



The Journey

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On March 6th at 6:00 pm First Christian Church will celebrate Ash Wednesday, the traditional beginning of the season of Lent. The forty days of Lent (actually there are forty-six days, but the six Sundays are not counted) are a time for spiritual growth through repentance, fellowship, prayer, and concentration upon our baptismal covenant. In penitence and contrition, we bring before God the brokenness and sin in our lives and ask for God's forgiveness and healing. In doing so, the church engages in a common process of remembrance and renewal.

For many, Lent is not their favorite Christian season because everything is so different. The communion table is draped with a traditional black pall, a cloth laid over a casket in funeral services, in remembrance of Christ's death, the cross and candles will be removed until Good Friday, and the tone of the worship service will be more subdued and contemplative. The music is different, a little more somber and lacking Halleluiahs. The tone of the worship services will be directed toward concepts like sin, redemption, death, and rebirth. For some, this means that Lent can be depressing and solemn.

For others, the season of Lent is a reminder that life is complex and full of many emotions. While every Sunday is a celebration of the Easter promise and the joy located within, during Lent we are preparing ourselves for the crucifixion as well, for it is only in Christ's sacrifice that we can find forgiveness, repentance and new life.

I read this week that Thomas Edison's laboratory was virtually destroyed by fire in December 1914. Although the damage exceeded two million dollars, the buildings were only insured for a little over two-hundred thousand because they were made of concrete and thought to be fireproof. Much of Edison's work was destroyed that night.

At the height of the fire, Edison's 24-year-old son, Charles frantically searched for his father among the smoke and debris. He finally found him, calmly watching the scene, his face glowing in the reflection, and his white hair blowing in the wind. Said the sympathetic son, "My heart ached for him. He was sixty seven, no longer a young man, and everything was going up in flames. When he saw me he shouted, "Charles, where is your mother?" When I told him I didn't know, he said, "Find her. Bring her here. She will never see anything like this as long as she lives."

The next morning, Edison looked at the ruins and said, "There is great value in disaster. All our mistakes are burned up. Thank God we can start anew." Three weeks after the fire, Edison managed to deliver his first phonograph!

It is my hope that this Lenten season will be a time of renewal, transformation, and growth for you and for your family. Engage in the activities we have at church or in our community and remember, that even though the road may seem dark we are surrounded by the light of Christ that is never extinguished. This is what we celebrate each time we come together and this is the joy we share.

Thanks be to God, Amen.



Deadline for the *Journey* is **Thursday, February 28**, 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, MARCH 3

Scripture
Sermon

Luke 9: 28-36
"Listen!"

SERVING AT THE TABLE

8:15 Andy Herron & Karen Ball
10:30 Bob Senn & Mike Lash

COMMUNION PREPARATION

Nancy Woodall

SERVING COMMUNION

8:15 Donna Blair & Lisa Fitzgerald
Rick & Kay Shrout
10:30 Tré Davis, Troy Davis, Sr.
Marilee Keim & Ruth Lackey
Lynn Abernathy

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

Jack & Penny Jackman

SUNDAY'S FOOD BASKET is given in memory of Susan Hardesty, sister of Ann Thompson.

CHILDREN WORSHIP & WONDER

The Great Banquet
Nancy Woodall, Penny Jackman,
Jacob Black & Troy Davis, Jr.

YOUNG DISCIPLES

Meets second & fourth Sundays

AV SUPPORT TEAM

Technical Director - Chuck Herber
Assistant Director - Michael Smith
Sound - Michael Smith &
Malcolm Landreth
Stream Operator - Michael Smith

ATTENDANCE	2/17	2/24
First Service Worship	30	29
Sunday School	24	18
Second Service Worship	76	93
Young Disciples	NA	4
Children's Church	5	6
Total Worship	111	132

THERE WILL NOT BE A WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEAL ON FEBRUARY 27 DUE TO PREPARATION FOR THE RUMMAGE SALE

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEAL MARCH 6

We will have an Ash Wednesday service at 6:00 pm on Wednesday, March 6. Listen for an announcement on Sunday, March 3, or watch for an announcement in *The Journey* next week regarding what time or if we will have a meal on March 6.

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

Beginning Tuesday, March 5, 1:00 PM, a six week Bible study *Entering the Passion of Jesus* will be offered in the Garden Room. The author, Amy-Jill Levine, is Professor of New Testament and Jewish Studies at Vanderbilt Divinity School. The study delves into the history and literature of the last days of Jesus life and explores the risks taken by Jesus as well as his followers. Lent is a time to ask ourselves what should I have done that I did not do? What risk should I have taken that I was afraid to take? This is a DVD based study with individual study books available from Amazon and cokesbury.com. Please contact Nancy Waites or Ann Thompson for further information if you are interested in participating.

Know anyone looking for childcare? Our Early Childhood Ministries will begin registration on March 4 for half and full day programs for infants - 5 years of age. Call ECM at 256-881-4291 for information.

THERE ARE MANY OPEN FOOD BASKET DATES FOR 2019
The 2019 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.



LONG TERM PRAYER CONCERNS



Please remember to keep the following individuals in your prayers.

Bob Anderson, son of Susan Anderson friend of Margaret J. Vann

Reggie Anderson

Lynda Baig, cousin of Penny Jackman

Thomas Burns, father of Karen Ball

Burl Chandler, father of Chris Chandler

Betty Joe Estes, friend of Donna Blair

Lynn Harris, daughter of Bob & Mary Spencer

Phil & Ginny Jackson, brother-in-law & sister of Cathy Rosol.

Carey Link, friend of Margaret Vann

Joyce Neighbors

Betty Rogers

Jo Thomason

Lynne Ursery, former member.

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.

RUMMAGE SALE



FRIDAY, MARCH 1ST 8 AM - 5 PM

SATURDAY, MARCH 2ND 8 AM - NOON

Time to clean out those closets and save your items for donations!!

Sign up posters for workers/volunteers are in the Commons Area.

DROP OFF ITEMS: February 24th -28th

LARGE ITEM PICK UP: Phone the Church Office, 256-881-0150, and leave your name, number, and what large item(s) you want picked up. You will be contacted to arrange a time and date for pick up.

GUIDELINES: No broken electronics or appliances, no CRT TVs or monitors, and no personally recorded audio or video. Please try and box items that go together and tape remotes to the electronics they go with.


HELP THE CHURCH WHEN 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 in Huntsville and will automatically credit 0.5% of 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 your Amazon account through AmazonSmile at <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/63-6017148> if you shop at Amazon!

amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

March 2019

Birthdays	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 Jan Mackenzie & Melissa Turner						1 8 am - 5 pm Rummage Sale	2 8 am - 12 pm Rummage Sale
3 Rebecca Blackman 4 A.J. Barr 6 Penny Jackman 9 Dorothy J. Montgomery	3 3 pm Pickleball	4 10 am Quilters	5 1 pm Lenten Bible Study 5:30 pm Personnel Mtg.	6 9 am Emmaus 6 pm Ash Wednesday Service TBA Wednesday Night Meal	7 9:30 am DISCIPLES Study 5 pm Convener Meeting	8	9 1 pm Youth Mardi Gras  <i>Remember to set your clocks one hour forward when you go to bed.</i>
11 Sandra Austin, Jackie Sameck, & Jonathan Shrout	10 2 am Daylight Saving Time Begins 11:30 am MF 4 Luncheon • Nominating Committee 2 pm MF Informational Mtg.	11 9:30 am Esther Circle 10 am Quilters 5:30 pm Christian Ed. Mtg.	12 1 pm Lenten Bible Study 5:30 pm Elders' Meeting	13 9 am Emmaus 5:30 pm Meal 6 pm Adulting Bible Study • Men's Bible Study • Kids & Youth Bible Study • Women's Bible Study • Worship Committee 7 pm Chancel Choir	14 9:30 am DISCIPLES Study 10: am Elizabeth Circle 6 pm Board Meeting	15 Regional Men's Retreat	16 Regional Men's Retreat
12 Chris Barr 13 Bud Hooker, Chase Jones, & Lauren Killough 14 Paige Brown 16 Andrew Collazzi 17 Caroline Herron & Phil Williams	17 11:30 am Congregational Information Meeting 3 pm Pickleball	18 10 am Quilters	19 1 pm Lenten Bible Study	20 9 am Emmaus 5:30 pm Meal 6 pm Adulting Bible Study • Men's Bible Study • Kids & Youth Bible Study • Women's Bible Study 7 pm Chancel Choir	21 9:30 am DISCIPLES Study	22	23
18 Patti Allen 24 Michele Ammons 26 Jania Johnson 27 Josie Craig 31 Glenda Luft	24 3 pm Pickleball	25 10 am Quilters 6:00 pm ECM Board Mtg.	26 1 pm Lenten Bible Study	27 9 am Emmaus 5:30 pm Meal 6 pm Adulting Bible Study • Men's Bible Study • Kids & Youth Bible Study • Women's Bible Study 7 pm Chancel Choir	28 9:30 am DISCIPLES Study	29	30
	31 9 am Small Groups 10 am Combined Service 3 pm Pickleball						