

13600 Caspian Lane Clermont, FL 34711 (352) 394-3382



# 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter

## April 27, 2025 9:30am

Rev. Dr. Joann Heaney-Hunter, Pastor Joe Foryan, Worship Coordinator Paul Motto, Organist/Pianist

Email: <a href="mailto:churchoffice@shephillsclermont.org">churchoffice@shephillsclermont.org</a>

Website: www.shephillsclermont.org

## **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.

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

## April 27, 2025 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter

In spite of all we have heard and all we have seen, it is often hard to believe. Because it is hard to believe, we will invest ourselves in the Easter mystery for fifty days (a week of weeks). Because it is hard to believe, John the evangelist will provide sign after sign celebrating Jesus' victory over death. Because it is hard to believe, the risen Jesus will return to us again and again in the mystery of holy communion, inviting us to touch and taste his presence, and offering us his peace.

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

\*GATHERING HYMN
"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

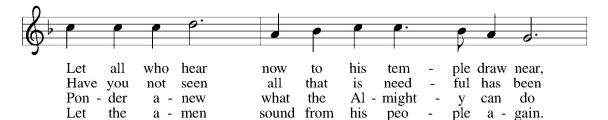
ELW 858 v1,2&4



- 1 Praise to the Lord, the Al might y, the King of cre a tion!
- 2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won-drous-ly reign ing
- 3 Praise to the Lord, who will pros-per your work and de-fend you;
- 4 Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me a dore him!



O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and sal - va - tion! and, as on wings of an ea - gle, up - lift - ing, sus - tain - ing. sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy shall dai - ly at - tend you. All that has life and breath, come now with prais - es be - fore him!





#### THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation. **Amen.** 

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.

Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

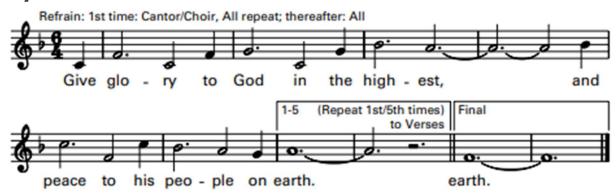
To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.** 

#### \*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!

## "Glory to God"



#### Verses

- Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
- Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy upon us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.
- You alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. (Refrain twice)

#### \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. O God of life,

C: you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit's breath revive our faith in your mercy and strengthen us to be the body of your Son, 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: Acts 5:27-32

A reading from Acts.

L: When they had brought the apostles, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and

forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him." L: The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.** 

## **PSALM:** Psalm 118:14-29 (read responsively by verses)

The LORD is my strength and my song and has become my salvation.

Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous: "The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!

The right hand of the LORD is exalted! The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!"

I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the LORD.

The LORD indeed punished me sorely, but did not hand me over to death.

Open for me the gates of righteousness; I will enter them and give thanks to the LORD.

"This is the gate of the LORD; here the righteous may enter."

I give thanks to you, for you have answered me and you have become | my salvation.

The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

By the LORD has this been done; it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Hosanna! O Lord, save us! We pray to you, Lord, prosper our days!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD; we bless you from the house of the LORD.

The LORD is God and has given us light. Form a procession with branches up to the corners of the altar.

You are my God, and I will thank you; you are my God, and I will exalt you.

Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good; God's mercy endures forever.

### **SECOND READING: Revelation 1:4-8**

A reading from Revelation.

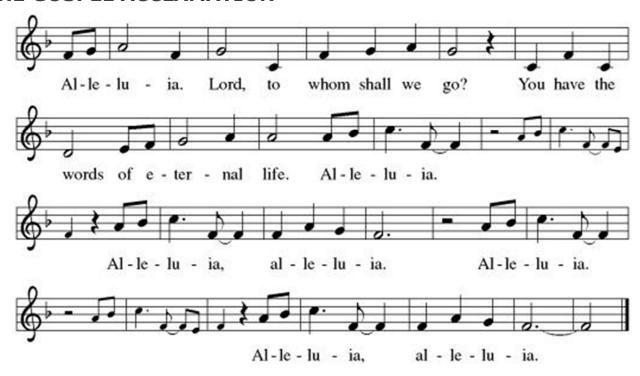
L: John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood and made us a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all the tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. So it is to be. Amen.

"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty. L: The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.** 

#### \*THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



## \*GOSPEL READING: John 20:19-31

P: The Holy Gospel according to John.

## C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the

Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

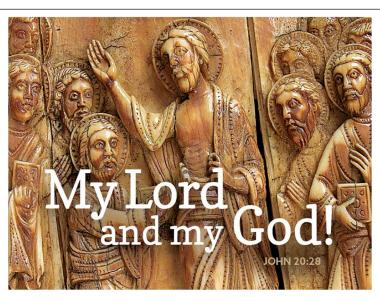
A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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

## **MESSAGE:**

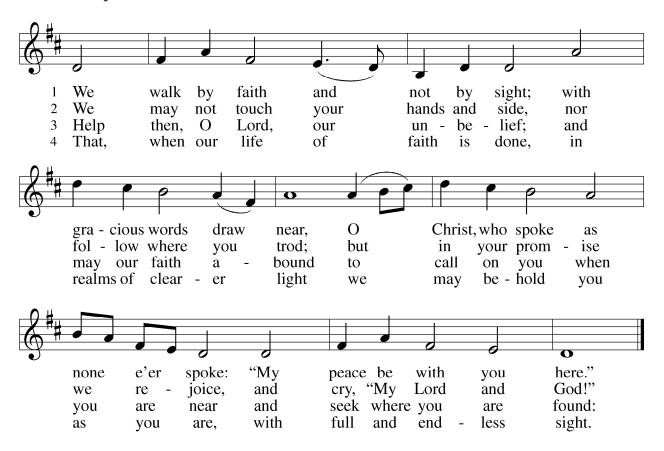
## Rev. Dr. Joann Heaney-Hunter



#### \*HYMN OF THE DAY

"We Walk by Faith"

#### **WOV 675 v1-4**



#### \*THE NICENE CREED

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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. 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;

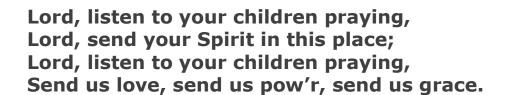
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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.

#### \*THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

(Verse sung before and after the prayers.)





(Response after each petition:)

A: Hear us, O God, C: Your mercy is great.

#### \*SHARING OF THE PEACE

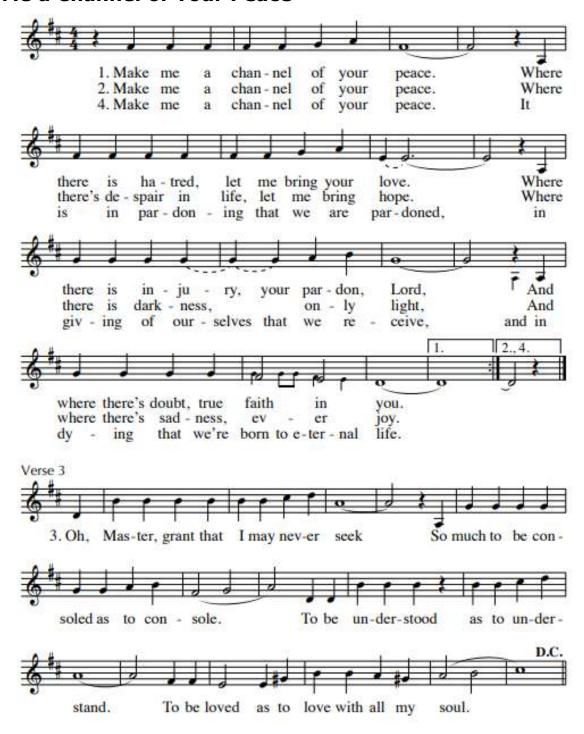
P: The peace of Christ be with you always. C: And also with you.

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

## **MEAL**

\*OFFERING/OFFERTORY

## "Make Me a Channel of Your Peace"

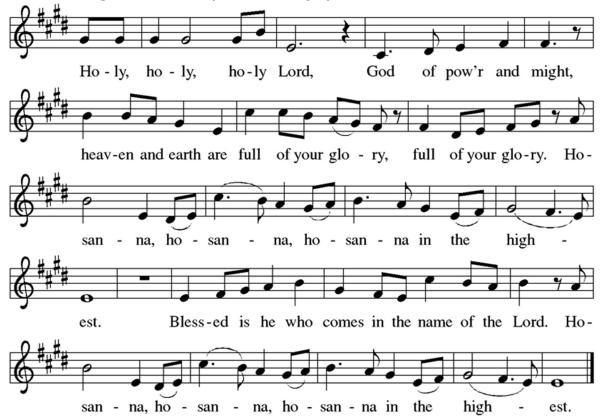


#### OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray: Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world. **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 . . .



#### \*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: Blessed are you, O God of the universe...

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

Grace our table with your presence. Come, Holy Spirit.

burning with justice, peace, and love. Come, Holy Spirit.

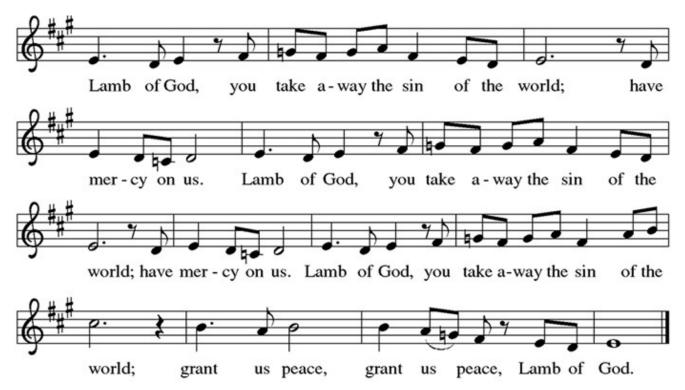
#### \* THE LORD'S PRAYER

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: Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.

#### "Lamb of God"



#### 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**

"That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright" ELW 384 v1-4
"Blessed Assurance" ELW 638 v1-3
"United at the Table" ELW 498 v1-3
Reflective

#### \*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: Life-giving God, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world. **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**

#### \*BLESSING

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  $\oplus$  give you peace. **Amen.** 

#### \*SENDING HYMN

## "Let There Be Peace On Earth"



#### **DISMISSAL**

A: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

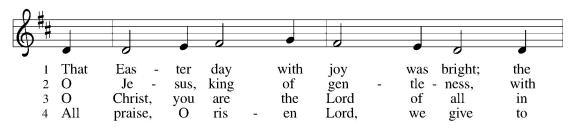
A: Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

## \*Communion Hymns

## "That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright"

#### ELW 384 v1-4







#### "Blessed Assurance"

#### ELW 638 v1-3



- Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!
- 2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;
- 3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,



Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood. an - gels de-scend-ing bring from a-bove ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love. watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.



This is my sto - ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav - ior all the day long:



this is my sto - ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.

## "United at the Table"

### ELW 498 v1-3



# Announcements

## **Altar Flowers**

Flowers on the altar for April 27<sup>th</sup> are given by Judy & Bill Southworth in celebration of their 57<sup>th</sup> anniversary.



## **Altar Flowers**

Flowers on the altar for April 27th are given by Lukas & Lindy Gooding in Celebration of Jayla's 17<sup>th</sup> birthday.



## April 27- April 30



Apr 28 Apr 28 Apr 30 Freda O'Brien Jayla Gooding Jim Johnson







During the months of April and May, we will be collecting fruit cups for The Neighborhood Center



One of the most important texts of the Easter Season is Acts of the Apostles, which gives us a compelling narrative about the growth of the church in the early years after Jesus.

Please join us for a six-week course on the Acts of the Apostles. Due to conflicts on the calendar, I will not be able to teach on Monday nights for this session. The course will take place beginning on Tuesday, April 29 and conclude on Tuesday, June 10 at 7:00 PM on Zoom.

There will be no meeting on May 20, because I have a Council meeting at that time.

Pr. Joann Heaney-Hunter is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Acts of the Apostles

Time: Apr 29, 2025 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Every week on Tue, until Jun 10, 2025, 6 occurrence(s)

No meeting on May 20

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86449108753?pwd=R79zyFKLG12zYgCi66AGshu4eOrZa1.1

Meeting ID: 864 4910 8753

Passcode: 782457

#### © 2025 Early Bird Dinner Theater

#### Social Security by Andrew Bergman May 10th - June 15th, 2025



Trendy art gallery owners Barbara and David have it all, until their lives are upended when Barbara's sister Trudy deposits their eccentric elderly mother on the couple's doorstep. Barbara and David introduce mom to their client, a suave and famous artist, who offers to paint her portrait and soon begins to brighten her life in ways she never expected in her twilight years. What could go wrong?



Depart Shepherd of the Hills 9am Arrive Early Bird Dinner Theatre at 11am Reserved tables for a party of 50. Enjoy buffet lunch then show. Price includes transportation, tip to driver, buffet lunch and show, tax and tip to waiters. Show over by 2:30pm and head home. Minimum 40 \$109 pp

### **Church Giving Totals\*** April 7 - April 13

A				
Difference Overage (Shortfall)	\$ 991			
Budgeted Weekly Giving	\$4,558			
Weekly Giving Totals	\$5.549			

	Attendance	
	April 17	
	<b>Maundy Thursday</b>	
7:00 pm		44
Online		53
	April 18	
	<b>Good Friday</b>	
12:00pm		40
7:00pm		51
Online		24
	April 20	
	Easter	
9:30 am		175
Online		58

## This Week at Our Church

Sunday	4/27/2025	9:30am	Sunday Worship Sunday School
Tuesday	4/29/2025	8:00am 10:00am 10:45am	Tuesday Breakfast (at IHOP) Women's Circle Prayer Group
Thursday	5/1/2025	1:00pm 6:00pm	Worship & Music Meeting 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

**Nancy Fry** 

Craig Gennrich, son of Jeanie Gennrich



Kristi Genopolos, daughter of George Lentz **Pastor, Roy Godfrey family**, recent passing of Roy **Sharon Grubbs**, friend of Dave and Diane Acheson **Virginia Hart**, friend of Diane Bursey **Charlotte High Chetinna Hodges Bob Holzer** Sandy & Denny Horazak, sister and brother-in-law of Pat Rach **Kevin Jacobs Janice Jones Mindy Longenbach** Bobby McGee, son-in-law of Marge Zuelke Caity Mitchell, cousin of Joe Foryan **Agnes Mulick,** mother of Paula Boeger **Wayne Oberg,** recent passing of wife, Kathy **Chad Olander**, grandson of Bob & Kay Holzer Marshall Penny, brother of Barbara Lentz Rakesh Premdass, son of Chandra Premdass **Susan Prinz 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 **Kathy Thorby Ray Thorby** Luis Torres, father-in-law of Diane Acheson's son



## 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

Harlan Wick, brother of Dennis Wick

**Brian,** nephew of Joe Foryan