



# The Journey

Volume XXV No. 19  
May 8, 2017  
www.fcc-hsv.org

Deadline for the *Journey* is **Thursday, May 11**, at Noon [publisher@fcc-hsv.org](mailto:publisher@fcc-hsv.org)

## A LOVE LETTER FROM JESUS

*Dear Friend,*

*I just had to send a note to tell you how much I love you and care about you. I saw you yesterday as you were walking with your friends. I waited all day hoping you would want to talk with me also. As evening drew near, I gave you a sunset to close your day and a cool breeze to rest you. And I waited. But you never came. It hurt me, but I still love you because I am your friend.*

*I saw you fall asleep last night and I longed to touch your brow. So, I spilled moonlight on your pillow and your face. Again, I waited, wanting to rush down so that we could talk. I have so many gifts for you. But you wakened late the next day and rushed off to work. My tears were in the rain.*

*Today you looked so sad, so all alone. It makes my heart ache because I understand. My friends let me down and hurt me so many times, too. But I love you. Oh, if you would only listen to me. I really love you. I try to tell you in the blue sky and in the quiet green grass. I whisper it in the leaves on the trees and breathe it in the colors of the flowers. I shout it to you in the mountain streams and give the birds love songs to sing. I clothe you with warm sunshine and perfume the air with nature's scents. My love for you is deeper than the oceans and bigger than the biggest want or need in your heart.*

*If you only knew how much I want to help you. I want you to meet my Father. He wants to help you, too. My Father is that way, you know. Just call me, ask me, talk with me. I will share with you, but I won't hassle you. I'll wait because I love you.*

*Your Friend,  
Jesus*

Do you really think that Jesus is trying to communicate with us? Do you really think he cares about our circumstance? I do. I do believe Jesus loves each of us and wants very much for us to respond to his trying to communicate with us. I do believe he is waiting for us to come to him, to love him back, and to serve him faithfully.

I don't know that Jesus would write a note to us like the one above, but I do know Jesus has touched the lives of many with deep, caring, forgiving, merciful love as seen in the letters of love sent down through the ages to us in the Bible. I sing with confidence, "Jesus loves me (and you, and everyone), this I know, for the Bible tells me so." Come this Sunday and we'll learn more of God's gracious love for us at worship, and bring a friend.

I'll See You in Church,  
*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, MAY 14**

Scripture John 14:1-14  
 Sermon "I Can Have Anything!"

**SERVING AT THE TABLE**

8:15 Jan Mackenzie & Dale Thomas  
 10:30 Bob Senn & Karen Ball

**COMMUNION PREPARATION**

Nancy Waites

**SERVING COMMUNION**

8:15 Linda Hooker & Anita Wood  
 Ann Thompson & Margaret Vann  
 10:30 Mary Ann Anderson & Ruth Lackey  
 Brad & Pam Clasgens

**COFFEE FELLOWSHIP**

Chuck & Penny Jackman

**SUNDAY'S FOOD BASKET** is in honor of Kate Webster's birthday by Don & Bev Williamson

**CHILDREN WORSHIP & WONDER**

*The Good Shepherd and the Lord's Supper I*  
 Margaret Vann  
 John Hall & Matthew Beutjer

**YOUNG DISCIPLES (Meets 2nd & 4th Sundays)**

*Jesus Heals Two "Daughters"*  
 Stephanie Beutjer, Christa Brockway  
 Ty Davis & Anna Roberts

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.



Please join us on **May 21st at 4:00** for the annual **All-Church Potluck Picnic**. Beverages and paper products are provided; bring your favorite dish to share. We have a fun evening planned with good food, fellowship, music, and an inflatable water slide for the children. Tables will be set up inside for those preferring air conditioning; bring blankets and portable chairs for outside picnicking. **See you at 4:00, May 21st.**

**GRATEFUL LIFE COMMUNITY CHURCH**

The Christian Women's Ministries and Community Outreach have chosen financial support for Grateful Life Community Church as their Service Project for the month of May. Grateful Life is a Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) congregation located at 207 Oakwood Avenue. As stated on their website ([www.gratefullife.org](http://www.gratefullife.org)) this community church provides ministry, food, clothing, bikes, over-the-counter medications and toiletries for the poorest citizens of Huntsville. Many of those helped are veterans, addicts, or the mentally ill with little in the way of material goods. Donations will help improve the quality of life for those in need. Grateful Life is also the only church in Huntsville that opens its doors as an emergency shelter to all of those needing a warm place during extremely cold weather. Please make your check out to FCC, write Grateful Life in the note or memo line, place it in the offering bowl, give it to your Circle leader or drop it by the church office. Your contribution is greatly appreciated!

ATTENDANCE	4/30	5/7
First Service Worship	42	40
Sunday School	39	37
Second Service Worship	91	108
Children's Church	8	6
Young Disciples	NA	NA
<b>Total Worship</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>154</b>

### 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

**VINTAGE VAGABONDS** will travel to historic Mooresville on Thursday, May 18, to visit 1818 Farms and afterwards to have lunch at 306 BBQ (formerly new Greenbrier) on I-565.

Cost for the farm visit is \$7 to be paid the day of the trip. Lunch will be ordered from the menu (posted at sign up). Gather at FCC at 9:15 with your farm shoes on to visit the lambs. Farm-grown lavender and herb bath and beauty products will be for sale. Check out the farm's website at [www.1818farms.com](http://www.1818farms.com). Sign up sheet is on the volunteer desk. Please sign up by Tuesday, May 16.

The **Community Free Dental Clinic** is very appreciative of the contributions provided by First Christian for the April Community Outreach service project. The donations included needed items and monetary support: 11 rolls of paper towels, 4 reams of computer paper, 21 toothbrushes, 5 tubes of toothpaste, several miscellaneous dental products, and \$300 in monetary donations. Thank you to all who supported this project.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Mark & Sheryl Stiles on the birth of their grandson, Henry Miller Stiles. Henry was born on Thursday, May 4. The proud parents are Josh & Meleah Stiles.

### CPR COURSE

May 20th 10AM till Noon

First Christian Church Garden Room

Open to all Volunteers and Sunday School Workers. The sign up board is in the Commons area. Contact Pastor Linda Davis for details.



### CHURCH VAN REPAIRS

The Church van is in desperate need of repairs & paint. Leaks in the roof have caused mold and electrical damage. The van has also met with various immovable objects that have caused body & bumper damage. A rough estimate for repairs is \$5,000 and that is well beyond what the property budget can absorb. If you would like to make a donation toward the repairs, please write a check to the church with Van Repairs in the memo/notation line of the check. Thank you.

### NURSERY HELP NEEDED

Share an hour or more of your time with our babies or toddlers once a month. Sign up poster is in the Commons for first service, Sunday School, or second service. If you are not on the Safe Church volunteer list, we can easily provide training.