



The Journey

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Why I Support the Reconciliation Offering by Rev. John P. Mobley Regional Minister

I want to invite each of you to consider your own support of the 2019 Reconciliation Offering. The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) has set aside this annual offering for nearly 50 years to address racism and its impacts on the world, the nation, and even the church. The Church sees racism as an issue of faith and it calls on people of faith to stand up and be counted among those who are willing to work for unity and reconciliation. Disciples claim to be "a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world." Supporting the Reconciliation Offering is one way to express one's own commitment to wholeness within the human family.

The basic impact of racism is that it divides us and limits our ability to see our brothers and sisters. Racism is a lie that began to be told as European expansion was reaching its peak. Racism resulted in centuries of privilege for some and hardship for others. Racism breeds attitudes of superiority and inferiority, even to this day. With all of this as background, I ask myself: Why do I support the Reconciliation Offering?

I support the Reconciliation Offering because it supports ministries that bring people into relationship. The surest way to be divided is to remain strangers to each other. When we are in relationship with people who do not share our ethnic or cultural background, we begin to understand that, although we are different in some ways, we have much more in common. We want basically the same things in life. We share ambitions for our children. We desire joy and fulfillment in life. As Christians, we love Jesus and want to serve God with faithfulness.

In our Region, Reconciliation funds have made it possible for racially diverse congregations to be in relationship. Funds have been used to encourage congregations to join together for combined activities where there are many opportunities for relationship-building. Scholarships have been provided to encourage full participation at Regional events for persons who would not have been able to attend an event due to cost.

I also support the Reconciliation Offering because I believe the church must come to a more full understanding of racism, its origins, and how it continues to work to divide people today. Both the General church and the Regional church are involved in ant-racism training. This training, which the Reconciliation Offering supports, is critically important for leaders who want to be part of "a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world."

I support the Reconciliation Offering because I love the whole church. I have grown in my appreciation for persons of different ethnic and cultural backgrounds. By pursuing authentic relationships across racial lines, I believe my life is enriched.

Deadline for the *Journey* is **Thursday, October 3** 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, OCTOBER 6

Scripture Luke 17: 1-10
Sermon "Committed to Unity"

SERVING AT THE TABLE

8:15 Monty Love & Nancy Woodall
10:30 Andy Herron & Sabrina Beckman

COMMUNION PREPARATION

Donna Blair

SERVING COMMUNION

8:15 Donna Blair & Marilee Keim
Anita Wood
10:30 Ruth Lackey & Tré Davis
Glenda Luft & Frank Fitzgerald
Bev Williamson

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

Diane Douglas

SUNDAY'S FOOD BASKET is given in honor of Maranda Wood's birthday by Randy & Anita Wood, and in honor of our ministers by Marie Bittle.

CHILDREN WORSHIP & WONDER

Exodus
Ty Davis, Lee Boles, & Tatum Payne

YOUNG DISCIPLES

On Break

NURSERY VOLUNTEER

Mary Ann Anderson & Pastor Laura

AV SUPPORT TEAM

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

ATTENDANCE	9/8	9/15
First Service Worship	32	NA
Sunday School	36	28
10:00 Combined Service	NA	105
Second Service Worship	77	NA
Young Disciples	NA	NA
Children's Church	7	6
Total Worship	116	111

Please give a warm FCC welcome to our new member Henry Hollingsworth who joined on Sunday, September 29.

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 to get an estimate.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEALS & GROUPS

October 16, baked chicken, potato salad, coleslaw, bread, dessert, and assorted drinks. **Please call in your reservation (256-881-0150) by Thursday, October 3, so we will have a head-count for how much food to purchase.**

Following the 5:30 meal are small groups including: Young Adults, Kids'/Youth, Men's and Women's Bible Studies. The Chancel Choir meets at 7:00 pm.

NURSERY HELP NEEDED

Share an hour or more of your time with our babies or toddlers once a month. Sign up poster is in the Commons for first service, Sunday School, or second service. If you are not on the Safe Church volunteer list, we can easily provide training.

Call Pastor Laura, 256-881-0150, if you have any questions.

FOOD PANTRY REMINDER

Please remember to bring a non-perishable item, or several, for the food cart outside of McMains Hall on a Sunday. Pick your own Sunday and make it a habit. Let's help keep the pantry full at the Huntsville Assistance Program.

Thank you, Community Outreach Committee

TO OUR FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

Please consider designating The Vine Pastoral Counseling Center in Huntsville to receive your donation in the Combined Federal Campaign this fall (agency number 53497). The Vine provides emotional healing for individuals, families, and marriages and offers counseling on a sliding fee scale.

For more info, contact Mary Ann Anderson.

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 continued support.

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)

Can't Make It To Church? Stream it live at:
<https://www.twitch.tv/fcchsv>

COMMUNION SERVERS NEEDED

Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. - 1 Peter 4:10 NRSV

One way you can literally serve others is to serve Communion on Sundays. **Please contact Gayle Herber, or the Church Office 256-881-0150, if you are interested in serving Communion.**

“The Lord’s Supper or Communion is celebrated in weekly worship. It is open to all who are followers of Jesus Christ. The practice of Holy Communion has become the central element of worship within the Disciples tradition.” disciples.org/our-identity/communion-and-baptism/

