Welcome to

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

The Sixth Sunday of Easter Sunday, May 9, 2021 at 9:30 a.m.



St. Mary's: Serving with JOY!

The mission of St. Mary's Episcopal Church is to bear God's Good News through joyful worship, Christ-centered teaching, compassionate care, and intentional relationships.

The Sixth Sunday of Easter Sunday, May 9, 2021

9:30 a.m. The Holy Eucharist: Rite 2

Welcome to St. Mary's Episcopal Church!

In these extra-ordinary times, St. Mary's offers three Sunday morning worship opportunities of Holy Eucharist. One is an online pre-recorded liturgy of the Rite 2 service (Spiritual Communion), posted to our Facebook and YouTube platforms. The others are in-person public liturgies (Rite 1 at 8am in the Chapel and Rite 2 at 9:30am in the large church, or outdoors on the 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month), following the parameters outlined in Fr. Tom's Pastoral Letter of April 30th and in accordance with current state Executive Orders and guidelines from the Episcopal Diocese of East Carolina.

For worshipers gathering in person, we thank you for taking seriously the measures that allow us to gather safely: wearing face coverings at all times when worshipping indoors, observing 6-ft feet between households, and refraining from congregational singing. Face coverings are asked to be worn by those who have not been fully vaccinated at times when 6-ft distancing can't be observed, and are certainly welcome to be worn outdoors by anyone. These practices will make our time together safer and are appreciated as signs of love for one another.

You may also wish to bring a copy of the Book of Common Prayer and Bible to incorporate into your worship while at St. Mary's Church and beyond. If you don't have either, please speak with the clergy - we'd love to help! All page numbers refer to the Book of Common Prayer.

SERVERS IN THIS LITURGY:

Celebrant & Preacher: Tom Warren

Eucharistic Minister & Seminarian: Greg Smith

Organist: Sharon Veitch Vocal Soloist: Marcus Jones Recorder: Seraphim Smith

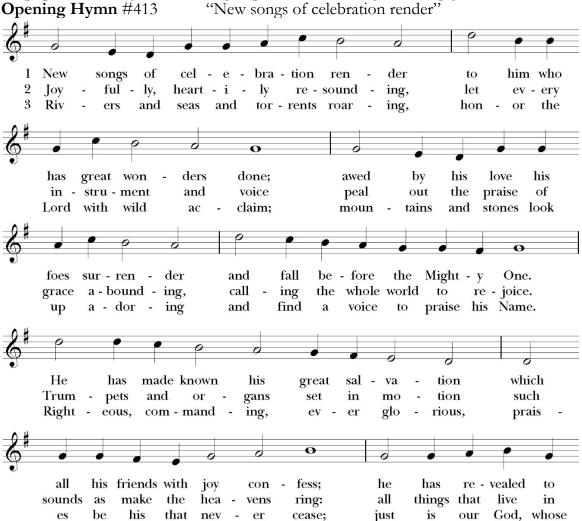
Acolytes: Chloe Albritton, Daniel McKinley, Everette Haddad

Lector: Greg Smith

Ushers/Greeters: Amy and Lee Albritton, Mara Moye

Prelude Greeting & Announcements

The people stand as they are able during the procession while the hymn is sung by the soloist.





Words: Erik Routley Tune: Rendez à Dieu

Opening Acclamation

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Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Then the Celebrant continues

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Collect of the Day

Page 225

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Lessons

All may be seated for the readings.

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles:

10:44-48]

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we

have?" So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

Lector The Word of the Lord. People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 98

- 1 Sing to the Lord a new song, * for he has done marvelous things.
- 2 With his right hand and his holy arm * has he won for himself the victory.
- 3 The Lord has made known his victory; * his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
- 4 He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, * and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
- 5 Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands; * lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
- 6 Sing to the Lord with the harp, * with the harp and the voice of song.
- 7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn * shout with joy before the King, the Lord.
- 8 Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, * the lands and those who dwell therein.
- 9 Let the rivers clap their hands, * and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord, when he comes to judge the earth.
- 10 In righteousness shall he judge the world * and the peoples with equity.

A Reading from the First Letter of St. John:

[5:1-6]

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

Lector The Word of the Lord. People Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel

John 15:9-17

All stand as they are able.

Gospeler The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said to his disciples, "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

The Gospel of the Lord.

People

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

All may be seated.

The Sermon Fr. Tom

All stand as they are able.

The Nicene Creed

Page 358

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he

ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People - Form IV

Page 388

Leader Let us pray for the Church and for the world. Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. We pray for Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Rob, our diocesan bishop; and all bishops, priests, and deacons.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

People Hear our prayer.

Leader Guide the people of this land, especially Joe, our President; Roy, our Governor; and Don, our Mayor; and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

People Hear our prayer.

Leader Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

People Hear our prayer.

Leader Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

People Hear our prayer.

Leader Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, especially those named on the parish prayer list and all whose lives and livelihoods have been seriously impacted by the coronavirus pandemic; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

People Hear our prayer.

Leader We commend to your mercy all who have died, [especially _____], that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

People Hear our prayer.

Leader In our Parish Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the Acolytes of St. Mary's Church. We ask you, Lord, to fill all who serve in the sanctuary at your altar with your Holy Spirit, that in living out this calling, they may help others to worship you and be strengthened to be faithful witnesses to your Gospel in all parts of their lives.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy, People Hear our prayer.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Prayers may be lifted aloud or in the silence of our hearts at this time.

Celebrant Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

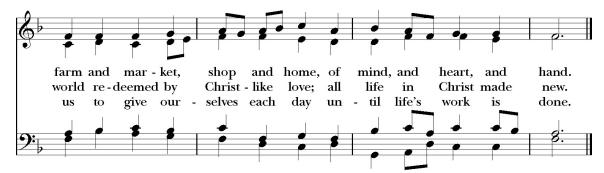
Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you. People And also with you.

The Offertory

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

A collection basin is located at the entrance of the church where worshippers may, at their desired time, place offerings for Christ and His church.





Words: Frank von Christierson

Tune: Forest Green

THE HOLY COMMUNION

All stand as they are able.

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer A

Page 361

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Then the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**Holy, **Holy, **Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

The Celebrant continues, the People stand or kneel

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." **

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."**

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *Amen.***

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

^{**}Indicates times when the Sanctus bells are rung by the acolyte.

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us:

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

Ministration of Communion

The Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

All baptized Christians are welcome to share in the banquet of the Lord's Supper. Please speak to the clergy if you would like to learn more about baptism and following Jesus as a baptized Christian. During this time, communion is shared in one kind (bread only). Anglican eucharistic theology has consistently taught that Christ is truly and fully present in either, the bread or the wine of communion. The full benefits of communion are available to the faithful in extra-ordinary circumstances when sharing both the bread and wine are not possible.

To receive communion, please stand where you are and a Eucharistic Minister will bring communion to you. Please wait until the minister has moved beyond six feet from you before adjusting your face covering to consume the bread.

If you would prefer to receive a prayer of blessing at this time, please continue to stand and as the clergy draws near, cross your arms across your chest to indicate your intention.

Please be seated after you have received communion or a blessing so the clergy can easily tell who still desires to receive communion or a blessing.

For those not wishing to receive communion, you are invited to pray this prayer of Spiritual Communion, adapted from the Armed Forces Prayer Book.

In union, O Lord with the faithful at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. I present to you my soul and body with the earnest wish that I may always be united to you. And since I can not now receive you sacramentally, I ask you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to you, and embrace you with all the affections of my soul. Let nothing ever separate you from me. May I live and die in your love. Amen.

Communion Music

#606 "Where true charity and love dwell" "We plow the fields, and scatter"

Ubi caritas Wir pflugen Let us pray.

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

An Easter Blessing

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. Amen.

Dismissal

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia!

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!

Closing Music

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This Week's Schedule – May 9, 2021

Sun. 8:00 pm AA meets in Moseley Hall

Mon. 6:00 pm Boy Scouts Round Table Meeting

Tues. 8:30 am Morning Prayer in the All Saints' Chapel

9am-noon Fr. Tom's Office Hours

Wed. 7:00 am Men's Morning Prayer Group - Email Gerry Fox for the Zoom link

9am-noon Fr. Tom's Office Hours 2:00 pm Parish Staff Meeting

Thurs. 8:30 am Morning Prayer in the All Saints' Chapel

Noon Holy Eucharist for Feast of Ascension (outdoor Prayer Chapel)

2-4:30 pm Fr. Tom's Office Hours

3:45 pm Coffee with Liz

5:00 pm Handbells Rehearsal

Fri. 9am-Noon Fr. Tom's Office Hours

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in honor of Diane Meachum and all the mothers at St. Mary's by Evelyn Rider.

TODAY'S LOOSE OFFERING: The loose offering today is designated for the clergy's Discretionary Funds. Monies from the discretionary fund are used to assist

needs in our community and for parish unbudgeted items. Checks should be made payable to St. Mary's Church and in the memo portion of the check write, Rector's Discretionary Fund. Please be generous in your response.

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY - While there will not be Sunday School for children this morning or EYC for youth this afternoon, the Family Ministry has prepared a special goodie bag for moms to celebrate this special day. Be sure to give some love to **all the special mother figures** in your life today (and everyday!).

OUTDOOR WORSHIP SCHEDULE - Beginning this month, the 9:30am liturgy will be indoors on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays and then outdoors on the West Lawn on the 2nd & 4th Sundays. In the event of inclement weather, the 9:30am liturgy will be held indoors. The 8am liturgy will continue to be held in the Chapel.

THE PROGRAM YEAR concludes soon. Next Sunday, May 16, will be the last Sunday for Christian Formation classes and EYC gatherings each Sunday. We are so grateful for the many leaders and facilitators who have made these opportunities possible for our church family this year! Stay tuned to the bulletin announcements, Wednesday emails, and BellRinger for occasional programs and opportunities throughout the summer and beginning again next September!

A FAMILY FROM NORTHWEST (our Hand in Hand Partner School) experienced an extensive fire this week on Fairfield Ave. This family has children in the 3rd, 6th, and 8th grades. St. Mary's has already responded with an immediate contribution from the Rector's Discretionary Fund, but we are also welcoming donations of clothing/household items noted below and/or additional financial contributions to the Rector's Discretionary Fund. The guidance counselor, Anne Ormond (aormond@lenoir.k12.nc.us), is a point of contact for the family.

- Boys': pants size 16, Medium Shirts, Size 7 shoes
- Men's: pants size 32, Large or Xlarge Shirts, Size 10.5 shoes
- Junior girls': Pants size 9/10, Large Shirts, Size 7 shoes
- Ladies: pants size 24, 3X Shirts, Size 7 shoes
- Toiletries, towels, snacks, kitchen items, any household items

ACOLYTE TRAINING will be next Sunday, May 16, 2021 at 10:45am in the Nave of the Church for new and returning ministers. Acolytes are generally rising 5th graders and older (there is no age limit to serving at the Lord's altar in this way)!

ROGATION SUNDAY will be celebrated with our sisters and brothers in faith from the three Episcopal Churches of Lenoir County (St. Mary's, St. Augustine's, and Holy Innocents) next Sunday, May 16, 2021 at 3pm at Holy Innocents Episcopal

Church (6861 Hwy. 55 West; Seven Springs, NC) with Father Tom as the Officiant. This will be a short outdoor liturgy, including prayers for agriculture and industry, the Eucharist, and great fellowship. You are invited to bring seeds or garden tools to be blessed at this service.

SACRED GROUND film and readings-based dialogue series on race created by Episcopal Church in its efforts towards racial healing. This 10-part series is hosted by the Diocese of East Carolina and is offered via Zoom. It is open to all and it is primarily designed to help people talk about systemic racism. Read more and sign up via the link in our Wednesday emails. If you have any questions, contact Rachel Williamson via email at edwrbw@gmail.com.

COMING TOGETHER: A COMMUNITY CELEBRATION is a series hosted by the Neuse Regional library to engage the community in open forum discussions about issues concerning race and equality affecting our community. All are welcome. This series will include books as well as webinars, and movie screenings. The first is a conversation on May 13 at 6:30pm about the book So You Want to Talk About Race facilitated by Mayor Pro Tem & educator Felicia Solomon and Mike Martin, elder at 1st Presbyterian Church. Learn more at https://www.facebook.com/neuselibrary.

SAVE THE DATE - Join ECW for our spring gathering on the West Lawn on **Sunday, May 23rd at 3pm** as we welcome a special guest speaker, The Honorable Beth Heath. Beth will share with us her passion to serve women and Kinston's new transitional home for women, House of Hope.

VBS - Mark your calendars for VBS this summer, hosted by First Presbyterian Church. This will be an evening VBS held **August 1st-3rd**, and more details will be shared as soon as they become available.

FORWARD DAY BY DAY - The May-July edition of Forward Day by Day in small or large print is available now! Pick up your copy in person or call the church office and we will gladly mail one to you.

PRAYER REQUESTS can be shared with Fr. Tom through a confidential form on our website. Name, phone number, or email address aren't required, but are able to be shared for follow-up pastoral care. Find a link to the form in our Wednesday emails.

ECW FAITH FRIENDS - Consider joining FAITH FRIENDS, a group of ECW women making intentional personal connections by checking in on an assigned church member. Please contact Laury Sargeant (jsarg4@suddenlink.net) or Audra Haddad (5haddad@suddenlink.net).

ALL LITURGY SERVERS: Please be attentive to emails & messages from Ministry Scheduler Pro! If you have any questions about the schedule, please contact Gerry

Fox at <u>gfoxjr@gmail.com</u>. The "live" schedule is available at: <u>https://www.rotundasoftware.com/ministry/stmaryskinston/schedules/575299</u>.

F3 IS OFFERING A NEW WORKOUT OPTION IN KINSTON! Most F3 (Fitness, Fellowship, Faith) workouts are "high intensity," but there will be a new F3 workout that is "low intensity" (stretching, core, light cardio, light weight training) for men who, because of age, current fitness level, or injury, would benefit from this sort of workout option. The first date is May 19 at 6pm at Northwest School. Check out <u>f3kinston.com</u> or contact Fr. Tom or Stuart Stroud for more information about the workouts that are offered daily in and around Kinston. FiA (Females in Action) offers a similar model of workouts for women. Learn more on the "Fia Lenoir County" Facebook Page!

SUPPORTING THE LIFE OF ST. MARY'S CHURCH - We recognize the incredible impact of this pandemic on every facet of our lives and are grateful for the tithes and offerings that have continued to be sent by mail and online.

DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER: St. Paul's, Greenville: the Rev'd Andrew Cannan, Rector, the Rev'd Skip Walker, Associate Rector, and the Rev'd Deacon Bobby Weatherly; and the Most Rev'd Michael B. Curry, Presiding Bishop and Primate, Staff of The Episcopal Church Center

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK: Madison Mauck, Claude Kennedy, Eliza Newton, Holly Hill, Hannah Herlong, Ty Wentz, Ron Albertson, Bruce Rafferty, Dan Sale, Christina Zoltek, Phil Sanders

ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK: Carrie and Jim Purnell, Elizabeth Maxwell and Dennis Tracz, Frances and Mark Herring

Tom Warren	Rector
Sharon Veitch	.Organist/Choirmaster
Stuart Stroud	Senior Warden
Jimmy Ballard	Junior Warden
Jon Sargeant	Treasurer
Audra Haddad	Clerk of the Vestry
Lori Kelly	Parish Administrator
Liz HengstYouth/Families Ministry Coordinator	
Sherry TannerCo	ommunications Director
Jim Godfrey	Mary's Kitchen Director
Cyndi Rafferty	Altar Guild Chair
Laury Sargeant	ECW President
Greg Smith	Seminarian

Parish Vestry	
2021	2022
Jimmy Ballard	John John
Sam Gilmore	Scott Turik
Jessica Shimer	Dee Warner
Stuart Stroud	Harry Wooten

2023 Skip Greene Audra Haddad Vicki Kennedy Pam Mazingo