

May 2019
Volume 30, Issue 5

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

THE LIGHT

A black and white photograph showing the iconic Iwo Jima flag-raising scene. Several soldiers are silhouetted against a bright sky, working together to hoist a large American flag on a tall pole. The flag is partially unfurled and waves at the top of the pole. The soldiers are in various dynamic poses, some crouching and others reaching up, emphasizing the effort of the act. The background is a clear, bright sky, likely from the sun being low on the horizon.

**“I thank God every time I remember you”
Philippians 1:3**



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

APRIL Attendance

7th	8:30 AM- 61 10:40 AM- 200 Sunday School- 74
14th	8:30 AM- 60 10:40 AM- 248 Sunday School- 99
21st	8:30 AM- 147 10:40 AM- 415 Sunday School- 125
28th	8:30 AM- 53 10:40 AM- 206 Sunday School- 0 MISSIONS FAIR

WEDNESDAY Worship Attendance

3rd	43
10th	52
17th	NO SERVICE- HOLY WEEK
24th	53

“ As you come to Jesus, the living Stone—
rejected by humans but chosen by God and
precious to him – you also, like living stones,
are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy
priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable
to God through Jesus Christ. For in Scripture it says:
‘See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious
cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will
never be put to shame.’”
1 Peter 2:4-6

God’s activity in your personal life reveals the health and strength of our church family. All of us matter and as we each persevere in our faith walk, we become a “spiritual house” together. I hope you have the benefit of hearing and seeing how God is working in the lives of people you love, especially in your church family. We see the grace and love of God in people growing through pain, confronting personal sin, and courageously transitioning to new jobs, new cities, and unknown futures. We see miracles, relationships reconciled, and a genuine hunger to know and enjoy the Word of God. I’m writing this month to encourage all of us to do our part to travel down the narrow path (Matt 7:14), and allow God’s purposes to shine through our lives. Here are three things I focus on when submitting myself to God’s hand:

God is real. The Book of Job ends with “My ears had heard of you, but now my eyes have seen you (42:5).” One day we will see the very things we have faith in – the Father, the Son, and Holy Spirit, and all the heavenly host. We will see glory so bright that it makes the sun look dim. God cannot remain an abstract idea, a philosophy, or simply a worldview. He is real and will be known. As we grow in our walk of faith, let us confess, “Lord, I know you’re real, and I want to experience your presence in my life.”

God is love. “Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love (1 John 4:8).” The purposes of God are based on His eternal love for us, and though the path of life may lead through pain, the valley of the shadow of death, or the way of the cross, we can be assured that each

step is for our good. The opposite of love is neglect, and God will never forsake us or the work of faith He began in us. Authentic love includes truth and discipline. Hebrews 12:10-11 puts it this way: “God disciplines us for our good, in order that we may share in his holiness. No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.” As we continue down the path of life with God’s loving, fatherly hand, let us confess, “Lord, I trust your love and purposes for me; please finish what you started in me.”

Prayer is vital. References to prayer and fasting saturate the Bible. In short, a person who knows they need God, prays. A person who doesn’t acknowledge their need, doesn’t. We should all be aware that our worst days of the faith are when we neglect prayer and scripture study. When will we learn? If you’re having trouble praying, begin by considering your dependence on God’s grace, power, and wisdom over your life. Think your thoughts with Him and ask Him to show you what to think about; ask Him to reveal to you what season of life you’re in and what He is doing in you. As we trod down the road of holiness, let us confess, “Lord, I am weak but you are strong; I do not put my hope in my strength, my wisdom, or my goodness. I put my hope in your Son, Jesus Christ. Keep me near you in prayer, and change my heart so that I want to spend more time with you in secret.”

We are all stones who now cry out, “Jesus is Lord!” I’m honored to journey with you all.

Pastor Paul



Light messages

Page 3

Thank God for Dwelling in You ... Marilyn Wragg

I recently encountered the following question: How can you be sure God dwells in you?

I immediately thought of Bible verses that provide a “right” answer. But I sensed the issue was not so much what I know about Scripture as what I have taken to heart. *Am I sure God dwells in me?*

Honestly, I had to admit that I question at times whether God—the Holy Spirit—actually dwells in me. Sometimes it sure doesn’t feel like it. And never does it make worldly sense that He would.

I have little control over pesky doubts like this popping into my mind. But I can control how I respond. And for this specific doubt, I respond with two steps:

1. Pray the following, based on Ezekiel 36:26–27: *Thank You, God, for putting a new spirit in me. Thank you for putting Your Spirit in me. Even when I do not feel it, I choose to believe Your Spirit dwells in me. Please fill me this day, so I can better follow You.*
2. Ask God to help me recall the many things I could not have done or known or weathered but for His indwelling. As I remember, I am convinced He always has and always will dwell in me.

And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever—the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept Him, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him. But you know Him, for He lives with you and will be in you. *John 14:16–17*

Do you not know that you are a temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? *1 Corinthians 3:16*

I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you... And I will put My Spirit in you and move you to follow My decrees and be careful to keep My laws. *Ezekiel 36:26–27*

So, I ask you the same question: Are *you* sure God dwells in you?

If you are a believer in Christ, you can be assured that He does, and He always will. How about we get the jump on any pesky doubts by thanking Him each morning for putting His Spirit in us. *Thank You, God for dwelling in us.*

In the Life of the Churchby Deborah Bigness

This month we celebrate Memorial Day and all those who have served our nation in the armed forces – and remember. In June 1941, the congregation publicly announced the construction of a new church at Broadway and Avenue X. The bombing of Pearl Harbor, Hawaii on December 7, 1941 changed everything.

Only the education building, the fellowship hall (also used as the sanctuary), and a large open room enclosed by a temporary wall could be built with the materials already purchased. The congregation employed all of its resources to aid American war efforts. The former church building at 16th and Avenue J was used for Red Cross work and the WPA sewing circle. The large open room was used to entertain student pilots from the Lubbock and South Plains Army Air Fields. The dream embodied by the architect’s original drawing would have to wait until the war was over.



*First Christian Church, 1942 – 1947
From the First Christian Church Records,
Southwest Collection,
Special Collections Library,
Texas Tech University*

THANK YOU

CHARLES BALDWIN U.S. Air Force

JERRY BROWN, U.S. Air Force

TRAVIS BRIDWELL U.S. Air Force

CLARENCE GUHL U.S. Army

MICHAEL HOLMES U.S. Army

MORRIS KNOX U.S. Air Force

SHARON KOHOUT U.S. Army

LYLE MASHBURN U.S. Navy

HARRY MAYES U.S. Navy

BOBBY MILLIGAN U.S. Navy

GARY MOORE U.S. Army

(PURPLE HEART)

BILL MULLINS U.S. Army

AIBERT SECHRIST U.S. Army

JIM SEXTON U.S. Air Force

JOSHUA STEVENS U.S. Army

LYNN THAMES U.S. Marine Corps

PAT THURMAN U.S. Army

ERNEST BEN TODD U.S. Army

JAY UNDERWOOD U.S. Army

And the many others



Mike Wragg
U.S. Navy



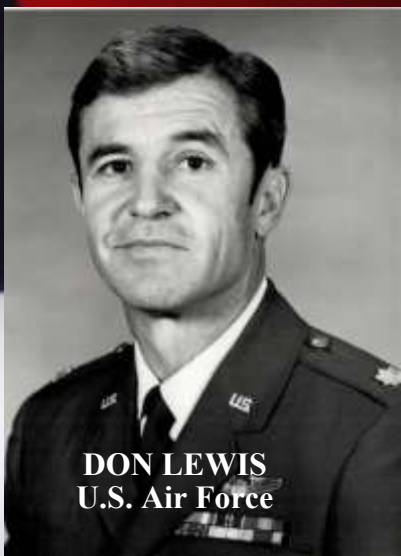
FORREST BOWERS
Army Air Corps



**ERICK RAY
RITCHEY**
U.S. Army



ETHAN DIVEN
U.S. Army



DON LEWIS
U.S. Air Force



JERRY ETTER
U.S. Army



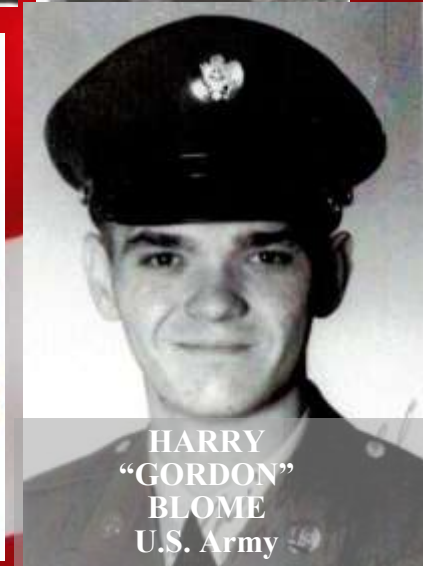
GRANT WILHOIT
U.S. Navy



WAYNE KOHOUT
Air Force & Army



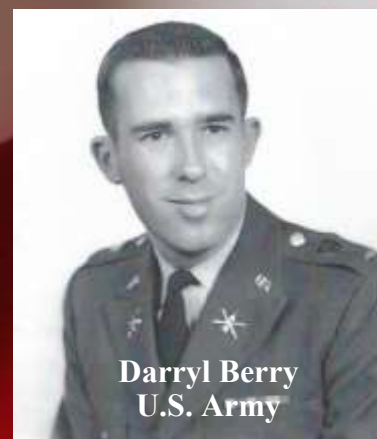
NEIL STRAHAN
U.S. Navy



**HARRY
"GORDON"
BLOME**
U.S. Army



**JUSTIN
NINEMIRE**
U.S. Air Force



Darryl Berry
U.S. Army

FOR YOUR SERVICE

Light thanks

Page 6

Dear Friends,

Spring is in the air. But sometimes it is difficult to see beauty in blooms when our attention is drawn to the desperation of those fleeing from the dangers of their country or when we are witnessing the poverty of our own citizens here. That's why your generosity is so meaningful to us. Your gift is helping turn desperation to hope, and poverty to life-sustaining aid. Thank you.



In nearly 40 years of ministry in this valley, I have been guided routinely by biblical inspiration. I lift up the radical words of Peter in Acts Chapter 10:34-35: "I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism but accepts from every nation..." Peter is growing through the power of the resurrection. You demonstrate that same recognition by joining us to raise "the least of these" to their rightful place in God's grace and love.

We are your brothers and sisters in Christ, committed to being good stewards of your gifts now and into the future. We cannot thank you enough.

Blessings!

F. Feliberto Pereira, Director

Southwest Good Samaritan Ministries

Dear First Christian Church,

Thank you so much for allowing us to stay at the FLCC this past week. It became like a home to us. We are so thankful for your hospitality. FCC is doing great things!



Youth With A Mission (YWAM)

Dear First Christian Church,

We are very thankful to the church for allowing us to be part of your ministry. The ability to sew and store fabric and equipment has allowed us to reach many more children.

In 2018, we gave 186 quilts to Women's Protective Services and 43 quilts to the Ronald McDonald House.

Thank you again for the use of the sewing and storage rooms.

South Plains Quilters Guild



Military News And Concerns

Lt. Brant Brock-
Norfolk
son-in-law of
Brenda Hendricks

Christopher
Colgrove
Kuwait
nephew of
Laurie Williams

Lieutenant Colonel
Ethan Diven
Fort Stewart, GA
husband & father of
Sabrina, Jacob
&
Kendall
and son-in-law of
Jerry & Brenda
Stanfield

1st Lt Nicholas
Swanson
USAF, Tinker AFB,
Oklahoma City
grandson of
Virginia Myers
Dorman

Capt. Nathaniel
Swanson
USMC, Oceana
Naval Station,
Virginia
grandson of
Virginia Myers
Dorman

We lift up in prayer our Friends and Family

Members: Robbie Bedker, Rebecca Cunningham, Larry Deardorff, Steve DeHay, Sandra Foster, Margaret Kennedy, Dianne Moseley, Pat Renfro, Randell Resneder, Larry and Jan Sanders, Mary Jane Shannon

Friends: Bear Brock, Marilyn Brinkley, Dennis Brown, Tom and Jeanie Chavez, Harlan Cook, Paula Sue Dunbar, Joe Gillispie, Gary Hughes, Sue Lott, Chris Mackey, Katelyn Mills, Leroy Montoya, Larry Neal, Doyle Norris, Judy Palacios, Darnell Vandivort, Pauline Webb, Brent Wester, Carol White

Homebound & Home Communion Prayers

Sandra Foster, Kaye and Stumpy Greer, Lynise McDonald, Frances Evans, Cara Irvin, Ruby Power, Virginia Vincent, Marty Wells, Shelley and Bert Nelson, Joan Brown, Tom Chavez

Welcome New Members

Jaebben Edmund
Chris and Brandi Bishop
Finley Cross

Emeryson Cross
Wade Cross
Larry Robinson

With Sincere Thanks....

Dear Ones at First Christian Church,

Thanks for my Easter Lily and for communion. I had shoulder replacement surgery on April 15th. Please pray for me. I have been in severe pain.

Sincerely,
Sandra Foster

Dear First Christian Church,

There are no words to thank each of you for your years of concern and support helping us get through several crises through the years with your prayers, visits, cards, food, and so much kindness! We will always be grateful for each act of love and will keep you all in a special place in our hearts forever.

Thanking you with love,
By the family of Tommy Davis

Dear Church Family,

Your support of prayers, cards and phone calls is greatly appreciated.
Dianne Moseley



Light of youth

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FCC YOUTH Ministry



FCC Summer Calendar 2019

May

June

July

5 Cinco de Mayo
Come celebrate the Battle of Puebla @ the parish hall. Be at the Church at 1:30pm.

26 Summer Kick-Off
Celebrate Summer from 4-6pm. All Youth Families welcome.

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

Wednesday Night Church
Every Wednesday during the school year Dinner & Worship from 5-7pm

7 6th Grade Move-Up
9-15 Encounter!
LCD Summer Camp for High School: \$295

23-28 Camp Champion
LCD Summer Camp for 6-8th: \$295

12-15 Poverty Sim.
Poverty Simulation in Waco, TX. \$75. 8th grade above.

28 Smores and Campfire
Join the Jerezanos at their home at 8pm for Smores, Stories, and Campfires.

Text "FCLUBBOCK" to 84576 to receive important updates on your phone!

"And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come." Matthew 24:14

www.fclubbock.org/student-ministry/ Questions? Derek@fclubbock.org or (806) 420-9847

7th

General- \$20,385.45

Designated- \$780.00

14th

General- \$12,820.00

Designated- \$717.0

21st

General- \$24,180.13

Designated- 145.00

28th

General- 8,962.25

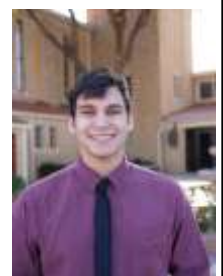
Designated- 0

APRIL
CONTRIBUTIONS

What are some of the personal convictions you hold on to? Some of mine include praying before all meals, always being available for people during their times of crisis, and always washing my hands after entering a restroom. Those are some of the few convictions that no matter where I am at or what I am doing I will always find a way to execute them. It is truly weird that within our psychological makeup we tend to hold on to these, often self-made but often beneficial, convictions.

While living in America, I have been dealt a huge hand of privilege; the privilege of religion, the privilege of self-differentiation, the privilege of extensive choice, the privilege to choose between fast food restaurants during lunch. In the midst of this, I often reflect upon the realities that lie within the world outside of our royal consciousness. When I do this reflection, I begin to think to myself "what would persecution look like?" or "what would illegalized Christianity look like?" or "what would it look like if there were not any church buildings?". These thoughts make me wrestle with something even greater, though, whether I would follow Christ in the midst of terror or not. This question is one that I believe all Christians wrestle with at some point throughout their faith journey. I think the fact that we are asking ourselves that question alone serves as a representation that we desire to fall on the positive end of that spectrum.

I hope that in the midst of a terrible day, or a persecution we will truly be convicted to follow Christ. I pray that we hold on to the relationship we have with Jesus more dearly than we do the self-made convictions that we always execute. Following Christ is not a trend or a fad, following Christ is a conviction to life. May we treat every single day with this reality in mind. My prayer for those of you who have read this is that you be wildly convicted to follow Christ. Even when it's hard, even when it's easy, even when your life is threatened, even when you have every reason not to follow Christ, may you be convicted of the path of eternal life known as Jesus Christ.



Derek Jerezano

Spiritual Weeds

"Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it." Proverbs 4:23

It does not matter how hard I try, it is enviable that when spring hits each year, the battle between me and weeds begins. That's the frustrating thing about weeds, they will grow even you are not trying to make them grow. It is discouraging to think that it takes so much work to continue to have a flourishing yard (I use the word "flourishing" very loosely), yet weeds will still somehow pop up. In matters of our hearts, it can be very similar. We spend time tending to our hearts and seeking to grow in faith...yet, false gospel and sin somehow creep into our hearts, seeking to take root. As believers, we are to guard our hearts. This is the fatherly advice given by King Solomon to his son in Proverbs 4. So I would ask, what weeds of false gospel and sin are seeking to take root in your heart? Be on the look out, but also never fear! For Jesus has overcome this world and every sin. May we trust him to tend to the gardens of our hearts uprooting lies and planting truth.



Scott Hall
University Minister
(806) 283-0566

MAY GRADUATES

If you are graduating in May, please notify Scott Hall so that we may recognize you on Graduation Sunday, May 19th.

COLLEGE MINISTRY

SUMMER CALENDAR 2019



MAY	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2	3
	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	

JUNE	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						

JULY	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			

8 DEAD DAY PIT STOP
Take a break from studying with Lemonade and Snacks
1-3pm | 3404 54th st.

19 GRADUATION SUNDAY
Banquet - 9:30am in Kuykendall
Blessing - During 10:40am Service

3-6 VBS: COSMIC LOVE
Sign up today to help out our Children's Ministry. Group Leaders and Station Leaders needed!
To sign up, contact Holly Jessen:
holly@fcclubbock.org

29 HIKE PALO DURO
Bring friends, hiking shoes, water, sack lunch and even your dog!
Meet at the church @ 10am

12-15 POVERTY SIMULATION
Join us as we go to Waco, TX to participate in a 3 day Poverty Simulation! To sign up, contact Scott Hall @ (806) 283-0566

31 MOVIE NIGHT!
Join us for a movie night hosted at The Hall's Home (2823 53rd st.)! Starts at 6:30pm | Dinner provided

WEEKLY:

- TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY**
Select Tuesday Nights; 6:30pm
Dinner Provided | 2823 53rd st.
- SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS**
Every Sunday; 9:30am

FIND US ON:

- : @fcc_college_ministry
- : @FCCCollegeMinistry

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



Light events

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SAVE THE DATES MAY

3 rd	KEENAGERS TRIP- Amarillo
12 th	MOTHER'S DAY
25 th	Children's Ministry Pool Party
27 th	MEMORIAL DAY

Keenagers May Event – Amarillo

Our last event of the year will be on Friday, May 3, 2019. We will leave the church at 8:00 AM for a trip to Amarillo.

Our first stop will be at the Texas Air and Space Museum. Cost is donations only.

Our next stop will be lunch at the English Field House. Cost will be \$12.00.

We will also visit the American Quarter Horse Hall of Fame and Museum. Admission \$6.00. Less for groups over 10.

Hope you can go with us. Sign the sheet in the hall or call the church office (763-1995) by May 1.



Upcoming MAY Gatherings & Meetings...

- ◇ Noon Bible Study, Every Wednesday Afternoon, 12:00-12:50 pm
- ◇ Christian Women's Fellowship, Tuesdays, 6:30 pm, Cattle Baron
- ◇ Elders Meeting, Wednesday, May 1, 7:00 pm, Chapel Parlor
- ◇ Finance Meeting, Monday, May 13th, 11:45 am, Conference Room
- ◇ Foundation Meeting, Tuesday, May 21st, 4:00 pm, Conference Room
- ◇ South Plains Food Bank Food Vouchers Issued, Wednesday, May 15th, 9 am-12pm
 - ◇ Memorial Day, FCC OFFICE CLOSED, Monday, May 27th
 - ◇ FCC Staff Retreat, OFFICE CLOSED, Monday, May 5 & Tuesday, May 6

BAPTISMS



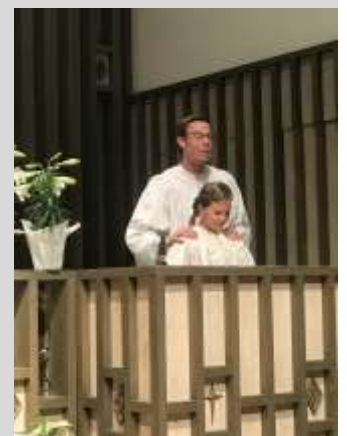
Larry Robinson



Emersyn Cross



Wade Cross



Finley Cross

Children of the Light

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FCC Children's Ministry



The first Sunday of every month we will meet in Kuykendall Hall during the Sunday school hour from 9:30-10:30am. This will be an opportunity for all parents to become informed about everything their children will be learning throughout the month.

VBS 2019 COSMIC LOVE

Vacation Bible School is around the corner! It's June 3rd-6th for preK-5th graders with nursery care available from 9am-12am. Transportation will be available at the end of each day.

Please contact Holly should you require transportation.

Contact [Holly Jessen](mailto:holly@fcclubbock.org) at holly@fcclubbock.org with any questions.



Join us to kick off Summer with a pool party! There will be dinner so please RSVP to Holly at holly@fcclubbock.org

There will also be a lifeguard on duty!



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Lubbock, TX 79401-2916.**

Especially for:

***FEBRUARY
Worship Times***

Sundays:

Chapel Worship:
8:30 a.m.
Chapel

Traditional Service:
10:40a.m.
Sanctuary

Sunday School:
9:30 a.m.

Wednesday Night Church
Dinner- 5:00pm
Worship- 6:00pm

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.

MAY Birthdays

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Ann Holt Paige Belew	2 Travis Bridwell Carter Bowers	3	4 Carolyn Lawrence David Gorsuch	5 Cindy Watson Bobby Yates	6 Nikolas Becker Charles Dodge
7	8	9 Lyn Williams Mike Wragg	10 Melissa Reeves	11 Carol Weeks Alicia Johnson	12	13
14 Frances Ansley Lou Ann Underwood	15 Steve Ball	16 Anne Sweazy Pete Broome Susan Broome Jerry Chapman	17 Finley Rawe	18 Margaret Kennedy Daniel Blair Thad Bartholomew	19 Sallie Lloyd Larry Weiss	20
21 Harry Mayes Jack Kirkpatrick Mackenzie Chunn	22 Melissa Follis	23 John Paul Belew	24 Pat Strong	25 Marilyn Wragg	26 Donna Childers Bob Irvin	27
28 Larry Simon Chris Level	29 Sue Williams	30 Ruby Power Scarlet Stevens				