

# Third Sunday of Lent

## March 23, 2025 9:30am

Rev. Dr. Joann Heaney-Hunter, Pastor Joe Foryan, Worship Coordinator Paul Motto, Organist/Pianist Email: <u>churchoffice@shephillsclermont.org</u> Website: <u>www.shephillsclermont.org</u>

### **Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church**

Mission Statement: "Leading by Christ's teaching and example of loving, caring, sharing, and joyfully connecting to all others as God loved us."

Vision: "We rejoice in making Christ known through reaching out by faith and proclaiming the good news of God."

#### WELCOME! WE ARE BLESSED TO HAVE YOU WORSHIP WITH US TODAY!

Welcome to Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church. We pray that you will find our worshipping community to be welcoming and a place where you will hear and feel God's grace. If you are new to our church, please stop by the Welcome Table in the entry area where you can get additional information. We trust God's Spirit has led you here and that God will speak to you today.

#### NEW MEMBERS If you would like to inquire about membership here at SOTH, please notify the church office for more information.

#### **Hearing Amplification Devices Available**

Please see an usher if you would like to use a device to assist in hearing.

*In Need of a Bible?* A member of our church has graciously donated a supply of Bibles to be given to anyone in need of one. Pick one up from the Welcome Center Table in the back of the church.

Restrooms are located in both the Education and Administrative wings. A Baby Changing Station is located in the Restroom in the Education wing.

#### **Holy Communion**

All Baptized Christians are welcome at our Lord's Table. Please come forward and extend an open hand, palm up, if you wish to receive the bread and wine.

If you are not baptized or are waiting for your first communion, please come forward for a blessing. You may cross your arms across your chest or fold your hands together to indicate you wish to receive a blessing.

If you are unable to come forward for communion, please let an usher know and the pastor will come to you at your seat.

Communion wafers & wine are offered.

Grape juice (instead of wine) and gluten free wafers (non-wheat) are available by request when you come forward to receive communion.

*Reference to hymnals are as follows:* **LBW:** Lutheran Book of Worship hymnal (green); **WOV:** With One Voice (blue); **ELW**: Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal

# March 23, 2025 Third Sunday in Lent

The warnings are plentiful and blunt on the third Sunday in Lent. Cut it out or get cut down! The warnings are accompanied by God's invitation to attentiveness: "Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live." The landowner's ultimatum is forestalled by the gardener's readiness to till the ground one more year. That is good news for all of us. Thanks be to God!



#### PRELUDE

WELCOME

#### A TIME FOR SILENT MEDITATION

**CALL TO WORSHIP** 

#### **\*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

- *P:* In the name of the Father, and of the Holy Spirit. **C:** Amen.
- *P*: Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

(Silence for reflection and self-examination.)

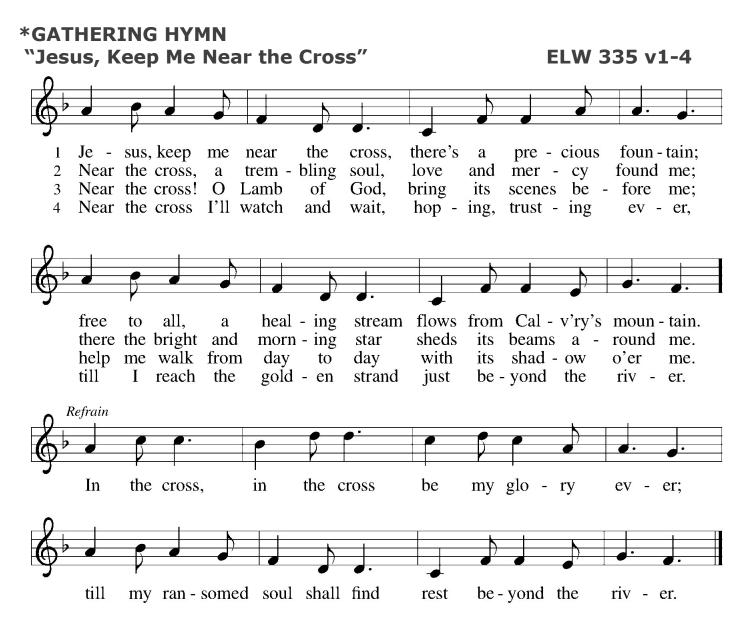
Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another

#### P: Most merciful God,

- C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.
- *P:* God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of *+* Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen



you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **C: Amen.** 



#### GREETING

*P:* The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. C: And Also with you!

#### **\*KYRIE**



#### **\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray. Eternal God,

C: your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it, and bring your saving love to fruition in our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

# WORD

#### FIRST READING: Isaiah 55:1-9

L: <sup>1</sup> Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without price.
<sup>2</sup> Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,
and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.
<sup>3</sup> Incline your ear, and come to me;
listen, so that you may live.
I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David.
<sup>4</sup> See, I made him a witness to the peoples,
a leader and commander for the peoples.
$^5$ See, you shall call nations that you do not know,
and nations that do not know you shall run to you,
because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel,
for he has glorified you. <sup>6</sup> Seek the Lord while he may be found,
call upon him while he is near; 7 let the wicked forsake their way,
and the unrighteous their thoughts;
let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.
<sup>8</sup> For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.

<sup>9</sup> For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

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

### **PSALM:** Psalm 63:1-8 (read responsively by verses)

<sup>1</sup>O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

- <sup>2</sup> Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place, that I might behold your power and your glory.
- <sup>3</sup> For your steadfast love is better than life itself; my lips shall give you praise.
- <sup>4</sup> So will I bless you as long as I live and lift up my hands in your name.
- <sup>5</sup> My spirit is content, as with the richest of foods, and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,
- <sup>6</sup> when I remember you up on my bed, and meditate on you in the night watches.
- <sup>7</sup> For you have been my helper, and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.
- <sup>8</sup> My whole being clings to you; your right hand holds me fast.

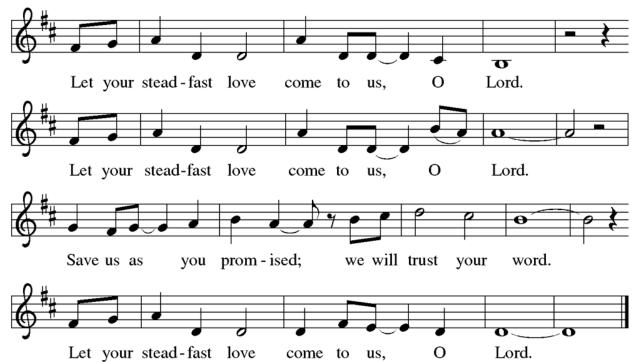
# SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

L: <sup>1</sup>I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, <sup>2</sup> and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, <sup>3</sup> and all ate the same spiritual food, <sup>4</sup> and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. <sup>5</sup>Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

<sup>6</sup>Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. <sup>7</sup>Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." <sup>8</sup>We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. <sup>9</sup>We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents.

<sup>10</sup> And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. <sup>11</sup> These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. <sup>12</sup> So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. <sup>13</sup> No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

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



**\*THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** 

#### \*GOSPEL READING: Luke 13:1-9

# P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

### C: Glory to you, O Lord.

*P:* <sup>1</sup>At that very time there were some present who told him about the whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices.<sup>2</sup> [Jesus] asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans?<sup>3</sup>No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. <sup>4</sup>Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem?

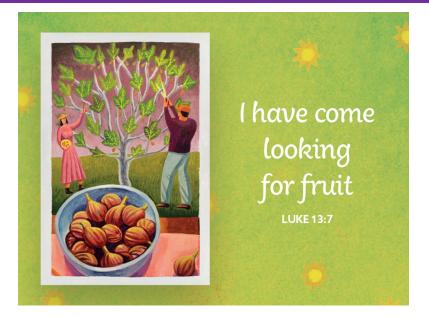
 $^5$  No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

<sup>6</sup>Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. <sup>7</sup>So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' <sup>8</sup>He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. <sup>9</sup>If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

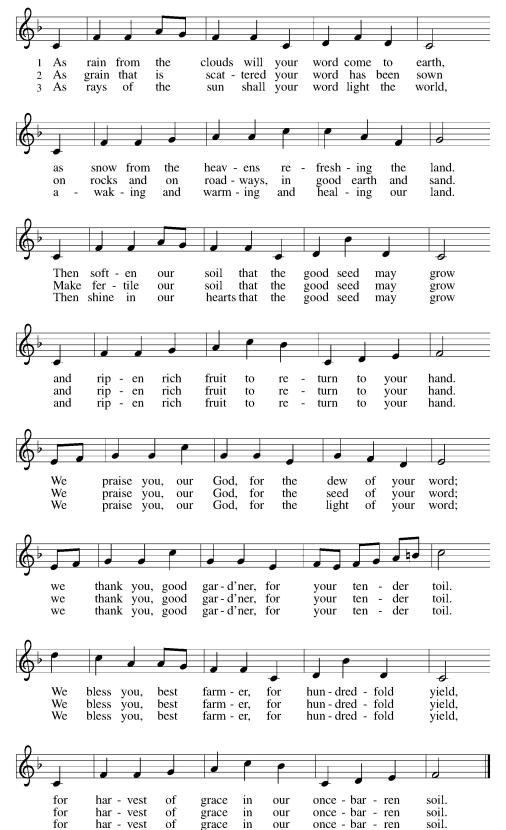
P: The Gospel of the Lord. C: Praise to you, O Christ.

### **MESSAGE:**

#### **Rev. Dr. Joann Heaney-Hunter**



#### \*HYMN OF THE DAY "As Rain from the Clouds"



**\*THE APOSTLES' CREED** 

- 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.

#### **\*THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

(Verse sung before and after the prayers.)

Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your Spirit in this place; Lord, listen to your children praying, Send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

(Response after each petition:)

A: God in your mercy, **C: receive our prayer.** 



#### **\*SHARING OF THE PEACE**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always. C: And also with you.

*P:* We share God's peace with one another.

MEAL

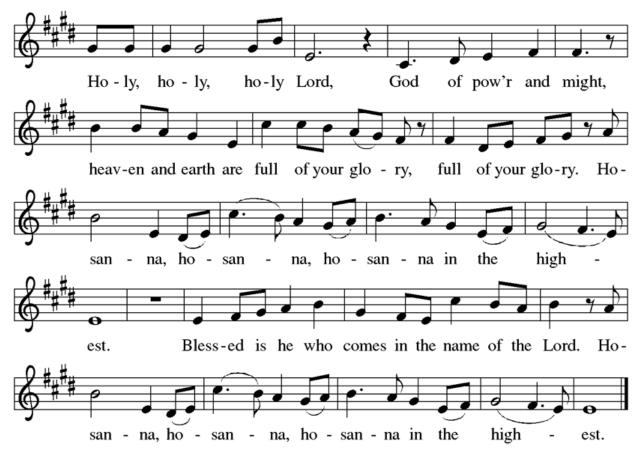
#### **\*OFFERING/OFFERTORY**

#### **OFFERING PRAYER**

A: Let us pray: Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ. **C: Amen.** 

#### \*DIALOGUE

- *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.**
- *P:* It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



#### **\*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE** *P:* Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.

... within each cell; with every breath. We praise you, O God.

. . . out of exile; into the future. We bless you, O God.

. . . beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now. **We thank you, O God.** 

... we proclaim the mystery of faith: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

. . . by your Spirit, in your church, without end. Amen.

#### \* THE LORD'S PRAYER

*P:* Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray in the words that Jesus taught us. **C:** Our Father, who art in heaven.....

#### **\*INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P: All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.

#### THE DISTRIBUTION

All Baptized Christians are welcome at our Lord's Table. Please come forward and extend an open hand, palm up, if you wish to receive the bread and wine. Grape juice is offered on the Pastor's left.

If you are not baptized or are waiting for your first communion, please come forward for a blessing. You may cross your arms across your chest or fold your hands together to indicate you wish to receive a blessing.

COMMUNION HYMNS 4"Lamb of God" Grace "For by Grace" "What Feast of Love" "Rock of Ages" Reflective

**Tune: Amazing** 

ELW 598 v1-3 WOV 701 v1-3 LBW 327 v1-4

#### **\*POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

*P:* The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and H give you peace. **C:** Amen.

#### \*POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE "Awesome God"

Our God is an awesome God, He reigns from heaven above with wisdom, pow'r, and love our God is an awesome God! (repeat)

Our God is an awesome God! Our God is an awesome God!

#### **\*POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

A: Let us pray: You have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: Amen.** 

#### **\*SENDING OF COMMUNION**

Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are sick and homebound In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.** 

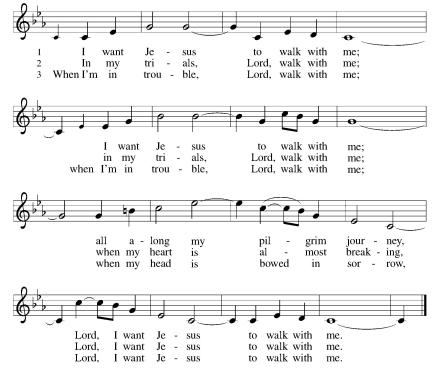
#### **COMMUNITY SHARING**

## SENDING

#### \*BENEDICTION

#### \*SENDING HYMN "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me"

#### WOV 660 v1-3

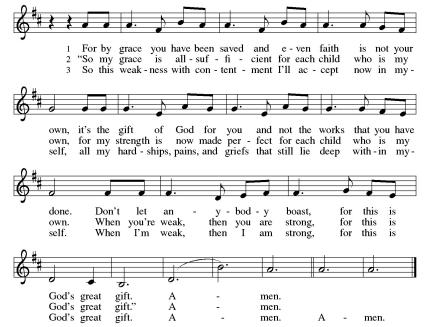


#### DISMISSAL

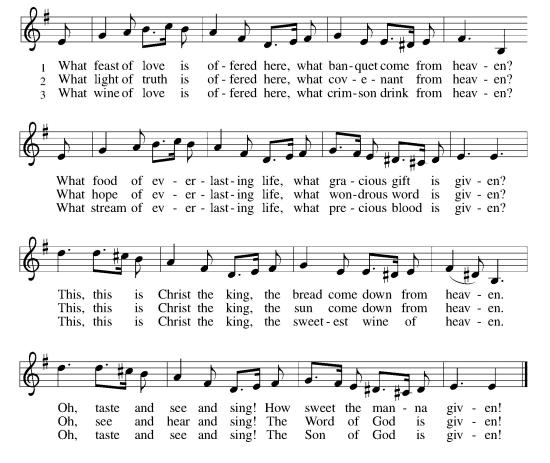
A: Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you. C: Thanks be to God.

#### \*Communion Hymns "For by Grace"

ELW 598 v1-3



#### "What Feast of Love"



"Rock of Ages"

LBW 324 v1-4





## **Altar Flowers**

Flowers on the altar for March 23rd<sup>th</sup> are given by Peg Massaro for Special Intentions.



### March 23 - March 29

Mar 25 Mar 26 Mar 26

Katy Guardia Jeanie Gennrich Paula Boeger

There will be a brunch on Sunday, March 30<sup>th</sup> following service.





CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

There will be a brief Congregational Meeting on Sunday, March 30<sup>th</sup> immediately following service to elect two new people to the Council.

# Lenten Bible Study

Lent is here. I invite you to make Bible study a part of your Lenten prayer time. We are exploring the themes of the Lenten season, including Transfiguration, Temptation, The Meaning of Discipleship, Forgiveness, and the Cross. We will study these themes in the New Testament and explore their Old Testament roots.

All session are held on Zoom at 7:00pm on Mondays, beginning on March  $10^{\rm th}$  and ending on April 7th. All are welcome. Hope to see you! Pastor Joann

Join Zoom Meeting

Meeting ID: 819 7667 3296

Passcode: 779639

#### **Lenten Midweek Services:**



**Midweek Soup Supper & Service** – March 26 and April 2nd and 9<sup>th</sup>. Soup Supper at 6:00 pm and service to follow at 7:00 pm.

There is a signup sheet for volunteers to provide soup for these services located on the table in back.



Now is the time to order your Easter lilies to grace our chancel on Easter Sunday. Lilies may be ordered for many reasons; in memory of, in celebration of, in thanksgiving, to the glory of God, in honor of, etc. To order a lily (\$6.00 each) sign up at the Welcome Table. Thanks We will be collecting kid friendly cereal (8-10 Serving boxes) during the month of March for Faith Neighborhood Center.





Lutheran World Relief contributions will be taken for backpack kits on Sunday March 23<sup>rd</sup>. The cost per backpack is \$8.00 each. The Women's Circle is willing to do the work – but we need YOUR help to buy the school supplies. Our success depends on YOU.

#### Tarpon Springs trip, February 27th









March 16, 2025 Installation of Rev. Dr. Joann Heaney-Hunter





https://flic.kr/s/aHBqjC5LKr



Attendance March 16, 2025 9:30 am 126 Online 36

#### Church Giving Totals\* March 3 – March 9

Weekly Giving Totals	\$4,044
Budgeted Weekly Giving	\$4,558
Difference Overage (Shortfall)	(\$ 514)

	This	Week at	Our Church
Sunday	3/23/2025	9:30am	Sunday Worship NO SUNDAY SCHOOL
Tuesday	3/25/2025	8:00am 10:00am 10:45am	Tuesday Breakfast (at IHOP) Women's Circle Prayer Group
Wednesday	3/26/2025	1:00 pm 6:00 pm	Worship & Music Meeting Soup Supper/Midweek Service
Thursday	3/27/2025	6:00pm	Choir Practice

# **CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER LIST**

Benjamin Andreachi, grandson of Darlene Andreachi **Darlene Andreachi** John Andreachi, son of Darlene Andreachi Darrell Aulds, father of Pastor Karin Albaugh Marquis Beagle, friend of Kathy Oberg William Blaisdell, brother of Tina Blaisdell Gloria Bork, sister of Linda Cummings **Kelly Carpenter** Robin Carroll, daughter of Darlene Andreachi Carol Cenyar, sister-in-law to Bob McKee Kelli Colarusso, friend of Diane Bursey **Sandy Criner Gwen Doyle,** daughter of Dorothy Derrick **Jeff Dohse Kimberly and Jayson Eddins**, daughter & son-in-law of Linda Cummings Tom Ford, friend of Joe and Jean Montfort **Duane Fry,** son of Nancy Fry **Nancy Fry** Craig Gennrich, son of Jeanie Gennrich Kristi Genopolos, daughter of George Lentz Sharon Grubbs, friend of Dave and Diane Acheson Virginia Hart, friend of Diane Bursey **Charlotte High** 

But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:19

**Chetinna Hodges Bob Holzer** Sandy & Denny Horazak, sister and brother-in-law of Pat Rach **Kevin Jacobs Janice Jones Mindy Longenbach** Peg Massaro, heartfelt sympathy up passing of husband, Fred Bobby McGee, son-in-law of Marge Zuelke Caity Mitchell, cousin of Joe Foryan **Kathy Oberg** Marshall Penny, brother of Barbara Lentz Rakesh Premdass, son of Chandra Premdass **Cynthia Schindele**, daughter of Marion Dielman **Denise Schlector Karen Schumacher** Linda Sheerin Jay Shipbaugh, grandson of Marge Zuehlke Jordyn Smith, daughter of Robert & Linda Smith **Denise Sookdeo Kathy Thorby Ray Thorby** Luis Torres, father-in-law of Diane Acheson's son Harlan Wick, brother of Dennis Wick Brian, nephew of Joe Foryan



# **THOSE SERVING IN OUR MILITARY**

Michael Reid, US Marines, Darlene Andreachi's nephew's son Capt. USAF Griffith Hiss, Thomas and Cheryl Stutesman's son-in-law Capt. USAF Kat Hiss, Thomas and Cheryl Stutesman's daughter Capt. Neils Seim USAF, grandson of Rocky & Maria Lafaro Lt. Justin Seim US Army, grandson of Rocky & Maria Lafaro SGT USAF Andrew Stutesman, Thomas and Cheryl Stutesman's son LTC Andrew West, USAF