



The Journey

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April 24, 2017
www.fcc-hsv.org

Deadline for the *Journey* is **Thursday, April 27**, at Noon publisher@fcc-hsv.org

JUST SUPPOSE

I came across the following article from Christ's Church at Ballard's Corner, Michigan, that caused me to stop and ask myself, "How strong is my faith?"

***Just suppose** that when you were growing up you were hated by your brothers, sold into slavery, lied about and cast into prison. And suppose you had to languish in that cell for months on end. Would you still have faith in God? Joseph did.*

***Just suppose** that you were called by God to preach a very unpopular message - God's wrath. Suppose the people got up in arms and vented their anger against you. What if they lied about you and tried to take your life away? Would you still have faith in God? Jeremiah did.*

***Just suppose** you were called to stand before a king and rebuke him for his sin. And suppose that in obedience to the will of God you performed your task only to learn that your head would be chopped off. Would you still have faith in God? John the Baptizer did.*

***Just suppose** that you learned suddenly that your religious convictions were wrong. And suppose that as a result of being true to the light you found you were cut off from your family, loved ones and friends. Suppose you gave up everything and then discovered that you were persecuted whipped, beaten, stoned and cast into prison for your beliefs. Would you still have faith in God? Paul did.*

***Just suppose** you lived a perfect life, loved everyone, always did God's will, sought to serve instead of being served, and then you were nailed to a cross to die. Would you still have faith in God? Jesus did.*

***Just suppose** the church isn't friendly ... that people don't appreciate you ... that some snub you ... that nobody comes to visit you ... that you lose your health ... that some loved one dies ... that you go bankrupt. Would you still have faith in God?"*

Do you know what I suppose? I believe I have enough faith and trust in God to help me handle and help me through real-life situations. God has seen me (delivered me) through tough times, and God is not done with me yet. I know my redeemer lives and I'll serve Him to the best of my ability.

Keep the Faith and I Suppose I'll See You Sunday,

Pastor Cameron

There will be a **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING on Sunday, April 30**, following second service for the election of officers for 2017 - 2019, Vice Moderator for 2017, and Trustee for 2017 - 2023.

MEN'S PANCAKE BREAKFAST 2017!

The Men's Bible Study Group is having a pancake breakfast for the church family on April 30th from 8:30 - 11:30 am. They will be providing plain, blueberry and chocolate chip pancakes along with fruit cups and orange juice and coffee. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy the fellowship!

If there are men who would like to volunteer to work setup, preparation, cooking, cleanup or teardown, please contact Monty Love via email at cmlove999@gmail.com or 256-337-5581.



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 30

Scripture Luke 24: 28-35
Sermon "He's Alive: So What?"

SERVING AT THE TABLE

8:15 Bob Senn & Joe Brockway
10:30 Lisa Fitzgerald & Jeff Seward

COMMUNION PREPARATION

Gayle Herber

SERVING COMMUNION

8:15 Carl & Carol Jones
Rick & Kay Shrout
10:30 Nancy Adams & Roberta Shivers
Charles & Pam Gilliland

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

Dinah Love

SUNDAY'S FOOD BASKET is in honor of Karen Ball's birthday by Matt & Stan Ball.

CHILDREN WORSHIP & WONDER

Jesus Is Risen: The Road to Emmaus
Pastor Laura
Tara Thorne
Macey Johnson
Anna Roberts

YOUNG DISCIPLES

(Meets 2nd & 4th Sundays)

The 2017 sign up chart for **FOOD BASKETS** is 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.

WHAT IS THE
GREEN CHALICE?



CONGREGATION APPROVES CHURCH RENOVATION PLAN

On April 2, the congregation approved the two-phased renovation proposal presented by the committee. This identified some needed roof repairs to be made, the replacement of the FSA & Kitchen HVAC Units, the renovation of the Parlor & Parlor Kitchen, and \$100,000 of sanctuary upgrades.

The architect is currently preparing the financial agreement for the design phase of this project. This work could take about two years to complete. See the bulletin board in the narthex for more details. This program has been estimated to cost \$588,000. The church has \$504,000 in the bank account. There are over \$100,000 in Time Is Now unpaid pledges outstanding. Should these be fulfilled, the church will not have to borrow any money to pay for these renovations.

Please consider completing those pledges or make new pledges to help with this program.

Bob Senn, Renovation Committee Chair

A SPECIAL THANK YOU!

Saturday, April 15, Donna Blair, Linda Lykins, Nancy Waites, Chris Barr, Bob Senn, and Rick Shrout met at the church to do some painting and spring cleaning for Easter Sunday. The east and west walls of McMains Hall, two walls in the church office, and the Garden Room received fresh coats of paint. The Children Worship and Wonder room along with some areas in the Sanctuary received a thorough scrubbing.

Keep your eyes open. We will be having other property work days throughout the year! Please contact Rick or the church office if you see areas of the church that need attention.

ATTENDANCE	4/16	4/23
Maundy Thursday Service	50	NA
First Service Worship	64	35
Sunday School	21	52
Second Service Worship	204	80
Children's Church	NA	10
Young Disciples	NA	6
Total Worship	318	131

May Birthdays



CONTINUING PRAYER CONCERNS



Please remember to keep the following individuals in your prayers.

Christopher Brewer, grandson of Jan Mackenzie
 Steve Brown
 Jeanne Derington
 John & Mary Dorough
 Mickey Guthrie, friend of Lisa Fitzgerald
 Carey Link, friend of Margaret Vann
 Joyce Neighbors
 Jean Patterson
 Tom Paul, son of Doris Paul
 Mona Qualls
 Martha Shelton
 Mack Vann

1	Joe Brockway
2	Karen Ball & Brenda Stroud
7	Charlie Graff
8	Kathi Luzar
9	Kerry Williams
11	Delores Edgeton, Walter Keller, & Emma Millich
12	Nancy Adams, Areesa Browning Patrick, & Annie Davis
15	John Dorough
16	Justin Brown, Glen Hiller, & Doris Paul
18	Mary Anderson, Pat Crouse, & Gary Jordan
21	Letha Lanier
23	Bob Abernathy, Christa Brockway, & Mike Wright
25	Matthew Beutjer, Brad Clasgens, Tre Davis, Troy Davis, Jr., Phyllis Leonard, & Alicia Wright
28	Joan Goodson
29	Charles Gilliland, Jeremy Millich, & Brian Sanford
31	Bill Sholes

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.

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."



INTERESTED IN GIVING ON LINE?

Miss church, but would still like to give your tithe or offering? You may give online through PayPal by going to the church website <http://fcc-hsv.org/who-we-are/how-to-give/> and scrolling down to the donate button.



You may designate your tithe or offering for General Fund or specify a particular church ministry/fund. You may also designate if you would like this to be a recurring or single donation.



Dear FCC Congregation,

It has been a blessing to serve as your music director for the past year. It was my hope that my contribution would bring joy to those in the congregation and fill our sanctuary with beautiful music. The choir members have been so faithful through many hours of rehearsals for weekly anthems and special music. My career has taken on new opportunities and challenges which will not afford me the hours to invest in the planning and leading of music for FCC. I will still be involved but just not in the leadership role. We are fortunate to have Lauren Carter as our amazing accompanist. She will take on some duties to ensure the worship music continues without a hiccup. We have special music planned for the next several weeks as we prayerfully consider what the next step is for our music program. Chris McDonald has been hired as our first service musician and we are lucky to have such a great talent at our church.

Thank you for all your support over the last year. My continued prayer is that the music program continues to grow and thrive and will be an asset to FCC Huntsville.

Sincerely,

Michael Bentzer

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!

HOW TO HELP FIRST CHRISTIAN IF YOU SHOP AT AMAZON

If you shop at Amazon, why not help the church out at the same time? **First Christian Church-Huntsville** is a listed charitable organization with AmazonSmile and receives 0.5% of the eligible purchases you make on Amazon. To use AmazonSmile, go to <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/63-6017148> (this address is for First Christian Church-Huntsville and will automatically credit your purchases to the FCC account) and sign on your Amazon account as usual. Amazon pays all expenses of the AmazonSmile program and there is no additional expense to you or deductions from the donation amounts generated from your purchases.

Remember to log on through AmazonSmile at <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/63-6017148> if you shop at Amazon!

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, 256-536-2401, www.interfaithmissionservice.org. We hope to see you at the Dinner on May 2.

Warmest regards,

The IMS Annual Awards Dinner Team