"Growing God's Kingdom"



Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

September 25th, 2022 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: Consideration of and care for those in need (especially those "at our gate," visible to us, of whom we are aware) is an essential component of good stewardship. It is in the sharing of wealth that we avoid the snare of wealth. It is the one whom death could not hold—who comes to us risen from the dead—who can free us from the death grip of greed.

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 Kate Swailes Barb Geedey & Jessie Reed Hannah Ehrisman & Grace Miller Paige Martin, Julia Martin & Hope Miller Pastor Organist/Pianist Organist/Pianist Choir Director Lector Altar Guild Acolytes Presenters of Communion & Offering

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST September 25, 2022 – 10:30 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 is eager to forgive and who loves us beyond our days.
- C Amen.
- P Dear friends, together let us acknowledge our failure to love this world as Jesus does.

Silence is kept for reflection.

- P God of mercy and forgiveness,
- C we confess that sin still has a hold on us. We have harmed your good creation. We have failed to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you. Turn us in a new direction. Show us the path that leads to life. Be our refuge and strength on the journey, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend. Amen.
- P Beloved of God: your sins are forgiven + and you are made whole. God points the way to new life in Christ, who meets us on the road. Journey now in God's abiding love through the power of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

GATHERING

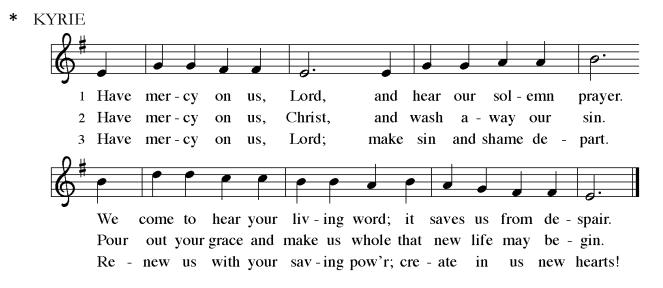
* GATHERING HYMN

"Beautíful Savíor"

#518 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.



* CANTICLE OF PRAISE



PRAYER OF THE DAY (In Unison)

- P Let us pray...
- C O God, rich in mercy, you look with compassion on this troubled world. Feed us with your grace, and grant us the treasure that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

The prophet Amos announces that Israel's great wealth is a cause not for rejoicing but rather sorrow, because God's people have forgotten how to share their wealth with the poor. The wealthy will be the first to go into exile when judgment comes.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

²I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

³Put not your trust in rulers, in mortals in whom there is no help.

⁴When they breathe their last, they return to earth, and in that day their thoughts perish. ⁵Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help, whose hope is in the LORD their God;

6who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; who keeps promises forever; 7who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger. The LORD sets the captive free.

⁸The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.

⁹The LORD cares for the stranger; the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

¹⁰The LORD shall reign forever, your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!

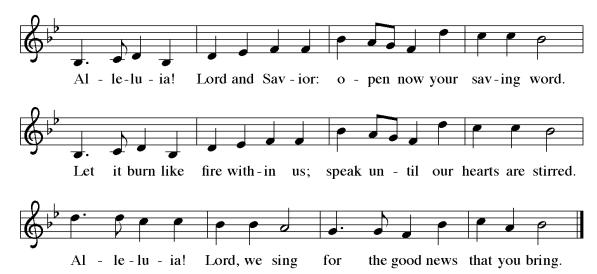
Timothy is reminded of the confession he made at his baptism and of its implications for daily life. His priorities will be different from those of people who merely want to be rich.

and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

¹¹But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. ¹²Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life, to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. ¹³In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you ¹⁴to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵which he will bring about at the right time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. ¹⁶It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

¹⁷As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. ¹⁸They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, ¹⁹thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

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



Jesus tells a parable in which the poor one is "lifted up" and the rich one is "sent away empty." Jesus makes it clear that this ethic of merciful reversal is not new but is as old as Moses and the prophets.

- * GOSPEL.....Luke 16:19-31
 - P The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 16th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord. (spoken)

[Jesus said:] ¹⁹"There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. ²⁰And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, ²¹who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. ²²The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. ²⁴He called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames.' ²⁵But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. ²⁶Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.' ²⁷He said, 'Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father's house—²⁸for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.' ²⁹Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.' ³⁰He said, 'No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' ³¹He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.'''

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

CHILDREN'S SERMON SERMON HYMN OF THE DAY "Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life" Pastor Leister Pastor Leister #429 Green Hymnal

* APOSTLES' CREED (In Unison)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, He is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. 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).

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 Gracious God, in your great love you richly provide for our needs. Make of these gifts a banquet of blessing, and make us ready to share with all in need; through Jesus Christ, who sets a table for all.
 - C Amen.

MEAL

- * COMMUNION DIALOGUE (from Isaiah 55)
 - P Let us give thanks to the Lord.
 - C For through these gifts he comes to feed us.
 - P All you who are thirsty, come to the waters. You who have no money, come, receive bread, and eat.
 - C Come, without paying and without cost, drink wine and eat.
 - P Let us come to his table with joy,
 - C for we come as God's invited guests!

* EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, that by this Holy Communion we may know the unity we share with all your people in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, how and forever.

C Amen.

* THE LORD'S PRAYER (all)

- 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.

(If you desire, you may take a gluten free wafer located on the oak pedestal on the step in the 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]. (Fellowship cups are available for those who wish to remain in your seat for communion)

* COMMUNION BLESSING

- P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- C Amen.
- * PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION
 - P God of the abundant table, you have refreshed our hearts in this meal with bread for the journey. Give us your grace on the road that we might serve our neighbors with joy; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen

SENDING

- * BLESSING
 - P God, who gives life to all things and frees us from despair, bless you with truth and peace. And may the holy Trinity, + one God, guide you always in faith, hope, and love.

C Amen, Amen, Amen. (sung)

- * SENDING HYMN "Lord, Speak to Us, that We May Speak" #403 Green Hymnal
- * DISMISSAL
 - P Go in peace, with Christ beside you. C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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NEXT WEEK'S LECTOR – Hannah Ehrisman NEXT WEEK'S ALTAR GUILD – Tawny Mummah & Tammy Smith (9/26/22—10/16/22) NEXT WEEK'S ACOLYTES – Nick Reed & Gabby Reed NEXT WEEK'S PRESENTERS OF COMMUNION & OFFERING – Sofia Reed, Hannah Ehrisman & Stella Reed NEXT WEEK'S MANNA BREAD BAKER – Diana Wise

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.

GLUTEN FREE WAFERS ARE ALSO PROVIDED FOR COMMUNION. If you so desire, you may take a gluten free wafer located on the oak pedestal on the step in front of the chancel.

ALTAR FLOWERS are presented to the Glory of God and in memory of my father, Robert St. Clair, Sr., by Bob St. Clair.

JUST A THOUGHT – Samuel Johnson, English Author (1709 - 1784): The three persons in the Godhead are three in one sense and one is another. We cannot tell how – and that is the mystery.

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

THE DEADLINE FOR ALL ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE SUNDAY BULLETIN IS <u>THURSDAY</u> <u>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 offering plates are placed during the service.

PLEASE NOTIFY THE CHURCH OFFICE for any change in addresses, phone numbers, email addresses, or for any requests for building usage. Please contact the office at 436-6213 or email <u>mlchurchoffice@gmail.com</u> 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 <u>mlcsleister@gmail.com</u>

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.

THE SEPTEMBER "MISSION OF THE MONTH" at Messiah will be for Kentucky Flood Relief efforts. The monies will be sent from Messiah directly to the ELCA's Kentucky and Deep South Flood Relief Program to help the many whose lives and properties have been turned upside down with major flooding the past few months. 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.

SUNDAY'S SOLDIERS will meet this evening at 6:30 p.m. at Messiah. The main purpose of this meeting is to elect youth leaders to serve the group. A president – to help lead and guide; a treasurer – to keep a record of the finances (but not to sign checks); and a secretary – to record notes and minutes of meetings. The meeting will be approximately 60-90 minutes. A number of other activities will be shared and planned at this time. Any adult volunteers who would like to provide a few snacks -- it would be greatly appreciated.

We are also considering taking our youth on a tour of WHTM – ABC 27 studio in Harrisburg. Our very own Sarah Kramer works as an account executive at the studio and is excited about the possibility of hosting our youth for a tour. We are looking at Saturday, October 29th as a possible date for this event. We need to let Sarah know as soon as possible if this date will work for everyone.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE will meet on Monday, September 26th at 6:30 p.m. in the Choir Room.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

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.

WEEKLY OFFERING REPORTS:

September 11	, 2022 Worship Attendance – (in person	54 – Online 21 – Sunday School 6)		
		Other Funds		
Total Offering	\$1,793.00	Building Fund	\$ 12	0.00
Other Funds	258.00	Benevolence	3	0.00
General Fund	\$1,535.00	Mission of Month	10	0.00
		Sunday School		8.00
		Total	\$ 25	8.00

WOMEN OF THE ELCA

THE UPPER SUSQUEHANNA SYNODICAL WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION FALL RETREAT will be held on October 15th from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Camp Mount Luther. This one-day retreat will include the sessions focusing on the Fruits of the Spirit led by Pastor Stina Schaeffer. Light morning refreshments and lunch will be provided. The cost for the day will be \$30.00. If you are interested in attending, please let Barb Geedey know by September 30th.

ITEMS NEEDED FOR PERSONAL CARE KITS that will be sent in October are:

- --1 light weight bath-size towel between (20" x 40" and 52" x 27") dark colors preferred.
- --1 adult-sized toothbrush in its original packaging (multi-packs may be used by sealing an individual toothbrush in a business-size envelope) (no plastic bags or wrap).
- --1 sturdy comb, remove packaging.
- --1 metal nail clippers (attached file optional) remove packaging.

WE WILL CONTINUE to collect donations of clothing for Packages of Hope for local families as well as children entering foster care as requested by Children's Services. The list of clothing items is included below. If you would like to purchase an item or two to donate, please place them in the appropriate storage containers located in the Adult Sunday School Room.

0-3 Years

- --Socks (2 packs each: sizes 0-3 mo, 3-6 mo, 6-9 mo, 9-12 mo, 2, and 3)
- --Onesies (2 packs each: sizes 0-3 mo, 3-6 mo, 6-9 mo, 9-12 mo, 2, and 3)
- --Pajamas (2 sets of each: sizes 0-3 mo, 3-6 mo, 6-9 mo, 9-12 mo, 2, and 3)

4-7 Years

- --Socks (2 packs each: sizes 4T, 5T, 6T, and 7)
- --Underwear (2 packs each: sizes 4T, 5T, 6T, and 7)
- --Pajamas (2 sets of each: sizes 4T, 5T, 6T, and 7)
- --Short sleeve tee (2 of each: sizes 4T, 5T, 6T, and 7)
- --Long sleeve tee (2 of each: sizes 4T, 5T, 6T, and 7)
- --Sweatpants (2 of each: sizes 4T, 5T, 6T, and 7)
- --Sweatshirts (2 of each: sizes 4T, 5T, 6T, and 7)

8-12 Years

- --Socks (2 packs of each: sizes small, medium. large, extra-large)
- --Underwear (2 packs of each: sizes small, medium, large, extra-large)
- --Short sleeve tee (2 of each: sizes small, medium, large, extra-large)
- --Long sleeve tee (2 of each: sizes small, medium, large, extra-large)
- --Sweatpants (2 of each: sizes small, medium, large, extra-large)
- --Sweatshirt (2 of each: sizes small, medium, large, extra-large)

13-17 Years

- --Socks (2 packs of each: sizes small, medium, large, extra-large)
- --Underwear (2 packs of each: sizes small, medium, large, extra-large)
- --Short sleeve tee (2 of each: sizes small, medium, large, extra-large)
- --Long sleeve tee (2 of each: sizes small, medium, large, extra-large)
- --Sweatpants (2 of each: sizes small, medium, large, extra-large)
- --Sweatshirt (2 of each: sizes small, medium, large, extra-large)

(Additionally, we are requesting donations of plastic storage containers to help store and organize all donated items).

COMMUNITY

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR SEPTEMBER:

CANNED BEETS, CANNED MIXED VEGETABLES, CANNED POTATOES, CANNED PINEAPPLE, SHAMPOO, OVER-THE-COUNTER COLD & PAIN MEDICINES, DISHWASHING SOAPS, LAUNDRY SOAP, & SCHOOL SUPPLIES & BACKPACKS (WHILE THEY ARE ON SALE). WE ALSO GLADLY ACCEPT DONATIONS OF CASH/CHECKS & GIFT CARDS.

THE 50th JUNIATA COUNTY CROP WALK will be held on October 9th at Walker Township Park. Registration will begin at 1:30 p.m. and the WALK begins at 2:00 p.m. Twenty-five percent of all pledge money will go to the Food Pantry and Meals-On-Wheels. The following items are also being collected for the Food Pantry from now until the Walk on October 9th.

- --Personal Hygiene Supplies toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, deodorant, & razors
- --Cleaning Supplies all-purpose cleansers, bleach, trash bags, laundry detergent, & dish detergent
- --Paper Products paper towels, toilet paper, & tissues
- --Infant Needs diapers, baby wipes, baby shampoo, & baby lotion
- --Non-perishable food items

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

Today:	-9:15 a.m., Sunday School & Catechetical Class.	
	-10:30 a.m., Worship, Communion, Jr. Church.	
	-6:30 p.m., Sunday Soldiers meeting.	
Monday:	-6:30 p.m., Property Committee meeting in Choir Room.	
-	-6:30 p.m., The Knitters in Junior Church Room.	
	-7:00 p.m., AA in Disciple's Class. Area.	
Wednesday:	-9:00 a.m., "The Needlers" in Fellowship Hall.	
-	-7:00 p.m., Choir Rehearsal in Sanctuary.	
Sunday:	-World Communion Sunday/Blanket Sunday.	
-	-9:15 a.m., Sunday School & Catechetical Class.	
	-10:30 a.m., Worship, Communion, Jr. Church.	

PRAYER LIST

		D 10 1
Steve & Linda Bahorik	Joyce Hart	Paul Ogden
Donna Barton	Sue Henderson	Lillian Parks
Rodai Batiinda	Lahryn Henry Ros	n & Linda (Kerchner)Parks
Gary Bechtold	Nox Hepburn K	Kari Ann (Reagen) Petrine
Michele Boniewicz	Erin Husler	Dave & Nancy Phelan
Dan Brackbill	Brenda Imes	Sandy Pines
Don Bratton	Terry Imes	Mia Raish
Dan Brown	Annie Ingle	Betty Ranck
Raymond Cameron	Morgan Johnson	Blossom Ranck
Randy Clark	Andrea Kauffman	Keith Ranck
Terry Coder	Pam Kennedy	Diane Rowles
Vincent Cramer	Guy Kerstetter	Ron & Arlene Shearer
Will DeLancy	Kevin Kilmer	Dave Smith
Fred & Dot Dowling	Pam Lawson	Vicki Suoja
Seth Dowling	John Lehman	Andy Spigelmyer
Freda Durio	Michael Lozano	Stacey & Bonnie Swartz
Cathy Dysinger	Zaden Mabey	Dorothy Towsey
Renee Dzikowski	Anthony Martin	Molly Ulsh
Neil & Pat Fisher	Carlen McClure	Doug Wagner
Jane Fogleman	Alice McClure	Roscoe Warner
Steve Freeman & family	Cecilia Miller	Todd Wert
Mindy Fryer	Ellwood Miller	Eric Wirt
Bentley Fulkroad	Larry Miller	Jim Woltman
Terri Gayer	Shirley Miller	Phillip Zendt
Deb Geedey	Jim Minick	George Zimmerman
Eddi Kay Gill	Claire Mummah	Linda Zimmerman
Deborah Gingrich	Ken Mummah	
~	*Peace in Ukraine & Russia *Victims of Gun Violence	

PRAY FOR OUR SHUT-INS

--Jane Marhefka – Brookline Retirement Village, 92 Village Drive, Mifflintown, PA 17059

--Gail Henderson & Carol Simonton - Brookline Manor, 2 Manor Blvd., Mifflintown, PA 17059

--Alice Swartz & Rich Smith - Berry's Personal Care, 68 Lexi St., Mifflintown, PA 17059

--Ruth Cisney & Ray Bramm - Honneman House, 58 Honneman House Dr., Apt. 108, Thompsontown, PA 17094

--Edith Nipple - 1482 William Penn Hwy., Mifflintown, PA 17059

--Sieber & Ona Stoner - William Penn Nursing Home, 163 Summit Dr., Lewistown, PA 17044

--Ken Stuck - 66 Eighth St., Mifflintown, PA 17059