

The Post Office is back and ready to receive your Christmas cards. You will find it in the Commons Area. Place your cards in the postal box and our youth will help to deliver the cards to the congregation. It will be open now thru Jan. 1st. **Remember these cards must be picked up. They will not be mailed out.** Dinah Love

| ATTENDANCE | 12/17 | 12/24 |
|------------------------|-------|-------|
| First Service Worship | 46 | NA |
| Sunday School | 20 | NR |
| Second Service Worship | 127 | 89 |
| Children's Church | NA | NA |
| Young Disciples | NA | NA |
| 5:00 Christmas Eve | NA | 195 |
| 11:00 Christmas Eve | NA | 52 |
| Total Worship | 173 | 336 |

Deadline for the *Journey* is **Thursday, December 28**, at Noon publisher@fcc-hsv.org



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)
 3209 Whitesburg Drive
 Huntsville, AL 35802



The Journey

Volume XXV No. 52
 December 25, 2017
 www.fcc-hsv.org

THANK YOU, THANK YOU

Pastor Laura
Morgan Williams
Lauren Carter
Chris McDonald
Matt Ball
Linda Davis

The staff of First Christian Church wants to say thank you for the generous Christmas gifts presented to us. These extra gifts are another expression of the many thoughtful ways in which you show your love and care for us. We do hope that everyone has a wonderfully warm and blessed Christmas. Thank you again and we are ever grateful for such a caring and supportive congregation and the privilege of serving you.

Merry Christmas,

Lynn Abernathy
Pastor Paul
Alicia Price
Ariel Jacobs
Alexis McClellan
Rick Shrout

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, DECEMBER 31

Sermon Scripture Luke 2: 22-40
 Sermon "What is Right in Front of Us"

SERVING AT THE TABLE

8:15 Karen Ball & Jan Mackenzie
 10:30 Mike Lash & Frank Fitzgerald

COMMUNION PREPARATION

Mary Ann Anderson

SERVING COMMUNION

8:15 Lynn Abernathy & Jackie Sameck
 Donna Blair & Linda Lykins
 10:30 Nancy Adams & Mary Bittle
 Gayle Herber & Roberta Shivers

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

Gayle Herber

SUNDAY'S FOOD BASKET is in honor of a wonderful church New Year.

CHILDREN WORSHIP & WONDER

Christmas - Meeting the Christ Child
 Nancy Woodall
 Pastor Laura
 Troy Davis
 Cara Sexton

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.

IRS CREDIT FOR 2017 GIVING

Thank you so much for your tithes and offerings; they have a tremendous impact on the missions and ministries of our church. Please remember that all contributions toward 2017 giving must be received by the church office **before 12:30 pm on Friday, December 29, 2017** (that is when the office closes for New Year's Eve) or **postmarked by December 30, 2017** (If mailing, make sure to note collection times to ensure the appropriate postmark.) or **placed in the collection plate by Sunday, December 31, 2017.**

Post dated checks received after December 31 (unless received by mail postmarked December 31 or prior) will be credited to your 2018 giving and not 2017 per IRS regulations.

GIFT CARDS FOR NEEDY ADULTS

For several years, Community Outreach has donated \$25 Walmart gift cards in December to DHR, CASA, and Grateful Life to be used throughout the year in their work with needy adults. This is often a forgotten population but one that is frequently in desperate need. There are two ways to support this project: purchase a card (and put in offering plate or give to a Community Outreach member) or make a monetary contribution and the committee will purchase a card for you. **The deadline for donations is December 31.** Your support will make a difference as these three organizations help our community's vulnerable adults. Thank you for caring.

Thank you to the choir, praise band, and children and youth who contributed to the wonderful "Lessons and Carols" service last Sunday.

If anyone missed the service, perhaps it is on disc. You'll want to hear it.
 Again, thank you!
 Margaret J. Vann, Worship Chair



LONG TERM 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
 Mike McAlister, brother of Sue Seward
 Joyce Neighbors
 Tom Paul, son of Doris Paul
 Sheryl Stiles
 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.

JANUARY SERVICE PROJECT FOR CWM

January has traditionally been blanket month for CWM service activity. Once again, CWM is partnering with Church World Service in their Blankets+ program.

We are the "+" in the blanket project. FCC in Huntsville, Alabama, can make a difference all around the world as the need arises. \$10 can provide a warm blanket for anyone left homeless by an earthquake or other natural disaster. Please consider a monetary donation to FCC with CWM "Blankets" in the memo line.

Margaret J. Vann



January Birthdays



| | |
|----|--|
| 1 | Marie Cloyd |
| 3 | Elaine French, & Danny Hutson |
| 6 | Joyce Skinner |
| 10 | Carolyn Browning, & Dayna McGee |
| 11 | Dick Christiansen, Gayle Herber, & Courtney Volinski Olsen |
| 12 | Anne Vann |
| 20 | Jeff Seward |
| 21 | Doris Kennemer, Louise May, Shawna Stiles, Jennifer Vogeltanz, & Rev. Laura West |
| 22 | Ed Rice |
| 23 | Haley Beckman |
| 24 | Lee McCombs |
| 29 | Grad Goodson, Malcolm Landreth, & Beau Rogers |
| 31 | Peggy Arnston, Jordan Green, & Alex Kahalley |

YOUTHTOPIA


THEME: "Be Salt and Light"
 (Matthew 5:13-16)

Date: January 26-28th

Location: Camp Chandler

Cost: \$125.00 **The deadline for all applications is January 8th.** Please submit payment and application to Pastor Linda.

January 2018

| Birthdays | Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|---|----------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
| 1 Marie Cloyd 3 Elaine French Danny Hutson 6 Joyce Skinner 10 Carolyn Browning Dayna McGee 11 Dick Christiansen Gayle Herber Courtney Volinski- Olsen | | 1 <i>Office Closed</i> <i>New Year's Day</i>  | 2 5:30 pm Personnel Committee | 3 9 am Emmaus 5:30 pm Youth Bible Study 6 pm Men's Bible Study 7 pm Choir | 4 8:15 am Christian Ed Meeting 9:30 am DISCIPLES Bible Study 5 pm Convener Meeting | 5 | 6 |
| 12 Anne Vann 20 Jeff Seward 21 Doris Kennemer Louise May Shawna Stiles Jennifer Vogeltanz Rev. Laura West | 7 9:30 am Kids & Parent Meeting 3 pm Pickelball | 8 9:30 am Esther Circle 10 am Quilters 5:30 pm Kids/Youth Task Groups | 9 5:30 pm Elders' Meeting | 10 9 am Emmaus 10:15 am ECM Wednesday Worship 5:30 pm Worship Committee • Youth Bible Study 6 pm Men's Bible Study 7 pm Choir | 11 9:30 am DISCIPLES Bible Study 10 am Elizabeth Circle 6 pm Board Meeting | 12 | 13 |
| 22 Ed Rice 23 Haley Beckman 24 Lee McCombs 29 Grad Goodson Malcolm Landreth Beau Rogers 31 Peggy Arnston Jordan Green Alex Kahalley | 14 Food Pantry Sunday 3 pm Pickelball | 15 <i>Office Closed</i> <i>Martin Luther King Jr. Day</i> 8:30 am Praying for FCC (Off Site) 10 am Quilters 1 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry | 16 6:30 pm Phoebe Circle | 17 9 am Emmaus 10:15 am ECM Wednesday Worship 5:30 pm Worship Committee • Youth Bible Study 6 pm Men's Bible Study 7 pm Choir | 18 9:30 am DISCIPLES Bible Study | 19 Young Adult & Senior Adult Minister Retreat | 20 11:00 am Nursery, Toddlers, & Preschool Mini Missions Young Adult & Senior Adult Minister Retreat |
| | 21 3 pm Pickelball Community Unity Service Primitive Baptist Church Young Adult & Senior Adult Minister Retreat | 22 10 am Quilters 5 pm Hispanic Project Advisory Team | 23 | 24 9 am Emmaus 10:15 am ECM Wednesday Worship • Youth Bible Study 6 pm Men's Bible Study 7 pm Choir | 25 9:30 am DISCIPLES Bible Study | 26 Youthtopia | 27 Youthtopia |
| | 28 Youthtopia 11:30 am MF 2 Leadership Mtg • MF 3 Luncheon * Kids Group 3 pm Pickelball | 29 10 am Quilters | 30 | 31 9 am Emmaus 10:15 am ECM Wednesday Worship 5:30 pm Worship Committee • Youth Bible Study 6 pm Men's Bible Study 7 pm Choir | | | |