

# The Evangel

First United Methodist Church of Gilbert

August 2021



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331 S Cooper Road  
Gilbert, AZ 85233  
480-892-9166

**Office Hours:**  
Monday-Thursday  
8:30am-4:30pm  
by appointment  
only

Attendance  
July 25th 130

Virtual viewing 222





FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF GILBERT

## Limited Opening of Campus

Worship Services



**Limited** includes wearing a mask on campus if not vaccinated,  
You can do virtual check in and  
prayer request from your device if you desire.

Services at 8:30 and 10:00.

Sunday services will be livestreamed on Facebook and You Tube  
at 10:00 am.

Any changes in this schedule will be put in the  
Weekly Enews and the website for the latest news.



Baptism of Cole Lincoln Minard ... grandson of Dick and Julie Curran



**First United Methodist Church of Gilbert**  
331 S. Cooper Rd. Gilbert, AZ 85233  
480-892-9166 • gilbertumc.org



## **COVID Guidelines Update - May 21, 2021**

**In the light of recent CDC, State, Local and Conference recommendations, Pastor Rick in concert with the Reopening Team is changing the First UMC Gilbert COVID guidelines and requirements as they apply to worship.**

**Effective immediately:**

- **Registering for worship is no longer required**
- **For those fully vaccinated: mask is optional**
  - **Kids 6 and under: mask is optional**
- **For those who remain unvaccinated: mask is required**
  - **Due to their location, the choir will require masks**
  - **Social distancing: as individuals feel comfortable**
- **Attendees will be asked to sign-in at check-in table or online**

**It is essential to consider the welfare of yourself and others and also please respect the choices of others.**

**These changes only affect Sunday worship and do not apply to other areas of ministry or groups meeting on campus.**

**Please contact Pastor Rick with your questions or concerns at  
[pastorrick@gilbertumc.org](mailto:pastorrick@gilbertumc.org)**





## Vacation Bible School 2021

Our church was able to have VBS only because of you our congregation! So Thank you from the **100 children** who were able to be at VBS and to the 50 volunteers who helped throughout the week WE could not have done it without you. They learned so much and had so much fun. Because of the family and kids they collected **306 pairs of gently used or new shoes for Soles for Souls and local charities!!!!**



Learning is fun!!!!









More VBS Fun!





## What is a Strong Spirit? MIND, BODY, SOUL SELF-CARE

A strong spirit is one that is confident in God and full of joy, love, and peace.

It is a spirit that is always ready to face anything and has an overcomer attitude. For believers in Christ to remain firm in faith and walk in the path God has laid out for them, they need to be strong in the spirit.

The main concept behind Mind-Body-Spirit connection is that we are all more than just our thoughts.

Essentially, the mind affects the flow of one's spirit, which in turn affects the body.

We need to be aware that stress can cause the cells in our body to mutate and die.

And the opposite happens when a person experiences joy it causes cells to regenerate and function exactly as they naturally are wired to do.

That is why it is so important to prioritize self-care and not view it as being selfish.

In fact, it is quite the opposite.

When you take the time needed to rest and replenish your spirit, it allows you to become recharged and serve others from a full and overflowing vessel because one cannot serve others when they are empty or depleted.

### Simple Tips To Balance Your Mind, Body & Soul

1. Exercise. Find an exercise you enjoy and start doing it regularly.



2. Be grateful. Stop to think about the things you have going for you and appreciate them.



1. Get plenty of sleep 7-9 hours per night is best.

2. Breathe deeply. ... Meditate – Pray

3. Get outdoors and go for a daily walk.



4. Stay hydrated and eat plenty of healthy foods.



5. Spend more time with loved ones.

6. Volunteer for a cause near and dear to you – serving others is rewarding



7. Donate Blood if able: 1 pint of blood can save 2 lives.



8. Live in the present because today is a present!

**Save the Date**  
**Both Pastor Rick and Pastor Diamond**  
Will be starting Bible Studies on  
**August 25th**

**Are you going to join the study?**

Watch for the lesson titles for Pastor Rick class.....

Pastor Diamond study will be short stories by Jesus

We are doing the 6 week study that uses the Participant Guide. There is also a book that people can read for a “deeper dive” but it is not required. Here is a link to the book and participant guide and study

<https://www.cokesbury.com/Short-Stories-by-Jesus-Participant-Guide>



**Choir Rehearsal starts**  
**August 18, 2021 at 6:30 pm**

**Come one and all!**  
**Join us on Wednesday nights at 6:30pm**  
**Beginning August 18th**



## Safety tips for monsoon season (June 15 to September 30)

- If you don't have time to do either before your visibility is suddenly reduced by dust or heavy rains, slow down and keep driving straight. Don't make unnecessary lane changes. If you feel like conditions are too bad to continue driving, **slowly pull off the side of the road as far right as you can, turn off your car, turn off your lights, and keep your foot off the brake pedal.** Otherwise, drivers might come up behind you and, thinking you are still in motion, rear end your vehicle.
- Because the rest of the year is so dry, the ground in the Valley has a difficult time absorbing the intense monsoon rains. Washes fill quickly, and entire streets may even flood. A few years ago, I-10 was impassable for a brief period. Whatever you do, don't underestimate the flowing water! What looks like only an inch or two can be much deeper. **As little as 6 inches can sweep you off your feet and 24 inches can wash your car off the road. Even a high-clearance vehicle is at risk in just 24 inches.**
- Remember to drive cautiously even if your visibility is not greatly reduced, especially at the beginning of a storm when oils and other automotive fluids can make the road unusually slick.
- If you are caught outside, stay away from open fields, high land, trees, poles, and other tall objects to avoid being struck by lightning. You also want to avoid swimming pools and golf clubs.
- Stay off the phone, if you have a landline (or are in a hotel that does) to avoid getting a shock from a nearby lightning strike. Use your cell phone, if you must, but even this should be minimized to keep lines open for emergencies.
- Avoid plumbing fixtures, including showers, baths, and sinks, since lightning can travel through metal pipes. A monsoon storm is not a good time to take a shower.
- Keep your distance from windows, which can be struck by blowing debris, including trees. It's not uncommon for high winds to knock over large trees, and if you're next to a window at the time, you can suffer severe injury from flying glass.
- **If you approach an area with running water, DO NOT attempt to cross it, especially if a nearby sign warns against crossing when flooded. Arizona has what's called the "Stupid Motorist Law," which allows municipalities and rescue agencies to charge you for the cost of being rescue if you fail to observe posted warnings. Your miscalculation can cost you not only financially but it can cost you your life.**
  - Copyright from AZ weather service **monsoon guidelines.**



Preschool News  
[www.gilbertpreschool.com](http://www.gilbertpreschool.com)



FUMC of Gilbert Preschool



Gilbert preschool



@gilpreschool



The preschool staff at First United Methodist Preschool are all super excited to start a new school year. The teachers have been busy preparing the classrooms and getting ready to welcome both our previous and new families!

**Our First Days of Class are August 16th and 17th at 9am**

**Our preschool classes are full at this time.** However, we are still offering tours and have a waitlist started. If you're interested in more information, please check out our website, <http://gilbertumcpreschool.com> or give us a call for a tour!



**Open House/Meet the Teacher- August 12th**

All enrolled families please make sure you select a time through **signupgenius** to come and meet your teacher. The link can be found on the teacher welcome letter that was emailed in July. We'll have school t-shirts to buy for \$15, and PreK students can sign up for lunch bunch!

**Follow us on social media!** You can find out more about our programs by following us on social media! Find Gilbert Preschool on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter!





Shop at Fry's Food Stores with your VIP card and get great savings, earn fuel points, and help our church preschool. Just go online to [FrysFood.com](http://FrysFood.com), scroll to the bottom of the page and click on Fry's Community Rewards under Community. Log on to your account and search our organization number, **DM609**. You're all set! Your savings help us to earn money for our wonderful program. Thank you!

**Back to School Time**- How can you make the transition into a school routine easier on the kids and on parents? Try these fun and easy ideas even before the school year begins:

- Set out clothes the night before
- Get up at the same time each morning
- Give everyone a morning hug
- Walk through the steps together to get the kids ready, gradually having them take on one responsibility at a time themselves. It's ok if their hair is combed in a funny way or their hairclips don't match their shirt!
- Sit down and eat a healthy breakfast
- Check out the library for some "back to school" books.

**"This is the day that the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad today."**



**If you have any questions about the preschool, please email [preschool@gilbertumc.org](mailto:preschool@gilbertumc.org) or call 480-892-9166. Directors Lora Norris or Betsy Marlinga would love to speak with you!**



# 2021 Children's Ministry What's Happening?

## Children's Ministry

Janelle Chircuzio, Director children ministry@gilbertumc.org

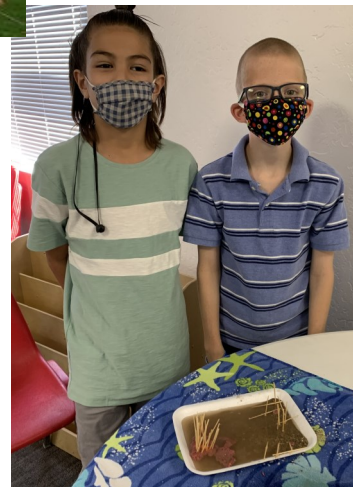
It is always  
a  
Sunday  
Learning  
Day  
.....



by .....



.....having fun !







Jr. and Sr. High Sunday School  
August 1st  
Sr. High Youth Room  
During the 10am Service



Thank you all youth VBS volunteers



**SAVE THE DATE MORE UPCOMMING  
YOUTH EVENTS**

**August 1st-** Fall Sunday School Kick Off  
Separate Jr. High and Sr. High Sunday school  
classes begin this day!

**August 15th-** Youth Council Meeting, **8:30am Meet** in the Sr. High Room to help  
plan fall youth activities, service projects, and hopefully  
start planning for SSP 2022. All are welcome!

**Fall Youth Group Dates** (Activities are tentative and times TBD-  
keep watching Youth News for details)

**August 8th-** Movie Night and Taco Bar

**August 22nd-** Indoor Rock Climbing

**September 12th-** TBD

**September 26th-** TBD

**October 10th-** Fall Fun Activity TBD

**October 24th-** Pumpkin Carving Contest



Follow us on Instagram@fumcyouth

The whole leadership team and youth leaders are keeping you and your family in our prayers each week.  
Please reach out if you need anything youthministry@gilbertumc.org !



## The Book Corner

August's book is American Dirt by Jeanine Cummins, . Pam Turner will be leading the review of this fiction which was published in 2020.

The Book Club will meet August 19th at 11:30 in Room 130 and on zoom.

September 's book is A Time For Mercy by John Grisham, a fiction book.

October's book is The Round House by Louise Erdrich, a fiction book.

## Tuesday Morning Bible Study

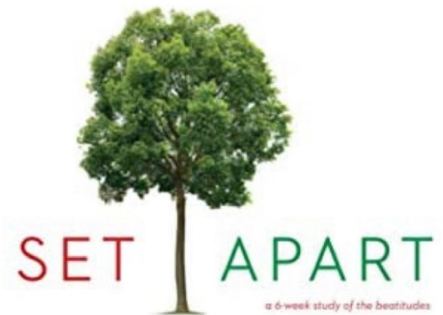
August 17th with a kick-off brunch (potluck style in true Methodist fashion) at 9:30 am- 11:15.

Our first book will be Set Apart a 6-week study of the Beatitudes by Jennifer Kennedy Dean. Same format as before (in person only) no masks required (but optional) starting at 9:15 for some social time, prayers and praises at 9:30 with large group video then small group

discussion. Please let me know if you want the book (so we can order enough) and if you need nursery care (so can let those that arrange that know.) Please share with friends/neighbors that might be interested in joining our multi denominational Christian group. (sonja.ruhland@gmail.com)ou can join at anytime.

Contact Sonja at

[Sonja.ruhland@gmail.com](mailto:Sonja.ruhland@gmail.com)



Jennifer Kennedy Dean



Mark your calendar for these other upcoming events:  
( all small groups are contingent on Bishop Bob and the CDC  
recommendations.)

In person is unlimited now. Masks will be worn, by the unvaccinated. Please be respectful and reverent in the sanctuary.

- Explorer Class is being held August 1st in Rm130 at 11:30 for those wishing to join the church.
- Youth Council Meeting prep August 1th at 8:30 in room 200.
- August 5th the Christian Women's Fellowship meets in rm 130 at 9:30 am.
- Youth Council meeting August 8th at 12:30 in room 200.
- Preschool Open House ins August 12th. Sign up on Signup genies.
- First Day of PreSchool is either August 16th or 17th at 9:00 am.
- On August 17th the Women's Tuesday Morning Bible study will have their Fall Kick-Off meeting in the activity center at 9:00 am all are invited.
- Choir practices starts Wednesday night August 18th at 6:30pm for the choir's first church service on August 22nd.
- The Book Club meets at 11:00 on August 19th in rm 130.
- Bible Study taught by both Pastor Rick and Pastor Diamond the classes will begin August 25th ! Pastor Diamond will be teaching short stories by Jesus. Pastor Rick titles will be announced at later date.
- September 12th is Grandparents day!

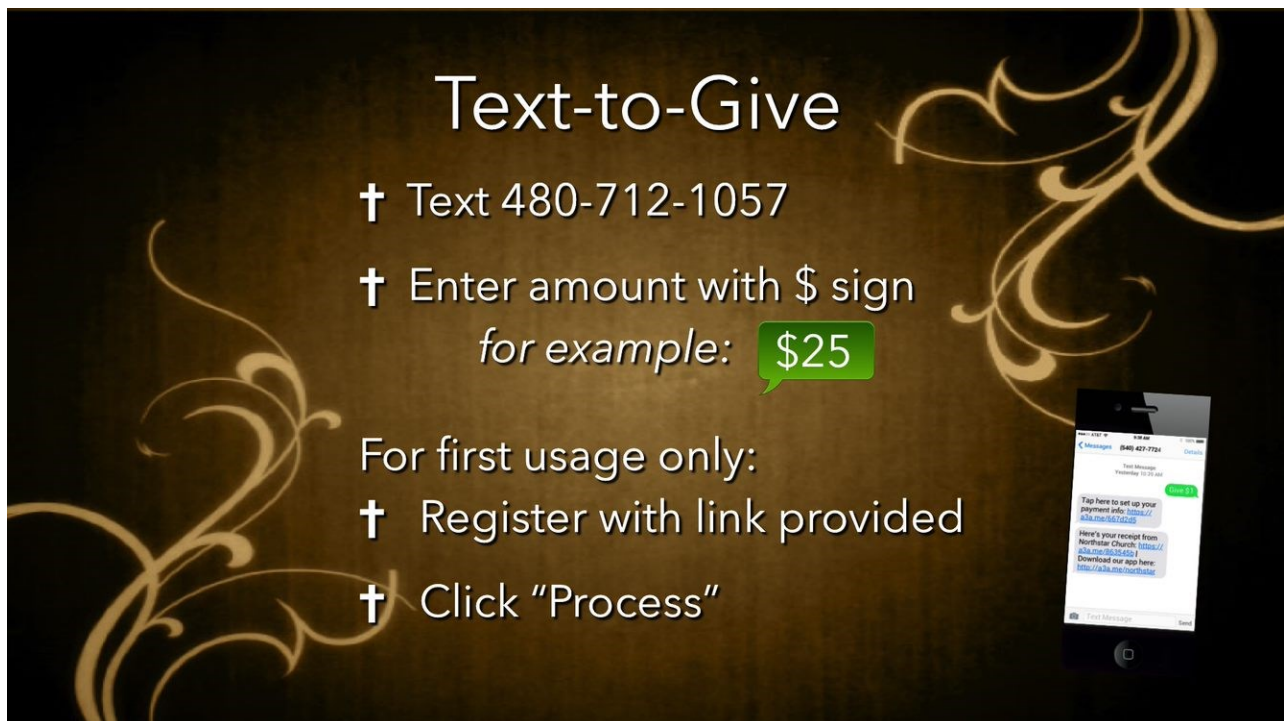


## Meet our Financial Secretary

Penny (Belcher) Legge is an Arizona native, born in Phoenix, Arizona. You may know Penny's mother, Mollie Belcher.

Penny has spent most of her career in finance and data management for the State of Arizona, spending time with Arizona Department of Education and Arizona Department of Health Services. Penny retired from State Government in 2020 and seems very eager to learn the accounting ropes here at FUMCofGilbert.

Penny loves the outdoors, hiking, exploring, camping and fishing. Her life revolves around her 5 energetic grandsons. Her daughter, Jennifer has Alex who is 14 years old, Avery who is 12 years old and Seth, who is 8 years old. Her son, Scott has Alan who is 12 and Dean, who is 5.



**Text-to-Give**

- † Text 480-712-1057
- † Enter amount with \$ sign  
*for example:* **\$25**

For first usage only:

- † Register with link provided
- † Click "Process"

The graphic also features a screenshot of a text message from a church, showing instructions to tap a link to set up a payment and download an app, along with a receipt link.





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**Congregational Care Support Groups**  
*For more information about groups and other support available, please contact Pastor Diamond at [pastordiamond@gilbertumc.org](mailto:pastordiamond@gilbertumc.org) or 480-892-9166*

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### **Grief Share Support Group will be online now**



For those grieving the loss of someone close to them.

This support group. Led by Kay Pealstrom

is meeting on Saturdays from 9am-10:30am

### *Living Hope*

### **Living Hope Support Group**

A group for those experiencing trauma or dealing with PTSD (post traumatic stress disorder). This group meets on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-8:30pm. (Small groups are contingent on the CDC guidelines)

### **Prayers for those in need**



During this time of uncertainty we will be praying for those in need so please either call or email prayer requests and we will send them out to our dedicated prayer team. The office number is 480-892-9166 or the email [prayers@gilbertumc.org](mailto:prayers@gilbertumc.org). If it is pastors only request please mark pastors only and it will be given to the pastors.

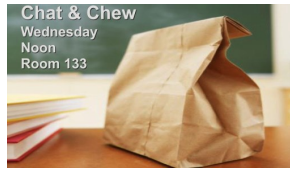
And we will be praying for all the concerns and praises.










Your  
Prayer Team



# August Calendar of Events 2021

(All studies and small groups are contingent on Bishop Bob and the CDC recommendations.)



| Sun   | Mon       | Tue   | Wed   | Thu   | Fri       | Sat  |
|---|-----------|---|---|---|-----------|--|
| <b>1</b><br>Communion<br>Sunday<br> | <b>2</b>  | <b>3</b><br>Tuesday Morning<br>Bible Study 9:15<br>                        | <b>4</b><br>Chat N Chew Noon<br>Wednesday<br>Night Bible study 6:30   | <b>5</b><br>Christian<br>Women's Fel-<br>lowship 9:30<br> | <b>6</b>  | <b>7</b><br>grief share<br>Every Saturday<br>9:00-10:30  |
| <b>8</b>  | <b>9</b>  | <b>10</b><br>Tuesday<br>Morning Bible<br>Study 9:15   | <b>11</b><br>Chat N Chew<br>Noon<br>Wednesday<br>Night Bible study 6:30   | <b>12</b><br>Shawl<br>Ministry !:00<br>                   | <b>13</b> | <b>14</b>  |
| <b>15</b>   | <b>16</b> | <b>17</b><br>Tues Morn-<br>ing Bible fall kick-<br>off in AC<br>9:15<br> | <b>18</b><br>Chat N Chew<br>Noon <b>Choir starts<br/>                     practicing</b><br>Wednesday<br>Night Bible study 6:30 | <b>19</b><br>Book<br>Club 11:00<br>                     | <b>20</b> | <b>21</b><br>Men's<br>Breakfast<br>8-9:30<br> |
| <b>22</b>   | <b>23</b> | <b>24</b><br>Tuesday<br>morning Bible<br>study 9:15<br>                  | <b>25</b><br>Chat N Chew<br>Noon <b>restarting</b><br>Wednesday<br>Night Bible study 6:30                                       | <b>26</b>   | <b>27</b> | <b>28</b>  |
| <b>29</b>   | <b>30</b> | <b>31</b><br>Tuesday<br>morning Bible<br>study 9:15<br>                 |   |   |           |  |



# September Calendar of Events 2021

(All studies and small groups are contingent on Bishop Bob and the CDC recommendations.)

| Sun   | Mon   | Tue  | Wed  | Thu   | Fri | Sat  |
|---|---|--|--|---|-----|--|
|   |   |  | 1  | 2   | 3   | 4  |
|   | <p><b>God Bless the USA!</b></p>       |  |  | <p>Christian Women's Fellowship 9:30</p>  |     | <p>Grief share Every Saturday 9:00-10:30 am</p>  |
| 5   | 6   | 7  | 8  | 9   | 10  | 11   |
| <p>Communion Sunday</p>    | <p>Labor day church office closed</p>  | <p>Tues Morning Bible 9:15</p>        | <p>Chat N Chew Noon Wednesday Zoom Night Bible study 6:30</p>  | <p>Shawl Ministry 1:00</p>                |     |  |
| 12  | 13  | 14   | 15   | 16  | 17  | 18   |
| <p>Grandparents Day</p>  |   | <p>Tues Morning Bible 9:15 off</p>  | <p>Chat N Chew Noon Wednesday Night Bible study 6:30</p>      | <p>Book Club 11:00</p>                   |     | <p>Mens Breakfast 8-9:30</p>  |
| 19  | 20  | 21   | 22   | 23  | 24  | 25   |
|   |   | <p>Tues Morn. Bible 9:15</p>   | <p>Chat N Chew Noon Wednesday Night Bible study 6:30 <b>First Day of Autumn</b></p>  |   |     |  |
| 26  | 27  | 28   | 29   | 30  | 1   | 2  |
|   |   | <p>Tues Morning Bible 9:15</p>      | <p>Chat N Chew Noon Wednesday Night Bible study 6:30</p>      |   |     |  |
| 3   |   |  |  |   |     |  |
| <p>Communion Sunday</p>  |   |  | <p>Chat &amp; Chew Wednesday Noon Room 133</p>                |   |     |  |

## August Birthdays



|                       |    |
|-----------------------|----|
| Gayla Sutton          | 1  |
| Linda Cranford        | 4  |
| Anita Broughton       | 5  |
| Rick Casebolt         | 5  |
| Keela Clark           | 5  |
| Eric Palmer           | 6  |
| Nyambe Hadison-Taylor | 7  |
| Laura McLeod          | 7  |
| Dirk Smith            | 7  |
| Evan Houseman         | 8  |
| Madelyn Mueller       | 8  |
| Katharine Rowley      | 8  |
| Lori Wiemers          | 8  |
| Katie Wyatt           | 8  |
| Eli Chiricuzio        | 9  |
| Matthew Koenig        | 10 |
| Judy Bristow          | 12 |
| Rebecca Hernandez     | 12 |
| Abigail Rhoden        | 12 |
| Diane Crann           | 13 |
| Tom McKinley          | 14 |
| Alan Ball             | 15 |
| Jim Hall              | 15 |
| Tim Killen            | 15 |
| Tyler Carpenter       | 16 |
| Adam Golden           | 17 |
| Tina Rees             | 17 |
| Jennifer Burks        | 18 |
| Carlos Flores         | 20 |
| Julia Strazz          | 21 |
| Lara DeRoule          | 22 |

|                     |    |
|---------------------|----|
| Jim Johns           | 22 |
| Brittany Norris     | 22 |
| Randall Van Der Pol | 22 |
| Kylee Wilkins       | 22 |
| Mpez Gloria Kapend  | 24 |
| Molly Hahn          | 26 |
| Midori Hall         | 26 |
| Harris Compton      | 27 |
| Reagan Metz         | 27 |
| Caroline Ward       | 27 |
| Scott Bouchie       | 28 |
| Lori Van Dam        | 28 |
| Sadie Fairley       | 29 |
| Jackson James       | 29 |
| Kevin Boesch        | 31 |
| Kein Curran         | 31 |



## August Anniversaries

| Date | Sweet Couple               | Years Married |
|------|----------------------------|---------------|
| 3    | Gloria and Jim Eggen       | 25            |
| 3    | Trish and Chris Odell      | 47            |
| 4    | MaryEllen and Bob Chuk     | 48            |
| 5    | Sharon and Ron Dalton      | 23            |
| 6    | Garin and Rob Campbell     | 27            |
| 6    | Julie and Dick Curran      | 44            |
| 7    | Heather and Greg Ford      | 22            |
| 12   | Sarah and Charles Bowser   | 55            |
| 12   | Barbara and Lynn Carroll   | 54            |
| 15   | Vicki and Kim Harding      | 50            |
| 23   | Phyllis and David Spittell | 23            |