



FirstChristianNews

A PUBLICATION OF FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF NORTH HOLLYWOOD
A CONGREGATION OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

REV. DR. JONATHAN B. HALL, SENIOR PASTOR

JENNIFER LE'AU, DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

TAULAU TUPUA, ASSOCIATE PASTOR FOR YOUTH AND MISSION

ALFREDO GOMEZ & LOYDI RIVAS GOMEZ, PASTORS, SPANISH SPEAKING CONGREGATION

Volume LXV No. 43

February 28, 2024



Those
of steadfast mind
you keep in peace—
in peace because
they trust in you.

— ISAIAH 26:3

JOIN US IN PERSON OR WATCH SERVICES ON [YOUTUBE](#) OR [FACEBOOK](#).

Check out recent service streams and more at www.fccnh.org.



Easter is about a month away - March 31! We will have three services on Easter morning. At 6 am, we will have our sunrise service with baptisms for those who have been participating in our Pastors' Class. Then, we will have services at 9 and 11.

Have you been considering the possibility of being baptized? Perhaps you were looking for the right time. Please read these words as your invitation to step into the sacred waters of baptism this Easter!

During the Pastors' Class, the participants learn the multitude of scriptures that are associated with baptism. Some people believe that there is only one definition of baptism, but there are, thankfully, many! For example, in Romans 6:1-11, Paul shares how baptism is walking in the newness of life. Other texts explain that we are participating in the life of Jesus - the life, death, and resurrection (we, literally, act it out during the baptism). Still others describe it as joining a movement where we may have felt pushed aside by the religious community because of our gender or identity such as in Acts 8:26-40.

The reason why I love to talk about baptism is that a ten-year-old child may not need to "be washed white as snow" (Psalm 51:7). However, I have baptized someone who recently got out of jail, so they wanted that text to be used at their bap-

tism. A younger person who is being baptized may want to use a text that describes them as being part of a larger family of God.

Christianity - from its inception - has always allowed a multitude of voices, definitions, understandings, gospels, etc. We get into trouble when we try to make following Jesus only look certain ways (obviously, we want it to be our way!). Therefore, as part of the journey towards baptism (regardless of age), I always encourage people to find the understanding of baptism that fits their story.

If the next chapter in your story includes being baptized, please reach out to me!

Together,

Pastor Jeth

Senior Pastor



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING • MARCH 17

During our upcoming congregational meeting, we will be voting on the following items:

- I. 2024 Plan for Ministry and Mission (AKA the budget)
- II. Nominations for new church leadership
- III. Creation of guidelines for an endowment at our church (four documents correspond with this act)
 1. FCCNH Gifts Policy and Gifts Commission,
 2. FCCNH Endowment Bylaws,
 3. FCCNH Endowment Investment Policy, and
 4. FCCNH Endowment Structure
- IV. Amending our by-laws to include permanent Pastoral Relations Committees for all pastors on staff

All members of our church are invited to be part of the governing process of our church. After the meeting, we will have a special Meet & Greet with music by Larry Brown's Banna Beag Mall Band in honor of Saint Patrick's Day! Copies of these documents can be found in our narthex, in the copier room, and via this link - <http://tinyurl.com/FCCNH2024>.

Additionally, minutes from our previous board meeting can be found in the narthex, in the copier room, and via this link - <http://tinyurl.com/FCCNHMinutes1-24>.



**10AM . SUNDAY
MARCH 3**

“From Protest to Protect” **TEXT: MARK 12: 1 - 12** **Pastor Taulau Tupua, Associate Pastor**

On Sunday, we will explore the parable of the tenants. This story is filled with challenges and great insights. Who is in the right? What does true justice look like for the landowner and the tenants? We will reflect on a position that usually gets little to no attention. This will help us arrive at a better understanding of the text and apply it to our own faith walks. Join us this Sunday as Pastor Tau shares his message entitled “From Protest to Protect.”

JOIN US IN PERSON OR WATCH SERVICES ON [YOUTUBE](#) OR [FACEBOOK](#).
Check out recent service streams and more at www.fccnh.org.



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH NO. HOLLYWOOD
2024 HOLY WEEK
 SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

SUNDAY, MARCH 24

PALM SUNDAY

10:00 am in the Sanctuary

includes Children's Floral Processional
 We celebrate Jesus' triumphal entry into
 Jerusalem. Children proceed into the Sanctuary
 with flowers and decorate His cross.

THURSDAY, MARCH 28

MAUNDY THURSDAY

5:45 pm Simple Supper | 6:30 pm Communion
 Service in the Social Hall

We observe the night that Jesus celebrated
 the Passover. Come enjoy a potluck dinner
 meal with communion at each table.

FRIDAY, MARCH 29

GOOD FRIDAY

PRAYER VIGIL

12pm to 3:00 pm in the Chapel

An open invitation to meditate and pray in
 our Chapel. Come whenever you can and
 stay as long as you would like.

LABYRINTH

12:00 pm am to 7:00 pm in the Social Hall

A walking meditative journey based on the
 stations of the cross. Participants walk at their own
 pace, pausing for inner reflection as they choose.

★GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

7:00 pm in the Sanctuary

A meditative and reflective service remembering
 the final moments of Jesus' earthly life.

SUNDAY, MARCH 31

EASTER SUNDAY

WORSHIP SERVICES

6:00 am Sunrise Service w/ baptism

9:00 am & ★11:00 am

Services with message by Senior
 Pastor Jonathan Hall include live music,
 communion and end with the entire
 congregation joining in the
 Hallelujah Chorus.

SUNDAY SCHOOL | CHILDCARE

9:00 am and 11:00 am

There is Sunday School and childcare
 for all ages during the 9:00 am service.

Childcare only for children under
 5 years during the 11:00 am service.

EASTER WALK

9:00 am and 10:20 am

Walk through a dramatic presentation of the last
 days of Jesus' life. 2nd - 5th graders will participate
 in the Easter Walk during the 9:00 am service.
 Younger children are encouraged to walk with
 their parents at 10:20 am when all adults are
 invited to participate. Please meet in the lobby
 in front of the Chapel.

SPECIAL MEET & GREET

7:00 am to 10:45 am in the Social Hall

A special Meet & Greet between the
 services will be served by our youth
 groups. Freewill donation.

★Childcare available upon request

—contact the church office at 818.763.8218.



CAN YOU HELP US FILL IN THE GAPS?



The History Search ladies of the 100th Anniversary Committee are working to fill some gaps in our historical records. If you or someone in your family have past Committee or Council notebooks, Congregational Board minutes, or other papers, and would like to make room in your own file cabinets or boxes, we would be happy to take custody of them. If possible, please bring them to the church office marked "History Search" or email Janet Bruce (grayladies@aol.com) or Barbara Wiles (barbwiles@verizon.net) and we will arrange to pick them up. Many thanks!!!

THIS PAST SUNDAY

YOUTH PROGRAM HOURS

SUNDAY MORNS
9:30AM-11:00AM
Middle & High School

SUNDAY
11:15AM-1:00PM
High School

WEDNESDAYS
3:30PM-5:30PM
Middle School

Questions?
Contact Pastor Tau
tau@fccnh.org



ABOVE LEFT: Acolyte Alistair Yates pictured with Pastor Taulau Tupua.

ABOVE RIGHT: Alistair Yates pictured in the narthex prior to entering the sanctuary to serve as our acolyte this past Sunday, February 25.

photos by Byron Armantrout



The 1980's were busy and profound years in FCCNH's ministries which began the Advent Theatre, Christmas Tree Lot & Operation Santa Claus. Not the least of these was the founding of the North Hollywood Interfaith Food Pantry (NHIFP), which opened March 13, 1983.

The history of the Food Pantry is truly an amazing story that began with two gals nearing retirement chatting about wanting to become involved in some worthwhile project to "make a difference". It's a story about recognizing despair, food insecurity, hopelessness, applying hard work, determination and organization and bringing together a coalition of religious institutions to address the growing needs in our community.



Pantry volunteers pause the food distribution for a quick photo.

Cards were sent out inviting several churches and synagogues to attend a meeting to discuss the possibility of creating a food distribution program. The first five that joined were Temple Beth Hillel, St. Michael's Episcopal, Adat Ari El, Faith Presbyterian and FCCNH.

Gilmer Reinhardt, who was the co-founder of our Advent Theatre, received the invite card at our church because she had been involved with a Christmas food gifting program. In spite of already being a full-time Mom & wife, actress and Advent Theatre director, she joined and became the first Director of the Food Pantry.

Next they had to determine a distribution center, a storage and packing place, food gathering, etc. FCCNH provided an unused classroom on the Troost corner by our annex and Temple Beth Hillel offered their basement for storing and packing. Volunteers gathered the food from various sources, sorted and packed the bags and formed twice-weekly teams to load and transport the packed bags of groceries from the Temple to FCCNH.

In the early years some 3,600 recipients came each year and by 2023 the count was nearly 50,000 folks annually and the Pantry distributes some 400 bags weekly. They receive staples like beans, soup, cereal,

rice, milk and fresh fruit. They also are provided with hygiene kits (made by our CWF members), toiletries and even pet foods and supplies if needed.

In 2019 NHIFP was approved for 501c non-profit status. They now are supported by more than 10 religious organizations, local public and private schools, community councils, grants and donations.

Our own Rev. Dr. Louise Sloan Goben is the current Chair of the Board/President of the Pantry. She was born and raised, baptized, married, ordained and served as Associate Minister for 28 years at FCCNH.



Rev. Dr. Louise Sloan Goben

This remarkable story brings to mind the adage, "if you want something done, ask the busiest women you know".

For more info about the Pantry and for volunteer opportunities, please see the website: www.nhifp.org.

- The 100th Anniversary Team



FLOWER DEDICATIONS

To order flowers to decorate the chancel on an upcoming Sunday, please fill out the following form and place in the offering box or drop at the church office with your check for \$40.

Today's Date: _____

Name(s): _____

Daytime Phone: _____

Email: _____

Available dates:

2/25	3/3	3/17	3/24	3/31
4/7	4/14	4/21	4/28	5/5

Floral Dedication:

(Please check one of the following and write the specifics of your dedication in the space provided below)

- In Honor of ...
- In Celebration of ...
- In Memory of ...

Check enclosed for arrangement (\$40)

Arrangements are supplied by Floral Crush Studio. Checks should be made payable to FCCNH.

MEET US ONLINE

for our VIRTUAL BIBLE STUDY

TUESDAY MORNINGS

10am • via Zoom

Bible Study with Ed Esau, please contact the church office at 818.763.8218 to be added to the weekly email with topic and Zoom connect info.



- 1 Mayleen Campo
Kellen Slater
Brooke Tindel
- 2 Kingston Askerneese
Suzy Bock
Jeffrey Hallada
Pamela Rushworth
Madison Snodgrass
- 3 Laurie Leannah
Jim Matthews
- 4 Kathleen Dantagnan
Alice Doré
Dave Friedrich
Dolores Morgan
Kelly Swavely
- 6 Layci Speakman
- 7 Jessica Etheridge
Xander Keene
- 8 Kellen Farnham
Jennifer Turner
- 9 Ethan Farber
- 10 Elena Anderson
- 11 Bill DeMartines
Alton Gwin

CONTINUED-

- 11 Dixie Friedrich
Westley Hilton
Frank Speight
West Young
- 12 Noah Baltazar
Kristen Goldschmidt
Tim Link
- 13 Patricia Gillum
- 15 Katie Franklin
Susan Randi
- 16 Kira Cooper
Charles Petrie
Emily Webber
- 18 Phyllis Stevenson
- 20 Gustavo Santin
Beverly Sarton
- 21 June Hazy
Everly Johns
Ezra Spevak
- 22 Robert Alpert
- 22 Mary Barton
Jason Ellwein
Roger Gonzalez-Hibner
- 23 Jake Brooks
Emily Hamm
Max Ober
- 24 Jaden Crosby

CONTINUED-

- 24 Banner Gwin
Cassie Mello
Janet Nawoj
- 25 Eunice Cox
Ted Mantz
- 27 Gary Gattis
Christine Karasseferian
Taulau Tupua
Cassidy Walters
- 28 Kay Hicks
Miles Oliart
- 29 Chris Wilkinson
- 30 Tatiana Davidov
Kai Wilson
- 31 Peggy Bock
Candace Currin
Lucy Zavala



- 12 Rico & Molly Briggs
- 16 Joseph & Alice Kawan
- 21 Marquitos &
Marnie Gatmaitan
- 23 Joshua & Olivia Krane

Tai Chi

breathing techniques • simple stretching exercises • meditation to reduce stress

Guided Tai Chi Classes

Tuesdays at 9:30am • Thursday at 3:30pm in the Youth Hut

CLASSES GUIDED BY BYRON ARMANTROUT • FREWILL DONATION OF \$10 PER SESSION



**MEET & GREET
CLEAN-UP
VOLUNTEERS
ARE NEEDED FOR**

SUNDAY • MARCH 3

**INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES,
STUDY GROUPS, FRIENDS**

Our Sunday morning Meet & Greets are a great way to become more involved with the church and other members—it isn't complicated and the church will reimburse your expenses up to \$150. If you, your group or family are interested in hosting a Meet & Greet after one of our Sunday morning services, please contact Alberto Sigala for more info at asigala480@gmail.com or 310-569-9908.

**EASTER SUNDAY
baptisms**



6:00 am sunrise service

If you are interested in being baptized at the 6:00 am Sunrise Service on Easter Sunday (March 31), please contact the church office at 818.763.8218.



GATHER
with us



W2W

WOMEN *to* WOMEN

ZOOM MEETING

FRIDAYS AT 7:30pm

NEWCOMERS WELCOME

email for Zoom info W2W.FCCNH@gmail.com

GOOD FRIDAY labyrinth walk

MARCH 29 • 12pm - 7pm

The labyrinth is a walking meditation, a path of prayer and an archetypal blueprint where psyche meets Spirit. It has only one path that leads from the outer edge in a circuitous way to the center. There are no tricks to it and no dead ends. Unlike a maze where you lose your way, the labyrinth is a spiritual tool that can help you find your way. On Good Friday our labyrinth will be set up in the Social Hall for all who wish to take this meditative walk from 12pm to 7pm.



GOOD FRIDAY service of tenebrae

MARCH 29 • 7:00 pm

A Service of Tenebrae, or "Shadows," is based on a twelfth-century late night/early morning service and is an extended meditation on the passion of Christ.

MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE

march 28
social hall
5:45pm meal
& communion

We observe the night that Jesus celebrated the Passover. Come enjoy a potluck dinner with communion at each table. Please bring a soup for four; the church will provide bread and water.



TIME TO ORDER
Easter Lilies

DEADLINE IS SUNDAY, MARCH 17th

Thank you for your cooperation.

In celebration of Easter, we will once again place lilies on the chancel for Easter Sunday, March 31st. The cost of the lilies is **\$15** each. If you would care to give a lily, either as a gift or as a memorial, please complete this form and place it in the offering plate with your check marked "Lilies" or send the completed form with payment to the church office. **The last day for orders is Sunday, March 17th**. We will print all dedications received by that date in the Easter Sunday bulletins. Lily plants provided by *Floral Crush Studio*.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Your Name(s) _____

Email _____

Phone # _____

GIVEN IN: Memory of Honor of Celebration of

Total number of plants _____

Check enclosed in the amount of \$ _____

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT! – PASTORS' CLASS



On Sunday, during Pastors' Class, our participants were given their seed money to start their service projects. We give thanks for our congregation, who blessed the funds, during the Greater Things luncheon earlier that day. Our Pastors' Class is part of the rich tradition at First Christian Church of North Hollywood where youth journey towards baptism on Easter Sunday. The service project is a step on that journey! We also give thanks for all of our adult sponsors who are integral to the spiritual growth of our youth!

Annual
PALM SUNDAY
Floral Procession

March 24, 2024
10:00 am Service
featuring
The Children of our
Sunday School & Youth Groups

**All children go into
the service as
usual, with the
exception of toddlers
and babies.**

**&
Dress to make
your grandmother proud!**

Parents: Please place a piece of tape on your child's flower or bouquet and label it with your child's name. There will be baskets in the Narthex to collect the flowers so the children won't need to hold them during the first part of the service.

EASTER BREAKFAST

Crafted and Served by Our Youth

MENU



Hatch N.M. Egg Scramble

Aged North American Cheddar and Monterey Jack cheeses, Grilled Hatch New Mexico Chili Peppers, Smoked Roma Tomatoes,

Sweet Mayan Onions and fresh eggs.

Buttermilk Pancakes

Hot off the griddle
Buttermilk Pancakes
with Blueberry Compote,
Bananas Foster with
Walnuts, or Strawberry
and Cream toppings.



Served from 7am to 10:45am

**Suggested Donation of \$10-\$15
to sponsor our Youth's Activities
Appreciated but not Required**

We Need You!
Sponsor Ingredients
 FOR THE
Easter Breakfast

Easter Breakfast has traditionally been a nice fundraiser for our youth! This money has helped them do many trips and activities. One amazing way to help the breakfast be an even bigger success is to sponsor ingredients. We have a wholesale card so we will go buy the items, but if we could get donations of money to cover those items then the breakfast will be pure profit! If you sponsor \$30 in ingredients you get 2 complimentary breakfasts! \$15 gets you 1! Plus we will throw in the warm glow of helping our youth for free! (No tickets to both-er with, we will keep a list!)

Opportunities:

- Eggs 8 @ \$20 each
- Blueberries 3 @ \$15 each
- Sausage 8 @ 20 each
- Turkey Sausage 2 @ \$10 each
- Milk 4 @ \$10 each
- Tortillas 2 @ \$10 each
- Spices | Veggies | Chilis 6 @ \$10 each
- Syrup 3 @ \$10 each
- Strawberries 4 @ \$10 each
- Flour & Sugar 2 @ \$20 each
- Nuts 2 @ \$10 each
- Bananas 4 @ \$20 each
- Orange Juice 4 @ \$20 each
- Butter 3 @ \$20 each
- Cheese 3 @ \$20 each
- Salsa 2 @ \$10 each
- Whipping Cream 2 @\$20 each

**Talk to the office or Matt Hunt
 to claim your sponsorship!
 Support our Youth!**



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Email: _____

Available dates:

3/3	3/17	3/24	3/31	4/7
4/14	4/21	4/28	5/5	5/12

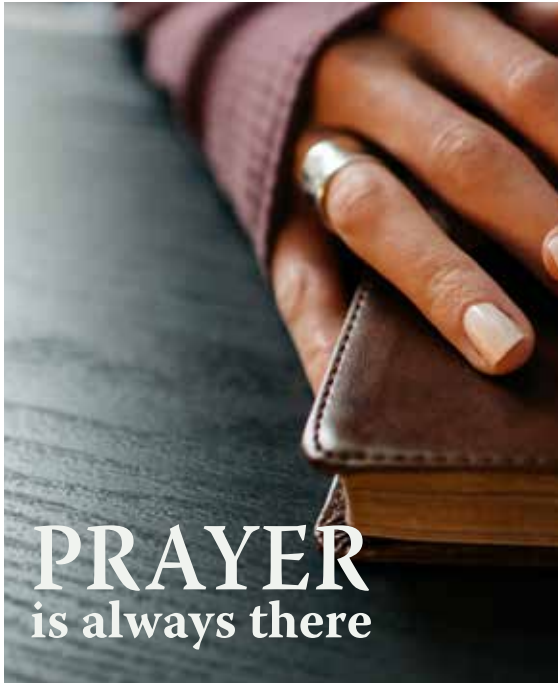
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- In Memory of ...

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As always, there are many ways to reach us with your prayer needs.

On Sundays, there are cards in the morning bulletins. You can write your prayers on the back and put them in the offering plates as they are passed.

You may also slide your prayer cards through the slot in the Prayer Cabinet near the drinking fountain outside the Chapel doors.

During the week, your prayers can reach us in several ways:

- Via email on the church website:

www.fcnh.org/worship/prayer-requests

- Via phone call to the church office: 818-763-8218
- If you are at the church, prayer cards are available at the Prayer Cabinet outside the Chapel. Fill one out and put it in the cabinet slot, or drop it off in the church office.

Prayers received during the week in one of these ways will be emailed out to Prayer Group members. Unless urgent, prayers received on Saturday or Sunday will be compiled for the list given to members on Monday mornings.

The sole purpose of the Prayer Group has always been to pray for those in need. Prayers are lifted aloud in the Chapel on Monday mornings, and then become part of the daily prayer discipline of our members. As always, all prayers that come to us are kept strictly confidential and are not shared elsewhere. 🌿

COFFEE IN THE CORNER
MEN'S GROUP MEETING

MEN'S GROUP MEETING
meets online weekly at
7PM WEDNESDAYS

Interested in joining?
For Zoom info Email: menoncorner@gmail.com

SUGGESTED SCRIPTURE FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY
*...you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,
and with all your soul, and with all your mind,
and with all your strength. —MARK 12:30*

BY WAY OF REPORT

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2024

Sunday Worship 10am	137
Youth Sunday AM	13
Youth Sunday PM	5
Wednesday Youth	18
Sunday School	42
Sunday Worship Donations	\$4,799.00
Sunday School	\$24.00
Week of Compassion	\$20.00
SUNDAY GENERAL OFFERING	\$4,823.00

CREDIT CARD OFFERING 2/19/24 - 2/25/24

CC GENERAL OFFERING	\$625.00
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CUMULATIVE GIVING **\$5,448.00**

CHURCH STAFF

- Rev. Dr. Jonathan B. Hall
SENIOR PASTOR
- Alfredo Gomez
PASTOR, SPANISH SPEAKING CONGREGATION
- Jennifer Le'au
DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES
- Taulau Tupua
ASSOCIATE PASTOR FOR YOUTH AND MISSION
- Tyana Parr
DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S/YOUTH CHOIRS
- David Rigsby
MUSIC DIRECTOR/ORGANIST
- Christine Karasseferian
DIRECTOR OF FINANCE
- Gabriela Dorantes
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
- Glenda Morgan Brown
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
- Terri Burton
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- Trudie Kirkland
EVENT PLANNER
- Elmer Maldonado
BUILDING & GROUNDS SUPERINTENDENT
- Miriam Mancilla
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- Amanda Sigala
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT OF CHRISTIAN NURSERY SCHOOL
- Greg Kirkland
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- Jacob Beam, Craig Brooks
SOUND TECHNICIANS
- Luis Oliart
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- Robert M. Bock
SENIOR PASTOR
- Earle Immel
MINISTER OF MUSIC EMERITUS
- Merle E. Fish, Jr.
MINISTER EMERITUS



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First Christian News

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF NORTH HOLLYWOOD
A CONGREGATION OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)
4390 COLFAX AVENUE
NORTH HOLLYWOOD, CA 91604 - 2898



THINK GREEN! PLEASE RECYCLE!

NOTE: If you would like to receive this newsletter via Email, which saves on printing/mailling costs and is better for the environment, please contact us. Annual subscription cost for first class mail version is \$24.



First Christian News

First Christian Church of North Hollywood
818/763-8218 • FAX 818/763-8457
Website: www.fcnh.org
email: fcnh@earthlink.net

PROOFREADING	Glenda Morgan Brown
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PRODUCTION SERVICES	Byron Armantrout

EMERITUS

Robert M. Bock	Mary Ann Steuterman
Billie Kline	Lillian Carlson
Heather Kenney	Margaret Defibaugh
Cathy Melendez	Fern Donald
Chuck Mont	Jean Johnson
Wanda Kanoy	Helen Scarna
Kay Smith	Betty Van Zanten
Shirley McClure	Deborah Wheeler
Virginia Stebbins	Cindy Kaller

