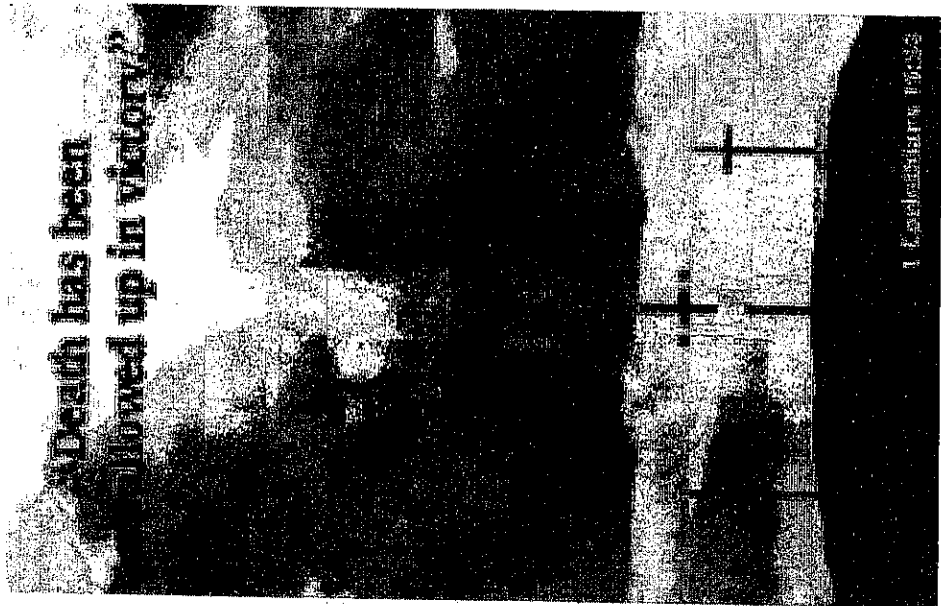


**APRIL 2012**

**EASTER - DAWN SERVICES 6 A.M. EUCHARIST SERVICE 8:30 A.M. (1 SERVICE ONLY)**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																		
<b>1</b> Sunday of the Passion /Palm Sunday (Purple/Red) April Fool's Day 8 & 9 a.m. Eucharist Service 10:30 a.m. Sunday School Food Bank	<b>2</b> Breakfast 6 a.m. Scouts 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir 6:45 p.m. Hand Bell Choir 7:30 p.m.	<b>3</b> Breakfast 6 a.m. Welcome Mtg. & Service Mtg. 7 p.m.	<b>4</b> Breakfast 6 a.m. Lenten Service Muddy Creek 7p.m. Pastor Sandy Gideon	<b>5</b> Maundy Thursday (Red/White) Breakfast 6 a.m. Eucharist Worship Service 7 p.m.	<b>6</b> Good Friday Office Closed Breakfast 6 a.m. Tenabrae Service 8 p.m.	<b>7</b> Easter Egg Hunt 10 a.m. (rain or shine)																																																																																																		
<b>8</b> Resurrection of Our Lord (White/Gold) Easter Sunday 6 a.m. Dawn Service 7 a.m. Breakfast 8:30 a.m. Eucharist Worship Service (one service only)	<b>9</b> Easter Monday (White/Gold) Office Closed	<b>10</b> Bible Study 7 p.m.	<b>11</b> Chancel Choir 7 p.m.	<b>12</b> Women's Bible Study 7:30 p.m.	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>																																																																																																		
<b>15</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter (White) National Volunteer Week Begins 8 & 9 a.m. Eucharist Service 10:30 Sunday School	<b>16</b> Scouts 6:30 p.m. Hand bells 7:30 p.m.	<b>17</b> Cactus Willies (lunch or dinner)	<b>18</b> Chancel Choir 7 p.m. Council 7 p.m.	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Pig Stomach Dinner 4-? National Volunteer Week Ends																																																																																																		
<b>22</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter (White) Earth Day 8 & 9 a.m. Eucharist Service 10:30 a.m. Sunday School & 5 <sup>th</sup> grade tour of the church	<b>23</b> Scouts 6:30 p.m. Hand bells 7:30 p.m.	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> St. Mark, Evangelist (Red) Chancel Choir 7 p.m. Administrative Professional's Day	<b>26</b> Women's Bible Study 7:30 p.m.	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Can Collection																																																																																																		
<b>29</b> 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter (White) 8 & 9 a.m. Eucharist Service 10:30 a.m. Sunday School Disaster Relief Sunday	<b>30</b> Scouts 6:30 p.m.				<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">MARCH</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th> <th>M</th> <th>T</th> <th>W</th> <th>T</th> <th>F</th> <th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>6</td> <td>7</td> <td>8</td> <td>9</td> <td>10</td> <td>11</td> <td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>13</td> <td>14</td> <td>15</td> <td>16</td> <td>17</td> <td>18</td> <td>19</td> </tr> <tr> <td>20</td> <td>21</td> <td>22</td> <td>23</td> <td>24</td> <td>25</td> <td>26</td> </tr> <tr> <td>27</td> <td>28</td> <td>29</td> <td>30</td> <td>31</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	MARCH							S	M	T	W	T	F	S		1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31			<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">MAY</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th> <th>M</th> <th>T</th> <th>W</th> <th>T</th> <th>F</th> <th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> <td>7</td> <td>8</td> <td>9</td> <td>10</td> <td>11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>12</td> <td>13</td> <td>14</td> <td>15</td> <td>16</td> <td>17</td> <td>18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>19</td> <td>20</td> <td>21</td> <td>22</td> <td>23</td> <td>24</td> <td>25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>26</td> <td>27</td> <td>28</td> <td>29</td> <td>30</td> <td>31</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	MAY							S	M	T	W	T	F	S				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
MARCH																																																																																																								
S	M	T	W	T	F	S																																																																																																		
	1	2	3	4	5																																																																																																			
6	7	8	9	10	11	12																																																																																																		
13	14	15	16	17	18	19																																																																																																		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26																																																																																																		
27	28	29	30	31																																																																																																				
MAY																																																																																																								
S	M	T	W	T	F	S																																																																																																		
			1	2	3	4																																																																																																		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11																																																																																																		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18																																																																																																		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25																																																																																																		
26	27	28	29	30	31																																																																																																			

Death has been  
threwed up in victory?



SWAMP EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE REV. DENNIS L. TROUT, PASTOR

OFFICE PHONE 717-336-2849

FAX NUMBER 717-336-2840

CHURCH EMAIL [swampluth@dejazzd.com](mailto:swampluth@dejazzd.com)

SWAMP WEB PAGE [swamplutheran.org](http://swamplutheran.org)



MR & MRS GUY TEMPLIN  
2401 ANDREW COURT  
SINKING SPRING, PA 19608



"Return Postage Requested"

SWAMP EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
275 SWAMP CHURCH ROAD  
REINHOLDS, PA 17569

NON PROFIT ORGINAZATION  
U. S. POSTAGE PAID  
PERMIT 210  
EPHRATA, PA