



# *The Journey*

Volume XXV No. 1  
January 2, 2017  
[www.fcc-hsv.org](http://www.fcc-hsv.org)

Deadline for the *Journey* is **Thursday, January 5**, at Noon [publisher@fcc-hsv.org](mailto:publisher@fcc-hsv.org)

## **WE ARE DISCIPLES OF CHRIST**

What we believe is indicated by what we do. As Disciples of Christ what do we believe and do? What do you know about the Disciples if someone were to ask you about your faith and your church?

I was given the following Disciples of Christ advertising published in various newspapers across the country. It explains us very well.

We believe in **Open Communion**. The Lord's Supper is celebrated in weekly worship and it is open to all who believe in Jesus Christ.

We believe in the **Oneness of the Church**. All Christians (women and men) are called to be one in Christ and to seek opportunities for common witness and service.

We believe in **Freedom of Belief**. As Disciples of Christ we are called together around two essentials of faith: a belief in Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior, and that Christians are free to follow their conscience guided by Bible study, the Holy Spirit, and prayer, and we extend that freedom to others.

We believe in **Baptism by Immersion**. In baptism, the old self-centered life is set aside, washed away and a new life of trust in God begins. Although Disciples practice baptism by immersion, other baptism traditions are honored.

We believe in the **Ministry of Believers**. Both ordained ministers and laity lead in worship, service, and spiritual growth.

And above all we believe that, **Jesus Christ is the son of the Living God**, who offers saving grace to all.

The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) was founded in the United States in 1832, seeking to move beyond denominational disagreements. Our founders envisioned a united church of Jesus Christ modeled on the New Testament.

I am reminded of an African-American, Disciples of Christ congregation, in Indianapolis, called "Light of the World Christian Church," that begins each Sunday morning worship experience with some statement about our Disciple identity and what it means to be a Disciple of Christ. What a great idea. We need to be reminded, now and then, what we believe and who the Disciples of Christ are in the church universal. We do stand for something.

Okay fellow Disciples (and all others) See You Sunday!

*Pastor Cameron*

**SUNDAY  
JANUARY 8**

Epistle Acts 10:34-43  
 Gospel Matthew 3:13-17  
 Sermon Text Isaiah 42:1-9  
 Sermon "Justice AND Mercy"

**SERVING AT THE TABLE**

8:15 Karen Ball & Lisa Fitzgerald  
 10:30 Bob Senn & Mack Vann

**COMMUNION PREPARATION**

Bev Williamson

**SERVING COMMUNION**

8:15 Linda Lykins & Kathi Luzar  
 Carol and Carl Jones  
 10:30 Brad & Pam Clasgens  
 Sabrina Beckman & Nancy Woodall

**COFFEE FELLOWSHIP**

Rick & Kay Shrout

**SUNDAY'S FOOD BASKET** is in honor of Ken Riggs' 93rd birthday by Bobbye Riggs

**CHILDREN WORSHIP & WONDER**

**YOUNG DISCIPLES**

(Meets 2nd & 4th Sundays)

**CONDOLENCES** to the family of Joe Shelton who died on Friday, December 30.

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8  
 8:00 AM - 12:30 PM  
 LIFESOUTH BLOOD DRIVE AT FCC  
 UPPER PARKING LOT**

**HELP IS NEEDED** in the Nursery and Toddler rooms on Sunday mornings. Please see the sign up poster in the Commons and sign up now for first or second shift on one Sunday in December and January. We need loving hands to assist our attendants.

FCC Family,

As of January 1st, Anita Wood has taken over as Moderator for the remainder of the term through June 30th. I will remain as the Stewardship Chair during this time. Please give Anita your support and prayers in 2017. Thank you for your support for the last year and a half.

Your Servant,  
 Dave McMahan

**2017 FOOD BASKETS**

The 2017 sign up chart for **FOOD BASKETS** is up and 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 "Food Basket" on the notation line.

*The weekly flower arrangements for the sanctuary have been suspended until further notice.*

Please stop by the "FCC Post Office" in the Commons Area and pick up your Christmas Cards. **They will not be mailed out so you need to come by and pick them up by Sunday, January 8th.**

**A STUDY OF WORDS**

Beginning January 15, the Bethany Sunday School Class which meets in the Parlor will undertake a study of Biblical words. Words such as: spirit, soul, righteousness, faith, and God, to name a very few. We will look at the Greek and/or Hebrew roots, and study various passages where these words are found. This study promises to be very interesting and informative. Please come and take part in this study if this is of interest to you.

ATTENDANCE	12/25	1/1
First Service Worship	NA	NA
Sunday School	8	6
10:30 Unified Worship Service	64	86
Children's Church	NA	NA
Young Disciples	NA	NA
Christmas Eve Services	225	NA
Total Worship	289	86

### KEEPING WARM

Now is the time for keeping warm. It is cold outside. Not everyone in our sister church, Grateful Life, has a coat, thick sweater, even a blanket, especially those without a place to live. Let us gather coats or blankets for those without.

Look in your closet for a clean, gently used coat or sweater that you are not using. Maybe you even have a blanket that is just gathering dust. Or if you wish, buy a used, warm coat to share. We can help keep the attendees of Grateful Life Church warm during this cold season. Check your closet for warm items you aren't using.

A box for collecting the coats or blankets will be in the Commons Area all January.

Community Outreach

### JANUARY SERVICE PROJECT FOR CWM

January has traditionally been blanket month for CWM service activity. Once again, CWM is partnering with Church World Service in their Blankets+ program. We are the "+" in the blanket project. FCC in Huntsville, Alabama, can make a difference all around the world as the need arises. \$10 can provide a warm blanket for anyone left homeless by an earthquake or other natural disaster. Please consider a monetary donation to FCC with CWM "Blankets" in the memo line.

Margaret J. Vann

Dear Women of First Christian DOC,

I am so excited that I will be with you for your Women's Retreat in a few weeks!! I think it will be a wonderful time.

My topic for the day will be "Sacred Space Walking," and I will present material to help us focus on the importance of keeping our spiritual life rich, growing, and vibrant so that we are better equipped to serve in the world and to ultimately transcend the world completely.

I will use Evelyn Underhill's "Concerning the Inner Life." Evelyn Underhill was born in 1875. She was educated at King's College for Women in London where she later became an Honorary Fellow and then a Fellow. She was also an Honorary Doctor of Divinity of the University of Aberdeen. In 1921, she was the Upton Lecturer on the Philosophy of Religion at Manchester College. She was a prolific writer in the area of Christian mysticism. This work, "Concerning the Inner Life," is actually a lecture that she originally delivered to a gathering of priests to encourage them in their spiritual life, but it is full of wisdom that is relevant to us as women in 2017. What a wonderful mind she had! This pamphlet/booklet can be downloaded online at <https://archive.org/details/concerningtheinn032259mbp> or you can purchase it at amazon.com.

Let us join together in prayer that our time together will be blessed and rich.

In Him, Amanda

Dr. Amanda Ragland

Executive Director The Vine Pastoral

Counseling Center [www.vinepcc.com](http://www.vinepcc.com)

