

ATTENDANCE	9/15	9/22
First Service Worship	33	32
Sunday School	28	36
Second Service Worship	76	77
Young Disciples	NA	NA
Children's Church	5	7
<b>Total Worship</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>116</b>

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEALS & GROUPS**

**October 2,** soup and sandwiches, dessert, and assorted drinks. **Call in your reservation by Thursday, September 26, at 256-881-0150.**

Following the meal are small groups including: Young Adults, Kids'/Youth, Men's and Women's Bible Studies. The Chancel Choir meets at 7:00 pm.

Deadline for the *Journey* **Thursday September 26,** at Noon [publisher@fcc-hsv.org](mailto:publisher@fcc-hsv.org)



**First Christian Church**  
(Disciples of Christ)  
3209 Whitesburg Drive  
Huntsville, AL 35802



# The Journey

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## “HOW TRUTH HEALS US”

Jesus told his disciples, “The truth will set you free.” (John 8:32) Then elsewhere he goes on to explain just how costly that sort of freedom will be: “Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it?” (Luke 14:26-28)

A variety of other authors have added their own slant to what happens when truth starts setting us free: Truth will set you free, but first it will make you miserable. Truth will set you free, but first it will anger you. Truth will set you free, but not until it is finished with you.

Jesus came to bring reconciliation into a fractured, aching world. He taught us to forgive. To turn the other cheek. To love our enemies and, yes, he taught us to tell the truth. Jesus actually never suggested that we should overlook injustice, keep our mouths shut to avoid conflict, or swallow our pain or humiliation to avoid upsetting other people. Jesus taught us to seek peace in the only way that genuine peace can be found; by listening to each other tell hard truths. Desmond Tutu put it this way, “Forgiving and being reconciled to our enemies or our loved ones are not about pretending that things are other than they are.... True reconciliation exposes the awfulness, the abuse, the hurt.”

Jesus spoke the truth, and he was killed for it. Centuries earlier, the prophet Jeremiah spoke the truth to the rulers of Judah. They threw him in prison, tossed him into an empty cistern, and, according to tradition, eventually stoned him to death. As Jesus teaches us repeatedly, to get to the empty tomb we have to walk the way of the cross. The truth will set you free, but first it is going to leave a mark.

Bell Hooks points us toward a better way, a holier way: “For me, forgiveness and compassion are always linked: how do we hold people accountable for wrongdoing and yet at the same time remain in touch with their humanity enough to believe in their capacity to be transformed?”

Stating the truth we know in Christ can sometimes put you at odds with friends and family. It can set you on the path to the cross. To quote Tutu again, “[Telling the truth] could even sometimes make things worse. It is a risky undertaking but in the end it is worthwhile, because in the end only an honest confrontation with reality can bring real healing. Superficial reconciliation can bring only superficial healing.” Even though it is likely to leave a mark, telling the truth is the only thing that will set us free. It is the only thing that will heal us.

**Taken from “How Truth Heals Us”, by Jake Owensby**

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 29  
COMBINED SERVICE**



**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  
Thomas Burns, father of Karen Ball  
Kevin Cassidy, friend of Jackie Sameck  
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  
Nicholas Terry, great grandson of Charles &  
Pam Gilliland

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.

**CAN'T MAKE IT TO CHURCH?** Stream it live at: [www.twitch.tv/fchsv](http://www.twitch.tv/fchsv)

**HOME REPAIR TEAM AVAILABLE  
FOR CHURCH MEMBERS**

If you need help with some light repairs at your home please call us. We will evaluate your request and see if we have the expertise to make the repairs. You pay for the materials, we provide the free labor as our Time and Talent gift to you and the church..

Contact Bob Senn at 256-881-6327 or [bnsenn@aol.com](mailto:bnsenn@aol.com) to get an estimate.

**HYGIENE ITEMS FOR  
GRATEFUL LIFE COMMUNITY CHURCH**

Community Outreach is sponsoring a hygiene item collection for Grateful Life during October. They are our sister church for disadvantaged individuals in our community. Their location is on Oakwood Avenue.

Our assistance will help meet some immediate needs and those going into the winter months. Since Grateful Life has been reorganizing their shelves for these items, they will have an inventory of needed items completed soon. Monetary donations will help the most so that Community Outreach will be able to purchase specific items or sizes. Dental products, foot powder, sanitary products, and band aids are always needed but the sizes for Depends has not been determined. Questions or concerns: call Bev at 256-783-0795. Thank you for your support.

**MUFFINS WITH  
MISSION FAMILY 2!**

Please join us and get to know the families of MF2 for muffins in the Courtyard and Commons Area from 9:15 to 9:45 am before the combined service on Sunday, September 29th. The Mission Family 2 Leadership Team will provide the muffins.

**HELP FOR DOMESTIC  
VIOLENCE VICTIMS**

Christian Women's Ministry has chosen Hope Place as our September project. Hope Place provides safe and confidential emergency shelter, meals, counseling and court advocacy for victims and their children who are fleeing domestic violence. The shelter depends on donations from the community, along with grant money, to keep serving those who need it. Please join CWM in supporting this worthy service with a check to FCC with "Hope Place" on the memo line. You may either drop it in the Sunday offering or leave in the church office.

Thank you, Nancy Woodall

**RECONCILIATION OFFERING**

What if someone told you that, "you are the embodiment of Christ?" How does that make you feel? "For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ."\* We are the body of Christ and all of us are members of this one body. As a national church body, we have been on this journey to embrace and understand an identity as a Church that is pro-reconciling and anti-racist for 20 years. God remains in the midst of all of us.

We are the embodiment of Christ in all of our chaotic, messy reality full of joy and mystery. Reconciliation Ministry is your mission of embodiment to love one another as Christ loves us. Your generosity fuels grant programs, youth and young adult leadership development, and Regional and General Ministry outreach toward building beloved community through advocacy, intentional conversation and action. Your giving to this Special Offering enlivens our Churchwide witness and presence as the one body of Christ in the communities where we live and serve!

\*(1 Corinthians 12:12 NRSV)

**IMS UPDATE**

Did you know that Interfaith Mission Service (IMS) has the vision to become globally recognized leaders in building a beloved community? Social Justice Ministries of IMS have provided several systemic ministries to IMS members and other congregations in the community. The Just Faith curriculum is available in Roman Catholic and Christian ecumenical forms. Daybreak in Alabama has study guides for deliberating social justice issues pertinent to Alabama. Congregation Empowerment Ministry has multi-congregation, community events, and individual deliberations to grow capability and capacity. IMS is a member of Alabama Arise, a state-wide nonprofit, nonpartisan coalition that promotes state policies to provide dignity, equity and justice for all Alabamians.

**Scripture** 1 Timothy 6: 6-19  
**Sermon** "Setting Our Hopes on God"

**SERVING AT THE TABLE**

10:00 Justin Givens & Andy Herron

**COMMUNION PREPARATION**

Lynn Abernathy

**SERVING COMMUNION**

10:00 Marie Bittle & Elaine French  
Ty Davis & Ruth Lackey  
Troy Davis, Sr.

**COFFEE FELLOWSHIP**

Mission Family 2

**SUNDAY'S FOOD BASKET** is given in honor of Steve Hooker by Bud, Linda, Bryan, Tim, and Jason Hooker.

**CHILDREN WORSHIP & WONDER**

*Abram and Sarai*

Pastor Laura, Holly Ahlbin, & Macey Johnson

**YOUNG DISCIPLES**

On Break

**NURSERY VOLUNTEER**

Mary Ann Williams  
Carrie German-Love

**AV SUPPORT TEAM**

Technical Director - Chuck Herber  
Assistant Director - Michael Smith  
Sound - Malcolm Landreth

October 2019

<b>Birthdays</b>	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Fridat	Saturday
1 Bobby Riggs 2 Annelle Craig & Jo Thomason 3 Mary Ann Anderson 4 Monty Love & Mary Ann Williams 5 Vickie Wright 6 Cara Sexton			<b>1</b> 6 pm Personnel Mtg.	<b>2</b> 9 am Emmaus 5:30 pm Meal 6 pm Men's Bible Study •Kids & Youth Bible Study •Men's Bible Study •Women's Bible Study •Phoebe Circle 7 pm Chancel Choir	<b>3</b> 9:30 am DISCIPLE Study	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
7 Allison Landreth 8 Gene Cowart & Richard Leonard 9 Sheryl Stiles 11 Wendy Qualls	<b>6</b> World Communion Sunday Reconciliation Offering	<b>7</b> School Fall Break 10 am Quilters	<b>8</b> School Fall Break 5:30 pm Elders' Meeting	<b>9</b> School Fall Break 9 am Emmaus No Wednesday night meals or groups.	<b>10</b> School Fall Break 9:30 am DISCIPLE Study 10: am Elizabeth Circle	<b>11</b> School Fall Break	<b>12</b>
13 Frank Fitzgerald & Don Williamson 14 Pat Blackman 16 Noah Wright 17 Jonah Givens 19 Lynn Abernathy, David Beutjer, Gray Killough, & Christi Sexton	<b>13</b> Stewardship Campaign Begins	<b>14</b> 9:30 am Esther Circle 10 am Quilters 11:00 am Conveners' Mtg	<b>15</b> 6 pm Christian Ed. Meeting	<b>16</b> 5:30 pm Meal 6 pm Men's Bible Study •Kids & Youth Bible Study •Men's Bible Study •Women's Bible Study 7 pm Chancel Choir	<b>17</b> 9:30 am DISCIPLE Study 6 pm Board Meeting	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
23 Mike Beutjer, Don Hartup, Marilee Keim, & Flora Salisbury 24 Adam Fitzgerald 27 Leland Blackman 28 Alma Kinsbury	<b>20</b> 10:30 am Children's Sabbath 4 pm Fish & Chicken Fry	<b>21</b> 10 am Quilters	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 5:30 pm Meal 6 pm Men's Bible Study •Kids & Youth Bible Study •Men's Bible Study •Women's Bible Study 7 pm Chancel Choir	<b>24</b> 9:30 am DISCIPLE Study	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
29 Matt Johnson 30 Chase Volinski 31 John Allen, Theodore Elston, & Trey Leonard	<b>27</b> 5 - 7 pm Trunk or Treat	<b>28</b> 10 am Quilters	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 5:30 pm Meal 6 pm Men's Bible Study •Kids & Youth Bible Study •Men's Bible Study •Women's Bible Study 7 pm Chancel Choir	<b>31</b> 9:30 am DISCIPLE Study		