



The Journey

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The Church Office will be closed on Monday, September 3 for Labor Day

UNEXPECTED BLESSINGS

You never know what is going to happen when you wake up. Some days are the normal routine that you are used to, and some days can throw you for a loop. Last Saturday, August 25th, my family's life was turned upside down. Patti went downstairs to make coffee and to let the dog out and the next thing I know she was calling me with panic in her voice. I could tell right away something was very wrong. We called emergency services; they arrived quickly, stabilized Patti, packed her up and took her to the emergency room. I was right behind them and was soon in the waiting room praying and worrying.

When they led me to the back to see Patti, after a few minutes, it was clear that whatever had happened was over. Her speech was beginning to clear, she was still complaining about some numbness in her left arm but she could use it, and her left leg was fine. Of course we were frightened, we did not want to say the word stroke, and even the Doctors were confused and unwilling to tell us what had happened without doing a few more tests. We knew she would be staying in the hospital, but did not know for how long.

It was at that time that we began to realize how truly blessed we are. Patti was in an area where she could get to the hospital quickly. Our kids were taken care of, a huge thank you to the Davis family, and were with people who would support them. We quickly began receiving texts and phone calls from church members, family and friends asking how Patti was and what they could do to help. We were overwhelmed by the support and very thankful for the prayers and well wishes.

Fast forward a couple of days and we found out that Patti did have a stroke caused by a small hole in her heart, a birth defect that had never been diagnosed. She will take medication for the rest of her life, but it is treatable. Her symptoms have all resolved, we were told that only 1 in 10 stroke patients leave the hospital with no symptoms, and she will be able to return to work next week. It is amazing that in the space of a few hours our lives could be so dramatically changed.

I cannot thank the members and staff of First Christian Church enough for everything they have done, and continue to do for us. We already felt like we had found a faith family here, now we know that you will support us no matter what happens. I truly believe that without your prayers, patience and presence this would have been much worse. So from the whole Allen family; thank you for being the hands and heart of Christ for us. God bless you all.

Pastor Paul

Deadline for the *Journey* is **Thursday, September 6**, 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, SEPTEMBER 9

Sermon Scripture James 2: 1-10, 14-17
 Sermon "Faith and Works"

SERVING AT THE TABLE

8:15 Justin Givens & Bob Senn
 10:30 Andy Herron & Karen Ball

COMMUNION PREPARATION

Mary Ann Anderson

SERVING COMMUNION

8:15 Donna Blair & Jackie Sameck
 Kathi Luzar & Margaret J. Vann
 10:30 Mary Ann Anderson & Marilee Keim
 Marie Bittle & Nancy Woodall
 Matt Ball

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

Gayle Herber

SUNDAY'S FOOD BASKET is given in honor of J.R &
 Felicia Cook's birthdays by Bobbye Riggs

CHILDREN WORSHIP & WONDER

Orientation for parents, grandparents, adult caregivers, and children (age 3 thru second grade).

YOUNG DISCIPLES

To Be Announced

AV SUPPORT TEAM

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

ATTENDANCE	8/26	9/2
First Service Worship	43	*
Sunday School	45	*
Second Service Worship	97	*
Children's Church	10	*
Young Disciples	NA	*
Total Worship	150	*

*Not reported due to Friday mailing. Will be reported in the next *Journey*.

ON SEPTEMBER 5TH our Wednesday night programming begins once again with a new addition. At 5:30 pm we will be having a meal for anyone who would like to come. All we ask is that you let us know in advance. **Since the 5th is coming quickly, please call the office if you want to attend the first dinner.** Our first meal will be **homemade Lasagna, salad, bread, desserts, and drinks.** We ask for a \$5.00 donation per person, with a \$20.00 limit per family, to help pay for the meal. Over the next few weeks we will send out a menu and ask you to let the office know a week in advance if you are coming to the meal. Also, please plan on staying for our bible studies, youth group, children's activities and choir as well. We hope to see you here on Wednesday night!
 Pastor Paul

FAMILY MINISTRIES "PARENT'S NIGHT OUT"
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 (5:30-8:30 PM)

Do you need a date night? Or maybe a night to yourself? Need to have a quiet dinner? Need to have some child-free time? Well, you're in luck.

On Friday, September 7, you can bring your children to First Christian Church for a few hours of fun! The event is from 5:30-8:30 p.m. We will serve the kids dinner and then have music, games, and crafts! The cost is \$10 per child. Maximum cost per family is \$20. and the deadline to register is Wednesday, September 5!

To register your child or children for this event, let me know. Or if you would love to volunteer and be a part of this fun filled evening yourself, let me know.
 ~Pastor Laura

HEY KIDS!

Sunday, September 9th we will begin children's music programs following second service. We will be singing and playing bells until 12:30 pm each Sunday in preparation for the Children's Sabbath in October. Come join us and Bring On The Music!
 Lauren & Chris

CONDOLENCES to the family of Winnie Hartup, out of town member, who died on August 27.

**PARENTS, GRANDPARENTS, CHILDCARE WORKERS, SS
TEACHERS, AND VOLUNTEERS WHO WORK
WITH CHILDREN AND YOUTH**

Safe Church training will be held 6-7:00 PM in the Garden Room on Wednesday, Sept. 12. If you wish to come early, dinner will be served at 5:30 prior to this event with a \$5 donation (maximum of \$20 per family) for your meal.. Nursery and toddler care will be provided 5:30-7:00 PM.

Chi Rho and CYF youth are encouraged to attend this training. (Safe church trained adults and youth may attend as a refresher.) If you plan to attend, please sign up in the church office or call Sue Seward (256-508-5384).

If you decide at the last minute you can attend, please come! It is important for all members of FCC to know our Safe Church Policy.

NOTE: All volunteers who work with children and youth must complete this training, be members of FCC for a period of time, and complete a disclosure form/background check before participating with children and youth at FCC.

**CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES FOR FALL
WEDNESDAYS (5:30-7:00 PM)
BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 5!**

I'm excited to start the fall children's ministries again! We are moving our children's groups to Wednesday nights this fall. We will now have ministries for the entire church family on Wednesday nights (children, youth & adults)!

Everyone will gather for a meal at 5:30 and then at 6:00 we will disperse to our appropriate groups.

The Toddler & Preschoolers will have their Mini Missions. The Kindergarten through 5th graders will have their lessons of What's in the Bible?, as well as getting prepared for the annual Children's Sabbath. Both groups will end at 7:00 pm.

Looking forward to another great year in children's ministries! ~Pastor Laura



Youth Bible Study will begin September 5th from 5:30 till 6:55 pm. We will have meals provided every Wednesday beginning at 5:30PM.

**CHILDREN WORSHIP & WONDER
ORIENTATION - SUNDAY, 9-9**

We are having our annual Children Worship & Wonder Orientation on Sunday, September 9. This orientation is very important in learning the activities in the children's service.

All children from age 3 thru second grade are invited to be a part of the Children Worship & Wonder (CW&W) program during second service. CW&W is a worship service for children who will sing songs, hear Bible stories tailored to them, and have an opportunity to respond to the stories.

The storytellers and greeters of CW&W hope to create an environment that enables the young child to encounter and worship God.

Parents, grandparents, adult caregivers are requested to come with their children and participate in the orientation. Any adults who are interested in learning how to become a greeter or storyteller are also welcome to attend!

Together we can help make the CW&W experience successful! ~Pastor Laura

Youth participation at the annual 9/11 Honor Walk. The Honor Walk is a way to honor our Service Men and Women, our First Responders, the Fallen and each of their families. The Honor Walk provides a walk of healing for those who carry a heavy weight of grief and loss of any kind. This walk takes place Sunday, Sept. 9, on a large 60 foot labyrinth painted on the grounds of the U.S. Space and Rocket Center.

If you would like to volunteer please contact Pastor Linda at 256-529-1076.

BABY SPRINKLE!

The Young Adults would like to invite the whole FCC Church Family to join us after the 10:30 service on Sunday, September 9th for a Baby Sprinkle honoring the Givens expected baby boy:

Baby Smiles and Giggles Galore,
Michelle and Justin
are having one more!
Big Sister Sadie has plenty to share;
Let's Sprinkle them with love
To show that we Care!

Please join us to celebrate
With diapers, wipes, gift cards
or an outfit before little one is due
And share in their joy
Of Baby number TWO!"