



The Journey

Volume XXV No. 3
January 16, 2017
www.fcc-hsv.org

Deadline for the *Journey* is **Thursday, January 19**, at Noon publisher@fcc-hsv.org

PASSION AND MISSION

I encourage everyone (particularly leadership) from Huntsville First Christian Church to attend this year's Christian Church in Alabama Northwest Florida Region's congregational transformation event Passion and Mission. It begins with worship at Birmingham First Christian Church, Friday evening, February 10. Then, Saturday, February 11, there are transformational workshops throughout the day. It will be well worth our time and effort. I am committing myself to go and I want you to go too!

The worship service begins on Friday, February 10, at 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Dr. Frank A. Thomas is preaching, former Pastor at Mississippi Blvd. Christian Church, Memphis, TN, and currently Professor at Christian Theological Seminary, Indianapolis. I have heard him preach and he is very engaging and a powerful speaker.

Saturday there are workshops about congregational transformation presented by talented folks from our Region and beyond. Please take the time to read through these workshop offerings and plan your day.

For everyone (plenary workshop) on Saturday, Preaching For Moral Imagination at 9:00 a.m. led by Rev. Dr. Frank Thomas. It's not just for preachers. Then there will be opportunities for you to participate in workshops that will help bring about transformation in the congregational setting. I have more detailed descriptions available in the office about the following workshops:

Signs of Hope in a Troubled World - Rev. Gilberto Collazo, President, Hope Partnership - 12:15 p.m.

Spiritual Disciplines for Transformational Leaders, Clergy and Lay - Rev. Mark Benson, Senior Minister, First Christian Church, Meridian, MS

Worship as an Inclusive Transformational Act - Rev. Jim Brooks, Interim Minister, First Christian Church, Tuscaloosa, AL

Church Technology 101: An Introduction to 21st Century Tools for Ministry - Rev. Troy Tatum, Senior Minister, First Christian Church, Birmingham, AL

The Pain and Promise of Building an Inclusive Church - Rev. Shane Isner, Senior Minister, First Christian Church, Montgomery, AL

Things a Congregation Needs to Know When the Pastor is Bi-Vocational - Rev. Dr. Dale Braxton, Associate Regional Minister and Pastor, Snow Hill Christian Church, Mt. Willing, AL

My dream would be for Huntsville FCC to bring a bus full of participants at \$200 registration for as many people as possible, otherwise it is \$25 a person. The registration forms are in the office and I have lodging information for overnight Friday if you would like to stay.

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
JANUARY 22**

Old Testament Isaiah 9:1-4
 Epistle 1 Corinthians 1:10-18
 Sermon Text Matthew 4:12-23
 Sermon "Living Your Salvation"

SERVING AT THE TABLE

8:15 Tom Hodge & Dave Crockett
 10:30 Jan Mackenzie & Dale Thomas

COMMUNION PREPARATION

Nancy Waites

SERVING COMMUNION

8:15 Chuck & Penny Jackman
 Jackie Sameck & Ann Thompson
 10:30 Mary Ann Anderson & Bev Williamson
 Charles & Pam Gilliland

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

Dinah Love

SUNDAY'S FOOD BASKET is in honor of Jordan Green's birthday by Rick & Kay Shrout, and in memory of my beloved husband Bob by Velma Strong.

CHILDREN WORSHIP & WONDER

The Mustard Seed
 Nancy Woodall
 Pastor Laura
 Cara Sexton

YOUNG DISCIPLES (Meets 2nd & 4th Sundays)

Follow Me
 Christi Sexton
 Dave Sexton

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.

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.

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.

Thank you,
 Community Outreach

YEAR END GIVING STATEMENTS
 Year end Giving Statements will be available in the **Narthex on January 22nd and in the Church Office during the week.** Please be sure to pick yours up so we can save on postage.

ATTENDANCE	1/8	1/15
First Service Worship	44	40
Sunday School	31	42
Second Service Worship	87	106
Children's Church	6	4
Young Disciples	8	NA
Total Worship	145	150

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

MEMBERSHIP SUGGESTIONS

The church needs five or six people to join the Property Committee. I can think of several people who I could ask to be on the committee, but I do not know everyone at church or their interest. **If you would be interested, or know someone who you think would be good on the committee, please contact Rick in the church office (256-881-0150 or rick@fcc-hsv.org).**

So, what does the Property Committee do? From the FCC Bylaws: the purpose of this Committee is to care for all properties of the church. This shall include, but not be limited to: Keeping all property and equipment in proper condition, Studying needs and making recommendations for improvements, Caring for the grounds of the church, and Planning and supervising workdays at the church. To care for does not mean that members of the committee are required to physically do work, or have expertise in equipment, but should have an interest in how the facilities look and operate. Please let me know if you, or someone you know, would interested in joining the committee.

Thanks!

Rick Shrout

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

FLOWER GUILD

The Flower Guild will be on hiatus indefinitely while we reassess our plans for this mission. We have appreciated the congregation's support in the past in our desire to enhance the sanctuary during worship services. After a busy Advent season and with coming changes for the church, we feel the new year is a good time to simplify our worship setting and reflect anew on the architectural beauty of the sanctuary and the central element of Disciples' worship: communion at the Lord's table. Please contact Mary Ann Anderson at maryannanderson@knology.net if you have questions.