

To all the saints of Schwarzwald Lutheran Church,
Grace to you all, and peace.

Just days ago, I celebrated Communion with this congregation for the last time. As many of you have seen by now, the Council has decided that a change in pastors is in order, and my final Sunday is September 5.

As many times as we hear the Words of Institution (“Our Lord Jesus, on the night of his arrest, took bread...”), over the course of a year or a lifetime, it is easy to forget that these words are taken from one of Paul’s letters, 1 Corinthians to be exact. And this epistle, like so many of them, included comment on church conflict. Even these hallowed words, said over bread and cup, were written to correct the way some people treated others.

I frequently say that conflict in itself isn’t bad; it is two ideas taking place at the same time. It is what we do with those ideas that can present problems. We can talk the ideas out and see where they go, we can compromise, or we may decide one idea can stay and another must go. And all of these can happen in healthy or unhealthy ways.

My prayer in leading up to the Council meeting deciding on my future at Schwarzwald was, as I hope it always is: May God’s will be done. Whether my coming or going is God’s will, only God knows. Now, and in years to come, each of us will feel about the situation however we feel about it. Only God will know.

But what I will know is that there are so many people here I will miss, as friends and partners in ministry. There are a lifetime’s worth of memories of saints gone before us whom I’ve been blessed to accompany. And while there is some regret at things that have happened, and sadness at saying good-bye, there is also gratitude and satisfaction over what has happened during my tenure at Schwarzwald.

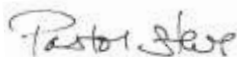
An old Amy Grant song includes this refrain:

“And friends are friends forever/If the Lord’s the Lord of them.”

After September 10th I won’t be speaking about the church with any of you, but I look forward to seeing many of you to catch up, and to share life’s joys, concerns, and laughter.

May God bless you. And may God’s will be done.

God is all in all,



SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE WORSHIP SERVICE

The sole purpose of the Special Congregational Meeting is to approve a second amendment to the T-Mobile lease, which will provide T-Mobile an additional approximately 120 sq. ft. of ground space to install a backup generator for their equipment and to approve the construction drawings associated with the installation of the proposed backup generator.

LAY EUCHARISTIC VISITOR TRAINING

Through Lutheran Congregational Services

Would you be interested in becoming a Eucharistic Visitor for SLC? This would enable you to provide home communion to our sick and shut-ins. The one-day event is from 9:30a to 4:00p and there are three different dates/sites to choose from on the list — 9/25, 10/23 or 11/6. If you are interested, please call the church office at 610-779-3480.

All SLC choirs will be returning this fall beginning **Thursday, September 9th**. The schedule is as follows:

Cherub Choir: 6:10 (ages 5-7 / Grades K-2)

Junior Choir: 6:30 (ages 8-11) / Grades 3-6)

Handbell Choir: 6:55 (arrival/setup at 6:45)
(open to teens and tweens, too!)

Senior Choir: 7:35-8:35

Please come out and help bring all of our ensembles back to full life! I look forward to seeing you all there. Anyone with questions should contact me at: music@schwarzwaldlutheran.org

BREAKFAST BUNCH

Thursday, September 9, at 9:00 a.m. at

Effie's Charcoal Chef Restaurant

ALTAR FLOWER AND BULLETIN SPONSORS—2 sponsors per week. If you would like to sponsor the altar flowers (\$25) or bulletins (\$14), please fill out the form on the clipboard in the Narthex.

TUESDAY MORNING GROUP

The Tuesday morning Bible Study/Work Group continues to meet every Tuesday, 10:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall. Please join us!

SCHWARZWALD WALKERS

Saturday, September 4th at 8:00 a.m.

(this was a postponement from 8/28)

Union Meadows East, 100 Campbell Ford Rd., Douglassville, PA 19518.

Saturday, September 25th at 9:00 a.m.

Wyomissing Park/Reading Public Museum creek trail.

Parking at Parkside Drive South.

See you all then! Enjoying God's natural beauty, one local trail at a time.

RETURN TO REGULAR WORSHIP TIME

We return to our regular schedule of 10:30 a.m. worship time beginning Sunday, September 12.



PRAYER GROUP

The Prayer Group meets every other Tuesday at 4:00 PM
in the Church Office.

The September dates are the 7th and 21st.

Please contact Joanne Rutherford for additional information.

610-406-9355 or jmr14290@gmail.com

THANK YOU!

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

. . .

. . **from** Jan Zabodyn — Thank you to Ginni for delivering the beautiful altar flowers to the hospital, the spiritual telephone call and all the encouragement calls. Also to my church family for their cards, visits and telephone calls.

. . **from** the Social Ministry Committee for another 5 lbs. of aluminum can tabs and several used eyeglasses all of which will be given to the Exeter Lions for their ministries.

. . **to** Pat and Larry Yoder for preparing 7 tubs of beans and franks for the New Journey Soup Kitchen in August and to the Jaeger's for delivering it.

. . **from** Lukas Kohler — Thank you for this amazing support as I begin my journey through college. This community has impacted me in more ways than I can count. I can't wait to come back and share my stories with you. Thanks again to everyone!

. . **to** Steve Vlasak and Lowe's for donating the gallons of paint used to paint the bedroom at Mary's Shelter as part of the "Strong Program" project from the Social Ministry Committee.

. . **to** Susan Kent, Judy McLain, Barb Quick, and Karla and Jeff Schmehl for preparing chili for the New Journey Soup Kitchen and to the Quicks and Schmehls for delivering it.

. . **from** Mary's Shelter—Thank you for sponsoring a Baby Bottle Collection. Your support for Mary's Shelter has strengthened our resolve to do even more to help young people succeed. Together we build stronger individuals and a stronger community.

. . **from** Reading Hospital Foundation—Thank you for your gift honoring Diana Pelletier and her efforts to "Reclaim the Day." We were honored to be part of Diana's activity this year, and we wish her well in her continued efforts with the EKS0 skeleton.

. . **from** the Hope Rescue Mission—Your gracious gift is a blessing to those seeking refuge and life restoration at Hope. Your support enables us to provide food, shelter, clothing and guidance to over 1200 individuals annually, including homeless veterans and many who are battling addiction. You are a valued partner in this ministry, and we could not manage all we do without your faithful financial and prayer support. Blessings to our faithful ministry partners at Schwarzwald Lutheran!

. . **from** Dave Ullrich — Thank you for the nice card. Thank you to Denton Quick and the Tuesday group. He appreciates those folks who remember him.

. . **from** Susie Hinkley—Thank you to the congregation and to Marlene Harlow for the goodie bag and for the visit.

. . **from** the Property Committee—Please join me in thanking the following individuals for their hard work in helping to keep our church grounds looking beautiful: Mark Bauer for trimming the two banks that run along Hilldale Road, Chip Mohr and Charlie Brumbaugh for applying weed control to the two banks, and Peg Gumpert, Frank, Jeremy, Joshua and Samantha Kerber, Jeff Schmehl, Russ Frey, and Doris and Bill Jaeger for working during the Summer Clean Up. The property has never looked this good in mid-August! - from Kevin Kennedy, Chair

. . **from** Greg Galtere—Thanks to everyone who sponsored and/or played in the *Hack Away at Hunger* golf tournament on July 16. Together we raised \$17,000 for local food pantries. An outstanding effort. These food pantries received the following contributions:

Exeter Area Food Pantry - \$5,500
Boyertown Area Multi-Service - \$2,500
Berks Schuylkill Helping Harvest - \$4,000
Birdsboro First Baptist - \$500
Oley Valley Food Pantry - \$200
Keystone Military Families - \$1,500
Life Church - \$1,500
New Journey Community Outreach - \$500
Opportunity House - \$200
Boyertown Salvation Army - \$500
Berks Horizon - \$100

. . **from** Social Ministry Committee—The response to the request for school supplies was tremendous. In addition to the pencils, erasers, crayons, folders, notebooks, markers, etc., over 160 backpacks were donated. Two Thrivent Action Teams helped the effort. These supplies were handed out to the students of the families participating in the Exeter Area Food Pantry on Friday, August 20. Thanks to members of the Tuesday morning group, Sharon Lessig, Linda Rowe, Barry Hoover, Denton Quick, Carol Gunzelmann, Marlene Harlow, Russ and Ginni Frey, and Ken and Susan Byrant, for sorting and organizing these items.

CONGRATULATIONS to Theresa Readinger who received a Masters in Education degree in teaching English as a second language from Alvernia College.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Zachary Hoover, Clarence Swoyer, Jr.
- 2 Barry Ruppert, Larry Yoder, Amanda Giannotti, Zachary Vlasak
- 3 Shannon Darlington, Emma Scalese, Adam Crotty, Jillian Crotty
- 4 Joshua Boone, Crystal Jordan, Nancy Wolf, Frank Kerber
- 5 Elise Kohler, Michael Jordan, III
- 7 David Johns
- 9 Richard Sassaman
- 14 Gary Tice
- 15 Miles Gibson, Janice Stanislaw, Iris Ringler
- 16 Fred Mohr, Jr., Lisa Lutz, Jennifer Oswald, Jordyn Yeager
- 17 Mary Phillips
- 18 Marcia Holbrook
- 19 Cynthia Mohr, Diane Cataldi, Gannon Harlow
- 21 Don Gunzelmann, Kaila Zenger, Thomas Herb
- 22 Barbara Herbst, Patricia Grim, Curtis Prince, Jr., John Dobbins
- 23 Cynthia Lott, Penny Kroznuski, Amy Schaeffer, Tanner Karas
- 24 Jennifer Strausser, Steven Moyer
- 26 Karen Darlington, Lori Bauer
- 27 Courtney Marquard, Edward Kroznuski
- 28 Dennis Karas
- 29 William Jaeger, Brian Crotty



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

Harvest
Home



CELEBRATE HARVEST HOME

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

MUM ORDER FORM

TO BEAUTIFY OUR SANCTUARY FOR HARVEST HOME

The cost per plant, 9" pot, is \$5.00

Please indicate your name
on the form below and drop it in the offering plate or
the mail slot at the church office

The deadline for ordering plants is
Sunday, September 19

Mums may be picked up September 26
after the worship service.

----- Cut -----

Name _____
(As you wish it to appear in the bulletin)

Number of plants _____ @ \$5.00 each

Amount enclosed \$ _____

Envelope # _____



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
<h1>SEPTEMBER 2021</h1>			1 5:30pm Yo
5 9:30am Worship Service (S/Z) 7:00pm AA meeting (PV)	6 8:30am CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 5:30pm Yoga (PV) 7:00pm AA mtg. (PV)	7 10:00am Bible Study / Work Group (FH) 4:00pm Prayer Group (FH) 6:30pm Social Ministry	8 5:30pm Yo 7:00pm Sp Council
12 9:00am Sunday School Rally Day 10:30am Worship 11:45am Church Picnic 7:00pm AA meeting (PV)	13 5:00pm Parlor in use (P) 5:30pm Yoga (PV) 7:00pm AA mtg. (PV)	14 10:00am Bible Study / Work Group (FH)	15 12:00pm Ex Citizens 5:30pm Yo 7:00pm Ch meeting
19 9:15am Sunday School (SS/FH) 10:30am Worship 11:30am Special 7:00pm AA meeting (PV)	20 5:00pm Parlor in use (P) 5:30pm Yoga (PV) 7:00pm AA mtg. (PV)	21 10:00am Bible Study / Work Group (FH) 4:00pm Prayer Group (FH)	22 5:30pm Yo 6:30pm Lio meeting
26 9:15am Sunday School (SS/FH) 10:30am Worship Service / Harvest 7:00pm AA meeting (PV)	27 5:00pm Parlor in use (P) 5:30pm Yoga (PV) 7:00pm AA mtg. (PV)	28 10:00am Bible Study / Work Group (FH)	29 5:30pm Yo

Key: HC—Holy Communion FH—Fellowship Hall SR—Scout Room CR—
SS—Sunday School room(s) LGI - Large Group Instruction Room

DAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Yoga (PV)	2	3	4 8:00am Schwarzwald Walkers (Union Meadow East) 8:30am Yoga (PV)
Yoga (PV) Special Church (FH)	9 9:00am Breakfast Bunch 6:10pm Cherub Choir 6:30pm Junior Choir 6:55pm Handbell Choir 7:35pm Sr. Choir (CR)	10	11 8:30am Yoga (PV)
Exeter Senior (FH) Yoga (PV) Church Council (FH)	16 6:10pm Cherub Choir (CR) 6:30pm Junior Choir 6:55pm Handbell Choir 7:35pm Sr. Choir (CR)	17 2:00pm Exeter Area Food Pantry	18 8:30am Yoga (PV)
Yoga (PV) Dance Club (FH)	23 6:10pm Cherub Choir (CR) 6:30pm Junior Choir 6:55pm Handbell Choir 7:35pm Sr. Choir (CR)	24	25 8:30am Yoga (PV) 9:00am Schwarzwald Walkers (Wyo) 10:00am Decorating for Harvest Home (S)
Yoga (PV)	30 6:10pm Cherub Choir (CR) 6:30pm Junior Choir 6:55pm Handbell Choir 7:35pm Sr. Choir (CR)		

CR—Choir Room PV—Pavilion S—Sanctuary P—Parlor N—Narthex
 YR—Youth Room CO—Church Office K—Kitchen Z—Zoom

Church Council Meeting Highlights (June)

Treasurer Report

The Riverview Bank CD was renewed.

Checks written in May were approved by the Finance Committee.

Old Business

Synod Assembly Report - Dave Scalse attended as the representative for SLC. The installation of the new PA Synod Bishop Deforest was held. The vast majority of the weekend was prayer and hymn service. Elizabeth Eaton, the presiding Bishop of the ELCA, spoke.

Unauthorized cars in church parking lot - We should have a policy and perhaps a gentle warning card to put on the vehicle's windshield. The Property Committee will furnish the wordage.

Nathan Morgan's Eagle Scout project. - Thank you for your support. The Amazon wish list was sold out in 2-3 hours.

New Business

Carillon – we need to start thinking about its need for repairs and obtain quotes for same.

T-Mobile and Sprint have merged. We've been approached by Tower Point offering a lump sum payment of \$420,000 for the lease. It is the consensus of church council to wait.

T-Mobile wants to install a back-up generator in their enclosure here on the property, but they do not have the room. Instead, they would like to install it in front of their enclosure.

Linked smoke alarm and CO detector – The initial ones were installed and now we need to expand the system.

A new type of light bulb was installed in the ceiling light in Fellowship Hall. If council is satisfied with the new bulb, we will purchase additional bulbs. Council concurs.

Tree removal - Stoudt's bid was \$400 to take down the tree by the garage/pavilion area, and \$1100 to remove the ash tree near the church office. Council agrees to have it done.

Garage near the pavilion - In turn for using the garage, the Lions Club offered to paint it for us. However, it is discovered the garage has lead based paint. They are reluctant to scrape, and it is suggested to paint over it using an encapsulating paint, or we could install siding on the garage. We will obtain estimates for siding as well as a quote for a new garage door.

Diane would like to attend the Parish Secretaries' Seminar in Lancaster on October 5 and 6, 2021. Council agreed. The cost is \$300 which will be paid from the General Fund.

Christian Education - The vision for the fall is back to Sunday School as usual starting with a carnival celebration on Rally Day, September 12.

CANCELLATION INFORMATION

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

ACOLYTES WILL BEGIN SERVING SEPTEBER 12, 10:30 A.M.

Schwarzwald Lutheran Church wants the people to feel comfortable and welcome
when they come to worship and serving as an acolyte you will make them welcome.



SO

GET INVOLVED IN WORSHIP

Youth 9 -15



Please complete the lower half and drop it in the collection plate in the
Narthex or the church office

----- cut -----

Name _____

Phone # _____

E-Mail _____



Social Ministry Update

It is difficult to believe that it is already September. It makes the idea of needing backpacks and school supplies seem more "real" as one looks at the calendar. With that in mind, we would like to thank everyone who donated items for the Exeter Community Food Pantry. These supplies will be distributed to the students later this month. Your assistance with this project will help the students be better prepared to begin the new school year!

By the time you read this article, Room 25 at **Mary's Shelter** will be newly painted in shades of blue. Our thanks go to Steve Vlasak and Lowe's for donating the paint! As part of the "**Strong Program**", the Exeter High School's Design Team did a wonderful job designing the room. The room now awaits the furnishings that will make it a cozy bedroom for a homeless young woman.

The **Giving Tree** in the Narthex has "bloomed" with cards listing items needed to complete the room. Larger items, such as rugs, curtains, and a comforter, have been purchased with the help of Thrivent Action Team money. You may place your donations in the container near the tree. The deadline for delivering your items to church is Sunday, **September 12**. Please remember that all items are to be new.

We continue to seek additional members for our committee. Please consider joining us! We provide many opportunities to serve others in our community, Berks County, and beyond. For more information, speak with any of our members; Peg Gumpert, Carol Gunzlemann, Marlene Harlow, Doris and Bill Jaeger, Jan Krommes, Judi Merkel, Mary Phillips, Barb and Denton Quick, and Laurie Vlasak. As we like to say, "God's work, our hands!"

RECLAIMING THE DAY

SUCCESS!!!

Deacon Diana Pelletier of St. John's – Sinking Spring sought to reclaim the day of her auto accident, which left her partially paralyzed. She did so by walking a mile, or 5280 steps, with the help of an EKS0-skeleton robot at Tower Health. She asked for donations to help her raise \$5280 to help fund others who need the EKS0, but can't afford it. Thanks to many generous donors, including some here at Schwarzwald, she raised \$11,585 — double her goal! A huge success!

THRIVENT 2022!!



Those who apply for a Thrivent Action Team on or after Jan. 1, 2022, will receive black T-shirts with this new design!

SUNDAY SCHOOL



Our youth events are back in full swing beginning this month. We kick off our festivities with Rally Day on September 12 during the Sunday School hour. This is for all ages, birth through grade 12. Weekly Sunday School continues in-person in the following weeks from 9:15 - 10:15. We are really looking forward to seeing everyone. Sunday School classes will be as follows:

Parent & Me

Age 3 - K

Grades 1 & 2

Grades 3 - 5

Jr. High (Grades 6 - 8)

Sr. High (Grades 9 - 12)

There are so many special events planned for our children this year. Check out the highlights below and mark your calendars!

September 12 - Rally Day officially begins at 9:15. This year we are having a carnival complete with games, a live magician, candy scrambles, a photo station, tattoos, crafts, popcorn, and more. You might want to arrive a few minutes early to ensure you have enough time to enjoy everything. Our oldest youth can enjoy all of the activities available plus lawn games. There will even be special prizes from the church and Chick-fi-a! It is going to be incredibly fun for everyone, and all generations of our church will be there to help. Be sure to invite family and friends. The more the merrier as we kick-off a long awaited return to SLC Sunday School.

November 21 - Fall Fun! We have two special programs scheduled for this day. Our oldest children in grade 6 and higher will enjoy **Painting With a Twist** (RSVP required). Our youngest children in grades 5 and under will enjoy **yoga**. Both activities will have a Christian spin to them.

December 19 - Our Christmas Pageant and Cookie Celebration will occur this Sunday. Parts will be assigned and dress rehearsals will take place in the weeks leading up to the event. We are adding even more to this year's production. We expect it to be bigger and better than ever before!

February 6 - Our spring special program this year is a Character Juggler! Chris Ivey will come to our church during the Sunday School hour. His juggling act is based on the book of Isaiah. He has received rave reviews from all who have seen him.

More information will be coming for the spring at a later date. Stay tuned!



**6th Annual Toy Give
for the Children of the
Exeter Area Food Pantry
will return to Schwarzwald!**

December 10, 2021

As many of you are aware, Schwarzwald Lutheran has sponsored a Toy Give for the children of the Exeter Area Food Pantry for the past five years. During this time, we have collected toys with the help of most of our local churches, community members, several businesses and civic groups. The Pantry families had the opportunity to come to a special Christmas celebration and hand pick toys for their children. The celebration has been a time of joy for both the families and the volunteers. Last year, Covid-19 and the regulations that accompanied it, forced us to take a step back from this format. Toys were pre-bagged and distributed to the parents in a drive-thru style give.

Our plan for 2021 is to go back to an indoor format with the parents selecting toys for their children! **We are excited to be hosting the event at Schwarzwald Lutheran Church this year.** If Covid-19 forces us to re-evaluate the situation, we will quickly switch back to the drive-thru format for the safety of all involved.

We are so thankful to all the individuals and organizations that helped to make last year's event our biggest ever! Over 344 children ranging in age from birth to 18 years received gifts to make their Christmas morning memorable. The number of families being served by the Exeter Area Food Pantry has stabilized some since the challenges of Covid 19 last year. Nevertheless, we still anticipate a very large number of children.

THERE ARE MANY WAYS THAT YOU CAN HELP!

Please consider purchasing a toy or toys for children aged birth to 12 years old.

Fill a shoebox with fun and practical items for a child aged 13 to 18 years old.

Boys: small electronic games, balls, comic books, sports team items, socks, etc.

Girls: make-up, nail polish, magazines, hair care items, socks, hair accessories, diary, photo book, etc.

Boy or Girl: Card games, games, puzzles, colognes, body wash, travel sized games, special notepads,

Gift Cards: to Walmart, Target, Amazon, or area food chains

Donations of hats, gloves and scarves are also appreciated.

Donations of gently read children's books that you no longer need are welcomed.

For those who prefer a monetary contribution, please send a check made payable to Schwarzwald Lutheran Church (marked "Toy Give") and send it to 250 Church Lane Road, Reading, PA 19606

***If you have a Thrivent Project that you have not used yet this calendar year and wish to use it for this effort, please let me know and I will help you with the process.

In the weeks ahead, we will be providing an Amazon Wish List with items you may purchase for the children. You can purchase the items online (they will automatically be shipped to the church). Also, keep a look out for helpful ideas for filling a shoebox!

If you have questions please contact Doris Jaeger at 610-780-9825 or bdj43077@msn.com. You may also call the church office at 610-779-3480.

More information on this event will be shared in the weeks and months ahead.

**A
BIT
OF
HISTORY**



Published monthly by



Schwarzwald
LUTHERAN CHURCH
Serving and Loving Christ Since 1737

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Join our family, share God's love.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

*Pulpit
and
Pew*

SEPTEMBER 2021