



The Journey

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Deadline for the *Journey* is **Thursday, August 18** at Noon publisher@fcc-hsv.org

BEARING FRUIT OF THE KINGDOM

Every big city has its affluent neighborhoods. I remember driving through Indianapolis in one such neighborhood where everything was big, beautiful, and secure. These houses have great big yards, a tall fence around their perimeter, and locked gates out in front. Clearly the residents don't want any unexpected company. As I was driving around the area I was struck by how much the fences and gates reminded me of a prison, some with barbed wire. In this neighborhood of prisons there seemed to be little freedom; the world was locked out and the owners were locked in. Sure they have some nice homes, but it reminds me of a fortresses keeping the world out. In order to have it all they were prisoners of their own wealth and they maintain these houses and yards as marks of their considerable status and prosperity.

In Galatians 6:17 the Apostle Paul said, "I bear branded on my body the marks of Jesus." At the time Paul wrote to the Galatian church, slaves were branded with their owner's stamp. It was either tattooed or burned into their skin. He was concerned that Christians have certain marks of character and conduct so that they would be recognized as belonging to Christ. The stamp of Christ's ownership could best be seen in the fruits of the Spirit (also listed in Galatians 5). Paul told them to look for these marks: love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faithfulness, and meekness.

That's quite a list of branding marks or fruits, isn't it? One cannot fake a fruit. Either the fruit genuinely provides nourishment and tastes good or it doesn't. You cannot fake bearing fruit. To bear fruit

the plant must be rooted into the fertile soil of the earth, watered, cultivated and then harvested at just the right time. As Christians we are to bear the marks, that is to say the fruits of the Spirit, as we plant ourselves into the fertile soil of God's mercy, watered by the love of Jesus, and cultivated by God's word. You can't fake it! Love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faithfulness, and meekness are the fruits, or the genuine marks of a Godly person.

Ours is a day of great possessions. There are now more billionaires in the United States than there were millionaires just a few years ago. People count it of great importance to be able to put their name brand on bank accounts, lands, houses, automobiles, and the like. There is no New Testament command against such. The danger lies in the fact that we may become owned by our possessions. We may become prisoner's of our own wealth and affluence and thereby die on the vine unfruitful, as it were.

In one of Jesus' parables in Luke 16, we find a rich young man turning away from Jesus' suggestions and admonitions, "for he had great possessions." In a very real sense it can be said that his possessions owned him, and he was trapped in his own system of living.

In looking at our own lives it is well for us to see the things we have allowed to possess us. Do you belong to Christ? Does your life bear the fruits, the owner's stamp of Jesus? Paul was proud to call himself a bond-slave of Jesus Christ. Whose stamp is on your life?

I'll See you Sunday,
Pastor Cameron

SUNDAY, AUGUST 21

Old Testament Jeremiah 1:4-10
Gospel Luke 13:10-17
Sermon Text Hebrews 12:18-29
Sermon "Nothing Will Ever Be the Same"

SERVING AT THE TABLE

8:15 Nancy Waites & Roger Sameck
10:30 Lisa Fitzgerald & Mack Vann

COMMUNION PREPARATION

Nancy Woodall

SERVING COMMUNION

8:15 Beverly Cannon & Delores Edgeton
Carl & Carol Jones
10:30 Beth Bailey & Nancy Adams
Brad & Pam Clasgens

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

Gayle Herber

SUNDAY'S FOOD BASKET is in honor of James & Beverly Cannon's anniversary by Colleen Cannon Jenkins.

SUNDAY'S FLOWERS are in honor of Rick & Kay Shrou's anniversary.

FLOWER ARRANGEMENT

Nancy Woodall

CHILDREN WORSHIP & WONDER

Will resume in October
Children worship with families

YOUNG DISCIPLES

Will resume in October
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, September, and October. 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

SUPPER CLUBS FORMING

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

ATTENDANCE	8/7	8/15
First Service Worship	39	53
Sunday School	24	32
Second Service Worship	104	123
Children's Church	NA	NA
Young Disciples	NA	NA
Total Worship	143	176

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT NURSERY/TODDLER ATTENDANT

First Christian Church is seeking a Nursery/Toddler attendant for Sunday mornings from 8:00-12:00 noon. The salary begins at \$10.00 an hour. 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.



ABOUT CHILDREN WORSHIP & WONDER

First Christian Church offers to children age 3 through 2nd grade a special place apart from the worshipping congregation to enable the children to become able to worship meaningfully with the congregation.

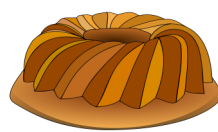
In the special Children Worship & Wonder (CW&W) sanctuary, FCC offers a worship context for telling and working with biblical stories. The intent of CW&W worship is to experience and praise God. The CW&W sanctuary transforms ordinary time and space into sacred time and space allowing the children to experience and praise God. CW&W offers a context that meets the needs of the young child. Children do love and worship God, and CW&W introduces the meaning and action of corporate worship to the child in a friendly space. (From introduction to Young Children and Worship.)

The storytellers and greeters of CW&W hope to create an environment that enables the young child to encounter and worship God. CW&W has been a program to children of FCC since 2005. Through the years, storytellers and greeters have been lost. The program needs new storytellers and greeters. **Greeter training will be done September 25.** Because CW&W is undergoing a recruitment, revival, and training, the program has been put on hold until October 16 when the first orientation for children and their parents/guardians will be held. Meanwhile the children will hear Bible stories in the CW&W sanctuary.

Please consider becoming a greeter then maybe a storyteller. Most especially, bring us children age 3 through 2nd grade to participate in CW&W.

Margaret J. Vann
Worship Chair

BAKE SALE



To the Ladies of the church, I am going to offer to chair a bake sale this year to benefit our church. Instead of sending all the money to Indianapolis like we use to do, I would like to see the proceeds stay here. We would tithe 10% to the region and use the rest in an area at the church that needs revamping like the garden area or in the parlor kitchen redo. That could be decided later. I am willing to chair but I need several helpers to make it happen. We need a publicity person(s) for both church and community information (radio, tv, newspaper). I have considered having a silent auction running at the same time so we would need someone to coordinate it and find a few items for the auction. I have several items already that have been promised if we do this. We would also need someone to decorate the day before the sale and as always lots of bakers of cakes.

Before I can start this I need to know that I will have help, so if you are willing to take one of the above positions please let me know before August 31st.

Please call me at 256-882-1543 or email me at dmlove@knology.net.

Thanks, Dinah Love

HELP NEEDED WITH CHILDREN DURING SECOND SERVICE

Until CW&W has new training and new story tellers, we need 2 people: one to read a Bible story and the other to be a greeter for children, ages 3 - 2nd grade, August 21 through October 9. At least one worker needs to be an adult. September 25, Margaret J. Vann will be doing greeter training for Children Worship & Wonder.

If you wish to be a reader or a greeter, you need to have had Safe Church training, or Laura can give you the training individually. The schedule of readers/greeters will be listed in the Journey and the bulletin each week.

The children will be lead from the sanctuary after the Children's Moment to the CW&W sanctuary. They will be read a Bible story, maybe do some craft/coloring, and be brought back to their parents in the sanctuary just before communion.

Contact Mary Ann Williams or Pastor Laura West if you are interested in getting to know our children and reading a story or greeting them.

Margaret J. Vann
Worship Chair