The Journey

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VISIONING NEXT STEPS

In this first week of June, I am so grateful for all who shared in our visioning listening sessions. You listened intently to God's whisperings and nudgings in your prayer time, and you faithfully heard what was said. Thank you. As I sit here in my office, I am preparing to compile your words, phrases, and images from those three listening sessions so that they can be placed in the hands of the Visioning Committee. They will then continue our practice of being attuned to the movement of God so that they can faithfully craft the Vision Statement that will guide our ministries according to God's desires.

It is often a difficult thing to let go of our own desires, opinions, and perspectives, but that is what is necessary if we are to have any hope of being the people God desires us to be at this point in the life of First Christian Church. Letting go of our own stuff is exactly what Jesus asks of us when he says that those who follow him must "deny themselves," you and I know, however, that it is easier said than done. And yet, despite the difficulty, God blesses us by using this arduous path to bring us at last to the place we are ever more ourselves than we could have been by following the path made of our own desires.

In the paradox of the Gospel, we get it all by giving it all up.

May we continue to be blessed to let go of all that holds us back from being the people God has created and called us to be.

Grace to you,

Brad

VBS 2025



Vacation Bible School is rapidly approaching! Our event will be July 7-10th (Monday-Thursday) and will be themed Waves of Wonder. Volunteer sign ups have been placed in the narthex or you can email Alyssa to get signed up! Every year this event gives us the opportunity to minister to about 80 children between the ages of 3 and exiting 3rd in ECM, our church family, and the community at large! This event is so fun and meaningful

for all involved!

We have officially hit our max registrations for the event but I am taking names for our waiting list.

I also want to share the VBS wish list. This is a great way to contribute to the success of the event. Not everyone wants to or can volunteer in person, donations give us the opportunity to make our event shine with a lessened budgetary impact! See the link for access to the Wishlist! <u>amazon.com/hz/wishlist/</u><u>ls/32Z0PRXO9G7BU?ref =wl_share</u>

The *Journey* is published on the first and third Tuesday of the month. The **deadline** for *Journey* submissions is **9:00 a.m. Thursday, June 12.** Email to: publisher@fcc-hsv.org

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



Not Listed Online

Long term prayer concerns are published once a month in the *Journey*. Call the church office at 256-881-0150 or send requests to publisher@fcchsv.org. <u>Please</u> keep the church office informed of the status of individuals you put on the list.

REGIONAL PRAYER REQUESTS

Sellers Memorial Church Hayneville, AL Braggs Christian Church, Minter, AL First Christian Church, Hartselle, AL

ATTENDANCE

May 25: Worship Service: 95 Small Groups (During week & Sunday): 8 June 1 Worship Service: 76 Small Groups (During week & Sunday): 76 GOING ABOVE AND BEYOND 2025 PENTECOST OFFERING SUNDAYS JUNE 1 & JUNE 8

Our life in the church is founded on so many layers. God breathing life into dust. Moses leading people out of slavery into freedom. Mary saying yes. Jesus breaking bread - and then being broken for our salvation before rising to new life.

Our predecessors built a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world, going above and beyond church as it had always been. Your gifts to the 2025 Pentecost Offering, received on Sundays, June 1 and 8, reaches above and beyond to what God's spirit is doing next.

Half of your gift supports new church development within the Alabama-Northwest Florida Region. The other half supports New Church Ministry efforts across the United States and Canada to equip, train, and empower new leaders.

Donations may be made by noting "Pentecost Offering" for any amount, by check to FCC or our PayPal account by clicking on the Donate button on our website at <u>fcc-hsv.org/who-we-are/how-to-</u> <u>give</u>

Please give generously.



Join us after church on Sunday, June 8, to shower Emma Colson and Andrew Ray. The couple are registered at (links) Target and Williams Sonoma.

Go to Sign Up Genius if you would like to help with the shower.

Lee Boles

HABITAT HOME #30 UPDATE

The Habitat Office decided to organize their 2025 Spring Home Building program differently this year. They started 4 homes at the same time early in the year. Our church was not



ready to participate at that time since many possible volunteer workers had not attended the Habitat Safety program.

My past experience has been to start the new home in the wall-building phase in the warehouse and then move out to the home site to finish it. This is the best way to appreciate how a home is built from the ground up. The next new-start homes will be in the Fall after the current 4 homes are completed. I have asked Habitat to assign FCC to one of these next homes to work along with other churches. This will be a cooler time to work outside as well.

In the meantime, now is your chance to attend one of the zoom safety lectures so you will be ready to work in the Fall. The bulletin board outside of the Parlor has the schedule for these safety lectures.

Contact me if you have any other questions. Thanks, Bob Senn, Mr. Habitat for FCC Many thanks to a generous and caring church family! The May Community Outreach project received \$690 for the Community Free Clinic. This will be a great help in their efforts to provide medical services to our uninsured local population.

Shelf-Stable Milk Ongoing: Chicken/Tuna Saltines Chef Boyardee Soup JUNESE Jelly Fruit Fruit