



The Journey

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Deadline for the *Journey* is **Thursday, August 11** at Noon publisher@fcc-hsv.org

WHY I BELIEVE IN LIFE AFTER DEATH

The following story is written by Norman Vincent Peale in a book he wrote, *The Positive Power of Jesus Christ*. I got the parable as a reprint from an old *Reader's Digest*. I like it and think it is so true and comforting.

Lord Thomson of Fleet was one of the great newspapermen of his era. One day he invited me to a luncheon in the sumptuous dining room of *The Times of London*. The table was made up of distinguished editors and writers as well as prominent businessmen.

The conversation ranged over many themes; world affairs, politics British and American, and suddenly in the midst of much banter, Thomson said, "Dr. Peale, I am an old man, and one of these days I'm going to die." The room became silent. "I want to know; is there an after-life?"

I couldn't be sure he wasn't pulling my leg, but then I sensed that the question was indeed serious and weighed on his mind. "Lord Thomson," I said, "I believe in the promises of the Bible. But beyond the Biblical is the evidence of intelligence and common sense."

Then I told him and the others a parable about a prenatal baby tucked beneath his mother's loving heart. "Suppose," I said, "someone came to this unborn and said, 'You cannot stay here long. In a few months you will be born, or as you may think of it, die out of your present state.'"

"The baby might stubbornly say, 'I don't want to leave here. I don't want to be what you call born, or what I call die, out of this place.'"

"But he is born. He does die out of his present life. And what does he find? He feels beneath him strong, loving arms. He looks up into a beautiful face, tender with love, the face of his mother. He is welcomed, cared for, and says, 'How foolish I was. This is a wonderful place to which I have come.'"

"Then he goes on to enjoy the delights of childhood. He grows into youth with its excitement and romance. He marries, and knows the love of his children.

"The years pass, with the strength of manhood, the achievement of middle age; the joy and wonderment of life are his. Then he becomes an old man. His step slows. Someone says, 'You are going to die, or, as we call it, be born out of this place into another.'"

"And he might remonstrate: 'But I don't want to die. I have my loved ones. I love this world - the dawn and sunset, the moon, the starlight. I like to feel the warmth of the fire on my face when cold weather comes, and to hear the crunch of snow beneath my feet on a winter's evening. I don't want to leave this world. I don't want to die.'"

"But in natural course he does die. What happens then? Is God the Creator, suddenly going to change His nature? Can we not assume that he will once again feel loving arms beneath him, and once again look up into a strong, beautiful face, more lovely even than that first face he saw so long ago?"

"Won't he soon be exclaiming, 'This is wonderful! Here I want to remain forever?'"

Does this not make sense?" I concluded. A deep silence hung over the table; several of the company appeared to be moved.

Thomson sighed. "It does indeed make sense," he said. "I will never forget that parable. It has helped me answer a question that has haunted me for years."

You know, I too like that parable a lot. It does make sense. It is also my faith to believe there is a resurrection and an afterlife. It is a gift from God. It comes by faith in Jesus Christ. - What do you think? I'll See you Sunday,

Pastor Cameron

SUNDAY, AUGUST 7

Old Testament Isaiah 5:1-7
Epistle Hebrews 11:29-12:2
Sermon Text Luke 12:49-56
Sermon "Set the Church On Fire"

SERVING AT THE TABLE

8:15 Dale Thomas & Tom Hodge
10:30 Jeff Seward & Jan Mackenzie

COMMUNION PREPARATION

Mary Ann Anderson

SERVING COMMUNION

8:15 Eddie & Valerie Parks
 Jackie Sameck & Margaret J. Vann
10:30 Sabrina Beckman & Roberta Shivers
 Sue Seward & Matt Ball

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

Chuck & Penny Jackman

SUNDAY'S FOOD BASKET is in memory of Jean & James Rowell by their children

SUNDAY'S FLOWERS are in memory of Steve Hooker by Jeff, Bryan, Tim, Jason, Linda & Bud Hooker

FLOWER ARRANGEMENT

Nancy Waites

CHILDREN WORSHIP & WONDER

No Worship & Wonder this week
Children worship with families

YOUNG DISCIPLES

No Worship & Wonder this week
Children worship with families

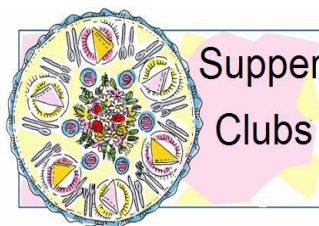
The 2016 sign up charts for FLOWERS & FOOD BASKETS are located across the hall from McMains Hall. Remember a friend, anniversary, birthday, or other special occasion. Donations are \$25.00 with checks made out to First Christian Church and Flowers or Food Basket on the notation line.

NURSERY HELPERS SIGN UP

Please sign up to help our paid attendants once a month to help provide a safe and loving environment for our infants and toddlers. We need one adult volunteer for each room each Sunday. The new sign up sheets are in the Commons area for August and September when we go back to two services. Times have been modified to allow you to attend worship either early or late, and still help with the children (8-9:30 or 9:30-11:30). We also need volunteers for the last of July for the unified service. Call Linda Lykins or Sue Seward if you need more information.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The August Community Outreach project is collection of needed hygiene supplies for schools. Needed supplies include: tissues, hand sanitizer, plastic zip lock bags of all sizes, Clorox sanitizing wipes, and various sizes of band aids. In addition, counselors need personal hygiene items for students (toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, shampoo, soap-small hotel items are ideal) as well as articles of clothing including underwear. Please deposit your donations in the basket under the poster in the Commons Area, or you may make a monetary donation to FCC with *School Hygiene* on the memo line. Thanks for your generosity,
Community Outreach



Join us for good food and fellowship during the 2016-17 supper club season! Adults of all ages are welcome! Sign up in the Commons Area and mark your preferences: Restaurant or in-home dining? Breakfast, lunch, or dinner group? Want to coordinate a small group? Contact Mary Ann Anderson at maryannanderson@knology.net for more information

GREETERS are needed for both First and Second Worship Services beginning in August. Sign-up charts will be in the Narthex on Sunday. For more information contact Alma Kingsbury at 256-534-2812 or hollyivy@bellsouth.net

BACK TO TWO SERVICES

School starts this week and we resume our two worship services on August 7. First service will return with a song leader, different instrumentation, and, maybe, our requests for songs will be made for the following week.

As usual, first service begins at 8:15 with Sunday school following at 9:15, and second service at 10:30.

More information to come about services.

Margaret J. Vann, Worship Chair

SAFE CHURCH INFORMATION FOR ALL PARENTS OF CHILDREN NEWBORN TO 17 YEARS

Learn about FCC's Safe Church policy right after second worship on Aug. 14 in the Family Services Room. A light lunch will be served to parents and children at 11:30. Nursery and Toddler care will be provided as well entertainment for elementary age school children during the information session which will end by 1:00. Chi Rho and CYF age youth will participate in the session. Please sign up in the church office so we will have a count for lunch and childcare, but even if you decide to come at the last minute, we will be happy to have you join in. You can also attend if you are Safe Church certified as a parent or volunteer, but need a refresher. Call Sue Seward for more details.

NOTICE: Coffee and social time will be 8 through 9:15 a.m. in the Commons area beginning Sunday August 7 when we resume two services. Food and beverages are to remain in the Commons area as do exuberant conversations.

You are asked to, please, be respectful of those still in first service when you gather.

Margaret J. Vann

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

NURSERY/TODDLER ATTENDANT

First Christian Church, 3209 Whitesburg Drive, is seeking a Nursery/Toddler attendant for Sunday mornings from 8:00-12:00 noon. The hourly salary begins at 10.00 / hr. Applicants need maturity (college age or older), reliable transportation, work experience of this type, personal and work references, ability to pass a background check, and availability for occasional special church events on Sundays with extended hours or for weekday services such as Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, and Christmas Eve. Please submit a cover letter and resume via email to cameron@fcc-hsv.org.

VINTAGE VAGABONDS AUGUST 18

All who are available for lunch on Thursday, Aug. 18,, are invited to travel with the Vintage Vagabonds to Grandmother's House in Owens Cross Roads. We will gather at FCC at 10:30, depart at 10:45, and return about 1:30. Please sign up on the Volunteer Desk in the office by Aug. 15 so we will know who is riding the bus, driving from the church, or meeting us there. We will order from the menu which will be posted at the sign-up. Call Sue Seward with any questions.

ATTENDANCE	7/24	7/31
First Service Worship	108	39
Sunday School	34	24
Second Service Worship	NA	104
Children's Church	NA	NA
Young Disciples	NA	NA
Total Worship	108	143