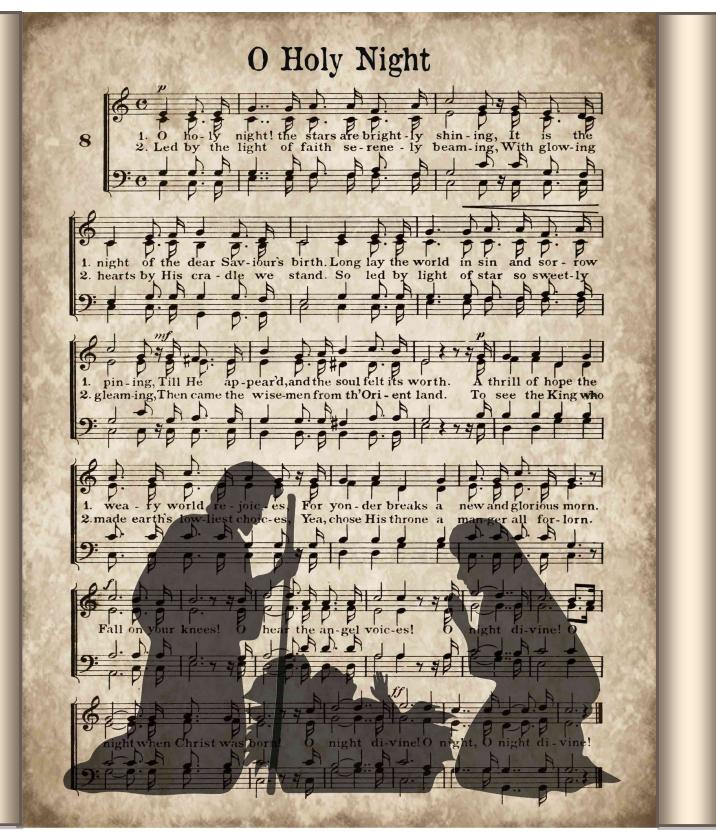


messenger

a river of hope in a thirsty land









Parent Child Church Dedication

Sunday Dec 10th in the 10:30 am service



Joy Story Musical has been a 6 month labor of love from our choir directors Meagan Allen and Laura Dye and many many parents and families. The kids are so ready to share this message of God's free gift of salvation with you and your family and friends.

Sunday December 3rd at 6 pm.

AWANA in DECEMBER

Dec 6 Cookies with Mom

Dec 13 Jammies for Jesus (with Hot Chocolate)

Dec 20 & 27th Christmas Break

Jan 3 SDRAWKCAB THGINT



Children's Church

Children's Church returns
January 7th for kids K-4th
grade. Meanwhile enjoy
worship together as a
family during 8 & 10:30 services.
An enormous thank you to all our
incredible children's church helpers
who lead small groups and model
genuine worship.



December 24th Sunday worship schedule includes one worship service at 9:15 am. Childcare will be provided for nursery age children up to PreK. Another year is coming to the end and the grace and mercy of God is still AMAZING. He is full of kindness and patience towards us, and He has blessed us beyond anything we could measure it against. This Advent season is one, if not the ULTIMATE, demonstration of His amazing love in sending His Son, Jesus Christ, to die on the cross for our sins. I shared recently on a Sunday morning, a nugget of hope that God gave His people as He pronounced judgment on them for their ongoing sin. God, through Ezekiel, speaks of how the last king of Judah, Zedekiah, has been wicked and is quickly approaching his final judgment. God speaks of how his crown will be removed, and in 21:27 says this, "...The crown will not be restored until he to whom it rightfully belongs shall come; to him I will give it." In other words, the crown will wait to be given to the ultimate fulfillment of the Davidic covenant, Jesus Christ. We celebrate this time every year the coming to earth of the rightful King, who is the King of Kings, Jesus Christ! He is worthy to wear the crown! Please pray that this next year you and I acknowledge Him as the rightful King, and we live our lives willfully under His authority.

With the end of another year it is always helpful to take an evaluation of what has happened. Last month, we stopped and gave thanks for what God has provided over the last year. This month I want to issue you a challenge to reflect on how God has changed you over the year. We are all on a path of sanctification where we are being transformed more and more into the image of Jesus Christ. Take time to reflect on how God has slowly been shaping you into His image over the last year. I pray that there is reason to celebrate the change. I understand that there may be no progress or even a regression back to some fleshly ways. Either way I want to remind you that the grace of God is enough to continue growing you or to offer you forgiveness and power to be changed. May your hope grow as you live another year and anticipate our Savior's second coming!

Humbly Desiring to Serve,

Jonathan Kyle



- Wednesday, December 13th-Life122 Christmas
 Party "Cozy Christmas" at 6:15pm.
 - Sunday, December 17th-Church Wide
 Caroling at 3pm.
 - Wednesday, December 20th & 27th-No Life122 Gathering

CCA epistola

Candies Creek Academy Royals

"True joy is
different than
happiness and,
therefore, is
misunderstood by
many and is an
increasingly elusive
experience for the
next generation."

Upcoming Dates

Dec 5 - TACS Academic Testing

Dec 5 - Christmas Program at 6:30pm

Dec 11-15 -Winter Spirit Week Upper School

Dec 14-20 - Final Exams Upper School

Dec 21-Jan 3 - Christmas Break

Joy to the World Next Generation

You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore. - Psalm 16:11

any are familiar with the popular Christmas carol "Joy to the World" during this time of the year. The famed "Father of English Hymnody," Isaac Watts, penned those words as a paraphrase of the ending of Psalm 98. Watts' words highlight the salvation that begins in an ancient, insignificant shepherd town with the birth of a baby. The birth of this baby Savior was followed by the unending announcement of joy. His birth was good news to every portion of the groaning creation. The news of this baby's birth was to bring joy as far as the curse is found. So, why is there little joy among us today?

Joy is a popular cultural idea but is often confused with happiness. True joy is different than happiness and, therefore, is misunderstood by many and is an increasingly elusive experience for the next generation. The next generation sees that mountains of material possessions do not bring joy but can hold a person hostage. "The worst chains are those which are neither felt nor seen by the prisoner" (Luke 11:21-22; 2 Tim. 2:26).\(^1\) The mantra of "bigger is better" does not bring joy. If we live by that philosophy, we, in time, learn that someone else has something bigger; and the bigger something is, the more maintenance will be required. A helpful interjection of Bible medicine is necessary here. "For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul?" (Matthew 16:26)

Additionally, the inundation of information from multiple sources in this second decade of the 21st century overwhelms, confuses, paralyzes, and even deceives rather than boosts our joy. Yet with all of the empty promises of the idea that 'more of everything leads to more joy,' there are avenues to trod that can bring real joy to the next generation. One of the ways joy is experienced is when we simply spend time with one another

¹ Ryle, J. C. (1889). <u>Holiness: Its Nature, Hindrances, Difficulties and Roots</u> (p. 82). William Hunt and Company.

around the table or in homes, engaging with a genuine interest in one another's stories, thoughts, and dreams.

For the past several years, CCA has celebrated Thanksgiving by having a lunch for students and faculty along with their families. Thank you to everyone from CCBC who was able to serve. This year, we introduced a liturgy (a set pattern of worship) called "Feasting with Friends" from Every Moment Holy. Part of the responsive reading included the following:

But the joy of fellowship, and the welcome and comfort of friends new and old, and the celebration of these blessings of food and drink and conversation and laughter are the true evidences of things eternal, and are the first fruits of that great glad joy that is to come and that will be unending.

Whether your holiday meals are an elaborate feast or simple finger foods, take in the passing moments with family and friends and offer a prayer of thankfulness to God and a hearty "Take joy!" to your soul.

C.S. Lewis was a British literary scholar and lay theologian, and he wrote a book called *Surprised by Joy*, which details his path from atheism to his conversion to Christianity. In that book, Lewis describes true joy as an elusive experience during his atheism years. He understood the world's usage of joy in a muted or secondary sense; and true joy, or as he wrote it 'Joy' with a capital J, as beyond normal emotional categories. Joy for Lewis was not a state of mind or a feeling but an

awareness of encountering a Holy God who, by his grace, gives us holy moments of including both enthusiasm and grief.

During this Christmas season, let us not forget where the source of true, lasting, eternal joy comes from: the baby savior born in Bethlehem. What a surprise for the people of the world to hear their Joy, cannot be found in their pleasures, positions, or purchases. It is found only in the baby Jesus who came to give his life for our sins that we may have an abundant life, not in material possessions but in Joy with a capital J.

A way to experience Joy this season is to sing "Joy to the World" in the days ahead, also to enjoy holy moments of holiday celebrations, and to pray unceasingly to the Holy One of Israel. One thing you can pray for is Joy for the Next Generation. I have included a daily prayer you can pray for your child, grandchild, and our CCA students.

Praying for Joy,
Pastor Dave
CCA Headmaster

Daily Prayers for the Joy of the Next Generation

Sunday - That God will place His favor on your children, that they would not harden their hearts against the call of God but trust Christ as Savior.

"But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God." (John 1:12-13)

Monday - That they will have a growing desire to read the Word and a growing confidence in the truth.

"Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers" (Psalm 1:1-3)

Tuesday - That they would be caught when they sin, humbly admit their sin, be quick to repent and have a sincere hatred of sin.

"Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy." (Proverbs 28:13)

Wednesday - That they would desire to live a pure and undefiled life before God.

"Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things." (Philippians 4:8)

Thursday - That they will be free from self-centeredness in order to put Christ first and actively love and serve others.

"Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others." (Philippians 2:3-4)

Friday - That they would be patient in affliction and steadfast in trials, and that the testing of their faith would result in praise and honor to Christ.

"For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal" (2 Corinthians 4:17-18)

Saturday - That they would fight the good fight of faith and persevere to the end.

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God." (Hebrews 12:1-2)

Excerpted from Praying for the Next Generation by Sally Michael



Dear Candies Creek Baptist Church Family,

I praise God through the good work He is doing through you as the people of Candies Creek. I turned 50 this year, and the years do go by faster at this stage of my life. Please continue to pray for Heather as she goes through this season of Thanksgiving, her mom's birthday, Christmas and New Year. Our suffering does help us identify with many of you who suffer and go through difficulties. God continues to give us opportunities to step into... "Trusting God is in control, all is well with my soul."

Romans 11:33 Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and unfathomable His ways! 34 For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who became His counselor? 35 Or who has first given to Him that it might be paid back to him again? 36 For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever. Amen.

Romans 15:13 Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you will abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. 14 And concerning you, my brethren, I myself also am convinced that you yourselves are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge and able also to admonish one another.

Candies Creek has valued Global Missions for many years. I praise God that you want to "touch the world for Christ." As we celebrate the incarnation of God and His coming to earth, we are reminded of our participation of His work in the world now. Please give generously to the **Lottie Moon Christmas Offering** which goes to support the work of the International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. A distinction of our denomination is that we cooperate to give to missionaries so they can focus on the unfinished task of world evangelization.

Trusting God Together with you,
Pastor Stan



10 Years!

It is with the deepest
appreciation that we want to
acknowledge 10 wonderful
years of service by our
Children's Director,
Christy Johns!

Christy has been a long time member of Candies Creek Baptist Church who 10 years ago stepped out in obedience to fill the role as Children's Director. She has been a wonderful and effective addition to the children's ministry. Christy takes serious the development of children in their spiritual walk, and she has high expectations for them to follow faithfully after the Lord even at a young age. She does all of this while being gracious and full of compassion for the kids and their parents. Christy has contributed to the revitalizing of our Children's Choir, the beginning development of a counseling ministry, and the shaping of the vision of the church. All the while she has brought health and stability to annual ministries such as AWANA and VBS. The very neat alignment in all the previous ministries is that she has equipped leaders and served as an assistant to them. Christy understands and models the culture of being an equipping center that raises up the next leaders to carry on the work of ministry. She truly is a blessing to the staff and the church as a whole. We look forward to how God continues to use her here at Candies Creek, especially, as God grows her passion for counseling and equipping others to do the same. Please take time this month to express your gratitude to God for her ministry here at Candies Creek.



Global Missions Conference 2024 "Fill Our Hearts" February 4-6th

We are honored to have Pastor Jamie Work as our special guest speaker this year. The conference will be

geared toward developing a heart of compassion for the nations by getting us close to the nations. We will have a missions fair allowing you to get to know the missionaries that CCBC supports. There will be a tasting of the nations, and we will have a special set aside time for prayer for the nations. Mark your calendars!



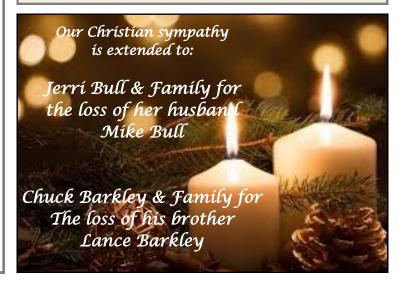
PRAISE THE LORD! Given in Nov. \$84,881.05 Nov. Expenses \$73,894.97

2023 Given \$762,395.54 2023 Expenses \$821,052.55

Lottie Moon \$4,342.58

1,711 Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes Sent!!!

The Bible Recap is an app that provides an opportunity to read through the Bible chronologically independently or doing it in a group of friends. Donna Thomas and others have experience using the app. Donna will be available on December 17 after the 10:30 worship service in the choir room to share a few minutes and answer any questions that you may have. The Bible Recap has tools like group threads and recap videos, both of which can provide a good on-ramp to get people in a regular Bible reading plan and experience the big picture of the Bible with one another.



Christmas At The Creek



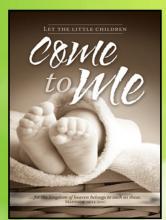
Ladies Cookie Swap/StuB Sat. Dec. 2nd at 9:30 am Bring 3 Doz. & Recipe to share



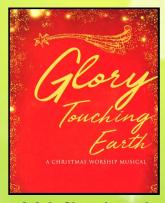
Children's Choir Musical
Sun. Dec. 3rd, 6 pm
Worship Center



CCA Choir Program
Tues. Dec. 5th at 6:30 pm
Worship Center



Parent Child Church
Dedication
Sun. Dec. 10th - 10:30 am



Adult Choir Special
Sun. Dec. 10th - 6:00 pm
Worship Center



Senior Adult Lunch Wed. Dec. 13th - 11:30 am Fellowship Hall



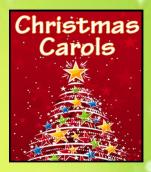
Cookies w/Mom - 12/6
Jammies for Jesus - 12/13

Life 122

Christmas Party - 12/13



Grace Asylum Christmas
Thurs. Dec. 14th - 7:00 PM
Worship Center



Christmas Caroling Sun. Dec. 17th - 3:00 pm



Christmas Eve Service Sunday Morning Dec. 24th at 9:15 am

Merry Christmas



Exalting Jesus By Becoming A Praying Church

"If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples" (John 15:7-8 NASB).

- 1 Knowing that God is glorified when our prayers come out of our relationship with Jesus, pray that the church will focus all the more on abiding in His holy presence (John 15:7-8).
- **2** Pray that the church will experience the kind of revival that moves believers to constantly live in awe of God. Pray that in acknowledging His presence, we will continually praise and glorify His wonderful name (Psalm 22:23).
- **3** Knowing that God's lovingkindness toward us is great, pray that the members of your church will purposefully exalt Jesus by continually offering up thanks to God (Psalm 86:12-13).
- 4 Being motivated by thoughts of the wonderful, spiritual inheritance laid up for us through the saving work of Christ, pray that Christians everywhere will exalt Him by praying in the Spirit for God's will to be done in the lives of others (Ephesians 6:18).
- **5** Pray that the Holy Spirit will disclose to your church that which is to come so that Jesus may be exalted as we faithfully respond by joining Him in His activity around and through us (John 16:13-14).
- 6 Pray that Christian men everywhere will exalt Christ through a renewed commitment to pray, lifting up holy hands without wrath or dissension (1 Timothy 2:8).
- 7 As elders across the country are called on to pray for the sick, pray that God will be exalted through answering their faith-filled intercession (James 5:14-15).
- 8 Pray that Jesus will be exalted in your community and that genuine revival and spiritual awakening will take place. Pray that the word of the Lord will spread rapidly and be glorified (2 Thessalonians 3:1).
- **9** Pray that pastors and church members alike will exalt Christ as they make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel (Ephesians 6:19).

- 10 As your church family seeks and then walks according to God's will, pray that the people living in your community will see the light of His presence being displayed through their lives and glorify our Father who is in heaven (Matthew 5:16).
- 11 In the midst of growing persecution and the challenging pressures of life, pray that Christians will pray without losing heart and exalt Christ through their unfailing perseverance (Luke 18:1).
- **12** Pray that God will be exalted as Christians remain steadfast in praying for those who mistreat them (Luke 6:28).
- 13 Pray that the church in America will bring glory to God by crying out to Him during times of trouble. Pray that God will be exalted by believers when He preserves them and surrounds them with songs of deliverance (Psalm 32:7).
- 14 Just as Jesus always lives to make intercession for those who draw near to God through Him, pray that we, too, will exalt and honor Jesus by joining Him in praying for those around us who are being saved (Hebrews 7:25).
- 15 Even as God exalted Jesus by appointing Him to be a high priest who stands in the gap between God and man, pray that as His followers, we, too, will develop the same kind of heart in prayerfully bringing people to God (Hebrews 7:26).
- 16 As Jesus ran the money changers out of the temple in Jerusalem, He described that holy place as a house of prayer (Matthew 21:13). Pray that Christians today will be just as zealous in making our churches and personal lives places of intimate prayer.
- 17 Pray that your church family will exalt Christ by committing themselves to rejoice always and pray without ceasing. Pray that they will learn to give thanks in everything they face (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18).

- 18 Even as Moses and the Hebrews exalted God through song when they were delivered from the Egyptian army, pray that today's church will write and sing new songs of praise to our gracious God, the One who continues delivering us from evil (Exodus 15:1).
- 19 Knowing that our God reigns and is enthroned above the cherubim, pray that Christians across the globe will wholeheartedly offer up praise to His name, exalting Him above every person or human dignitary (Psalm 99:1-3).
- **20** Pray that your church family will consistently magnify the Lord by exalting His name together in worship, praise, and prayer (Psalm 34:3).
- 21 Knowing that Jesus came to seek and to save the lost, let us exalt Christ today by praying specifically for the salvation of lost family members, neighbors, work associates, and people whose names we do not even know (Luke 19:10).
- 22 Isaiah spoke of a virgin bearing a child whose name would be called Immanuel, "God with us" (Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:23). Pray that, during this Christmas season, people in your community will acknowledge God for the first time and exalt Jesus by expressing their need for His abiding presence.
- 23 While focusing our hearts and thoughts on the great and wonderful deeds of God, pray that, during this Christmas season, we will join our lives with others in worshiping and exalting God's glorious name (Psalm 86:9-10).
- 24 The angel told Mary that her Son will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High (Luke 1:32). On this day before Christmas, let's all pause and spend time exalting and praising God for the gift He gave to mankind, the gift of His great Son.
- 25 May we shout to God with glorious praise! As dirty, rotten sinners, He has loved us enough to send us a Savior who delivers us from the penalty of our sin. Jesus is His name! For our salvation, Christ the Lord was born (Luke 2:11).
- 26 Just as the magi were filled with an exceeding great joy as they came before the young Jesus and worshiped Him, pray that Christians all across our nation will continue experiencing the joy of the Lord as they praise and exalt God's wonderful Son (Matthew 2:10-11).

- 27 When Jesus was eight days old, Simeon saw Him being dedicated in the temple. He described Him in a blessing to God as "A LIGHT OF REVELATION TO THE GENTILES, and the glory of Your people Israel" (Luke 2:32). Exalt Jesus today by praying that the light of His gospel will continue shining into the lives of all people, drawing them into the glory of His salvation.
- 28 Pray that as new believers begin following Jesus and interceding for others, they will do so with a faith that does "not rest on the wisdom of men, but on the power of God" (1 Corinthians 2:5).
- **29** As we reflect back on all of God's goodness during the past year, let us thank Him for the riches of His kindness, tolerance, and patience which lead us to repentance (Romans 2:4).
- **30** It was declared that Jesus would reign over the house of Jacob forever, and His kingdom will have no end (Luke 1:33). As we pray for spiritual awakening during the coming year, may one of our cries be that Jesus will be exalted by reigning over the nations, drawing many into His kingdom.
- 31 As we find ourselves on the verge of a new year, let us exalt Jesus by praying that Christians everywhere will seek to live in submission to God's plan for their lives. Pray that every believer will attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ (Ephesians 4:13).



SUNDAYS

Early Worship Service.....8:00 am Community Groups.....9:15 - 10:15 am Late Worship Service10:30 am

WEDNESDAYS

Prayer Meeting (WC)......6:00 pm AWANA.....6:00 - 7:30 pm Life 122 (StuB).....6:15 pm

THURSDAYS

Men's Prayer Meeting6:30 am Praise Team Practice......6:30 pm





CANDIES CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH 294 OLD EUREKA RD. CHARLESTON, TN 37310

Stan Gibson, Lead Pastor Jonathan Kyle, Co-Pastor & Student Pastor Sammy Parris, Worship Pastor Christy Johns, Preschool & Children's Director

ENOCH

Contemporary Ballet

Founded in 2021, Enoch desires to know the person of Jesus above all else, to worship His name and commune with His Spirit, and to see every eye turned in adoration to The King of Kings. Their goal is to use movement, dance, and storytelling to share the good news that Jesus "brings us out of darkness and the deepest gloom and breaks away our chains" (Psalm 107:14). Enoch is based out of East Tennessee.

Candies Creek will be hosting Enoch December 8th at 6pm. They will be performing a worship set followed by a quick intermission finished with a performance of Chiaroscuro, an art technique that demonstrates the contrast between darkness and light. The ballet tells the story of the true

Light that shines in the darkness, breaks bonds of slavery, and leads us to true freedom.

Let us worship through music and dance December 8th from 6pm-7:30pm.



@enochcontemporaryballet



Enoch Contemporary Ballet

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1st Allie Johns, Owen Smith, Wade McClanahan 2nd **Christy Johns** 5th Avery Elmer, Lauren Hall, Marissa Shoemaker 6th Kendall Barkley, Johnny Brewer 7th Michele Gustafson 8th Bob Ebling, Tim Cody, Stephen Purser 9th Eric Moore 10th **Emily Stoody** 11th Anna Ruth Crumbley, Mitch Delmotte 15th Julie Adolph 16th Abella Parsons, Linda Catoe Lilly Cooke, Stephen Parris 17th 18th Connie Baumgardner 19th JoAnna Simko 20th Gayle Pierce, Carolina Simko, Dennis Tweed 21st Hannah Long 22nd Brooklynn Barkley, Tom Woulfe 23rd Martha Moses, Shawn Williams 24th **Tommy Medley** 28th Carson Barkley 29th Kim Burnette, Mike Celender 30th Catherine Marcum 31st Mackenzie Moseley, Trent Johns

