



The Journey

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“ACTIONS, CONNECTIONS BEAR GOOD FRUIT”

Posted on April 25, 2018 at the Disciples News Service

“Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.” Matthew 13:8 (NRSV)

It started with an acquaintance and some literature shoved under the door. “Most of us in the apartment building were only there for a year or two,” said Rev. John Mobley, regional minister for Alabama/Northwest Florida. “But Alma Davis was there on the first floor and seemed like she’d been there forever.”

Mobley was living in Louisville at the time. He had been raised Southern Baptist and even attended seminary. “During that time (the Southern Baptists) were heading a little more to the right, but I thought that since they were congregationally governed I could find a church where I would fit,” he said.

He wasn’t having much luck and Davis knew of his plight. She invited him to explore her denomination. While she had been disabled and working at home, Davis was a faithful member of a local congregation. She slipped a copy of a *Saturday Evening Post* article about the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) under Mobley’s door - and he was hooked. Mobley said that the local Edenside Christian Church pastor, Bob Kirkman, heard about him and invited him to read more, like the classic book *Journey of Faith*. Kirkman also made sure Mobley was introduced to the regional staff when they were in town.

Fast forward to the early 2000s: Mobley was a member of the Mission Funding Council that provided seed money grants for new projects. One of those projects was to build a program at Brite Divinity School in support of Korean pastors. That’s the first time he heard of Rev. Dr. Timothy Lee, who was called upon to organize the program.

Lee himself had come to the Disciples from another conservative Protestant tradition.

“After I finished my first year of graduate work at the University of Chicago Divinity School, I was thrown into a spiritual turmoil because of the conflict between what I learned at the Divinity School and my conservative upbringing.”

That was when he was embraced by a local pastor who sympathized with him. He was the late Rev. Soongook Choi, a figure revered by many in the North American Pacific/Asian Disciples (NAPAD) community and beyond. Soon Lee and his wife became active members of Chicago Christian Church, and Choi introduced Lee to the Disciples community, including the Disciples Divinity House on the university campus.

When Lee finished his PhD work at the Divinity School in 1996 he was ordained at Choi’s church. Afterward, Lee taught at various colleges for a while. Then in 2002 he was tapped for a new program developed at Brite, aimed at nurturing leaders for NAPAD, with the majority of initial funding provided by the Mission Council. Eventually the program was adopted by Brite, and Lee went on to earn tenure. Lee is now the moderator for NAPAD and has also served on a number of general church task forces and boards.

Mobley and Lee touched base again over dinner at the Administrative Committee of the General Board in Newton, IA in April. Lee is second vice moderator of the General Assembly for the 2017-19 biennium. Mobley represents the College of Regional Ministers on the committee and lends his wisdom to inter-regional projects. Both have influenced and shaped many, many Disciples through their work.

Mobley says, “I see my ministry as a legacy of Edenside even though it has since closed.” How those seeds that Davis and Soongook planted have grown and multiplied connections and ministry!

At the Regional Assembly in Birmingham we celebrated Rev. Dr. John Mobley’s 40th anniversary of his ordination. What a wonderful blessing he has been to our Region and to the church as a whole. Thanks be to God for wonderful leaders, Amen.

Pastor Paul

Deadline for the *Journey* is **Thursday, May 10**, 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.

PENTECOST SUNDAY, MAY 20

Scripture Acts 2: 1-21
 Sermon "Pouring Out the Spirit"

SERVING AT THE TABLE

8:15 Jan Mackenzie & Frank Fitzgerald
 10:30 Mark Stiles & Mike Lash

COMMUNION PREPARATION

Donna Blair

SERVING COMMUNION

8:15 Lisa Fitzgerald & Linda Hooker
 Kay Shrout & Nancy Waites
 10:30 Beverly Cannon & Marilee Keim
 Ruth Lackey & Cara Sexton
 Elaine French

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

Rick & Kay Shrout

SUNDAY'S FOOD BASKET is in honor of Becky Howard's & Kate Webster's birthdays, daughters of Don & Bev Williamson.

CHILDREN WORSHIP & WONDER

Pentecost
 Nancy Woodall, Margaret J. Vann, Ty Davis, & Macey Johnson

YOUNG DISCIPLES

(Does not meet again until August 12)

AV SUPPORT TEAM

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

ATTENDANCE	5/6	5/13
First Service Worship	48	43
Sunday School	41	31
Second Service Worship	86	94
Children's Church	11	5
Young Disciples	NA	0
Total Worship	145	142

CONDOLENCES to the family of Virginia Prozan who passed on Friday, May 11.

Hi, my name is Alicia Price and I work in the nursery. I'm looking for a good affordable used car as soon as possible. My number is 256-694-2129. Thank you and God bless!



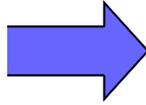
There is still time to update that family portrait, but the **May 21 deadline** for scheduling your photography appointment is fast approaching! Signups details on the following page.

COME AND JOIN THE FUN AND FELLOWSHIP AT FCC'S ANNUAL ALL CHURCH PICNIC
Where: First Christian Church in McMains Hall & the Family Services area.
When: May 20th, 2018. Gathering will be at 4:00 p.m. Serving will begin at 4:30 p.m.
What to bring: It will be pot luck so bring your favorite covered dish or a dessert. *Drinks will be provided.*
Entertainment: A sing-a-long for all and play time on the church playground for the kids.

A TRIP TO THE CASA GARDEN
 On **May 19th** FCC will be volunteering at the CASA Garden. We will be there from 8 am - 1 pm. Volunteers must be middle school age or older. Tools will be provided. If you are interested in helping, contact Heather Black at goldenrulepharm@gmail.com. There are limited slots and certain guidelines, so be sure and contact Heather by May 18th. Thanks so much for your help, Community Outreach



PRESERVE YOUR MEMORIES



SIGNUPS FOR CHURCH PICTURE DIRECTORY

To schedule your online photography session, follow the following steps **by May 20**. Click on: <http://fcc-hsv.org/churchphotos>

1. Select number in group. Using the drop down to the left, select the number in your group (larger families may require more time).
2. Select day. A calendar will now display showing the month and day of our photography sessions. If multiple months are available, an arrow next to the month will be displayed. Click on the arrow to advance to the next month.
3. Select photography session time. A list of available session times will be displayed. Click the Book it button next to the desired time. You will then be prompted to register for your photography session.

Waiting List

If you are unable to find a date and time that works for you, join the waiting list.

To change or cancel your photography session use the login feature above to manage your information. Please call the Church Office and speak with Rick if you have any questions.

About your photography session

Plan on an hour for your professional photography session. Come prepared for your session and show the real you! We often photograph families and individuals with meaningful items: special keepsakes, sports equipment, musical instruments, etc. Many families wear coordinating colors for a unified look. We suggest solid colored shirts with long sleeves.

Printed professional photographs endure for generations

Be a part of our upcoming photography event

Be yourself. Classic, casual, musical, sporty, fun – it's up to you!

Make it special. Bring meaningful items and special people too!

Share your story with family and friends. Photographs are great gifts.

Each family receives a free 8x10 photograph and directory for participating! You will have the opportunity to purchase additional photographs for yourself, family and friends.



Schedule your photography session today!

LifeTouch
Connecting You through Family Photography

GRATEFUL LIFE MAY SERVICE PROJECT FOR CWM AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Christian's Women's Ministries and Community Outreach have chosen Grateful Life Community Church as their Service Project for the month of May. We are collecting toiletries and hygiene items for this Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) congregation located at 207 Oakwood Avenue. You can bring in hygiene items and place them in our basket in the Commons Area, or make your check out to First Christian Church with Grateful Life in the memo line and place it in the offering bowl or drop it by the church office. Thank you for your contribution.





MIDDLE SCHOOL GRADUATES

Matthew Beutjer
Sarah Brockway
Anna Cottingham
Tyshia Davis
Lexi Sanders
Cara Sexton
Jordan Ursery

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

Alli Euper
Daniel Dixon
(Caitlyn Crawford, former member)

COLLEGE GRADUATES

Amberly Euper
Trey Leonard



- Deadline for Youth Summer Camp registration is May 30th.
- Missions Trip registration deadline is June 1st.
- Please email Pastor Linda with any questions at: Fccyouthmin1@gmail.com



2018 PENTECOST OFFERING

The **2018 Pentecost Offering** will be collected in most congregations on **May 20 and May 27**. Currently the Alabama-Northwest Florida Region is sponsoring three new congregations-in-information and talks are in the early stages regarding a possible fourth new start-up. There is great excitement when a group begins to come together around the vision of becoming a new congregation. There is an eagerness to share the message and to invite others to be a part of the new church. The Alabama-Northwest Florida Region is greatly blessed by the energy and spirit that comes to us through our new congregations.

In the early stages of a new church start, funding from the Regional Church is essential. Before an offering plate has ever been passed, there is a need for funding to secure appropriate leadership and a place to meet. There are also publicity and equipment costs. **The annual Pentecost Offering is a primary source of funding that this Region uses in support of new congregations.** Your support of this offering is an important part of the ministry of starting new congregations. One-half (50%) of the Pentecost Offering is returned to the Region in which it is given.

Current congregations-in-information in Alabama-Northwest Florida include:

Iglesia Cristiana - Arbol de Vida, Pensacola, FL
(Israel and Jeanette Martinez, co-church planters)
Pacific Islander Agape Church, Pensacola, FL
(Aisek William, church planter)



Primera Iglesia Cristiana, Huntsville, AL
(David and Gloria Vieyra, co-church planters)

PLEASE HELP SUPPORT THESE ACTIVE DISCIPLE OF CHRIST CONGREGATIONS GET A GOOD START.