



## VISION • INNOVATION • ACTION

REGIONAL TRANSFORMATION EVENT

AUGUST 25-26, 2023

*to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ*  
- Ephesians 4:12

## Workshop Leaders



**Rev. Bruce Barkhauer, Director for the Center for Faith and Giving**, has engaged the whole church in conversations about generosity and offering transformative ways for congregations to think about stewardship and vitality. Bruce was called as the first “Minister for Faith and Giving for Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)” in 2010. He is a graduate of Ohio University (Athens), Christian Theological Seminary (Indianapolis), and did Doctor of Ministry studies at Ashland Theological Seminary (Ashland, OH). He is married to Laura and they share three grown children and three grandchildren

Hosted by First Christian Church, 4954 Valleydale Rd., Birmingham 35242-4613  
Schedule on next page. Paper Registration Forms are in the Narthex & Church Office.  
Online Registration [www.alnwfldisciples.org/2023-individual-transformation-event](http://www.alnwfldisciples.org/2023-individual-transformation-event)  
Hotel Registration Deadline July 25 Best Western Plus Hwy 280 (205) 995-8586 or  
[www.bestwestern.com/en\\_US/book/hotel-rooms.01126.html?groupId=I78YT7P9](http://www.bestwestern.com/en_US/book/hotel-rooms.01126.html?groupId=I78YT7P9)

**Rev. Dr. Denise Bell, Regional Minister of the Christian Church (DOC) in Georgia**, has served the Georgia Region since 2014. She also has served churches in Oregon, Virginia, and Tennessee, as well as on numerous Disciples regional and general boards, committees, and task forces. She earned her MDiv from Denver Theological Seminary and completed her PhD in Leadership from Eastern University, St. Davids, PA in 2022. Her ministry is grounded in loving and serving the world with others who practice the principles of faith. She is a native of New Jersey where her mother and three siblings live.



The *Journey* is published on the **first and third Monday** of the month.  
The **deadline** for *Journey* submissions is **9:00 a.m. Thursday, August 3**. Email to: [publisher@fcc-hsv.org](mailto:publisher@fcc-hsv.org)

3209 Whitesburg Drive, Huntsville, Alabama 35802  
Telephone: 256-881-0150

# VITAL SIGNS

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**Friday, August 25, 7:30 p.m. - Regional Worship Service at First Christian Church, 4954 Valleydale Rd., Birmingham 35242.**

- Rev. Bruce Barkhauer preaching
- Celebration of Susan Varden's Ministry

**Saturday, August 26 - Regional Transformation Workshops**

(Childcare provided for registered children ages K-5th grade.)

**8:00 a.m.** Registration and fellowship

**9:00 a.m.** Plenary Workshop 1 - *Marks of a Vital Congregation* led by Rev. Bruce Barkhauer

**10:15a.m.** Break

**10:30 a.m.** Plenary Workshop 2 - *Church Leadership for a New Day: Leaders who Transform the Church* led by Rev. Dr. Denise Bell

**11:45a.m.** Lunch

**12:45 p.m.** Afternoon Workshops (will run simultaneously)

- *Generosity Plus* - led by Rev. Bruce Barkhauer and Rev. Beth Thomason

- *Exploring Your Church's Possibilities for Vital Leadership* - led by Rev. Dr. Denise Bell: **1:45p.m.**

Closing Communion

**2:00 p.m.** Depart for home

A detailed schedule is available in the Narthex/Lobby, Church Office, and online at:

[www.alnwfldisciples.org/transformationevent](http://www.alnwfldisciples.org/transformationevent)

Please contact the Church Office if you plan on attending **Vital Signs**, the Regional Transformation Event. We will qualify for a discounted registration fee if we have 9 or more register as a congregation.

### ATTENDANCE

**July 9:** In-Person Worship Service: 90  
Small Groups (During week & Sunday): 56  
**July 16:** In-Person Worship Service: 95  
Small Groups (During week & Sunday): 72



Dear FCC Church Family,

Thank you so much for the outpouring of love and generosity you showed at our "Baby Sprinkle". We are delighted to have collected so many diapers for children in our community. Over 800 diapers were delivered to the Huntsville Assistance Program! Our new baby is already blessed to be welcomed into such a loving church family.

Love, Clara, Nathan, and Eleanor Lee



**IT'S A BOY!** Congratulations to Nate & Clara Reed Lee on the birth of Edward Lloyd Lee on \*\*\*. Eleanor is the proud big sister.



### SALVATION ARMY MOBILE KITCHEN UPDATE

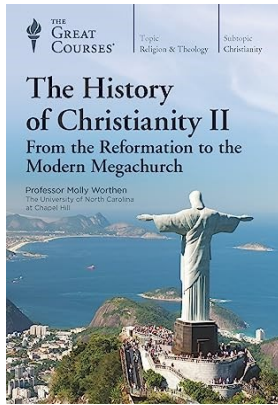
Thanks to all who "voted" with your dollars and coins at the ice cream social. The total of \$342.70 will be used to supplement the food prepared by the Salvation Army that is delivered by FCC volunteers on the third Tuesday of each month to the less fortunate. Sometimes the meal is only a bologna/cheese sandwich. Your funds will help!

Jeff Seward & Donnie Coburn - drivers

## MISSING

The DVD series **The History of Christianity II: From the Reformation to the Modern Megachurch** by Dr. Molly Worthen. This was last used in Dale Thomas's Sunday School Class. The New Testament Class would like to use it now.

Thanks, Bob Senn



**Are you up to the challenge of starting a new, beneficial habit?**

Why not start a new habit this Sunday? Bring one food item for the food pantry cart. Of course, more donations would be better.

As inflation continues to grow, many families are suffering from food shortages. Our food pantry cart is located to the right as you enter the church. Can you help your neighbor?



The 2023 sign up chart for **FOOD BASKETS** is available. You may call 256-881-0150 or email [office@fcc-hsv.org](mailto:office@fcc-hsv.org) the office to select a Sunday to remember or honor a friend, loved one, anniversary, birthday, or other special occasion. Donations are \$25.00 and go to Community Outreach. Make checks payable to First Christian Church and Food Basket on the notation line. You may also make your donation through PayPal and designate Food Basket through our website at [fcc-hsv.org/who-we-are/how-to-give/](http://fcc-hsv.org/who-we-are/how-to-give/)

## REGIONAL PRAYER REQUESTS

Arbol de Vida, Pensacola, FL  
Big Union, Letohatchee, AL



**FOOD BASKET** is given in memory of Rebecca Denise Ball from Matt & Karen.

