BONIAIR CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST) OCTOBER 2025 NEWSLETTER

Bon Air Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

2071 Buford Road North Chesterfield, VA 23235 (804) 272-6228 worship@baccdoc.org

VISITUS:

http://www.baccdoc.org









Worship With Us:

Saturday Evening Worship: 5:00 p.m. Casual Worship Service

Sunday Morning Worship:

8:45 a.m. Worship Service & 11:00 a.m. Worship Service (in person and via Zoom)

Adult & Youth Sunday School:

10:00 a.m. Sunday School

Prayer and Fellowship:

Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom

All are welcome!

Commitment

"Commit your way to the LORD; trust in God, and he will act." - Psalm 37:5

When you hear the word "commitment," what comes to mind? Do you think of relationships? Of schedules? Of promises? Of dedication? Of burdens?

This year, Bon Air Christian Church's 'Commitment Sunday' falls on October 12th. In practical terms, Commitment Sunday is a due date: we ask for everyone to have their stewardship pledge cards and time and talent sheets turned in by that date. (Not sure what I'm talking about? Let me know!)

But the spirit of Commitment Sunday is more than just a deadline for the practical work of planning and budgets. It's a reminder that our congregation only works because of the prayer, presence, gifts, service, and witness of each member of the community. It's a call to re-commit ourselves to our mission - of reaching out to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ, reaching up to worship God, and reaching in to nurture and grow in faith and love - and our wholeness ministry vision - to reach out, seek, and support those who are struggling in body, in mind, and in spirit. It's a time to reflect on how we might stretch ourselves in the coming year to grow in generosity, in faith, and in love.

Commitment is a big word. For some of us, it can even be a scary word. But Jesus promises us that when we commit to the ministry he calls us to, that he doesn't leave us alone in it. The work is shared. "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest," Jesus says. "Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me: for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light" (Matthew 11:28-30). When the burden is shared, it suddenly seems much lighter. So come - share in the joyous work. You might be surprised how good, how restful, it really feels.

Grace + Peace,



Stewardship 2026

With gratitude to God, we are excited to share our vision for another year of faithful mission at Bon Air Christian Church. This past year we've witnessed growth and energy in our ministries: our new Praise 'n' Play program, baptisms, births, a household drive for Home Again, a new initiative to support homeless veterans, and bringing on a new associate minister to support all of these efforts. We pray for God's guidance and support as we prepare for a new year of sharing in faith and love.

Our Stewardship theme for this year is "Sharing Stories." As we explore stories of sharing in our scriptures and reflect on sharing our own faith stories, we know that our church also relies on sharing. For BACC to live out its mission, we need to share gifts of time, talent, and resources in order to conduct spiritually meaningful worship, teach our children, open our doors to the surrounding community, sustain our talented and committed church staff and support a wide range of mission-focused activities.

To support these commitments, the board has approved a 2026 proposed budget. This budget includes our first full year of having the Reverend Amy Oblinger as our Associate Minister. We also want to support the rest of our gifted and committed staff, as they lead us in worship, take care of our growing group of young children, and improve our communication and online presence. New service opportunities and creative ministries will need support to get started. And of course, our beautiful and historic church building is not immune to the realities of rising costs and ongoing upkeep. The proposed 2026 budget reflects rising costs in postage, property insurance, maintenance, and other needed investments. More importantly, it represents the excitement and hope we have for ministry in the year ahead. The proposed 2026 budget represents a very conservative 3.4 percent increase over 2025.

We ask that you prayerfully consider the ways you are willing to help our church share the good news of God's love this coming year – through prayer, presence, financial support, talents, and spreading the word. By now members should have received a copy of the budget, pledge card, and time and talent sheet. If not, we have copies available in the church office. **We ask that you return your pledge to church by October 12th**, either by mail, in-person in Sunday's collection plate, or by emailing our Financial Secretaries Diane and Frank Clark. We are grateful for the generosity of this congregation!

We gather as a church to know God's love. We are sent out to share that love with the world. What gifts might you be called to share?

In Christ's love,

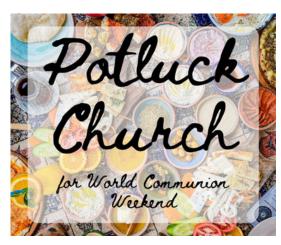
Shea Hollifield & Jon Ver Beek Stewardship co-chairs

Let us not grow weary of doing good. - Galatians 6:9

Fellowship & Service

POTLUCK CHURCH

On the Saturday of World Communion weekend, **October 4**th at 5:00 p.m., when many churches celebrate the diversity of faith expressions throughout different cultures, Bon Air Christian Church will be hosting Potluck Church! With Potluck Church, we celebrate the diversity of gifts and experiences that folks bring to the table (literally and figuratively), and what better time than World Communion to try that out!



Potluck Church is open to anyone and everyone who's interested in worshiping around a dinner table - no matter your church background, your economic status, your family situation, your politics... All are welcome to join us in this reminder that the thing that unites us - God's love - is stronger than anything that divides us.

And if you can't bring anything to eat? Come anyway! Maybe what you have to share is a story or some impressive dishwashing skills. We all have something to contribute!

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Everyone is welcome! Sunday, October 5th at 4:00 p.m. at St. Michael's Episcopal Church

Come join us on the front lawn for an ecumenical service as we give God thanks for our animal companions and provide blessings for our furry (feathery or slimy) friends! Bring your own chair. Have all pets leashed or in carriers.

PRAISE n PLAY

Praise 'n' Play is on **Thursdays at 9:15 a.m.**, in the Multipurpose Room. It's designed for infants – age 3, though older siblings are welcome. BACC's own, Jane Finnegan, will be teaching the class.

We all want to share our love of God with our children and music can be a fun and lasting way to share that gift! Families are an important part of God's plan to share the message of Good News. We hope you can join us!



Fellowship & Service

CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The first meeting of the DAY BOOK STUDY CWF Group will be on **Thursday, October 23rd at 11:00 a.m.** at Andee Kirk's home. "BIBLE WOMEN All Their Words And Why They Matter" by Lindsay Hardin Freeman is the book study. The book is available to order at Amazon, Barnes And Noble and Books A Million. October's study is the priest of Midian's daughters (dinner guests) on page 109 in Chapter 4: Women Who Speak in Exodus. Those who are able will go out to lunch following the meeting. If you are interested or know someone who is interested please contact Andee (804) 929-2270 or (andeekirk1@outlook.com)

If you are free during the day, come join the Day CWF. It meets on the **2nd Tuesday of the month at 10:30 a.m.** in the Multi-purpose room. We will meet on 10/14 after our return from our fall beach trip at the Outer Banks. As usual we will be signing cards for those who are ill and/or shut-in and those we feel might need a little extra sunshine in their lives. Angie Branyon will lead our lesson. Read Gen. 39: 1-19 to prepare. After the meeting lunch will be at Angelo's Italian Pizza at 13137 Midlo Trnpk at 12:15 for those interested. Coming up next month is a Silent Retreat at Holy Cross Abbey in Berryville, VA on Nov. 21-23. Don't forget to bring your canned goods for the Bainbridge food pantry and your gift cards for the Women's Shelter of the Richmond YWCA.

The Salad Group is our night group which meets on the second **Thursday of the month** in the Education Wing. We will meet on 10/9. The CWF Salad Group study this year is titled, "God's Promise: I Am With You", which will be a journey through scripture looking at God's articulation of God's promise. Study books are \$10 and will be available at our first meeting. The country of study this year is Vietnam. For our service project this year, we will be joining with the Day Group to collect items for Redd Elementary, and other designated agencies. Our schedule and format remain the same: Gather at 5:45-6:00 p.m. for pot luck salad, program start at 7:00 p.m. for in-person and Zoom. If you have trouble attending in person, this is a great group to join. Let Cathy Law know you are interested and she'll send you the Zoom link.

ALSO MARK YOUR CALENDARS: CHILI COOK-OFF will be held on **November 15, 2025** after the Saturday Service. So start getting things ready for the Silent Auction. Most of the items we auction off are items members or their friends have made or baked. Arlene Giffel is in charge of the auction this year. Please let her know if you have something to donate. (<u>arlenegiffel74@yahoo.com</u>). If you want to enter a chili, let me know. We can always use a vegetarian chili. (804 543-4490 or <u>newmac13433@gmail.com</u>). ~ Jamie McDonald

CHRISTIAN MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Fellowship Opportunities for October 2025

Men's Lunch. Wednesday, October 1st (First Wednesday of each month). Joe's Inn Bon Air (11:30 AM). Contact Tom Snodgrass to reserve your seat at the table (804-370-5279 or tesnodgras@aol.com).

ROMEO*s Breakfast. Wednesday, October 8, 15, 22 and 29 at Joe's Inn Bon Air (9:15 AM). No reserved seating, no reservation required.

Men's Dinner. Thursday, October 16th at 5:30 PM. Octoberfest at Capital Ale House, 13831 Village Place Drive, Midlothian, VA 23114. Contact Tom Snodgrass to reserve your seat at the table.

Intergenerational Ministry

LIBERATION VETERANS SERVICE PROJECT

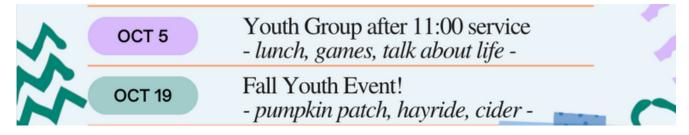
On September 21st, a group of BACC folks met in the church kitchen to cook a meal for the residents at Liberation Veterans Services, a shelter for veterans transitioning out of homelessness. We teamed up to put together a taco bar, complete with homemade guacamole! After transporting the food over to the shelter, we set up, served the vets, and sat down to dinner with them. We had a great time, made some delicious food, and made some new friends.

A big THANK YOU to everyone who showed up to help! If you'd like to join us in the future, there will be more opportunities to serve with LVS in the coming months.



YOUTH GROUP

Mark your calendars for these upcoming events in October and be on the look-out for more infromation in your Wednesday "Church News" emails.



CHRISTMAS PAGEANT SIGN-UP - SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!

Calling all theatre geeks!! For this year's intergenerational Christmas pageant happening on Sunday, December 21st, Pastor Amy has written a one-act play, with roles for kids, teens, and adults of all ages! This is a great opportunity for anyone in our congregation with theater experience to flex those acting muscles and help tell a different kind of Christmas story. If you are interested in a speaking part AND are willing to commit to some extra rehearsals in the months leading up to the pageant, then **please fill out this Google Form by Sunday, October 5th.** The rehearsal schedule will be light, and we'll work around everyone's availability; but this core cast will need to commit to putting in some extra rehearsal time!

Also... For those of who prefer the "show up with my kids and plop a halo on their head" type of experience, there will still be the traditional "nativity pageant" contained within the play, which will provide just such an opportunity. Younger kids will, as they have in the past, learn a Christmas song or two during Sunday School in the weeks leading up to December 21st. There will also be plenty of opportunities for folks who prefer to work behind the scenes. Details coming in a few weeks!

What's Happening

23RD ANNUAL BACC BAGPIPE CONCERT

October 11, 2025, 8:00 p.m.

Bud Deihl and Chance Bell invite you to join them for "EAT, PRAY, PIPE" — a continuation of our free, live bagpipe concert and feast.

EAT, PRAY, PIPE is a celebration. For the 23rd year, we will be sharing music of the pipe, great food, prayers of thanksgiving for the blessings we have received, and the opportunity to be together once again.

Music is a language that can bring us all together and sharing at the table is the core of community. We hope you will enjoy both at this 2025 "Gathering of the Clan" on Saturday, October 11 at 8:00 p.m. (Doors open at 7:30 p.m.)

All donations received at the concert are donated to the <u>Week of Compassion</u>. Week of Compassion is the relief, refugee and development mission fund of the <u>Christian Church</u> (<u>Disciples of Christ</u>) in the United States and Canada.

Volunteers Needed:

This is one of the largest events we offer and it continues to draw countless people from the public to Bon Air Christian Church (DOC).

Greeting and seating such a large crowd is challenging. Many of you have helped Susan in the kitchen and in setting up food for the feast, which follows the concert, and we are asking for that help again. One of the most important tasks is cleanup after the concert and packing dishes, loading the truck, etc.

Please contact Bud or Susan Deihl if you can help in any way. We greatly appreciate the opportunity to present this concert as a gift to the church community and to the public.

We look forward to seeing you on October 11th as we greet new friends and EAT, PRAY, PIPE.

Bud bud.deihl@gmail.com 804-370-9115

Susan roundoor@gmail.com 804-370-9117



Saturday, October 11, 2025





What's Happening

CRAIG SPRINGS WORK WEEKEND

Craig Springs sponsors two work weekends annually. Fall Work Weekend will be **October 10-12**, **2025.** Meals are served from supper on Friday through Lunch on Sunday. You are welcome to attend all or part of the weekend. Links to the online registration and task lists are posted below:

Possible Task List:

- Landscaping: This includes leaf removal and working on the various flower beds. We have some equipment but if you are able bring your own so what we have will go farther.
- Screening: There are screens on doors and windows that need to be patched or replaced, it would be good if we knew someone was coming to do this to confirm that we have a sufficient amount of supplies.
- Ceiling Fans: We still have a few fans that need to be installed ... need to have basic electrical skills.
- Small Engine Mechanic: Service, Repair or determine if useful for parts or need to be disposed of.
- Firewood Area: Some of the firewood is stacked, but some needs to be split, and the area needs additional clean-up. Plus wood from downed trees over the winter needs to be collected, split if necessary, and stacked.
- Painting: The stage area of the Glasshouse needs to be painted as well as the entire Glasshouse ceiling needs. There is also so some spot scraping and painting that needs to be done on the Glasshouse, Central and other Buildings.
- Siding Assistance: Need a couple people to help with installing Hardi-Board Siding on Central where rotted siding has been removed ... no skill necessary, just need help holding during installation.
- Craft Room ... we are still working on relocating some supplies to a separate storage area and determining which supplies should be disposed of or given away,
- Swimming Pool: Shut-down procedures
- Clean and repair horseshoe pits.

REGISTER HERE!





TRUNK OR TREAT

Mark your calendars and get ready for a SPOOKTACULAR event! One of the highlights of the year! Trunk or Treat will take place **Saturday, October 25th from 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.** The Candy Monster will be in the office soon and you are welcome to feed him as much as you want • The more candy, the better! And you can SIGN UP HERE to help in other ways. It takes a village!

What's Happening

CROP WALK

Mark your calendars for **Sunday, November 9th.** We will have a joint lunch before we head out for the walk. The host church this year will be St. Michael's Episcopal Church. Stayed tuned for details in your Wednesday Church News emails. We hope to have a record number of walkers this year, raise tons of money to help end hunger by providing life-saving support including emergency food and resources, and we hope to keep the GOLDEN SNEAKER at BACC! Everyone is welcome to join the team!

CCHASM THANKSGIVING EVENT

Saturday, November 22nd

Our Thanksgiving meal bag event will be held on Saturday, November 22, at the Chesterfield County Fairgrounds exhibition center. This year, our goal is to serve 3,500 families.

Provide a Thanksgiving Meal with a \$20 Grocery Gift Card

Each family served receives a grocery gift card to purchase a turkey or protein of their choice. We rely on your generous donations to make this possible. Please consider donating \$20 grocery store, gift cards (Walmart, Kroger, Food Lion, or other area stores). You can also donate funds directly to CCHASM for this purpose.

Pack a bag with non-perishable items*

Each Thanksgiving gift package includes non-perishable staples like canned vegetables, mashed potatoes, and stuffing. A full list is available at cchasm.org/pledge. Your donation of complete meal bags ensures families receive a thoughtful and filling holiday meal.

Help Us Plan for Demand: Return pledges by September 26

To help us plan and organize, we ask that all completed pledge forms be returned by September 26. Food and grocery gift card donations may be dropped off at the Chesterfield County Fairgrounds November 17-19.

Your partnership extends beyond the holiday

Your efforts fuel our mission, extending support far beyond one holiday. In the past fiscal year, CCHASM *served over 26,510 individuals* through our network of 15 food pantries and emergency utility assistance programs.

*There will be some groups at BACC assembling bags. If you are interested in helping, contact Diane Clark. Thank you for your continued support!

REDD Elementary



Supplies for Redd Elementary School:

Thanks so much for the support that Bon Air Christian Church gives to Redd Elementary School. Below is a list of supplies needed this year for school. Sometimes brand names are requested because teachers know that many things will be used in these bags from food in the plastic storage bags to crayons to notices home. All supplies can be brought to church on Sunday and given directly to Angie Branyon, or you may put them in the Sojourners Sunday School Class. Please label the bag if left. Thanks again for your generosity in helping these students be successful.

School Supplies

Elmers glue sticks

#2 pencils

Wide-ruled notebook paper

Black and white composition books

Colored pencils

Spiral notebooks

Rulers (inches and centimeters)

Expo dry erase markers

Plastic 2-pocket folders (green, yellow, blue, red, etc.)

Pencil top erasers

Colored highlighters

Post-it notes

Large pink erasers

3X5 index cards

Blunt scissors

Manilla Folders

Colored divider tabs

1 1/2 inch Binder

Pencil box

Classroom Supplies

Hand sanitizer (preferably the pump)

Boxes of tissues

Gallon size Ziploc Storage bags

Quart size Ziploc storage bags

Paper towels

Disinfecting wipes

Disinfecting Spray



Dear Bon Air Christian Church,

On behalf of Transylvania Habitat for Humanity I extend our heartfelt thanks for your generous gift of \$500, received on June 12th. Your support is a true blessing to our ministry and the families we serve in Transylvania County.

With your partnership, Habitat has been able to complete 82 homes and provide over 163 critical repairs, ensuring that families in need have a safe, stable place to call home. Your congregation's commitment to serving others through acts of kindness and generosity is a testament to your faith in action.

Together, we are demonstrating God's love by helping families, build their homes and their futures. Your gifts enables us to extend a hand up – not a handout – to those who are striving to create a better life for their loved ones.

Thank you for standing with us in this mission to transform lives through the power of community and faith. May God continue to bless your church family abundantly for the good work you are doing in His name.

With gratitude and blessings, ~ Angie Hunter, Executive Director

NOTE: This was the Habitat that our mission trip volunteers worked with this summer.



Dear Dear BACC Members,

Thank you for all of your prayers and well wishes last weekend and this week as I underwent a heart catheterization procedure at Chippenham Hospital. Allen and I felt so well supported!

Good news is: there is no blockage at all, and no heart disease, yay! A true blessing of health, for which I am truly grateful. Your prayerful presence helped to lessen the stresses. With deep appreciation,

~ Joy & Allen Black



Dear David,

"After many years of thinking it would never get better, I finally see light at the end of the tunnel. Having a safe person to process my traumas with is life-changing." ~ VIPCare client

The Board of Directors, staff, and clients of The Virginia Institute of Pastoral Care would like to thank your congregation for your generous gift of \$400 received on September 10th, showing your commitment to VIPCares mission.

Your generous gift helps provide vital mental health counseling for those seeking healing and hope, but who otherwise could not afford the cost of their care. Your support has changed lives. Thank you for partnering with VIPCare and helping to bring healing and hope to our community!

With deep gratitude,

~ Douglas M. Thorpe Ph.D., Executive Director and Julie Massie, Director of Development



Dear Friends,

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for all the love and care you've shown me (& Kendra) after my accident. Breaking four ribs hasn't been easy, but your prayers, cards, calls, and meals have lifted my spirits more than I can say! I have a ways to go to get back to 100% but know I will heal completely, and for that I am grateful.

I feel so blessed to be part of such a caring church family.

With love and gratitude, ~Jon Ver Beek



Dear BACC friends,

I want to thank everyone for your ongoing cards, calls, and visits. It means so much to me and I truly am grateful for my thoughtful and supportive church family!

With my heartfelt love and appreciation to you all,

~ Ethelene Slayton

Church Family Update

WELCOME, EVAN GROSS!

We welcome our newest member, Evan Gross, to our church family. He grew up in Roanoke and attended the Methodist Church. His grandfather on his mother's side is a retired Methodist minister there. He has a sister who lives in Fairfax and a brother who lives here. He moved to Richmond following his graduation from Virginia Tech where he obtained his BS degree in Construction Engineering and Management.



Address: 2329 West Grace Street, Apt. 2 Richmond, VA

Cell: 540-798-2708

23220

Email: grossevan0@ gmail.com

He works for the construction company of B&S Site Development and currently is assigned to the LEGO Plant in Chesterfield. He learned of our Disciples Craig Springs Camp from a friend and spent the summer of 2021 working there where he met Allison Landergan. He likes hiking and any and all outdoor sports and activities. He has a cat named "Ukulele". We are delighted to have Evan join our BACC family.

BACC 2026 CABINET

God graces the church with leaders equipped for its work by gifts of the Holy Spirit. We rejoice in the rich blessings of God as represented in the leaders who have been called to Christ's service and who acknowledge this calling by dedicating their lives to Christ's servant ministry. We give thanks for you and offer you our prayers and our support.

2026 CABINET CHAIRPERSONS

- Angie Branyon Christian Education
- Jeff Branyon & Cathy Law Church in Community/ World Outreach
- Claire Deitch Evangelism
- Shea Hollifield Long Range Planning
- Sandy Logan & Laura Hollis Membership
- Doug Collins Property/Grounds
- Shea Hollifield & Jon Ver Beek Stewardship
- Karen Basalay Worship

We also want to acknowledge and thank Kendra Ver Beek for her dedication and service to the church, and specifically to the youth in her many roles since 2010 when she officially took over the Youth Group from the Clarks. Kendra is now transitioning to the role of *Director of Church Operations and Communication*, as Pastor Amy will now lead Christian Ed., Youth, and our Intergenerational Ministry efforts. We are excited for both Amy & Kendra!

Prayer Concerns

Our Prayers...

Please pray for: Taylor Brooks who is home after an appointment at Johns Hopkins Hospital this week; Zachary Moon who is recovering from shoulder surgery.

Continued prayers for: Doug Collins and family; Steve Goff; Traci Eagle; Rob Morey; Wayne Varnier; Randy Slayton; Joy Black, Laura Stankiewicz, Kelly Logan; Gerry Roppé; Mackenzie Mason; the family of Kathy Morton; Janet Lenhart's sister Phyllis, and brother Bill; Cassie Price's sister, Liz; Kevin Heath; Julian Flores' grandfather, Anthony; Jeff and Angie Branyon's friend, Adrianna; friend of the Clarks, Rick; Sara Reese's sister, Janet Holder; Joan Mielke's brother, Jackie and sister-in-law, Doris; Josh Moorefield, friend of Amy Walsh; Deb Shiro; Mary Garrison; Ollie White; Ethelene Slayton; Peg Eagle; Faye Lester; Andrew Crank; Steve Kline; Paul Stairs; Richard Law; Troy Plummer; Angel Huff and family; Bud Deihl's Mother; Paula Spencer; Pat Cosby; Marion and Gary Hosey; Sylvia Montgomery; Harold & Gail Campbell; Gail Macfadden; Jake & Mazie McCann; Teresa & Larry Lafoon; Chris Verheul; Rick Lewis; Diane & Phil Harris; Peggy Gross, and her brother, Calvin; Frank Wilson; Nick Miles; Paige Utz; Mary Key; John Rogers; Jeff Swanson; the family of Steven Bruster; Cathy Law's friend, Carol; Bernie McDonald's sister, Norma; Debra Vaughan's brother, Danny & daughter in law, Janice; Bill Murray's sister, Margaret; Kris Foster's sister in law, Jane; Bob Blumenstein; Cindy Stratton's nephew, Keith, and her friend, Vlad; Gina McKenney's friend, Jimie Lee; Linda Verhuel's sister, Amy and her friend, Judy; Dana Hatton's friend, Tiffany; Anna Claire Jurman; Shirley Gibson's son, Drew; Cathy Wheless; Richard Seeds; Vickie Shannon's mother; Tery Sarver's brother, Butch; Tammy Rucker's Mom, Pat; Alice Murray's sister & friend; Devon Forehand; Denise Healy; Betty Jurman; Linda Lowers; Eric Moorehouse; Joel Blackwell; Jane Shuler; Bill Mahoney; JJ Blum; Nancy Rucker; Teresa McLaughlan; Jim & Rose McCaferty's family; Will Monger; Lanny Saylor; John Foster; Caroline Laughorn; Jerry Ayers; Claire Marling's student, Victoria; Joann Ivey; Phil Hepler; Diane Fearnley's friend, Nancy; Faye Ringel; Eric Morris; Gail Cox, friend of the Baum's; Connie Graves; Ada Slayton; Scott McCann; Janice Hoover; Nikki Todd; Judith Hazelo.

