



Sunday, October 24, 2021

Celebrant: The Rev. Regis Smolko

Preacher: The Rev. Darrell Johnson

Participating and representing St. Brendan's in prayer and worship and receiving Holy Eucharist for all members and friends.

Weekly at St. Brendan's

- Sunday** 8:00 am Worship, in person
10:00 am Worship, in person
10:00 am Worship, via live streaming https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkCY2BEJXlqMoVc_nXXG7ew
- Monday** 7:45 am Daily Morning Prayer, via zoom, Monday thru Saturday
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4796201105?pwd=bXM5OHJ2UEh4TXhQT1RkZnVrQWNVdz09>
Meeting ID: 479 620 1105 Passcode: 092720
8:00 am 12:00 Office hours
11:00 am Be a Modern Episcopalian, via zoom <https://zoom.us/j/4575423762>
1:00 pm Bible-Lite Group <https://zoom.us/j/4575423762>
- Tuesday** 7:00 am AA meeting, via zoom Dial in: 312-626-6799 Meeting Id:345 892 252
8:00 am Staff meeting, via zoom <https://zoom.us/j/4575423762>
11:00 am Bible Study, via zoom <https://zoom.us/j/4575423762>
4:30 pm Book Club discussion, via zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81484853481>
- Wednesday** 7:00 pm Evening Service
8:00 am 12:00 Office hours
- Friday** 8:00 am 12:00 Office hours

The Priest's Corner

Declaring Yourself a Brendanite.

Last week we discussed the process for learning about the Episcopal Church and St. Brendan's. Today we explore the various ways people have publicly declared themselves Brendanites and Episcopalian.

After you decide what you need to learn about or get all of your questions answered about the Anglican Church, Episcopalian living, St. Brendan's and so on, you may be ready to publicly proclaim this stage of your life. Here are the ways people joining St. Brendan's have proceeded.

The preferred way to be "received as an Episcopalian" is to be received as part of a liturgy by the Bishop. The Bishop visits our church annually to officiate at Confirmations, Baptisms, Receptions, etc. It's a very festive day and extremely meaningful for all.

As a diocese we are awaiting the consecration and seating of our new Bishop. Bishops allow various practices and encourage processes differently. So some of what we've done at St. Brendan's over the past few years may expand or be tweaked depending on the new Bishop. This being the case, we must take our lead from our new Bishop. At the same time, for the last three years we had a special arrangement with our last Bishop.

Three years ago, we had eighteen people wanting to be received into the church. Twelve of those were able to make the date that the Bishop was coming to St. Brendan's. Six could not. A priest cannot receive a person into the Episcopal Church; only a bishop can do this. I spoke to the Bishop about our dilemma, and he suggested that the six visit another church where he was visiting and be received there. None of the six wanted to do that; they wanted to have the ceremony at St. Brendan's. So we asked the Bishop if we could have a ceremony whereby the six could publicly declare themselves as Brendanites and be acknowledged by the parish as such. He gave his blessing to this—and from then on we followed this process. Every one of those followed up with being received by the Bishop at the next available visitation. It worked out beautifully and showed St. Brendan's once again on the creative cutting edge of customized approaches to traditional happenings.

One couple and two others needed an even greater degree of customization. They ended up declaring themselves as Brendanites with me privately and we announced this at the following Sunday liturgy and prayed for them publicly at that liturgy. They also were formally received by the Bishop at the next visitation opportunity.

Last year's Bishop's visitation had us again high in numbers with seventeen receptions. Four were not able to make the date in real time due to the pandemic and/or other responsibilities. We asked the bishop for virtual, live-streamed receptions for these four. He granted these and once again St. Brendan's provided another creative, cutting-edge experience for the church at large. So, we are a growing church doing our best to accommodate the diverse needs of our parishioners. Our first response is never, "Sorry, we can't...!" Rather, it's "Let's see what we can do about this!"

BTW—Remember last week when I mentioned we are starting our first post-pandemic newcomers' small-group Episcopalian/St. Brendan's Inquiry Group? We now have eleven people wanting to join the group. I will wait until Monday morning to close the group. If you are interested in joining this small group discussion, please let Regis or Katie know before Monday at noon.

All good,
Regis+



A (BFF) Building Family & Friends donation

was given in celebration for the baptism of Addison Christine Harnett, granddaughter of Chris and Roger Botti.

Thank you for making a difference at St. Brendan's by becoming a BFF donor. Contact Katie if you are interested in making a donation stbrendanskatie@gmail.com.

All Saint's Day is **Monday, November 1**, and we will be celebrating it on November 7. For St. Brendan's that means our tradition of reciting the Necrology by naming all who have been part of our prayers who have died in the last 12 months. All former members will automatically be included in the reading of the Necrology during the service. Contact Katie stbrendanskatie@gmail.com, if you have name/s of people you would like to have remembered.

Please use this link for the **Parish Directory** and book mark it as it is updated often!

https://drive.google.com/file/d/13r4tB1c5Ow_Q07MGWCDLLVYlxWKyaWRK/view?usp=sharing

Bible Lite. Bible Lite with Pastor Julie has returned **Tuesday Evenings, at 6:00**. At this time, we are reading the prophecies in Isaiah and the fulfillment of the prophecies in Luke. That's right – we are getting ready for Advent and Christmas by reading in October, November and into December. We can do it! Let me know if you are interested by emailing jlsphone1@gmail.com.



October's **Evening Prayer/Taize service** will be **Wednesday, October 27 at 7:00 PM** in the chapel. This is a quiet, peaceful, candlelight prayer service with meditation time, followed by Eucharist. The perfect mid-week antidote to a busy week! The candle-lit chapel is especially lovely at this time of year, with its shorter daylight hours. Mark your calendars! We'll see you there!



Help for Inner City Children. Once again, St. Brendan's, through the Justice Ministry, is partnering with Blessed Be Educators, to provide gifts to needy children in the Pittsburgh area. Families will be served in Homewood, Wilksburg and the North Side. Blessed Be Educators is faith-based ecumenical non-profit, working in the Pittsburgh area to lift up teaching as a ministry and support teachers. Hats and gloves are needed for children 1 year old to 14 years old, sizes XS to XL. The older children are often forgotten, so let's make an effort to include them. A bin will be set up at the entrance of the church. Please be generous, as you have in the past. Call Marilyn at 412-427-2715 with questions. Thanks in advance!

Fr. Regis is forming a small study group that may end up in people becoming **Episcopalians and/or Brendanites.**

Would you like to be a part of a group that will meet for six weeks to explore these interesting and important ideas?

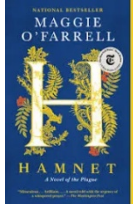
The way we do it is once I hear from you, and we have at least four people committed, we'll figure out a day and time that works for all of our schedules. This will be a hybrid get-together—those who want to participate from church will meet at church and those who want to meet through Zoom will do it virtually. Attend and participate how it's more comfortable for you. You don't know each other well yet, but I know you all. You'll love to be together for this.

The get-togethers are fun, insightful and you'll learn a lot. We use a book as our thought provoked, and we take it from there. No one will be forced to say or do anything that's not comfortable.

I'd like to get this started as soon as we can because my retirement begins on December 31. You will be my last group until I get back in some form of ministry. It will be my honor that you be in this group of people.

Contact Katie StBrendansKatie@gmail.com or Regis regisjs@verizon.net.

Football Pool. Congratulations to the winners of prizes in our inaugural October 17 Steelers-Seahawks Football Pool: Linda Limberis, Ken Parsons, Mike Donadee and Roger Botti! And thank you to all those who purchased squares, resulting in a \$700 profit to St. Brendan's. We may consider another pool for the Super Bowl in January ... so stay tuned!



The St. Brendan's Book Club will meet on Thursday, **November 7th at 7pm** to discuss "**Hamnet**" by Maggie O'Farrell. The book tells a fictionalized story of William Shakespeare and his wife Agnes and the death of their son Hamnet. It is described as a "luminous portrait of a marriage, a shattering evocation of a family ravaged by grief and loss, and a tender, unforgettable reimagining of a boy whose name was given to one of the most celebrated plays of all time." Please join us as we discuss this extraordinary novel! Feel free to contact Chris Botti at shadypatch@msn.com if you have any questions.



The North Hills Food Bank is currently requesting boxed potatoes, pasta, and canned chicken. Please bring non-perishable food items/donations when you come on Sunday or any time the church is open, and you can leave them in the shopping cart in the narthex. Go to their website at <http://northhillsfoodbank.org/donations/> for a full list of what they need right now. Anything you can give will help. Thank you!



Brendan's Boots. The parish hiking group will hold its next outing on **Monday, Nov. 1**, with a trek along Lake Arthur at Moraine State Park. After meeting at the church at 9 a.m., the group will carpool to the lake. Lunch at the Log Cabin Inn near Harmony will follow the hike. Everyone invited; feel free to bring a friend. For more info, please contact Tom Waseleski, twaseleski@comcast.net.

Cookie Walk Update ~ Save the Date: Saturday, November 20, 2021 ~ Walk-In: 9 am - 12 pm ~ Drive-Through: 1 pm - 5 pm

This year, we will be allowing for both a drive-through method, as well as a return of our traditional inside sales.

Cookie Walk FAQ:

- **All** cookies are home-baked by members of St. Brendan's and their friends—the same talented chefs who baked for you in previous years.
- One dozen cookies will be sold for \$5.00.
- If you arrive on the day of the event, you are asked to wear a mask and be vaccinated to walk around the cookies and select your own dozen between the hours of 9 am and 12 pm.
- If you order ahead for drive-through pick-up, you will be given a pre-selected seasonal assortment of one dozen holiday-appropriate cookies. You will select your pick-up time (between the hours of 1 pm and 5 pm) when you place your order. Orders are due by November 16, 2021
- In addition, we will be selling soup by the quart for \$8 or 3 for \$20. Soup sold will be made in St. Brendan's kitchen all Wednesdays and one Thursday leading up the day of the event. See the chart below. We have many openings for helpers; let Katie know your choice.
- Soup Selections consist of Cabbage Soup, Ginger Carrot Soup, Chicken Noodle Soup, Wedding Soup & Stuffed Pepper Soup.
- Since we will be purchasing soup ingredients and not making them in our own kitchens this year, please consider making a donation for the ingredients, either Giant Eagle gift card, cash or check.
- This year we're raffling off a prepaid Holiday Dinner which consists of \$500 of frozen meat along with a \$100 gift card. Tickets are \$25 each and the winner will be selected on the day of the event.
- To order your cookies, make payments, and reserve your pick-up time, use the order form (available soon – please stop back).
- Questions or concerns can always be addressed to Karen Dennis 412-580-2755 or kdennis54@verizon.net as well as, Katie Cervone 412-364-5974 or StBrendansKatie@gmail.com.

Day	Date	Soup	Time	Leader	Helper	Helper	Helper	Time	Leader	Helper	Helper	Helper
Wed	10/27/2021	Cabbage	12-4	Janice Moore				5-9	Julia Wick	Ken Parsons		
Wed	11/3/2021	Chicken Noodle	12-4	Janice Moore	Karen Dennis			5-9	Julia Wick	Ken Parsons		
Thurs	11/4/2021	Ginger Carrot	12-4	Janice Moore				5-9	Julia Wick	Ken Parsons		

Wed	11/10/2021	Wedding	12-4	Janice Moore				5-9	Julia Wick	Ken Parsons		
Wed	11/17/2021	Stuffed Pepper	12-4	Janice Moore				5-9	Julia Wick	Ken Parsons		

Senior Warden's Corner

This week's grouping of ministries at the heart of St. Brendan's is too easily overlooked. Full disclosure: my own involvement over the years in learning more about the faith I profess each week has been "uneven" (what a useful weasel-word that is!) When one is a parent, a wage-earner, a homemaker, a care giver, and/or a volunteer, it can seem nearly impossible to find time for group discussions of scripture or religious issues more generally. At the same time, I think that if we are honest most of us have questions that bother us from time to time and really deserve answers—or at least some serious reflection. St. Brendan's offers several educational programs for adults and teens that attempt to satisfy our curiosity and address our doubts. Our clergy are of course closely involved but lay leaders are taking an increasing role in leading these ministries.

This Corner would not be complete without a mention of the important ministries we provide for our youngest members. Although we have sadly been deprived of their presence for too long during the pandemic, we look forward to their return. Pr. Julie has been staying in touch with families and supplying materials for them to use at home each week. But soon, we trust that pediatric vaccines will make it possible for us to welcome pre-teens and youngsters back to the Sanctuary and to their Sunday programs in the Nursery and in Sunday School downstairs. Serving their needs demands a corps of dedicated volunteer teachers. No particular skill level is required, because we provide pretty straightforward materials for the weekly lessons, but teachers do have to take the online safeguarding course and undergo routine background checks before they start.

If you feel moved either to participate or to contribute to adult or children's programs, please take a moment to contact Fr. Regis, Tim Austin, Katie Cervone or any member of the Vestry. They'll make sure your name goes to the right person.


Next week: Education Ministries!

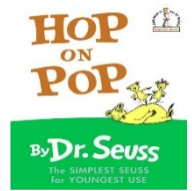
Senior Warden, Tim Austin

Children's Corner

Close your eyes and answer this without thinking for too long: What is the most beautiful sight you have ever seen? A sunset? Shooting stars? Your parents' faces when you thought you were lost?

When I was little, and so little I don't remember when, I could read. My first memories are of reading. Mostly reading Dr. Seuss books, but if I didn't have a book to read, I read the cereal box. I read everything I could see. Then in fourth grade, I had trouble reading – it started with the board in my classroom but also my books, and the teacher moved me to the front of the room so I could see the board better.

 When Mrs. May moved me to the front of the room, my grades improved. Soon after that, the school checked our eyes, and I was sent home with a note that I needed glasses. Moving me closer to the board was a short-term solution to my needing glasses. I've worn glasses ever since that day in March, 4th grade, when my eye doctor fitted me for my first glasses.



Today, I'm glad Mrs. May took the trouble to notice that I was having trouble seeing the board, and that my grades were going down because I could not see what she was teaching, and I could not learn the lessons I needed to study.

Kind of like Bartimaeus in this week's gospel. Bartimaeus had never seen a sunset or shooting stars or his parents' faces. He was born blind. In Jesus' day, that meant he would be a beggar all of his life because there was no place for him in their world. But one day, Bartimaeus heard a lot of people passing by him where he sat begging. Being curious he asked what was happening and they said, "Jesus is coming." Bartimaeus had heard of Jesus, and he wanted to be close to him – just in case.

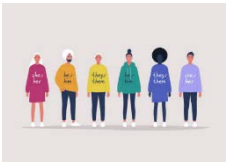
Just in case . . . the miracles he had heard about were true. And just in case Jesus would perform a miracle for him too. So Bartimaeus started to call out for Jesus – and the people around him tried to shush him. They said don't call attention to yourself, leave Jesus alone for the important people.

But Jesus saw him. Jesus SAW Bartimaeus and Jesus asked him what he wanted. Bartimaeus said he wanted to see. And Jesus said, "Go, your faith has healed you." Immediately, Bartimaeus received his sight.

Now think about how you would make sense of seeing a world you had only listened to before. How would you know daytime and nighttime? How would you recognize your parents? How would you identify all of the mysteries of the world around you, by sight, for the first time? Good questions.

But imagine if the first thing you ever saw in your life was Jesus giving you sight. There is a hymn that begins – "Open my eyes that I may see, visions of truth thou has for me, open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit Divine." That is the gift that Jesus gives us all – the gift of sight to see the world not as it is, but as God wants it to be. Imagine what that world would look like.

**Peace,
Julie**



Use of Pronouns on our name tags.

As you all know, St. Brendan's is a welcoming church; we welcome ALL. So, what does Welcome look like? A friendly smile, a warm welcome or any way to make all feel included.

Another way to make all feel welcome in our church is to include pronouns on our name tags, so that anyone that feels a need to use them, transgender, or gender non-conforming, will not feel singled out.

What are personal pronouns and why do they matter? Pronouns have an implied gender, such as "he" to refer to a man/boy or "she" to refer to a woman/girl. Sometimes, people make assumptions about the gender of another person based on the person's appearance or name. These associations are not always accurate and making an assumption could send a potentially harmful message -- that people have to look a certain way to demonstrate the gender that they are or are not.

You may wonder what's the big deal about using pronouns. For a person whose gender is in alignment with the sex they were assigned at birth, it's easy and there is little to no risk in sharing your pronouns. For a person who is transgender or non-conforming, sharing pronouns can be a bit riskier. When someone asks you to use their pronouns (whether it be he, she, they or ze), they are asking you to respect their identity. Using someone's correct personal pronouns is a way to respect them and create an inclusive environment, just as using a person's name can be a way to respect them.

Pronoun stickers will be available on a voluntary basis for our name tags beginning October 24: Because International Pronoun Day this year was October 20, we will begin providing stickers with pronouns the following **Sunday, October 24**. The stickers will be on the table where you find your name tags. If you choose to use pronouns on your name tags, simply take the appropriate sticker and affix it to your name tag. This is strictly on a volunteer basis. No one will encourage you either way -- it's totally up to you.

Using appropriate pronouns is a step toward respecting gender identities of all persons, creating a more welcoming space for people of all genders.

How do I use them? If you're one of the many people who are not familiar with how to use pronouns when talking with someone, here is an example. In this example, one of Sue's pronouns is "them".

"Hello, Mary. This is Sue. I've been meaning to introduce you to THEM for weeks, because I think you are both teachers. THEY just started teaching at Marshall."

For those of us who grew up learning singular and possessive pronouns, this make may not make a lot of sense, and may take a little while to get used to. Just do your best and don't worry if you make a mistake.

There is additional information next to the pronoun stickers when they are displayed.

CRIES Advocacy, (Christian Response In Emergency Situations), meets monthly on the third Sunday in the library after the 10:00 a.m. service where they determine the distribution of St. Brendan's 10% tithe of our pledged income. This week we are supporting the work of two organizations. The first is North Hills Food Bank, a local food bank St. Brendan's supports. Our donations help cover items needed to supplement donations. The other is Anchorpoint Counseling, a faith based affordable tutoring and counseling for children, teens and families located in Ross Township. www.anchorpointcounselingministry.org.

2021 October CRIES Distribution, always posted on the bulletin board in the narthex.

Brother's Brother Foundation	\$ 200
Episcopal Relief & Development	\$ 200
Miryam's Kitchen	\$ 100
Technoserve	\$ 470
Doctors Without Borders	\$ 655
Anchorpoint Counseling	\$ 505
Environmental Defense Fund	\$ 610
Operation Smile	\$ 590
North Hills Food Bank	\$ 610

Next meeting, November 21, in the library after the 10:00 service.



Haitian Project: At St. Brendan's we are supporting one of our members, Isaac, who is committed to helping people in his homeland of Haiti. We continue to collect clothes and other used items for him to send to Haiti. Donations needed are summer clothes and shoes for adults and children. You can also purchase toothbrushes, toothpaste and bars of soap. Gently used household bedding and towels are also appreciated. We will be collecting until November 15. If you cannot drop off items at the church to put into the donation box, call Joyce Donadee 412-849-9816 to make other arrangements.

Upcoming Events from our Neighbors

AHN and UPMC – Prevention is preferable to cure!

A plea to our healthcare leaders to lead.

We hope you will join us for the fourth virtual SWPA Grassroots Air Quality Town Hall

Thaddeus Popovich will be a panelist

Tuesday, October 26, 2021, Noon via Zoom ecstatic

Sign Up on Eventbrite! See below.

THINC30 Youthquake will virtually bring together higher schoolers and teachers to give them a voice during COP26 global climate discussions.

What is THINC30?

Since 2017, Covestro has held nine THINC30 summits to address some of the world's most pressing issues, using the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs) as a framework. THINC30 stands for transforming, harnessing, innovating, navigating and collaborating for a purpose-driven, sustainable future by 2030. Its mission is to introduce and accelerate sustainable development and business practices, public-private partnerships and social innovation.

The event is free and runs Nov 1 through Nov 5. See the link below for more information. You may attend all or certain sessions.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/thinc30-youthquake-2021-inspiring-next-gen-climate-changemakers-tickets-168761679727>



Requested Prayers

We ask your prayers for our beloved members of St. Brendan's, especially; Larry Toler, Sandy Nagy, Rosie and Rodge Wood, Matthew, Mark Shoemaker and Larry Tarrant.

For our parents, especially; Sandy Martin, Ray Miltzer, Naomi Getty and Lenora.

For our family members, especially; Kirk Latta, Mike Dixon, John Barie, Chris Sensenich, Linda Ahlbrand, Marie Hazelton, Tom Groves, Nathan Schlumpf, Bob Keihl, David Pingree and Robert Donato.

And for our friends, especially; Arlene, Dennis Ranalli, Becky Horton, Sherri Hilbert, Mary, Joan Gonzales, Heather and Dan Houle.



October 2021 Ministry Calender

Date	Lectors	Altar Guild	Sunday School	Nursery	Usher	Vestry	Hospitality
October 3 Sunday 8 & 10:00 am	8 Tammy Spoonhoward 1 st John Appledorn 2 nd John Appledorn P Michael Donadee <i>*Readers have the option to pre-record or read live in person.</i>	8 Ellen Groves 10 Phoebe Juel	~	~	Cameron Grosh Tim Austin	Tim Austin	Need Volunteer
October 6 Wednesday 7:00 pm	TBD	Darrell Johnson	~	~	~	~	~
October 10 Sunday 8 & 10:00 am	8 Ellen Groves 1 st AJ McKenna 2 nd Dean Peters P Donna Aiello <i>*Readers have the option to pre-record or read live in person.</i>	8 Sylvia Affleck 10 Shari Tarrant	~	~	Eric Helmsen Kate Heston	Larry Toler	Ken Parsons Regis Smolko
October 13 Wednesday 7:00 pm	TBD	Darrell Johnson	~	~	~	~	~
October 17 Sunday 8 & 10:00 am	8 George Snyder 1 st Michael Donadee 2 nd Annemarie Malbon P Donna Aiello <i>*Readers have the option to pre-record or read live in person.</i>	8 Joan Klinefelter 10 Janice Moore	~	~	Donna Aiello John Appledorn	Janice Moore	Need Volunteer
October 20 Wednesday 7:00 pm	TBD	Darrell Johnson	~	~	~	~	~
October 24 Sunday 8 & 10:00 am	8 Joan Beatrous 1 st Alan Schneider 2 nd John Appledorn P Mary Bertucci <i>*Readers have the option to pre-record or read live in person.</i>	8 Tammy Spoonhoward 10 Kathy Miller	~	~	Dale Bertucci Anthony Bertucci	Mary Bertucci	Allison Kline
October 27 Wednesday 7:00 pm	TBD	Darrell Johnson	~	~	~	~	~
October 31 Sunday 8 & 10:00 am Children's Sunday, 5th	8 Nancy Snyder 1 st (Children) 2 nd (Children) P (Children)	8 Dottie Antonucci 10 Anelisa Tarrant	~	~	Allyson Baierl Michael Donadee	Cameron Grosh	Need Volunteer



November 2021 Ministry Calander

Date	Lectors	Altar Guild	Sunday School	Nursery	Usher	Vestry	Hospitality
November 3 Wednesday 7:00 pm	TBD	Darrell Johnson	~	~	~	~	~
November 7 Sunday 8 & 10:00 am	8 Charlotte Pierce 1 st Michael Donadee 2 nd AJ McKenna P Need Reader <i>*Readers have the option to pre-record or read live in person.</i>	8 Sylvia Affleck 10 Janice Moore	~	~	Kate Heston Allyson Baierl	Tim Austin	Angela Schlumpf
November 10 Wednesday 7:00 pm	TBD	Darrell Johnson	~	~	~	~	~
November 14 Sunday 8 & 10:00 am	8 Tammy Spoonhoward 1 st Tim Austin 2 nd Alan Schneider P Linda Limberis <i>*Readers have the option to pre-record or read live in person.</i>	8 Ellen Groves 10 Shari Tarrant	n/a	n/a	Eric Helmsen Michael Donadee	Larry Toler	Need Volunteer
November 17 Wednesday 7:00 pm	TBD	Darrell Johnson	~	~	~	~	~
November 21 Sunday 8 & 10:00 am	8 Ellen Groves 1 st Donna Aiello 2 nd Mary Bertucci P Kate Heston <i>*Readers have the option to pre-record or read live in person.</i>	8 Tammy Spoonhoward 10 Phoebe Juel	n/a	n/a	Dale Bertucci Anthony Bertucci	Mary Bertucci	Need Volunteer
November 24 Wednesday 7:00 pm	TBD	Darrell Johnson	~	~	~	~	~
November 28 Sunday 8 & 10:00 am Children's Sunday, 4th	8 George Snyder 1 st Children 2 nd Children P Children	8 Joan Klinefelter 10 Libby Juel	~	~	John Appledorn Mike Wick	Janice Moore	Need Volunteer

