

Bendersville Lutheran Parish

St. James
Wenksville

Christ
Aspers

Bethlehem
Bendersville

"We are rooted in scripture, watered in baptism and fed by communion. Our mission is to connect with God in community as we care for one another. Our vision is to bear fruit in the Upper Adams community by showing Jesus' love to our neighbors, planting seeds of kindness, service and hope, trusting the Holy Spirit to grow this fruit in surprising ways."

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

PARISH JOINT SERVICE at BETHLEHEM, BENDERSVILLE

• August 31, 2025 at 10:00 AM •



Parish Office:

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Bendersville, PA 17306-0449

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The Rev. Susan E. Scott:

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www.bendersvillelutheranparish.com

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Please stand as you are able.*

PRELUDE: “Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

Flute Trio

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: In the name of the Father,
and of the ✠ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence for reflection.

Merciful God,

**C: you free us to love others,
but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.
You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,
but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.
You surround us with patience, kindness,
and generosity,
but we grow weary in doing what is right.
In your mercy, forgive us.
Do not give up on us.
Heal us, break our bonds,
and show us the path of life.
Amen.**

P: You belong to Christ Jesus
and you are God’s children through faith.
In the cross of ✠ Christ,
and through the power of the Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.
Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.

C: Amen.

***GATHERING HYMN: “What a Friend We Have in Jesus” LBW 439**

***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.

***HYMN OF PRAISE: “Let the Whole Creation Cry” ELW 876**



1 Let the whole cre - a - tion cry, “Glo - ry to the Lord on high!”
2 Ser - vants striv - ing for the Lord, proph - ets burn - ing with the word,
3 Men and wom - en, young and old, raise the an - them loud and bold,



Heav’n and earth, a - wake and sing, “Praise to our al - might - y king!”
those to whom the arts be - long add their voic - es to the song.
and let chil - dren’s hap - py hearts in this wor - ship take their parts;



Praise God, an - gel hosts a - bove, ev - er bright and fair in love;
Pow’rs of knowl - edge and of law, to the glo - rious cir - cle draw;
from the north to south - ern pole let the might - y cho - rus roll:



sun and moon, lift up your voice; night and stars, in God re - joice.
all who work and all who wait, sing, “The Lord is good and great!”
“Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly One; glo - ry be to God a - lone!”

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray.

C: O God, you resist those who are proud and give grace to those who are humble. Give us the humility of your Son, that we may embody the generosity of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

(Please be seated.)

SPECIAL MUSIC: “On Eagle’s Wings/It Is Well”

Flute Trio

Flutists: Cathy Steinbach, Linda Brenize, and Vicki Cuttitta

FIRST READING:

Proverbs 25:6-7a

The First Reading is from Proverbs, the twenty-fifth chapter.

⁶Do not put yourself forward in the king’s presence
or stand in the place of the great,
^{7a}for it is better to be told, “Come up here,”
than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM:

Psalm 112

L: Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the LORD
and have great delight in God’s commandments!

**C: Their descendants will be mighty in the land;
the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

L: Wealth and riches will be in their house,
and their righteousness will last forever.

**C: Light shines in the darkness for the upright;
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**

L: It is good for them to be generous in lending
and to manage their affairs with justice.

**C: For they will never be shaken;
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.**

L: They will not be afraid of any evil rumors;
their heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.

**C: Their heart is established and will not shrink,
until they see their desire upon their enemies.**

L: They have given freely to the poor,
and their righteousness stands fast forever;
they will hold up their head with honor.

**C: The wicked will see it and be angry;
they will gnash their teeth and pine away;
the desires of the wicked will perish.**

SECOND READING:

Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

The Second Reading is from Hebrews, the thirteenth chapter.

¹Let mutual affection continue. ²Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. ³Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them, those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. ⁴Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterers.

⁵Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have, for he himself has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." ⁶So we can say with confidence,

"The Lord is my helper;

I will not be afraid.

What can anyone do to me?"

⁷Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. ⁸Jesus Christ

is the same yesterday and today and forever. ¹⁵Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. ¹⁶Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Please stand.)

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: “Alleluia”**

WOV 610



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass clef, in the key of D major (indicated by two sharps). The melody is simple and repetitive, consisting of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics are 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.' repeated twice.



***GOSPEL:**

Luke 14:1, 7-14

P: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, the fourteenth chapter.

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

¹On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the Sabbath, they were watching him closely.

⁷When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. ⁸“When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host, ⁹and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, ‘Give this person your place,’ and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. ¹⁰But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher’; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. ¹¹For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

¹²He said also to the one who had invited him, “When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers and sisters or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. ¹³But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. ¹⁴And you will be blessed because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

(Please be seated.)

SERMON

Pastor Susan E. Scott

HYMN OF THE DAY: “*The Church’s One Foundation*”

LBW 369

(4 verses)

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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: Let us pray for the church, the creation, and the whole people of God,
for God is near.

A brief silence.

P: For the leaders of the church, we pray. Inspire deacons, pastors,
Sunday school teachers, and Christian education directors with a
passion for speaking the word of God. Equip all the baptized to share
your word of grace. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: For the well-being of creation, we pray. Sustain farm workers and all who labor in fields and vineyards to grow the food we eat. Revive plains and pastures, and provide for the cattle and creatures who rely on the land for their sustenance. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: For the leaders of towns, cities, provinces, states, and nations, we pray. Guide them to enact equitable laws and policies for all. On this Labor Day weekend, make us mindful of workers whose labor often goes unnoticed. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: For the lowly and those who are ignored, we pray. Provide for the needs of vulnerable communities, those who are unemployed, burdened by debt, or struggle to make ends meet. Accompany all who need reassurance of your loving presence, especially those on our prayer list and those we silently name in our hearts. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: For the hospitality ministries of this congregation, we pray. Give ushers and greeters a spirit of welcome for visitors, and bless the work of those who feed and nourish us. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: For all the saints who from their labors rest, we give thanks, and thank you especially for the lives of Chad Bassett, Anna Mae Cook, Arlan Reynolds, Wayne Rodgers, Gary Shank, and Judy Tate. With them, we offer our sacrifice of praise to you, O God, the same yesterday and today and forever. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Confident in God's presence and promise, we entrust our prayers to the one who always receives them; through Jesus Christ, our wisdom and companion.

C: Amen.

PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY HYMN: “*We Give Thee but Thine Own*”

LBW 410



1 We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be;
2 May we thy boun - ties thus as stew - ards true re - ceive,
3 Hearts still are bruised and dead, and homes are bare and cold,
4 To com - fort and to bless, to find a balm for woe,



all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.
and glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, to thee our first - fruits give.
and lambs for whom the Shep - herd bled are stray - ing from the fold.
to tend those lost in lone - li - ness, is an - gels' work be - low.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Let us pray.

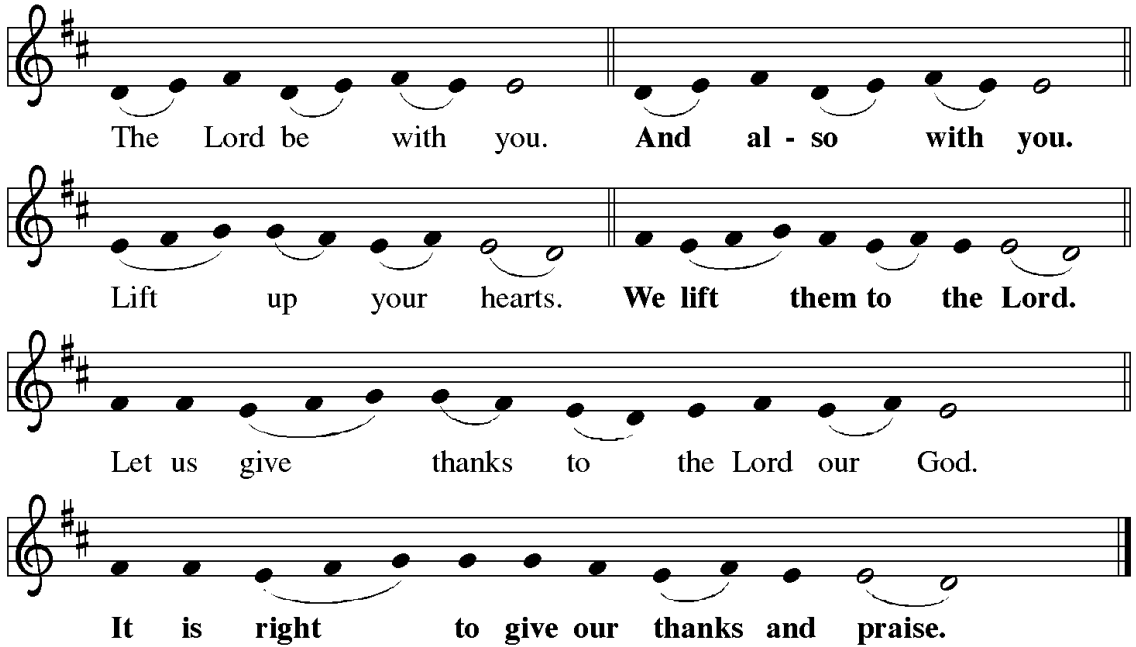
Creator God,

in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good
and the harvest is plentiful.

Strengthen us at your table with these gifts
of the earth and our labor,
that we may work for the good of all;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

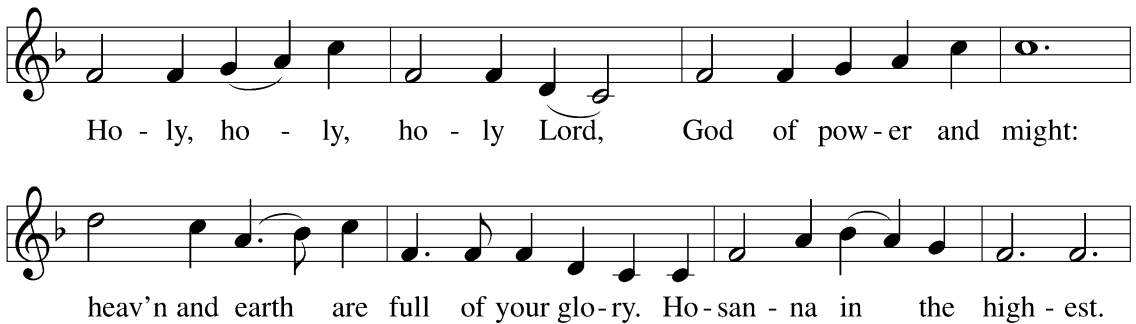
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE *(sung by the pastor)*

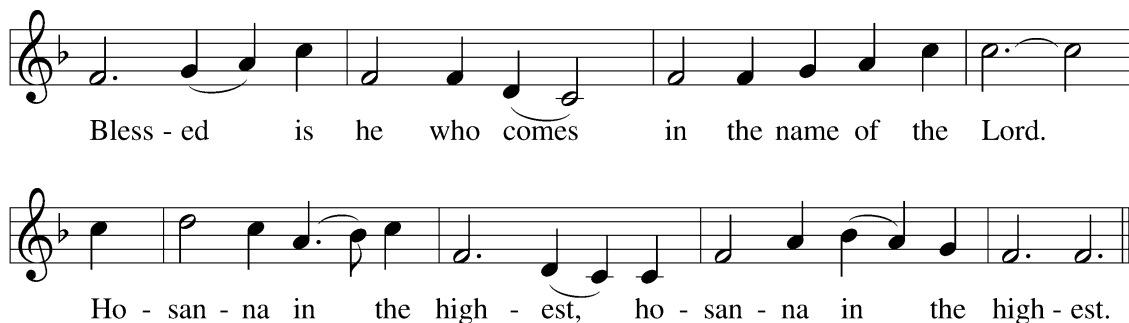
SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might:

heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

("Sanctus" continues on Next Page.)



EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.

In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son,
that all those who believe in him should not perish,
but have eternal life.

We give thanks to you
for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ.

Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts,
that we may receive our Lord with a living faith
as he comes to us in his holy supper.

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P: 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.

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in Your Kingdom and teach us to pray ...

**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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: The kingdom of God is set before you.
Eat and rejoice.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

All who wish to encounter Christ in Holy Communion are welcome to the Table. As directed, please come forward. The elements will be given by Pastor Susan or the Communion Assistant. If you would like a verbal blessing only, please let the Pastor know. Holy Communion may also be received at your seat. Just inform the Pastor or usher. The elements will be partaken at the Pastor's or Communion Assistant's direction:

***The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.***

COMMUNION HYMN: “O Lamb of God”



- 1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

COMMUNION HYMN: “Come, Let Us Eat”

LBW 214



- 1 Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread,
2 Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured,
3 In Je - sus' pres - ence now we meet and rest,
4 Rise, then, to spread a - broad God's might - y word,



come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.
come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured.
in Je - sus' pres - ence now we meet and rest.
rise, then, to spread a - broad God's might - y word.

(“Communion Hymn” continues on Next Page.)



Our Lord's bod - y let us take to - geth - er,
Je - sus' blood poured let us drink to - geth - er,
In the pres - ence of our Lord we gath - er,
Je - sus ris - en will bring in the king - dom,



our Lord's bod - y let us take to - geth - er.
Je - sus' blood poured let us drink to - geth - er.
in the pres - ence of our Lord we gath - er.
Je - sus ris - en will bring in the king - dom.

***POST-COMMUNION**

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: **Amen.**

***POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

P: Let us pray.

Mothering God,
you gathered us to your table
and we drank deeply of your grace.
Send us out by your Spirit
to love our neighbors as ourselves
and proclaim your love in Jesus' name.

C: **Amen.**

***BLESSING**

P: The love of God abound in you;
the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts;
and the life of the Spirit
✠ bless you and give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

***SENDING HYMN: “Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”**

LBW 551

***DISMISSAL**

P: Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

***POSTLUDE**

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“SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR MUSICIANS!”

*We would like to thank the Flute Trio – Cathy Steinbach,
Linda Brenize, and Vicki Kime, as well as Donna Kime for the
wonderful music we had the opportunity to enjoy during our
worship service today and for leading us in song and praise!*

• AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2025 •

SUN. Aug. 31	MON. Sept. 1	TUES. Sept. 2	WED. Sept. 3	THURS. Sept. 4	FRI. Sept. 5	SAT. Sept. 6
Labor Day Weekend PARISH JOINT SERVICE 10:00 am Bethlehem	“LABOR DAY” <i>Birthday:</i> Fay Heller	<i>Birthday:</i> Rhonda Slaybaugh Benjamin Disbrow				9:00 am to 12:00 pm: Ladies’ Retreat (Bender’s, Biglerville)
SUN. Sept. 7	MON. Sept. 8	TUES. Sept. 9	WED. Sept. 10	THURS. Sept. 11	FRI. Sept. 12	SAT. Sept. 13
8:25 am: St. James 9:45 am: Christ 11:00 am: Bethlehem 1:00 pm: “GWOH” Project (12:00 pm: Lunch at Bethlehem) <i>Anniversary:</i> Gary & Michelle Bretzman	7:00 pm: Council Meeting (Bethlehem)		7:00 pm: Bible Study <i>“The Chosen”</i> (Bethlehem) <i>Birthday:</i> Cecilia Bayles	7:00 pm: Council Meeting (Christ) <i>Anniversary:</i> Jody & Mary Chronister	<i>Anniversary:</i> John & Diane Heller	

ON-LINE SUNDAY WORSHIP

Worship will be livestreamed on YouTube at 10 AM on our Bendersville Lutheran Parish channel
 (this info can also be found on our website – www.bendersvillelutheranparish.com).

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Lector

Jeanette Schachle

Greeters/Ushers

Tony & Bev Bretzman

Altar Guild

Kathy Singley



ALTAR FLOWERS

• Bethlehem Lutheran Church •

To the Glory of God



OFFICE HOURS AND PASTORAL NEEDS

Pastor Susan has office hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1-4 pm at the Parsonage. You are welcome to stop by the Parsonage to visit. Her official day off is Friday, but she is available for pastoral emergencies.

For all your pastoral needs, please contact Pastor Susan Scott by phone/text at 717-497-1013 or email pastorsusanscott2022@gmail.com.

• **SEXTON POSITION OPEN AT CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH** •

Open position at Christ, Aspers, for Sexton. Please call Julie Haller if you are interested. Phone 717-515-7416.

“HYMN SING”

Sunday, Sept. 14th • 2:00 PM

At: Christ Lutheran Church, Aspers

– You Pick the Hymns! –

Refreshments afterwards.

Contact Donna at 717-253-3430 for more information, if needed.





“GOD’S WORK. OUR HANDS.” SUNDAY • SEPTEMBER 7th

12:00 Noon - Pizza Lunch

1:00 p.m. - LWR Project

- Bethlehem Social Hall -

The Gettysburg Conference is coordinating service projects for the annual “God’s Work. Our Hands.” Sunday. Our parish is collecting items for Lutheran

World Relief School Kits. Bethlehem will be the host site to assemble the school kits for LWR. Below, you will find the list of specific school supplies needed to fill the kits. We cannot use items that do not comply with LWR’s strict specifications. **We especially need notebooks and drawstring bags.** Please consider donating to this worthwhile cause. Your donations may be given to Pastor Susan.

Please Note: Items donated should not reflect religious, patriotic, or military symbols, to include camouflage, and also note all other specifications. You may also give monetary donations for postage and to purchase other supplies as needed to include in the kits.

Items you may donate:

- **70-sheet college or wide-ruled notebooks**
- **30-centimeter rulers (or ruler with centimeters and inches)**
- **pencil sharpeners**
- **pairs of blunt scissors (safety scissors/steel blades)**
- **unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers**
- **black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink)**
- **boxes of 16-count or 24-count crayons**
- **2½" erasers**
- **sturdy drawstring backpack-style cloth bags (approx. 14" x 17" with shoulder straps – NO standard backpacks)**

SIGN UP FOR “GOD’S WORK. OUR HANDS”!

<https://signup.com/go/oMvxLLC>

If you do not have computer access, Pastor Susan will sign you up.

• BOXES NEEDED FOR SCHOOL KITS •

We are in need of boxes to pack the School Kits for transport.

If you can help to provide boxes, please see Pastor Susan.



Prayer List - Parish Members

Adam & Laura Albright b
Dixie Atha c
Tony Bretzman b
Dolly Chronister c
Mary Chronister b

Wahnetta Harvey c
Lois Rinehart b
Mike Rinehart b
Alan Showers j
Bill Slaybaugh j

Rhonda Slaybaugh c
Dan Turner c
Mike Wolfe c

Friends of the Parish

Douglas Barbour
Pr. Sally Bartling
Adam Black
Jeff Black
Tracy Brandt
Bev Bretzman
Valerie Bushey
June Cline
Nicole Cline
Dick Cook
Carl Corl
Jeanne Cuttitta
Peter Cuttitta

Bonnie DeHaven
Diane Fetters
John Gantz
Galen Hartz
Madison Itterly
Cody Johnson
Susanna Kidwell
Deb Litten
Nicole Mackey
Emily Maiolo
Doug Miller
Rosa Moreno-Garcia
Glenn Mulvey

Diane Myers
Shirley Ogburn
Zach Pelc
Calvin Pugh
Brian Reed
Maurine Rickard
Ginny Rinehart
Donnie Slaybaugh
Vera Sprenkle
Erik Strunk
Robert Tate

With Deepest Sympathy

We extend our sympathy and prayers to the families of those who have died in the faith and who are now at rest with their eternal Father (our saints who have gone before us).

*Chad Bassett, Anna Mae Cook, Arlan Reynolds, Wayne Rodgers,
Gary Shank, and Judy Tate*