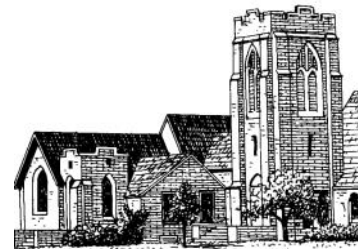


# The Caller



610-543-2110

SWARTHMORE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
129 Park Avenue, Swarthmore, PA 19081  
www.swarthmoreumc.org

April  
2018

## From the Pastor:

It was Good Friday, and Lois Neely of Ontario was struggling with the blues. She had expected to spend Easter with friends in Florida, but a serious illness had cancelled her plans. She was bitterly disappointed, and as she sat gazing through a frosted window at the cold, barren landscape her thoughts went to the swimming pool and tall palm trees she was missing. Several problems confronted her, and she was worried and weary. Finally, she prayed. "Lord," she said, "if you could gladden the hearts of those followers who had been walking to Emmaus, you are able to do it for me."

Remembering that the Emmaus disciples in Luke 24 had invited a friend to dinner, she decided to do the same. The friend came, and the two women had a lovely time. Then remembering the women who visited the tomb on Easter Sunday, she called the chaplain in her retirement center, and the two began planning an Easter Sunrise service.

To her surprise, forty seniors showed up, and the whole group seemed energized to sing, "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today, Alleluia!"

That evening, Lois wrote in her diary, "A most excellent day!" And isn't that, after all, what Easter is! (Adapted from Lois Neely, "Unexpected Delights at Easter" *Decision Magazine*).

Easter is the hope that God offers during bad times, a light in which we can believe even while we're still in the darkness. The risen Christ not only transforms our sadness into joy, but also grants us the ability to reach out to those whose bodies, minds, and spirits are in need. We Christians are Easter people not only on Easter Sunday, but all year around. As Easter people, let us bring hope and healing to those broken in body and spirit. Have a most excellent day! Happy Easter!

*Sukja*

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## Thank You for Your Service!

### Readers:

April 1: Penni Flick  
April 8: Sheila Bell  
April 15: Judy Luzak  
April 22: Sue Kelly  
April 29: Linton Stables

### Children's Message:

April 8: Rich Cresson  
April 15: Judy Luzak  
April 22: Judy Luzak  
April 29: Judy Luzak

### Ushers:

April 1: Andy Lewis and Sam Parsons  
April 8: Cresson Family  
April 15: Joy Charlton and David Page  
April 22: Sam Parsons  
April 29: Rick Valelly and David Page

### Fellowship:

April 1: Ciampa Family  
April 8: Nanette Tobin  
April 15: needs a volunteer  
April 22: Charlton / Page  
April 29: needs a volunteer

### Counters:

First Sunday: Andy Lewis  
Second Sunday: Rick Sultzer and Hogie Hansen  
Third Sunday: Bill Flick and Harriet Hudgins  
Fourth Sunday: Barb Weir and Charlie Hoover  
Fifth Sunday: Bill Flick and Harriet Hudgins

### Altar Flowers:

April 1: Memory of F. Joan Flick by her daughter, Penni Flick  
April 8: Honor of Ruth Cederstrom by the Ciampa family  
April 15: Memory of Jamie Page by Joy Charlton and David Page  
April 22: needs a volunteer  
April 29: needs a volunteer

Please call Peggy Mattox at the church office (610-543-2110) to let her know if/when you cannot serve on the date for which you signed up so that a substitute may be arranged.



**All the World's a Stage  
Theater Groups at SUMC**



**MARPLE-NEWTOWN PLAYERS-SPOTLIGHT THEATER**

**Performances at Swarthmore UMC**

**UPCOMING EVENTS AT SUMC**

Please join us for the following events:

- April 8: Grace Café, meet at 4:15 pm to car pool
- April 9: Trustees, 7:30 pm, Centennial Room
- April 10: Finance Committee, 7:30 pm, Centennial Room
- April 11: Book Club, 7:30 pm, Home of Beth Carruthers
- April 14: Trustees' Work Day, 9-12
- April 16: Admin Council, 7:30 pm, Centennial Room
- April 18: CALLER DEADLINE
- April 18: PBJ Night, 7:45 pm, Centennial Room

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***Deadline for the May Caller is Tuesday, April 18th***

*Be sure and let the Church office know about any events you would like published*

**WORSHIP NOTES**



- April 1: Acts 10:34-43, Ps. 118:1-2, I Cor. 15:1-11, John 20:1-18
- April 8: Acts 4:32-35, Ps. 133, I John 1:1-2:2, John 20:19-31
- April 15: Acts 3:12-19, Ps. 4, I John 3:17, Luke 24:26b-48
- April 22: Acts 4:5-12, Ps. 23, I John 3:16-24, John 10:11-18
- April 29: Acts 8:26-40, Ps. 22:25-31, I John 4:7-21, John 15:1-8

**Faith and Life Class**

April 1: Easter Sunday--No Faith and Life

April 8: What do Dr. Mary Engle Pennington, refrigerated railway boxcars and historical markers have in common? Come join us with special guest speaker, Robyn Young, to find out.

April 15 and 22: David Page will lead participants in the soul-nurturing practice of meditation.

April 29: Janice Ciampa will continue with leading us through the Social Principles of The United Methodist Church 2017-2020.

*He has showed you, o Mortal, what is good.  
And what does the Lord **require** of you?  
Just this: To do Justice; To love Kindness; and to walk, humbly, with your God.*



## **OUTREACH—Touching Lives for Christ**

*For as much as you have done unto these, you have done unto me.*



### **OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES April 2018**

Mark your calendars for Sunday, April 8. This will be our final Grace Café hosting this spring. Grace Café is an outreach mission of the Arch Street United Methodist Church that starts with a Sunday evening worship service and then proceeds to free dinner for the homeless population of Center City. If you are interested in serving dinner that evening, plan to meet at SUMC at 4:15 p.m. so that we can carpool into Philadelphia. We serve dinner at 6:00 and are usually finished in a little more than an hour and back on our way to Swarthmore. Please let Janice Ciampa know if you would like to serve dinner that evening. We also welcome donations of dinner rolls, salad greens and desserts.

The Chester/Delco Chapter of Heeding God's Call to End Gun Violence is again encouraging congregations to host the Teeshirt Memorial to the Lost. Each teeshirt in the memorial represents an individual who died from gun violence in Delaware County over the past 5 years. The current memorial has 178 shirts. In April, the Memorial was hosted by St. John Chrysostom's Church in Wallingford. On April 14, the Drexel Hill United Methodist Church will install and host the memorial for two weeks. If you would like to help with the installation or in some other way work towards ending gun violence, please contact Ralph Ciampa for more information.

PBJ Night will take place on Wednesday, April 18 @ 7:45 p.m. You bring two loaves of sliced bread and we provide the peanut butter and jelly and some light refreshments. All are welcome.

Every week is a good week to bring a donation for City Team. The collection table is in the narthex. We have also been a collection site for Cradles to Crayons and their collection area is adjacent to that for City Team. Thanks for your generosity.

### **SUMC Book Club Dates**

*Meetings are the second **Wednesday** of each month, at 7:30pm*

April Book Club will meet on April 11th at the home of Beth Carruthers:

301 Dartmouth Avenue, Swarthmore, PA 19081

The discussion book is *The Private Life of Mrs. Sharma*, by Ratika Kapur



**APRIL 14th 9am-noon**  
**Trustees' Clean up Day**



Dust off your dusters! Break out your work gloves.

Trustees are planning for a work day to spruce up the church - inside and out.

Is there any area of the church you think needs attention? Let any of us know.

Penni Flick, Charlie Hoover, Alison Masterpasqua,  
Ed Parent, Linton Stables, Carolyn Stephens



## *Easter Joy*

*Jesus came to earth,  
To show us how to live,  
How to put others first,  
How to love and how to give.*

*Then He set about His work,  
That God sent Him to do;  
He took our punishment on Himself;  
He made us clean and new.*

*He could have saved Himself,  
Calling angels from above,  
But He chose to pay our price for sin;  
He paid it out of love.*

*Our Lord died on Good Friday,  
But the cross did not destroy  
His resurrection on Easter morn  
That fills our hearts with joy.*

*Now we know our earthly death,  
Like His, is just a rest.  
We'll be forever with Him  
In heaven, where life is best.*

*So we live our lives for Jesus,  
Think of Him in all we do.  
Thank you Savior; Thank you Lord.  
Help us love like you!*

*By Joanna Fuchs*

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Swarthmore United Methodist Church  
129 Park Avenue  
Swarthmore, PA 19081



**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.  
**The people of The United Methodist Church®**