THE LAMPSTAND

Mellingers Evangelical Lutheran Church 80 Gockley Road 🕈 Stevens, PA 17578



Pastor's Meditation

Reflections on the Passing of a Loved One During the past 36 years. I have had the

honor of sharing with most of you times of great joy and of great sorrow. I believe there is a bond between members of the Body of Christ, the Church, which is a special bond which redefines happiness as deep spiritual joy and also redefines sorrow as hope through tears, victory through defeat, life through death.

Recently I have been on the "receiving" end of this hope as expressed through you all during my twin brother Tom's illness and passing. I have said this several times but it bears repeating again: many times when I was with my family I sensed that you all were standing outside the door in the hall or in the yard looking in the window. This, I believe, was the tangible presence of your prayers and the Holy Spirit. This presence gave me, and continues to give me, much comfort and strength.

I also want to share that it is a certain fact that even the most faithful person has doubts during times of great challenge. This is normal. I experienced this. Jesus Himself suffered and asked if there was possibly another way besides crucifixion. And we, of course, aren't Jesus.

Your presence and words of hope and love and prayers truly are God's power lifting me and one another and those you meet from the brink of despair when one is physically and



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<u>NEWSLETTER</u> ARTICLES Due Date

The Summer newsletter article deadlines will be <u>Wednesday, May 22</u>

Your articles can be emailed in the formats of Word or PDF to: mellingerslutheran@gmail.com

emotionally drained...to a place of belief and power. The great theologian Paul Tillich once said, "The old faith must die, eaten away by doubts, but only so that anew and deeper faith may be born."

"When anxiety was great within me, your consolation brought me joy." – Psalm 94:19

"So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand." - Isaiah 41: 10 'Be merciful to those who doubt." Jude 1: 22 Be merciful to yourself even as God has shown mercy to you and as you have shown mercy to others. God bless you. In Christ's love,

Your Brother, Pastor Tim

Thursday May 9, 2024 Ascension Day 7 pm

Acts 10:44-48, Psalm 98, 1 John 5:1-6 & John 15:9-17 **ASCENSION DAY MAY 9** Acts 1:1-11, Psalm 47 or 93, Ephesians 1:15-23 & Luke 24:44-53 Acts 1:15-17, 21-26, Psalm 1, 1 John 5:9-13 & John 17:6-19 DAY OF PENTECOST MAY 19 Acts 2:1-21 or Ezekiel 37:1-14, Psalm 104:24-34, 35b, Roman 8:22-27 or Acts 2:1-21 & John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

PRAYER CORNER

<u>Please pray for the following people:</u>

Linda Netzley, Margaret Bollinger, Theda Raffauf, Mary Weidman, Roger Gehman, Kim and Kevin Kieffer, Mike Haller, Sam Soto, Mike Leed, Ethel Sensenig, Dorothy Hutchinson, Walter Goshert Jr., Jane Goshert, Dave Haldeman, Ruth Hollinger, Deb Zerbe, Roy Latshaw, Shirley Sweigart, Amanda Benton, Jeff Moyer, Marty Leed & Family, Fay Weitzel, Nevin & Pat McQuate, Vivian Gehr, Jay Weaver, Barb Moyer, Betty Cordes and Judy Meckley.

Artman Lutheran, Ambler, PA: Sally Wealand Brethren Village, Lititz: Beverly Sweigart Ephrata Manor: Ella Felker, Vesta Reber, Pauline Sawyer, Shirl Tobias, and Joan Wentzel Heatherwood, Honeybrook: Bob Weaver Keystone Villa: Betty Firestine, Faye Pannebecker and Harriet & Jay Stoltzfus Legends of Lititz Home: Pauline Martin Phoebe Berks: Nick Rampolla Somerset Rehab: Grace Wentz Pann State Langester Hospital: Pachol Creven

Penn State Lancaster Hospital: Rachel Craven

United Zion Home Lititz: Ethel Leed

Raymond and Janey Boley, Kelly Means, Desi Wagner, Dan Sweigart, Patty Hall, Tony Hatchkowski, Mick Smyer, Ruth Bieler, Pastor Karen Larson, Brian Kerns, Mary Lou Crum, Bea Hassler, Rev. Judy McKee, Meredith Palmer, Althea Hillegas, Brenda Gabig, Bob Bos, Curtis Townsley, Mary Morton, Robyn Redcay, Letitia James, Corrina Bender, Margaret Weller, Bud Bender, Donald Craven, Mike Fasnacht, Matt Thorn and Cynthia Peters.

Pray also for the grieving families of:

Shanan Shortuse, Ray Vargo, Lavern Gehman, Patricia Kieffer, Tom Craven, Bill Nodeen, Michelle Simpson, Sam Heiser, Hunter Bristow, Clair High, Tom Dittoe, Donald Hain and Clara Ingram.

HYMN OF THE MONTH FOR MAY

"Holy, Holy, Holy" Lyrics: Reginald Heber Hymn Tune: *"NICAEA"*

"Holy, Holy, Holy" by Reginald Heber (1783-1826) is unique in many regards. Indeed, it spans many Christian traditions and centuries, unifying them in four timeless stanzas. Not only that, but Heber was an Anglican bishop whose ministry spanned continents and races, placing him as one of the heroes of the Christian faith.

Perhaps the most intriguing characteristic of the hymn is how the text does not initiate praise, but instead encourages the singer to join in an endless song. Both Isaiah 6:1-5 and Revelation 4:2-11 inspire this hymn, spanning the Testaments, reminding us that the Trisagion (thrice holy) has been uttered in worship for centuries. Isaiah received his vision in the eighth century B.C.; John the Apostle recorded his revelation in the first century C.E.; while Reginald Heber composed his hymn in 1826, in the nineteenth century.

What makes this hymn so special? First, the rhyme scheme is unique since all four lines of each stanza rhyme with the word "holy." One won't easily find another hymn written this way. Another reason why "Holy, holy, holy" is such a timeless hymn is its pairing with the well-known tune NICAEA. Written by John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876), NICAEA has a unique elegance and magnificence, which in turn complements Heber's stately language. Named after the Council of Nicaea, where the nature of the Trinity was shaped theologically, NICAEA is also a classic example of Victorian hymn tune writing, notably with its solid harmonies and subtle chromaticism.

by Vickie Kissinger

Choir Practice Schedule: Wednesday May 1 and 8 Bell Choir at 6:00 pm Choir at 7:00 pm



USHERS

Schedule for May Services

May 5 Head – Nancy Eberly Kristi Leonhard Piper Leonhard <i>Alt</i> - Joan Moore	May 12 Head – Lowell Yost Jill Showalter Linda Weaver <i>Alt</i> - Dave Weidman	May 19 Head – Shawn Jeffers Troy Adair Randy Brubaker <i>Alt</i> -	May 26 Head – Jean Lausch Mike Leed Piper Leonhard <i>Alt</i> - Kristi Leonhard
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 President Lowell Yost called the April meeting to order at 6:30 pm, Ashley Weinhold read a scripture.

* The March Council minutes were approved.

- * Bob Getz spoke for the Discipleship In Life committee. They have been working with EASS to explore more options for the unhoused in our communities.
- Council approved a donation of \$500 to the Schoeneck Fire Company for their 100 Year Anniversary Celebration in September.
- With a recommendation from the Property Committee, Council approved using the lawn care budget to mulch and trim the trees and bushes around the property.
- * Review of the usher schedule for services in May.
- * Next meeting is Tuesday May 7th.
- * We adjourned the meeting with the Lord's Prayer.



Sunday May 5, 12, 19, & 26

9:00 am Church Services 10:15 - 11:00 am Sunday School19th: Ahava Playing Day of Pentecost26th: Pastor Bonnie Oplinger presiding

Monday

13th: 6:00 pm Social Ministry Committee Meeting

Tuesday May 7th

6:30 pm Council Meeting

Wednesday

1, 15, 22 and 29th: 1:30-3:00 pm In Person Bible Study **8th:** 2:00 pm Pastor Tim singing at The Gardens of Stevens Nursing Home

1 & 8: 6:00 pm Bell Choir Practice and 7:00 pm Choir Practice

Thursday

9th: 7:00 pm Ascension Day Service, Swamp Lutheran Church, Reinholds. Pastor Tim leading Worship. Theme: Open My Life, Lord. Offering: Lower Susquehanna Disaster Relief Mission Trip (checks payable to North Lancaster Conference Dean's Fund, money to Jim/Bergstrasse).

> Our Church in the Park Service will be held on Sunday June 23.

We will be joined with Faith United at the Denver Park. See you all there next month! Vear Anita, Nancy, and ALL of Social Ministry, It is with great appreciation that my family and I thank you for organizing, ordering, preparing and serving the luncheon following my father's funeral. Everything was set up so beautifully, and the food was delicious! Your efforts brought us peace and strength.

Bill loved Mellingers because of the Special people like you! Thank you!!

Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth.

he character of Christ radiates through who you are and the life you live.

Thanks for blessing my lives in such a special way.



With itude, Susan Nodeen Farr and the entire Nodeen family

To my friends at Mieltinger's Thenk you for all the earch and prayers be Lavern and our family during his illness and passing Thank you Carul Sehma

Dear Mellingers Lutheran Church,

April 5, 2024

Thank you for your generous gift of \$2,800.00 to ministries of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) through ELCA Good Gifts.

"[Jesus said,] 'Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?' [The lawyer] said, 'The one who showed him mercy.' Jesus said to him, 'Go and do likewise.''' (Luke 10:36-37)

As a church, we are freed by the transformative life of Christ, and this freedom emboldens us to love and serve our neighbors just as Christ has shown us. Your gifts to the ministries of the ELCA help people around the world feel the power of God's love.

Your Good Gift is a very good gift indeed. Through resources such as seedlings and seminary courses, vaccinations and vegetable gardens, Bibles and blankets, you equip God's people — around the world and around the corner — with what they need to live abundant lives.

Thank you for your gracious gifts. The glory of God shines through you.

Dear Mellingers Lutheran Church, April 18, 2024

Thank you for your gift(s) given to your synod, received by ELCA World Hunger in February 2024.

As a church, we are freed by the transformative life of Christ, and this freedom emboldens us to love and serve our neighbors just as Christ has shown us. Your gifts to the ministries of the ELCA help people around the world feel the power of God's love.

Your generosity is getting at the root causes of hunger and poverty in over 60 countries, including the United States. It provides access to clean water, health care, agriculture, livestock and education, and it advances peace and justice. Through your gifts you join the whole church in working toward a just world where all are fed.

Thank you for your gracious gifts. The glory of God shines through you.





In 2023, Mellingers Social Ministry Committee collected and assembled Lutheran World Relief Kits: 60 Quilts, 255 School Kits, 98 Personal Care Kits. Our goal this year is to match last year's donations.

Donations bless those who have lost their home and belongings in natural disasters and for those who have had to flee their homes due to war and religious persecution. We pray that God moves your heart to help. If you are interested in helping, please contact a Social Ministry member. You need not join the committee in order to help, but we do welcome new members. Please use an envelope marked LWR to help change a life. With your donations to LWR, we can continue to do God's work. 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.

Social Ministry is active all year collecting for LWR and serving meals at funerals. We recently held our Spring Fling with Faith United to raise funds for Peter's Porch and we will be involved with Acts of Love, which is a summer food program held in conjunction with Ephrata Area Social Services and Real Life community services. The sites are Adamstown, Denver, Reamstown and Reinholds. The goal is to provide 2 meals per week at each site on Monday and Wednesday, which will mean 160 meals per day.

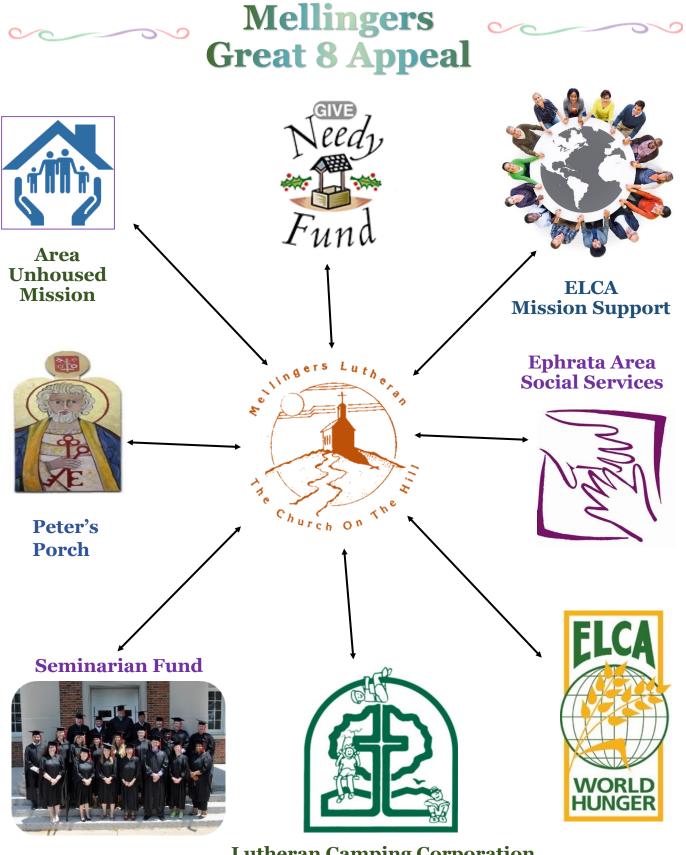
If you are interested in helping, please contact a Social Ministry member. Our members are Shirley Sweigart, President; Martha Brubaker, Secretary; Betty Cordes, Anita Soto, Nancy Heiser, Joan Moore, Johan Spotts, Jerilyn Yost, Lisa Reed, Fay Weitzel, Vicky Meckley, Nancy Eberly and Pastor Tim Craven.



Personal Care Kits

School Kits





Lutheran Camping Corporation of Central, PA

Program in progress until Sunday May 26th GREAT 8 APPEAL

THE FOLLOWING IS A DESCRIPTION OF THE 8 MISSIONS YOU MAY CHOOSE FROM, TO SUPPORT DURING THE GREAT 8 APPEAL WEEKS OF LENT. ONLY ELCA MISSION SUPPORT AND ELCA HUNGER APPEAL HAVE ALLOCATED AMOUNTS FOR 2024.

AREA UNHOUSED MISSION: THESE GIFTS GO TO PROGRAMS WITHIN OUR COMMUNITY TO MEET NEEDS OF CHILDREN OF GOD IN OUR COMMUNITY WHO ARE IN HOUSING TRANSITION AND NEED HELP. ADMINISTRATIVE AID BY EASS.

EPHRATA AREA SOCIAL SERVICES: ALL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THIS MISSION HELP PROVIDE SERVICE TO PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITY FOR CLOTHING, FOOD, FUEL, TRANSPORTATION AND MEALS ON WHEELS.

ELCA MISSION SUPPORT: OUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THIS MISSION FLOW OUT TO DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL NEED, DISASTER SERVICES AND MISSIONARY SUPPORT. OUR ALLOCATED SUPPORT IS \$6,000.00.

PETER'S PORCH: SUPPORTING FAITH UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH'S EFFORT IN OUR COMMUNITY TO SERVE THOSE CHALLENGED BY FOOD INSECURITY.

ELCA HUNGER APPEAL: THIS GOES TO THE ELCA OR RELIEF FROM HUNGER. OUR ALLOCATED SUPPORT IS \$ 1,550.00.

LUTHERAN CAMPING CORPORATION: CAMPING IS OPEN TO ALL FAMILY MEMBERS AT NAWAKWA AND KIRCHENWALD DURING SUMMER SEASON. ALSO EMPLOYMENT HELPS YOUNG ADULTS WORK AT CAMP JOBS. WITTEL FARM HOUSE OF PRAYER IS AVAILABLE FOR RETREATS FOR INSTRUCTIONAL CLASSES FOR SYNOD CHURCHES.

SEMINARIAN FUND: HELP SUPPORT SEMINARY STUDENTS FROM MELLINGERS.

<u>MELLINGERS NEEDY FUND:</u> THIS FUND IS IN SUPPORT OF OUR MEMBERS IN DIRE NEED FOR RENT, MEDICINE, BILL PAYMENT, ETC. IT MAY ALSO BE USED FOR AREA RESIDENTS OUTSIDE OF MEMBERSHIP.

PLEASE USE ENVELOPES PROVIDED, MARK YOUR CHOICE, USE YOUR ENVELOPE NUMBER IF YOU WANT CREDIT AND DROP IN THE REGULAR OFFERING PLATE. THE **GREAT 8 APPEAL** SUPPLEMENTS THE BUDGETED AMOUNTS FOR HUNGER APPEAL AND MISSION SUPPORT.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AT CHURCH

We are a blessed congregation to have hard working individuals involved in our volunteer opportunities. If you ever feel like lending an extra hand, here are the areas:

•During Sunday Services: Communion Assistant, Scripture Reader, Soundboard, & Video operator

•Worship & Music: Choir, Handbell Choir, & Special music

•Coffee Time: Servers, Donations of Baked Goods or Monetary Contributions

•Discipleship Committee: Help maintain the garden for EASS donations, help with fund raisers like the Goat Program and Great Eight Lenten giving.

•Finance Committee

•5-Year Planning Committee

• <u>Property Maintenance Committee</u>: Help maintain the church grounds by tending landscaping, weeding and other seasonal tasks.

•<u>Social Ministry Committee</u>: Help serve at social functions and memorial service luncheons. Help with Lutheran World Relief collections.

Please note that although our Lenten Great 8 appeal ends on May 26, donations can be made at anytime to the individual funds.

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.

- The Maintenance and Building Fund
- Needy Fund

Property Improvement Fund

- Lutheran World Relief

Sound System Upgrade



May 12, 1984



<u>May 30, 1964</u> Carl & Carole Usner



<u>May 09, 1981</u>

Donald & Bonnie Stafford

May 11, 1963

Donald & Linda Netzley

<u>May 31, 2003</u>

Sam & Anita Soto

May 15, 1993 Tom & Kelly Parrish

<u>May 30, 1965</u>

Skip & Linda Hutchinson



May 01: Robert Getz

May 04: Patricia McQuate



May 13: Vesta Reber



May 01: Dave Guigley & Patrick Jeffers

May 02: Oliver Craven

May 03: Shirley Sweigart

May 05: Jackie Drexel & Isabella Sickafus

May o6: Margaret Bollinger

May 07: Kenzie Reed & Kelsey Reed

May 11: Denton Borry

May 16: Victoria Stief

May 18: Amy Sawyer & Christopher Weidman

May 19: Cynthia Harting & Sherry Hostetter

May 22: Michael Sawyer

May 23: Mary Wright

May 24: Joyce Pannebecker & Pauline Sawyer

May 25: Roger Gehman, Susan Specht

May 30: Betty Firestine

Sunday May 12

Happy Mother's Day



Sunday May 18 Days to note down & Events in the Area

Schoeneck Fire Company

Saturday May 4 7 am Yard Sale in the parking lot 9am Big John Chicken BBQ meals will be sold until sold out.

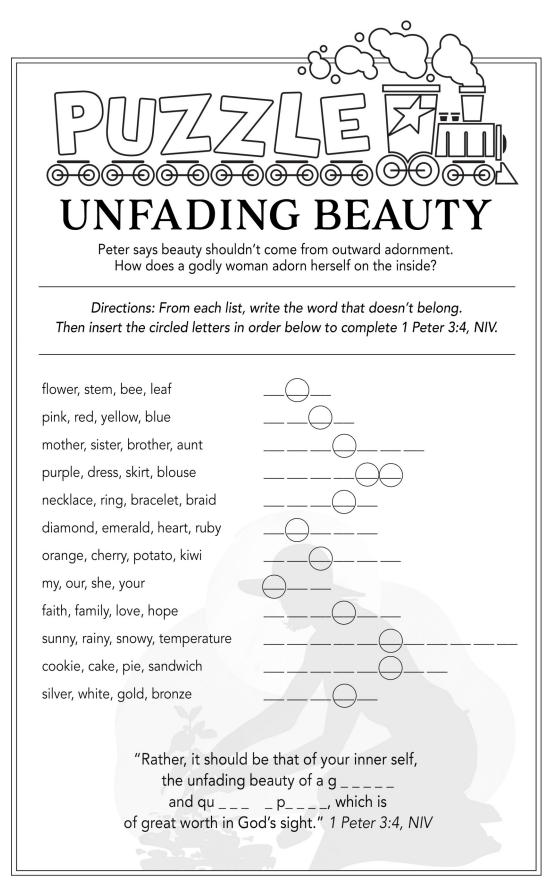
Main Street in Denver

Friday May 17 at 4:30 pm 10th Annual Cruise Night

See their Facebook event page for more information







Answers: bee, pink, brother, purple, braid, heart, potato, she, family, temperature, sandwich, white; gentle, quiet, spirit

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 ✤ Randy Brubaker (717) 314-3449 ✤ Nancy Eberly (717) 945-2895 ☆ Mike Haller (717) 368-1572 🕆 Shawn Jeffers (717) 278-5000 🕆 Jean Lausch (717) 572-5385 🕆 Kristi Leonhard (717) 940-7535 Piper Leonhard (717) 419-5691 🕆 Jill Showalter (717) 336-2839 🕆 Linda Weaver (717) 587-1319 Recording Secretary: Ashley Weinhold (717) 336-8800

LEADERS

Altar Guild: Kimberley Craven–Chair: (717) 519-9882 Blood Pressure Check Coordinator: Susan Specht (717) 336-4601 Camp Person: Kim Craven (717) 738-3838 Coffee Social: Kristi Leonhard (717) 940-7535 Communion Assistant Coordinator: Ashley Weinhold (717) 336-8800 Finance Committee: Vic Richard (717) 951-8977, Pat Haller (717) 368-4975, Nancy Eberly (717) 945-2895 Financial Secretary: Jill Showalter (717) 336-2839 Assistant Financial Secretary: Dawn Henry (610) 914-3218 Peace be with you! Greeter Coordinator: Fay Weitzel (717) 336-2124 Lawn Care: Pat Jeffers (717) 336-8170 SERVICE TIMES Newsletter Editor: Office Staff (717) 336-8800 Sunday Offering Counters: Nancy Eberly (717) 945-2895 Scout Liaison: David Haldeman (717) 733-8551 **Worship Service** Scripture Reader Coordinator: Anita Soto (717) 419-5520 9 am Snow Removal: Randy Meckley (717) 572-6395 **Sunday School** Special Flowers: Melanie Brubaker (717) 859-4849 10: 15 am-11 am Treasurer: Jon Hogan (814) 289-1646 Assistant Treasurer: Skip Hutchinson (717) 733-5029 Web Site Editor: Office Staff (717) 336-8800 Wedding Coordinator: Brittany Hartlove (717) 715-3127 SOCIAL MEDIA Youth Group Advisors: Kristi & Paul Leonhard (717) 733-1260 RESOURCES Cell: (717) 940-7535 Pastor Tim (717) 738-3838

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Discipleship In Life: Robert H. Getz, Jr. (717) 925-4938 Endowment/Memorial: Randy Brubaker (717) 733-9222 Personnel: Nancy Eberly (717) 945-2895 Property: Randy Meckley (717) 572-6395 Social Ministry: Shirley Sweigart (717) 538-1946 Worship and Music: Nancy Hain (717) 336-6270

SCOUT LEADERS

Troop 115: Sheldon Brubaker (717) 468-5333 smb115@ptd.net Pack 115: Daniel Marszalek. (717)-405-9724 scoutleaderdan115@vahoo.com

WEBSITE: www.mellingers.org

FACEBOOK:

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

