



The Journey

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April 3, 2017
www.fcc-hsv.org

Deadline for the *Journey* is **Thursday, April 6**, at Noon publisher@fcc-hsv.org

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO YOU: COURAGE

I am preaching a Lenten Sermon Series entitled, “The Gospel According to YOU.” This Sunday I will be preaching on our witness of Christ in our COURAGE. The sermon text is Matthew 21:1-10, Mark 10:32-34: *The Triumphal Entry and Jesus Predicts his Death and Resurrection.*

There is nothing you and I need more than courage. Regardless of our age or circumstances, courage is a necessary ingredient of successful living. Think, if you will, of some of the circumstances when courage is required of us.

It takes courage, for example, to live by one’s religious beliefs. Courage is required when one stands up for one’s convictions in the face of opposition. It takes courage to admit you were wrong and apologize. It takes courage to accept the loss of a loved one and go on living.

There has never been a time when courage was not needed for worthwhile living. Scripture is filled with the summons to courage.

In the Hebrew scriptures, the Lord encouraged Moses while he was leading the Israelite people across the desert wilderness, saying. “Be strong and of good courage. Do not be afraid or dismayed” (1 Chronicles 22:13).

Centuries later, courage is also what characterized much of Jesus’ life and ministry. Whether he was proclaiming his message to the masses, denouncing the hypocrisies of the scribes and Pharisees or throwing the money-changers from the Temple grounds, courage was a hallmark of his ministry.

Throughout his ministry, Jesus lived with great courage. Jesus summoned his disciples to live by that same courage! He said, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me” (Matthew 16:24). Implicit in that invitation is the reality that every Christian has his/her own cross waiting for them, a cross destined and appointed by God. To live one’s life with that awareness requires enormous courage.

This Sunday is Palm/Passion Sunday. We remember Jesus’ last week in Jerusalem before his death. From riding into Jerusalem on (Palm) Sunday and sacrificing his life on the cross that (Good) Friday, daily Jesus showed great courage. It is inspiring.

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, APRIL 9
PALM SUNDAY & YOUTH SUNDAY

8:30 Scripture Matthew 21:1-10, Mark:10:32-34
 Sermon "The Gospel According to YOU!"
 Your "COURAGE"
 10:30 Service Youth Led Worship

SERVING AT THE TABLE

8:15 Mack Vann & Jan Mackenzie
 10:30 TBA

COMMUNION PREPARATION

Delores Edgeton

SERVING COMMUNION

8:15 Lisa Fitzgerald & Kathi Luzar
 Carl & Carol Jones
 10:30 TBA
 TBA

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

Diane Douglas

SUNDAY'S FOOD BASKET is in honor of Margaret J. Vann's birthday by Mack Vann; and Matt Ball's birthday by Karen & Stan Ball.

CHILDREN WORSHIP & WONDER

Children worship with their families today

YOUNG DISCIPLES (Meets 2nd & 4th Sundays)

Children worship with their families today

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.

YOUTH LED 10:30 SERVICE THIS SUNDAY

One of the most important things a youth should do is have faith and trust in the Lord. Youth struggle in their daily lives as they transition to becoming young adults who will become pillars in their communities and churches. Please come join us as we get the opportunity to have our Youth lead Sunday service and share with us how they were able to face their giants by trusting in the Lord.

EASTER SPECIAL OFFERING for Disciples Mission Fund will be collected April 9 & 16

LILIES FOR THE EASTER SEASON

If you would you like to honor a friend or remember a loved one with an Easter Lily for our sanctuary, please make a \$15 donation to cover the cost of a lily, and list your donor information on the signup sheet posted on the flower sheet across from McMains Hall. Make your check payable to FCC, write "Easter Lily" in the memo line, and drop it in the offering plate or church office. If you have any questions, please contact Margaret J. Vann at 256.533.4213 or trilliumjv@knology.net.



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

ATTENDANCE	3/27	4/2
First Service Worship	41	46
Sunday School	47	34
Second Service Worship	94	91
Children's Church	11	4
Young Disciples	8	NA
Total Worship	154	141

**COMMUNITY FREE DENTAL CLINIC
FOR POVERTY-LEVEL ADULTS**

Community Outreach is seeking your support for the Free Dental Clinic, which treats the homeless, the elderly, veterans, or the working poor (those within 150% of the national poverty level). Because of the great need and limited resources, dental care is restricted to extractions. Since March 2013, the Clinic has served over 3800 patients and extracted over 9000 teeth. Think about having severe pain from a damaged tooth and nowhere to go - that's why the Dental Clinic is so important. Items we can donate to help: paper towels, copy paper for the office, and toothbrushes. Financial donations are equally important. Checks can be made to FCC with Dental Clinic in the memo line. Thank you for thinking of "the least of these."

**2017 DISCIPLES WOMEN
SPRING DAY OF UNITY**

Saturday, April 29, 2017 9:00 am until 2:00 pm

First Christian Church, 1705 Taylor Road,
Montgomery, AL 36117

9:00 am - Registration

9:30am - Short Business Session and Program.

Lunch - \$10.00

Rev. Beth Thomason speaks about her trip and 500-mile Camino Walk in Santiago, Spain. "Break the Chains" Demonstration along Taylor Road against Human Trafficking. Make your reservation with our District I CWM Director Mandy Harbin, 256-278-0446

WHAT IS EMPTY BOWL?

The Salvation Army of Huntsville's
inaugural fund-raiser event!

Some of Huntsville's best caterers and most popular restaurants will provide a delicious selection of soups for dinner. Sample up to 4 soups of your choice with your ticket purchase, dine in or carry out! **Thursday, April 20**, from 5:00 - 7:30 pm. Stone Event Center, 2620 Clinton Ave. Tickets are \$15 and may be purchased on line at <https://app.mobilecause.com/form/3NK5og>

Proceeds from the Empty Bowl will support The Salvation Army Soup Kitchen in feeding the hungry in the Huntsville/Madison County community. Last year The Salvation Army Kitchen served 125,979 meals to families, the elderly, and individuals in need.

FOOD PANTRY REMINDER

Sunday, April 9, 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

APRIL CWM PROJECT

The Child Sponsorship program works closely with partner organizations that have long-established links with the UCC and Disciples. Collaborating with partners, your gifts to Child Sponsorship provide food, basic health care, clothing and in some cases housing, school fees, uniforms, books and training. Christian Women's Ministries has sponsored two children since last spring at \$360 each. You can see their photos on the CWM bulletin board across from McMains Hall. We hope to sponsor at least these two again this year and perhaps more through your generosity. Anyone can participate in this ministry of caring by designating your offering to CWM April project. Perhaps your family can share in this ministry as an Easter offering. So little can make such a difference!

COMMUNION SERVERS NEEDED

We are in need of volunteers to help serve communion at both services. Please consider volunteering, it would help to lighten the load for the existing volunteers.

There are preparation serving procedures for guidance; if you are interested in serving communion please contact Gayle Herber, Communion Coordinator, herbersg@yahoo.com 256-653-3914.

Thank you, Gayle Herbers

VINTAGE VAGABONDS will take a free tour of the new guest center and gift shop at the Huntsville Botanical Garden on Thursday, April 20, with lunch following at 11:30 at the new "Table in the Garden." Gather at 10:15 at FCC. If you drive yourself there so that you can stroll through the Garden afterwards, the tour of the new building starts at 10:45. (Garden admission is applicable for the afternoon garden stroll unless you are a member of the HBG.) Sign up sheet and menu are on the Volunteer Desk in the office. Please sign up by April 18 so we can give the restaurant a good number for lunch. Sue Seward