

Westminster Presbyterian Church
Messenger
February, 2018

***With Christ as our Cornerstone we
Believe, Become, Belong, Build***



Ezekiel 36:26 invites us to focus in on the gift that the Spirit of God gives us as we every day can give up our burdens and fears to a God who invites us to a life of praise and abundance. I pray this Lenten season will truly bring you deeper into relationship with our Lord who so desires to be more in your daily life. Here are some steps to embrace as we begin Lent 2018 on Ash Wednesday, Feb 14.

- Make attendance at Worship a priority as much as your schedule allows (this might involve saying No to other opportunities that take you away from Worship.)
- Commit to reading the 40 day devotional "Sailing with the Spirit" available in the Welcome Center at the Ash Wednesday service.
- Join a Lenten small group (see Pastor Dan's article)
- Pray each day with the question, "What does God want our church to be doing now?"
- Serve our community in an intentional way during those 40 days; how does it feel to build the Kingdom of God?
- Engage in conversation with a child or youth who attends Westminster. Let them know that they matter to you as a member of our faith community.
- Appreciate the beauty of our Lenten Wednesday concerts which begin Feb. 21 and invite someone to attend with you.
- Look ahead to Holy Week and plan on attending the Maundy Thursday (March 29) and Good Friday (March 30) services. It will so enrich your Easter morning Worship to have had those worship experiences.

Make this journey a personal one, and yet don't forget that you are a part of a vibrant, healthy church and the church is stronger when your heart acknowledges God has put a new spirit in you.

February is the shortest month of the year. Make each day count as you grow as a disciple of Christ.

Great thanks to all who attended the annual meeting last Sunday and please be in prayer for our youth director search committee as they begin their hard work this month. We are so thankful for Scott's years of service with us and we'll be celebrating his huge impact for God on all of us as we plan for the transition at the end of summer.

Lastly, please know your pledges and gifts to the 2018 budget are making a great impact. If you have not yet pledged with the *Together We Give* effort, please prayerfully do so in the month of February. Generous spirits come from God's amazing love for us.

With Hope, Pastor Tricia

Sermon Series

We continue to dive deep into the fourth gospel, the gospel of John. John is known for its great symbols of life through Jesus. Get ready to move forward with fresh and helpful insights into what matters to Jesus!



February 4	"What Matters: Holy Conversations"	John 4:1-42
February 11	"What Matters: Some Things You Can't Unsee"	John 9:1-41
February 14	"New Heart, New Spirit: Give Up, Gain Up"	John 10:1-18
February 18	"New Heart, New Spirit: Hopeful Grief"	John 11:1-45
February 25	"New Heart, New Spirit: WDJJ, What Did Jesus Do?"	John 13:1-17

Ash Wednesday Service - February 14, 7:00 pm

We will have regular Wednesday night programming until 6:45 pm, and then families can attend the Ash Wednesday service together.

Music Ministry

Worship with us Sundays at:

9:00 am for Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary and 11:15 am for Contemporary Worship in the Shared Life Center.

Special Music for this month:

February 4	10:00 am	Sanctuary	Unity Choir
February 11	9:00 am 11:15 am	Sanctuary Shared Life Center	Chancel Choir, Westminster Chimes Worship Team
February 14 Ash Wed.	7:00 pm	Sanctuary	Chancel Choir
February 18	9:00 am 11:15 am	Sanctuary Shared Life Center	Chancel Choir, Church Mice Worship Team, LightShine
February 25	9:00 am 11:15 am	Sanctuary Shared Life Center	Meisteringers Worship Team, Messenger Choir

Musical Opportunities abounds at Westminster!



M.A.D. Lock-In!

All Junior & Senior High students are invited to a Music And Drama (M.A.D.) lock-in on Friday February 9th beginning at 6:30pm until Saturday morning at 8am. During our overnight adventure at the church we'll play games, watch a movie, throw a pizza party, and have a crash-course on this year's Musical-Drama, *Rise Up*, that will be **performed in worship on April 15th at 10am**. There are many spoken parts available as well for those who want to join in the fun but aren't up for a singing adventure. For more information about the lock-in or the musical please contact Patrick Marchant at patrick@wpcw.org or [319.234.5501](tel:319.234.5501) **Please RSVP to Patrick by February 7.**

2018 Lenten Lunches Concert Series

Join us Wednesdays at 12:10pm for our Lenten Lunches & Concerts! Each concert will begin with a scripture reading and prayer followed by 20 minutes of music. After the concert all are welcome to join us in the Social Hall for a soup luncheon at 12:30. This year will feature the following performers:

February 21: Cara Lockard, Violinist
February 28: Dr. Mariko Morita, Organist
March 7: Patrick Marchant, Pianist

March 14: Megan Grey, Vocalist
March 21: Sue Feltman, Organist
March 28: Neal & Kristin Petersen, Vocalists

Calling All Singers for the Easter Choir!

Join the Chancel Choir as we prepare for Easter Sunday. Rehearsals for Easter Sunday will be held on Wednesdays February 21, March 7, and March 21 from 7:30-8:15 on March 28 we will rehearse from 7:30-9pm. For more information or to join the choir, please contact Patrick Marchant at patrick@wpcw.org or [319.234.5501 ext. 110](tel:319.234.5501)

Formation

Wes Pres Youth

Mall of America Trip

On Saturday February 24 we will take a chartered bus to the Mall of America. The bus will leave at 7:00 am from our back lot and will return around 9:00 pm. The cost is \$30.00 per person. We have 56 seats available. Sign up in the Welcome Center or email me at scottc@wpcw.org.

Junior Highs

Confirmation

Our confirmation class continues to move forward as they study the Old Testament and their faith. We have a couple dates that you will want to mark on your calendars.

On April 6/7, we will tentatively have our confirmation lock-in for the 8th graders only. They will take their final test and write their statement of faith at this time.

On April 29th we will have our Confirmation Sunday where our 8th grade confirmands will have their breakfast, meet with session and be confirmed and participate in worship at 9:00 and be recognized at the 11:15 service with a reception between. There will be more detailed information coming in the mail.

Great Escape!!

We held our final informational meeting for Great Escape camp a week ago. If you have not attended our meetings or notified Scott that you will be attending G.E. this year, please do so ASAP so I can make the necessary arrangements with YCM for our accommodations. I have extra forms if you need them. If you have questions, please contact me at the church.

Senior Highs

Graduating Seniors

I know that your lives are going to get even busier as the days go by so I want to share a list of what I will be needing from you for your Graduation Sunday which will be May 20. You will be receiving a packet in the mail with some information and forms that I will need returned to me as soon as possible. Below is what I need from you no later than 2 weeks before senior Sunday:

- 20+ pictures of you from birth to graduation (Please include a senior picture)
- Your bio form completely filled out
- A copy of your 3 minute speech (details will come in the mail)

Puerto Rico Mission Trip

We will have one more informal meeting before we leave for Puerto Rico and I will share that date with you once it is set. Please do the following in preparation for our trip:

- Fill out and return your release form, complete with notary stamp on the bottom.
- Contact me with any questions that you may have in regards to our trip.
- A detailed list of what you will need to pack will be coming in the mail.
- Practice, Practice, Practice on packing everything in one carry-on so we do not have to check any bags. You may bring a back-pack and pillow with you on our flights.
- Bring any questions at any time to Scott concerning the trip.

Peace, Scott Cose

Wes Pres Kids



Can you believe it is already time to start planning which summer camp your child will be attending?!? Here at Westminster, we support both Camp Wyoming in Jones County, IA, and Lakeshore Center at Okoboji in Milford, IA. Both camps offer a Christian based experience and are a wonderful place to send your child.

Camp Wyoming's vision is to offer transformative experiences to equip people of all ages for a journey of faith. Lakeshore Center at Okoboji provides a sacred place and invites all to experience the life-changing love of Christ in the beauty of God's creation.

You can register your child online through Camp Wyoming's website at www.campwyoming.net. Lakeshore Center's website is www.lakeshorecenteratokoboji.org. Registering online is easy and helps expedite the registration process.

BOTH camps offer a voluntary three-tiered pricing program for their summer camp experiences. This pricing program gives you the ability to choose one of three prices that is most appropriate for you, based on your financial needs. If you are in need of a partial scholarship from the church to help pay for your child's camp experience, please talk to Alisa.

Registration forms for Camp Wyoming are available in the Welcome Center.

February 4 there will be **NO Sunday School** due to one Unity Service at 10:00 am.

On **February 7**, our **COME TOGETHER** event will be a combination of Valentine's Day and Olympic fun! Following worship in the Sanctuary at 6:00, we will gather in the Shared Life Center. We will be making three HUGE Valentine's Day posters to give to our Waterloo Police, Fire, and Sheriff Departments, to show them how much we love and appreciate them. We will use pictures of ourselves to make a giant heart collage on each poster, along with writing a message and signing our names on the posters. Once you are finished adding your personal touch to our posters, you can begin competing in Olympic events. There will be Javelin Throwing, Cycling, Balance Beam, Weight Lifting, and more. Come show your love for the people that serve our community and get a chance to "compete" against other athletes.

February 14

is Ash Wednesday. We will still be serving a meal from 5:00-6:00, followed by Discovery Night programming. However, **Discovery Night programming will only go from 6:00-6:45**, in order for the children to be able to attend the 7:00 Ash Wednesday service with their families. Please make a note of this in your calendars, and be ready to pick your children up early that evening.

Alisa Engelhardt



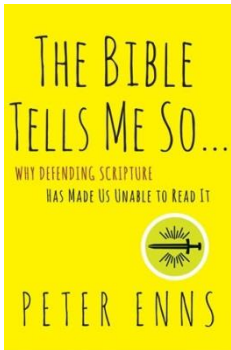
Get Ready for VBS! June 18-22, 2018

Rolling River Rampage invites children on a white-water rafting adventure to experience the ride of a lifetime with God! Along the river, children discover that life with God is an adventure full of wonder and surprise, and that they can trust God to be with them through anything. Relevant music, exciting science, creative crafts, fun recreation, and memorable Bible stories will help kids know that God is always with them as they ride the rapids of amazing grace!

Adult Education Opportunities

Communication and Conflict Management

Compassion, humility, patience...important Christian attributes but, often difficult to exercise and maintain in the face of conflict, whether it be minor disagreements or ongoing arguments. None of us are immune to conflict. This four week class will help participants understand their own conflict style, conflict triggers, the positives and negatives associated with conflict, and the roles power, defensiveness, and other emotions have in conflict situations as well as learn how to be more grace-filled and offer forgiveness. **When: Feb. 11, 25 and March 4. Location: Room 216. Facilitators: Eric & Lori Johnson**



The Bible Tells Me So

In February and March during Adult Sunday School we will be looking at an increasingly important question... How should we read the Bible? Violence, genocide, racism, women's rights, slavery, and human sexuality have lead more and more to find the Bible difficult to read, and sometimes worse, devoid of value. Quite frankly, to be a church in this day and age, this is a question we have got to talk about.

So, this Lent I invite you to join me in watching video interviews with Peter Enns on topics found in his book, *The Bible Tells Me So*, and engage in meaningful conversation about the difficulties of the scriptures we love. For more info here is a synopsis of the study....

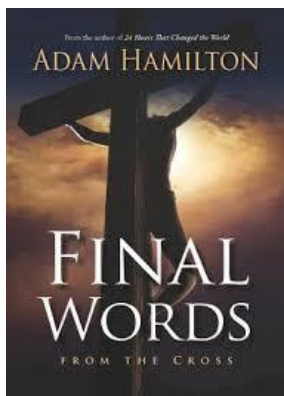
What if the Bible is fine just the way it is? Not a well behaved Bible, where everything lines up and makes sense, but the messy, troubling, and weird Bible we actually have? What if the Bible doesn't need to be protected and defended, but understood-just as it is? What if the real problem isn't the Bible but the false expectations we sometimes bring to it? Perhaps, when we let the Bible be the Bible rather than what we expect it ought to be-or need it to be-we will find a deeper faith in the process.

When: February 11 - March 25. Location: Chapel. Facilitators: Pastor Dan and Guests

Lent Small Groups

Final Words

In this study by Adam Hamilton, you will examine Christ's dying hours and final words from the cross as seen and heard through the eyes and ears of those who stood near the cross. This study comes with a leader guide and DVD with 7 teaching session. Sign up in the Welcome Center for the day that works best with your schedule or contact Pastor Dan at dan@wpcw.org.



Small Group Track 1

Formal Study with Up to 7 Sessions
With DVD, Leader Guide and Books

Father Forgive Them
Behold Your Son
My God, Why Have You Forsaken Me?
Today You Will Be with Me in Paradise
I Thirst
Into Your Hands I Commit My Spirit
On the Road to Emmaus

Track 2

4 Informal Gatherings

With directions for...

Fellowship

Scripture Reading

Discussion Question

Praying for Each Other & a Blessing



The Journey

This adult discipleship class is an in depth study over 15 weeks and is now full/closed.

Weekday Adult Opportunities

Mondays

Bible Study for Women: *This Bible Study will resume on April 9.* Rev. Cathy Young leads a weekly, in-depth Bible study for women from 9:00 to 10 am on Mondays in Room 216. All women of Westminster and the wider Cedar Valley are invited to attend the study. The group is studying the gospel of Luke. Women are asked to bring their favorite Bible. **When:** Monday's at 9:00 am. **Where:** Room 216. **Facilitator:** Rev. Cathy Young

Bible Study for Men: Join us on Monday's at 9:00 am in Room 216. Benefits galore are available: sharing insights, relishing in God's grace, watching fellow men grow in knowledge and also in spiritual strength. You are not required to bring any biblical knowledge with you other than an ability and desire to meet "brothers in Christ." Currently they are studying the Reformation. **When:** Monday's at 9:00 am. **Where:** Adult Library. **Facilitator:** Rev. Dan Voigt.

Sweet Hour of Prayer: Join with us to review prayer joys and concerns of our extended church family. All are welcome. **When:** Mondays at 1:30 pm. **Where:** Pastor Tricia's Office.

Wednesdays

Centering Prayer Meets Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 8:30 am in the Chapel and Wednesday evenings at 6:00 pm.

Church Bookies

Calling all women! You are invited to join us on the third Sunday of the month. Our next meeting is Sunday, February 18 at 6:00 pm.

A look ahead at books to read:

February: *Brain on Fire* by Susannah Cahalan

March: *Braving the Wilderness* by Brene Brown

April: *The Woman in Cabin 10* by Ruth Ware

Contact Cindy Harmon with any questions at 268-0049 home or 239-9761 cell.

Resources

Finance

Budget Summary for
December, 2017.

	BUDGET SUMMARY				
	DECEMBER	DECEMBER	YTD	YTD	BUDGET
	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 102,094.62	\$ 87,927.63	\$ 772,113.36	\$ 707,921.56	\$ 828,554.00
ADMINISTRATION	\$ 3,757.04	\$ 5,567.29	\$ 39,386.39	\$ 43,602.59	\$ 43,650.00
OPER & MAINT	\$ 13,878.85	\$ 8,200.15	\$ 82,965.94	\$ 85,763.46	\$ 99,500.00
CHRISTIAN ED	\$ 1,119.56	\$ 1,618.49	\$ 17,091.15	\$ 21,066.87	\$ 23,300.00
PERSONNEL	\$ 45,428.20	\$ 43,210.96	\$ 501,844.03	\$ 465,511.69	\$ 530,045.00
MISSION	\$ 14,192.33	\$ 4,344.87	\$ 78,138.72	\$ 76,638.62	\$ 82,000.00
MUSIC & WORSHIP	\$ 3,769.48	\$ 3,383.64	\$ 14,806.14	\$ 13,476.89	\$ 15,000.00
STEWARDSHIP	\$ -	\$ 356.94	\$ 1,123.79	\$ 1,328.16	\$ 1,500.00
HOSPITALITY & DEACONS	\$ 679.16	\$ 175.48	\$ 3,937.35	\$ 3,851.49	\$ 5,000.00
MEMBERSHIP & OUTREACH	\$ 516.52	\$ 416.40	\$ 3,418.26	\$ 2,796.19	\$ 5,700.00
PER CAPITA	\$ 1,904.91	\$ 1,822.28	\$ 22,858.92	\$ 21,871.65	\$ 22,859.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 85,246.05	\$ 69,096.50	\$ 765,570.69	\$ 735,907.61	\$ 828,554.00
REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	\$ 16,848.57	\$ 18,831.13	\$ 6,542.67	\$ (27,986.05)	

AmazonSmile

Have you heard of AmazonSmile?

What is Amazon Smile - it is a simple and automatic way for you to support Westminster Presbyterian every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you will find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase to Westminster Presbyterian.

How do you shop at AmazonSmile? To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You may also want to add a bookmark to smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to return and starting your shopping.

Which products on AmazonSmile are eligible for charitable donations? Tens of millions of products on AmazonSmile are eligible for donations. You will see eligible products marked "Eligible for AmazonSmile donation" on their product detail pages. Recurring Subscribe-and-Save purchases and subscription renewals are not currently eligible.

Can you use your existing Amazon.com account on AmazonSmile? Yes, you use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding or baby registry and other account settings are also the same.

How do you select a charitable organization to support when shopping on AmazonSmile? On your first visit to AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com), you need to select a charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. AmazonSmile will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation.

How much of your purchase does Amazon donate? The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases. The purchase price is the amount paid for the item minus any rebates and excluding shipping & handling, gift-wrapping fees, taxes or service charges. From time to time, there may be offer specials, limited time promotions that increase the donation amount on one or more products or services for additional donations.

Can you receive a tax deduction for amounts donated from your purchases on AmazonSmile? Donations are made by the AmazonSmile Foundation and are not tax deductible by you.

Please consider this easy way to help support Westminster Presbyterian Church. If you have any questions on this, please contact Becky at the church 234-5501 or email Becky@wpcw.org.

Thank you
Finance Committee

Scrip Cards

SCRIP is a program where the church purchases prepaid gift cards at a discount (ranging from 1.25-16%) and then sells them at face value. The discount goes into an account that can be used for a variety of uses based upon the church's needs.

Gift cards can be used to give as gifts, to make everyday purchases, or to help maintain your monthly budget. We offer quite a variety including gas, grocery, restaurants, movie theater, clothing, crafts, home improvement, sports, car repair, Visa & Discover and SO much more.

If you purchase one \$25.00 gift card each month for a year, you could raise \$20.00 for the church. For 300 members to make that commitment could mean \$6,000.00 for 1 year. Think of the possibilities!

The SCRIP table will be open the first and third Sunday in the Welcome Center. SCRIP is also available in the office Monday-Friday. Click [HERE](#) for the current scrip list! Fill it out and bring it with you on Sunday mornings to have your order filled! Cards that we do not have available can be ordered for you.

Don't forget to share this opportunity with friends and family- the more the merrier! If you have any questions or would like to special order cards, please reach out to Sarah Hellman at sari@cfu.net or contact the church office.

Mission

Free Community Breakfast-Sat. February 3 - 8:00 am

How does a delicious homemade breakfast sound, along with a time of fellowship? You are invited to attend our monthly community breakfast, held on the first Saturday of the month. The men of Westminster cook up a delicious meal and there is a time of devotion and fellowship. We'd love for you to join us and bring a friend or two!

Sunday Supper Update

The ministry of Sunday Supper continues every Sunday evening at First Presbyterian Church in Waterloo! Have you attended yet? It is a great way to meet community friends and enjoy a great meal together!

It starts at 5 pm in the lower level of First Pres which is located at 505 Franklin Street. If you would like to lend a hand some Sunday with the food prep, hospitality or clean up please see the schedule which is located in the Welcome Center. There are TWO different shifts to choose from:

- * OPEN which is 3:30 pm to 5:40 pm and this includes food prep, serving line or greeting
- * CLOSING which is 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm and could include serving, assisting with carrying trays and the inevitable joy of clean up!

Volunteers are always needed! Check out the sign up sheets in the Welcome Center! Please contact Mary Lisa Mueller [319-274-9650](tel:319-274-9650) with any questions.

Care

Deacon Medical Equipment Lending Program

We have available the following items to be loaned on a short term basis to Westminster members:

Wheel Chair, Walker, Bed Rail, Shower Chair, Cane, Crutches and others.

Due to the generous donation from a Westminster Church family, we now have available an electric wheelchair if there is ever a need.

Contact the church office if you are in need or should you have any items that we can use, please let us know by calling 234-5501. Thank you!

Other Church News

Over 60 Fellowship - Thursday, February 8

Join us as we tour the *Islamic Training Center* on Sager Ave in Waterloo. This is a chance to get your questions answered and get more understanding into our neighbors' faith practices.

We will leave the church at 10:30am. Our friend, Dema Kazkaz, will take us on a tour of the center (30 mins) - Elevator available - and then there will be a Q and A time (30 mins).

When we finish, we will go to *Perkins* for our lunchtime together. Reach out and invite a friend to Over 60s or make a new friend. COST - \$ your meal. RSVP February 7.

Chili/Soup Cook-off

A big thank you to all of our chefs and tasters for our annual event last Sunday! What a great evening we had! See attached sheet for the cook off winners for 2018.

Presbyterian Women

Executive Board: Will meet on Wednesday, Feb. 7 at 10:00 am at the home of Betty Cline. #6301 at Friendship Village (3720 Village Place).

Circles: Wednesday, Feb. 21 at 10:00 am in the Children's Library. Lesson 8: Jesus, According to the other Abrahamic Faiths. Read: Genesis 12:1-4; Matthew 1:1; Galatians 3:6-9; 4:23-29.

PIECEMAKERS meets each Thursday 9:00 - 12:00. Our mission will continue to make quilts and children's clothing. We welcome new members. Drop by on any Thursday to get acquainted and see how your talent could help out.

Join Our Circle

Are you a new member, visitor or been associated with Westminster for many years and yet long for a one on one connection? Joining a Circle is a great way to get acquainted with Westminster Presbyterian Women. The Circle meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month (September through May) at 10:00 am at the church. Purpose: Spiritual growth through group. Discussion using our study book "Who Is Jesus?". Mission: To nurture our faith through study, justice, peace and giving. Please contact Jean Butler at 296-1855 or just join us the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 10:00 am in the Children's Library. We look forward to welcoming you. See you there.

The Piecemakers quilting group is seeking new members! This group meets Thursdays from 9:00 am to noon, on the 2nd floor of the church, across from room 216. No sewing or quilting experience is needed! If you are interested in joining us, we are happy to teach you some basic skills. We need people who are willing to sew a basic straight stitch in order to put the quilt blocks together, as well as those who would like to tie the layers of the quilt together with a needle and yarn. We support our local community by donating our finished quilts to the Red Cross, pregnancy centers, and foster care programs. If you want more information about joining this fun and rewarding ministry, please contact Alisa Engelhardt.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Just a reminder that there are prayer shawls available in the Welcome Center for you to take to someone you know who may be sick, have a new baby or just maybe needs a hug of love. These shawls were made by a very special group of women who then prayed over them. Please feel free to take one for yourself as well!

As a reminder, this group meets on the 4th Monday of the month at 9:30 am in the children's library! We would love for you to join us!

Our Condolences

- Kevin Kuhn and his family on the passing of his dad Clarence Kuhn
 - Family of Kevin Andriano who passed away
 - Lloyd and Margaret Harp on the passing of their son-in-law Ivan Bullerman
 - Andy Van Fleet and his family on the passing of his grandfather Earl Van Fleet
 - Family of Arletta Kober who passed away
 - Amy Knoll and her family on the passing of her sister-in-law Sabrina Kent
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Westminster Church Calendar

To view all the events happening at Westminster, please visit our website at www.wpcw.org. The church calendar can be found on our home page.

Congratulations to our Chili/Soup Cook-Off Winners!

Best Decorations

1st Place
Brandhorst & Dietz



2nd Place
Hesse Family



3rd Place
Spice Girls



Best Chili

1st Place
Crawford Family



2nd Place
Cose Family



3rd Place
Hesse Family



Best Soup

1st Place
Hoffman Family



2nd Place
Spice Girls



3rd Place
Denise Van Hauen

