



The Journey

Volume XXXIII No. 3
February 4, 2025
www.fcc-hsv.org

THERE IS A BOX SITTING ON OUR KITCHEN TABLE.

It's just an ordinary, nondescript brown cardboard box that normally would get little attention. But for me, it contains a bit of promise, so it keeps my attention, and I look at it from my vantage point in the den with anticipation...and hope.

You see, this box contains a new bluebird house. We have at least two bluebird couples where we live and while they often feed in our yard, they don't have their nests in our yard. And I want them to know that they can if they want to. Hence, the birdhouse. It's a nice house and will provide weathertight shelter and protection from predators should it be needed. And, knowing that bluebirds tend to arrive early in these parts (if they ever leave), I am anxious to get the birdhouse mounted and ready for any takers.



In the same way, I have come to a church on Whitesburg Drive. It is, to many, an ordinary, nondescript church that normally would get little attention. And yet, each day when I pull into the parking lot, I look at it with anticipation...and hope. There are people who have been a part of this church in the past, but who no longer are, and there are those who have never been connected to this church who just might be looking for a place to build a home...a spiritual home, with a spiritual family. So, I am anxious to get the church even more ready for those who might be takers of our future invitations, like bluebirds in our backyard.

These days I'm doing a lot of listening. And I'm doing a lot of reading and research. And I'm doing a lot of praying. And I'm doing a lot of pondering. Because it's important that we offer places and spaces where people can find hope, encouragement, belonging, and kindness. I hope you'll join me in the journey.

Brad

IS YOUR DIRECTORY INFORMATION UP-TO-DATE?

We will be producing an updated Church Directory in February with names, addresses, phone numbers, and family email addresses. We can list up to two phone/cell phone numbers (if you are providing two numbers, please attach a name to each number) and one email address per family. **If we do not hear from you by Wednesday, February 12**, we will publish the information you provided in the May 2024 Directory. To update your information, please email office@fcc-hsv.org or call 256-881-0150.

You do not need to contact the Church Office if there are no changes.

The *Journey* is published on the first and third Tuesday of the month.

The **deadline** for *Journey* submissions is **9:00 a.m. Thursday, February 13**. Email to: publisher@fcc-hsv.org

3209 Whitesburg Drive, Huntsville, Alabama 35802
Telephone: 256-881-0150



**LONG TERM
PRAYER CONCERNS**



NOT PUBLISHED ONLINE



The Rummage Sale is quickly approaching! We are excited to announce that the Rummage sale will be on March 1st from 6:00 am-12:00 pm. We will **begin taking donations at 11:30 am on February 23rd** in McMains and Family Services. We will need help organizing and pricing items and would appreciate donations of snacks for our volunteers. Sign-up sheets for this will be located in the Narthex or email alyssa@fcc-hsv.org

COMMUNITY OUTREACH IN FEBRUARY

Our Community Outreach project in February is WellStone's Nova Center for Youth and Family, with a focus on its programs for adolescents. WellStone is a nonprofit community organization that is North Alabama's largest and most comprehensive behavioral healthcare provider.

The Nova Center for Youth and Families helps teens overcome the psychological, behavioral, and emotional challenges that come with growing up in order to build strong, healthy relationships with themselves, their families, and their community. Nova collaborates with clients, parents, school personnel, and caretakers to develop a treatment plan and provides outpatient counseling to individuals, family therapy, group sessions, school-based services, juvenile court services, and related medical/nursing services.

Go to wellstone.com for more information, and please give generously via check or PayPal (fcc-hsv.org/who-we-are/how-to-give), with a note in the memo line for CO WellStone Nova.

Thank you,
Community Outreach

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 list.

SOUP AND CHILI COOKOFF

The Soup and Chili cookoff will be held on February 18th following the worship service in McMains. Sign up to bring your favorite soup or chili and come and vote (\$1 per vote) for your favorite! Proceeds will help expand our youth mini-missions and sponsor youth activities as needed. For more information or questions contact Alyssa at 256-881-0150 or alyssa@fcc-hsv.org.



THE FOOD BASKET is given in memory of Tom Woodall by Nancy Woodall.



**Auburn 94
Alabama 65**

REGIONAL PRAYER REQUESTS

South Baldwin Christian Church, Foley, AL
Fairhope Christian Church, Fairhope, AL

Short term concerns are listed for one month unless we receive an update. Long term prayer concerns are published monthly in the *Journey*. Call the church office at 256-881-0150 or send requests to publisher@fcc-hsv.org. **Please notify the Pastors or the Church Office if you are going to the hospital and would like to be contacted.**

Community Outreach (CO) is asking for regular donations of hygiene products such as: sanitary pads, tampons, and/or period underwear (period-proof underwear is a relatively new period product that looks and feels like regular underwear.). The donations will support girls at three schools - Huntsville Junior High School, McNair School, Morris School- who do not have funds to purchase these products. A donation site is located in the church Narthex. Please consider helping with this needed project.

Margaret J. Vann

ATTENDANCE

Jan. 26: Worship Service: 86
Small Groups (During week & Sunday): 11
Feb. 2: Worship Service: 96
Small Groups (During week & Sunday): 57



HEARD AND SEEN

Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you

~ Philippians 4:9 (NRSV)

As the relief, refugee, and development mission fund of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Week of Compassion works with partners to alleviate suffering throughout the world.

In Eastern Europe, Week of Compassion continues to engage with individuals and families affected by the Russian invasion of Ukraine, helping displaced refugee communities experience hope as they resettle in Hungary and other countries. Here in the United States, Week of Compassion takes action immediately and long term following hurricanes, fires, and other natural disasters.

Week of Compassion makes an impact around the world, ensuring that the stories, needs, and celebrations of vulnerable communities are **Heard and Seen** - and that we respond.

On February 16 and 23, we join Disciples churches across the US and Canada to collect a special offering for Week of Compassion, supporting the vision of a world where God's people transform suffering into hope. Please give generously with a note in the memo line for "Week of Compassion" on your check or through PayPal on our website at fcc-hsv.org/who-we-are/how-to-give.

Thank you!