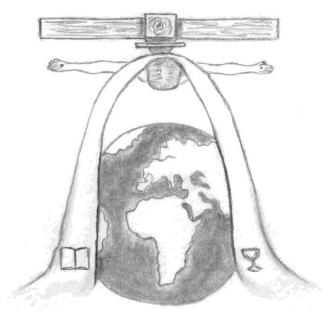
# "Growing God's Kingdom"



# FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

# June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023 **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:

God does not promise that the path of the disciple will be easy. Jeremiah feels the pain of rejection from those who do not want to hear what he has to say. Jesus declares that his words may bring stark division. Even so, we need not be afraid for God accounts for each hair on our heads. Though we may experience rejection, frustration, division, and death, God's grace and love make us a new creation each day. Marked with the cross and filled with holy food, we are sent from worship to witness to Christ in the world.

# 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
Brea Beward & Evan Miller
Thea Beward, Grace & Hope Miller
Barb Geedey & Jessie Reed

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

# FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST June 25, 2023 – 9:15 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 greets us in this and every season, whose word never fails, whose promise is sure.
  - C Amen.
  - P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors.
  - P Merciful God,
  - C we confess that we have sinned. We have hurt our community. We have squandered your blessings. We have hoarded your bounty. We have failed to be honest. We have lacked the courage to speak. We have spoken falsely. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us us your mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

- P God is a cup of cold water when we thirst. God offers boundless grace when we fail. Claim the gift of God's mercy: you are freed and forgiven in the name of + Jesus Christ.
- C Amen.

#### **GATHERING**

\* GATHERING HYMN

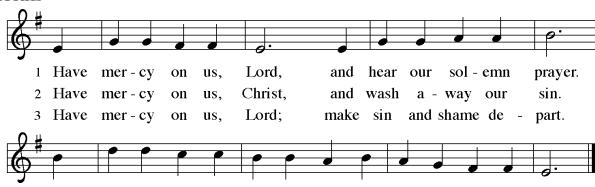
"How Firm a Foundation"

#507 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



We come to hear your liv-ing word; it saves us from de-spair. Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.

Re-new us with your sav-ing pow'r; cre-ate in us new hearts!

#### \* CANTICLE OF PRAISE



on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.

Je-sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa-ther's splen-dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise. Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand. For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

- \* SALUTATION AND RESPONSE (spoken)
  - P The Lord be with you.
  - C And also with you.
- \* PRAYER OF THE DAY (In Unison)
  - P Let us pray...
  - C Teach us, good Lord God, to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for reward, except that of knowing that we do your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

#### **WORD**

Jeremiah accuses God of forcing him into a ministry that brings him only contempt and persecution. Yet Jeremiah is confident that God will be a strong protector against his enemies and commits his life into God's hands.

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

8I have become a stranger to my own kindred, an alien to my mother's children.

<sup>9</sup>Zeal for your house has eaten me up; the scorn of those who scorn you has fallen upon me.

<sup>10</sup>I humbled myself with fasting, but that was turned to my reproach.

 $[^{11}\mbox{I}$  put on sackcloth also, and became a by-word among them.

<sup>12</sup>Those who sit at the gate murmur against me, and the drunkards make songs about me. <sup>13</sup>But as for me, this is my prayer to you, at the time you have set, O LORD: "In your great mercy, O God, answer me with your unfailing help.

<sup>14</sup>Save me from the mire; do not let me sink; let me be rescued from those who hate me and out of the deep waters.

<sup>15</sup>Let not the torrent of waters wash over me, neither let the deep swallow me up; do not let the pit shut its mouth upon me.]

#### <sup>16</sup>Answer me, O LORD, for your love is kind; in your great compassion, turn to me.

<sup>17</sup>Hide not your face from your servant; be swift and answer me, for I am in distress.

<sup>18</sup>Draw near to me and redeem me; because of my enemies deliver me.

In baptism we were incorporated into the reality of Christ's death and resurrection. We have been made new in Christ through his death and resurrection to live freed from sin.

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



Jesus warns his disciples that their ministry in his name will meet with opposition. However, he assures them that they need not fear for the truth will come to light. Life is found in Christ.

- - P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 10<sup>th</sup> chapter.
  - C Glory to you, O Lord. (spoken)

[Jesus said to the twelve:] <sup>24</sup>"A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; <sup>25</sup>it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household! <sup>26</sup>So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. <sup>27</sup>What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. <sup>28</sup>Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. <sup>29</sup>Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. <sup>30</sup>And even the hairs of your head are all counted. <sup>31</sup>So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows. <sup>32</sup>Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; <sup>33</sup>but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven. <sup>34</sup>Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. <sup>35</sup>For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; <sup>36</sup>and one's foes will be members of one's own household. <sup>37</sup>Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; <sup>38</sup> and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. <sup>39</sup>Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ. (spoken)

YOUNG FOLKS SERMON SERMON Pastor Leister Pastor Leister

HYMN OF THE DAY

"On Eagle's Wings"

#779 (WOV)

\* 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, in your mercy,
  - 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 God of field and forest, sea and sky, you are the giver of all good things. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- 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).

#### \* INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P All people are called to Christ's table. Come, eat wat is good.

#### 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 We thank you, generous God, for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table. Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world, through the one who is our dearest treasure, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C Amen

#### **SENDING**

- \* BLESSING
  - P The God who calls across the cosmos and speaks in the smallest seed + bless, keep, and Sustain you now and to the end of the age.
  - C Amen, Amen. (sung)
- \* SENDING HYMN "Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life" #429 Green Hymnal
- \* DISMISSAL
  - P Go in peace. Share the harvest. **C** Thanks be to God.

#### **POSTLUDE**

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NEXT WEEK'S LECTOR - Haley Mummah

NEXT WEEK'S ALTAR GUILD -Barb Geedey & Jessie Reed (6/5/23—7/2/23)

NEXT WEEK'S ACOLYTES - Braedon Walton & Grace Miller

NEXT WEEK'S COMMUNION/OFFERING PRESENTERS - Evan Miller, Julia & Paige Martin

NEXT WEEK'S MANNA BREAD BAKER - Cynthia Smith

#### **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.

ALTAR FLOWERS are presented to the Glory of God and in honor of Sam and Tom Leister's birthdays by the Bewards.

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 <a href="mailto:mlcsleister@gmail.com">mlcsleister@gmail.com</a>.

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 <a href="mailto:mlchurchoffice@gmail.com">mlchurchoffice@gmail.com</a> 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 <a href="mailto:mlcsleister@gmail.com">mlcsleister@gmail.com</a>.

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.

JUNE'S "MISSION OF THE MONTH" at Messiah will be for Juniata County Meals-On-Wheels. The monies will be sent from Messiah directly to M.O.W. to continue assisting in the effort to feed the shut-ins of our community. 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.

MESSIAH'S PPC has purchased two AED'S (Automatic Electronic Defibrillators) along with upgraded first aid products for the Fellowship Hall and the main worship area. The estimated cost is approximately \$3,000. We are all given the opportunity to contribute to the purchase of these life-saving devices. There is a chart showing envelopes with numbers on them in the Adult Sunday School Room. The number is the amount of a contribution you can make to help with this purchase. Please take an envelope and return it when you come to church.

BIBLE STUDY continues in the Library on Tuesday mornings at 10:30 a.m. This ELCA Daily Discipleship follows the gospel lessons from our worship. Next week's focus question will be When do you need courage from God?"

IF YOU HAVE ANY NEWS OR UPCOMING EVENTS, please contact Sheree Goss at 717-436-9613 or email her at <a href="mailto:msgoss@gmail.com">msgoss@gmail.com</a>.

#### WEEKLY OFFERING REPORT:

**June 11, 2023** Worship Attendance – 37

		Other Funds	
Total Offering	\$2,345.00	Benevolence \$	33.00
Other Funds	<u>476.00</u>	Building Fund	63.00
General Fund	\$1,869.00	Memorial Fund	350.00
		Mission of Month	<u>30.00</u>
		Total \$	476.00

#### 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.

#### **WOMEN OF THE ELCA**

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).

OUR CONVENTION will be held at Camp Mt. Luther on Saturday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>. If anyone is interested in attending, the cost is \$45.00 which covers a light breakfast, lunch, speaker and any activities. Contact Barb, Linda or Cynthia for copies of registration forms.

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.

<u>COLLECTION FOR HAVEN MINISTRY "WISH LIST"</u> (a Homeless Shelter and Food Pantry serving the Sunbury area).

## **Paper Supplies**

Paper Towels Napkins Toilet Paper Tissues

Paper Plates

#### **Cleaning Supplies**

Liquid Hand Soap Dish Sponges and Scrubbies Brillo Pads Rubber Gloves for cleaning

Trash Bags Dawn Brand Dish Detergent (Dawn is used for cleaning jobs)

#### PERSONAL CARE KIT ITEMS (collecting May—July)

- --ONE lightweight bath-size towel (20" x 40" to 52" x 27").....dark color recommended.
- --TWO OR THREE bath-size bars of soap equaling 8 to 9 oz. (any brand in original wrapping.....no mini or hotel size bars).
- --ONE adult-size toothbrush (in original packaging....multi-packs may be used as long as each individual toothbrush is sealed in a business-size envelope.....no plastic bags or wraps).

- --ONE sturdy comb (NO picks or fine-toothed combs).
- --ONE metal nail clipper (attached file optional, remove packaging).

# 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 JULY:**

CANNED BEETS, CARROTS, AND BAKED BEANS.

CLEANING SUPPLIES AND TOILET PAPER.

BACKPACK PROGRAM: SINGLE-SERVE FRUIT CUPS, JELLO CUPS, NON-CHOCOLATE PUDDING AND SINGLE SERVE MEALS.

\*WE GLADLY ACCEPT DONATIONS OF CASH/CHECKS AND GIFT CARDS.

## **THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH**

**Today:** -9:15 a.m., Worship/Communion.

**Monday:** -7:00 p.m., AA in Disciple's Class. Area.

**Tuesday:** -10:30 a.m., Bible Study in Library.

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

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

**Friday:** -NEWSLETTER DEADLINE.

**Sunday:** -9:15 a.m., Worship/Communion

PRAYER LIST

Steve & Linda Bahorik Jeremy Barnes Ryan Barr Donna Barton Gary Bechtold Michele Boniewicz Rod Boyer Dan Brackbill Don Bratton Linda Brouse Dan Brown Terry Coder Fred & Dot Dowling Freda Durio Cathy Dysinger Renee Dzikowski The Ettlinger Family Neil & Pat Fisher Jane Fogleman Gary Frantz Steve Freeman & family Mindy Fryer

Bentley Fulkroad

Terri Gayer

Deb Geedey

Bob & Eddi Kay Gill Arrin Gilson Deborah Gingrich Sylva Grimm Sue Henderson Nox Hepburn Judy Hosler Erin Husler Terry Imes Annie Ingle Curt Kauffman Guy Kerstetter Jesse Kint Pam Lawson Norma Leach Bobby Lillis Michael Lozano Zaden Mabey Anthony Martin Carlen McClure Alice McClure Cecilia Miller Ellwood Miller Larry Miller

Claire Mummah Paul Ogden Ron & Linda (Kerchner)Parks Kari Ann (Reagen) Petrine Sandy Pines Betty Ranck Keith Ranck Diane Rowles Kelley Rusenko Ron & Arlene Shearer Jan & Dave Smith Joyce & Todd Spangler Barry Strawser Vicki Suoja Tabitha's baby (our cleaner) Dorothy Towsey Molly Ulsh Doug Wagner Roscoe Warner Florence Williams Jim Woltman Gary Zeiders George Zimmerman

Linda Zimmerman

# PRAY FOR OUR SHUT-INS

Shirley Miller

- --Jane Marhefka -- Brookline Retirement Village, 92 Village Drive, Mifflintown, PA 17059
- --Gail Henderson Brookline Manor, 2 Manor Blvd., Mifflintown, PA 17059
- --Rich Smith Magnolia Personal Care Center, 68 Lexi St., 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
- --Edith Nipple 1482 William Penn Hwy., Mifflintown, PA 17059
- --Ona Stoner William Penn Nursing Home, 163 Summit Dr., Lewistown, PA 17044