## WESTMINSTER

## PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

November 23, AD 2025



## "THE GRASS WITHERS, THE FLOWER FADES, BUT THE WORD OF OUR GOD WILL STAND FOREVER."

- ISAIAH 40:8 -

5744 Oakwood Road NW Huntsville, Alabama 35806 256.830.5754 www.wpc-hsv.org office@wpc-hsv.org

#### Office Hours:

Monday – Thursday, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM; Friday, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM Please silence your cell phones before the service begins.

Guest WIFI Password: matthew633 † *Those who are able, please stand.* 

## Morning Worship

**Prelude** Ms. Bertha Dykstra

Thanks to God for My Redeemer (Hultman, arr. J. Sanborn)

Sing to the Lord of Harvest (Hymn #553, arr. J. Sanborn)

Welcome and Announcements Preparation for Worship

> We Come, O Christ, to You Text: Margaret Clarkson, 1946, rev. 1984

Tune: Eastview by James V. Lee, 1892-1959

We come, O Christ, to you, true Son of God and man, by whom all things consist, in whom all life began. In you alone we live and move and have our being in your love.

You are the way to God, your blood our ransom paid; in you we face our Judge and maker unafraid.

Before the throne absolved we stand; your love has met your law's demand.

#### † Call to Worship

Psalm 34:1-10

Leader: I will bless the LORD at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

People: My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad.

Leader: Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together!

People: I sought the LORD, and he answered me and delivered me from all my fears.

Leader: Those who look to him are radiant, and their faces shall never be ashamed.

People: This poor man cried, and the LORD heard him and saved him out of all his troubles.

Leader: The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them.

People: Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!

Leader: Oh, fear the LORD, you his saints, for those who fear him have no lack!

All: The young lions suffer want and hunger; but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing.

## † Invocation and the Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name.

Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth
as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread,
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

## † Confession of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: And in Jesus Christ His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell\*; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;\*\* the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

\*this refers to the realm of the dead, not the place of punishment.

\*\*"catholic" means "universal" church, the true church in all times and places.

## † Gloria Patri

#572

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

## Call to Repentance

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, pg. 988

## Corporate Confession of Sin

Holy Father, when we hear your command to pray without ceasing, we are immediately struck with the reality that we do not make use of this means of grace as we ought, and therefore we forfeit many spiritual blessings. We confess that we think too lightly of the sin of prayerlessness, forgetting that it reveals a heart of pride and self-sufficiency. We confess our lack of commitment to keeping this command, our lack of desire to commune with you, and even our lack of love for others by failing to pray for them. We ask, O God, for mercy and forgiveness for our sin of prayerlessness, for a renewed desire for prayer, indeed a renewed desire for your presence at work in our lives. And we praise you that when we fail, that Jesus remains our great High Priest, ever living to intercede for us before your throne. It is in his name that we pray, amen.

#### Silent Confession of Personal Sins

## Assurance of Pardon Old Testament Reading

Romans 8:1-4, pg. 944 2 Chronicles 20:1-12, pg. 372

† Psalm

I Love the Lord, for He Has Heard My Prayer

#116A, vv.1-4,8

Prayer of Intercession and Dedication

Mr. Jim Roberts

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Hark, I Hear the Harps Eternal (Traditional Hymn, arr. Alice Parker)

Hark, I hear the harps eternal ringing on the farther shore, As I near those swollen waters, with their deep and solemn roar. Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, praise the Lamb, Hallelujah, hallelujah, glory to the great I AM!

And my soul, though stained with sorrow, fading as the light of day,
Passes swiftly o'er those waters to the city far away.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, praise the Lamb,
Hallelujah, hallelujah, glory to the great I AM!
Souls have crossed before me, saintly, to that land of perfect rest;
And I hear them singing faintly in the mansions of the blest.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, praise the Lamb,
Hallelujah, hallelujah, glory to the great I AM!

Hallelujah, hallelujah, praise the Lamb, sing glory! Hallelujah, hallelujah, glory to the great I AM!

**Prayer for Illumination** 

Proclamation of the Word of God

Mr. Jim Roberts

"Prayer Required"

James 4:1-3; 5:13-18

Approach, My Soul, the Mercy Seat

pg. 1012

#451

† Hymn of Response † Benediction

† Doxology #567

† Postlude Ms. Bertha Dykstra

O Thank the LORD, for He is Good (Hymn #136)

#### 277

## **Before the Throne of God Above**



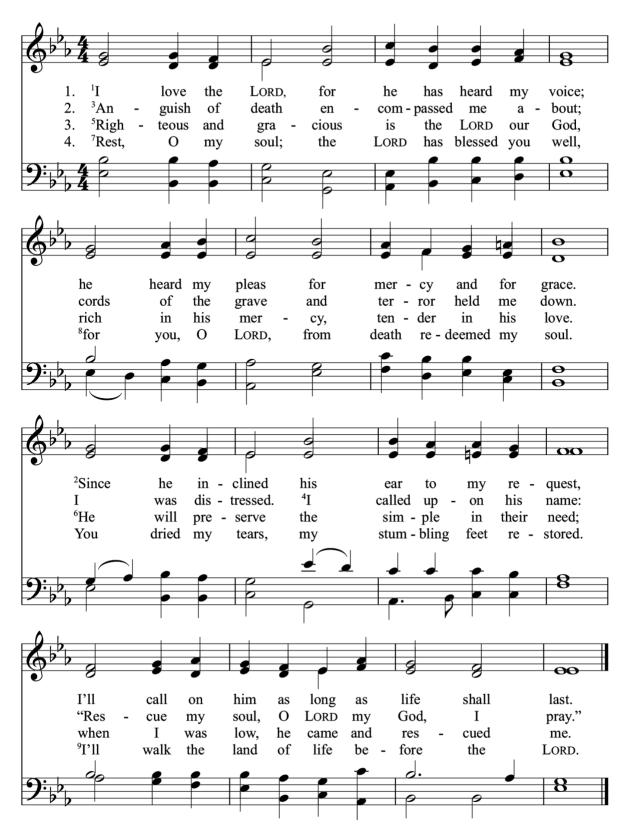


Charitie Bancroft, 1863; alt.

BEFORE THE THRONE 8.8.8.8.8.8.8.8.8. Vikki Cook; arr. Ruth Coleman

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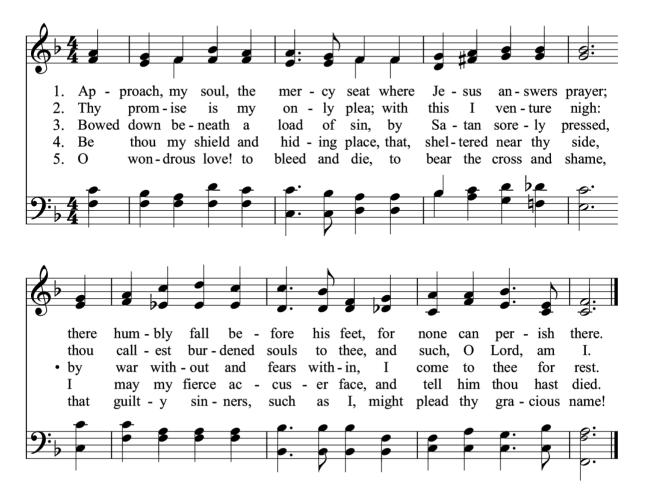
## 116A I Love the Lord, for He Has Heard My Voice





## Approach, My Soul, the Mercy Seat

#### 451



John Newton, 1779

DALEHURST C.M. Arthur Cottman, 1874

## Evening Worship

Prelude Ms. Bertha Dykstra My Soul! Bless the Lord (Hymn #104B, arr. C. Curtis) Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven (Hymn #239, arr. M. Hyzer) Welcome and Announcements † Call to Worship Psalm 136:1-4 Leader: Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever. People: Give thanks to the God of gods, for his steadfast love endures forever. Leader: Give thanks to the Lord of lords, for his steadfast love endures forever. To him who alone does great wonders People: for his steadfast love endures forever. † Hymn of Adoration Come, Ye Thankful People #552 † Invocation Encouraging One Another with Psalms, Hymns and Spiritual Songs Psalm of the Month My Heart Is Not Exalted #131A † Hymn We Praise You, O God, Our Creator, Redeemer #247 **Confession of Faith** Westminster Larger Catechism Q. 42, pg. 944 **Prayer of Intercession** Allen Zumbach **Offertory** Thanks for the Blessings You Give (J. Turner) Proclamation of the Word of God Mr. Roy McDaniel "Righteous in All His Ways and Kind in All His Works" Psalm 145 pg. 524 Great is Thy Faithfulness † Hymn of Response #245 † Doxology #567 † Postlude Ms. Bertha Dykstra

The Heavens Declare Your Glory (Ps. 19, tune: Faithful by Bach)

## 552 Come, Ye Thankful People, Come



## 131A

## My Heart Is Not Exalted



OPC/URCNA 2016 © 2018 Trinity Psalter Hymnal Joint Venture LOBT GOTT, IHR CHRISTEN C.M.rep. Nikolaus Herman, 1554 Harm. Johann Sebastian Bach, ca. 1738, in Cantata 151

## We Praise You, O God, Our Redeemer, Creator



Julia Cady Cory, 1902 Mod. KREMSER 12.11.12.11. Adrianus Valerius, *Nederlandtsch Gedenckclank*, 1626 Harm. Edward Kremser, 1877

#### 245

## **Great Is Thy Faithfulness**





Thomas O. Chisholm, 1923 © 1923, renewed 1951 Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188

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FAITHFULNESS 11.10.11.10.ref. William M. Runyan, 1923

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Welcome guests! We are delighted that you have come to worship with us here at Westminster. We pray that God will bless you richly through the service and the welcome of our congregation and that you will worship with us again soon. For more information about the church, please stop by the Welcome Desk in the Lobby.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

2026 Faith Promise Giving To Missions: While Westminster's General Fund is used to support missions giving to campus ministry and church planting, the rest of our missions' program is funded by your Faith Promise giving. Faith Promise is trusting God as you give, above and beyond your regular tithes, toward the ministry of our missionaries in furthering the spread of the Gospel across the globe. Faith Promise is sacrificial giving. It is giving through an abundance of joy and wealth of generosity according to your means and beyond your means (II Corinthians 8:2–3). Such "freewill" offerings are mentioned frequently in the Bible. One such place is Psalm 54:6-7. There David writes, "With a freewill offering I will sacrifice to you; I will give thanks to your name, O LORD, for it is good. For he has delivered me from every trouble, and my eye has looked in triumph on my enemies." Faith Promise giving will foster a more direct and personal connection between you and our missionaries as you take an integral part in their ministry. While we are thankful for those who give and do not pledge out of conviction, letting us know of your intent helps us make missions budgeting decisions more accurately. Our goal this year is \$200,000.

**PCA CDM Women's Love Gift**: Each year, the PCA's Committee on Discipleship Ministries collects a special offering from churches to support the wives of elders by providing counseling, training, and encouragement so they can be equipped as they care for their church and their spouse. Westminster will be collecting this offering during the evening service on Nov. 30. Please prayerfully consider giving to this Love Gift and pray that these gifts would be used to encourage our elders' wives and, ultimately, to glorify the Lord. For more information, flyers are available at the welcome table in the narthex.

**Poinsettia Orders:** Help us decorate the sanctuary with poinsettias this Christmas season. Flowers may be dedicated in memory of or in honor of a loved one and names will appear in the bulletin beginning December 8. The poinsettias will be displayed each Sunday of Advent and will be available to take home after the Christmas Eve service. The deadline to order is December 14. Order forms can be picked up on the table in the narthex.

<u>Christmas Decorating</u>: Today, we will be decorating the church for Christmas and we need as many hands as possible to get it done in a timely fashion. There will be two phases of work. First, immediately after Sunday School, we will be bringing the decorations down from the Mezzanine and staging them in the transepts. Second, immediately after Evening Service, we will set up the decorations.

<u>College students (and their parents!)</u>: We have care packages for our college and grad students who are about to take finals! Please see Pastor Duncan or Mary Katherine in the narthex to get a bag for yourself OR your son/daughter. IF we need to mail the care package please make sure we have your child's current address!

<u>Sing with the choir this Christmas!</u> Join us as we prepare for this Advent season and our annual Lessons & Carols service! Practice times are featured on the December Events handout, and in each week's schedule in the bulletin. If you are planning to join only for the Hallelujah Chorus during Lessons & Carols, please consider attending any choir practice in December from 7:30-7:45pm in the sanctuary, as we rehearse the Chorus (this is not mandatory, but highly encouraged)! Contact Ella Grace Baker (ellagrace.baker@wpc-hsv.org) with any questions.

<u>Crown Club Christmas Luncheon:</u> The Crown Club will be having a Christmas Luncheon on December 3, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. in the WPC Commons.

<u>Caroling with the Outreach Team on December 4</u>: Come carol with us! We will be driving to the homes of some of our members who are unable to join us regularly. Dress warm, bring flashlights, and meet at the church parking lot at 5 pm. Sign up with Pastor Duncan or on Realm.

<u>Ladies' Annual Christmas Breakfast:</u> All ladies, college-aged and up, are invited to enjoy this time of fellowship, feasting, and festive fun at WPC from 9-11 am on December 6! Registration is open. If interested, please sign up at the table in the Narthex by November 30. There is a \$5 registration fee, and scholarships are available! Contact Jessica Nuckols with any questions (<u>nuckols.jess@gmail.com</u>).

40's & 50's Pot Providence: Join us in the WCA Cafeteria after Sunday School on Sunday, December 7, for a time of lunch and fellowship together! Bring a dish to share and enjoy connecting with others in this wonderful season of life. Use the QR code to sign up: For more information, please contact Pastor St. John.



<u>Carol Sing</u>: Come sing carols with us for the residents of Regency Retirement! December 11. Please meet in front of the short building at 4:45 pm to start singing at 5. Be prepared that we may be walking through the halls with our music this time! Contact Jacqueline Bryant for any questions and to RSVP.

Family Tinsel Trail Walk: Please join us on December 15th for the Family Tinsel Trail Walk (free) at Big Spring Park. \*Weather Dependent\* There will be Hot Chocolate, Coffee (for adults only), and donuts! We will meet at the corner of Spragins and the YMCA (by the stone wall fountain and fish mural, closest side of the park to downtown). Please RSVP through Realm by using the QR Code. We hope to see you there!

**ROOTS**: Students- It's time for ROOTS RETREAT! Providence Presbytery's annual winter youth retreat will take place at Camp ToKnowHim in Pisgah, Alabama, from January 23-25, 2026! Cost is \$145/person. Scholarships are available. Scan the QR code to sign up. Talk to Mark or Mary Katherine for more information.



The WPC session invites all members and friends of WPC to join together in paying off our debt by the end of the 2025 calendar year. We currently have a balance of \$112,000, and paying off the debt will enable us to increase our ministry in a variety of ways. The session and the Strategic Planning Committee have been working on these plans, and they intend to bring a report with recommendations/plans to the January 2026 Congregational Meeting.

## **2025 Upcoming Events**

- December 3: Crown Club Christmas Luncheon
- December 4: Outreach Team Caroling
- December 6: Ladies' Annual Christmas Breakfast
- December 11: Carol Sing @ Regency
- December 12: Young Adult Christmas Party @ 6 pm
- December 15: Family Tinsel Trail Fellowship @ 6 pm
- December 17: College & Career Christmas Party @ 6 pm
- December 21: Lessons & Carols
- January 30-February 1: Men's Retreat
- March 27-28, 2026: Parenting Conference

## Sunday School for Youth and Children:

3-year-olds:	Nursery Pre-K	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade:	WCA 108
4-year-olds:	WCA 105	5 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Girls:	WCA 210
Kindergarten:	WCA 100	5 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Boys:	WCA 211
1st Grade:	WCA 101	7 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Girls:	WCA 207
2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade:	WCA 102	7 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Boys:	WCA 209
3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade:	WCA 103	9 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup> Grade:	WCA 206

## **Sunday Servants**

	This Week: 11/23/25	Next Week: 11/30/25
Coffee Fellowship	Team Cochrane	Jan Parsons
<b>Evening Prayer</b>	Allen Zumbach	Aaron Finch
Head Usher	Walker Thames	Josh Buhl
	AM: Cameron Baird, Bethany	AM: Cameron Baird, Cassady
	Miller, Emma McFadden,	Robey, Kevin Carl, Libby
	Joelle Benton, Michelle Benton	Chandler
	SS: Abigail Newell, Mary	SS: Mary Sanford, Keith &
Nursery	Sanford	Barbara White
	PM: Anna Bosma, Amelia &	PM: Eleanor Thames, Katya
	Penelope Bosma, Katya Eberle,	Eberle, Richard Burley,
	Amena Fox, Emily Jordan	Walker Thames, Elizabeth
		Davis
Sexton Counter	Paul Galloway	Josh Brown
Sound Booth	AM: James Pearce	AM: Eric Fulcher
	PM: Christopher Thompson	PM: Eric Fulcher

# December Special Church Events CHURCH

December 21, 9:30 am - Lessons and Carols Service

December 21, 11 am - Lessons & Carols Fellowship Brunch

December 24, 5:00 pm - Christmas Eve Candlelight service

December 23 - January 1 - Church Office Closed. Merry Christmas And Happy New Year.

## **CHOIR & CHORUS**

December 3, 10, 17, 6:15-7:45 pm - Christmas Choir Practice (7:30-7:45 is open practice for all congregants and choir members who plan to join the Hallelujah Chorus at Lessons & Carols)

December 7, 14, 4:30-5:30 pm - Orchestra Practice

December 17, 4:45 pm - Choir & Orchestra Christmas Dinner

December 20, 9 am-12 pm - Special Lessons & Carols rehearsal (choir & orchestra)

## **OUTREACH**

December 4, 5:30 pm - Carpool Caroling to our members

December 11, 4:45 pm - Christmas Caroling @ Regency Retirement

## **CROWN CLUB**

December 3, 11:30 am - Crown Club Christmas Luncheon

## LADIES'

December 6, 9:00 am - Ladies' Annual Christmas Breakfast

#### **COLLEGE & CAREER**

December 17, 6:00 pm - Christmas Party at the Robert's

## **YOUNG ADULT**

December 12, 6:00 pm - Christmas Party at the Knight's

## **YOUTH**

December 13 - 5th-6th grade Christmas Breakfast at the Ballard's

December 13 - 7th-8th grade Christmas Party at the Floyd's

December 20 - 9th-12th grade Progressive Dinner

## **KIDS**

December 14 - Last Sunday School of 2025

December 15, 6:00 pm - Family Tinsel Trail



WPC's Age and Stage Adult Discipleship Classes are organized in age groupings to encourage relational connections among people experiencing similar life circumstances.

College Age	Respectable Sins This class, based on Jerry Bridges' book, helps us battle common sins	Jim Roberts Meets in WCA 110 School Building
20s and 30s	Biblical Parenting This class explores what the Bible teaches about marriage, family, and parenting	Stephen St John Meets in WCA 104 School Building
40s and 50s	Being God's Steward A study of what God's Word says about money and possessions	Stacy Murphree Meets in the WPC Library Upstairs in the Church Building
60 Plus	Respectable Sins This class, based on Jerry Bridges' book, helps us battle common sins	Eric Fulcher Meets in WPC Room 1 Upstairs in the Church Building

Other WPC Adult Discipleship Classes include a cross generational class that blends people from all stages of life and our own "seminary lite" BASIC Institute Class.

Cross Generational	1 and 2 Chronicles, Esther This is an in-depth study of these Old Testament history books.	Robert Benton Meets in WPC Room 2 Upstairs in the Church Building
BASIC	Systematic Theology 102 This is a seminary-lite class that focuses on the Doctrine of God, Man, and Christ.	Cliff Smith Meets in the WPC Commons Upstairs in the Church Building



## November 23 – November 30, 2025

Morning Worship: 9:30 AM Sunday School: 11:10 AM Evening Worship: 6:00 PM

## Sunday, November 23, 2025

4:30 PM - Orchestra Practice – Sanctuary

4:30 PM - Outreach Ministry Team Meeting

7:00 PM - Christmas Decorating

## Tuesday, November 25, 2025

7:00 AM - Men's 'Holiness' Book Study @ WPC

7:00 AM - Men's 'The Reason for God' Book Study @ Blue Plate Café

## Wednesday, November 26, 2025

6:15 PM - Christmas Choir Practice

## Sunday, November 30, 2025

12:15 PM - Japan short-term Team meeting in Commons

4:30 PM - Orchestra Practice – Sanctuary

Pastoral Staff			
Joe Steele	Senior Pastor	joe.steele@wpc-hsv.org	
Jim Roberts	Associate Pastor	jim.roberts@wpc-hsv.org	
Duncan Cantrell	Pastor of Outreach &	duncan.cantrell@wpc-hsv.org	
	Young Adults	duncan.cantren@wpc-nsv.org	
Stephen St. John	Pastor of Adult Discipleship	stephen.stjohn@wpc-hsv.org	
Roy McDaniel	Pastor/WCA Bible Teacher	roy.mcdaniel@wca-hsv.org	

Ministry Team			
Ella Grace Baker	Choir Director	ellagrace.baker@wpc-hsv.org	
Cameron Baird	Nursery Coordinator	cameron.baird@wpc-hsv.org	
Mark Ballard	Student Ministry Director	mark.ballard@wpc-hsv.org	
Ryan Brady	Pastoral Assistant	arbrady629@gmail.com	
Bertha Dykstra	Pianist	bertha.dykstra@wca-hsv.org	
Mary Katherine Keel	Student Ministry Associate	mary.keel@wpc-hsv.org	
Curry Knight	Administrator	curry.knight@wpc-hsv.org	
Sydney Knight	Director of Children's	sydney.knight@wpc-hsv.org	
	Ministry		
KeriAnn Knupp	Office Manager	keriann.knupp@wpc-hsv.org	
Jennifer Murphree	Director of Women's	jennifer.murphree@wpc-hsv.org	
	Ministry		

## **WPC Officers**

#### **Deacons:**

Craig Bosma, Josh Brown, Logan Bryant, Josh Buhl, Paul Galloway, John Gunn, Matt Harness, John Kirkwood, David Knight, Sam Lowrance, Monday Mbila, Art McKinney, Wade Pettus, Andy Rutledge, Christopher Thompson, Nate VanKirk, Chris Wellborn

#### **Ruling Elders:**

Andy Ball, Nat Causey, Joe Crowhurst, John A. Davis, John W. Davis III, Fred Diaz, Curtis Edewaard, Bill Emrich, Aaron Finch, Eric Fulcher, Scooter Johnson, Paul Keel, Scott Lynn, \*Brian McFadden, Stacy Murphree, Scott Nicol, Chester Replogle, Ken Shipman, Allen Zumbach

(\*currently on sabbatical)