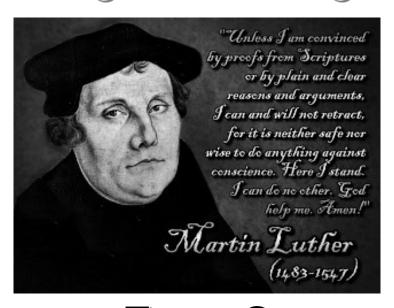
"Growing God's Kingdom"



THE TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST REFORMATION SUNDAY

October 27th, 2024

Messiah Lutheran Church

REV. SAMUEL J. LEISTER, PASTOR

3 SOUTH THIRD STREET MIFFLINTOWN, PA 17059 (717)-436-6213

PASTOR EMAIL: mlcsleister@gmail.com **OFFICE EMAIL:** mlchurchoffice@gmail.com

WEBSITE: mlcmifflintown.org

TODAY'S INTRODUCTION: Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

Messiah Lutheran Church

3 South Third Street Mifflintown, PA 17059 Church Office: 717-436-6213

Rev. Samuel Leister
Bob St. Clair
Slone Smith
Andrea Cameron
Barb Geedey
Zeb Berry & Paige Martin
Braedon Walton, Hannah Ehrisman & Olivia Mummah
Tammy Brackbill & Jen Hutchinson
Jean Berry

Pastor
Organist/Pianist
Organist/Pianist
Choir Director
Lector
Acolytes
Communion/Offering Presenters
Altar Guild
Manna Bread Maker

REFORMATION SUNDAY October 27, 2024 – 10:00 a.m.

*Please Stand as **YOU** Are Able

PREPARATION

CHIMES GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PRELUDE

[Please use the prelude as a quiet time to prepare yourself for worship.]

* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.
- C Amen.
- P Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

Silence is kept for reflection.

- P Gracious God,
- C have mercy on us. We confess that we have honored you with our lips, but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues. The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes. In our desire to be first we make distinctions among ourselves. We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last. In your great mercy, forgive us our sins. Draw near to us with grace in time of need, and turn us to follow in the ways of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- P God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven.
- C Amen.

GATHERING

- * GATHERING HYMN
- "The Church's One Foundation"
- #369 Green Hymnal

- * GREETING
 - P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
 - C And also with you.
- * KYRIE (C sung)
 - P In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
 - C Lord, have mercy.
 - P For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
 - C Lord, have mercy.
 - P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.
 - C Lord, have mercy.
 - P For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.
 - C Lord, have mercy.
 - P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
 - C Amen.
- * CANTICLE OF PRAISE (In Unison)

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

This is the feast of victory for our god. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

- * SALUTATION AND RESPONSE (sung)
 - P The Lord be with you.
 - C And also with you.
- * PRAYER OF THE DAY (In Unison)
 - P Let us pray...
 - C Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the LORD means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy (Jer. 22:16). The renewed covenant is possible only because the LORD will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets.

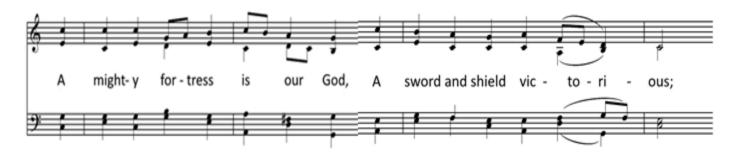
³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD.

³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

- L: The word of the Lord.
- C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 46 (responsively)

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE:



¹God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

²Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;

³though its waters rage and foam, and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

⁴There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.

⁵God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken; God shall help it at the break of day.

⁶The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake; God speaks, and the earth melts away. R ⁷The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

⁸Come now, regard the works of the LORD, what desolations God has brought upon the earth:

⁹behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world; who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.

¹⁰"Be still, then, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth."

the God of Jacob is our stronghold. R

Paul's words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ's death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.

²¹But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

- L: Here ends the reading.
- C: Thanks be to God.
- * GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (In Unison)

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.

- - P The Holy Gospel according to John, the 8th chapter.
 - C Glory to you, O Lord. (sung)

³¹Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." ³³They answered him, "We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, 'You will be made free'?"

³⁴Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."

- P The Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to you, O Christ. (sung)

- * HYMN OF THE DAY "Lord, Speak to Us, that We May Speak" #403 Green Hymnal
- * NICENE CREED (In Unison)

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.

Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, with the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

- P God of grace,
- C hear our prayer.
- * PEACE
 - P The peace of Christ be with you always.
 - C And also with you.

(The congregation may greet one another in the name of the Lord from their pews at whatever level of physical contact with which they are comfortable).

ANTHEM OFFERING PRESENTATION

* SUNG OFFERTORY ('vineyards')

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now. Grace our table with your presence, Lord, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

* OFFERING PRAYER

- P Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C Amen.

MEAL

- * THE GREAT THANKSGIVING
 - P The Lord be with you.
 - C And also with you.
 - P Lift up your hearts.
 - C We lift them to the Lord.
 - P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
 - C It is right to give him thanks and praise.
- * PREFACE (C sung)
 - P It is indeed right and salutary...we praise your name and join their unending hymn.
 - C Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

* EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

C Amen.

(sung) C Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. Amen.

* THE LORD'S PRAYER (In Unison)

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

* INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Jesus welcomes you to this table. Come, here is your God.

* LAMB OF GOD (sung)

C Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

(If you desire, you may take a gluten free wafer located on the oak pedestal on the step in front of the chancel).

DISTRIBUTION

["At the Chancel Rail" – come forward by the CENTER aisle; take a communion cup from the table by the front pew. Approach the altar to partake, then move to the chancel rail to pray. Then, return to your seat using the left or right SIDE aisle]. (If you desire, you may take a gluten free wafer located on the oak pedestal on the step in the front of the chancel).

COMMUNION BLESSING

- P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- C Amen.

- * POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE (sung)
 - C Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev'ryone what he has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name. He recalls his promises and leads his people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia.

* PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- P Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C Amen.

SENDING

- * BLESSING
 - P God all mighty, God most merciful + bless you, keep you, and give you peace.
 - C Amen, Amen, Amen. (sung)
- * SENDING HYMN

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

#229 Green Hymnal

- * DISMISSAL
 - P Go in peace. Follow Jesus.
 - C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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NEXT WEEK'S LECTOR - Julia Martin

NEXT WEEK'S ALTAR GUILD - Tammy Brackbill & Jen Hutchinson (10/21 - 11/10)

NEXT WEEK'S ACOLYTES - Carter Ehrisman & Grace Miller

NEXT WEEK'S COMMUNION/OFFERING PRESENTERS - Silas Smith, Nick & Gabby Reed

NEXT WEEK'S MANNA BREAD MAKER - Jenn Hutchinson

OCTOBER COLLECTION COUNTERS

Today: Marylou Hazard & Jean Berry

NOVEMBER COLLECTION COUNTERS

- 3: Tammy Brackbill & Nick Beward
- 10: Cynthia Smith & Larry Goss
- 17: Clint Miller & Mary Grimm
- 24: Don & Barb Geedey

WELCOME TO ALL!

VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME to worship at Messiah. We invite you to register your visit in the guest book provided in the Narthex. If you are seeking a church home, please speak to the Pastor. Our fellowship in Jesus Christ is open and extended to all persons who confess His Lordship over all life. Thank you for worshiping with us.

VISITORS ARE INVITED TO COMMUNE with us if they are baptized, and if with us in our faith, they trust Jesus' promise of the presence of the Body and Blood of Christ.

JUST A THOUGHT – Paul W. Harrison, Christian Thinker: Wherever God rules over the human heart as King, there is the Kingdom of God established.

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

THE DEADLINE FOR ALL ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE SUNDAY BULLETIN IS <u>THURSDAY NOON</u>.

PRAYER CHAIN – If you wish to be included on the email recipient list for the Messiah Prayer Chain, please send an email to Pastor Leister at mlcsleister@gmail.com.

PRAYER REQUESTS will be placed in the Sunday bulletin for <u>one month</u>. If you wish to have someone included in the prayer list for an additional month, please contact the church office at 436-6213 or <u>mlchurchoffice@gmail.com</u>. If you have anyone who is a "last minute" addition after the bulletin has been printed on Fridays, please fill out an orange prayer card in the pew and lay it on the stand where the gluten free wafers are placed PRIOR to the morning worship service.

PLEASE NOTIFY THE CHURCH OFFICE for any change in addresses, phone numbers, email addresses, or for any requests for building usage. There are a lot of activities and some coordination is needed so events are not "overbooked" in any specific areas of the church (this also applies to church groups who meet in the church). Please contact the office at 436-6213 or email mlchurchoffice@gmail.com for any changes or requests.

IF ANYONE HAS ANY NEEDS OR CONCERNS, please contact Pastor Sam Leister. If you or someone you know is ill or hospitalized, please let Pastor Leister know. He can be reached at 717-436-8589 (home), or 717-348-1020 (cell), or email at mlcsleister@gmail.com.

WEIS AND GIANT GIFT CARDS are available to purchase from the Disciples Class. This is a very important outreach ministry that helps neighbors in need in our own community. We thank each and every one for continued support of this very worthwhile project.

OCTOBER "MISSION OF THE MONTH" at Messiah will be for Lutheran Disaster Response. The monies will be sent from Messiah directly to LDR so they may continue to help those in need who are recovering from Hurricane Helene that affected the Gulf Coast of Florida to the western mountains of North Carolina and Hurricane Milton that affected the West coast and central Florida. In addition to your generosity, the PPC allocated funds to match congregational donations up to \$1,000.00. This is just one way in which we can continue to extend our mission in Christ's love beyond the walls of our church building.

REMINDER: **Please have all information to be placed in the newsletter** to <u>Bob</u> at <u>stclairb@embarqmail.com</u> or the <u>church office</u> at <u>mlchurchoffice@gmail.com</u> by the deadlines which are listed monthly in the newsletter.

WOMEN OF THE ELCA THANKOFFERING SERVICE will be held on November 10th and the speaker will be Abby Yorks speaking on her project "Soles4Souls."

BIBLE STUDY CONTINUES on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. in the Choir Room. We will be studying the "Life of David." Anyone is welcome to attend.

A FUNDRAISER WILL BE HELD for the youth who will be attending the South Dakota work trip in 2025. We will be taking orders for Marianna's Pizza & Subs. Orders are due by November 8th for delivery on November 19th. To place your order, please contact any youth member or Cindy VanGavree.

THE FIRST HARSHBARGER'S FUNDRAISER EVENT for the youth mission trip in 2025, will be held on Tuesday, November 5th at Harshbarger's. A portion of the proceeds will go to our youth.

PPC WILL MEET this evening at 6:00 p.m. for discussion of budget approval to submit to the congregation in November.

IF YOU HAVE ANY NEWS OR UPCOMING EVENTS, please contact Sheree Goss at 717-436-9613 or email her at msgoss@gmail.com.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

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Tuesday - 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Thursday - 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Friday - 12:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
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WOMEN OF THE ELCA

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS are being collected for Shelter Service, Inc. in Lewistown:

--Laundry Detergent
 --Shaving Cream
 --Shampoo
 --Dryer Sheets
 --Deodorant
 --Body Wash

Please place items in the Adult Sunday School Room in the container provided.

NOTE: We will again be sponsoring 6 children for the Christmas Angel Project this year. Details will be in the bulletin near the end of October.

THE NEXT WELCA MEETING will be Thursday, November 14th at 1:00 p.m. in the Youth Area.

WOMEN OF THE ELCA PURPOSE STATEMENT

As a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society, and the world.

COMMUNITY

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR OCTOBER:

(THESE ARE THE FOODS THAT ARE MORE DIFFICULT FOR US TO OBTAIN)
TURKEY BREASTS, HAMS (3-5 LBS.), WHOLE CHICKENS,
CANNED SWEET POTATOES, INSTANT POTATOES, STUFFING, GRAVY,
CRANBERRY SAUCE AND BROWNIE OR COOKIE MIX
OR A \$20 DONATION WILL PURCHASE ONE COMPLETE MEAL!

THE JUNIATA VALLEY INTERNATIONAL GIFTS & BAKE SALE will be held at Cedar Grove Brethren In Christ Church at 287 Deerville Road, Mifflintown, PA on Thursday, November 14 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., Friday, November 15 from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and Saturday, November 16 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. If you would like more information, please check out our website at www.juniatainternationalgiftssale.com

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

Today: -Reformation Sunday

-10:00 a.m., Worship/Communion.

-6:00 p.m., PPC meeting.

Monday: -6:30 p.m., The Knitters in Junior Church Room.

-7:00 p.m. AA in Youth Area.

Tuesday: -NEWSLETTER DEADLINE.

-10:30 a.m., Bible Study in Choir Room.

Wednesday: -9:00 a.m., "The Needlers" in Fellowship Hall.

-7:00 p.m., Choir Rehearsal.

Sunday: -All Saints Sunday.

-10:00 a.m., Worship/Communion.

PRAYER LIST

Joedy Arnold Family of Jay Auker Linda Bahorik Melissa Bargo Jeremy Barnes Ryan Barr Donna Barton Tony Beward Bill Book Linda Brouse Jim Burdge Andrea Cameron Evitt Campbell Terry Coder Kenton Cohenour Heather Compton Fred & Dot Dowling Seth Dowling Kim Dumais Freda Durio Cathy Dysinger Renee Dzikowski Rev. Jodi Ellis Kevin Fetterhoof Neil & Pat Fisher Bentley Fulkroad

Terri Gayer

Deb Geedey Sheree Goss Amanda Gregg Fred Gross Hannah Hart Mark Harvey Bill Heck John (Pat) Henry Nox Hepburn Judy Hosler Nancy Howell Terry Imes Annie Ingle Guy Kerstetter Jesse Kint Carlen McClure Alice McClure Andi McDanel Cecilia Miller Curt Miller Larry Miller Shirley Miller Claire Mummah Carole Nace Linda (Kerchner)Parks Kari Ann (Reagen) Petrine Cheryl Pinkerton

Betty Ranck Keith Ranck Dave Reed Diane Rowles Grevslev Rowles Kelley Rusenko Arlene Shearer Allyson Smith & Family Jennifer Smith Joyce & Todd Spangler Donna Stoner Barry Strawser Vicki Suoja Molly Ulsh George Varner Kristy Wagner & family Heather Walton Roscoe Warner Kathy Whitesel Mary Jane Williamson Jim & Heidi Woltman Gary Zeiders Paul Zeiders George Zimmerman Jean Zimmerman Linda Zimmerma

Victims of Hurricanes Helene and Milton

PRAY FOR OUR SHUT-INS

- --Jane Marhefka Brookline Manor, 2 Manor Blvd., Room 221, Mifflintown, PA 17059
- --Ray Bramm Honaman House, 58 Honaman House Dr., Apt. 108, Thompsontown, PA 17094
- --Ruth Cisney Honaman House, 58 Honaman House Dr., Apt. 112, Thompsontown, PA 17094
- --Ona Stoner William Penn Nursing Home, 163 Summit Dr., Lewistown, PA 17044