



The Journey

Volume XXVII No. 45
November 11, 2019
www.fcc-hsv.org

FINDING CONNECTIONS

This week I suffered from one of those modern problems that we all have to deal with at one time or another. My email was hacked, someone was able to access my address book, and they proceeded to send email to friends, family and church members asking them to buy iTunes gift cards for a person who was in the hospital. They did this early Monday morning so I woke up to a flurry of emails and text messages from people asking me if this was real. Luckily, I do not know of anyone fooled by the hoax. I was able to change my passwords for both email accounts quickly and I even posted about my dilemma on Facebook so more of my friends would know about it. It became a humorous thing to talk about at home or in the office and I am sure I will be getting a few iTunes gift cards for Christmas now.

However, what surprised me about this event is what happened afterward. Since I had to send out emails to everyone on my address lists I contacted people that I had not heard from in years to let them know what had happened, and they answered. More importantly, they wrote about what was going on in their lives, giving me updates that I would not have received otherwise. This led to conversations with friends I had lost contact with over the years.

It made me wonder. We live in a world where we are constantly being bombarded with information. If I want to know how a friend is doing, I check their Facebook page and message them, or I look at their Twitter or Instagram accounts. If they do not use these social media applications I might email them, but I admit that is rather rare. I almost never call a friend on the phone to see how they are, much less stop in to visit them unannounced. So often on social media platforms we only see what other people want us to see, we do not get a glimpse of the real person underneath, if they are happy, what is challenging them, how their relationships are holding up, if they are growing and changing.

Social media can be a wonderful thing but it was never meant to replace real relationships and true human contact. I believe this is one of the reasons why the church is important in our lives. At least once a week we have the opportunity to see and interact with other people, a family of faith that loves us for who we are, wants to help us grow spiritually and develop our relationship with God. In the church we care for children, youth, young adults, middle age and older adults, we socialize with those who are not in whatever group we would put ourselves in, and we hear ideas that challenge us and cause us to rethink long held beliefs. In essence, the church is a community struggling to become a better version of itself by following the example of Christ. This is a noble pursuit, one that should be embraced and cherished.

I hope you will invite your friends, family, neighbors, and coworkers to join us as we seek to follow Christ. Reach out to others and let them know you care. Find connections and embrace those who are different. Do not let fate decide when you will reach out, instead let us hold out our hands together and share the good news that changes hearts and lives. Amen.

Deadline for the *Journey* is **Thursday, November 14**, 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, NOVEMBER 17
STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY

Scripture 2 Thessalonians 3: 6-13
Sermon "Empowered for Work"

SERVING AT THE TABLE

8:15 Lee Boles & Lisa Fitzgerald
 10:30 Sabrina Beckman & Andy Herron

COMMUNION PREPARATION

Gayle Herber

SERVING COMMUNION

8:15 Donna Blair & Frank Fitzgerald
 Linda Hooker & Kathi Luzar
 10:30 Abby Allen & Glenda Luft
 Gayle Herber & Marilee Keim
 Bev Williamson

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

Lynn Abernathy

SUNDAY'S FOOD BASKET is given in honor of Patrick Love by Monty & Dinah Love.

CHILDREN WORSHIP & WONDER

Exile & Return
 Margaret J. Vann, Alyssa Baldwin, & Troy Davis, Jr.

NURSERY VOLUNTEER

Nancy Waites & Andy Herron

AV SUPPORT TEAM

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

ATTENDANCE	11/3	11/10
First Service Worship	39	40
Sunday School	33	39
Second Service Worship	78	71
Children's Church	7	3
Total Worship	124	114

COMMUNITY OUTREACH IN NOVEMBER
HARRIS HOME FOR CHILDREN

Founded in 1954, the Harris Home for Children in Huntsville is a private, nonprofit 501(c)(3) agency and is licensed by the Alabama Department of Human Resources as a foster care institution. It provides full-time services and support for neglected and dependent adolescents (ages 12-21) who are in the care of the state. The mission of Harris Home is to provide the highest levels of foster care, therapeutic care, and educational services to help each child reach his full potential. Its programs promote self-sufficiency and emotional well-being within each child.

If you would like to make a monetary donation, please make your check to 'FCC' with 'Harris Home' in the memo line. If you would like to donate items, please see the list of needs at the display in the Commons Area. For more info, contact Mary Ann Anderson. Thank you!

SAVE A SACK

Community Outreach is "Saving the Sacks" this year. Instead of Sack Sunday we are putting more emphasis on collecting food for HAP, Huntsville Assistance Program. You have supported this program for many years and your help has always been appreciated. This year November will be our big month to collect, so please continue to support this great agency by placing canned or boxed grocery items on the Food Pantry cart outside McMains Hall all during November.



WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEALS & GROUPS
November 20: Ham, potatoes & gravy, green beans, rolls, pie, and assorted drinks. **Please call in your reservation (256-881-0150) by Thursday, November 14, so we will have a headcount 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.



STOCKINGS FOR CHRISTMAS CHARITIES

FCC wants Christmas to be a very special time for needy boys and girls in the Huntsville and Madison County area! We can all help give them beautiful smiles by filling a stocking and returning it to church no later than Thursday, December 5th. For those of you that don't think you would know what to get, there will be a sheet in the stocking with items that Christmas Charities has suggested.

There are 100 stockings with a wide range of ages to select from. These stockings will be available every Sunday in November. Please make a child's Christmas Merry and Bright this year!

Cindy Burger

CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S MINISTRIES REGIONAL PROJECT

CWM's service project for November is WellHouse. Our monetary support helps to further the mission of the WellHouse, which seeks to honor God by rescuing and providing opportunities for restoration to female victims of human trafficking.

Human trafficking is a \$10 billion industry in the U.S. alone. It is the fastest growing criminal activity, second only to drug trafficking. Forty percent of human trafficking happens here in the Southeast. The average age of entry is 12-14 years old. Eighty percent of victims are females and up to 50% are minors. There are over 2 million active runaways and all at risk of being recruited into prostitution within 48 hours of running away. For more information check out the WellHouse website at: www.thewellhouse.org

You can make a donation by writing your check to the church, noting "WellHouse" in the memo line.

Thank you for your consideration of this worthy cause, Ruth Lackey, CWM November Service Coordinator

NOVEMBER 23RD BAKE SALE UPDATE

Well, the Bake Sale is almost upon us. I wanted to remind everyone to bake as much as you can as we always sell out. The drop off time for the baked goods will be on Friday, November 22nd between 4 pm and 7pm. We will also price and set up at that time. I'm looking for a few good helpers to price and set up for the sale that night. We will need volunteers to act as cashiers and helpers on Saturday morning also. I will have the sign-up sheet for the bake sale in the Commons Area by November 9th for helpers. The containers for the cookies and cakes, etc. will be in the office. Please take what you need.



Thanks in advance for helping. It takes all of us to make this happen. Thank you, Dinah Love

HABITAT HOUSE NUMBER 26 IS UNDERWAY

Our 26th house got underway with many stops and starts due to weather delays. We changed house leaders and he did not publish a schedule.

When they got started, many other organizations provided volunteers, so we were not needed. I have posted status reports on the bulletin board outside of the Parlor. Check there for the next workday requirements.

A map to the house location is available there. When needed, workdays are Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday.

Thanks, Bob, FCC Habitat Coordinator

CONDOLENCES to the family of Don Hartup who passed on Friday, November 1.

CAN'T MAKE IT TO CHURCH?

Stream it live at:

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