



# The Journey

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## STEWARDS OF GOD'S GRACE

During October and November my family will go in the garage to look for Halloween and Christmas decorations. We will dust off the boxes and look for those things that we want to place around the house, yet we usually find a box that captures our imagination and allows us to reminisce about seasons past.

During our move to Huntsville Patti and I found the first set of ornaments my mother sent to us after Seminary. She had packed brightly colored balls, white lights, and ceramic angels, but she also packed the church mouse, dressed as a minister in a felt robe, that I always placed on top of my Christmas tree as a child. Just the sight of this ornament made me remember that first Christmas in a different town and a new ministry.

We also found some of the crocheted ornaments my grandmother made throughout the years, starched so they would stay full on the tree. I can remember watching her fingers work as she made these ornaments and then picking out the one I wanted for my family. My grandmother is not with us anymore, but every time I see them I think of her and the time and energy she spent to give this gift to me.

Each and every one of us can recall God's wonderful spiritual gifts of the past and present, and we look forward to many blessings in our future. Yet, in this time of thanksgiving we must also remember that one of the responsibilities of our faith is that it must be shared with the church and with other people. It is not a gift unless it is given freely and it is not a blessing unless it fills another's life with hope and joy.

The end of October and the beginning of November will be dedicated to Stewardship in our congregation. During our Worship Services, and other events in the life of our church, we will hear of the need to give back to God so we may lead lives worthy of the Lord. The members of First Christian Church have received a great abundance of gifts from God, now we are called to share these gifts with our church, our community and the world so that others may know of the grace, peace and love of God.

### What are ways you can give?

- Fill out a Stewardship giving card and offer your tithe or gift weekly or monthly during the worship services.
- Use Automatic Bill Pay through your bank, your gift can be sent automatically to the church.
- Give by mail - Payable to First Christian Church and mail to: First Christian Church 3209 Whitesburg Drive Huntsville, AL 35802
- Give online through PayPal, you can find a handy button on our website.

However, stewardship is not just about money, it is the basic idea that we should be good stewards of all the gifts God has given us. This means that our money, time, energy, physical and spiritual gifts must all be used for the glory of the Creator who provided these blessings. When we think about all that God has given us we are filled with a sense of awe and thanksgiving. This allows us to know that stewardship is not about choosing when to donate, rather, it is offering our whole selves, everything that we have, that we are, or that we will be, to God. Thanks be to God for the blessings we have received and the call to use them, Amen.

Deadline for the *Journey* is **Thursday, October 31**, at Noon [publisher@fcc-hsv.org](mailto: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 27**

**Scripture** Luke 18: 9-14  
**8:15 Sermon** "God of Mercy"  
**10:30 Service** Children's Sabbath

**SERVING AT THE TABLE**

8:15 Monty Love & Sabrina Beckman  
10:30 Justin Givens & Margaret J. Vann

**COMMUNION PREPARATION**

Lynn Abernathy

**SERVING COMMUNION**

8:15 Frank Fitzgerald & Anita Wood  
Rick & Kay Shrout  
10:30 Jon & Holly Ahlbin  
Joe Allen & Roberta Shivers  
Bev Williamson

**COFFEE FELLOWSHIP**

Dinah Love

**SUNDAY'S FOOD BASKET** is given in honor of Lynn Abernathy's & Jeff Seward's years of service as Community Outreach Co-Chairs.

**CHILDREN WORSHIP & WONDER**

Children's Sabbath, no Worship and Wonder today.

**NURSERY VOLUNTEER**

Beverly Cannon & Caroline Herron

**AV SUPPORT TEAM**

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

ATTENDANCE	10/13	10/20
First Service Worship	30	33
Sunday School	28	32
Second Service Worship	73	68
Children's Church	5	6
Total Worship	108	107

**SUPPORT THE CWM**

**OCTOBER PROJECT**

The Christian Women's Ministry's community project for October is support for the Neaves-Davis Center for Children. The Neaves-Davis Center houses juvenile court intake and probation services, detention services, community service programs, and the community placement and supervision program. Additional programs for detained juveniles include food services, medical services, recreational services, and library services. Religious services and activities are also provided, partially funded through community religious groups and civic organizations.

Please join CWM in supporting this worthwhile service with a check to FCC with Neaves-Davis Center in the memo line. Donations may be dropped in the Sunday offering or left in the church office.

Thank you, Janet Sholes

The Senior Adult Retreat is happening in Cullman at St. Bernard's Convention Center on November 6-7. **The money for the one-night four-meal retreat is due Wednesday, October 16, if you want to get the early bird special.** By that date, the price is \$90.00. Please contact the church office for the link to the region. You can send your money electronically. This retreat is loads of fun and just ONE night away from home. George and Judy Dudley are the music leaders and also the keynote speakers this year.

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEALS & GROUPS**

**October 30:** Chili, vegan chili, cornbread, tortilla chips, Mexican salad, and assorted drinks. **Please call in your reservation (256-881-0150) by Thursday, October 24, 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.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to A.J. Barr & Casey Harris on the birth of their daughter, Morgan Fay Barr, on October 14. Chris Barr is the proud Paw Paw.

**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.

**CAN'T MAKE IT TO CHURCH?**

Stream it live at:

<https://www.twitch.tv/fchsv>



**BELK CHARITY SALE FOR HAP  
(HUNTSVILLE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM)**

There are \$5 tickets available from Community Outreach to support the annual Belk Charity sale on November 9th from 7:00 am-9:00 pm. The ticket gets you a \$5 off coupon as well as 25% off all purchases that day. Proceeds from tickets purchased from Community Outreach go directly to HAP. Proceeds of tickets purchased at the door when Belk's opens are equally distributed among participating charities including HAP.

**BAKE SALE UPDATE**

The Bake Sale is almost upon us and before you know it will be here. It is a little later this year due to Thanksgiving falling on the 28th. We will set up for it on Friday the 22nd and the bake sale will be on Saturday the 23rd from 9 AM to 12 PM. Please remember to bake, bake and bake some more, especially cakes. I will have the containers in the church office starting the **3rd of November**.

Thank you, Dinah Love