



The Journey

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www.fcc-hsv.org

Deadline for the *Journey* is **Thursday, September 15**, at Noon publisher@fcc-hsv.org

THE MYSTERY THAT IS JESUS

Many years ago, a book entitled *The Big Fisherman*, by Lloyd C. Douglas (no relation), made the best seller list. The book contains a scene in which several of the apostles are wondering aloud about Jesus: “Why did he do this? Why did he do that?” At one point, Peter says,

“Don’t forget, we couldn’t understand why he wanted to leave Canaan and go to Capernaum.”

“That was different,” Thomas mumbles. “He felt he was urgently needed there.”

“Maybe he feels that he is now needed elsewhere,” Andrew observes.

To which James adds, “I don’t believe he cares very much whether we understand him or not.”

“You are right, Jimmy,” says Bartholomew, “He’s teaching us to have faith in him.”

“But can’t a man have faith, and understanding too?” Thomas argues.

“No,” says Bartholomew, “That’s what faith is for. It’s for when we can’t understand.”

“That’s true,” says Peter. “When a man understands, he doesn’t need any faith.”

“I don’t like to be kept in the dark,” complains Philip.

To which Peter replies, “If a man has enough faith, he can find his way in the dark – with faith as his lamp.”

I really like that explanation of faith being a light in the dark for us to follow. It seems that the disciples couldn’t quite get over the absolute necessity for Jesus to die in order to bring about new life. It’s a mystery. God works through a process of death, judgment, and pain to bring about resurrection, mercy, and hope. But that is what God has chosen to do. Think about it a moment. Life comes from death, and unless Jesus dies humankind cannot have new, eternal life.

On one occasion, Jesus tried to help them understand by telling this simple, little parable: “Unless the grain of wheat falls to the earth and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat. But if it dies, it produces much fruit (John 12:24).”

Yes, it’s a mystery. The process of death and resurrection always is at work in our lives. There are all those little daily deaths to which we die. We suffer little deaths in our relationships with other people when we feel betrayed or misunderstood, or unloved. We must die to something to be born again to new forms of relating and being, and new ways to live. It is just a part of life to die, grieve, and overcome.

Jesus is saying, and here is the good news, that God is at work in all of this! By faith God is at work through dying to the old (sinful, useless life) and bringing in the new (righteous, usable life). It is inevitable and a necessary part of living. It’s not an easy thing to understand, but it is a necessary thing to experience life in its fullest.

See you Sunday,

Pastor Cameron

3209 Whitesburg Drive, Huntsville, Alabama 35802 Telephone: 256-881-0150 Office Hours: 9am - 5pm M-F
Sunday Worship Services: 8:15 & 10:30 a.m. Christian Education for all ages - 9:15 a.m.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

Old Testament Jeremiah 8:18-9:1
Epistle 1 Timothy 2:1-7
Sermon Text Luke 16:1-13
Sermon "The Time Has Come"

SERVING AT THE TABLE

8:15 Mack Vann & Nancy Waites
10:30 Karen Ball & Lisa Fitzgerald

COMMUNION PREPARATION

Bev Williamson

SERVING COMMUNION

8:15 Delores Edgeton & Linda Hooker
Penny Jackman & Alli Euper
10:30 Nancy Adams & Matt Ball
Sabrina Beckman & Marilee Keim

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

Gray & Theresa Killough

SUNDAY'S FOOD BASKET is given in honor of Kayla Beene's birthday by Bob and Lynn Abernathy

SUNDAY'S FLOWERS are in honor Laura West's 4th anniversary of ministry.

FLOWER ARRANGEMENT

Nancy Waites

CHILDREN WORSHIP & WONDER

Bible story and songs

YOUNG DISCIPLES (Meets 2nd & 3rd Sundays)

Will resume on October 9.

ATTENDANCE	9/4	9/11
First Service Worship	45	39
Sunday School	34	34
Second Service Worship	75	109
Children's Church	6	8
Young Disciples	NA	NA
Total Worship	126	154

ANNUAL FISH FRY

The All Church Fish Fry will be here on September 25th and we will start serving at 5 PM. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share by 4:30 PM so it can be set up in time for us to eat at 5 PM.

Thank you and hope to see you there!

Monty Love

SMALL MEETINGS ON THE BUILDING PROGRAM

There will be five small meetings to discuss more details on the building program and the cost options available. These meeting dates are listed below. You can come and ask your questions and go home unless you want to see what others are thinking.

1. Thursday, Sep 15, at 7 PM in the FSA.
2. Saturday, Sep 17, at 9 AM Basement Rm. 209
3. Wednesday, Oct 5, at 7 PM in the FSA
4. Tuesday, Oct 11, at 7 PM in the FSA.
5. Monday, Oct 17, at 7 PM in the FSA.

WOMEN'S FALL RETREAT

The AL/NW FL Disciples Women will host a regional fall retreat at Camp Chandler YMCA, Wetumpka, AL, Sep 23-25, 2016. The program "Won't You Be My Neighbor?" will be led by Chesla Nickelson, Office of Disciples Women. The weekend will include a business meeting, workshops, Bible study, fellowship, worship, silent auction, lakeside activities, and more! If you are interested in attending, please find in the commons area registration packets that include info about fees, deadlines, refund policy, what to bring, special accommodations, etc.

Mary Ann Anderson

SENIOR ADULT RETREAT

The Senior Adult Retreat will take place Thursday, November 3, 10:00 a.m. through Friday, November 4, 2:00 p.m. at St. Bernard Retreat and Conference Center in Cullman. Our retreat leader is Rev. Mary Pat Spencer, and the theme is "Pay It Forward". There is a sign-up sheet and registration forms at the display in the Commons Area. The Early-bird deadline is October 13 which saves you \$10.00. Let's have a good-sized group this year from FCC Huntsville. It's always a great time to enjoy fun and fellowship with other Disciples from throughout the region

WE NEED YOUR BLOOD!

On Sunday, September 18 LifeSouth will park their Blood Mobile in our parking lot. Please consider donating blood that day. One pint of blood can save three lives. They will be here from 8 AM until 12:30 PM, or until everyone in line has given. Just decide when would be the best time for you to give and sign up in the Commons Area, or come without signing up.

Thank You, Community Outreach

WE JOIN FORCES WITH HEROES TO CELEBRATE CHILDREN

In September Community Outreach and CWM are working together to support Shop With a Hero, a project designed to give less fortunate children in our community a Merry Christmas. The children will be given \$100 gift cards and will shop with the aid of a Hero. These Heroes are either active or retired military, police, fire fighters, first responders, teachers, medical personnel, etc. You can give toward this project in September by writing a check to FCC with Shop With a Hero on the memo line. Any amount is appreciated.



As always, thanks for helping the less fortunate in our community.

Community Outreach and
Christian Women's Ministries

CHILDREN WORSHIP & WONDER NOTICE

As no one has signed up to be trained as Greeters for CW&W September 25, I am changing the date to September 18 during the CW&W time. If need be, we will include a brief Safe church training. Please contact me if you have served and/or wish to serve as a Greeter. Our children need you!

Margaret J. Vann, 256.533.4213

SHOWER FOR TWINS!

Please join Mission Family 3 as we honor Glen and Laura Hiller, expectant parents of twin girls! We will gather with the couple on October 9 after Second Service in the Commons area. If you would like to bring a gift or gift card they are registered at:

<http://babyli.st/laura-glen> and at Babies R Us

INVITATION TO ROMANS, a short-term DISCIPLE Bible Study, will begin October 11, 2016. Classes will be held at 9:00 AM and 6:00 PM every Tuesday at FCC. The am classes will meet in the library and the pm classes in the Garden Room. The class will run for eight consecutive sessions with one break during Thanksgiving week. Completion date will be December 6, 2016. Both AM and PM classes will cover the same lesson each week, so it is possible to attend either class should conflicts arise.

Quoting the leader's guide of this study series, "Disciple is a family of Bible study resources based on the general assumption that people are hungry for God's Word, for fellowship in prayer and study, and for Biblically informed guidance in ministry." Please give prayerful consideration to joining this study during this fall season. No prerequisite study is required and all are welcome. If interested, please contact Nancy Waites at 256.683.6192 or nancykwaites@gmail.com. There is also a signup sheet outside the narthex with the Disciple display. The student participant books are available now along with a schedule of the classes. There will be no orientation session, rather the first class discussion will be October 11. Please make arrangements to get your student book by no later than October 9. The books will be available every Sunday at the sign up location in the narthex. If possible, the cost of the participant's book is \$8.00.