



The Journey

Volume XXIV No. 44
October 31, 2016
www.fcc-hsv.org

Deadline for the *Journey* is **Thursday, November 3**, at Noon publisher@fcc-hsv.org

FOR THE FAMILY

I doubt FCC Huntsville has any issues with the Halloween custom of dressing our children up in costumes and going door-to-door asking for a treat. I have served churches where many of our conservative Christian friends in the community did perceive an evil threat on Christianity by dressing up and celebrating Halloween. I truly believe there are far worse evils in our culture to be concerned about (such as poverty, chronic unemployment, illiteracy, systemic racism) than Halloween dress-ups and trick or treating.

Many of us don't really know the origins of Halloween and when it was developed. We know about ghost stories and white sheeted goblins running from door-to-door that night, but that's not how it began. It may actually be good for you to use the following explanation of Halloween with children to help them understand the difference between Halloween fun and the activities of evil spirits.

Halloween began before Jesus was born. People in most of the world believed in many gods. We believe that there is only one God. The Celts were people who lived a long distance from the land where Jesus lived. They believed in many gods, and one was a god of death who sent evil spirits into animals to play terrible tricks on people all winter. They believed that by wearing scary masks before winter they would scare off the evil spirits or make the evil spirits think that they were one of them.

When the Christians came to that country they taught about Jesus and the one true God. They tried to make the people stop worshipping evil spirits by celebrating a day they called All Saints Day on November 1. Literally the word Halloween means All Hallow, or "Holy," Evening celebrated the evening of October 31, before All Saints Day. They made this a day to remember all Christians who had lived before.

The Celts believed that those who were dead could hurt them. We don't believe that. We believe that God has power over everyone who is alive and dead and that God is with us always to help protect, preserve, and keep us safe.

Halloween is like a dark side of a holiday. It is what people believed before they learned about Jesus Christ. All Saints Day is the light side. It is what we believe when we know about Christ. We will be celebrating All Saints Day Sunday, November 6th.

(Portions of this article were taken from How Do Our Children Grow? by Delin Halverson.)

See You in Church All Saints Sunday,

Pastor Cameron

FUTURE OF FIRST SERVICE MEETING

There will be a meeting on Sunday, November 6, following first service regarding the future direction of first service. It is particularly important that you make plans to attend this meeting if you normally choose to attend first service.

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, NOVEMBER 6

Old Testament Haggai 1:15b-2:9
 Epistle 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17
 Sermon Text Luke 20:27-38
 Sermon "Love Asks the Question"

SERVING AT THE TABLE

8:15 Joe Brockway & Nancy Waites
 10:30 Lisa Fitzgerald & Roger Sameck

COMMUNION PREPARATION

Bev Williamson

SERVING COMMUNION

8:15 Chuck & Penny Jackman
 Linda Lykins & Ann Thompson
 10:30 Carolyn Brown & Bev Williamson
 Roberta Shivers & Matt Ball

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

Rick & Kay Shrout

SUNDAY'S FOOD BASKET is in honor of Kelsi Shrout Green's birthday, by Rick & Kay Shrout.

SUNDAY'S FLOWERS are in memory of Ralph Richey by Petra Sue Richey.

FLOWER ARRANGEMENT

Nancy Woodall

CHILDREN WORSHIP & WONDER

Bible story and songs

YOUNG DISCIPLES

(Meets 2nd & 4th Sundays)

ATTENDANCE	10/23	10/30
First Service Worship	39	52
Sunday School	42	45
Second Service Worship	100	94
Children's Church	NA	2
Young Disciples	NA	NA
Total Worship	139	148

PLEDGE CARDS DUE

Please remember to return your pledge card to the office or place it in the offering bowl by Sunday, November 6. Thank you.

WE JOIN FORCES WITH HEROES TO CELEBRATE CHILDREN

Community Outreach and CWM are working together to support Shop With a Hero, a project designed to give "at risk" children in the Huntsville/Madison County School Systems a Merry Christmas. On December 10, 2015, each "Hero" will be paired with a child and given a \$100 gift card. The "Hero" will help the child purchase presents for their family and themselves. You can sponsor a child /children anytime until the event on Dec. 10 by writing a check to FCC with Shop With a Hero (SWAH) on the memo line. Any amount is appreciated. We are signing up heroes and volunteers to help with this project, so please consider volunteering on Dec. 10 to help the children shop and to help wrap their gifts. For more information contact Jeff Seward or visit www.shopwithahero.info.

Community Outreach and
 Christian Women's Ministries

STOCKINGS FOR CHRISTMAS CHARITIES



It's the most wonderful time of the year! The time has come to fill stockings for Christmas Charities! The stockings will be available every Sunday in November and need to be returned to church by Sunday, November

27. Every year First Christian fills 100 stockings that Christmas Charities then gives to needy children in the Huntsville and Madison County area. There will be a wide range of ages of children to assist, so pick up a stocking and have fun shopping to make a child's Christmas merry and bright.



CALLING ALL BAKERS!



The Bake Sale is back! All proceeds will benefit FCC, with 10% going to the Region. Please bake and have your items here on November 18. Deliveries will be accepted from 4:00 until 8:00 pm in Family Services. The sale is November 19 from 9:00 am until 12:00 pm. A Silent Auction will be running at the same time. Hope to see everyone there. You can pick up flyers to help us advertise and sign up to volunteer in the Commons Area.

RENOVATION (BUILDING) PROGRAM INFORMATION

The six small meetings on the renovation program have concluded. However, if you were not able to attend one of them and have unanswered questions, I am very happy to answer them by phone (256) 881-6327, on-line (bnsenn@aol.com), or meet you in your home. The presentation lasts about an hour. Please feel free to contact me. I want to be sure that all questions are answered before the congregation meets to make a decision on how we will proceed.

Bob Senn, Renovation Committee Chair

Ladies of the Church
Please Join Us for a Bridal Shower
Honoring Courtney Volinski
Sunday, November 13th
From 1:00 - 3:00 PM
First Christian Church Parlor
Hosted by Mary Propes, Karen Ziegler, and
Donna Zeephat. Courtney is registered at Belk,
Lawren's, and Williams-Sonoma.

VINTAGE VAGABONDS

The Vintage Vagabonds will tour the U.S. Veterans Memorial Museum (\$4) on Airport Rd. on Thursday, Nov. 10, with lunch following at Gibson's on the South Parkway. Please sign up at the FCC Volunteer Desk asap. Call Sue Seward with questions.

MISSION FAMILY 3 LUNCHEON NOV. 6

Mission Family 3 is having a pot-luck lunch after second service on November 6. We will eat in Family Services. Just show up, with or without a dish, and plan on having a great time of fellowship! Feel free to bring diapers or wipes for the Hillers, especially if you missed the shower. With twins they can't get too many diapers and wipes.

CONDOLENCES to the family of Anne Patterson, who died on October 26.