

ORDER OF WORSHIP
11TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
AUGUST 23/24, 2025



St. Paul's Lutheran Church
The People of St. Paul's, the Ministers
474 Yalick Road - PO Box 802 – Dallas, PA 18612
Phone: 570-675-3859; email: stpaul@epix.net
Website: www.stpaulsdallaspa.org

Rev. Charles H. Grube, Pastor
Margaret Quintanar, Director of Music/Organist
Senior Choir & Chimes
Jean Grube, Youth Choir Director

Church Office Hours: Monday through Thursday: 9:30 am till 4:00 pm

TODAY'S WORSHIP

WELCOME! We worship in the name of God, creator and protector of all; and of Jesus, our Savior and friend; and of the Holy Spirit, our comforter and guide. Amen.

REMEMBER the sabbath day. Call the sabbath a delight. This is the Lord's day, and the Lord will do for us what the Lord does: feed us, forgive us, help and heal us. Rejoice at all the wonderful things God is doing.

WORSHIP BEGINS in our gathering. Please enjoy greeting and conversation in the Narthex, and respect those who have entered the Sanctuary to pray, meditate, and listen to the prelude with silence and an atmosphere of reverence and peace as we all prepare to hear God's word.

HEARING ASSISTANCE devices are available; please ask an usher for help.

THE BLUE WELCOME PAD in the pew rack is our record of your attendance and communion (or you may leave a message for Pastor Grube, note a new address or phone number). Please take a moment to complete it.

LEAVING THE SANCTUARY during worship, please use the side doors with the panic bar latches; they open and close silently. **TURNING OFF** cell phone and other electronic devices is greatly appreciated.

SCRIPTURE READINGS for August 30/31: Proverbs 25:6-7, Psalm 112, Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16, Luke 14:1, 7-14.

IF YOU'D LIKE someone's name to be added to our prayer list spoken in worship and printed in the bulletin, please be sure to contact the church office or complete the prayer request card on the table in the Narthex before worship. Cards added after worship will be included in the following week's prayer list. In either case you will continue to have the opportunity to say aloud or remember silently that person's name during the intercessory prayers.

GATHERING

PLEASE NOTE: *Parts of this service are omitted for Saturday's worship.*

PRELUDE *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty* Johann Gottfried Walther

BELL, WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

[SUNDAY] Baptism of Bennett Walker Smith, Bellami Matison Smith and Alaya Dani Masri

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[SATURDAY] *Stand as you are able to face the font for the confession.*

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Merciful God,

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. Heal us, break our bonds, and lead us on the path of life. Amen.

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.

Amen.

Stand as you are able for the hymn.

GATHERING HYMN # 858 *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, mighty and immortal, you know that as fragile creatures surrounded by great dangers, we cannot by ourselves stand upright. Give us strength of mind and body, so that even when we suffer because of human sin, we may rise victorious through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Sit.

WORD

CHILDREN'S SERMON

FIRST READING

Isaiah 58:9b-14

God promises those who have returned from exile that where justice and mercy prevail, the ruins will be rebuilt and light will rise in the darkness. It is a day for new beginnings.

A reading from Isaiah:

Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, "Here I am." If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. The Lord will guide you continually and satisfy your needs in parched places and make your bones strong, and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water whose waters never fail. Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in. If you refrain from trampling the Sabbath, from pursuing your own interests on my holy day; if you call the Sabbath a delight and the holy day of the Lord honorable; if you honor it, not going your own ways, serving your own interests or pursuing your own affairs; then you shall take delight

in the Lord, and I will make you ride upon the heights of the earth; I will feed you with the heritage of your ancestor Jacob, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 103:1-8

Spoken responsively by whole verse by the lector and congregation.

¹Bless the LORD, ¹ O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God's ¹ holy name.

²**Bless the LORD, ¹ O my soul,**
and forget not ¹ all God's benefits—

³who forgives ¹ all your sins
and heals all ¹ your diseases;

⁴**who redeems your life ¹ from the grave**
and crowns you with steadfast ¹ love and mercy;

⁵who satisfies your desires ¹ with good things
so that your youth is renewed ¹ like an eagle's.

⁶**O LORD, you provide ¹ vindication**
and justice for all who ¹ are oppressed.

⁷You made known your ¹ ways to Moses
and your works to the chil- ¹ dren of Israel.

⁸**LORD, you are full of compas- ¹ sion and mercy,**
slow to anger and abounding in ¹ steadfast love;

SECOND READING

Hebrews 12:18-29

Using images of Moses, the writer presents a striking vision of the new covenant of God made possible in Christ. There is no longer fear, only awe in the new promise of Christ into which we are invited.

A reading from Hebrews:

You have not come to something that can be touched, a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest, and the sound of a trumpet, and a voice whose words

made the hearers beg that not another word be spoken to them. (For they could not endure the order that was given, “If even an animal touches the mountain, it shall be stoned to death.” Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, “I tremble with fear.”) But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel. See that you do not refuse the one who is speaking, for if they did not escape when they refused the one who warned them on earth, how much less will we escape if we reject the one who warns from heaven! At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, “Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heaven.” This phrase, “Yet once more,” indicates the removal of what is shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain. Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us show gratitude, by which we may offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe, for indeed our God is a consuming fire.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand as you are able to welcome the gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL

Luke 12:49-56

Jesus heals a woman on the sabbath, offering her a new beginning for her life. When challenged by a narrow reading of the sabbath command, Jesus responds by expanding “sabbath work” to include setting people free from bondage.

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, “Woman, you are set free from your ailment.” When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the Sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, “There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured and not on the Sabbath day.” But the Lord answered him and said, “You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger and lead it to water? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the Sabbath day?” When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame, and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things being done by him.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit.

SERMON

Stand as you are able for the Hymn.

HYMN OF THE DAY #441 *O Happy Day When We Shall Stand*

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Drawn into the embrace of the holy Trinity, let us pray for the wholeness of the church, the world, and all creation. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Gather all our prayers in your mercy, O God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace and may say Peace be with you or similar words.

MEAL

OFFERTORY #182

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be



fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -



nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your



pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

The assisting minister leads the prayer.

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 that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

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

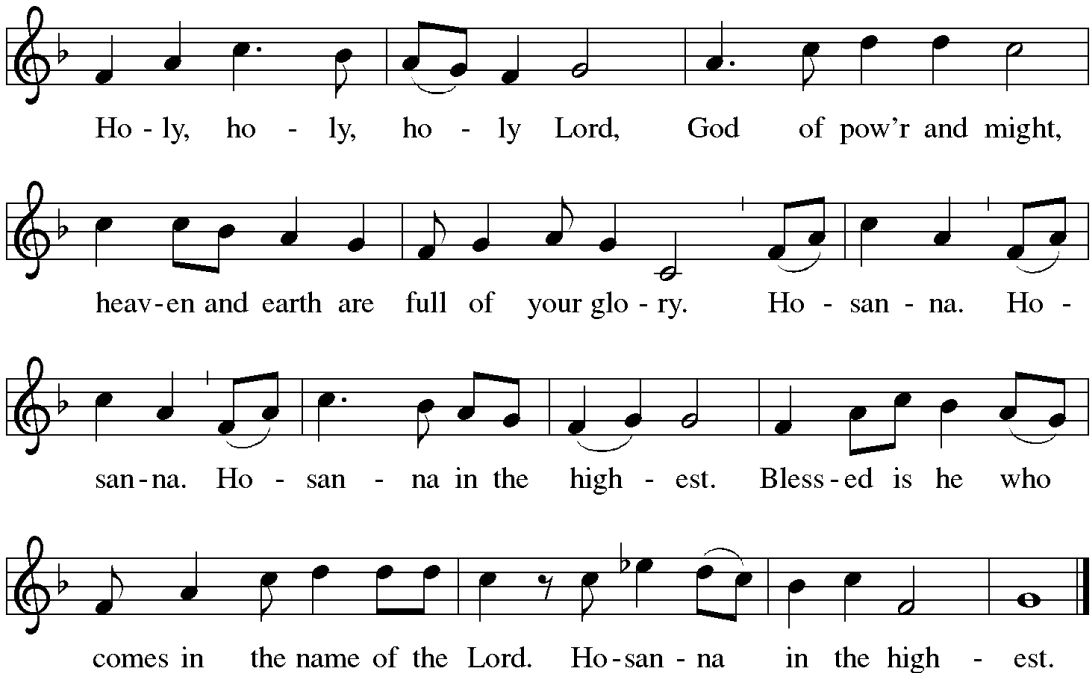
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

The presiding minister continues:

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise . . .

Here the minister continues with the preface for the day, concluding:

. . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est." The score ends with a double bar line.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

We give you thanks, Father,...both now and forever.
Amen.

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.**

COMMUNION

The Kingdom of God is set before you. Come, eat, and rejoice.

The bread is broken for the communion and the assembly is seated. Online worshipers receive the word, The body of Christ given for you. The blood of Christ shed for you.

We invite you to come forward to stand on the floor at the predella step beginning with the person seated closest to the ambo. The communion ministers will come to you, beginning with the bread. Then, take an empty glass from the tray to be filled with wine from the pouring chalice or a prefilled glass of juice for those who cannot or prefer not to receive wine. When you have communed, return to your seat by the opposite end.

We invite all Baptized Christians and those who commune in their own churches to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Small children and those not communing may come forward for a blessing. If you are unable to come forward to receive Holy Communion, please inform an usher or neighbor of your desire to commune so they can inform the communion ministers, and they will bring the sacrament to you in your seat.

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say,

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.
and each person may respond Amen.

During the distribution, Lamb of God is sung:

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Stand as you are able.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The assisting minister leads the prayer.

Let us pray.

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

Amen.

SENDING

The service concludes with the blessing and the dismissal.

BLESSING

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. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN #508 *As Rain from the Clouds*

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit. **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

As Rain from the Clouds

Aaron David Miller

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SERVING AS WORSHIP LEADERS

Greeter:	Ray & Marianne Mancke
Acolyte:	Volunteer needed
Assisting Minister:	Cynthia Malahick
Lector:	Bill Peiffer
Communion Bread:	Geri Williams
Saturday Altar Set Up:	Cookie Fetterman
Sunday Altar Clean Up:	Martha Kush
Minister of Technology:	Marissa Miller

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SANCTUARY FLOWERS are given to the Glory of God, in Honor of Miguel & Stephanie Younger's 20th Wedding Anniversary, by Lee & Carol Fett and Ka & Peggy Pang.

THE YELLOW ROSE is given in Honor of Joe Hardisky's 80th Birthday, by the Social Ministry Committee. **BULLETINS** are sponsored by Tom Duffy, in Memory of Mom's Birthday.

WE WELCOME into the membership of St. Paul's by Holy Baptism, Bennett Walker Smith and Bellami Matison Smith, children of Austin and Mariana Smith; and Alaya Dani Masri, daughter of Rakan Eyad & Aubrielle Smith-Masri. Bennett's sponsors are Aubrielle Smith-Masri and Joshua Dymond; Bellami's sponsors are Aubrielle Smith-Masri and Timothy Dymond; and Alaya's sponsors are Austin and Mariana Smith. The red roses are given in Honor of their Baptisms by St. Paul's Dorcas Society.

"GODS WORK. OUR HANDS" Sunday, September 7. As in the past few years, we are asking for your donations of sneakers – youth sizes 9-12 – for boys and girls who will be filling our Head Start classrooms in the fall. The Sneaker Display table is in the Narthex; please remember to attach your gift receipt to the shoes. All members of St. Paul's are thanked for supporting our Social Ministry projects!

NEW COLLECTION FOR PYRAMID: Pyramid Health is in immediate need of donated men's shorts and shirts in sizes large and extra-large, and also has one client who needs sneakers in men's size 9.5. If you have any sneakers or clothing to donate, please bring them to the church and place them in the Pyramid basket in the church hallway. Thank you!

READY FOR a great meal and lots of fellowship? A Brotherhood Roast Beef Dinner is scheduled for Saturday, September 13; tickets (available at the door) are \$15.00 adults/\$5.00 for children under 12. Take-outs begin at 3:30 pm and dinner is served beginning at 4:00 pm. Invite family members and friends too. The sign-up poster for volunteers to help with the meal is located in the Narthex.

SUNDAY SCHOOL ACT OF KINDNESS: Please bring personal hygiene products to church to benefit residents at Pyramid. St Paul's Sunday School will be packing bags of products on Rally Day as a service project. Please bring items before September 7. Items needed are toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, deodorant, shampoo, combs, brushes, chap stick and hand lotion.

SPCA COLLECTION – Once again, St. Paul’s will be celebrating all our non-human friends and family members and asking God to bless each and every one of them, and in fact, all of God’s creatures. In celebration of this event and to assist our local animal rescue shelter, we are again collecting items on their wish list. Beginning next Saturday and culminating at the Blessing of the Animals service scheduled for Saturday September 27, the following items are being collected:

Canned Cat Food (Pate)	Dry Kitten Chow
Canned Dog Food	Cat Litter (Clay, Non-Clumping)
Cat Toys & Scratchers	Kong Toys for Dogs
Small Cat Beds	Cat & Dog Treats
Paper Towels	Toilet Paper
Dish Soap	Laundry Detergent
Bleach, Windex, Clorox Wipes	Latex / Non-Latex Gloves (all sizes)
Drawstring Tall Kitchen Trash Bags	
Gift Cards for Petco or Pet Supplies Plus	
Rubbing Alcohol / Peroxide	Towels & Washcloths

If you have other items that you would like to donate, but do not see on the list, please contact Ray Mancke at 570.430.8639. There is a table with an SPCA display located in the Narthex.

NEW HEAD START CLASSROOM – as you may know, Head Start requested the use of another classroom for PreK children starting this fall. This request was approved by our Congregation Council. This means, that we will be adding a third classroom to our “Adopt-A-Classroom” sponsorship! Throughout the year, there will be opportunities for you to assist the Head Start staff by donating Sneakers for the “God’s Work. Our Hands” project, or hats, scarfs, mittens/gloves, socks, etc. to hang on the Christmas “Mitten Tree.” Our Head Start staff is also looking for volunteers to visit the classrooms and read a story to the children or lead an activity. If you would like to be a ‘reader’ or help with a craft activity, please contact Carol Fett at cafett54@gmail.com or 570.852.9176.

HARVEST HOME SERVICES (September 13/14). During worship on this weekend, we will focus on the bounty God provides us from the field and orchard, and the rich harvest of that bounty for our health and well-being. The Social Ministry Committee will be focusing on assisting the Back Mountain Food Pantry with special items noted each of the four weeks leading up to Harvest Home. Below are the requested items for the week of:

August 23/24 – Canned vegetables and fruit

August 30/31 – Canned meat (Stew, Tuna, Salmon, Chicken, Spam, etc.)

September 6/7 – Cereal (Pancake/Waffle Mix, Syrup, Pop Tarts, etc.)

September 13/14 – Pasta (Rice, Mac & Cheese, Spaghetti/Sauce, etc.)

There will be a special collection point in the Narthex for your donations, and thank you for your continued support of all the Social Ministry projects.

SEPTEMBER BRUNCH – a 100th Anniversary fundraiser – to be held at Irem Country Club at 11:00 am on Sunday, September 21 (no Sunday School), cost \$32.00 per person. Checks should be made payable to St. Paul's and must be paid by September 14. Payment envelopes are available on the sign-up poster and may be placed in the offering plate. Proceeds to benefit Pastor's Helping Hand Fund.

MUSIC GROUPS MEETING: Margaret Quintanar, director of music and organist, is inviting everyone interested in singing with the adult choir and playing chimes in the chimes choir to gather for a conversation about new ideas for the church's music ministry. The meeting will be held in October following worship (date TBA). Please watch the bulletin for the meeting date.

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

Today:	9:30 am Worship
	5:00 pm Scout Pack Meeting
Tuesday	7:00 pm Worship and Music Meeting
Wednesday:	7:00 pm Finance/Property Meeting
Saturday:	3:00 pm O'Brien Wedding
	5:30 pm Worship
Sunday:	9:30 am Worship
	10:45 am 100 th Anniversary Committee Meeting

PRAYER LIST - Please remember to ask permission from the person you are placing on the prayer list. **Pray for the Congregations of Good Shepherd, Wilkes-Barre and Prince of Peace Episcopal Church, Dallas.**

Pray for those suffering illness: *Members:* Chris Bellezza, Annie & Marty Bisher, Mary Lou Button, Pam Cyphers, Margaret Edwards, Cheryl Everhart, Sandi Fassett, Marge Fritzinger, Morgan Holbrook, Robert Kline, June Lorah, Pat Peiffer, Rachelle Pryor, Wally Richardson, Greta Ruckno, Dave Scheff, Carol Swanson, Jack Traver, Anita Weiss, Geri Williams, Peter & Carol Wittkamp, Alyson Wood, Shirley Zimmerman.

Please note: Those people listed as Family and Friends will be listed here for a four-week period. Please contact the church office at 570-675-3859 or stpaul@epix.net if you desire a name to remain on the list beyond that time.

Family & Friends: Robert Binger, Michael Bowanko, Judy C., Marjorie Catania, Paul Davis, Janice DeFebo, John Diel, Manfred Diel, Denise Ekdahl, Grace Sunglee Emmett, Karen Evanish, John Fisher, Thomas Fortner, Rich Fufaro, Nancy & Christopher Gillies, Jenny Graveira, Jenn Hubbard, Joe Hudak, Pam Husted, Mike Iannuzzi, Christine Ide, Michael Kaminski, Joe Kerestes, Bradley Kessler, Elsie Kosmach, Rebecca & Ryan Kozloski, Alice Laskowski, Lindsey Lattari, Kevin Loeffler, Carol Marker, Sue & Dan McConnell, Dwight McKee, Bryant Mesick, Rob Merritt, Betty Jane Mokychic, Patty N., Marlin Nuehring, Tim Nulton, Helen O'Brien, Peg O'Brien, Alice O'Neil, Megan Sheehan Palmer, Ryleigh Phillips, Paul Pryor, Toni Quinn, Febe Quintanar, Robin Rosencrans, John Roushey, Lisa Rowe, Lloyd and Bonnie Ryman, Nancy Shymanski, Debbie Smith, Mark Sokolowski, Sandy Sprau, Sandra Stankiewicz, Joe Stephanovich, Stevens Family, Lori Strobel, Benjamin Szostak, Abigail Thomas, Arnold Thompson, Judi Vietz and family, Jere Vietz, Karen Wise, Frank and Cheryl Wright, Peg Wyda, Mary Z., Paul Zawadzki, Ashley, Bethann, Bruce, Keith, Diane, Mary, Rosemary, Morgan, Lori, Greg, Justin, Jim, Megan, April, Connie, Jill, Henry, Denny, Kara, Becky (no last names given).