



# *The Journey*

Volume XXV No. 15  
April 10, 2017  
www.fcc-hsv.org

Deadline for the *Journey* is **Thursday, April 13**, at Noon [publisher@fcc-hsv.org](mailto:publisher@fcc-hsv.org)

## **HOLY WEEK MAUNDY-THURSDAY COMMUNION**

**This Thursday evening, April 13, is Maundy-Thursday** and we will be having a very special Holy Communion and Tenebrae Service at 7:00 p.m. Perhaps you are wondering what “maundy” and “tenebrae” mean. They are from Latin; “maundy” means commandment and “tenebrae” means darkness. The evening worship celebration is called Maundy-Thursday because Jesus on the Thursday, before his death on Good Friday, was in the upper room with his disciples and commanded them (and us) to, “Do this in remembrance of me.” The command is to break bread and share in the cup of redemption doing so in remembrance of him and his sacrifice.

The special service this Thursday is called “Tenebrae” because of the symbolism involved in the worship experience. During the service the contrast is made between Jesus, who is the light of the world, and evil, symbolized by darkness, that cannot defeat it. The Communion Tenebrae service is one of my favorite worship services of the Christian year.

Thursday night we will hear the story of Jesus’ life and ministry recognizing him as the light of the world. On the communion table we will light the Christ candle and then 12 more candles symbolizing Jesus’ 12 disciples. We will hear read directly from scripture some stories of Jesus’ life, teaching, ministry, miracles, and climactically the scene of the last supper with Jesus and his disciples in the upper room.

We will celebrate the Lord’s Supper together as we come forward to receive the elements. Toward the end of the service the 12 disciple candles are extinguished one at a time remembering how the disciples abandon Jesus. Finally, a taper will be lit with the light of Christ and the light leaves the sanctuary. We are left in a dimly lit room standing in darkness (tenebrae) symbolizing the death of Jesus. It truly is a very moving experience to hear the story, feel the emotions, and see the symbolism of light with the contrasting darkness.

I love the Lord’s Supper and I love how, as Disciples of Christ, we celebrate it weekly. It appears to me that in scripture the early church practiced weekly communion. They met on the first day of the week, Sunday, and the book of Acts tells us (2:42), “And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.” To that I say, “Amen.” This next first day of the week is Easter and a very special day it is! Come to church and celebrate the love of God who conquered the darkness of death by the resurrection of Jesus, our Lord, and savior! Hallelujah!

See You Easter Sunday AND Thursday evening,

*Pastor Cameron*

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

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 16**  
**EASTER SUNDAY**

Scripture Matthew 28:1-10  
 Sermon "The Mirth of Easter"

**SERVING AT THE TABLE**

8:15 Dale Thomas & Joe Brockway  
 10:30 Roger Sameck & Lisa Fitzgerald

**COMMUNION PREPARATION**

Nancy Woodall

**SERVING COMMUNION**

8:15 Delores Edgeton & Linda Hooker  
 Eddie & Valerie Parks  
 10:30 Sabrina Beckman & Beverly Cannon  
 Marilee Keim & Roberta Shivers

**COFFEE FELLOWSHIP**

Rick & Kay Shrout

**SUNDAY'S FOOD BASKET** is in honor of our church volunteers.

**CHILDREN WORSHIP & WONDER**

Children worship with families this week

**YOUNG DISCIPLES**

(Meets 2nd & 4th Sundays)



**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.

"Food Basket" on the notation line.

**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

Thank you to the Young Adults and Community Outreach members who joined together Sunday, March 19, to cook for fellowship and those in need. Marko Palazon and Kelsey Beckman led us in preparing a delicious meal enjoyed by us, shared with friends and church family in need, and enough leftover to take to the Salvation Army for their meals. Thanks to all who supported this project, and Marko and Kelsey for sharing their special gifts. How will you show compassion?

**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 April & May. We need loving hands to assist our attendants.

ATTENDANCE	4/2	4/9
First Service Worship	46	44
Sunday School	34	35
Second Service Worship	91	147
Children's Church	4	NA
Young Disciples	NA	NA
<b>Total Worship</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>191</b>

**CONDOLENCES** to the families of: church members Don Conley who died on April 1, and Emily Arrington who died on April 3.

**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."

**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.

**CHURCH SPRING CLEANING DAY  
8 am - Noon on Saturday, April 15**

A lot of cleaning and a little painting to get the church ready for Easter Sunday. Please call the office, 256-881-0150, to sign up so we will know how many to expect.

**SAVE THE DATE**

Please join the Interfaith Mission Service Annual Celebration and Awards Dinner on May 2, UAH Exhibit Hall, 6 p.m. First Christian Church was one of the founding churches of IMS.

This year, the theme of the Interfaith Mission Service's Annual Awards Dinner is...Diversity is Our Destiny.

In keeping with the theme, we will recognize leaders in the community who are celebrating diversity as being good for business, good for education, maybe even good for our souls.

The keynote speaker is Greg Barsh, M.D., Ph.D., from HudsonAlpha Institute. In his keynote address: "The Genetics of Human Diversity," he will focus on the genetic mechanisms that underlie differences in individual appearance.

IMS hopes members of our congregation can join IMS in this celebration! The Annual Dinner is the cooperative's only annual fundraiser; tickets are \$100 per person. Your support will help IMS continue to promote interfaith and racial harmony, social justice, and direct service in the community.

Please call, email or visit us online with any questions you have: [ims@knology.net](mailto:ims@knology.net), 256-536-2401, [www.interfaithmissionservice.org](http://www.interfaithmissionservice.org). We hope to see you at the Dinner on May 2.

Warmest regards,

The IMS Annual Awards Dinner Team

**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!