



The Journey

Volume XXV No. 43

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GIVING THANKS

The fall months give us time to reflect on the many blessings of the past year. The rush of summer is over and we can begin to look forward to the season of Advent, Christmas, and the start of a New Year. Usually, around this time, my family will go in the garage to look for Christmas decorations. We will dust off the boxes and look for those things that we want to place around the house, but we always find a box that captures our imagination and allows us to reminisce about seasons past.

When we moved to Alabama Patti and I found the first set of ornaments my mother sent to us when we moved to North Carolina. She had packed brightly colored balls, white lights, and ceramic angels, but she also packed the church mouse, dressed as a minister in a felt robe, that I would always place on top of my Christmas tree as a child. Just the sight of this ornament made me remember that first Christmas in a different town and a new ministry.

We also found some of the crocheted ornaments my grandmother made throughout the years. I can remember watching her fingers work as she made these ornaments and then picking out the one I wanted for my tree. My grandmother passed away last year, but every time I see them I think of her and the time and energy she spent to give these gifts to me.

Each and every one of us can recall God's wonderful spiritual gifts of the past and present, and we look forward to many blessings in our future. Yet we must also remember that one of the responsibilities of our faith is that it must be shared with the church and with other people. It is not a gift unless it is given freely and it is not a blessing unless it fills another's life with hope and joy.

The rest of October and the beginning of November will be dedicated to Stewardship. During our worship services, and other events in the life of our church, we will hear of the need to give back to God so we may lead lives worthy of the Lord. The members of First Christian Church have received a great abundance of gifts from God; now we are called to share these gifts with our church, our community and the world so that others may know of the grace, peace and love of our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer. In the next few weeks think about all that God has provided for you and your family, remember how you felt when you received these gifts, and then think about what it will be like to share them.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Pastor Paul

Deadline for the *Journey* is **Thursday, October 26**, at Noon publisher@fcc-hsv.org

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 29

Sermon Scripture John 6: 1-15
Sermon "You Feed Them"
In The Pulpit Rev. Laura West

SERVING AT THE TABLE

8:15 Mike Lash & Jan Mackenzie
10:30 Roger Sameck & Mark Stiles

COMMUNION PREPARATION

Mary Ann Anderson

SERVING COMMUNION

8:15 Linda Lykins & Anita Wood
 Jackie Sameck & Margaret J. Vann
10:30 Carolyn Brown & Bev Williamson
 Nancy Woodall & Anna Roberts
 Pam Clasgens

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

Chuck & Penny Jackman

SUNDAY'S FOOD BASKET is Open. Call the office if you would like to 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.

CHILDREN WORSHIP & WONDER

The Ark and a Tent for God
Margaret J. Vann
Chuck Jackman
Braly Beutjer
Evan Sexton

YOUNG DISCIPLES (Meets 2nd & 4th Sundays)

| ATTENDANCE | 10/15 | 10/22 |
|------------------------|-------|-------|
| First Service Worship | 42 | 44 |
| Sunday School | 37 | 33 |
| Second Service Worship | 116 | 91 |
| Children's Church | NA | 10 |
| Young Disciples | NA | 6 |
| Total Worship | 158 | 151 |

BAKE SALE



The bake sale is just around the corner. I will have the cake containers and the pie, cookie containers in the office starting the week of November 5th for you to pick up. I will also have the volunteer sign-up list in the Commons Area by then. So please sign up to help set up or work on Saturday during the sale. Let's make this a great success so we will have more to give to our local missions. I plan on putting this event on Face Book in early November so if you see it, please share it.

Thanks...Dinah Love

I am collecting fabric for a school project. Please bring any fabric scraps(4" X 4" minimum) that you might want to get rid of. Diane's daughter, Brittany, is a teacher at a middle school in Hartselle. The middle school is in the process of collecting fabric to make "fidget blankets" for Alzheimer patients. They will pass the fabric that they collect to the Hartselle high school who will then design and make the blankets. They will take notions, ribbon, fabric yardage, etc. Until Diane told me about these blankets, I had never heard of them so I "googled" it. They are sensory blankets or quilts with buttons, zippers, etc. We will collect the items for the next 2 weeks or through November 6th. I will have a marked basket in the Commons Area for you to put your donated fabric and items in.

Thanks...Dinah Love

HOW TO GIVE 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 the 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.



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS



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
 Iness Kellogg
 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.

| | |
|----|---|
| 1 | Cindy Allen |
| 2 | Judy Chaney |
| 4 | Debra Chandler, Rebecca Kresna |
| 5 | Melinda Blackman, Carrie Lewis |
| 9 | Ty Davis, Vonda Dihm, Gary Wright |
| 10 | Kelsi Shroust Green, Phyllis Nicaise, Diane Pettitt, Sunni Thompson |
| 11 | Sabrina Beckman, Dinah Love |
| 12 | Riley Beckman |
| 14 | Morgan Qualls |
| 17 | John Jordan |
| 18 | Ashlyn Johnson |
| 20 | Mack Blackman, David Browning |
| 22 | Iman Davis, Rob Williams |
| 24 | Steve Brown, Chet May |
| 25 | Ann Thompson |
| 26 | Theresa Killough |
| 27 | Katherine Boles |
| 28 | Dottie Dale Hughes, Marilyn Martin |
| 29 | Jim Daniel, Emil Luft, Rick Shroust, Jena Wright |

PROPERTY WORKDAY IDEAS

We will be having a property work day in the next several weeks. We have several projects in mind, but we are asking for your suggestions. Do you see any areas of the church that need special attention? Please call, 256-881-0150, or email, office@fcc-hsv.org, the church office with your suggestions. There are also suggestion forms on the table in the Narthex that you may fill out.



NEAVES-DAVIS CENTER FOR CHILDREN

Remember Nancy Erskine, a late FCC member? (Peggy Ann Bakery is named for her daughter.) Nancy realized that the city jail was no place for children who were incarcerated and she worked long and hard for an alternative.

The Neaves-Davis Center was her dream. The center houses juvenile court intake and probation services, detention services, community service programs, and the community placement and supervision program. It includes food, medical, recreational, religious, and library services.

Please support this very worth-while project by writing "Neaves Center" in the note/memo line of your check and turn in to the office or place in the offering bowl. To give using PayPal, go to our website www.fcc-hsv.org and scroll to the bottom of the page and click on "How to Give" under "Learn More About First Christian Church Huntsville." Scroll down and click on Donate. Type in "Neaves Center" in the "Purpose" box and follow the directions.



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29 (5:00 - 8:00 PM)

On Sunday night, October 29, from 5:00-8:00 pm we are opening our parking lot and our trunks to the families in our church, our ECM, and the community for a fun filled evening of "Trunk or Treat!"

At Trunk or Treats events, children make their way to the trunks of vehicles that have been turned into games and activities by gracious volunteers and are given prizes & candy. The event provides a safe family environment for trick or treaters.

We need folks to sign up to provide and be responsible for a trunk. To be "responsible for a trunk" means that you will provide everything necessary to host your particular trunk. Decorating trunks is highly encouraged and some folks like to have games incorporated into their trunks. We ask that participants not use scary items in decorating. Dress in costume (no scary or risqué costumes, please) and invite your friends and neighbors.

This year we are expanding our Trunk or Treat experience to also include food and games! We need volunteers to help with this event. You can sign up on the paper forms at church or electronically by going to Sign-Up Genius www.SignUpGenius.com/go/20F084EABA72EA0FB6-trunk

We also need folks to donate candy for this event. Please bring bags of individually wrapped candy by Sunday morning on October 29.

This is a great outreach event for the community of Huntsville!

Please sign up to help with this event by calling the church office (256) 881-0150 or contact Pastor Laura. (laura@fcc-hsv.org)

MEALS ON WHEELS

Meals on Wheels is dedicated to serving hungry seniors in our community. If you know of any seniors that could benefit from this service please tell them about Meals on Wheels. Their phone number is 256-382-0920 and they are located in the Senior Center at 2200 Drake Ave. Meals on Wheels can also accept donations. You can give to this organization through FCC by putting "Meals on Wheels" on the memo line of your check made to FCC. Another way you can help is to volunteer to deliver meals, as some of our members are already doing. Just call to get more information.

Thank you, Community Outreach

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

FAITH MARKETPLACE

On November 4, from 8AM-2PM, Faith Presbyterian Church will host their Marketplace in the Fellowship Hall. Many items will be available for purchase, such as handmade baskets, blankets, and purses, Christmas wreaths, and stained glass, just to name a few. Proceeds go to Faith's Mission Partners which include many of the organizations FCC supports. This is a good way to get your Christmas shopping done.

Thank you, Community Outreach

The Christian Education Committee "Touch Ministry" for our FCC Children, Youth, College Students and ECM. This new ministry will utilize the five foundations found in Colossians 3:12-14, Compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. As the Lord's servants we seek to build relationships by sending out cards of encouragement for exams, birthdays, the loss of a pet, just thinking of you, said a prayer for you today; etc.

If you have a granddaughter, grandson or know of a child, youth or college student who could greatly benefit from prayer and a card mailed from our ministry team please email Pastor Linda Davis at Linda@fcc-hsv.org