



KEEPING EASTER

Often Holy Week is called the most important week in the Christian calendar. I know that Christmas is wonderful and it gets a lot of attention, but Easter is the center of our faith. The services during Holy Week help to center people's lives and give insight on what is important to our faith. I would like to thank everyone who helped to make these services special. Please know that the time and talents you provide are blessings to our church and community.

However, once Easter is over some people think we can all take a deep breath and get back to our normal routine. I am always under the mistaken impression that once Easter is over my schedule will miraculously clear up and I will have more time to finish projects left undone and start new adventures. For many Holy Week and Easter have become times of stress just like the Advent and Christmas season. We become so wrapped up in details that it is easy to forget what Easter means. We are celebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ, but also the knowledge that God's covenantal promises are kept, our sins are forgiven, we are renewed and transformed, and can find new life through Christ.

We also forget that the Easter season, or Eastertide, continues until Pentecost; our joy is so great that we must continue rejoicing! In reality every Sunday is a Mini-Easter, an opportunity to give thanks for the love of God, the presence of Christ, and the support of the Holy Spirit. The celebration of Easter is only the beginning for we are called to live in the image of Christ and work to provide a vision of the Kingdom of God here on earth.

You will notice this symbolism in our Sanctuary. The Christ Candle is still up and remains lit throughout the service. Our beautiful Easter banners remain hanging reminding us that the Lamb of God has been raised. The Cross and the Candles are back on the communion table providing a reminder of Christ's light and love that breaks all bounds. Just like we need to keep the joy of Christmas alive in our hearts so too do we need to sustain the grace and love that we feel on Easter Sunday. We may not have been ready for resurrection, but it has come, and now we are called to share the news like the women who journeyed to the tomb did so long ago.

Perhaps what we need is a change of focus for Easter. It is not one day of worship and family celebration; Easter is an experience that changes our lives every day. The miracle of Easter reaches out and fills us to overflowing so that we cannot help but spread the good news of Jesus Christ. It is my desire that the message of Easter and the glory of Eastertide will continue to strengthen your faith, encourage your actions, and give you hope for the future. Amen.

Deadline for the *Journey* is **Thursday, May 2**, 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, MAY 5

Scripture Acts 9: 1-20
Sermon "A Change in Plans"

SERVING AT THE TABLE

8:15 Andy Herron & Karen Ball
10:30 Bob Senn & Gayle Herber

COMMUNION PREPARATION

Nancy Woodall

SERVING COMMUNION

8:15 Donna Blair & Nancy Waites
Rick & Kay Shrout
10:30 Troy Davis Jr. & Bev Williamson
Ruth Lackey & Glenda Luft
Troy Davis, Sr.

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

Rick & Kay Shrout

SUNDAY'S FOOD BASKET is given in honor of Margaret J. Vann.

CHILDREN WORSHIP & WONDER

TBA

YOUNG DISCIPLES

Meets second and fourth Sundays.

AV SUPPORT TEAM

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

ATTENDANCE	4/21	4/28
First Service Worship	49	45
Sunday School	24	16
Second Service Worship	169	82
Maundy Thursday	79	NA
Young Disciples	NA	NA
Children's Church	NA	NA
Total Worship	218	127

REMINDER

There will be a meeting of the Membership on Sunday, May 5, following second service for the election of officers.

CONDOLENCES to the family of Jack Thomas Vann, new born son of Joseph & Anne, who passed on Friday, April 19.



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
Burl Chandler, father of Chris Chandler
Donna DeLisle, friend of Jackie Sameck
Betty Joe Estes, friend of Donna Blair
Lynn Harris, daughter of Bob & Mary Spencer
Pam Gilliland
Phil & Ginny Jackson, brother-in-law & sister of Cathy Rosol.
Carey Link, friend of Margaret Vann
Joyce Neighbors
Betty Rogers
Nicholas Terry, great grandson of Charles & Pam Gilliland
Bob Spencer
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.

Please give a warm FCC welcome to our new members Dr. Nathan & Clara Lee who joined during second service on Sunday, April 21!

MISSION TRIP

May 27th- June 1st

Location: Mexico City Beach, Florida

Cost: \$0 unless you require your own bedroom.

- Volunteers are needed to chaperone youth to worksites and or cook meals. All food will be purchased and taken to Mexico City Beach.
- Goal of this mission's trip is to help rebuild areas that were hardest hit from last year's storms.
- We are accepting donations such as (hygiene products and laundry soap.
- Mission Trip forms are available in the church office.
- If you would like to attend please email Pastor Paul: paul@fcc-hsv.org

May 4th is the Belk Charity Sale from 7:00 am - 9:00 pm. Please purchase \$5 tickets and show support for the Huntsville Assistance Program (HAP) at this great opportunity for them and bargains for you. Tickets are available at the HAP office (1001 Monroe St, 35801) or at Belk on the day of the sale.

HELPING A SISTER CHURCH

In May, Community Outreach is teaming up with Christian Women's Ministries to collect monetary gifts for Grateful Life Church. This church serves many of the homeless in our area. Your generous gift will help provide building maintenance, transportation, food and other needs they experience as they strive to minister to the disadvantaged and to show them God's love and care. Your check should be made out to First Christian Church with "Grateful Life" on the memo line.

Thank you for all you do for our community, Community Outreach and CWM



2019 CAMP & CONFERENCE

Location: Montgomery, Alabama

When: June 17th – 21st

Who Can Attend?

Chi Rho Camp (6th, 7th & 8th grades)

CYF (9th - 12th grades)

If your youth has volunteered at the church they are qualified for Tiered Pricing.

Camp applications are available in the church office. Please return them by May 24th. Please feel free to contact the office if you have questions.

256-881-0150 office@fcc-hsv.org

NEW SUNDAY STUDY OPPORTUNITY

New Testament meets in the library and will start a new study on **May 12** on key persons and events of the Old Testament. The video lecture series will feature Professor Amy-Jill Levine. The class discussion is led by Bob Senn. New members are encouraged and are welcome. Each class stands alone. We occasionally have a DVD on the *History of European Art* which is mainly religious in subject matter.

The Vine Pastoral Counseling Center in Huntsville will hold its 'Branches of the Vine' fundraiser on Thursday, May 2, 5:30-8:00. Admission cost is \$50 per person, and proceeds will support the Vine's reduced-fee counseling. Please come and bring a friend! RSVP to www.vinepcc.com/branches-2019/ Call 256-270-7399 for more information.



MAY 2019

Birthdays	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Joe Brockway				1 9 am Emmaus 5:30 pm Meal 6 pm •Kids & Youth Bible Study •Men's Bible Study •Phoebe Circle •Women's Bible Study 7 pm Chancel Choir	2 9:30 am DISCIPLES Study	3	4
2 Karen Ball							
4 Greg Perkins							
6 Abby Allen							
8 Kathi Luzar							
9 Kerry Williams							
11 Delores Edgeton, Walter Keller & Emma Millich	5 8:15 First Service 9:15 Sunday School/Small Groups	6 10 am Quilters	7 10 am ECM Spring Sing 6 pm Personnel Mtg.	8 9 am Emmaus 5:30 pm Meal 6 pm •Kids & Youth Bible Study •Men's Bible Study •Women's Bible Study 7 pm Chancel Choir	9 9:30 am DISCIPLES Study 10: am Elizabeth Circle 5 pm Convener Meeting 6 pm Board Meeting	10	11
12 Nancy Adams & Areesa Browning Patrick	10:30 Second Service 11:30 Election of Officers Mission Family 3 Lunch						
16 Justin Brown, Glen Hiller, & Doris Paul							
18 Mary Anderson & Pat Crouse							
21 Letha Lanier							
23 Bob Abernathy, Christa Brockway, & Mike Wright	12 8:15 First Service 9:15 Sunday School/Small Groups 10:30 Second Service	13 10 am Esther Circle Brunch 10 am Quilters 5:30 pm Christian Ed. Mtg.	14 5:30 pm Elders' Meeting	15 9 am Emmaus 5:30 pm Last Meal 6 pm •Kids & Youth Bible Study •Men's Bible Study •Women's Bible Study 7 pm Chancel Choir	16	17	18
25 Matthew Beutjer, Brad Clasgens, Tré Davis, Troy Davis Jr. & Phyllis Leonard							
28 Joan Goodson	19 8:15 First Service 9:15 Sunday School/Small Groups 10:30 Second Service	20 10 am Quilters	21	22 9 am Emmaus Wednesday evening activi- ties will resume in August	23 Last Day of School	24	25
29 Laura Mayer, Jeremy Millich & Reynolds Wilson							
30 Charles Gilliland							
31 Bill Sholes	26 8:15 First Service 9:15 Sunday School/Small Groups 10:30 Second Service	27 Memorial Day Church Office Closed Mission Trip 10 am Quilters	28 Mission Trip	29 Mission Trip 9 am Emmaus	30 Mission Trip	31 Mission Trip	