



The Journey

Volume XXV No. 40
October 2, 2017
www.fcc-hsv.org

A RITE OF PASSAGE

I can still remember the first Sunday I served communion as a Junior Deacon. I was a member of my mother's church, Martinson Avenue Christian Church, in Wichita, Kansas. I was in the seventh grade, all of twelve years old, and very proud to be standing in front of the congregation in a new sweater. Earlier that month the youth had attended a Junior Deacon training led by the youth leader, and my mother, and at the end they asked the youth who were present who would like to be a deacon. Of course my hand shot up. I was never shy when it came to standing up in front of the congregation, after all it was like my second home. I had been an acolyte growing up, bringing the light of Christ into the service and then out into the world, now I would be a part of the communion service serving the church members that I knew and loved so well. I was proud to be asked and excited to be a part of worship, not just a participant.

It was this event, and many others like it, that helped to encourage my journey of faith and my eventual decision to become a minister. As a child and a teenager I knew that the worship service was important, but I could never sit still for very long. My mother once told me that I should become a minister so I could move around in church. But I always felt welcome, I knew that the members of my congregation wanted me to be in the worship service, whatever noise I would make, and that they understood that my presence helped make the church a family. When I was asked to be a Junior Deacon it was confirmation that they saw me as a leader not just a faceless young person.

This past Sunday you may have noticed something different in the 10:30 am worship service. We had a Junior Server participating in our communion service. I am proud of all of our youth for attending a training event for junior servers, Worship and Wonder greeters, and Young Disciple helpers. It was clear by their excitement and exuberance that they were honored to be asked and wanted to be a part of the worship service. We are blessed to have fantastic youth, children, parents, and leaders. I look forward to seeing them become more active in the weeks to come. Soon we will train a new group of Acolytes who will begin our Sunday services by sharing the light of Christ. First Christian Church has had Junior Deacons and Acolytes before, so this is not new to many of you, but it is new to our youth and children. So encourage their participation, thank them for their energy and service, and continue to support their growth as Christians for they are not just our future, they are also our present.

Thanks be to God, Amen.

Pastor Paul

Deadline for the *Journey* is **Thursday, October 5**, at Noon publisher@fcc-hsv.org

CAN'T MAKE IT TO CHURCH? Stream it live at www.fcchsvtech.weebly.com
MISS A SERMON? See previous sermons at www.fcc-hsv.org/sermons/

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, OCTOBER 8

Sermon Scripture Philippians 3: 4b-14
 Sermon “On a Mission from God”

SERVING AT THE TABLE

8:15 Justin Given & Bob Senn
 10:30 Andy Herron & Dale Thomas

COMMUNION PREPARATION

Lynn Abernathy

SERVING COMMUNION

8:15 Lynn Abernathy & Kathi Luzar
 Ann Thompson & Margaret J. Vann
 10:30 Mary Ann Anderson & Matthew Beutjer
 Brad & Pam Clasgens
 Gayle Herber

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

Dina Love

SUNDAY’S FOOD BASKET is in honor of Don
 Williamson’s birthday by Bev Williamson.

CHILDREN WORSHIP & WONDER

Exodus
 Pastor Laura, Mary Ann Williams,
 Troy Davis, & Cara Sexton

YOUNG DISCIPLES (Meets 2nd & 4th Sundays)

Jesus and the Paralytic
 Pam Clasgens, Jacob Brockway, & Anna
 Roberts

ATTENDANCE	9/24	10/1
First Service Worship	NA	33
Sunday School	31	30
Second Service Worship	NA	112
10:00 Unified Service	104	NA
Children’s Church	7	6
Young Disciples	10	NA
Total Worship	121	151



All Church Fish Fry – Sunday, October 15. Serving will begin at 4:00 pm. Fish, hush puppies, and drinks will be provided. If you plan to attend, please bring a side dish of slaw, potato salad, baked beans or dessert. Please feel free to bring a friend!

**WE JOIN FORCES WITH HEROES
 TO CELEBRATE CHILDREN**

Community Outreach and CWM are working together to support Shop With a Hero, a project designed to give less fortunate children in our community a Merry Christmas. The children will be given \$100 gift cards and will shop with the aid of a Hero. These Heroes are either active or retired military, police, fire fighters, first responders, teachers, medical personnel, etc. You can give toward this project in September by writing a check to FCC with Shop With a Hero on the memo line. Any amount is appreciated. As always, thanks for helping the less fortunate in our community.




Community Outreach and
 Christian Women’s Ministries

IT’S BACK!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Bake Sale time is upon us. Before you know it, it will be November and the Bake Sale will be here. I am looking for volunteers. We need someone to decorate on Friday (Nov.17th) before we set up the baked goods. We need someone to do the church publicity, a second one to do some community publicity, as well as someone to mail our postcards before the sale. If you can help with any of these jobs please let me know ASAP. Email me at dmllove@knology.net or call at 256-882-1543. Please help make this a success and as always we will need lots and lots of baked goods, especially cakes.

Thanks in advance...Dinah Love



First Christian Church is a fellowship of wonderful Christian believers. My time with you has been among the best years of my life. I will always be grateful to you for your kindness and support.

With love and appreciation,
Alma Kingsbury

My address in Opelika is:

1309 NorthGate Drive
Opelika, AL 36801.
Cell: 1-256-509-7195
Email: hollyivy@bellsouth.net

Keep in touch!"

FOOD PANTRY REMINDER
Sunday 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



October Birthdays



1	Bobbye Riggs
2	Annelle Craig, Jo Thomason
3	Mary Ann Anderson
4	Monty Love, Mary Ann Williams
5	Vickie Wright
6	Cara Sexton
7	Allison Jones
8	Gene Cowart, Richard Leonard
9	Sheryl Stiles
11	Wendy Qualls
13	Frank Fitzgerald, Don Williamson
14	Pat Blackman
15	Chris Hood, Kyle Pung
16	Noah Wright
19	Lynn Abernathy, David Beutjer, Gray Killough, & Christi Sexton
23	Mike Beutjer, Marilee Keim, Flora Salisbury, Nancy Stayman
24	Adam Fitzgerald
25	Reggie Anderson
27	Leland Blackman
28	Alma Kingsbury
29	Matt Johnson
30	Chase Volinski
31	John Allen, Theodore Elston, Trey Leonard



CONTINUING PRAYER CONCERNS



Please remember to keep the following individuals in your prayers.

- Dan Ball, father of Matt Ball
- Christopher Brewer, grandson of Jan Mackenzie
- Steve Brown
- Mary Dorough
- Mickey Guthrie, friend of Lisa Fitzgerald
- Carey Link, friend of Margaret Vann
- Joyce Neighbors
- Tom Paul, son of Doris Paul
- Mack Vann

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.

MONETARY FUNDING FOR GRATEFUL LIFE

Even the very best monetary planning and budgeting can have major upsets for all of us. Grateful Life has had three events in the last two months that have caused an extreme financial shortage. Please make your check to FCC with GL in the memo line if you can help out Grateful Life this month.

Thank you, Community Outreach