

Christian Caller

Quarterly Praise Winter Caller 2020



A Publication of Dover First Christian Church

“The Dover First Christian Church exists to glorify God by teaching His word in love and truth to all people, binding us together as one family in Christ.”
(all verses printed are taken from Holman Christian Standard Version)



Dover
First
Christian
Church

:focus
re:view
:united

DECEMBER
2019



We have spent our quarterly prayer and praise meetings over the last 12 months talking and praying about what we value as a church. Out of those meetings came three core values that we want to focus on as we move forward as a church. This process culminated in our most recent sermon series where we explored the three beliefs that lie at the core of our identity as a church.

First, we want to be a church that loves. God has loved us so much that He sent His son for us, and we are called to love like that. We want to be a church that loves God with all that we are, and that means that we need to learn how to love the people He puts in our life.



Secondly, we need to be light in the darkness of our world. This means that we live the kind of transformed life that makes people want to meet our Lord. It means that we put to death the desires of the darkness, and learn to live according to light; when we do this, we hold out hope to fallen world.



Finally, we want to be a church that grows disciples. We aren't in the business of growing church attenders, program leaders, or mere Bible scholars. We want to guide people into a growing relationship with Jesus so they can become fully mature followers of Jesus Christ.



Now it is time for us to dream a little bit and begin to talk about what practical steps we want to take to become that type of church together. We are going to celebrate some of the great things God has already begun to do here at Dover FCC, and look forward into 2020 with great hope and eager expectation. Here are a few of the things we will talk about.

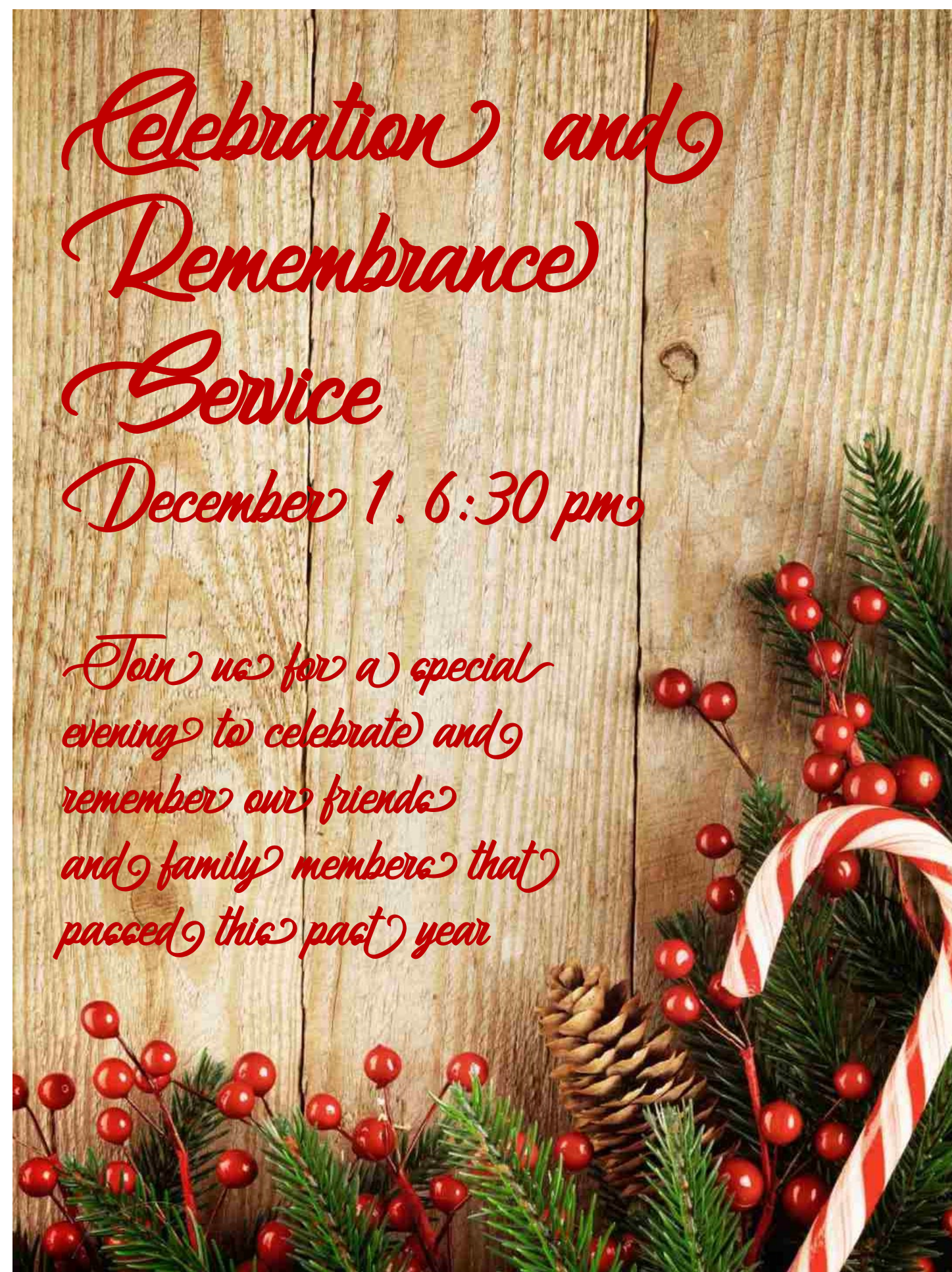
We will be discussing how we can better align our programs and ministries with these values. Are there new opportunities we should be exploring? Are there programs that need adjusting? Are we doing things that we need to stop or repurpose?

If you plan to attend, please come prepared to dream with us, and to have a meaningful conversation, seasoned with grace, as we seek to honor God together.

Celebration and Remembrance Service

December 1, 6:30 pm

Join us for a special evening to celebrate and remember our friends and family members that passed this past year



Christmastime Banquet And Concert December 13, 2019

Dinner is served at 6:00 pm
baked steak ~ mashed potatoes
green beans ~ corn ~ salad ~ rolls ~ dessert

Tickets \$12.00 ea.
(receive one free guest ticket with the purchase of each ticket)

Mark Black Concert
starts at 7:00 pm
A freewill offering will be collected
(No ticket necessary to come to the concert only)

25 DAYS of GIVING

This Christmas, we are challenging you to bring gifts to Jesus loving the people He has placed in our life. For our 25 Days of Giving challenge, we are asking each family to sign up for one day in the month of December. On their designated day, each family will bring a gift of time, a gift of money, or a gift of the heart to love God by loving His people. Listed below are some suggestions, but feel free to use your own idea too. Make sure to tell us about your gift through email or social media (pictures or videos are welcome) so we can celebrate God's love together.

GIVE OF YOUR HEART

- Spend an hour at a local school praying for our students
- Send Christmas cards to someone who lost a loved one this year or who is suffering from illness during the holidays.
- Invite a non-believer to a Christmas service
- Create a scripture-based Advent Calendar and give it to someone as a Christmas gift
- Invite someone to dinner that would be alone on the holiday
- Host a special party to share love and fellowship with friends
- Fast and pray on behalf of our government
- Make it a point to give out as many hugs and compliments as possible
- Write a thank you card to someone who has meant a lot to you
- Donate some of your possessions to a charity. Eyeglasses, toys, gloves, coats, and books are a good place to start

GIVE OF YOUR MONEY

- Buy lunch for a stranger at a restaurant
- Purchase Starbucks for someone at work or school
- Buy Gifts for Share-a-Christmas through T4C
- Pick out a Christmas gift for a village through Compassion International or WorldVision
- Purchase coats, hats, and gloves for homeless shelter or Salvation Army
- Pack Christmas Break Food Bags and donate them to one of our local schools
- Make blessing bags (food, drink, gloves, hat) to hand out to the homeless you see while driving
- Use the Adopt-a-Soldier Program and assemble a holiday care package for a soldier

GIVE OF YOUR TIME

- Serve at the Dover-Phila food pantry (Thursday Evenings and Friday Mornings)
- Deliver a meal to a neighbor in need
- Take baked goods to the fire department or police station
- Visit a nursing home and spread some Christmas cheer
- Babysit for a young family so they can go Christmas shopping
- Help an elderly neighbor decorate for Christmas
- Make some tie blankets and donate them to the homeless
- Serve at Salvation Army (See Shirley Beal)
- Go Christmas Caroling with some friends



Missions Ministry

This is good, and it pleases God our Savior, who wants everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

1 Timothy 2:3-4

Missions	
Carry Over Balance:	\$ 4,417.13
Amount Rec'd For Missions	\$ 3,503.00
Designated Funds:	\$ 529.52
Special Gift to	
Amount Available:	\$ 8,449.65
Amount Disbursed:	
Missions	\$ 5,184.52
Balance	\$ 3,226.13
Short Term:	
Short Term Travel Fund	\$ 6,087.19
Mission Trip Fund	\$ 4,499.52



Flower Sale

We will begin taking orders for spring flowers the end of January. Watch for order forms in the foyer and more information coming your way soon!

Lasagna Dinner

We are planning our annual Lasagna Dinner on February 8th from 4:30-6:30pm. Tickets are not sold for this, it is a freewill donation.

Faith Promise

We would like to thank everyone for their willingness to participate in Faith Promise in 2019.

Our goal for 2020 is \$20,000. Thank you also to those who turned in pledge cards for 2020. We have \$14,450 pledged for 2020.

Special Mission Project

On November 13, we had Lifeline Mission bring supplies to us for packing meals that will go to the needy in Haiti. The adults and the youth partnered together to accomplish this and we packed 12,000 meals. \$3,029.88 was used to pay for this from our Short Term Mission Fund. We also provided a supper of pizza, cookies, chips and drinks. If anyone has a special mission trip they would like to go on, or head-up in 2020, please contact Shirley Beal. We are open to all suggestions.

Mission Emphasis

Every month we focus on a specific mission. We ask that you join us in praying each month for these missions. We also now have a bulletin board in the hallway. That will have each mission we are highlighting for the month. Thanks to Bonnie Smith for making this happen.

December



January



February



Mission Meeting Dates

January 28th
February 26th

Christmas Eve

Candlelight

Service

Tuesday December 24, 2019

4:30 pm

&

7:00 pm





Youth Ministry

Teach a youth about the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.
Proverbs 22:6



December 8th at 6 pm

Join us as we go Christmas caroling! We will meet at the church at 6pm and carpool to our home-bound members. After we are done we will return to the church for hot chocolate and cookies



Elementary Retreat at Round Lake

The theme for 2020 is LOL (Live Out Loud). This retreat is geared towards our 4th-6th grade students. Campers will have the opportunity to experience a one-night stay at the camp. Whether or not you have attended a summer camp before, this retreat is a great way for campers to build independence as they experience a fun winter retreat! ***Register early and receive the early bird rate!** Registrations submitted online up until 11:59 pm on Friday, January 24 are eligible for the early bird rate. Registrations must be postmarked January 24 or earlier to qualify for the early bird rate. After that time, a \$10 late fee will be added. Check-in will run from 5:00-6:00 pm. Please Note: Food WILL be served Friday night at the retreat. This will likely be pizza.



Up All Night

The Winter All Night Party

December 27th for Junior High/High School students. The cost is \$25. Andrew George will be leading the youth to a fun-filled night with bowling, laser tag, skating and much more.

Meet at the church at 7pm
Pick up at the church 7am



Kids 4 Truth Clubs will be taking a Christmas break. December 11th will be our last night until we resume with our Spring Kickoff on January 15, 2020.



Youth Ministry Meetings



The Youth Ministry Team will be meeting once per quarter for meetings in 2020.

February 6th
May 4th
August 3rd
November 2nd

Meetings will begin at 6:30 pm

SOUP WARS



February 29th starting at 5pm

Join us for our youth fundraiser. Prepare your best soup recipe or just come and be a judge. The soup that earns the most money as votes wins the "Golden Ladle" trophy. Then stay for an evening of games and a kid-friendly movie. Feel free to bring snacks and drinks to share!



Business & Finance

Each one must give as he had decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 2 Corinthians 9:7 HCSB

This quarter's financial report will be available on Thursday

December 5th at 7pm during our Prayer and Praise Meeting

Dover First Christian Church has been blessed both spiritually and financially in 2019.

We remain consistent in maintaining tithes to meet our financial need. Monthly payables and expenses have been paid and are current.

If you have any questions regarding expenses, please see the committee servant leader who will answer any question regarding the spending for their committee.

The current financial statement is available on the bulletin board in the hallway.

*Praise God From Whom
All Blessings Flow*



Building & Grounds

But speaking the truth in love, let us grow in every way into Him who is the head—Christ. From Him the whole body, fitted and knit together by every supporting ligament, promotes the growth of the body for building up itself in love by the proper working of each individual part. Ephesians 4:15-16

**Mr. Fix-It group will next on
December 7th at 9 am.**

This is a new men's group that met November 16th for coffee and donuts, prayer and fellowship along with used their skills to tackle some projects that need done around the church. This group of men is geared toward retirement age, but any guy that wants to come help out is welcome. If you have any questions, please call Rich Halchuck.



Other Information

Average Attendance
 September – 104.8
 October – 99.3
 November –

Sermon Series
 1 Peter (September-October)
 Identity (November)
 Gifts Fit for a King (Christmas)

Soul Food
 Small Groups (Sept-Oct)
 Psalms (November)

Sunday School
 Gospel of Mark



Tailgate Party



Costume Night

This fall has been an exciting time for our congregation. We have hosted a lot of our regular events, and we are grateful to everyone who helped make those things happen. We raised money for local families during 2019 Cruise-In Car Show and our T-Shirt sale. We launched our kids program with a Fall Kick-Off Night. We've had a fall party, a leaf raking day, a Thanksgiving Dinner, and filled more than 100 boxes for *Operation Christmas Child*. Thank you to our Special Events team, our youth committee, and so many other volunteers who have assembled boxes, cooked dinners, and brought life to our church. You are a blessing to everyone at Dover First Christian Church.

A lot of new and exciting things also happened over the past three months. In September, we launched a series of small groups intended to help people connect with each other in meaningful relationships. This was a new endeavor for our church, and we think God used it to begin something special. During our five week study (several groups canceled on

Wednesday, October 9 for a funeral), we averaged 25 people attending one of four small groups. We plan to continue utilizing small groups as part of our discipleship process moving forward.

This past quarter also saw our first effort at community connection. Initiated by Bob Anders, a group passed out approximately 500 hot dogs over the span of two Friday nights at Crater Stadium. It was a great opportunity to meet people in our community, connect with local leadership, and begin the process of becoming a relevant part of our city. We want to say thank you to Barry and Vicki Walker for giving us a place to set up.

Finally, our Food Packing Night was an incredible evening of service and fellowship. Approximately 60 volunteers combined to

pack 12,000 meals in an hour and half. It was incredible to see people of all ages laughing, sharing, and serving side by side. We want to thank Shirley Beal and the mission team for their hard work putting together this night.

The next month is full of opportunities to connect with our church as well. In fact, **Christmas is the best time to invite a friend to attend a church event with you.**

Take advantage of our invite cards to ask someone to join you for a service, or utilize our free guest tickets and bring a friend to Christmas Banquet on December 13. We can't wait to see what God has in store, thanks for taking the journey with us.

Bob Anders, Ray Beal,

Rich Halchuck & Josh Robinson



Shepherd's Notes



Worship Ministry

Let the message about the Messiah dwell richly among you, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, and singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, with gratitude in your hearts to God. 17 And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him. .

Colossians 3:16-17

Prayer Concerns

- Kay McClelland
- Doris Barnes
- Dennis Hartman
- Betty Leeper (Belle's House)
- Zach McClelland
- Marion Spragg
- Faye Childs
- David McKinney (Hennis – Bolivar)
- Carol Hunt
- Gary Byer
- Walt Weaver
- Chuck Snyder (Hennis — Bolivar)
- Charlotte Turney
- Gary Foltz
- Ray Burkhart
- John Hawk (Inn at Northwood)
- Chuck Creamer
- Gwen Blumenauer
- Kolsen Fleming
- Bonnie Smith
- Thurman Bailey
- Herb Neidig
- Bob Welling
- Bob Welling
- Kay McClelland

Ladies LUNCHEON

January 15th Rosalee's

February 19th Red Lobster

RSVP: Carlene 330-343-0954

or Bev 330-878-5903



Thank you to everyone who packed a shoe box. We were able to deliver 143 shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child this year.



	Date	Shepherd On Call	Greeters	Scripture	Communion Meditation	Shut In	Nursery
January	5th	Ray Beal	Alice Butcher Judy Meanor	Carole Brown	Jon Baker	Jon Baker	Shirley Beal
	12th	Bob Anders	S Kay Tomblin Eric D Tomblin	Rita Stephens	Colin Eichel	Rich Halchuck	Alice Butcher
	19th	Rich Halchuck	Chris Snyder Allie Sugalski	Ouna Goins	Brenda Halchuck	Ray Beal	Judy Meanor
	26th	Ray Beal	Barry & Vicki Walker	Allie Sugalski	Wayne Thomas	Bob Anders	Robin Hill
February	2nd	Bob Anders	Bev Deyo Marilyn Graybill	Karleen James	Ray Beal	Jon Baker	Linda Oszust
	9th	Rich Halchuck	Kathy Weaver Rita Stephens	Ray McClelland	Tracy Hill	Rich Halchuck	Allie Sugalski
	16th	Ray Beal	Dee Ray Gerri Newell	Robin Hill	Carole Brown	Ray Beal	Rita Stephens
	23rd	Bob Anders	Eric & Kelli Tomblin	Trista Bitikofer	Colin Eichel	Bob Anders	Alice Butcher
March	1st	Rich Halchuck	Tracy & Robin Hill	Janette Murphy	Ray McClelland	Jon Baker	Shirley Beal
	8th	Ray Beal	Tom & Carlene Swinderman	Judy Thomas	Wayne Thomas	Rich Halchuck	Judy Meanor
	15th	Bob Anders	Ouna Goins Gwen Eichel	Shirley Beal	Ray Beal	Ray Beal	Robin Hill
	22nd	Rich Halchuck	Rich & Brenda Halchuck	Tracy Hill	Allie Sugalski	Bob Anders	Linda Oszust
	29th	Ray Beal	Youth	Youth	Youth	Jon Baker	Allie Sugalski

Date	Praise Team	Sound Board	Projector	Communion Preparation	Clothing Shed	Hall Monitor	New Dawn
5th	Carole Brown, Bev Deyo Andrew George	Steve Brown	Katey Long	Carlene Swinderman	Aaron Bitikofer	Aaron Bitikofer	
12th	Colin Eichel, Chris Snyder Trista Bitikofer	Wayne Thomas	Andrew George	Carlene Swinderman	Rich Halchuck	Steve Brown	
19th	Rich & Brenda Halchuck Kelli Tomblin	David Schwarm	Eric D Tomblin	Carlene Swinderman	Bob Anders	Bob Haas	
26th	Wayne & Judy Thomas Kathy Weaver	Steve Brown	Andrew George	Carlene Swinderman	Judy Anders	Tracy Hill	Josh Robinson Shirley Homan
2nd	Ray Beal, Karleen James David Schwarm	Wayne Thomas	Eric D Tomblin	Andrew George	Wayne Thomas	Scott James	
9th	Candice Robinson Kathy Weaver, Vicki Walker	David Schwarm	Katey Long	Andrew George	Aaron Bitikofer	Eric Tomblin	
16th	Carole Brown, Bev Deyo Carlene Swinderman	Steve Brown	Eric D Tomblin	Andrew George	Rich Halchuck	David Schwarm	
23rd	Colin Eichel, Kathy Weaver Trista Bitikofer	Wayne Thomas	Katey Long	Andrew George	David Schwarm	Barry Walker	Ray Ulrich Shirley Homan
1st	Rich & Brenda Halchuck Kelli Tomblin	David Schwarm	Andrew George	Judy Thomas	Judy Anders	Rita Stephens	
8th	Wayne & Judy Thomas David Schwarm	Steve Brown	Eric D Tomblin	Judy Thomas	Wayne Thomas	Ray McClelland	
15th	Ray Beal, Vicki Walker Chris Snyder	Wayne Thomas	Andrew George	Judy Thomas	Aaron Bitikofer	Aaron Bitikofer	
22nd	Candice Robinson Karleen James, Andrew George	David Schwarm	Katey Long	Judy Thomas	Rich Halchuck	Steve Brown	Josh Robinson Shirley Homan
29th	Youth	Steve Brown	Andrew George	Judy Thomas	Avid Schwarm	Bob Haas	