

Longswamp United Church of Christ

May 11th, 2025 ~ 10:15 am

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Hospital Code 451

CCLI #2341826

Facebook page: **Longswamp UCC**

Wi-Fi Guest Password: Christ200

Rev. Kimberly Berenotto, Pastor

Ann Mabry Miller, Organist

Ministry Partners: Head Usher, Greeter- Theresa Haffner-Stearns

Reader- Justin Smith

Fourth Sunday of Easter

**Indicates to rise as you are able in body and spirit.*

MUSIC PREPARES US FOR WORSHIP

"To The Upper Room"

Gaith

"It's Not The First Mile"

Millie Lou Pace

"Jesus Is All You Need"

Clayton

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Awake, rise up!

People: There is much to be done in God's name today.

Leader: Ready yourselves, as God's disciples!

People: We are ready to hear God's word and to respond in action and love.

Leader: Open your hearts to God's will and God's way!

People: We believe God is present and we lift up God's name in praise. Amen.

*HYMN

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

#77

CALL TO CONFESSION

CONFESSION

All: God, we pray that you are delighted by our faith and that we serve you with our belief in Christ. But, too often, we fail to believe. We don't believe that billions of people can hunger no more, thirst no more, and that every tear can be wiped away from their eyes. Help us to more clearly hear the call to a life of discipleship; to rise up and be devoted to good works and acts of charity and

kindness. Help us to live into the resurrection hope that allows us to believe it is possible for us to create God's kingdom on earth - not just as an imaginary goal but as real transformation we can make with our own hands. Forgive us, Holy One, and move us toward loving action. Amen.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Hear the Good News! God will lead us to places of transformation and hope.

God will strengthen us and raise us to new life.

People: Bestowed with grace, joy and wonder we thank the God who forgives us now and always. Alleluia! Amen!

LOFT CHOIR ANTHEM

"Mother's Day Prayer"

Malmin and Van Dyke

The Loft Choir

*PASSING THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

All children are welcome to come forward for the Children's Message. Afterwards, children can then follow our Sunday School teachers to Children's Church located in the Education Building. Children's Church includes bible stories, crafts, games and more. Sunday School is for kids of all ages, but we welcome families to stay together in worship if that is what you prefer.

*HYMN

Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak

#574

RESPONSIVE READING (BASED ON ISAIAH 66:12-14 & 22-23)

Leader: The Lord speaks to us: I will extend peace like a river.

People: I will extend wealth like a flooding stream.

Leader: As a mother comforts her child, so will I, your God, comfort you.

People: The Lord speaks to us: Your heart will rejoice!

Leader: You will flourish like the growing grass.

People: I will be made known to you, my servant-people.

Leader: The Lord speaks to us: The new heaven and new earth I made will endure.

People: And you and your descendants will also endure.

Leader: From one new moon to another, and from one Sabbath day to another.

People: All humankind will come and bow down before me.

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 9:36-43

SERMON

"There Was a Disciple

Pastor Kim

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever, Amen.

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERING & MISSION MOMENT

***DOXOLOGY #809**

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures here below
Praise God above, you heavenly host: praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen***

***OFFERING PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

All: Gracious and loving God, may all that we give testify to your loving action in the world. We offer these gifts to you, to be used to show your care and compassion for the church and the greater community. By the power of the Holy Spirit, transform our offerings in ways that bring fullness of life to these in need. In the name of the Risen Christ we pray, Amen.

***HYMN *Happy the Home When God is There* #389**

BENEDICTION

CLOSING MUSIC *"Postlude"* Zundel



WELCOME TO LONGSWAMP UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST!

This is our Weekly Beacon- May 11th-17th, 2025

Altar flowers and bulletins are given to the Glory of God and are in loving memory of mother, Edna Kocher, by Barbara Karom.

Thank you for worshiping with us on this beautiful Mother's Day! Thank you also to the Loft Choir for singing today! All women are welcome to take a plant from the narthex as a thank you for all you do for your families and our community.

Next Sunday, May 18th, is communion and is also our Congregational Meeting after the service. Please stay after the service to hear the 2024 financial review and to vote on upcoming projects such as repainting the Schubert Haus, patching the parking lot, and fixing our digital sign. After the congregational meeting, we will be installing the newest bricks into the memorial brick pathway. If you're able to help out with that, please stay after the meeting!

Sharing Our Faith

Looking for donations of lightly used clothing! Even though our Community Yard sale was cancelled due to scheduling conflicts with the Topton Day Yard Sale, we are still running a clothing drive for the Hope Rescue Mission in Reading! If you have any gently used clothing that you'd like to get rid of, please bring it to the church by May 18th! The Rescue Mission will be picking up all clothing on Monday, May 19th. Clothing only, please, no other items accepted.

The future PA Keystone Conference is running a logo design contest! All entries must be turned in by this Thursday, May 15th. Please see Maggie in the church office for a packet with the logo requirements and submission form.

Teaching What We Believe

Children's church is LUCC's Sunday School program and it runs weekly during the church service. After the children's message, children are welcome to follow the children's church teachers to the education building for their weekly lesson. All children are welcome but if you'd rather stay together as a family during the service, that's fine too! The noises and wiggles of children are welcome in worship.

Acting on Jesus' Teachings

May 2025 Local Mission - Brandywine Food Pantry - Sunday, May 11 - Saturday, May 31, 2025 - Do you like to help people in need? If so, please consider helping our food-insecure neighbors by supporting the Brandywine Food Pantry. These items are **desperately needed right now** by disadvantaged residents of our community: **Paper products** (paper towels, tissues, toilet tissue); **Personal care items** (body wash, shampoo, soap, toothpaste, individually wrapped toothbrushes, etc.); **Cleaning and disinfecting products** (dish soap, disinfectant wipes, laundry detergent). Please deposit your donations for the Brandywine Food Pantry in

the appropriately marked boxes on the round table behind the piano or in the bell room. If you would prefer to give a monetary offering, please put it in your May mission envelope (dated May 18) or a plain white envelope with your name and Brandywine Food Pantry written on it and drop it in the offering basket, the locked offering box in the bell room (open during the week from 6:30 AM - 5:30 PM), or mail it to the church. Please contact Jill Shade (jill.shade@longswampucc.org; 484-894-0636) if you have any questions about our May 2025 mission for the benefit of the **Brandywine Food Pantry**. Thank you in advance for your support of the Brandywine Food Pantry!

4th Annual "Cookies for a Cause" event for the benefit of the Brandywine Food Pantry - Saturday, May 31, 2025 - 10 AM - 2 PM at Mertztown Store. Hope you can visit our "Cookies for a Cause" table at the Mertztown Store on Saturday, May 31, 2025, from 10 AM-2 PM. Please tell your family, friends, and neighbors to visit our table too! This will be an extra way for LUCC to collect more non-perishable food items, personal care products, household items, paper products, and monetary donations for Brandywine Food Pantry (LUCC's mission for May 2025). Each donor will receive a small bag of homemade chocolate chip or snickerdoodle cookies as a small token of our appreciation for their donation. We are in need of volunteers to help for an hour or two (especially from 12-2:30 PM) at our Cookies for a Cause stand. Please sign up on the sign-up sheet in the narthex. Please contact Jill Shade if you have any questions or to volunteer.

Longswamp UCC Business

Hard copies of our monthly newsletter are available on the side table in the narthex. Online copies are available on our website or please let the church office know if you'd like to be added to the mail or email list.