



The Journey

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Deadline for the *Journey* is **Thursday, February 2**, at Noon publisher@fcc-hsv.org

WHO, ME WORRY?

I came across this devotional by Graham Hardy and I like it a lot. It sure has a lot to say. See what you think.

The United States Public Health Service once made the following comment on the prevalence of nervous disease and tendency of worry to weaken and shorten life.

“No bird ever tried to build more nests than his neighbor. No fox ever fretted because he had only one hole in which to hide. No squirrel ever died of anxiety lest he should not lay by enough for two winters instead of one. No dog ever lost any sleep over the fact that he had not enough bones laid aside for his declining years.”

Most of us waste a lot of nervous energy worrying about troubles that will never happen. We are like the little old lady who said, “I always feel bad when I feel good, for I know that I will feel bad after a while.”

Worry has been described as “interest paid on trouble before it falls due.” Such prodigal waste in the financial world would be unthinkable, but how many are wasting nervous energy on worries that are entirely unproductive, except in ulcers and hypertension.

Remember Mark Twain who said that he had known a lot of troubles in his life, but most of them never happened. The worrier creates problems because his thinking is distorted, his attitudes unbalanced.

Let’s make it a top priority to break this habit of worry once and for all, and we’ll add 10 years to our life. Look squarely at your problems. Make sure they are real and not imaginary. Get advice from a wise friend. Take action by writing a letter, arranging an interview. See the other side of the picture.

William Osler, the great Canadian physician, said that he was greatly helped through his life by 21 wise words of Thomas Carlyle: “*Our main business is not to see what lies dimly at a distance, but to do what lies clearly at hand.*”

Let’s take a day at a time. Cast your care on the Lord of Life, the burden bearer who really does care for you. Leave the future in God’s hands.

Sounds like very good advice to me. Actually it reads a lot like what Jesus had to say in the Sermon on the Mount as recorded in Matthew’s gospel. Look it up in Matthew 6:25-34. Jesus ends his discourse on worry with, “*Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.*” Do I hear an, AMEN?

See You Sunday,

Pastor Cameron

**SUNDAY,
FEBRUARY 5**



**CONTINUING PRAYER
CONCERNS**



Please remember to keep the following individuals in your prayers.

- Steve Brown
- John & Mary Dorough
- Mickey Guthrie, friend of Lisa Fitzgerald
- Carey Link, friend of Margaret Vann
- Jean Patterson
- Tom Paul, son of Doris Paul
- Mona Qualls
- Mack Vann
- Ron Volinski

Long term prayer concerns are published once a month in the *Journey*.
Please keep the church office informed of the status of individuals you put on the lists.

- Old Testament Isaiah 58:1-9a
- Epistle 1 Corinthians 2:1-12
- Sermon Text Matthew 5:13-20
- Sermon "This Little Light of Mine"

SERVING AT THE TABLE

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

COMMUNION PREPARATION

Nancy Woodall

SERVING COMMUNION

- 8:15 Carl & Carol Jones
- Linda Lykins & Jackie Sameck
- 10:30 Brad & Pan Clasgens
- Bev Williamson & Nancy Woodall**

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

Chuck & Penny Jackman

SUNDAY'S FOOD BASKET is in memory of Nancy Robinson's birthday by John Robinson, and in honor of Kathryn Shrout's 91st birthday by Rick & Kay Shrout.

CHILDREN WORSHIP & WONDER

The Great Pearl
Margaret J. Vann
Mary Ann Williams
Sarah Brockway

YOUNG DISCIPLES

(Meets 2nd & 4th Sundays)

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 February and March. 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.



ATTENDANCE	1/22	1/29
First Service Worship	43	46
Sunday School	45	21
Second Service Worship	106	77
Children's Church	12	3
Young Disciples	5	NA
Total Worship	166	130

I'm looking for the Adam Hamilton DVD series, "Christianity and World Religions". It's on the inventory list in the cabinet upstairs where Sunday School materials are stored, but that particular study is not in the cabinet. If anyone has it or knows where it is, please contact Roberta Shivers at 256-859-5991. I don't need it for the next several weeks but would be interested in previewing it for the next study for our class. Thanks for your help.

Dear Fellow Disciples,

I am so enjoying working on music. While my real job is engineering, I have always loved music, ever since I was a little guy – my first church music experiences were in Epworth United Methodist Church in the 60's. I loved the hymns – and they are still some of my favorites. I was a trumpet player in band in middle school, and played guitar in the 70's with all my rock and roll friends. I sang in choir when I lived in Meridianville, serving as choir director for 11 years at Meridianville Cumberland Presbyterian Church. I was a member of the Hazel Green UMC choir, and was involved in lots of music projects there. Somewhere along the way I got interested in opera and studied voice with Helen Bargetzi for many years. I sang in at least 2 operas a year for more than 10 years, and also performed as a soloist with the Huntsville Symphony Orchestra, and several musical theater shows.

Singing and music has always been a constant in my life, and I have been so very blessed in so many ways. But church is different. It is a passion that I find pretty consuming and a ministry that I am dedicated to. First Christian Church in Huntsville is my church family, and the Lord has put us all together in this place. We work together to advance God's Kingdom now in Huntsville, and I thank you for the trust you have put in me. I am so thrilled that by doing this work as a volunteer, I can say that this first year Stephanie and I, with lots of help, have donated about \$50,000 in time and talent that would otherwise have come out of the collection plate! This is such a blessing to me, and it has benefited our church greatly.

As a part of that work, Chuck Herber and I have developed and presented a proposal that would begin the process of change and provide a plan for the future direction of our congregational worship. We have shared that plan with the Worship and Building Committees of our church, and their reaction was to want the rest of you to see it and consider whether you believe God wants us to move forward with action on this plan.

The plan involves modifications to the Chancel and sanctuary that will enable us to truly support a blended worship service and attract young adults and families. It would enable us to be flexible as our future service needs change. I believe these changes are in the spirit of the "Time is Now" campaign, and will produce a lasting legacy that will reverse the downward trends in membership and attendance we have experienced over the last 10 years if we commit to it and make it happen.

Finally, I believe these changes are overdue, and we should begin to put the plan in place as soon as practical, to take advantage of the resources and dedication of our current membership, while trying to attract a new generation of Disciples. We can do this and still preserve the existing traditions and spirit of our worship service. I am offering to present this proposal several times in the next few weeks so that we can talk about it together, ask questions, and discuss choices that we face together. I am considering the Sunday School time, and perhaps one Saturday and an evening some time. You will see some sketches made from the concept models that I developed of our sanctuary that reflect ideas about changes to truly expand worship to the next generations. I pray that God would guide our discourse on the important choices facing us, and that His hand would direct our paths. Please watch for announcements of the presentations, and let me know if you have comments or questions. Thank you and please be in prayer for our church family!

In love,

Michael Beutjer

MR. AND MRS. RONALD VOLINSKI, JUNIOR
REQUEST THE HONOR OF YOUR PRESENCE
AT THE MARRIAGE OF THEIR DAUGHTER

Courtney Maria Volinski

to

Christopher James Ronald Olsen

SON OF MR. AND MRS. CHRISTOPHER K. OLSEN

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY TWENTY-FIFTH
TWO THOUSAND SEVENTEEN
FIVE O'CLOCK IN THE EVENING

Weatherly Heights Baptist Church

1306 CANNSTATT DRIVE
HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA

RECEPTION TO FOLLOW

Valley Hill Country Club

Kindly respond yes by February 10 to
patandchip@comcast.net

RENOVATION BUILDING COMMITTEE UPDATE

Contributions continue to come in to support renovations to our building. The committee continues to discuss all the suggestions made by church members in the survey, the nine small group meetings, and the preliminary drawings from our architects. A report is being prepared to show you the donations and expenses to date.

The committee met on Sunday, January 22. We plan to meet one more time in early February and then come to the congregation with our recommendations.

In the meantime, our Interim Volunteer Music Director, Mike Beutjer, will be having presentations to provide information about possible sanctuary upgrades. Look for his article in this issue of The Journey.

Thank you for your patience in waiting for us to complete our work.

Bob Senn,

Chair of the 2016-2017 Renovation Committee

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Are you looking for a way to serve the Lord by becoming more active in FCC? You might like to consider volunteering at the reception desk in the front office. This is an important (and fun) service for our church. Volunteer schedules are somewhat flexible.

Hours may be altered to fit your schedule. If you cannot commit to volunteering for a regular schedule, we also need on-call volunteers. Thank you for considering this opportunity to serve. Volunteers will receive training for the telephone and secure door operation. Please email office@fcc-hsv.org or call 256-881-0150 if you are interested in serving.

FEED THE HUNGRY on the Salvation Army soup kitchen. One or two servers and a driver are needed each month to deliver meals to three locations in Huntsville on the third Tuesday of each month. The time commitment is 5:15 departing the Salvation Army mission on Seminole Drive until approximately 6:45. A sign up sheet is on the Community Outreach bulletin board across from McMains Hall. Please consider helping.

Talk to Jeff Seward for more information.

HEALS DENTAL CLINIC DUEL SERVICE PROJECT

CWM will join Community Outreach as sponsors of the dental clinic in February. HEALS (Health Establishments at Local Schools) provides on-site dental care and makes an immediate difference in the lives of children, many of whom have never visited a dentist. After each dental visit, the children select a small toy as a reward for their visit. The rewards encourage a positive attitude for any return visits.

We can help by providing monetary donations for HEALS and/or small toys to be used for rewards. Please remember these items will go with the student back into the classroom and must be appropriate for this setting. Anything that goes in the mouth such as a harmonica, whistle, bubbles, or crazy straws is not encouraged since the children tend to try out the items before making a final selection. Unopened prizes available in fast food meals are perfect for this project. If you make a monetary donation, please list "HEALS/dental" on the item line.

FOOD PANTRY REMINDER

Sunday, February 12, is **Fill the Cart for the Food Pantry**. Bring one non-perishable item or several. St. Paul's has empty shelves. Let's help fill them. As always your donations of food items are appreciated at any time.

Thank you, Community Outreach Committee