

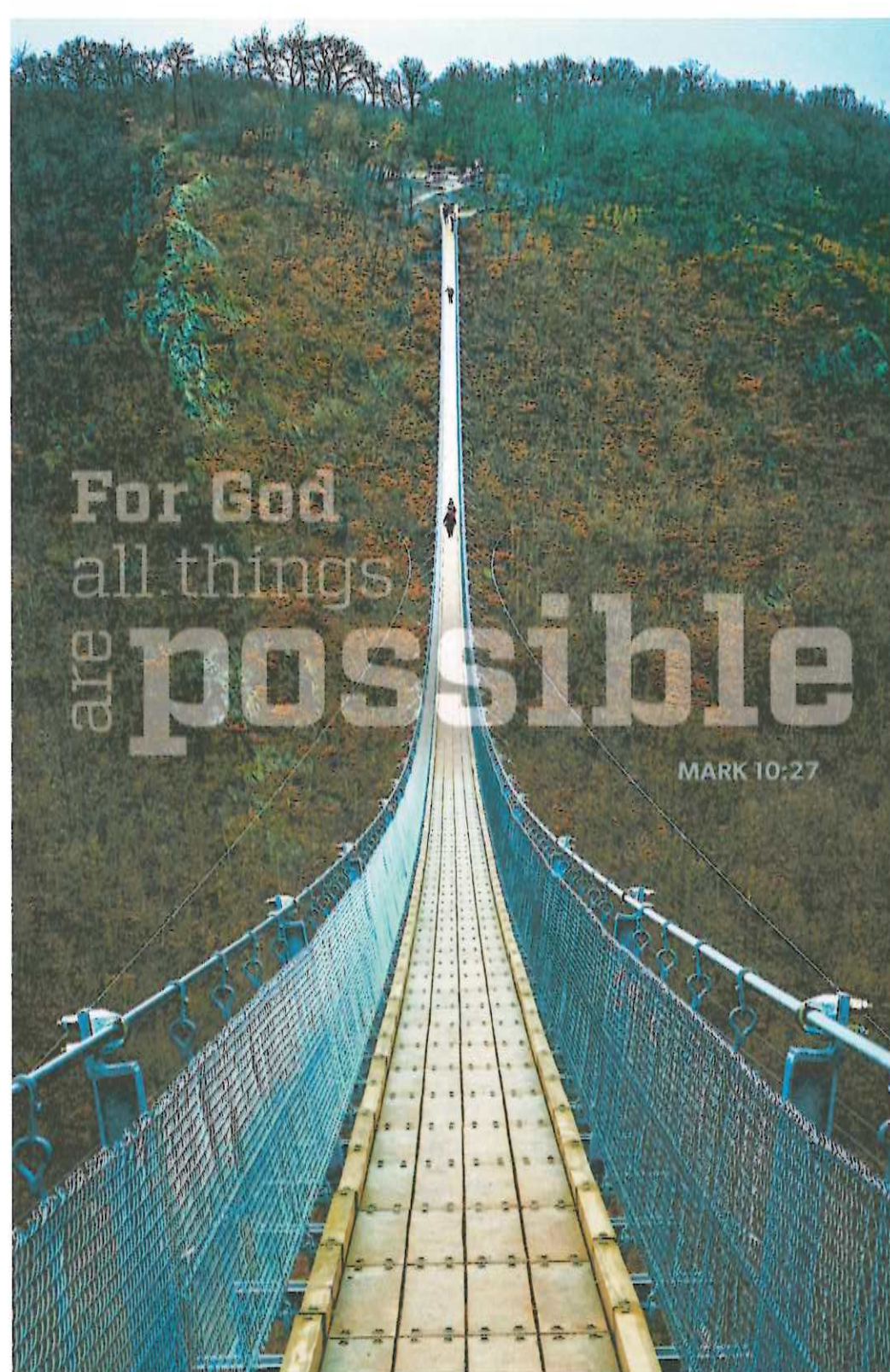
Beloved Worth, Not Wealth

Perhaps you are familiar with the idiom “worth one’s weight in gold.” The phrase means that someone is valuable because of their skills or what they can contribute. It can mean they are so good at their job that they are worth a high sum of money. This is a very old saying that points to how humans often determine the value of other humans.

The challenge Jesus presents to all of us is to see ourselves and others the way God sees us. We often see each other through the lenses that have been prescribed by our societal norms. We see the brand labels on our shoes and cars. We determine the amount of wages someone earns based on merit or years of experience. (See Matthew 20:1-16 for more from Jesus about wages and the kingdom of God.) Our society often assesses someone’s position in the world based on their money or job. In today’s gospel reading, is wealth itself what stands in this man’s way, or is it a symptom of wealth?

Our worth is not defined by wealth and riches, our skills, or our productivity; rather, it is defined by God. And God names each of us beloved. We are claimed, marked, and redeemed by God through Jesus Christ. Martin Luther shares that our job isn’t to earn this salvation; it is a free gift, and our job is to live in response to this gift and to nurture and share it with others.

Everything that we own is made by humans from materials created by God. Jesus instructs us to be generous with these gifts of God. We are to share these riches not according to human standards but God’s standards, and God names all beloved and worthy.



Millcreek Lutheran Church
21st Sunday after Pentecost
October 13, 2024

A warm welcome to our church! We appreciate your presence here today and enjoy the new and the familiar faces as we gather together. If you are a visitor and believe that Christ is your Savior and present in the Sacrament, you are welcome to receive Holy Communion with us. All children who have received Communion instruction and have been approved to receive Holy Communion either here or at another church are also welcome to commune with us. Any child may come forward for a blessing. Visitors, please sign our guest book, fill out a visitor's card in the pew rack and introduce yourself to The Pastor Scott as you leave. We're glad you're here!

Prayer: Father in heaven, whose Son requires his disciples to be free from the possessive power of wealth: Make us good stewards of our possessions, that what we own may not keep Christ from owning us. In his name we pray. Amen

The Service

Prelude of Entrance

Announcements

Prelude of Preparation:

*Eat this bread, drink this cup,
come to me and never be hungry.
Eat this bread, drink this cup,
trust in me and you will not thirst.*

*Confession and Forgiveness, Page 56

*Opening Hymn: **No. 364 LBW (green),**

Son of God, Eternal Savior

*Greetings: Page 57, line 5

*Hymn of Praise: *Glory to God*, Pages 58 and 59, line 7

*Prayer of the Day: On the lesson insert (read in unison)

Children's Sermon

The First Reading

The Psalmody: On the lesson insert (read responsively)

The Second Reading

*The Alleluia Verse: Page 62, line 14

*The Gospel

*Responses: Page 63, lines 15 & 16

The Sermon

Hymn of the Day: **No. 406 LBW, *Take My Life, That I May Be***

*Apostles' Creed: Page 65

*The Prayer: Page 76

*The Greeting of Peace: Page 66, line 23

Choir Anthem: ***Storm Medley***

*In honor of the victims of Hurricanes Helene and Milton.
Combination of Til the Storm Passes By and Peace in the
Midst of the Storm.*

*The Great Thanksgiving: Pages 68-71, lines 28, 29 & 31

*The Lord's Prayer: Page 76

Holy Communion (table)

*Post Communion Prayer: Page 74, line 40

*Benediction

*Dismissal: Page 74, lines 42 & 43

*Departing Hymn: **No. 415 LBW (green),**

God of Grace and God of Glory

Moments of Meditation: Congregation seated

Postlude

*Please stand

Serving You This Morning:

Pastor, The Rev. Scott J. Paradise

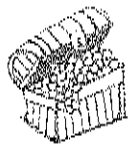
Lay Leader, Susan Long

Organist, Pianist, Debra Tice

Lay Reader, Julie Strickler

Ushers, Audio, Frank Hoffman and Scott Johnson

*The altar flowers and bulletins are given to the honor
and glory of God and in memory of Margie Rudy and
Pearl Zekany.*



Today's Readings

Sunday, October 13, 2024
21st Sunday after Pentecost

Prayer of the Day

Almighty and ever-living God, increase in us your gift of faith, that, forsaking what lies behind and reaching out to what lies ahead, we may follow the way of your commandments and receive the crown of everlasting joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading

Amos 5:6-7, 10-15

Seek the LORD and live,
or he will break out against the
house of Joseph like fire,
and it will devour Bethel, with no
one to quench it.
⁷Ah, you that turn justice to wormwood,
and bring righteousness to the
ground!
¹⁰They hate the one who reproves in
the gate,
and they abhor the one who speaks
the truth.
¹¹Therefore because you trample on
the poor
and take from them levies of grain,
you have built houses of hewn stone,
but you shall not live in them;
you have planted pleasant vineyards,
but you shall not drink their wine.

¹²For I know how many are your
transgressions,
and how great are your sins—
you who afflict the righteous, who take
a bribe,
and push aside the needy in the gate.
¹³Therefore the prudent will keep silent
in such a time;
for it is an evil time.
¹⁴Seek good and not evil,
that you may live;
and so the LORD, the God of hosts,
will be with you,
just as you have said.
¹⁵Hate evil and love good,
and establish justice in the gate;
it may be that the LORD, the God of hosts,
will be gracious to the remnant
of Joseph.

Psalms

Psalms 90:12-17; tone 4



So teach us to num-ber our days
that we may apply our hearts
to wisdom.
¹³**Return, O LORD;**
how long will you tarry?
Be gracious to your servants.
¹⁴Satisfy us by your steadfast love
in the morning;
so shall we rejoice and be glad
all our days.

¹⁵**Make us glad as many days
as you afflicted us
and as many years
as we suffered adversity.**
¹⁶Show your servants your works,
and your splendor to their children.
¹⁷**May the graciousness of the Lord
our God be upon us;
prosper the work of our hands;
prosper our handiwork.**

Second Reading

Hebrews 4:12-16

Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. ¹³And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account.

¹⁴Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. ¹⁵For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Gospel

Mark 10:17-31

As [Jesus] was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" ¹⁸Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. ¹⁹You know the commandments: 'You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.'" ²⁰He said to him, "Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth." ²¹Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, "You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." ²²When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.
²³Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" ²⁴And the disciples were

perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, "Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! ²⁵It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." ²⁶They were greatly astounded and said to one another, "Then who can be saved?" ²⁷Jesus looked at them and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible."
²⁸Peter began to say to him, "Look, we have left everything and followed you." ²⁹Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, ³⁰who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. ³¹But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first."

TODAY'S READINGS October 13, 2024 (Lectionary 28)

Volume 55, Number 4

Next Sunday's Readings: Isaiah 53:4-12; Psalm 91:9-10; Hebrews 5:1-10; Mark 10:35-45.

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Son of God, Eternal Savior

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1 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, Source of life and truth and grace,
 2 As you, Lord, have lived for oth - ers, So may we for oth - ers live.
 3 Come, O Christ, and reign a - mong us, King of love and Prince of Peace;
 4 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, Source of life and truth and grace,

Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us Hal - lows all our hu - man race,
 Free - ly have your gifts been grant - ed; Free - ly may your ser - vants give.
 Hush the storm of strife and pas - sion, Bid its cru - el dis - cords cease.
 Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us Hal - lows all our hu - man race:

You our head, who, throned in gio - ry, For your own will ev - er plead:
 Yours the gold and yours the sil - ver, Yours the wealth of land and sea;
 By your pa - tient years of toil - ing, By your si - lent hours of pain,
 By your pray - ing, by your will - ing That your peo - ple should be one,

Fill us with your love and pit - y, Heal our wrongs, and help our need.
 We but stew - ards of your boun - ty Held in sol - emn trust will be.
 Quench our fe - vered thirst of plea - sure, Stem our self - ish greed of gain.
 Grant, oh, grant our hope's fru - i - tion: Here on earth your will be done.

Take My Life, that I May Be

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1 Take my life, that I may be Con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;
 2 Take my hands and let them move At the im - pulse of thy love;
 3 Take my voice and let me sing Al - ways, on - ly, for my King;
 4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, Not a mite would I with - hold;

Take my mo - ments and my days; Let them flow in cease - less praise.
 Take my feet and let them be Swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.
 Take my lips and let them be Filled with mes - sag - es from thee.
 Take my in - tel - lect, and use Ev - 'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

5 Take my will and make it thine;
 It shall be no longer mine.
 Take my heart, it is thine own;
 It shall be thy royal throne.

6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour
 At thy feet its treasure store;
 Take myself, and I will be
 Ever, only, all for thee.

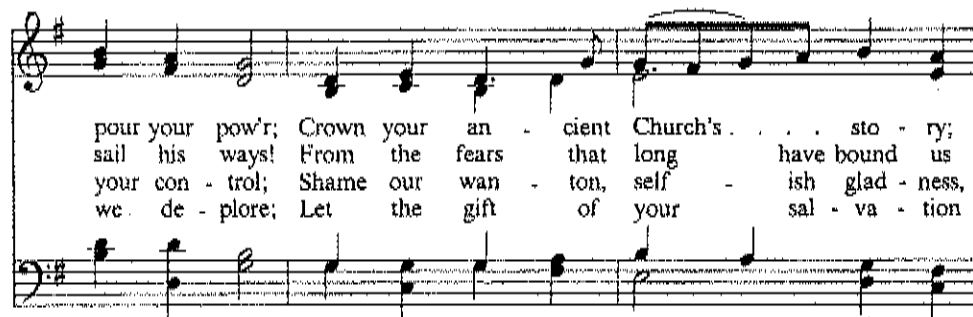
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God of Grace and God of Glory



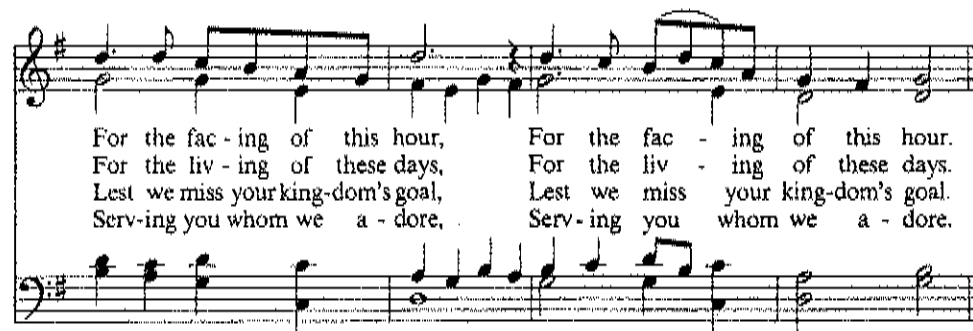
1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, On your peo - ple
 2 Lo! The hosts of e - vil round us Scorn the Christ, as -
 3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; Bend our pride to
 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion To the e - vils



pour your pow'r; Crown your an - cient Church's . . . sto - ry;
 sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us
 your con - trol; Shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,
 we de - plore; Let the gift of your sal - va - tion



Bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
 Free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
 Rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 Be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,



For the fac - ing of this hour, For the fac - ing of this hour.
 For the liv - ing of these days, For the liv - ing of these days.
 Lest we miss your king - dom's goal, Lest we miss your king - dom's goal.
 Serv - ing you whom we a - dore, Serv - ing you whom we a - dore.



"The Church on the Hill"

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Our Mission

Helping God restore and renew our community, our congregation, and our selves.

Sunday October 13, 2024

You can **listen to the worship service** over the phone patch at **10:15 AM**. Just dial **717-628-0125**. You will hear a message welcoming you to Millcreek. At that point you are connected to our church sound system, so just stay on the line. You may also watch the service later on You Tube.

Helping God Restore and Renew our Community

SHOE BOX PROJECT: We will be participating in Samaritan's Purse-Operation Christmas Child this year by filling shoe boxes for children who would otherwise not receive any gifts at Christmas. There are brochures and labels in the narthex with instructions. (Please read them carefully as there are restrictions as to what can be included in the shoe boxes.) There are preprinted shoe boxes that can be assembled, or you can wrap a shoe box of your own, just make sure the lid can be opened. Finished shoe boxes should be placed on the table in the multi-purpose room. If you are including the shipping charges, it is \$10 per box, payable to Samaritan's Purse (put your check in an envelope inside your box) or you can refer to the instructions in the brochure to donate online. The deadline for the completed boxes is Sunday, November 3, 2024. If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Martin (610-589-5505) or Pat Ontkos (610-589-4350). Thank you, Lisa & Pat





TRUNK OR TREAT: Trunk or treat will be held on Sunday 10/27 from 1-3 pm. Please come and decorate your vehicle and hand candy out to the trick or treaters. Also, you can help by making donations.

The sign-up sheets are in the Narthex on the table. We are in need of hot dogs, hot dog buns and candy. Contact Nikki Johnson for more information at blouch1968@hotmail.com Thank you.

STACEY'S TOY DRIVE:

Since 2016, the Seldomridge/Pennington/O'Connor family has held an annual toy drive in honor of Stacey, who was tragically killed in an act of domestic violence. Toys for Tots was her favorite charity and we have dedicated ourselves to carry on this tradition and continue her legacy through an annual toy drive in her remembrance. This year is our 9th annual toy drive and all



collected toys will be given directly to the children of Queen Anne's County, MD (home of Lindsay, Stacey's sister). We hope you will consider donating a new, unwrapped toy for donation (ages 0-12) that can be brought to the church. The last date for the collection is **October 13th**. Stephanie Seldomridge will transport the toys to Lindsay **October 18th**.

If you prefer to order on Amazon or elsewhere, you can ship directly to Lindsay O'Connor at 321 Narnia Drive, S Grasonville, MD 21638.

Thank you for helping to keep Stacey's legacy alive and for helping the kids of Queen Anne's County.

Helping God Restore and Renew our Congregation

BLESSING OF THE PETS: The service and weather were both beautiful last Sunday as Pastor Scott blessed 12 dogs, 1 rabbit and 7 stuffed pets.

We were also blessed with the children's choir singing "All God's Critters".



We will share in the **Sacrament of Holy Communion** today October 13th during the 10:15 a.m. worship service

TREASURER'S REPORT: October 6, 2024, Current Offerings-\$1,266.00, Plate-57.00, World Hunger-100.00, Memorials-Ginny Wolfe & Shad Kreitz-\$350.00, Coffee-\$7.00. **Total-\$1,780.00** Attendance-62, Sunday School-19

CALLING ALL MUSICIANS to play for Veteran's Sunday on November 10th. **Rehearsals will be:** Saturday, October 26, Saturday, November 2 and Saturday, November 9, all at 9:30 AM at the church. Please contact Julie Strickler at juliestrickler66@gmail.com for music or any questions. Thank you for your consideration. Julie



CHRISTMAS DANCERS: Any girls, age 7-107 who would like to participate in a dance at Christmastime can contact Jamie Keener at 717-376-7027. No dance experience is necessary. Please let her know by October 20th if you would be interested.

NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE is Tuesday October 15. Newsletter items you may want included may be sent via email to mfc.parish.echo@gmail.com or by placing a written note in the newsletter box in the church office or by phone. Thank you, David & Aislynn Staaby

2025 OFFERING ENVELOPES will be prepared for distribution in mid-November. **PLEASE** let me know if you **DO NOT** wish to remain on the envelope list to receive them. If you would like to be **added to the list, I will need your name and your present address**. If you are currently on the list, notify me of any address changes that need to be made to the financial statements. **The information is needed no later than October 31**. Contact information is by leaving a note in my mail slot in the office, seeing me personally, calling 610-589-2570 or emailing secretary@millcreeklutheran.com Thank you – Linda Sheetz

FLOWER & BULLETIN SIGNUP SHEETS are on the bulletin board in the narthex. Sponsorship of flowers is \$30 and bulletins are \$10. There are still dates available for 2024.

Helping God Restore and Renew Our Selves

The Millcreek Lutheran Church congregation extends sincere sympathy and prayers to the family of member R. Hart Beaver who passed away October 10, 2024. A Celebration of Life service will be held at Millcreek on Wednesday October 16th. Viewing is 9:00A.M. to 10:30A.M, with the service beginning at 10:30A.M. Christman Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Dear Millcreek Family, Heartfelt thanks for the cards, visits, prayers and care shown to "Ginny" Wolfe throughout her final journey. Millcreek was her church and she knew she was loved. Dara



THIS WEEK WE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) WITH CARDS & PRAYERS:

Kathryn Zerbe, Genesis Sinking Spring Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation, 3000 Windmill Rd. Sinking Spring, PA 19608

IF YOU ASKED FOR A MILLCREEK MEMBER TO BE PUT ON THE PRAYER LIST, PLEASE TELL THE CHURCH SECRETARY WHEN OUR PRAYERS HAVE BEEN ANSWERED SO SHE CAN KEEP THIS LIST CURRENT.

MILLCREEK MEMBERS PRAYER LIST: R. Hart Beaver, Debbie Hartman, Violet Hepler, Abbie Keath, The Leibig Family, Ronald Merkel, Barbara Potteiger, Norm Sharp, Debra Webber, Stewart Wolf, Aaron Yiengst, Devon Yiengst, Michael Yiengst, Jr., Greer Zellers

NON-MEMBER REQUESTS ARE LISTED ON A WEEKLY BASIS. TO BE INCLUDED, YOU MAY CONTACT LINDA EACH WEEK WITH YOUR REQUESTS BY NOON ON THURSDAY. secretary@millcreeklutheran.com or 610-589-2570

NON-MEMBER PRAYER LIST: Mike Nelson, (friend of Kristin Bender)