

THE LAMPSTAND

Mellingers Evangelical Lutheran Church

80 Gockley Road ☩☩ Stevens, PA 17578



FROM THE PASTOR

Youth Group Starting Up Again With Snow Tubing Event

It's been a while since Mellingers Youth Group has met due to the pandemic but we have a few things coming up as we restart our program:

In conjunction with Pastor Scott Brubaker, others at Swamp Lutheran and other area Lutheran congregations we are planning a snow tubing event at Iron Valley Golf Course in Lebanon. The date as this article is being written is tentatively January 23rd it would involve a pizza lunch around 11:30 and then carpooling to Iron Valley. The group would leave Iron Valley around 4:00 to return to Swamp in Reinholds for parent pick up. All Youth grade 6 and up are welcome and the costs are still being determined.



In addition, Mellingers group will be meeting at Mellingers in the Youth Room on Sundays February 6th and 20th from 6:30 - 8:00 pm.

Scott Brubaker Installation January 9th

On Sunday January 9th at 4:00 pm Rev. Scott Brubaker will be installed as the Pastor of Swamp Lutheran Church where he has been serving since Nov. 28th. Attendance for Scott's Ordination on Nov. 14th was limited due to pandemic restrictions but the Installation attendance will NOT be limited and all are invited!



Pastor Tim Playing music at Keystone Villa

On Tuesday January 11th, Pastor Tim will be playing music at the monthly birthday party for residents at Keystone Villa in Ephrata at 1:30 pm.

Putting Together a Team to Re-Start Coffee Time in March

While the rise in the pandemic continues to prevent us from having Coffee Time after worship where we share cookies and snacks and coffee and conversation, we are planning to put together a team to hopefully begin again in the Spring. It takes a group of people to do this...people providing the snacks, people serving and people supporting. If you think you will be able to help by providing snacks, serving or even by providing funds, please contact the Church Office at 717-336-8800.



**Volume 16 Number 01
January & February 2022**

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NEWSLETTER REMINDER

**Newsletter articles are due
on the third Sunday of each
month for the following
month's newsletter.**

**Please email your articles in
Microsoft Word or text
format to:
mellingerslutheran@gmail.com**



Pastor Tim's Message

One Day At A Time Sweet Jesus

I can't possibly remember how many many times I have been talking with people over the years and at one point or another have said, "Just take it one day at a time. It's a great song and a great idea." In a way the saying is sort of silly because, well, exactly how else can we take it? It doesn't matter if we want to take ten days at a time or zero days at a time....what happens is that each day happens one day at a time whether we like it or not. Of course the saying really means don't worry about things that haven't even happened yet. Don't dwell on things you can't change about the past. Kimberley's family has a great saying, "Don't borrow trouble."

I suppose the most famous Bible passage about this is from the teachings of Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew: 6:25-34 Do Not Worry

25 "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? 26 Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? 27 And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? 28 And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, 29 yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. 30 But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? 31 Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' 32 For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. 33 But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. 34 "So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today.

It is important to live in the moment and this is a spiritual, emotional and physical blessing. Prayer and spiritual practices are healthy ways to be in the moment. But thinking about the idea of "one day at a time" made me think about the concept of "day" and of what we can accomplish in just one day and also about the Book of Genesis in which God creates the world in six "days".

Obviously the term "day" here is not necessarily what we think of as a twenty-four hour period. It could have been longer. Then again, it could have been shorter. In Genesis Scripture tells us that God creates by speaking (chapter 1) and by hands on involvement forming humankind from the dust (chapter 2). Interestingly chapter 2 is an older account than is chapter 1.

The two ways God creates tell us that we have an all powerful God and one who is involved, not aloof. God does not just create everything and sit back and watch but is involved in Scripture throughout the entire history of God's people. This identity sets the stage for the Incarnation of God in Jesus....God above but also God with us. The word Immanuel means "God is with us" in Hebrew. But getting back to the idea of days....it's interesting to note that before we examine what it is God can do in a "day" we see that God first actually had to create the day itself.

Genesis 1: 1-5 In the beginning when God created] the heavens and the earth, 2 the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. 3 Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. 4 And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. 5 God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

Not only can God do a lot in a "day", God actually took a day to make days! And if that wasn't enough for a "day's work", on the same day God created the heavens and the earth and light and darkness, day and night!

During the course of the next five "days" as told in the first chapter of Genesis, this was God's agenda: Day 2 Create the Sky Day 3 Create the Earth, the Seas and Vegetation Day 4 Create the Sun and Moon Day 5 Create Life in the Sea and Create Birds Day 6 Create Life on the Earth including Humankind

And I thought I had a lot to do!

Concluded on the next page

Pastor's Sermon

Importantly, God rested on the 7th day and blessed the seventh day as holy, thus creating the sabbath for us as well. Now obviously you and I are not God and we cannot do everything that God did. However, God's work does point out to us that a lot can be accomplished in a day. Taking one day at a time can, perhaps, actually increase our productivity as we focus on the holy moment that God has given to us.

Created in God's image (Genesis 1:26) we have important and holy work to do this day. Not only are we "good" according to our Creator, but the day itself was also created by God and is "good" and holy. What can you do this day? No matter where we are or what we are called to be doing you and I are holy people in this holy day and are called to honor the day we have been given with the work ordained by our Creator.

When I started in the ministry I was rushing around all the time trying to accomplish as much as I could every day, every minute. I tried to jam so much into a day that everything lost its meaning and tasks which were supposed to be joyful and meaningful became a source of frustration because I was trying to do too much. One day after a period of time where everything seemed to be falling apart or not getting done the way I had hoped, I called myself into my office and closed the door and sat myself down and had a meeting with myself. The Pastor told me to stop trying to be God. Stop trying to do everything. Trust more in God's work. In what God is doing. I sat down at my desk and lowered my head in prayer.

I gave up. Temporarily. Which was the best thing I could have done. After more prayer, I prioritized what I had to do and did the most important things and let the others go for another day. And that is how I have tried to serve ever since. Subsequently, even though I don't always get everything done in a day that I would like, I know that I have done my best to do the most important work first.

This is a much more satisfying way to life and serve God. God intends for us to serve but also to be happy and not miserable.

My prayer for you is that you find peace this holy day in your holy work, whatever it may be. "This is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it." -Psalm 118: 24 If God can take one day at a time, then so can we.

Let us pray,

Our Kind and Gracious Heavenly Father, we are in awe of Your power and majesty as You have created and blessed the day and life itself and all that there is. Help us always to remember that every day is a divine and sacred gift which You have blessed us with to do the holy work which has been set before us.

All this we ask in the Name of Your Son Who Scripture tells us was there with You at the Creation of Days, Jesus Christ Our Savior and Lord in Whose Holy Name we pray, -Amen

On Dec. 12th the Annual Congregational meeting was held and the 2022 Disciple Resource Allocation (budget) was approved by a vote of 47 Yes 0 No and 6 abstentions.

Elected to Church Council were Mike Haller, Mike Leed, Hayden Leonhard, Kristi Leonhard.

Re-elected to Council were Randy Meckley and Jill Showalter. They will serve with Troy Adair, Randy Brubaker, Kelsey Hogan, Jean Lausch, Lowell Yost as the Church Council for 2022.

Thanks to all who attended the meeting. Andy Leonhard has resigned from Council due to overwhelming work as a Funeral Director during the ongoing pandemic. Please keep all in your prayers.

Hymn of the Month

"HAIL TO THE LORD'S ANOINTED"

Hymn Tune Freut Euch Ihr Lieben

Text: James Montgomery Music: Leonhart Schroder

James Montgomery, born in Scotland, the son of a Moravian clergyman, was an editor by profession.

Though as a child he had joined the Moravian Church, he lost his early piety when he became a young man; but later in life, he was converted, and joined the Moravian Church again at the age of forty-three. Thus, he became a Christian warrior, such as he describes, standing

In all the armor of his God;

The Spirit's sword is in his hand,

His feet are with the gospel shod.

He and Cowper hold the foremost place among laymen of the church who are eminent hymn- writers.

His hymn, "Hail to the Lord's Anointed," he wrote in 1821, seven years after he joined the church a second time. It is a metrical version of the seventy-second psalm. It was written as a Christmas hymn and was first sung on Christmas Day, 1821, at a great convocation of Moravians in their settlement at Fulneck.

At a Wesleyan missionary meeting, held in Liverpool on April 14 of the following year, 1822, when Dr. Adam Clarke presided, Montgomery made an address and closed it by the recital of this hymn with all of its verses, some of which are omitted in this hymnal. Dr. Clarke later used it in his famous Commentary in connection with his discussion of the seventy-second psalm.

Hail To The Lord's Anointed Lyrics

HAIL TO THE LORD'S ANOINTED,

GREAT DAVID'S GREATER SON!

HAIL, IN THE TIME APPOINTED,

HIS REIGN ON EARTH BEGUN!

HE COMES TO BREAK OPPRESSION,

TO SET THE CAPTIVE FREE;

TO TAKE AWAY TRANSGRESSION,

AND RULE IN EQUITY.

Submitted by Vickie Kissinger

As most of you already know, we are in the process of installing an upgrade to the sound system here at Mellingers. We are also planning changes to improve the acoustics of the church sanctuary. Below is the timeline and thought process that went into these decisions.

Starting in August of 2020 with much research, we developed the FM transmission. This led to a discussion to move to streaming. With a lot of trial and error, we created the setup that we currently use. We quickly learned that there is a need for the live streaming aside of the obvious COVID reason. Mellingers has had a number of people logging into our live stream from distant locations. The issue is that the current system is a temporary solution and will need to be updated to a more permanent setup.



With church council's approval a committee of 6 members was formed to discuss the sound issues that we have been having and we discussed the need to ensure that our outreach of live streaming and FM transmission continue to be successful. This is when we started to brain storm and talk with professional people within the sound solution industries. We first reached out to Vicki Kissinger's friend, John Britcher. He has knowledge in this area and has experience in sound system set up with other churches. We asked him to help us as an adviser.

In April of 2021 we contacted B&B Integrations from Lancaster. We asked them to develop a better solution to our current system. We tasked them to come up with a solution to our current acoustical issue as well as upgrade our system to allow for a better sound quality and streaming capability. A representative from B&B took measurements and computer aided sound readings of our sanctuary. They used computer software to simulate different sound conditions to determine types and location of speakers. Computer software was used to determine the thickness and type of acoustical panels used for the sound conditioning of the sanctuary. They were able to tell us what is happening with the sound waves and the current sound condition of the sanctuary. All of this is a very technical approach but we feel that we wanted to give this upgrade the very best chance of success.

B&B proposed the following solutions:

To address the acoustics, they proposed installing 14 (2"x 4' x 8') acoustical panels equally spaced around the sanctuary. The panels will match the color of the walls and will be mounted above the wall sconces between the windows as well as on the back wall. They proposed adding one main speaker located directly above the three steps leading to the chancel. This will be mounted to the ceiling and project towards the congregation. Two smaller speakers will be mounted to the walls above the two entrances at the rear of the sanctuary. They will be used to fill in sound voids towards the rear of the sanctuary. Finally, two mini speakers, one located on the wall behind the pulpit and another one behind the lectern facing towards the altar. These two speakers will project the sound toward the choir and organist.

B&B offered installing a new digital sound board that will allow for better sound mixing and will allow the integration of more microphones and better sound control. The sound board will incorporate a sound loop system for the hearing impaired that will have blue tooth capabilities to pair with hearing aids. Finally, they offered one camera that will be integrated with the sound board for streaming. The camera will be located on the back wall and will be controlled along with the sound system by the sound technician. The camera will be remote controlled to zoom in to speakers standing at either the pulpit or the lectern as well as the altar.

The final proposal of \$56,195 was presented to and was approved by church council in November.

The components are ordered but progress is slowed due to supply chain issues. The best estimate for the installation is late January early February. A firm time will be scheduled once the final components are received.



Money we already have is designated towards this long over due, important project but we are also asking that you pray about donating.

Thank you from Joe Brubaker



January



January 02 - 2 Christmas: Jeremiah 31:7-14, Psalms 147:12-20,
Ephesians 1:3-14, & Luke 1:[1-9] 10-18

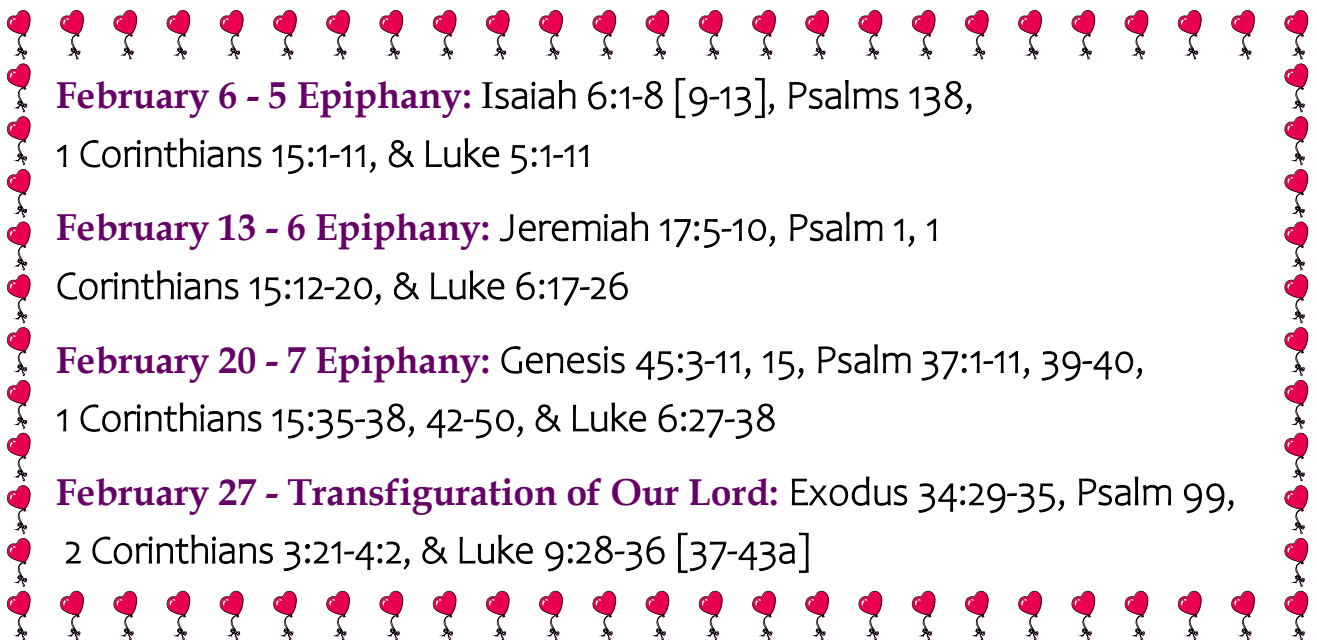
January 09 - Baptism of Our Lord: Isaiah 43:1-7, Psalm 29, Acts 8:14-17, &
Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

January 16 - 2 Epiphany: Isaiah 62:1-5, Psalm 36:5-10, 1 Corinthians 12:1-11,
& John 2:1-11

January 23 - 3 Epiphany: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10, Psalm 19,
1 Corinthians 12:12-31a, & Luke 4:14-21

January 30 - 4 Epiphany: Jeremiah 1:4-10, Psalm 71:1-6, 1 Corinthians 13:1-
13, & Luke 4:21-30

February



February 6 - 5 Epiphany: Isaiah 6:1-8 [9-13], Psalms 138,
1 Corinthians 15:1-11, & Luke 5:1-11

February 13 - 6 Epiphany: Jeremiah 17:5-10, Psalm 1, 1
Corinthians 15:12-20, & Luke 6:17-26

February 20 - 7 Epiphany: Genesis 45:3-11, 15, Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40,
1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50, & Luke 6:27-38

February 27 - Transfiguration of Our Lord: Exodus 34:29-35, Psalm 99,
2 Corinthians 3:21-4:2, & Luke 9:28-36 [37-43a]

CHURCH COUNCIL

DECEMBER 16, 2021

- ◇ Linda Weaver called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Pastor Tim offered a prayer and read Ephesians 4:11.
- ◇ Council voted to put out church boxes for Tornado relief through January 2.
- ◇ New and returning council members will be installed on Sunday January 9th.
- ◇ Kudos to the Social Ministry for hosting a fun and wonderful 160th Anniversary party.
- ◇ We closed the meeting with the Lord's Prayer.



We are in need of someone to set up Communion for the month of March.

It can be one person or a team.

Please contact Linda Netzley (717) 733-3377 or the Church office (717)-336-8800 if you are willing to serve in this way.



To celebrate our 160th Anniversary we have Church on the Hill mugs and church cookbooks available by donation.



Pick 6 information will be coming out in March's Newsletter.

Area Homeless Advocacy

(will be replacing Campus Crusade for Christ)

Ephrata Area Social Services

ELCA Mission Support

Denver Peter's Porch

ELCA Hunger Appeal

Lutheran Camping Corporation

Seminarian Fund

Mellingers Needy Fund



Goat \$50

Limited space to graze? Dry land? **Goats don't mind! Goats can go where other animals can't**, surviving in some of the world's most challenging terrain and unreliable climates. Fresh milk from a goat provides daily nutrition for children and their families. Plus, goats are incredibly quick to reproduce, providing an opportunity for families to pass the gift on to others in their community.



THE GOAT PROGRAM

To my Mellinger's Family,

In these very trying times, let us still do our good works.

Let's support ELCA Good Gifts by helping families receive a gift of a goat.

A goat provides daily nutrition for children and their families. The price is still \$50.00/goat.

In 2020 we donated \$650 and helped 13 families.

This past year in 2021 we donated \$1450 and were to help 29 families.

We will collecting until the end of February. LET'S DO THIS.

Thank you and stay well, Linda Hutchinson (The Goat Lady)

Mail in donations marked Goat Program. Your donations will make a difference for God's children! Give A Gift, Change A Life

GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

CONTRIBUTION OPPORTUNITIES AT MELLINGERS

Contributions may be made to the following funds at any time and may also be used to aid people in designating monies for memorials. Should you wish to donate to any of these funds, please place funds in an envelope and provide the name of the fund in which you would like your donation placed, your name and envelope number.

✚ Maintenance and Building Fund

✚ Needy Fund

✚ The Seminarian Fund

✚ Property Improvement Fund

✚ Sound System Upgrade

✚ Lutheran World Relief



Lutheran World Relief
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. LASTING PROMISE.

We need your assistance to help those who are less fortunate. God instructs us as his disciples to help the poor and needy.

Every dollar donated helps to bless someone in need. Our help is needed after disasters for those who have lost everything and for those around the world who have had to flee their homes due to war and religious persecution. We are praying that God moves your heart to help those less fortunate. Please send your envelope marked LWR and help change a life. With your donations to LWR, we will continue to do God's work. If you would like to contribute to Lutheran World Relief envelopes are available, or mark your donations LWR.

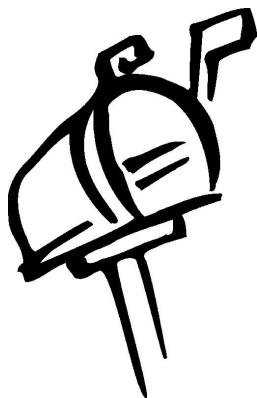
Please visit their website for more information. <https://lwr.org>

Thank you and God Bless,
Social Ministry



Beginning with March 2022

Newsletters will be put in church mailboxes unless requested. Shut-ins will continue to have their newsletters mailed.



Adamstown Fire Company Events

January 15th Soup & Sub Sale at 10am

Schoeneck Fire Company Events

January 15th

Breakfast from 6am to 10am

February 5th

Soup & Sub Sale at 8am

February 19th

Breakfast from 6am to 10am

JANUARY

Birthdays

January 01

Maddy Brown

Ruth Buchter

January 02

Ashley Leed

Chase Martin

January 03

Sherry Stewart

January 05

Molly Fasnacht

January 06

Jerry Petery

January 08

Paul Hackman

Jenna Weachter

January 09

Joe Brubaker

January 10

Emily Parrish

Joyce Wilhide

January 12

Aidan Borry

Kristie Stief

January 14

Greg Harting

January 16

Brooke Stewart

January 17

Darlene Williamson

January 18

Drew Sawyer

January 19

Lillian Redding

January 20

Patty Gehman

January 21

Sally Leed

Joshua Sawyer

January 22

Caleb Leonhard

January 24

Elizabeth Gehman

Deb Sensenig

Christopher Usner

Matthew Weaver

January 26

Skip Hutchinson

January 28

Hayden Leonhard

Jill Showalter

January 29

Jeremy Zerbe

January 30

David Eberly

January Holidays

Saturday January 1st



**Thursday
January 6th**



**MARTIN
LUTHER
KING JR.
DAY**

**Monday
January 17th**

Thank You Note

Dear Friends,

On behalf of Kimberley and the boys and myself I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for your gifts, cards, prayers and other acts of kindness during the Christmas season.

God bless you and we pray all will have a blessed New Year.

In Christ's love,

-Pastor Tim



February 02

Horst Berendt

February 06

Kathryn "Wren" Dillon

February 07

Kaitlyn Reed

February 08

Thomas Parrish

February 10

Sam Heiser

Debra Jeffers

February 11

Brittany Hartlove

February 14

Vivian Gehr



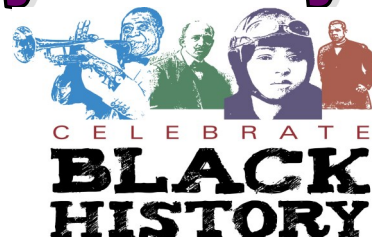
SATURDAY JANUARY 29, 2022

KLONDIKE DERBY

Blessings,

Sheldon Brubaker Scoutmaster

February Holidays



February 2: Ground Hog Day

February 8: Boy Scout Day

February 14: Valentines Day

February 21: Presidents Day

February 27: Transfiguration Day



February 05, 1981

Robert & Gail Harker

February 14, 2004

Dan & Deb Sensenig

February 18, 1978

Scott & Jeanette Engle

February 21, 1985

Rick & Wren Dillon

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

MINISTERS: The people of Mellingers

✠STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Timothy Craven (717) 738-3838 Cell: (717) 468-9049
Director of Christian Education: Diane Adair (717) 715-3124
Director of Music: Vickie Kissinger (717) 354-6575 vickiekissinger@gmail.com
Secretary: Ashley Weinhold (717) 336-8800 mellingerslutheran@gmail.com
Treasurer: Jon Hogan (814) 289-1646

CHURCH COUNCIL

President: Lowell Yost (717) 471-7758 **Vice-President:** Troy Adair (717) 715-3126
Recording Secretary: Ashley Weinhold (717) 336-8800
Members:

✠ Randy Brubaker (717) 314-3449 ✠ Mike Haller (717) 368-1572 ✠ Kelsey Hogan (717) 715-7612
✠ Jean Lausch (717) 572-5385 ✠ Mike Leed (717) 475-8092 ✠ Hayden Leonhard
✠ Kristie Leonhard (717) 940-7535 ✠ Randy Meckley (717) 572-6395 ✠ Jill Showalter (717) 336-5032

LEADERS

Auditors: Lynn Spotts (717) 721-7644 Victor Richard (717) 951-8977
Treasurer: Jon Hogan (814) 289-1646 **Assistant Treasurer:** Skip Hutchinson (717) 733-5029
Financial Secretary: Jill Showalter (717) 336-5032 **Assistant Financial Secretary:** TBD
Youth Group Advisors: Kristi & Paul Leonhard (717) 733-1260 Cell: (717) 940-7535 Pastor Tim (717) 738-3838
Altar Guild: Barr Family (717) 626-0388
Altar Flowers: Nancy Hain (717) 336-6270
Special Flowers: Melanie Brubaker (717) 859-4849
Communion Assistant Coordinator: Ashley Weinhold (717) 336-8800
Wedding Coordinator: Brittany Hartlove (717) 715-3127
Camp Person: Kim Craven (717) 738-3838
Newsletter Editor: Office Staff (717) 336-8800
Web Site Editor: Office Staff (717) 336-8800
Lawn Care: Pat Jeffers (717) 336-8170
Snow Removal: Randy Meckley (717) 572-6395
Scout Liaison: David Haldeman (717) 733-8551
Scripture Reader Coordinator: Dorothy Hutchinson (717) 336-2563
Greeter Coordinator: Fay Weitzel (717) 336-2124
Blood Pressure Check Coordinator: Susan Specht (717) 336-4601
Coffee Social: Kristi Leonhard (717) 940-7535
Offering Counters: Nancy Eberly (717) 945-2895

SOCIAL MEDIA RESOURCES

WEBSITE:

www.mellingers.org

FACEBOOK:

Check us out on Facebook. We
are listed under Mellingers
Evangelical Lutheran Church.

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Worship and Music: Nancy Hain (717) 336-6270
Social Ministry: Shirley Sweigart (717) 538-1946
Discipleship In Life: TBA
Budget: TBA
Endowment/Memorial: Randy Brubaker (717) 733-9222
Property: Randy Meckley (717) 572-6395
Personnel: Nancy Eberly (717) 945-2895

SCOUT LEADERS

✠Troop 115: Sheldon Brubaker (717) 468-5333 smb115@ptd.net
✠Pack 115: Daniel Marszalek. 717.405.9724 scoutleaderdan115@yahoo.com