

**SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
HARVEST HOME SUNDAY  
SEPTEMBER 28, 2025**



**MELLINGERS LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
80 GOCKLEY ROAD  
STEVENS, PA 17578  
717-336-8800

## **MELLINGERS STAFF**

### **Pastor's Contact Information**

*Rev. Timothy L. Craven*

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Mobile: (717) 468-9049

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### **Director of Music**

*Vickie Kissinger (717) 354-6575*

E-Mail: [vickiekissinger@gmail.com](mailto:vickiekissinger@gmail.com)

### **Director of Christian Education**

*Diane Adair (717) 715-3124*

## ***PRAYER CORNER***

### **Please pray for the following people:**

Mike Leed, Pray non stop for Peace, Betty Cordes, Amy Weik, Kristi Leonhard, Tom Fassnacht, Molly Brown, Jerry Yost, Carl Mohler Jr., Lynn Spotts, Jay Weaver, Dave Haldeman, Vivian Gehr, Tom Parrish Sr, Elaine Haldeman, Clair Miller (with family in NJ), Skip Hutchinson, Jane Goshert (Home Hospice), Jay Stoltzfus (with family in FL), Theda Raffauf, Mary Weidman, Sam Soto, Roy Latshaw, Amanda Benton, Marty Leed & Family, Fay Weitzel and Barb Moyer.

Artman Lutheran Home, Ambler: Sally Wealand

Brethren Village: Beverly Sweigart

Ephrata Manor: Iris Weaver, Dorothy Hutchinson, Shirl Tobias, Pauline Sawyer and Bob Weaver

Gardens at Stevens: Nevin & Pat McQuate

Keystone Villa: Betty Firestine & Janet Hirneisen

Luther Acres Personal Care: Judy Meckley

Neffsville Rehab & Nursing: Pauline Martin

Phoebe Berks: Nick Rampolla

Lorna Buohl, Richard Sockriter, Liz Roman-Reich, Danielle Bates, Mike Messner, John Rachal, David Taimuty, Barbera Mertz, Rev. Penrose Hoover, Keith Freeman, Paul Reefer, Helen Blank, William Sockriter, Dave Bentz, Natalie Redcay, Ruth Mae Grace, Doug Cody, Fred Leathery, Karen Velez, Ron Neidigh, Kara Trowbridge, Randy Vollmer, Polly Stendl, Mary Morton, Brenda Sweigart, Nancy Good, Nancy Bolotine, Bea Hassler, Kelly Root, Karen Leonhard, Sue Kreitz, Dale Firestone, Mary Sanger, Andy & Brenda Gabig, Brian Fetter, Pastor Karen Larson, Brian Kerns, Mary Lou Crum, Bob Bos, Curtis Townsley, Robyn Redcay, Corrina Bender, Margaret Weller, Bud Bender, and Cynthia Peters.

### **Pray also for the grieving families of:**

York County Police Officers, the Colorado shooting victims, Charlie Kirk, Karen Krater, Vesta Reber, Jean Shober, Joyce Boyer, Joan Wentzel, Jeff Moyer, Melissa and Mark Hortman, Anna Weinhold, Kenton Shaffer, Dennis Betz, Betty Zimmerman, April Wefler, Pope Francis, John Gross, Dick Reed, Paul Sweigart, Dave Wilhide, Evelyn Shade and Dick Mountford.

## † WE PREPARE TO WORSHIP †

\*Please stand if you are able

Ahava will be playing this morning

Welcome / Announcements

Prelude: *"Healer of My Soul"*

-John Michael Talbot

## †GATHERING†

Pastor: This is the day the Lord has made.

**Congregation: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

**\*GATHERING HYMN: #693** *"Come Ye Thankful People Come"*

## **\*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS OF SINS**

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

**C: Amen**

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen**

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

(a brief silence is observed)

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:** In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake 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.

**C: Amen**

### **\*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.**

### **\*THE HYMN OF PRAISE**



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.

Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:

we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.

Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.

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

**P:** Let us pray.

O God, rich in mercy, you look with compassion on this troubled world. Feed us with your grace, and grant us the treasure that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen**

† GOD'S WORD †

FIRST READING

JOB 42:1-6

Lay Reader (Britany Hartlove): Reading from Job the 42nd chapter.

*L: Job's Repentance and Restoration*

**42** Then Job answered the Lord and said:

**2** "I know that You can do everything, And that no purpose of Yours can be withheld from You.

**3** You asked, 'Who is this who hides counsel without knowledge?' Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand, Things too wonderful for me, which I did not know.

**4** Listen, please, and let me speak; You said, 'I will question you, and you shall answer Me.'

**5** "I have heard of You by the hearing of the ear, But now my eye sees You.

**6** Therefore I abhor myself, And repent in dust and ashes."

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALMODY

PSALM 146



*The Lord gives justice to those who are oppressed. (Ps. 146:7)*

<sup>1</sup> Hal- | lelujah!

Praise the Lord, | O my soul!

<sup>2</sup> I will praise the Lord as long | as I live;

I will sing praises to my God while I | have my being.

<sup>3</sup> **Put not your | trust in rulers,**

**in mortals in whom there | is no help.**

<sup>4</sup> **When they breathe their last, they re- | turn to earth,**

**and in that day | their thoughts perish. R**

<sup>5</sup> Happy are they who have the God of Jacob | for their help,  
whose hope is in the | Lord their God;  
<sup>6</sup> who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that | is in them;  
who keeps promis- | es forever;  
<sup>7</sup> **who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food  
to | those who hunger.**  
**The Lord sets the | captive free.**  
<sup>8</sup> **The Lord opens the eyes of the blind; the Lord lifts up  
those who | are bowed down;**  
**the Lord | loves the righteous.**  
<sup>9</sup> The Lord cares | for the stranger;  
the Lord sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way | of  
the wicked.  
<sup>10</sup> The Lord shall | reign forever,  
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. | Hallelujah! R

## **CHILDRENS SERMON**

### **\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** “*Awesome God*”

Our God is an awesome God, He reigns from Heaven above  
with wisdom, power, and love Our God is an awesome God!

### **\*THE HOLY GOSPEL**

**MATTHEW 16:24-26**

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 16th chapter.

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

***P: Take Up the Cross and Follow Him***

**24** Then Jesus said to His disciples, “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. **25** For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. **26** For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**MESSAGE:**

*“How To Discern God’s Will in Your Life: Embracing Sacrifice”*  
-Pastor Craven

**SPECIAL MUSIC:** *“The Heart of Worship”*

-Matt Redman

**\*THE APOSTLE’S CREED**

**C: 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 Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen**

**† Prayers of Intercession †**

**\*P:** Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

**P:** We pray for the church, that it would remain faithful to the gospel, always striving to serve the needs of those who are oppressed and rejecting the complacency that comes from wealth. God of grace,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P: We pray for creation, that the nations work together to protect and restore the earth, preserving the beauty of the planet for future generations and honoring the gift of your creation. God of grace,  
**C: receive our prayer.**

P: We pray for those in positions of authority, that they govern with justice and compassion, recognizing the dignity of all people and working to promote peace and prosperity for all. God of grace,  
**C: receive our prayer.**

P: We pray for people in any need (*especially*). Give them your assurance and courage when the path forward is not clear. Liberate us from all that binds us, lift us up when we are bowed down, and show us your love. God of grace,  
**C: receive our prayer.**

P: We pray for this congregation, that we would be strengthened to build a world where all can thrive. Incite us to advocate for fair wages and just policies, and guide us in building a community of mutual support. God of grace,  
**C: receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

P: We remember in thanksgiving the faithful departed. Inspire us by their example to love and serve our neighbors, and bring us to eternal life. God of grace,  
**C: receive our prayer.**

P: We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.  
**C: Amen**



## **\*THE PEACE**

**P:** The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C:** And also with you.

## **\*OFFERING HYMN “Here I Am Lord”**

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?

I have heard you calling in the night.

I will go, Lord, if you lead me.

I will hold your people in my heart.

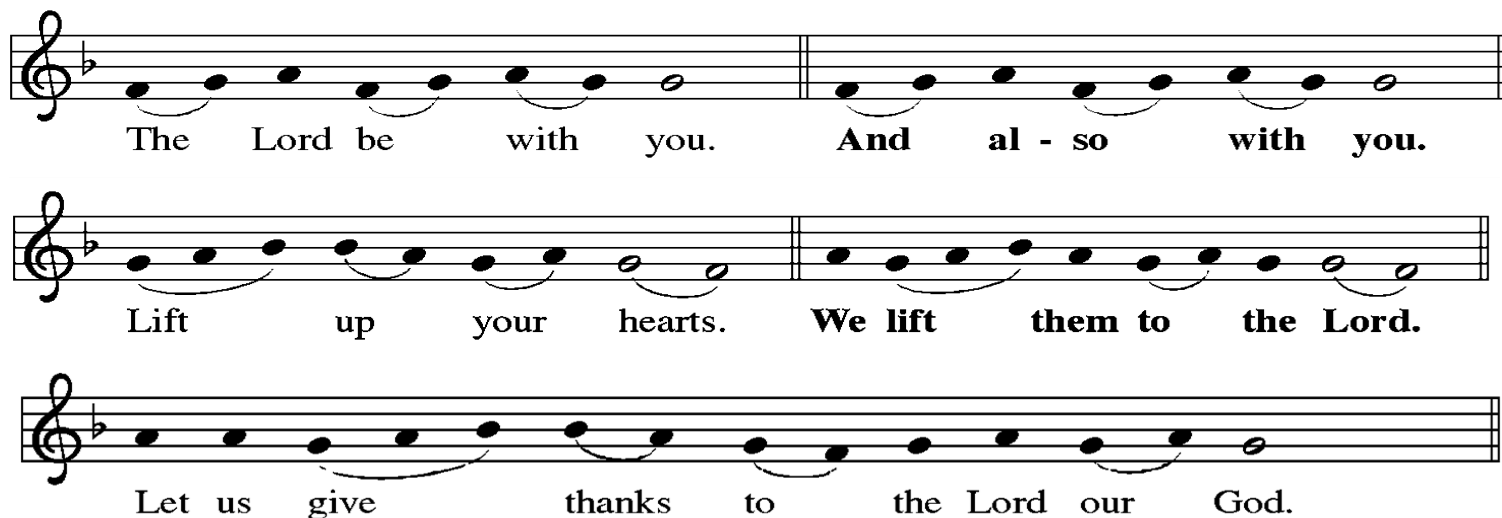
## **\*OFFERING PRAYER**

**P:** Blessed are you,

**C:** O Lord our God, maker of all things, through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

## **† WE CELEBRATE THE LORD’S SUPPER †**

## **\*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

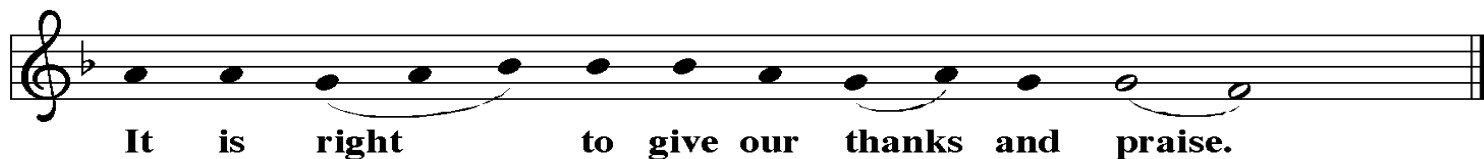


The musical notation is written on three staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The notes are connected by slurs, indicating a continuous melody. The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words aligned under specific notes and others under groups of notes.

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

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

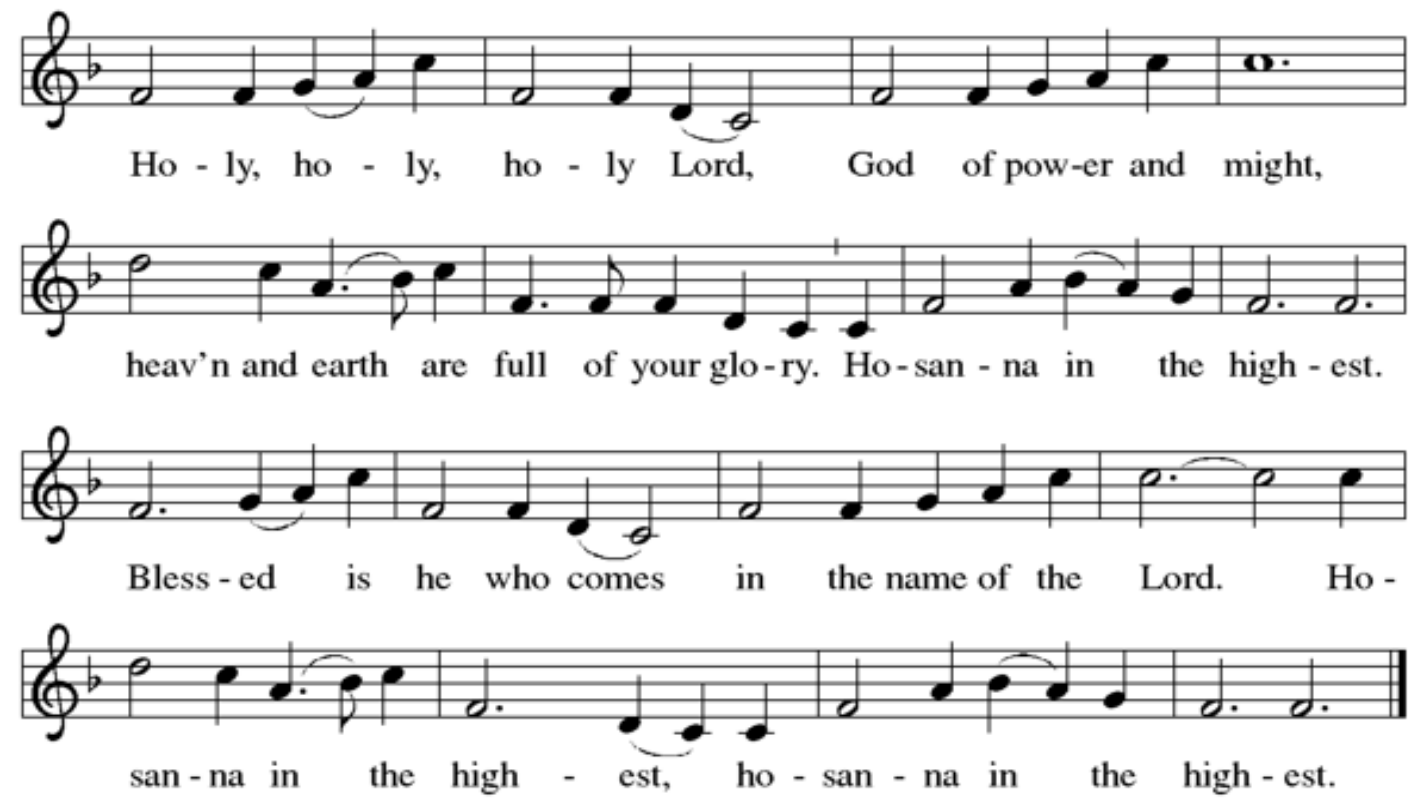
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



**\*THE PREFACE:**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy.....  
We praise Your name and join their unending hymn:

**\*THE SANCTUS**



**\*THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

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 and 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.

## **\*TRADITIONAL LORD'S PRAYER**

**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**

## **DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION**

### **THE AGNUS DEI**



**We ask parents to bring their non-communing children with them for a blessing. Pick up an empty cup. A grape juice option and gluten free communion wafers provided. If you cannot come to the Chancel, Communion will be taken to you. Please notify an Usher.**

**Those in the parking lot partake of Communion at this time.**

**During Communion**

**Hymn #515:** *"Break Now the Bread of Life"*

**Hymn #461:** *"All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly"*

**Hymn #462:** *"Now We Join in Celebration"*

**Hymn #616:** *"Jesus, Remember Me"*

## **\*POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

### **Post Communion Canticle: Hymn #210: *"Blessed Be God"***

Blessed be God, the source of all life, the word of salvation,  
The spirit of mercy.

## **\*POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

**P:** Let us pray.

Almighty God, you provide the true bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received the sacrament of his body and blood may abide in him and he in us, that we may be filled with the power of his endless life, now and forever.

**C: Amen**

† **WE LEAVE TO SERVE** †

## **\*BENEDICTION AND BLESSING**

**P:** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.

**C: Amen Amen Amen (sung responsively)**

## **\*SENDING HYMN: #536 *"God Be With You Till We Meet Again"***

## **DISMISSAL**

**P:** Go in peace. Serve the Lord with joy.

**C: Thanks be to God.**



The Altar Flowers and Bulletins are  
dedicated to the Glory of God  
by The Jeffers Family in Honor of  
Ruth Hollinger's 97th Birthday

## Participants in the Service:

Pastor: Timothy Craven

Church Secretary: Ashley Weinhold

Organist: Vickie Kissinger

Lay Reader: Britany Hartlove

Communion Assistant: Brittany Hartlove

Psalmist: Pastor Craven

Videographer: Hayden Leonhard

Soundboard: Joe Brubaker

Ushers: Piper Leonhard, Kristi Leonhard Alt Jean Lausch

Weekly Receipts Report as of 09/25/2025	
Attendance (Inside / Parking Lot)	62
Online Attendance	116
General Receipts	\$1,279.00

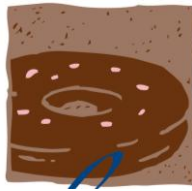


The following dates are available for dedication:

October 19

December 14 & 21

*If you select one of the available dates contact Ashley via email, a note in the office or leave a voicemail.*



We are in need of Communion Set Up and Coffee Social volunteers.

If you are interested to help, please contact either Lisa Reed, Pastor Tim or the Church Office for the Communion Set up.

For the Coffee Social you can contact Anita Soto, Kristi Leonhard or the Church Office.

# *Mums Memorial List September 2025*

*Randy and Martha Brubaker  
in honor of our children and grandchildren*

*Kathy Buch  
in memory of loved ones*

*Pastor Tim and Kimberley Craven  
in honor of our loving God*



*Nancy Eberly  
in memory of family and friends*

*Michael and Patricia Haller  
in memory of Nathan and Nicholas Haller*



*Hartlove family  
in memory of our grandparents*

*Marcy Hehnly  
in memory of Brenda and Lee Hehnly and  
Chess and Savanna Lutz*

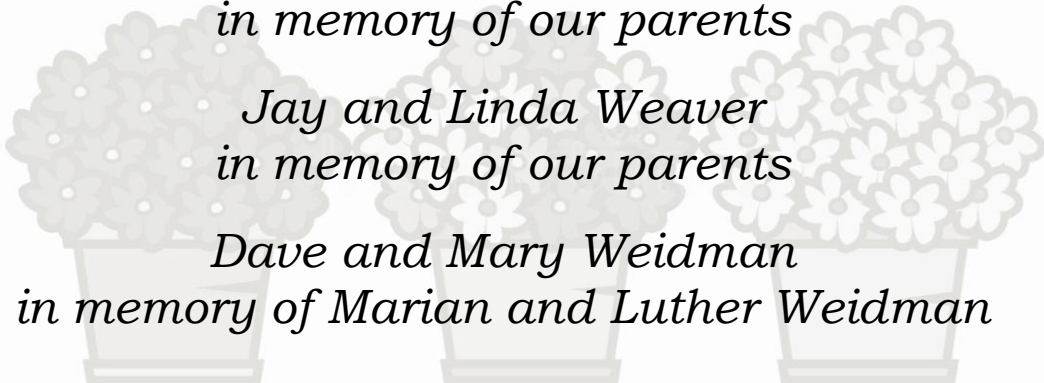
*Nancy Heiser  
in memory of my sister, Joyce Boyer*

*Jay and Missy Weber  
in memory of Larry Hehnly, Brenda Hehnly and Sam Weber*

*Lowell and Jerry Yost  
in memory of our parents*

*Jay and Linda Weaver  
in memory of our parents*

*Dave and Mary Weidman  
in memory of Marian and Luther Weidman*



## Honoring the Gift of Work

The Bible affirms both the value and dignity of work. From the beginning, God placed Adam in the garden “to work it and keep it” (Genesis 2:15, ESV). In the fourth commandment, we are reminded not only to observe the Sabbath, but also to labor diligently throughout the week: “Six days you shall labor, and do all your work” (Exodus 20:9, ESV).



Work is more than a routine obligation; it is an opportunity to engage our God-given abilities in meaningful ways. Whether using our hands, minds, or hearts, we reflect the image of our Creator—bringing order, care, and creativity into the world.

Our labor allows us to contribute to the common good, find personal fulfillment, and practice faithful stewardship of the talents and strengths God has entrusted to us. As Paul writes, “We are God’s fellow workers” (1 Corinthians 3:9, ESV).

On this Labor Day, may we take time to recognize the blessing of work and celebrate those who serve, build, teach, lead, and labor with purpose and care.

—Author unknown

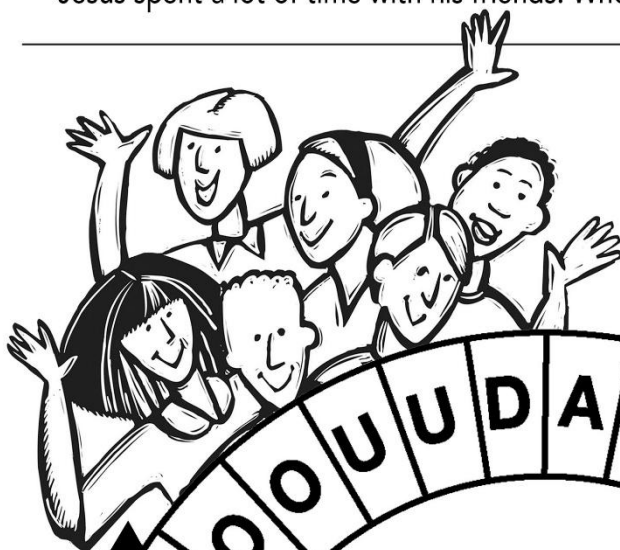
*This article was copied from “Church Art” website in their September issue, the office utilizes this site for many of the clip arts and puzzles used in the bulletins and newsletters.*



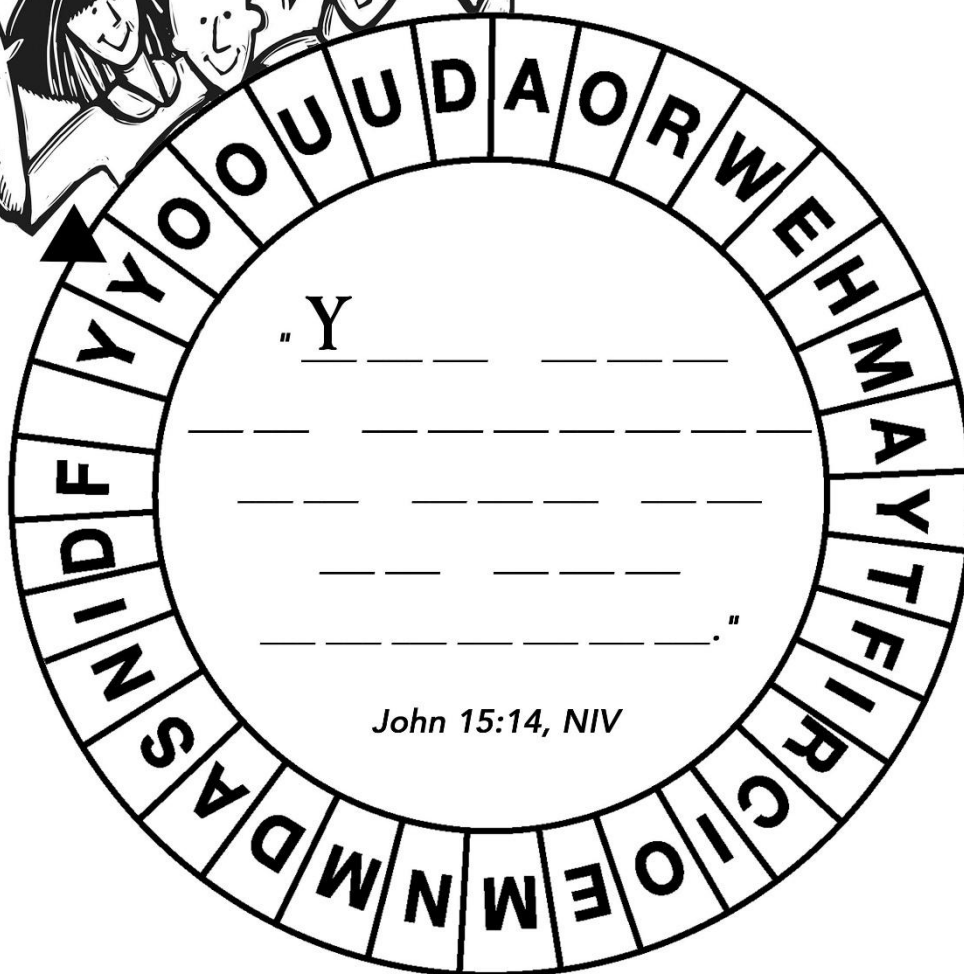


## WHO WERE JESUS' FRIENDS?

Jesus spent a lot of time with his friends. Whom did Jesus consider his friends?



Beginning at the arrow and moving clockwise, write every other letter on the spaces below.



Answer: "You are my friends if you do what I command." John 15:14, NIV