



THE CHURCHMOUSE

Windsor Presbyterian Church

July 2022



To the Flock . . .

Summer is here! I am writing fresh off my trip to Glacier National Park and in the midst of Arts Festival set-up. It was such a wonderful trip so if you would indulge me, I would like to share some of the highlights with you all.

Please read the rest of the *Churchmouse*, as there are some wonderful things going on in the church that I don't want you to miss. Most churches wind down in the summer, but here at WPC, we are getting so many great things started—Men on a Mission, Adult Sunday School, exciting staff news, returning to the basics of our faith to be the best witnesses of Christ's love we can, and so much more that is moving the kingdom forward here at the corner of 63rd and University!

Highlights from Glacier Study Leave

The views—what an incredibly beautiful place! Everywhere you look there are snow-capped mountains, crystal blue lakes, and unbelievable geological formations. Each day we witnessed an unending rainbow of wild flowers and were able to see wonderful wildlife—birds, black bears, grizzlies,

marmots, mountain goats, big horn sheep, and lots of other critters. The late spring, combined with



all the snow and rain that came down while we

were there, created rushing streams, swollen rivers, uncountable waterfalls, so many rainbows and stunning displays of shadow and light.

Early in the trip we had the privilege of having a conversation with Greg, a member of the Blackfeet Nation, who shared with us some history of his people and the area. It was fascinating, heartbreaking and hopeful. Then our guide, Pastor Miriam, introduced us to her friend, Rev. Calvin Hill, a Navajo who is serving a congregation in Browning, MT. He is a holy man. As we talked and he shared his story with us, we become friends. Under his leadership, his congregation is working to instill hope and direction in the people. Through ranching, the arts, and feeding the community, they are teaching people to be able to connect with the land, support themselves and

the community, and have hope for a future. Both of these conversations were holy ground.

Many things on the trip were not as we expected. The facilitator, Ryan, learned when he disembarked from the plane that his house in Atlanta had been struck by lightning and caught on fire. He needed to go home. This changed many dynamics of the trip. In his absence, I led the slower group of hikers on the what turned

~ continued on p. 3

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Discipleship (Belonging & Christian Formation)

Angie King

Presbyterian Women

After a successful, interesting, and fun first year, PW is taking a hiatus until September. We will pick up again on September 17. Our dates for next year will be October 15, November 19, December 17, January 21, February 18, March 18, April 15, and May 20. Mark your calendars now!

We so appreciate the support and involvement of our wonderful Windsor women for this program. I, for one, learned so much about some of the extraordinary grandmothers in Jesus's genealogy. We warmly invite everyone to participate next year!

Summer Sunday School



Summer Sunday School is off to a rousing start with a great group of Windsor folks sharing their thoughts and opinions about the topic of the week from *The Wired Word*. So far, we've discussed living underground and underground cultures and organizations, unplugging from all the bad news surrounding us, and a four-day work week and the purpose and meaning of work. Very interesting conversations that we try to connect with our everyday lives and our lives of faith in the church.

Text Bible Study

Bible Study continues each Tuesday morning at 9:30 both on Zoom and in East Hall. This summer we are studying the eight habits of evangelism. Join us for a deep dive into the Scriptures, which, I think, prepares us for a more meaningful worship experience on Sunday.

No Session Highlights

Session didn't meet in June, so there's nothing to report. Our next meeting is July 14. If you have concerns or questions or anything you want the Session to consider, talk to an elder.

Men's Group

Our newly-formed Men's Group will meet on the first & third Wednesday evenings at 6:00 p.m. in Ward Hall. We hope to meet twice a month and see what comes from our group.



On July 6, come prepared to discuss the first chapter of James. You are invited to write down any questions or insights you gain from reading this chapter. We will discuss the chapter and seek ways to apply it to our lifestyles.

Daryl Leffler will provide homemade cinnamon rolls. If anyone would be interested in helping to make coffee, I would invite you to arrive around 5:45 p.m. to help me find the needed items for coffee.

On July 20, we will meet and discuss insights from the men who went to Israel this summer and see where that discussion leads.

There was also discussion that centered on finding different ways we can reach out to the community. One idea was to connect with Cowles and Windsor schools, where they have been doing gardening and providing produce to DMARC Food Pantry. We are open to other ideas, as well.

Please feel free to invite friends to join us. If you have any questions or suggestions, contact Bob Culbertson at 515-279-4551 (home), or 515-720-6663 (cell).

Psalm 113:3

"From the rising of the sun to its setting
The name of the Lord is to be praised."



Celebrations (Special Events & Fellowship)

Jody Cox



To the Flock ~ continued from p. 1

out to be the only long hike we were able to take. It was a gift to help them do more than they thought they could do.

The weather was mostly cold and rainy, but one afternoon we knew there would be a break in the weather, and we moved up our plans to rent e-bikes. We were able to ride on the Going to the Sun Road, which was closed to cars. It was a stunning ride up the mountain and an exhilarating (and white-knuckled) ride down. We were like little kids, filled with joy and glee and glowed for hours recalling our adventure.



The true gift of the trip was the time for group reflection. One of the best reminders of the trip was that when you are slogging through the mud, rain or snow; laboring up switchbacks; or carefully making your way down the trail, one of the most important things you can do is stop and look up. It is easy to get caught up in all the muck and all that needs to be done, the tasks at hand and the difficulties in your path. But the true beauty happens when you stop and look at all the gifts God is giving us. So, if there is a lesson for me and maybe for all of us in this trip, it is to take a minute to **look up**, notice, and give thanks for all of God's gifts.

**I lift up my eyes to the hills—
from where will my help come?
My help comes from the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.**

(Psalm 121:1-2)

Shamaine

Evangelism:

Don't make resolutions, create habits

by Paul Seebeck | Presbyterians Today

*Reprinted with permission**

Written by diverse authors in the PC(USA), the eight habits of evangelism were identified by the Rev. Drs. Ray Jones and Kathryn Threadgill, respectively the director and associate director of the Presbyterian Mission Agency's Office of Theology, Formation & Evangelism.

They began praying about this new resource in November 2019. Within a few months, the COVID-19 pandemic that swept the world began exposing the many inequalities of race and economy within the U.S. As Jones and Threadgill listened to God, they began identifying the habits of evangelism:

- Worship
- Generosity
- Justice
- Radical welcome
- Sacraments
- Teaching
- Prayer
- Fellowship

For Jones, the number one question for the church is: "How are we forming people who act, think and speak like Jesus?" He believes these habits provide a way for congregations to go deeper into their relationships with God, with their faith community and with people outside their faith community.

"It's not a program that is going to take us into our future. It's about how we show up in our neighborhoods with love and justice and hope," Jones said. "It's truly going to be in meeting the needs of people around us that we will find ourselves living into what it means to be the body of Christ."

*For the complete article, go to:

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/story/pt-0122-evangelism/>



Greetings from Mission and Stewardship. I am looking to involve members of the church in our Mission and Stewardship efforts; so, if you are interested, I would love to talk with you joining our committee. The committee will be making some decisions before the end of the month on projects or organizations to support. Let me know if you have suggestions or ideas.

The 3rd Sunday of the month is when we really focus on donations for the **DMARC Food Pantry**, but please remember that you can make donations to the Food Pantry at any point in the month by including a monetary contribution with your offering or by placing food items in the Food Pantry cart at church.

On June 4, several volunteers prepared and delivered 130 meals for **CFUM**. Support for our CFUM efforts comes in many forms, including hands on help on the day of the event, donation of food items, and monetary donations directed to CFUM, as well as the prayers and support of the church. Thanks to all who work to make this very important mission a success.



The **Pentecost Offering**, our offering focused on children at risk and ministries with youth and young adults, wrapped up at the beginning of June with donations totaling \$1,320.00. Remember that 40% of that offering stays within our congregation to support the needs of our youth and young adults. Thank you for her generous offerings during this special time.

Over the summer months, Rich Teig and Jody Cox will be helping out again with weeding and watering the gardens at **Cowles School**. If you are interested in helping out with this, let me know or get in contact with Rich Teig who has the information.

Thanks to Ruth Hardin for sharing information on a **Summer Meal Meet-Up** program that offers free and nutritious meals to individuals 18 and under. This program also offers activities and educational opportunities. More information is available at www.summermealsia.org or by calling 211.

Ruth also shared that there is a **clothing and shoe recycle bin** in front of Windsor Elementary School on University Ave. We can now dispose of old clothing and shoes and they won't go into the landfill.



Gloria H

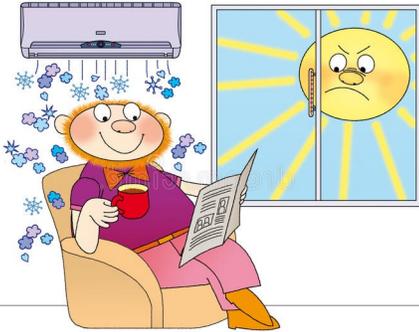


Jim, Stephen H, Gloria H, Ruth, & Randi

Behind the scenes:
Shamaine, Don & Ann, Lori, & Nancy S

Worship & Personnel

Laura Ward



Does it seem possible that it's July already? I am looking for a wheeling contraction that will make it possible for me to move

around in a bubble of air conditioning everywhere I go. Stay tuned.

We are so very thankful for the people who led worship while our pastor was on study leave! Thank you, Natalie Steenson for that beautiful service filled with music and devotion. We are grateful for Dave Steenson for his piano talents, and Anna Steenson for her gifts with the cello. A beautiful interlude as summer started up. Thank you, Steenson Clan!

Thank you so much to Cindy Ray and Don Elly for leading worship, and for reminding us of how much goes into putting together a service at Windsor. You are so right, Reverend Don, that we do need to remember the time and effort Cindy Ray and Ann McGowan are devoting to us on a regular basis. When Pastor Don Elly preaches at Windsor, it always feels like family getting together. Thank you, Don!

Woohoo!!! Communications Shepherd Hired

Are you staying vigilant for Answered Prayers? Here you go! I am thrilled to announce that **Natalie Steenson**

will be serving as Windsor's first Communications Shepherd. Under her leadership, we will enjoy cohesive and up-to-date messaging across social media, our website and throughout our building, to keep interested parties informed and to invite wider participation in our activities. Natalie knows us and feels the warmth and heart of our congregation. We are in wonderful, kind hands.

Natalie will be continuing as our Director of Music & Worship. We have mostly known her for her musical education and prowess, but she worked in business before that. During her career at Preferred Risk, she worked in Sales, Marketing, and Advertising, and held the title of Marketing Coordinator when she moved on. She has a lot of communications experience and understands computers (saints be praised), logo development, newsletter building, messaging and networking. In addition, she has

an extensive understanding of the worship calendar and how we can inform, educate and welcome people to our family.



Natalie Steenson is faithful, heartfelt, and enthusiastic and has more wonderful new ideas running through her head than I have had in a lifetime. We are so blessed to have her taking on these additional duties. We look forward to hearing more from Natalie!

Hallelujah!

Summer Events at Calvin Community

- June 28: Storytelling by Jim Boardman
- July 5: Magic Show by Jonathan May
- July 11: Ombudsman Presentation
- July 12: Music by Merrymaker Rob Lumbard
- July 19: Urbandale Senior Singers
- August 6: Calvin's Classic Car Show



| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|---|----------------------------------|--|--------|---|
| <h1>July 2022</h1> | | | | | | |
| Regular Sunday Schedule: 9:00 a.m. Orthodox Church (Lower Level) 9:15 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship Fellowship | Regular Monday Schedule: Pastor's Day Off | Regular Tuesday Schedule: 9:30 a.m. Text Bible Study (In Person & Zoom) | | <div style="border: 2px solid orange; padding: 5px;"> Monthly Events First Thursday: 12:00 p.m. CFUM Meal 7:00 p.m. Uke Jam Second Saturday: 9:00 a.m. B&G Work Day </div> | | |
| <div style="border: 2px solid orange; padding: 5px;"> Coming in August 8/4 Thu. CFUM Meal; Uke Jam 8/7 Sun. Communion 8/13 Sat. Work Day </div> | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 Sunday School, Worship with Communion Fellowship  | 4 Office Closed  | 5 Text Study | 6 6:00 p.m. Men's Group (WH) | 7 12:00 CFUM Meal Prep 7:00 Uke Jam (East Hall & Zoom) | 8 | 9 8:30 a.m. Coffee, Juice & Donuts 9:00 a.m. B&G Work Day |
| 10 Sunday School, Worship & Fellowship | 11 | 12 Text Study | 13 | 14 5:00 Session | 15 | 16 |
| 17 Food Pantry Sunday Sunday School, Worship & Fellowship  | 18 | 19 Text Study | 20 6:00 p.m. Men's Group (WH) | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 Sunday School, Worship, & Fellowship | 25 Newsletter Articles Due | 26 Text Study | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31 | | | | | | |



Take Note



Prayer Requests

(To add or remove a name, contact the church office.)

Recent Prayer Requests: Maurice Lubalo, Esther Chol & Makya, Chuck & Phyllis Bryan

Continuing Prayers: Brad Behrens, Jim & Georgia Burnes, Jean Carlston, Dick Cox, Wanda Hill, Eric Lawlor, Virginia Nichols, Barb Pomeroy, Lori Pope (chronic cough), Steve Pope, Sandi Ryan, Leon & Lucy Sanderson, Judy Teig

Friends of the Church: Aria (infant relative of Barb P), Karli (daughter of Barb P's cousin), Kayla (treatment for MS) and Marvin (Angie K), Bruce Baker (Gloria A), Nancy Jo Baker (Barb P), Jean Bower, Vickie Brown, Gisma Butras (Esther C), Linda Christiansen (Angie K), Barb Dally (Laura W), Donna Eckham, Rev. Jim Goodrich (Dick W), Norma Grinstead (Linda N), Anna Krull (Jayne & Dwight), Ken Lee (Laura W), David Leitch, Chris McDougal Family, Derek Mullennax (Ruth H), the Ray Family, Rachel Schneider (Steensons), Mickey Starr (Jayne O), Betsy (Ruth H), Susie Anderson, Jasper & Quincy (Kings), Natalie C (Shamaine)



July

Birthdays

- 2 Ryan Newsom
- 4 Esther Chol
- 6 Deja McCubbin
- 7 Gloria Ashby
- 16 Kandy Jackson

Anniversaries

- 10 Erich & JoAnn Hirschberger
- 15 Ryan & Heather Carlson
- 16 Henry & Kandy Jackson

(Let the office know if we are missing your birthday or anniversary.)

Worship in July

7/3 5th Sunday of Pentecost; Communion
1 Corinthians 11:17-34; 12:12-26
Sacraments

7/10 6th Sunday of Pentecost
1 Corinthians 14:6-33a
Worship

7/17 7th Sunday of Pentecost
Acts 3:1-10; 4:16-31
Prayer

7/24 8th Sunday of Pentecost
Leviticus 19:9-18, 33-37
Justice

7/31 9th Sunday of Pentecost
Matthew 28:16-20
Teaching



Budget & Financial Stewardship

Richard Ankeney

Income for May, including \$8,389.16 in contributions and a \$ 6,500 transfer from the capital account, was \$16,038.16. Total expenses were \$22,216.66, which includes \$6,500 for internet improvements to the sanctuary, offices, and Ward Hall.

The new Budget and Financial Stewardship Committee has been formed with the following members: Beth Adams, Sue Cooper, Ron Grohe, Beth Mogle, Beth Schmitz, and Krysta Tomes. As the church moves forward with the sale of the property, many important decisions will need to be made in the coming year, and I'm grateful to each member of the committee for accepting their nomination and the responsibility of helping to discern how God wants Windsor Presbyterian Church to use the resources He's entrusted to us. Please contact me with any questions or concerns you have about the work of the committee.

| Financial Report 2022 | May 2022 | 1-Month Budget | Year-to-Date Actual | Year-to-Date Budget |
|-----------------------|------------|----------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| General Contributions | 6,924.16 | 12,216.67 | 55,168.96 | 61,083.33 |
| Operating Income | 7,549.00 | 2,033.33 | 17,916.29 | 10,166.67 |
| Operating Expenses | 22,216.66 | 14,250.00 | 82,849.57 | 71,250.00 |
| Net Gain (Loss) | (7,743.50) | — | (9,760.99) | — |
| Capital Income | 35.00 | — | 105.00 | — |
| Capital Expenses | 6,850.82 | — | 10,478.32 | — |
| Net Gain (Loss) | (6,850.82) | — | (10,373.32) | — |

Building & Grounds

Don Beeson



During the summer months, we have decided to hold short three-hour work sessions on the second Saturday of each month. The next one will be on the 9th of July. We will have coffee, juice and doughnuts for you beginning at 8:30. Last month there were five from our congregation who, like some ball games, were "rained out" within the first hour, so we continue to have many projects that need our attention.

There are no major projects but we have many smaller ones, such as trimming of bushes, cutting down weeds around our rental property, cleaning the main kitchen stove, coffee pots, etc. and tidying-up the library shelves. We hope to maintain our church property so that it is a valued neighbor to all who live around us.

Looking forward to seeing you on Saturday, July 9, weather permitting.



WPC in Photos

Dwight Tomes



Scenes of worship on May 26



Our congregation



Sue



Shamaine



Judy H



Richard, Don, Cindy



Linda



Other News

CROSS Outreach Back to School Giveaway

The Back to School Giveaway is one of the most important and fun programs that CROSS offers every year! The Giveaway grew out of the awareness that the children of low and no income households are most affected by the poverty their families' experience. The BEST way to get kids out of the poverty cycle is through education.

For every \$15 you donate, a child living in poverty can receive a backpack filled with grade-appropriate school supplies. Supplies and backpacks will be given to 1,200 children through our newest partnership with DMARC and their 14 partner food pantries throughout the Greater Des Moines area.

Checks can be made out to CROSS Outreach, designated as "BTS Giveaway," and mailed to the office at CROSS Outreach, PO Box 12121, Des Moines, IA 50321. You can also donate by going to <http://crossoutreachdm.org/donate-now>.

Volunteers are needed to organize the supplies and fill the backpacks. Please sign up in advance by calling Joyce Hoffman at 515-669-1866 or contacting Lisa Kilian at kilianlmfl@gmail.com or 515-205-0981. Please leave your name, phone number and the date you wish you volunteer.

- **5:30 p.m., Tuesday, July 19**, at Covenant Presbyterian Church, setting up and organizing supplies, setting up tables
- **5:30 p.m., Wednesday, July 20**, at Covenant Presbyterian Church packing supplies in backpacks, assembly line

Questions? Contact the CROSS Outreach office at 515-279-8877 / crossoutreachdm@gmail.com, or Lisa Kilian at 515-205-0981 or Kilianlmfl@gmail.com.

Thank you for your help!



L-R: Elaina Steenson, an attorney; Lauren Wheeler, an investigator; and Erica Nichols Cook, the clinic's director.

Photo: Linh Ta/Axios

Helping the Wrongfully Convicted

A legal division at Drake University is taking steps to help some of the most underrepresented clients in the state — wrongfully convicted people. Drake's wrongful convictions clinic is in the process of joining the *Innocence Network* - a prominent non-profit organization that helps exonerate people using DNA evidence.

Iowa has only had 16 exonerations since 1989 — a number Erica Nichols Cook, director of the clinic, believes should be higher, especially with the availability of DNA evidence technology.

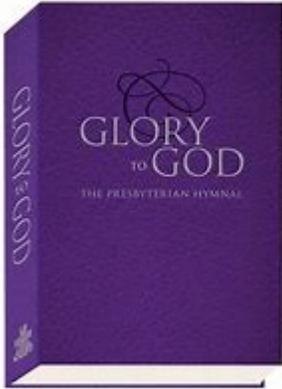
In 2021, the Midwest Innocence Project was examining 389 potential wrongful conviction cases in Iowa. Iowa is one of 13 states that has never overturned a case using DNA evidence, despite the technology's drastic improvement in recent years.

Ruth Hardin says, "I am so proud of Elaina and what she is doing. For several years she helped me/ Crossroads of Iowa. First, as classes would allow, Elaina provided classes inside the Polk County Jail. Then, she provided support groups to women inside Fresh Start Women's Center. Now as time allows, she provides computer support and is on the Crossroads Board of Directors."



My Favorite Hymn

Coralee Meusburger



This month Coralee Meusburger shares one of her favorite hymns with us.

Open My Eyes, That I May See

“Open My Eyes, That I May See” has been one of my favorite hymns since I was a young girl. I am not sure why back then it meant so much

to me, but it has continued to be a favorite as I have grown up. It brings back memories of sitting in church with my aunt and uncle. My parents never went to church, but they made sure we went to Sunday School. As I got older, I would stay for church and sit with my aunt and uncle. I had pins that I received for 11 years of perfect attendance beginning when I was in first grade. Unfortunately, I am not sure what happened to them. I know I had them for a long time, but I don't have them now.

This hymn was written by Clara H. Scott in 1895. The first woman to publish a collection of her own anthems, this author/composer has created in this hymn a sung prayer for illumination. It not only asks God to help us understand scripture but also prays for the strength and courage to make God's love known to others.

Coralee

Lyrics and Tune: Clara Harriett Fiske Jones Scott, 1841-1897. Born at Elk Grove, IL, daughter of a farmer, the family moved to Chicago in 1856. Clara enrolled in the first Chicago Musical Institute, after it opened it in 1858. After graduation, she found employment at the new Lyons Girl's Seminary in Lyons, IA. While working there, she met Henry Clay Scott. The two married in 1861 in McGregor, IA. They had two daughters, Medora and Mary. The family moved to Austin, IL, near Chicago in the 1870s. She became a composer, hymnwriter, and publisher. She was the first woman to publish a volume

of anthems, 'The Royal anthem book' in 1882. In 1897 she was returning to her friend's house after attending a funeral in DuBuque, IA. She was driving a horse-drawn buggy with two friends. The buggy's hold-back strap snapped, spooking the horse, who raced forward, colliding with a coping stone, causing the buggy to roll. Clara and Martha were thrown out and both died instantly. Clara's funeral was well-attended by music writers, teachers, professors, publishers, and friends.

~ taken from hymnary.com

GTG #451 Open My Eyes, That I May See

- 1 Open my eyes, that I may see
glimpses of truth thou hast for me.
Place in my hands the wonderful key
that shall unclasp and set me free.
Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my eyes; illumine me, Spirit divine!
- 2 Open my ears, that I may hear
voices of truth thou sendest clear.
And while the wave notes fall on my ear,
everything false will disappear.
Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my heart; illumine me, Spirit divine!
- 3 Open my mouth, and let me bear
Gladly the warm truth everywhere.
Open my heart, and let me prepare
Love with thy children thus to share.
Silently now I wait for thee,
Ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my heart; illumine me, Spirit divine!

Do you have a favorite hymn that you would like to share with the congregation? If so, please email the church office and tell us why it is special to you. You can write it yourself or talk to Ann in the office and she will write it.

CCLI License #1986457



WINDSOR PRESBYTERIAN

Return Service Requested

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We're on the Web!
www.windsorpc.org

It is the mission of Windsor Presbyterian Church to be a warm, supporting family for worshipping God, learning and practicing Christ's teachings, and sharing Christ's good news with others.

Like us on Facebook!

Staff

Shamaine Chambers King, Pastor
Natalie Steenson, Director of Music, Worship & Arts,
Communication Shepherd
Ann McGowan, Administrative Assistant
Jim Behrens, Organist
Deb Hibbert, Accountant
Cynthia Plavulj, Custodian

Session

Jody Cox (2023), Celebrations (Special Events & Fellowship)
Angie King (2023), Discipleship (Belonging & Christian Formation)
Kaitlin Mogle (2023), Youth Ministry & Mission
Richard Ankeney (2024), Budget & Financial Stewardship
Don Beeson (2024), Building & Grounds
Beth Schmitz (2025), Outreach (Mission & Generosity)
Laura Ward (2025), Worship & Personnel
Dwight Tomes, Clerk of Session

Deacons

Beth Mogle (2023)
Judy Teig (2023)
Gloria Ashby (2024)
Mary Willson (2024)
Donna Dickerson (2025)
Lori Pope (2025)

Important July Dates

3 - Communion
6 - Men's Group
**7 - CFUM Meal;
Uke Jam**
9 - B&G Work Day
17 - Food Pantry
20 - Men's Group