

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



As we continue to move ahead in mission and ministry here at Schwarzwald, the first Sunday in February is a milestone in the life of our congregation. Following worship, a luncheon will be served in Fellowship Hall, and then we will begin our Annual Meeting. On the agenda for the day will be the adoption of the budget for 2019, the election of Council members for the next three years and a special presentation by the ad-hoc committee of Council as they present their recommendation for the installation of a new roof for our church structure. The roof has been patched over the years and now is in need of replacement. The committee has worked long and hard to present the best solution to the roof replacement.

During the morning worship service on February 3, the Call Committee will be installed into their office as they begin the selection and recommendation of a new pastor for our congregation. It will also be the final time that Jim Seidel will lead our Bell Choir before their move to Myrtle Beach.

New members will be received into our church family on Sunday, March 3rd. If you know of any persons interested in joining our church family, please speak to me at any time. Like most congregations in our area, church attendance is down. The best publicity we have to share what and who we are in Exeter Township lies with each one of us. Take the time to invite new people in our community, as well as those who have not been among us recently, as we invite them to share the Good News of the Gospel of Christ with us.

Because of the weather on January 20th, we cancelled worship for that morning. Just as the regular bills we encounter in our family circles continue regardless of the weather, so too, that is the case here at Schwarzwald. It would help us to meet our weekly budget expenses if our church families would bring the offering for the week the church was closed when we gather for worship.

Our midweek Lenten worship services will begin on March 6th at 7:00 PM. We will sing Marty Haugen's *Evening Prayer* with first person monologues of those who were the first followers of Christ. Lent is a special and meaningful time of the church year to contemplate the Passion of our Lord. Join us on our journey to Calvary.

In His Service,

Pastor Don Simmons
Interim

Sick and shut-in among us during the past month

Sick and shut in among us this past month were Connie Brewer at Berkshire Center, Dr. Fay Weaver at home and Melissa Kerber.

Position available: Funeral Luncheon Ministry Leader

Pat Arndt, who has served in this capacity since 1993, is stepping down. She is willing to work with her replacement until he/she/they can take full responsibility. Please contact Pat at 610-779-3766 if interested.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, February 3, 2019

Lunch will be served in Fellowship Hall immediately following the worship service. The congregational meeting will be held after lunch.

CANCELLATION INFORMATION

If any services or events being held at the church are cancelled, please check our website (www.schwarzwaldlutheran.org), Facebook (Schwarzwald Lutheran Church), Channel 69 — WFMZ-TV Stormcenter, or our answering machine (610-779-3480) for cancellation information.

THE MAGIC OF BROADWAY will be sung by the Reading Choral Society on Sunday, February 17th, at 4:00 PM at Trinity Lutheran Church, Reading. You will hear tunes from your favorite Broadway shows, such as *Les Miserables*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Oklahoma*, *South Pacific* and many more. Tickets, at \$15.00 before the day of the show, can be purchased from Pastor Simmons at 610-916-3399 or at opaps@hotmail.com, or \$20.00 at the door.



WHO IS ON CHURCH COUNCIL?

Each month we will feature a church council member so you may get to know them a little better! This month features Rochelle Chelius. Please feel free to approach any council member with your comments or concerns.

Rochelle Oswald Chelius

My name is Rochelle Oswald Chelius and I am the Youth Minister Leader and a member of Church Council. My mother and I have been members of Schwarzwald since the 1990s and my husband, Guy, plays drums in the Second Sunday band.

I currently work for Caron as a Student Assistance Program Specialist, and I substitute teach at Exeter Junior High and High School. I can also be found at Coventry Corners at the Berkshire Mall. I have worked as a casework manager with various Big Brother Big Sister agencies, and as the South Reading Youth Initiative Project Manager with Alvernia University's Holleran Center for Community Engagement. I am a graduate of Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania- go bald eagles!

My hobbies include crafting while watching Star Trek: The Next Generation, eating good food, coffee, traveling when possible, and spending time with my cat who would probably prefer that I just leave her alone already. My favorite Bible verses are Hebrews 12:1-3, 1 Timothy 4:12, Matthew 6:25-27, Proverbs 27:14, and basically all of Romans 12.



Matthew 25:35

"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."

Attention all Sunday School classes:

GAME ON !!!! It's that time of year again. **Souper Bowl of Caring '19** has kicked off the SS competition. We will collect soup in SS each week thru Feb 17th.

The class that donates the most will win a Dunkin' Donuts party and be awarded the SBoC plaque for the year.

On Sunday, Feb. 3rd, we will have youth at the exits after service collecting monetary donations.

All donations will be provided to the Exeter Area Food Pantry.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Brad Darlington, Linda Strain, Dorothy Updegrave
- 2 David Foster, Kevin Kennedy, Marcia Kennedy,
Rosalie Heller, Ian Carr, Amy Morriss
- 3 Barry Hoover
- 4 Linda Allwein
- 5 Anita Heydt
- 6 Layken Ramus
- 7 Joan Garipoli, Brayden Zackon
- 8 Richard Allwein, Nolan Fayewicz, Judith Merkel, Ronald Owens,
Barbara Quick
- 9 John Burkhardt
- 10 Aimee Oswald, Hailee Oswald, Geraldine Wagner
- 11 Gary Wegman, Leroy Bossler, Layla Schaeffer
- 12 Edward Specht
- 13 Janet Hafer, Susan Kent
- 14 Jeremy Kerber, Ken Bryant
- 16 Marina Messner
- 17 Karlotta Werner
- 19 Carmon Dobbins, Cadence Werner
- 20 Margaret Worrall
- 21 Shaun Schaeffer
- 23 Dennis Karas, Carter Ramus
- 24 Amy Rahn
- 25 Susan Lee, David Morganti
- 27 Cynthia Diehl, Cheryl Specht
- 28 Miles Brumbaugh



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

THANK YOU!

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

. . .

. . **to** Judi Merkel, coordinator, and Barbara Hafer, Pat Ruffner, and Ruth Hoover for labeling and tabbing the January issue of the *Pulpit and Pew*.

. . **to** Peg Gumpert, Doris Jaeger, Judy Ney and Rita Seidel for preparing 13 tubs of chicken pot pie for the New Journey soup kitchen in January and to the Jaegers for delivering it.

. . **from** Elsa Hessler—The Christmas goodie bag was fun to receive and most useful. I pray for only the best for Schwarzwald. Your kindness is a blessing and so are you.

. . **from** Elise Kohler—Thank you choosing me as one of the recipients of the scholarship and for supporting me financially through college. Thank you also for all of the support you've given me for many opportunities over the years.

. . **from** Mary's Shelter—There comes a time in every mother's life when they must simultaneously be a caretaker, disciplinarian, teacher and calmer of all fears. Every new mother faces her own unique set of challenges. As a focus of our organization, Mary's Shelter teaches childcare and life skills to every mom in our program to help her become confident and independent. Your donation enables us to continue offering these life changing services to our residential and community clients. With joyful hearts, we extend our gratitude for your contribution.

. . **from** Soup Kitchen—Thank you so much for the delicious pot pie. It fed 160 people. Your continued support of those in need is heartwarming. Thank You!



ALTAR FLOWER UPDATE

***Due to a change in florists**
(our previous florist is no longer
providing fresh flowers),
there is an increase in the
altar flower sponsorship
from \$21 to \$25.



The Tuesday morning group has a new name....

“Bible Fellowship—Action Team”

Feel free to join us every Tuesday in

Fellowship Hall at 10:00 AM for Bible Study.

After Bible Study the group does

small jobs around the church and in the office.

A Divine Chocolate Sale!

Just in time for Valentine’s Day, the Social Ministry Committee will be sponsoring a chocolate candy sale, featuring delicious *Divine* chocolate bars. The candy will be sold after the worship services on both February 3 and 10. You may choose from several flavor varieties of these Fair-Trade treats.

Each candy bar costs \$1.50. Free samples will be available when you enter the narthex on February 3 and 10.

Supplies are limited, so make your list now for all of your special Valentines!



Beat the Winter Blues Ladies Night **Wednesday, February 6th, at 6:00 PM**

(Snow date is February 20th)

This is short notice, but it’s time for a night out with a great cause. Our freezer needs filling to keep our Freezer Ministry going.

Please prepare a casserole or a crock pot of your favorite soup or stew. We will enjoy a meal and fellowship together and package all the remaining food for the freezer.

Our sick and shut-ins will be warmed by your meals throughout the rest of the winter.

Bread and salad will be provided.

If you have any questions, please call me at 610-780-9825.

Hope to see you there!

Doris Jaeger

FEBRUARY 2019

3	4	5	6
<p>9:15am: Sunday School (SS/FH) 10:30am: Worship Service w/H.C. (S) 11:30am: Lunch / Ann. Cong. Mtg. (FH) 5:00pm: Girl Scout Troop #177 #177 8:00pm: AA Meeting (SR)</p>	<p>4:30pm: Exercise class (FH) 5:00pm: Sanctuary in use (S) 8:00pm: AA Meeting (SR)</p>	<p>10:00am: Bible Fellowship / Action Team (FH)</p>	<p>6:00pm: Fellowship in use for Fellowship (FH/R) 8:00pm: Weightlifting (CR) 7:00pm: Social (FH)</p>
10	11	12	13
<p>9:15am: Sunday School (SS/FH) 10:30am: Worship Service (S) 6:00pm: Coffee service (FH) 8:30pm: Second Sun. Worship Service (FH) 9:00pm: AA Meeting (SR)</p>	<p>4:30pm: Exercise class (FH) 5:00pm: Sanctuary in use (S) 8:00pm: AA Meeting (SR)</p>	<p>10:00am: Bible Fellowship / Action Team (FH) 6:30pm: Christian Ed. Comm. mtg. (FH) 6:30pm: Prayer Group (P) 6:30pm: Youth meeting (SS)</p>	<p>6:00pm: Weightlifting (CR) 7:00pm: Church</p>
17	18	19	20
<p>9:15am: Sunday School / Jim Rife (SS/FH) 10:30am: Worship Service w/H.C. & Jim Rife (S) 5:00pm: Girl Scout Troop #177 5:30pm: Dinner (cont.) (FH) 6:00pm: Confirmation class (FH) 8:00pm: AA Meeting (SR)</p>	<p>4:30pm: Exercise class (FH) 5:00pm: Sanctuary in use (S) 8:00pm: AA Meeting (SR)</p>	<p>10:00am: Bible Fellowship / Action Team (FH) 11:00am: Worship and Music Comm. mtg. (CC)</p>	<p>12:00pm: Exercise (FH) 6:00pm: Weightlifting (CR)</p>
24	25	26	27
<p>9:15am: Sunday School (SS/FH) 10:30am: Worship Service (S) 11:30am: Fellowship Comm. mtg. (FH) 8:00pm: AA Meeting (SR)</p>	<p>4:30pm: Exercise class (FH) 5:00pm: Sanctuary in use (S) 8:00pm: AA Meeting (SR)</p>	<p>10:00am: Bible Fellowship / Action Team (FH) 6:30pm: Prayer Group (P)</p>	<p>6:00pm: Weightlifting (CR)</p>

Key: FH—Fellowship Hall SR—Scout Room CR—Choir Room
 SS—Sunday School room(s) LGI - Large Group Instruction
 RLC—Reformation Lutheran Church E—Effie's Charcoal

		1	2
		6:50pm-12:00am Girl Scout Troop #167 (SS)	12:00am-8:00am Girl Scout Troop #167 (SS) 8:00am- Exercise class (FH) 10:00am- Set up Feb. Hall for ACM (FH)
	7	8	9
Ball and Kitchen Clergy Ministry	6:30pm- Daisy Girl Scout Troop #1909 (FH) 6:10pm- Cherub Choir ren. (CR) 6:30pm- Junior Choir ren. (CR) 7:00pm- NA Meeting (SR) 7:30pm- Sr. Choir ren. (CR)		8:00am- Exercise class (FH)
Washers mtg.			
Men Comm. mtg.			
	14	15	16
Washers mtg.	8:00am- Breakfast Bunch (E) 6:00pm- Girl Scout Troop #1126 (FH) 6:10pm- Cherub Choir ren. (CR) 6:30pm- Junior Choir ren. (CR) 7:00pm- NA Meeting (SR) 7:30pm- Sr. Choir ren. (CR)	2:30pm- Exeter Area Food Pantry (KUC) 6:30pm- Girl Scout Troop #167 (FH)	8:00am- Exercise class (FH)
Church Council (FH)			
	21	22	23
Senior Citizens	6:00pm- Daisy Girl Scout Troop #1909 (FH) 6:10pm- Cherub Choir ren. (CR) 6:30pm- Junior Choir ren. (CR) 7:00pm- NA Meeting (SR) 7:30pm- Sr. Choir ren. (CR)		8:00am- Exercise class (FH)
Washers mtg.			
	28	LOOKING AHEAD - Dates for your calendar!!	
Washers mtg.	6:00pm- Girl Scout Troop #1126 (FH) 6:10pm- Cherub Choir ren. (CR) 6:30pm- Junior Choir ren. (CR) 7:00pm- NA Meeting (SR) 7:30pm- Sr. Choir ren. (CR)	March 6	Ash Wednesday, 7 PM
		March 10	Daylight Savings Time Begins, 2 AM
		March 10	Second Sunday Coffee House
			Worship Service, 6:30 PM
		March 13, 20, 27	Lenten Services, 7:00 PM
		April 3, 10	Lenten Services, 7:00 PM
		April 14	Palm Sunday, 10:30 AM
		April 18	Maundy Thursday, 7:30 PM
		April 19	Good Friday, 7:30 PM
		April 21	Easter, 8 and 10:30 AM

n PV—Pavilion S—Sanctuary P—Parlor N—Narthex
 n Room YR—Youth Room CO—Church Office K—Kitchen
 Chef Restaurant

ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

- 6 Aimee Oswald and Hailee Oswald
13 Tony D'Angelo and Vinnie D'Angelo
20 Jenna Russo and Jay Houp
27 Harry Brumbaugh and Charlie Brumbaugh
Feb.
3 Samantha Kerber and Brody Oswald



PRAYER GROUP

The Prayer Group meets every other Tuesday at 6:30 PM.
The February meeting dates are the 12th and 26th.



SCHWARZWALD'S BREAKFAST BUNCH

BREAKFAST BUNCH will meet on Thursday, February 14th at 9:00 AM at Effie's Charcoal Chef Restaurant. Since this is Valentine's Day, let's all wear RED and bring along some old valentines you may have kept from past years.

THRIVENT CHOICE POINTS



THRIVENT®

Be Wise With Money™

Eligible Thrivent Financial members who have 2018 Choice Dollars® available, have until March 31 to direct them. Don't miss this opportunity to recommend that Thrivent Financial provide outreach funding the organization of your choice (which can include Schwarzwald Lutheran!) Go to Thrivent.com/thriventchoice to learn more. Or call 800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" after the prompt.

**February 17th is Jim Rule Day at our church.
"Mr. Rule" will be putting on a concert for all ages
during the Sunday School hour.**

Bring your whole family and invite friends!

He will join us for our 10:30 worship service after the concert .

Schwarzwald Lutheran Church welcomes

JIM RULE

February 17, 2019 at 9:15 a.m.

Schwarzwald Lutheran Church
250 Church Lane Rd.
Reading, PA 19606



Jim Rule is an award winning children's performer and songwriter. His music celebrates family, friends, faith and fun. Join us for an hour of music and laughter for all ages. This concert is free to all attendees! You and your children will enjoy every second with "Mr. Rule"!

CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS (December)

- Finance — We are behind in current envelopes. / Beginning 1/1/19, the usher teams will no longer count money. We will have teams of 3-4 who will count the money.
 - Property — Snow shoveling – Jim contacted the folks who mow our lawn, Daniel’s Groundskeeping. They will do all the shoveling (sidewalks, steps, ramps, entrances) for \$75/snow event. / All parking lot signs have been installed. / All security measures have been installed and tested.
 - Sexual Misconduct Ad-hoc Committee – Linda Strain, John D’Angelo and Judy McLain volunteered to serve on the committee to put a policy in place.
 - Call Committee – Jim tallied the list of suggestions made by council members. The list was distributed and discussed. Jim will contact the folks to see if they are willing to serve.
 - Evangelism Committee – This committee has not been active for several years. We need to re-establish this committee. We need to make a plea to the congregation for members and a chair.
 - We have received a request from the Bier, Brats and Bible Men’s Group for a \$100 donation for their ministries. Council approved the donation.
-

SUNDAY SCHOOL NOTES

✓ **The Souper Bowl of Caring collection is in full swing. Our collection drive, which supplies the Exeter Area Food Pantry, has been extended due to the snow day in January. The last day to bring in donations is now February 17th. Cans are collected weekly at the end of music time. Bring in those cans! A donut party is at stake! Please note, your donations are not limited to soup.**



✓ ***JIM RULE DAY!!!* - Jim Rule is an award winning Christian kid’s musician. He will be joining us on February 17th during Sunday School and Worship. He will put on an interactive concert for ALL of our Schwarzwald families (children and adults) and their guests beginning at 9:15. He will also be part of our worship service that morning. This is a “must see”! Bring the whole family and invite lots of friends. It will be a great day at Schwarzwald!!**

✓ **Confirmation class will be held from 5:30 – 8:00 on 2/17. We will be wrapping up Souper Bowl for Caring at this meeting.**



FEBRUARY YOUTH GROUP ACTIVITIES

Please RSVP through the GroupMe app or by contacting Rochelle Chelius (610-823-1324, feel free to text, or via email at rochelle_bbbs@yahoo.com).

Saturday, February 2nd 10:00 a.m.-?, Set-Up for the Church Meeting Luncheon:

Help the Fellowship Committee prepare for the Church Meeting Luncheon. This is a great opportunity to support your church!

Sunday, February 3rd After Service-?, Church Meeting and Luncheon:

February 3rd is the annual church meeting and luncheon. The Fellowship Committee is providing lunch, but we are looking for youth to help serve and clean up after. This is another great opportunity to show support and service to your church!

Tuesday, February 12th 6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m., February Youth Group Meeting:

We are still working towards figuring out what day of the week works best for all youth in 2019. In the meantime, we will continue with Second Tuesday youth group meetings. Please keep an eye in Pulpit and Pew and GroupMe for any changes in upcoming months.

Mark your calendars for March 3rd.

We are looking to get teams together for the West Berks Mission District Bowl a Thon. Keep an eye out for additional information on GroupMe and at Sunday School.

Schwarzwald Lutheran Church

Mission Statement:

We are a family of faith called to do God's will by inspiring Christian life through teaching and sharing His unconditional love for all.

Vision Statement:

To encourage growth of our faith family through community outreach and engaging youth to serve God.



2nd SUNDAY Coffee House

February 10

6:30 PM

IN FELLOWSHIP HALL

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Coffee 'n Chat starts at 6:00 PM

BEAR CREEK CAMP GALA

BEAR CREEK CAMP GALA



March 30, 2019

6pm Cocktails, Dinner to follow

Tickets

\$90 per person January 16-20

\$100 per person January 21-March 26

Location

Homewood Suites

3350 Center Valley Parkway

Center Valley, PA

Tickets must be purchased in advance, either online at bearcreekcamp.org or by calling the BCC office at: 570-472-3741.

Dress

Black Tie Optional

A limited number of rooms are reserved at the Homewood Suites until March 8 at the rate of \$139. Call 610-351-6400 and mention Bear Camp Creek Gala or the group code BCB to reserve your room. You can also go [online](https://homewoodsuites3.hilton.com) to make a reservation with the group code BCB.

<https://homewoodsuites3.hilton.com>

Auction Items

If you have an exciting item to donate such as a time share vacation home, event tickets, basket items valuing at least \$50, or a one of a kind item or experience, please contact karen@bearcreekcamp.org for more



Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go. —Joshua 1:9

God's love for us means so much for our lives. This summer we will examine what a relationship with God means for our daily lives and for the world. We can make a difference and have an impact because with God all things are possible. Join us for an amazing summer of friendship, fun and fellowship!

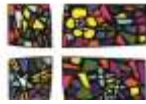
Look for more information on Summer Camp and Family Camp in the next few weeks.

Questions? Contact : Stephanie Kohler
484-706-1708



2019 Summer Theme

Published monthly by



Schwarzwald
LUTHERAN CHURCH
Serving and Loving Christ Since 1737

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E-mail administrator@schwarzwaldlutheran.org

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Join our family, share God's love.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

*Pulpit
and
Pew*

FEBRUARY, 2019