

The Light

First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
2323 Broadway St.
Lubbock, TX. 79401-2916

FEBRUARY 2020
Volume 31, Issue 2

“Do everything in love”

Corinthians 16:14





**Reverend
Paul
Carpenter**
Senior Minister
paul@fcclubbock.org

Each month I pray and ask God for guidance on what topic to address in this article. I'm full of thankfulness for you all. I love our church and I'm blessed each day by our members. The Apostle Paul writes: "I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being

confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." (Philippians 1:3-6)

Thank you for being so embrative and welcoming to my family. In 2014 we moved away from our family and met an even larger one! Our relationships at FCC are priceless and our world has changed because of your welcome and love. You all took a risk on a young preacher with only a few years in senior leadership; you put up with my Aggie-ness; you help me develop and grow as a preacher and pastor. Thank you. Our kids have a village, our marriage is surrounded by prayers, and we have become a part of the great community of Lubbock. We are right where God wants us and He has blessed us with a loving, faithful church family.

Thank you for being optimistic and faithful to the things God is doing. The "can-do" attitude at FCC is powerful. Our unity and willingness to press on in God's mission is nothing short of heaven's grace. I see our church's generosity year after year. I watch new people find welcome and grace the moment they meet our church family. Older leaders are honored and listened to, and new leaders are being raised up and prepared. As our past and heritage always has a seat at the table, we are taking steps each year to continue to be active, generous, and evangelistic. I see us baptize and receive new confessions of faith in Jesus, while also journeying alongside our saints as they enter heaven. From programs to people, I am

grateful for our focused activity aligned with God's mission to have a people who love Him and love each other.

Thank you for exalting Christ Jesus. In the evolution of church-life in the USA we've seen some strange patterns. In a world of constant change, it's good to know that some things are consistent. The lordship of Jesus Christ is the church's true strength, and to confess Jesus as Lord is our great honor. Thank you for keeping Jesus at the heart of FCC and in our homes.

Thank you for depending on the trustworthiness of scripture. Thank you for abiding in Jesus Christ and bearing the fruit of the Holy Spirit. The closer I've gotten to you all, the closer I've gotten to Jesus – and the nearer I draw to Jesus, the nearer I feel to you. This is the mystery of the communion of saints around the agreement the Jesus is Lord. Thank you for revering God. Thank you for desiring truth, and receiving and thinking through the wisdom of scripture. Thank you for joining me in daily joy-based repentance, being self-aware as Jesus grows us each moment by addition, by subtraction, and by transforming love. Thank you for growing in love for God and for your neighbor, filling the two greatest commandments. Jesus tells pastors, "feed my sheep." As an under-shepherd I feast along with you. God has preserved and grown our appetite for His Word, and has offered us holy food in the body and blood of Jesus and in the written Word of God. Thank you for wanting the things of God and for trusting me to serve under Christ.

I am a blessed man. Thank you!



Pray to Love Well . . . Marilyn Wragg

Is there someone in your life right now you desire more deeply to love? Or someone you perhaps find challenging to love?

My answer to both questions is, "Yes." As I have striven more deeply to love dear ones in both categories over the years, I too often have seen my strongest resolve and best efforts fall short. Sometimes it seems that the harder I try, the more frustrated I am by unloving feelings and reactions that spring up.

In light of Scripture, this battle should not be surprising. Loving well is not a natural ability in our sinful flesh. Rather, love is a fruit of the Spirit; love is, in fact, the first and primary fruit. What that tells us is that the only way to love when it doesn't flow naturally is by asking God—by praying for God, through His Spirit—to help us love well.

There are many Scriptures that can be adapted to motivate and guide us in praying to love well. My favorite is 1 Corinthians 13, so I am sharing an adaptation that I frequently pray.

The next time unloving thoughts and feelings emerge, do not resolve to work harder. Instead, pray harder. Pray to love well.

Loving God, through Your Spirit, please help me more deeply and genuinely to love (fill-in-name). Enable me to be patient and kind. Help me never envy, boast, or be proud. Keep me from showing dishonor or being self-seeking. Change my heart so that I am not easily angered, and take away any desire to keep a record of wrongs. May I never delight in evil, but rejoice with Your truth. Help me, Father, always protect, always trust, and always hope for you to work in _____'s life. Give me strength always to persevere in loving _____, even when it is hard or may not be reciprocated. You love me perfectly, God. Please enable me in turn to love _____ well.

~ Based on 1 Corinthians 13:4–7

THANK YOU

We wanted to extend our heartfelt gratitude for all the blessings we've received following the birth of our twins. Through the members of our beloved church, we were able to experience rich love and the provision of the Lord! Thank you to all who have helped us and most importantly, to those who lifted us up in prayer! We can't wait for you all to meet our sweet boys and are so grateful they have the opportunity to grow up in a church saturated in the Gospel!

Thank you!!
Travis & Cecily Gibson

JANUARY CONTRIBUTIONS

	JAN. 5 th	JAN. 12 th	JAN. 19 th	JAN 26 th
General	\$20,578.00	\$32, 136.00	\$11,588.09	\$11,091.72
Designated	\$70.00	\$280.00	\$139.00	\$1,525.00

First Christian Church of Lubbock

COLLEGE MINISTRY

LOVING GOD (IN ORDER TO) LOVING THY NEIGHBOR

No greater command is there than to love the Lord our God with everything all our heart, soul, body, mind. As we seek to do so, naturally, we will inherit more of His heart and love for our neighbor. Thus the result of seeking nearness to God and learning to love Him with everything with have, is an outpouring of love to thy neighbor. But it is important never to mix the two up. I have heard people with great intentions mix these two commands up. I believe that these commands are meant to be sequential in nature (Doing the first results in accomplishing the next). During this month, may we have a deeper love for God and may that naturally result in us having a deeper love for thy neighbor.

Soli Deo Gloria!

Scott Hall

University Minister

First Christian Church-Lubbock



COLLEGE MINISTRY

SPRING CALENDAR 2020

FEBRUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

MARCH

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

APRIL

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

2

SUPERBOWL PARTY

5:30pm-End of game
The Payne's Home | 3305 57th st.

4

TECH vs OU GAME

Meet at the church at 6:30pm for dinner, then will head to the Tech Basketball game (Tech students get in for free!) Must RSVP by Feb 28th if not a Tech student. Cost for non-students is \$10.

26

ASH WED SERVICE

6:30pm in the Sanctuary

6-8

COLLEGE SPRING RETREAT

Want to recharge, rest, worship, and have a blast doing it? Come to our College Retreat with Christ in Action and Monterey Church of Christ! ONLY \$5! Make new friends and grow in your faith.

31

TRAPPED! ESCAPE ROOM

Meet at FCC at 6:30pm
RSVP by March 24th, \$5 per person. Let's test our skills and beat an Escape Room!

9

THE LAMB

Join us for The Lamb - a live drama depicting the imagery of the lamb in scripture. Starts at 6pm.

10

GOOD FRIDAY

Join us as we remember the cross, the crucifixion, and our saviors Passion. Starts at 6pm.

12

EASTER SUNDAY

Join us as we celebrate the resurrection of our Savior!

WEEKLY:

TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY

Select Tuesday Nights; 6:30pm
Dinner Provided | 2323 Broadway

SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS

Every Sunday; 9:30am

FIND US ON:



@fcc_college_ministry



@FCCCollegeMinistry

TEXT

"FCCCOLLEGE" to
84576 to receive
important updates
on your phone!



www.fcclubbock.org/college-ministry/

Questions? scott@fcclubbock.org

Noah's Nook News...Claire Dulaney

A HUGE thank you goes to Pete and Susan Broome for donating more than 60 children's books to our library! They are catalogued and ready for check-out.

Our books are checked out on Sundays by our elementary age kids, on Wednesdays by our CDC teachers, and in the summer by our CDC school agers, so you can imagine that our books begin to show wear and tear! If you have books in good condition that our children could benefit from, please consider donating them. You may leave them in the church office! If our library can't use them, we donate them to Family Promise, Boys Ranch, or other agencies that could benefit. Parents, have you seen any of our overdue Noah's Ark books at your house or in your car?? We check out books and DVDs for a month. Some items have been out for a year! We do not charge a fine. Just please be aware of any of our books or DVDs that your child is through with, that needs to be returned for others to enjoy. Thanks!

And thanks to Joy Gorsuch, Rachel Smith, and LouAnn Underwood for helping in Noah's Nook!



CDC Students visit Noah's Nook every Wednesday

IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH...Deborah Bigness

After many years of meeting in homes, the courthouse, other church buildings – and even the jail, members of the First Christian Church officially dedicated their first church home on Sunday, February 6, 1910. The *Lubbock Avalanche* announced the planned construction in August 1908, noted that it would be the fourth church building in town, and predicted that, "It will be one of the nicest buildings in the city and will reflect much credit on the members of that denomination."



Built by contractors, Messrs Bruce and Garrett, the 40' x 50' building was on a concrete foundation and was projected to cost \$1500-\$1800 dollars. Pastor J.C. Welch, who had been called by the church the previous summer, with elders John R. McGee, W.D. Crump, and L.C. Robertson published a notice inviting the entire community to the dedication of "our meeting house," and invited all to "enjoy this happy occasion and also worship God in the beauty of Holiness."

Light of Youth

A Moment With a Martyr

I would like you to meet my friend Polycarp, a bishop in the church of Smyrna. Polycarp was born in 69 AD and it was believed that he was even the disciple of the Apostle John. As Polycarp grew in age and wisdom and he also grew in faith and reputation, so much so that he began to be known as an elder and leader, further than the reach of his community. One of Polycarp's many notable affects on his community was that he would help convert those who were practicing the heretical religion of Gnosticism to Christianity. During Polycarp's ministry, primarily in the 2nd century, Christianity was viewed as truly counter cultural to a Greco-Roman lifestyle. (e.g. Christians wouldn't spectate bloody gladiatorial games, wouldn't practice infanticide "modern day abortion", were faithful in marriage, and wouldn't eat foods sacrificed to other gods) Tensions against Christians ran high especially due to refusal to proclaim "Caesar as Lord" and admittance with "Jesus as the rightful Lord and King". This began the persecution of Christians due to their blasphemous religion against Rome. Christians were brought to the stadium and told that if they did not "recant" they would be fed to wild beasts, burned, or killed. As Christians were being arrested, Aurelius noticed that they were willingly becoming martyrs over denying Christ "recanting". Aurelius noticed this trend within the Christians and questioned who was teaching them these behaviors. After finding out that it was none other than Polycarp, Aurelius ordered Polycarp to be arrested. Through a series of events Polycarp was seized and finally arrested, but not before Polycarp convinced his guards to provide him with an hour of prayer, which quickly became two hours. Once Polycarp arrived to the stadium, he was met with insult and slander until the "Proctor" arrived. The "Proctor" asked Polycarp to Recant, after a number of other pleads, to which Polycarp replied "86 years have I served Christ, And He has never done me any harm. How, then, could I blaspheme my King who saved Me?....I bless Thee for designing me worthy of this day and this hour that I may be among Thy martyrs and drink the cup of my Lord Jesus Christ." With this reply, it was motioned for Polycarp to be burned. The flames that weren't meant to consume him did not burn him or swallow him up and upon seeing this it was ordered that he be stabbed. As Polycarp side was punctured his blood put out the flames and there Polycarp's image would be etched into the memories of all the Christians watching as a sign of faith to our true Lord, Jesus Christ.



Derek Jerezano
Youth Minister

February Events

- **Feb. 8th : Faith-In-Action**
Come join the Youth Ministry for a day of service from 10am -12pm. Meet at the FLCC

- **Feb 16th: Chili Cook-Off**
Bring your best chili and join the entire Church after second service for food, fellowship, and fun!

- **Feb. 26th: Ash Wed. Service**

The youth ministry will not be traditionally meeting, instead join the entire Church at 6pm in the sanctuary for the beginning of Lent.

Weekly

- **Every Sunday in the Youth Room from 9:30-10:30pm**
- **Every Wednesday in the FLCC from 6-7:30pm**



Follow us on Facebook and Instagram

If you would like to start receiving youth ministry updates, text "FCCLUBBOCK" to 84576

Light of youth

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FCC
YOUTH MINISTRY

Spring Calendar 2020



February	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	March	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	April	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
							1		1	2	3	4	5	6	7					1	2	3	4
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		8	9	10	11	12	13	14		5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15		15	16	17	18	19	20	21		12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	16	17	18	19	20	21	22		22	23	24	25	26	27	28		19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29		29	30	31						26	27	28	29	30	31	

8 Faith-in-Action

Service project from 10am-12pm

16 Chili Cook-off

26 Ash Wednesday

There will be no youth. Join us for Ash Wednesday

7 Faith-in-Action

Service Project from 10am to 12pm

13-15 Six Flags Trip

Join the youth ministry in going to Six Flags for a pond break, cost of \$80. Must RSVP by March 6th

9 Maundy Thursday

10 Good Friday

12 Easter Sunday

26 Fellowship Night

Join us from 6-8pm for painting, pizza, and a movie

Weekly:

Sunday Youth

Every Sunday in the Youth Room
9:30-10:30am

Wed. Bible Study

Every Wednesday; 6-7:30pm

"Jesus declared, "Love the Lord
your God with all your heart
and with all your soul and with
all your mind."
Matthew 22:37

TEXT
"FCCLUBBOCK" to
84576 to receive
important updates on
your phone!



Have any Comments, Questions, or Concerns? Derek@fcclubbock.org or (806)420-9847

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A COME-AND-GO

baby shower

HONORING
KAITLYN HALL
MARCH 1, 2020

LUBBOCK WOMEN'S CLUB
2:00-4:00PM

THE FAMILY IS REGISTERED AT
TARGET AND AMAZON
GIFT CARDS ARE WELCOME AS WELL



IT'S 
A
BOY

Lift up the Light

Page 8

Military News And Concerns

**Lt. Brant Brock-
Norfolk–**
Home from
Deployment
son-in-law of
Brenda Hendricks

**Christopher
Colgrove
Kuwait**
nephew of
Laurie Williams

**Lieutenant
Colonel
Ethan Diven**
Newport News, VA
husband & father
of
Sabrina, Jacob
&
Kendall
and son-in-law of
Jerry & Brenda
Stanfield

**1st Lt Nicholas
Swanson**
USAF, Elmendorf
Air Force Base,
Anchorage Alaska
grandson of
Virginia Myers
Dorman

**Capt. Nathaniel
Swanson**
USMC, Cherry
Point Marine
Corps, Havelock,
North Carolina
grandson of
Virginia Myers
Dorman

We lift up in prayer our Friends and Family

Members: Alan Barkley, Robbie Bedker, Bobbie Bernard, Elaine Chaney, Lynn Cooper, Charles Cypert, Jody Dean, Steve DeHay, Laura Flieller, Allison Graham, Kaye Greer, Nelda Jett, Carolyn Lawrence, Monica Matzner, Shelley Nelson, Pam Patton, Randell Resneder, Shirley Sharp, Josh Stevens, Dick Tarr

Friends: Fred Alley, Kyle Beirschmitt, Sandra Bermingham, Debbie Boen, Bear Bock, Marilyn Brinkley, Steve Curtis, Paula Sue Dunbar, Twana Evers, Monica Etter, Steven Garcia, Mary Garibey, Joe Gillispie, Donna Harger, Deborah Haywood, Gary Hughes, Geneva Hunter, Kate Irvin, Jeremy Johnson, Chris Mackey, Kristen Mata, M'Lee McDonald, Leroy Montoya, Kerry Coats Nielson, Eli Overley, Becky Peckham, Sydney Robinson, Catherine Royalty, Shannon Etter Thompson, Darnell Vandivort, Pauline Webb, Carol White, Connie Turner Wilson, Mike Yont

Homebound & Home Communion Prayers

Alan Barkley, Kaye Greer, Lynise McDonald, Frances Evans, Cara Irvin, Ruby Power, Marty Wells, Jan Sanders, Shelley and Bert Nelson, Joan Brown

Entered into Heaven

Ethel Forman passed away on January 26, 2020. Services will be held Friday, February 7th at FCC.

Baptisms

Lily Young was baptized on Sunday, January 26th.

New Members

Carla Holt joined on Sunday, January 26th during the Next Steps Class.



Upcoming FEBRUARY Gatherings & Meetings...

- ◇ **Noon Bible Study**, Every Wednesday Afternoon, 12:00-12:50 pm
- ◇ **Pilgrims Progress Study**, Fridays, 12:00 pm, Chapel Parlor
- ◇ **BIBLE BABES**, Mondays at 7:00 pm, Chapel Parlor
- ◇ **Elders Meeting**, Wednesday, February 5th, 7:00 pm, Chapel Parlor
- ◇ **Deacon's Meeting**, Wednesday, February 5th, 7:00 pm, Chapel Parlor
- ◇ **General Board Meeting**, Sunday, February 9th, Noon, Chapel Parlor
- ◇ **Finance Meeting**, Monday, February 10th, 12:00 pm, Conference Room
- ◇ **Christian Women's Fellowship**, Tuesday, February 4th, 6:30 pm, Cattle Baron
- ◇ **Chili Cook-Off**, Sunday, February 16th, Noon, KH
- ◇ **South Plains Food Bank Food Vouchers Issued**, Wednesday, February 19th, 9 am-12pm
- ◇ **Foundation Meeting**, Tuesday, February 18th, 4:00 pm, Conference Room
- ◇ **Ash Wednesday**, Wednesday, February 26th
- ◇ **Saint Benedicts Tuesday Schedule:**
 - February 4th– Team 3
 - February 11th– Team 4

experience the Light

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A Weekend Away



*First Christian Church
Adult Retreat
Community United Methodist
Church
Ruidoso, New Mexico
April 24-25, 2020*



Rev. Dr. Bob Utley

Dr. Bob Utley has pastored several churches in Texas and is a prolific writer. Utley founded International Sunday School Lessons Inc. which would later become Bible Lessons International.

Bob taught for 16 years in the Religion Department at East Texas Baptist University. Currently he conducts Bible Conferences and Revivals in the U.S. and abroad.

Those who have heard Bob's teaching find it refreshing and inspiring. He approaches Bible teaching from a critical, verse-by-verse, historical- grammatical point of view. In addition, great effort is made to remove his social, cultural, experiential, and denominational biases. Bob tries to support his interpretation from the biblical text in one of six ways: (1) literary context; (2) historical setting of the biblical author; (3) word studies; (4) grammatical relationships; (5) parallel biblical passages; and (6) literary genres.

Get away from the busyness of life and the pressures of parenting and spend time in the presence of the Lord.

Join us, April 24th and 25th at Community United Methodist Church for worship, prayer and fellowship in Ruidoso, New Mexico.

Dr. Bob Utley will host a series of workshops to help us move forward in our journey into Christ likeness.

You will have the opportunity to worship, rest, and explore beautiful Ruidoso.

Registration is \$50 per person. Register on our website; www.fcclubbock.org or in the church office.

Hotel reservations must be secured on your own.

REGISTER TODAY!

Ruidoso, New Mexico

Schedule of Events

(Mountain Time)

Friday, April 24, 2019

4:00-5:00pm	Meet and Greet
5:00-7:00pm	Dinner Break
7:00pm-8:30pm	Session 1- Dr. Utley

Saturday, April 25, 2019

8:30am	Doors Open
9:00-11:30am	Session 2- Dr. Utley
11:30- 2:00pm	Lunch Break
2:00-3:15pm	Session 3- Dr. Utley
3:30-5:30pm	Closing Worship

New Addition

Please help us welcome our newest team member, Lourdes Ariceaga. 'Lou' will serve as the new Director of Children's Ministry. As many of you know, our previous Children's Director, Holly Jessen is leaving the FCC Staff to work with the Children's Home of Lubbock.

Lou has lived in Lubbock for 12 years, is married to her husband Rodrigo and has 3 boys.

She earned her degree from UAC in Mexico. Lou previously served as the Children's Ministry Director for Community Bible Study in Lubbock and is a certified ESL teacher.

We are delighted to have Lou on our team. She is excited to help our children and parents grow closer to God.

Please be sure to say hi to Lou if you see her.



The Harvest is young.

80%

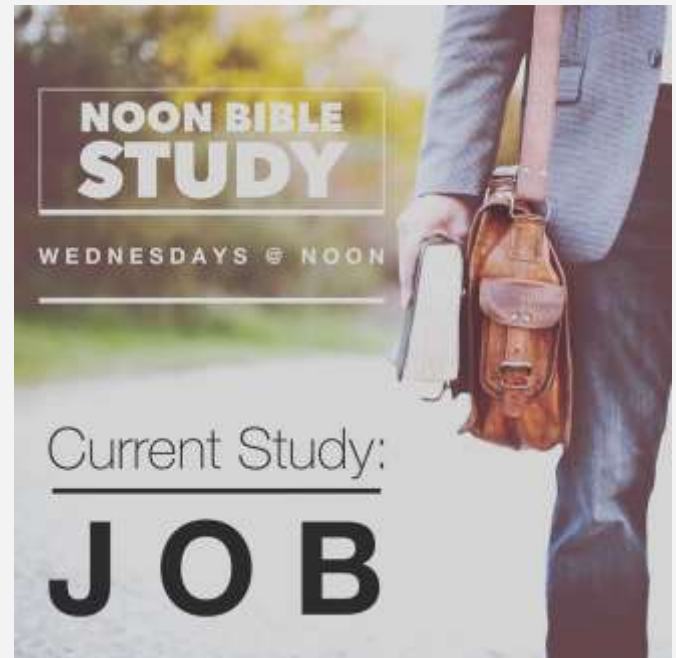
of all who find Christ do so by age 14 (90% by age 25).



This has been labelled the
"4-14 Window"
of opportunity.

DeLIGHTful events

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Baby Blankets Needed

Are you blessed with the ability to quilt or sew? The FCC Angel Closet is in need of baby blankets to bless our newest and smallest members.

As our congregation grows we are seeking baby quilts and blankets to share with expectant members.

If you are interested, please consider donating to this mission.

JANUARY ATTENDANCE

January 5 th	January 12 ^h	January 19 th	January 26 th
8:30 am– 51 10:40 am– 205	8:30 am– 75 10:40 am– 231	8:30 am– 69 10:40 am– 259	8:30 am– 59 10:40 am– 288
Sunday School– 131	Sunday School– 129	Sunday School– 125	Sunday School– 117

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Lubbock, TX 79401-2916.

Especially for:

Worship Times**Sundays:****Chapel Worship:**

8:30 a.m.

Chapel

Traditional Service:

10:40a.m.

Sanctuary

Sunday School:

9:30 a.m.

OFFICE HOURS**Monday-Thursday**

8:30 a.m.-Noon

1:00-4:00 p.m.

Friday

8:30 a.m.-Noon

OFFICE PHONE

806-763-1995

Fax: 806-763-5904

Family Life**Community Center**

747-5962

Office Hours: 3-6 p.m.

The Light is

published monthly
January-December.

The Light informs
members of
congregational
news/activities

Managing Editor-
Mary Norman

February Birthdays

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
						1 David Jones
2	3 Mont McClendon	4 Marsha Weiss	5 Dwayne Tidwell Greg Harris Todd Davis Sherilyn Toelle	6 Jane Stuart Jacob Bartholomew	7 Eddie Mann	8
9 Patti Lupton	10 Larry Lowe Julie Swindle	11	12	13 Bob Lawless	14 Chris Kebert Kaye Greer	15 Alicia Trevey
16 Larry Sanders	17 Mike Worley Mary Ann Anthony	18 Lois Kirkman Michael Peebles Paycen Thero	19 Clarence Guhl	20	21	22 Judy Mann Laurie Williams
23 Max Kattwinkle Monica Matzner Annabelle Santillan	24 Wayne Allison	25 Gypsie Taylor Elizabeth Mackey	26	27 Michael Payne Holly Jessen	28	29 Kaitlyn Hall