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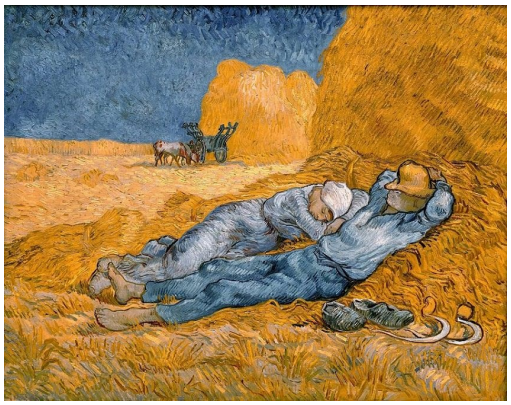
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ICHTHUS
March 2016
The Newsletter of First Presbyterian Church

Reflections in the Water: Sabbath Rest as a Lenten Discipline



Rest from Work, Vincent van Gogh

"Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it."

—Exodus 20:8-11 The Fourth Commandment

Sabbath breaks the gradation caused by coercion. On the Sabbath:
—You do not have to do more.
—You do not have to sell more.
—You do not have to know more.
—You do not have to have your kids in ballet or soccer.
—You do not have to be younger or more beautiful.
—You do not have to score more.
Because this one day breaks the pattern of coercion, all are **like you,** equal worth, equal value, equal access, equal rest.

—Walter Brueggemann, *Sabbath As Resistance*

The season of Lent begins with our observance of Ash Wednesday on March 1. Once again the Lenten journey offers a renewed opportunity for personal and communal reflection. As the congregation of First Presbyterian Church observes our 125th Anniversary, during Lent we have the opportunity to celebrate our jubilee year which is likewise an observation of sabbath. The sabbath (Hebrew for cessation or rest) is an existential moment to pause and reflect regarding where we have been and to ask: where we are going in such a rush and am I still heading in the right direction? Am I making the trip alone or as a companion to others with the Creator's purpose in mind? During Lent we are also invited to remember Christ's own journey through baptism and retreat with him into the wilderness to resist the temptations of the world offered by Satan. Together with Jesus we turn our faces again toward Jerusalem. With Christ we face death and resurrection to new life. Once again we can embrace a vision of the world renewed even while we rest with God.

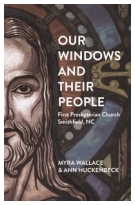
To observe the sabbath is to resist the seductive illusions and costly temptations and insatiable demands of the world around us with intent and purpose. The expectations of work, school, society, and yes, even loved ones and family diminish when we are obedient to the fourth commandment and observe this sabbath rest. When we cease walking the endless treadmill of demands and appointments and availability to the needs of others, we also trust and rely on God alone to sustain us in our need. The observance of Sabbath bears spiritual fruit as well. In Brueggemann's words: "Sabbath is a refusal of the grapes of wrath, an embrace of good fruits of life and joy, of praise and *shalom*."

I invite you during this year of our jubilee and in this season of Lent to consider the Sabbath observance. Away from the din of the world, I believe you may discover God waiting there for you to arrive.

Pastor Joe



Prayerful Support for
Tom Barbour at Meadowview
Bernice Johnson at Meadowview
Allice Narron at Meadowview
Shirley Williams at Meadowview
Myde Eason at Brookedale, Smithfield
Hazel Whitehurst at Carillon, Fuquay
Bill Leist in Colfax
Ellen Rogers in Raleigh
Martha Rogers in Richmond
Mary Alice Thomas in Charlotte
Marie Atkins
Avery Coats
Ruth Daniel
Tom Harder
Tom Johnson
Shannon Kimball
Joe Kluttz
Marie Maddox
Benny Pope
Chap Ragland
Peter Russel
Nelson Vaughn
Betty Welch
Ted Wells
William Wells
Hilda Worsham
Rebecca Ziady
Joseph Hester, Sr.



Our Windows and Their People
A History of the Stained Glass of FPC
Only 25 copies left
Get Yours Now!
$15.00
All proceeds go to the Building Fund

HIGHLIGHTS of Session for February:

- Approved our PYC participating in the Cross Mission Project with Myers Park Presbyterian Church in Charlotte, NC, on February 24-26, 2017. Approval was amended to change the venue of the project to the Raleigh Mission project on February 16, 2017.
- Approved communion for the first Sunday of every month except April, when it will be served on Maundy Thursday, April 13.
- Approved Stated Session meeting dates for 2017 as March 12, May 21, August 13, and November 12.
- Approved the ordination and installation of officers on Sunday, February 5, 2017: Pam Pope (Deacon, Class of 2017), Jo James (Deacon, Class of 2018), Bobby Cox (Deacon, Class of 2019), Sue Avera (Deacon, Class of 2019), Eve Creech (Deacon, Class of 2019), Cindy Smith (Deacon, Class of 2019), Myra Wallace (Elder, Class of 2017), Tom Barwick (Elder, Class of 2019), Judy Miller (Elder, Class of 2019), and Sandy Perkinson (Elder, Class of 2019).
- Approved a Called Meeting of Session on Sunday, February 26, 2017, at 10:30 a.m. to consider a request by Tyler and Lauren Perkinson for the Sacrament of Baptism for Maggie Dylan Perkinson.
- Approved Sandy Perkinson to serve as our Elder Commissioner to the February 25, 2017, New Hope Presbytery Meeting at Cary Presbyterian Church.
- Approved our pastor's participation in the Ash Wednesday Service at St. Paul's Episcopal Church. The service is open to the community.
- Approved hosting the Midweek Lenten Services on March 8, 15, 22, 29, April 5, and April 12, 2017, with community ministers leading the services. The theme this year will be *Let Justice Roll Down Like Water*.
- Approved the use of the church to host the New Hope Presbytery Clerk Cluster meeting on Saturday, March 11, 2017.

If there are items you wish to bring before session, contact Debbie Jacobs, Clerk.

—Debbie Jacobs

memorials & gifts

Honorariums for: Avery Lee Coats, Kenneth Roberts
Memorials for: Clem and Mikki Sharek; Julia Capps, Tom Templeton, Marc Wallace
Donors: Maxine McFadyen, Betsy Olive, Ruth and Greg Bell, Tommy and Camille Boone, Frank and Lisa Deans, Ann and Rich Buckenbeck

Our History Continued: The Pipe Organ

The research on the stained glass windows of the church and the people to whom they were dedicated prompted a look at the other memorials that were dedicated on November 11, 1951. In this newsletter, I will share a little information on the original organ blessed that Sunday.

It was a two-manual Reuter Pipe Organ. The church bulletin asserted: "Musicians acclaim its structure and its tone, and the instrument is rated among the finest organs being made in America today."

The organ was given to the church by Mrs. William Marsh Sanders II and her children in memory of Mrs. William Marsh Sanders, William Marsh Sanders II and W. Ransom Sanders. Mrs. Sanders was a charter member of the church, having been received into its membership in December 1891. She remained a member for the rest of her life and was acknowledged for having served the church faithfully for 45 years. William M. Sanders II professed his faith and was baptized in 1913; he was ordained and installed as a deacon in 1931. William died in 1942. Ransom Sanders was baptized in 1918 and retained his membership until his death in 1932.

The original organ is no longer here. It was replaced in the late 1990's with a Ahlborn-Galanti hybrid that still uses the pipes from the Reuter organ.

The Sanders family also connects to the first structure of the church. On page five of *The History of First Presbyterian Church, Smithfield, North Carolina, 1891-1991* the writers note that the Presbyterians were ready to build in May 1893. "Apparently Mr. and Mrs. William Sanders had offered a lot for the church building. Johnston County Deed Book H6, page 270, contains a deed stating that September 12, 1893, W.M. Sanders and wife, Lillian Long Sanders, deeded a lot on Second Street to the trustees of the Presbyterian Church for the amount of $100.00, paid by said trustees." The location of that white-framed church was beside the historic Masonic Lodge building on Second Street.

—Ann Huckenbeck

Quadrant and Team Updates



New or returning quadrant and team chairs are as follows:

Educational Development Quadrant
Chair: Kelly Coats
Education Team Chair: Nichole Booker
Special Programs/New Interests Chair: Courtney Scott
Youth Leadership Team Chair: Jennifer Templeton

Mission Outreach Quadrant Chair: Tom Barwick
Community Outreach Team Chair: Ann Ragland
Prospective Members Team Chair: _____
Congregational Fellowship/Service Team Chair: Dot Ellmore

Spirituality Quadrant Chair: Sandy Perkinson
Worship Team Chair: Judy Daniels
Special Services/Personnel Support Team Chair: Joy Worsham

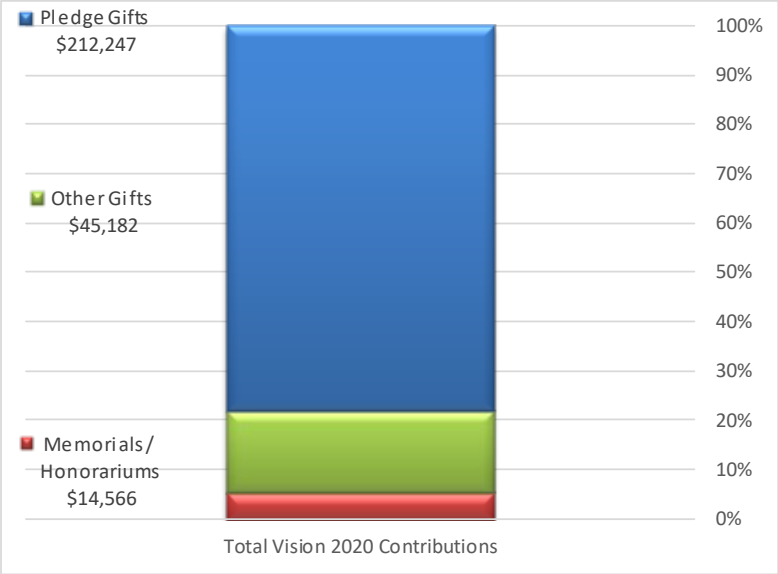
Stewardship Quadrant Chair: Judy Miller
Finance Administration Team Chair: Shirley Share
Property Administration Team Chair: Stan Coats
Communications & Technology Team Chair: Debbie Jacobs
Personnel Administration Team Chair: Kay Taylor

First Presbyterian Church
Operating Results January 2017
Actual vs. Budgeted

	Jan. 2017 Actual	Jan. 2017 Budgeted
Revenue		
General Offering	14,956.71	
Disbursements		
Education Quadrant	(1,249.91)	
Mission Outreach Quadrant	1,055.53	
Spirituality Quadrant	11,679.42	
Stewardship Quadrant	8,456.11	
Total Disbursement	19,941.15	
Net Income/(Deficit)	(4,984.44)	

VISION 2020 Capital Campaign as of 1/31/2017

$212.247	Pledge Gifts
$ 14,566	Memorials/Honorariums
$ 45,182	Other Gifts
$271,995	Total VISION 2020 Contributions
$559,626	Total VISION 2020 Commitments
$947,266	Mortgage Balance



Communications and Technology Updates



If you have not yet picked up your new pictorial directory from the church office, please contact your deacon who will assist you in getting yours. We prefer not to mail them if other alternatives are available. Just let us know.

As a reminder: We have a Time Warner Cable Wi-Fi hot spot located in the church. If you are a TWC customer at home, you have unlimited access to the hot spot simply by logging in with your TWC account information. If you are not a TWC customer, you can still use the hot spot by simply logging in. Contact Debbie Jacobs for the password. need to login and password. If you are a TWC customer, you have free access to all TWC hot spots around the world.

If you are not receiving the eNews on Thursdays or Dial My Calls information, please contact Debbie so that your email and phone number can be corrected. If your information changes, please let her and the church office know of the changes so that you can stay in touch with what's happening at FPC.

—Debbie Jacobs

Annual Staff Performance Reviews



The Personnel Team will hold annual personnel reviews on Wednesday evening, March 29, during which staff members discuss job descriptions and job performance. If you have input about a staff member you with to share with the team, please contact Joseph Hester, Head of Staff, or Kay Taylor, Chair of the Personnel Team, no later than March 8.

—Joseph Hester

The Property Box



Please check both doors at the covered walk entry before leaving to make sure they are securely locked.

Please help keep the kitchen supply closet straight. Shelves are labelled. If you see something out of place, take a minute to put it where it belongs. And if you use something from the closet, return leftovers to the right place.

If your child uses a Worship Bag, please return items to the bag at the end of worship and return the bag to the basket in the narthex.

Thank you.

The Property Team



Pysanky Egg Decorating Class



Saturday, March 11, St. Paul's, 9:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m.
Jim Melnyk will teach basic techniques in egg decorating and share some of the ancient legends surrounding the art.

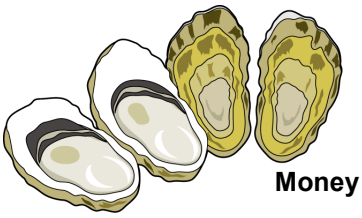


If you wish to take this class, you must order your own kit prior to the class so that it arrives in time to mix the dyes.

Order at http://www.ukrainiangiftshop.com/EGG-DECORATING-KITS/products/25/
Serious student: $27.98 kit; Less serious: $11.98

You will also need utility candle and holder, pint jars to hold your eggs, and a couple of clean, raw eggs to use in the class.

Call St. Paul's to register.



PYC Annual Oyster Road Fund Raiser
Sunday, March 19
3:00—6:00 p.m.
Eat in or Take out!

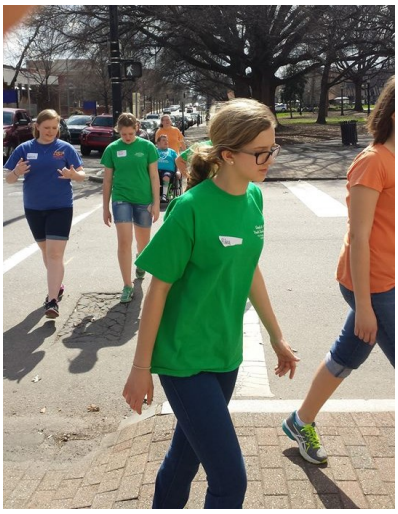
Money will go to youth mission projects.

See youth or leaders for tickets.

Easter Egg Hunt & Hot Dog Lunch at Church Following Worship
April 9



Bring your kids, your grandkids, your neighbors' kids!! Let's all have fun!!





PYC Oak Center Outreach Mission

An inspiring mission experience that gave our youth a firsthand look at homelessness and poverty in Raleigh.
Madeline Horne reads to a young boy.



Educational Quadrant

Remember Church-wide Sunday School every first Sunday in the Fellowship Hall.

Montreat Youth Conference deadline is here. Email fpclcrowder@gmail.com ASAP if interested!



CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

MARCH 2017

First Presbyterian Church
PO Box 1159
Smithfield, NC 27577

NON-PROFIT STD MAIL
US POSTAGE
SMITHFIELD, NC 27577
PERMIT #93

Survivor Sunday
March 5

Relay for Life Chili and Soup Lunch
following worship

Please join us in honoring our cancer survivors and remembering those we lost.



There is a sign-up sheet in the parlor if you are willing to bring chili, soup, cornbread, or dessert.

RELAY FOR LIFE
American Cancer Society

ASH Wednesday

Ash Wednesday Service
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
March 1
Noon
The Rev. Joseph Hester

MIDWEEK
Lenten Services

Wednesdays at Noon
First Presbyterian Church

March 8
The Rev. Greg McClain
Johnston Health

March 15
Father Jim Melnyk
St. Paul's Episcopal Church

March 22
The Rev. Beth Burton Williams
First Christian Church

March 29
The Rev. Meagan Matthews
Centenary United Methodist Church

April 4
The Rev. Kerrie Jordan
First Baptist Church

April 10, 11, 12
Holy Week Pilgrimage
FPC Fellowship Hall
9:00 a.m.—6:00 p.m.

April 12
Holy Week Service
First Presbyterian Church

April 14
Good Friday Service
Noon
Stations of the Cross
12:45 p.m.
St. Paul's Episcopal Church

April 16
Easter Sunrise Service
Sunset Memorial Garden
6:30 a.m.

ASP Fellowship Luncheon

ASP Appalachia Service Project

On behalf of the Appalachia Service Project team, thank you to all who came to the fellowship lunch on February 19th! We had a wonderful turnout and plenty of delicious food. Thank you to all of the cooks and those who helped with set up, and clean up!

—Pam Pope

Working with Church World Service to Support Refugee Resettlement

CHURCH WORLD SERVICE

The Schmidt and Knoll families have been in contact with Church World Service (CWS) to offer help with refugee resettlement. While the church is not currently sponsoring a refugee partnership with Church World Service, we have been given this opportunity as concerned church members to invite you to participate in support of this mission individually.

We are planning to send kitchen items to assist refugees that are settling in the Durham area through CWS. We would like to collect any/all of the following items within the next month. If you would like to support this effort or donate any items, please contact Hubert and Judy at 919-879-8143 or hujuschmidt@gmail.com, or Greg/ and Joyce at 919-607-7143 or gjknoll841@gmail.com.

Kitchen Items - Can be new or "gently" used: please no stains on any linens. We need dishes: plates, glasses (no stemmed glasses) and bowls; flatware set; pots and pans; a kitchen table and chairs; dish cloths and towels; and a plastic kitchen garbage can.

Some of the items are included in the CWS wish list at Amazon.com See link is https://www.amazon.com/gp/registry/wishlist/2AN18RB0668WQ/ref=nav_wishlist_lists_2. If you would like to donate any of the items from the Amazon list, they should be sent to the attention of Nasseer Naji at CWS Durham, 112 S. Duke Street, Suite 4B, Durham, NC 27701 or you are welcome to contact Hubert/Judy or Greg/Joyce and we can help you with your order. If you order any items yourself, it would be helpful if you would let us know what is being sent so we don't send too many of any one item.

—Knoll and Schmidt families

JOY Connection, Thursday, March 2, 2017



JOY CONNECTION

About five miles out Brogden Road, there is a non-profit rescue and adoption facility called Ruff Creek Ranch. The residents of Ruff Creek Ranch are all different sizes and ages, all different colors, all different breeds—residents that are happy, furry and love to be loved. Joy Frannicola is the owner of Ruff Creek Ranch and will be our guest on Thursday, March 2, for our JOY Connection meeting. I understand some of her 4-legged residents will be attending also. You are invited to come hear Joy's heartfelt story of her days taking care of these very special canines. Sign up at the reception desk or call the church to reserve a space. We will gather in the church Fellowship Hall at noon on Thursday, March 2. We will enjoy a delicious lunch with the extraordinary desserts many of you share and then the icing on the event will be learning about Joy and her friendly residents at Ruff Creek Ranch. Hope to see you at JOY Connection on the second!

—Ann Ragland

SAM Food Closet Says Thanks



Yes We Can

The Smithfield Area Ministers' Food Closet has thanked First Presbyterian Church for the 73 food items we donated in February and challenges us to donate 83 in March. The food closet needs such things as **peanut butter, Mac and Cheese,** and other pantry staples.

Both the food closet and our Mission Outreach Quadrant thank you for your continued generosity.

—Judy Schmidt



March Items: Mac and Cheese and Peanut Butter!!



Mission Outreach Quadrant

Reformed and Ever Reforming . . .



Reformed and ever reforming, our church has had a leadership change. Judy Daniels has graciously agreed to serve as the Worship Team Chair, and I am the new Spirituality Quadrant Chair. I will endeavor to serve as well as Judy did and with the same energy and accuracy.

With the Lenten season approaching, the Spirituality Quadrant Planning Team has scheduled some important events. You will see them in the newsletter's March and April calendars. Among those important for March are am Ash Wednesday Service on March 1 at St. Paul's Episcopal Church which Joe Hester will lead. On March 5 the children will again participate in the putting away of the alleluias during Time with Children. On Wednesdays during Lent you can join us at our Midweek Lenten Services in our sanctuary. Pastors from all over the community will lead these noon services which are the stepping stones for Holy Week.

We look forward to sharing the Lenten and Easter seasons with you.

—Sandy Perkinson



Holy Week Pilgrimage

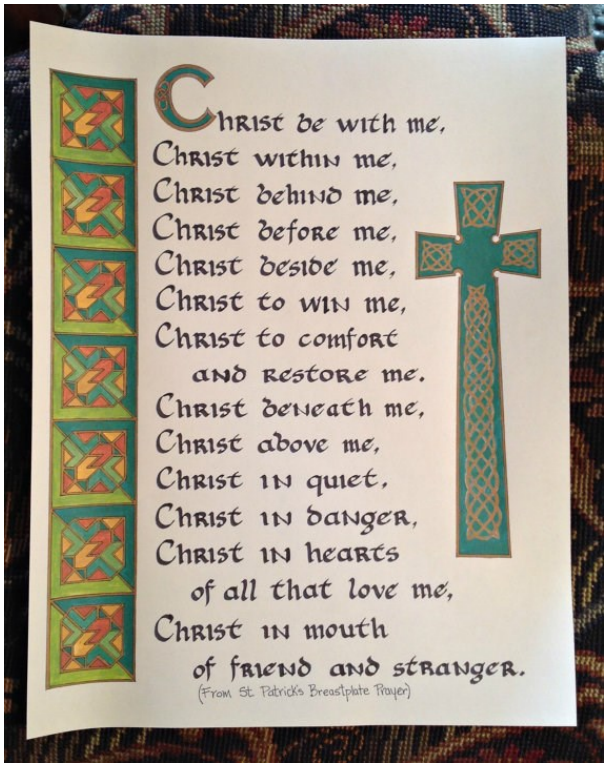
Monday —Wednesday
April 10, 11, 12
9:00 a.m. — 6:00 p.m.
Fellowship Hall

If you would like to contribute a piece to the pilgrimage, contact Nancy Lee or Joseph Hester.



Community World Day of Prayer Service
Friday, March 3
7:00 p.m.
Centenary United Methodist Church

Participating churches include Asbury United Methodist, Centenary United Methodist, First Baptist, First Christian, First Free Will Baptist, First Presbyterian, Sharon Baptist, and Whitley Memorial United Methodist.



Deacon Care Teams 2017
First Presbyterian Church

Helen Best: Ellen Adams, Paul and Sandy Barnes, Beth Daniel, Wayne and Diane Dockery, Tim and Debbie Evans, Eddie and Jennifer Foy, Emma and Andy Gemmell, Ross and Pam Hailey, Jim and Debbie Henderson, Jimmy Johnson, Tres Lassiter, Dylan and Jennifer Liverman, Cindy and Rick Snyder, Glenn, Kay, and Matthew Taylor.

Sue Avera Booker: Greg and Ruth Bell, Eve Creech, Susan Hill and Myde Eason, Jimmy and Sheila Hooks, Tina Lesko, Daryl and Carolyn Pendry, Sandy Perkinson, Chris and Shelley Roberts, Tom Roberts, Daniel and Courtney Scott, Patrick and Jennifer Templeton, Neil and Lucy Watson, and Hazel Whitehurst.

Bobby Cox: Rhonda Backner, Jane Kate Brown, Linda Crowder, Dot Ellmore, Eddie and Jamie Foy, Bill and Brigitte Kimball, Shannon Kimball, Nancy Lee, Troy Lester, Tony and Anita Liverman, Lane and Cheri Pollard, Hank Roberson, John and Martha Taylor, and Mary Alice Thomas.

Eve Creech: Nathan and Jane Adams, Ken and Jane Allen and Ruth Daniel, Marie Atkins, Steve and Margaret Chance, Frances Churchill, Stan and Kelly Coats, Frank and Lisa Deans, Dwight Dockery and Shelley Maddox, David and Bobbie Hartman, Roger and Eleanor Horne, Walt and Janet Lassiter, Brandon and Stephanie Roberts, Al Worsham, and Vic Wynne.

Wayne Dockery: John and Sue Booker, Brenda Chellew, Sam Ferebee, Tom and Diane Harder, Steve and Starr Henderson, Joe Hester, John and Janet Lampe, Harold Langdon, Thad McCrae, Grover and Judy Miller, Mary Moody, Chap and Ann Ragland, Peter and Linda Russell, and Virginia Williams.

Julie Duncan: Walker and Helen Flint, Jake and Debbie Jacobs, Tari Johnson, Tom and Sandra Johnson, Gene and Mary Miller, Ricky and Sarah Pate, Becky Peele, Tyler and Lauren Perkinson, Martha Rogers, Cindy Smith, J.A. and Linda Stephenson, Vicky Wefald, Betty Welch and Alice Narron, and Jean Worley.

Madeline Horne: Crystal and Andy Allen, Harold and Cathy Allen, Brad and Corey Baker, Jackson and Erin Booker, John and Shirley Booker, Kenny and Julie Duncan, Rich and Ann Huckenbeck, Jeff and Wilma Johnson, Pandora and Wes Johnson, Greg and Joyce Knoll, Miriam Lore, Maxine McFadyen, Josh and Kelly Perkinson, and Ellen Rogers.

Jo James: Tommy and Camille Bonne, Jaime Henderson, Kyle and Brooke Hepner, Ann Hobgood, Lee and Paul Johnson, Scott Marett, Patrick and Sonia Murdock, Brittany and Jayson Naylor, Frank and Betsy Olive, Nathan and Destiny Rilley, John and Kathy Stephenson, Rodney and Alice Wilson, Bob Worsham, and Hilda Worsham.

Pam Pope: Paul and Emilia Anaruma, Billy and Helen Best, Brent and Nichole Booker, Elizabeth and Rick Craig, Steve and Amy Harder, Robert and Barbara Hess, Tom and Joy Howerton, Judy Lee, Earl and Etta Marett, Jill Merrick, Bill and Shirley Sharek, Zach Stanley, Laura Vaughan, and Paul and Tony Worley.

Chris Roberts: Bob and Debbie Arthur, Rodney and Meredith Best, Nina Blackman, Martha Chapman and Joe Kluttz, Bobby and Cathy Cox, Paul and Kim Creech, Billy Duncan, Jane Harrell, Scott and Brandy Holzshu, Bernice Johnson, John McFadyen, Hubert and Judy Schmidt, Myra Wallace, Joy and Meredith Worsham.

Cindy Smith: Tom Barbour, Jeff and Dina Burke, Rick Capps, Judy Daniels, Craig and Evy Ennis, Paul and Abby Gorman, Jo James, Nan, Maggie, and Will Jones, Tony and Sandra Lester, Benny and Pam Pope, David and Kathy Rice, Shirley Williams, and Pam Withrow.

Kay Taylor: Tom and Sharon Barwick, Steve and Rose Bryant, Evans and Trish Horne, Freddy and Judy Johnson, David and Joyce Lee, Julia and Jimmy Narron, Nikki and Tory Parker, Teron Sloan, Nelson Vaughn, Linda Wells, Ted Wells, Lucy Worley, and Phil and Rebecca Ziady.

