



16th Sunday after Pentecost

September 13, 2026

9:30am

Rev. Dr. Joann Heaney-Hunter, Pastor

Joe Foryan, Worship Coordinator

Paul Motto, Organist/Pianist

Email: churchoffice@shephillsclermont.org

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 back of the church.

An asterisk (*) throughout the bulletin indicates that members of the congregation stand if you are able.

*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.

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In today's second reading Paul questions why we judge one another, since we all stand before the judgment of God. Yet we do sin against one another, and Jesus' challenge that we forgive seventy-seven times reveals God's boundless mercy. When we hear the words of forgiveness in worship and sign ourselves with the cross, we are renewed in baptism to be signs of reconciliation in the world.



All commemorations are taken from the Lutheran Calendar of Saints. The ELCA makes this information available to us through *Sundays and Seasons*, our worship planner.

Upcoming Commemorations

John Chrysostom, Bishop of Constantinople, died 407 **Sunday, September 13, 2026**

John was a priest in Antioch and an outstanding preacher. His eloquence earned him the nickname "Chrysostom" ("golden mouth"). Appointed bishop of Constantinople, seat of the empire, he criticized corruption in the court. As a result, he was exiled by the empress.

Holy Cross Day **Monday, September 14, 2026**

Helena, mother of Constantine, made a pilgrimage to the Holy Land and found what may be the actual site of Jesus' crucifixion. Her son built two churches there, and the dedication of one of them gave rise to this celebration of our Lord's victory on the cross.

Cyprian, Bishop of Carthage, martyr, died around 258 **Wednesday, September 16, 2026**

Cyprian served as a bishop during a time of great persecution of Christians. He insisted on receiving back those who had left the faith under duress. He also provided medical care during a severe epidemic.

WELCOME

GATHERING

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

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

Pause for silent reflection

Most merciful God, **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. Through 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.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and through him God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

***GATHERING HYMN**
"God's Work, Our Hands"

ACS 1000



1 God's work, our hands: work - ing to - geth - er,
 2 God's work, our feet: trav - 'ling to - geth - er,
 3 God's work, our voice: sing - ing to - geth - er,
 4 God is at work in and a - round us:

build - ing a fu - ture, re - pair - ing the world,
 fol - low - ing Je - sus to plac - es un - known,
 prais - ing, pro - claim - ing to all who will hear,
 seed - lings are sprout - ing and bread's on the rise!

rais - ing up homes, plant - ing new gar - dens,
 walk - ing as friends, march - ing for free - dom,
 pray - ing for peace, shout - ing for jus - tice,
 Washed and set free, hum - bled and hon - ored,

feed - ing the hun - gry and shelt - 'ring the cold,
 run - ning the race with God's fu - ture the goal,
 claim - ing God's love for the lost and the least,
 gift - ed by grace, we re - spond in God's love.

Bless, God, our hands as we work in your name,
 Bless, God, our feet as we fol - low your way,
 Bless, God, our voice as we speak in your name,
 Bless, God, our lives as we an - swer your call,

shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.
 shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.
 shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.

***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" (*Words on the screen*)

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray,

C: O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING: Genesis 50:15-21

L: A reading from Genesis.

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them. The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 103: 8-13 (*read responsively by verses*)

Lord, you are full of compassion and mercy, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love;

you will not always accuse us, nor will you keep your anger forever.

You have not dealt with us according to our sins, nor repaid us according to our iniquities.

For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is your steadfast love for those who fear you.

As far as the east is from the west, so far have you removed our

transgressions from us.

As a father has compassion for his children, so you have compassion for those who fear you, O Lord.

SECOND READING: Romans 14:1-12

L: A reading from Romans.

Welcome those who are weak in faith but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat, for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on slaves of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it for the Lord. Also those who eat, eat for the Lord, since they give thanks to God, while those who abstain, abstain for the Lord and give thanks to God.

For we do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." So then, each one of us will be held accountable. The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

***THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** (*Words on screen*)

***GOSPEL READING: Matthew 18:21-35**

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

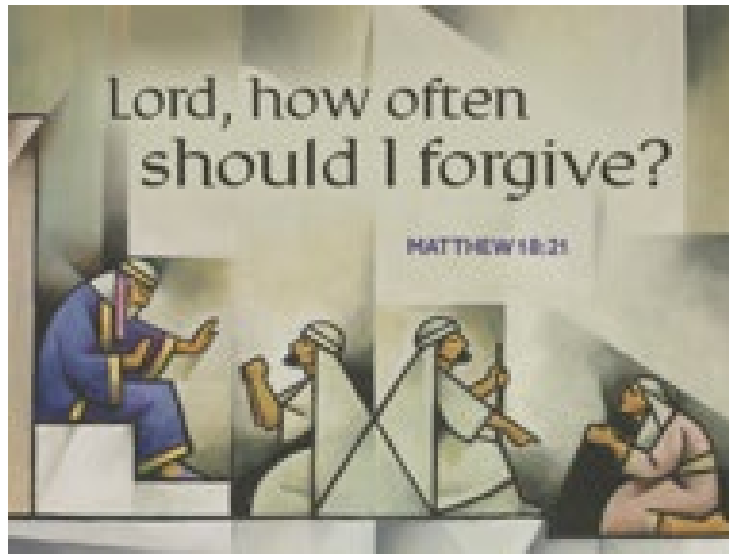
C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if my brother or sister sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him, and, as he could not pay, the lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt.

When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart." The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.



*HYMN OF THE DAY

"Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive"

ELW 605



- 1 "For - give our sins as we for - give," you taught us, Lord, to pray;
- 2 How can your par - don reach and bless the un - for - giv - ing heart
- 3 In blaz - ing light your cross re - veals the truth we dim - ly knew:
- 4 Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls and bid re - sent - ment cease;



but you a - lone can grant us grace to live the words we say.
 that broods on wrongs and will not let old bit - ter - ness de - part?
 how tri - fling oth - ers' debts to us; how great our debt to you!
 then, by your mer - cy rec - on - ciled, our lives will spread your peace.

***THE APOSTLE'S 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**



"Surely the Presence Of The Lord"

**Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place,
I can feel His mighty power and His grace.**

I can hear the brush of angel's wings

I see glory on each face;

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

(Response after each petition:)

P: God, we pray,

C: **Open our hands in love.**

***SHARING OF THE PEACE**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us share Christ's peace with each other.

MEAL

OFFERING/OFFERTORY "Spirit, Open My Heart"

ACS 1043

Refrain



Spir-it, o - pen my heart to the joy and pain of
liv-ing. As you love may I love, in re - ceiv - ing
and in giv - ing. Spir - it, o - pen my heart.
1 God, re - place my ston - y heart with a heart that's
2 Write your love up - on my heart as my law, my
3 May I weep with those who weep; share the joy of
kind and ten - der. All my cold - ness and
goal, my sto - ry. In each thought, word, and
friend and neigh - bor. As I live from day to
Refrain
fear to your grace I now sur - ren - der.
deed, may my liv - ing bring you glo - ry.
day, love will be my fin - est la - bor.

*OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray: Holy God, giver of all good things, receive the gifts we bring, fruit of the earth and the work of human hands, that they may be used to your purposes for life and love in the world. **Amen.**

***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

***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 our thanks and praise.**

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy . . .

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (*Words on screen*)

***THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God...

...we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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

...in your holy church, now and forever. **Amen.**

***THE LORD'S PRAYER**

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

C: Our Father, who art in heaven...

***INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P: Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

"Lamb of God" (*Words on screen*)

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 body and blood of Christ. Grape juice and gluten free bread 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

"I Come with Joy"	ELW 482
"There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"	ELW 588
"Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love"	ELW 708
"United at the Table"	ELW 498

*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: Holy Jesus, in this meal you have fed and nourished us to work in your beloved world. Send us now, filled with yourself and strengthened by your Spirit to live your love for others.
Amen.

SENDING

WELCOME OF VISITORS

COMMUNITY SHARING

*BLESSING

God who sets forth the law of love, Jesus who fulfills the law for you, and the Spirit through whom you are called to love, + bless you this day, that you may be God's hands and heart and voice at work in the world.
Amen.

***SENDING HYMN**
"Go to the World!"

ACS 991



1 Go to the world! Go in - to all the earth.
 2 Go to the world! Go in - to ev - 'ry place.
 3 Go to the world! Go strug - gle, bless, and pray;
 4 "Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,
 Go preach the cross where Christ re - news life's worth,
 Go live the word of God's re - deem - ing grace.
 the nights of tears give way to joy - ous day.
 for I am with you till the age shall end,
 bap - tiz - ing as the sign of our re - birth.
 Go seek God's pres - ence in each time and space.
 As ser - vant church, you fol - low Christ's own way.
 when all the hosts of glo - ry cry, A - men!"
 Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. You are God's hands at work in the world!

C: Thanks be to God.

*Communion Hymns

"I Come with Joy"

ELW 482

1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and
 2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as all are
 3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion
 4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er
 5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has

free, the life of Je - sus to re - call in
 fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in
 ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and
 near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -
 done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the

love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.
 Christ's com - mu - nion bread, in Christ's com - mu - nion bread.
 strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.
 live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.
 love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

"There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"

ELW 588

1 There's a wide-ness in God's mer - cy, like the wide-ness of the sea;
 2 There is wel - come for the sin - ner, and a prom - ised grace made good;
 3 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sures of our mind;
 4 'Tis not all we owe to Je - sus; it is some - thing more than all:

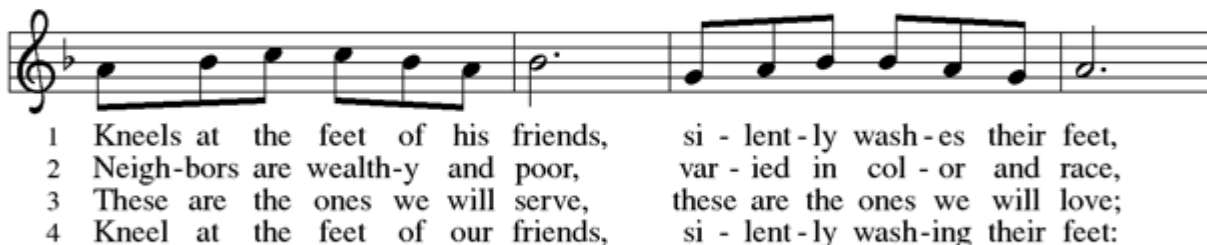
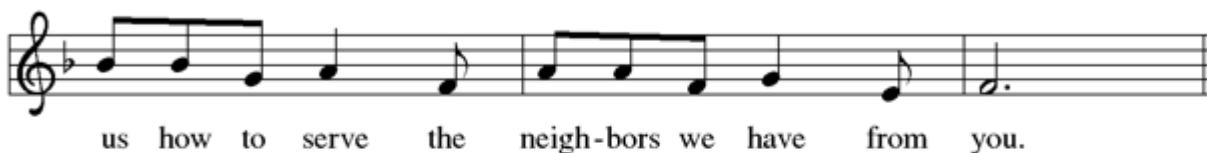
there's a kind-ness in God's jus - tice which is more than lib - er - ty.
 there is mer - cy with the Sav - ior; there is heal - ing in his blood.
 and the heart of the E - ter - nal is most won - der - ful - ly kind.
 great - er good be - cause of e - vil, larg - er mer - cy through the fall.

There is no place where earth's sor - rows are more felt than up in heav'n.
 There is grace e - nough for thou - sands of new worlds as great as this;
 But we make this love too nar - row by false lim - its of our own;
 Make our love, O God, more faith - ful; let us take you at your word,

There is no place where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment giv'n.
 there is room for fresh cre - a - tions in that up - per home of bliss.
 and we mag - ni - fy its strict - ness with a zeal God will not own.
 and our lives will be thanks - giv - ing for the good - ness of the Lord.

"Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love"

ELW 708



Refrain / Estribillo

U - ni - dos en la fes - ta, la_a - le - grí - a
 U - nit - ed at the ta - ble: all our joy is

se_ha - ce can - ción, U - ni - dos en la fe,
 joined in song. U - nit - ed in the faith:

la_a - le - grí - a se_ha - ce_o - ra - ción.
 all our joy to God be - longs.

1 Can - ta - re - mos al Se - ñor
 1 We will praise God, we will sing
 2 We will praise God, we will feast
 3 We will praise God, we will play

a - le - lu - yas con him - nos y sal - mos,
 al - le - lu - ias with hymns and with psalm - o - dy;
 at the boun - ti - ful ta - ble of life and grace;
 al - le - lu - ias with rhy - thm and in - stru - ments;

por - que gran - de es el a - mor
 we will praise God for the love
 we will praise God and give thanks
 we will praise God for the love

Refrain / Estribillo

que_en no - so - tros por siem - pre mos - tró.
 that sus - tains us e - ter - nal - ly.
 for com - mu - nion with ev - 'ry race.
 that in - vites all cre - a - tion to dance.



Announcements

Upcoming events

- **Altar Flowers:** Given by Linda Christensen in Celebration of Roger Christensen's birthday.
- **Birthdays September 13-19:** 14th Roger Christensen, 15th Stephanie Niedzwiecki, 16th, Linda Cummings, 16th Peg Massaro, 17th Ruth Repass Thom.
- **Save the Date:** November 14th, SOTH 75th Anniversary Dinner.
- **Game Time:** Thursdays 1:00-4:00.
- **Bible Study:** Mondays at 7:00pm via zoom.
- **Bereavement Meeting:** Thursdays at 6:00pm.
- **Council Meeting:** September 15th at 6:30pm.
- **New Member Service:** September 20th.
- **Sunday School Resumes:** September 20th.
- **Change for Change:** August and September distributed to Building Blocks.
- **Announcements:** Copies of announcements from Power Point are available in the back.
- **Church Directory:** Pickup yellow form available in back.
- **January 2027 Cruise:** Sept 1st deadline for rooms held and pricing.
- **May 2027 Cruise:** Contact Sue Meier or Peg Massaro.



This Week at Our Church

Sunday	9/13/2026	9:30am	Sunday Worship
Monday	9/14/2026	7:00pm	Bible Study (via zoom)
Tuesday	9/15/2026	8:00am 10:00am 6:30pm	Pastor's Breakfast (at iHOP) Women's Circle Council Meeting
Thursday	9/17/2026	1:00-4:00 6:00pm	Game Time Bereavement Meeting



Attendance September 6, 2026

9:30 am	77
Online	25

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER LIST

Roy Allen, *friend of Joe Foryan*

Benjamin Andreachi, *grandson of Darlene Andreachi*

Darlene Andreachi

John Andreachi, *son of Darlene Andreachi*

Darrell Aulds, *father of Pastor Karin Albaugh*

Carol Barbaccia

William Blaisdell, *brother of Tina Blaisdell*

Gloria Bork, *sister of Linda Cummings*

Kelly Carpenter

Robin Carroll, *daughter of Darlene Andreachi*

Esther Catino, *friend of Wayne Oberg*

Carol Cenyar, *sister-in-law to Bob McKee*

Kelli Colarusso, *friend of Diane Bursey*

David Cordell, *nephew of Bob & Kay Holzer*

Sandy Criner

John Cullen, *Pam Brosonski's son's father-in-law*

Gwen Doyle, *daughter of Dorothy Derrick*

Ethelmae Eck, *friend of Marion Dielman*

Kimberly and Jayson Eddins, *daughter & son-in-law of Linda Cummings*

Joe Foryan

Virginia Hart, *friend of Diane Bursey*

Chetinna Hodges

Kevin Jacobs

Marilyn Koenig and family, *passing of Ken Koenig*

Yvette Lewis, *sister-in-law of Lafayette Hendricks*

Arlene McKee, *wife of Bob McKee*

Sue Meier and family, *passing of Mike*

Caity Mitchell, *cousin of Joe Foryan*

Agnes Mulick, *mother of Paula Boeger*

Tucker & Trenton O'Neill

Anita Olson

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

Calvin Prentice, *Lafayette Hendricks*
Dietmar & Sigrid Resch, *Marion Dielman's cousin and his wife*
Cynthia Schindele, *daughter of Marion Dielman*
Karen Schumacher
Paige Severson, *niece of Dennis and Renae Wick*
Jennifer Shelton, *daughter of Darlene Andreachi*
Jay Shipbaugh, *grandson of Marge Zuehlke*
Bob Smith, *son of Carol Barbaccia*
John Smith, *son of Carol Barbaccia*
Bill Tucker, *son-in-law of Bob & Kay Holzer*
Harlan Wick, *brother of Dennis Wick*
Frank Wrobel, *cousin of Marion Dielman*
Elizabeth, *sister of Chris Russell*



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, *son of Kristi & Terry West*