



# *The Journey*

Volume XXV No. 13  
March 27, 2017  
www.fcc-hsv.org

Deadline for the *Journey* is **Thursday, March 30**, at Noon [publisher@fcc-hsv.org](mailto:publisher@fcc-hsv.org)

## **THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO YOU: COMPASSION**

I am preaching a Lenten Sermon Series entitled, "The Gospel According to YOU." This Sunday I will be preaching on our witness of Christ in our COMPASSION. The sermon text is Matthew 25:31-46.

To have compassion is to be aware, tuned in, responsive, and sensitive to the needs of others. It is a trait with which one learns to live, so that it becomes an instinctive response on our part to the needs around us.

Jesus certainly showed compassion in the Gospel stories. He reminds us, "Inasmuch as you did it for the least of these, you did it to me." He reminded his followers that their love for God was evidenced by their love for neighbors. He said knowing God's forgiveness would lead them to show mercy towards others. Finally he taught that in experiencing God's love, they would, as a consequence, extend that love to others.

Jesus not only taught his followers about compassion, he demonstrated it by the way he lived. Everywhere he went, he showed what it meant to have loving compassion. He showed compassion for the crowds he taught, the sick he healed, the blind he cured, the grieving he comforted, and the hungry he fed.

Compassion is one of the most significant characteristics of Christian discipleship. William Barclay, in his commentary on Matthew 25 reminds us, "that God will judge us in accordance with our reaction to human need. God's judgment does not depend on the knowledge we have amassed, or the fame that we have acquired, or the fortune that we have gained but on the help we have given."

Edwin Markham tells the story of the pious shoemaker named Conrad. Conrad received a vision that on a certain day, the Lord would visit his shop. The appointed day came. Conrad waited expectantly as the hours passed, but the Lord did not appear. During the day, he gave a beggar a pair of shoes, another some food, and helped a lost child find his mother. But he was disappointed that the Lord failed to come. The poet writes:

"And Conrad sighed as the day turned gray, Why is it, Lord, that your feet delay? Did you forget that this was the day?"

Then soft and in the silence, a voice was heard, "Lift up your heart, for I kept my word; Three times I came to your friendly door, Three times my shadow was on your floor. I was the beggar with the bruised feet, I was the woman you gave food to eat, I was the child on the homeless street."

Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these, you did it to me."

See You Sunday,

*Pastor Cameron*

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, APRIL 2**

Scripture Matthew 25:31-46  
Sermon "The Gospel According to YOU!"  
Your "COMPASSION"

**SERVING AT THE TABLE**

8:15 Joe Brockway & Karen Ball  
10:30 Jan Mackenzie & Dale Thomas

**COMMUNION PREPARATION**

Mary Ann Anderson

**SERVING COMMUNION**

8:15 Lynn Abernathy & Linda Lykins  
Rick & Kay Shrout  
10:30 Nancy Adams & Marie Bittle  
Beverly Cannon & Nancy Woodall

**COFFEE FELLOWSHIP**

Gayle Herber

**SUNDAY'S FOOD BASKET** is in honor of Felicia & J.R. Cook's anniversary by Ken & Bobbye Riggs

**CHILDREN WORSHIP & WONDER**

*Jesus and Zacchaeus*  
Pastor Laura  
Braly Beutjer  
Ty Davis

**YOUNG DISCIPLES**

(Meets 2nd & 4th Sundays)

**2017 FOOD BASKETS**



The 2017 sign up chart for **FOOD BASKETS** is up and located across the hall from McMains Hall. Remember a friend, anniversary, birthday, or other special occasion. Donations are \$25.00 with checks made out to First Christian Church and "Food Basket" on the notation line.

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING Sunday, April 2**  
Presentation and Vote on a Capital Improvement Program.

**LILIES FOR THE EASTER SEASON**

If you would you like to honor a friend or remember a loved one with an Easter Lily for our sanctuary, please make a \$15 donation to cover the cost of a lily, and list your donor information on the signup sheet posted on the flower sheet across from McMains Hall. Make your check payable to FCC, write "Easter Lily" in the memo line, and drop it in the offering plate or church office. If you have any questions, please contact Margaret J. Vann at 256.533.4213 or [trilliumjv@knology.net](mailto:trilliumjv@knology.net).



**CHURCH SPRING CLEANING DAY**  
**8 am - Noon on Saturday, April 15**  
A lot of cleaning and a little painting. Please call the office, 256-881-0150, to sign up so we will know how many to expect.

**Family Camp April 28 - 30**  
Oak Mountain State Park  
Please see Pastor Linda for more information.  
**Registration Deadline is April 1**

**HELP IS NEEDED** in the Nursery and Toddler rooms on Sunday mornings. Please see the sign up poster in the Commons Area and sign up now for first or second shift on one Sunday in March - May. We need loving hands to assist our attendants.

ATTENDANCE	3/19	3/27
First Service Worship	39	41
Sunday School	45	47
Second Service Worship	95	94
Children's Church	8	11
Young Disciples	NA	8
Total Worship	148	154



## CONTINUING PRAYER CONCERNS



Please remember to keep the following individuals in your prayers.

Christopher Brewer, grandson of Jan Mackenzie  
Steve Brown  
John & Mary Dorough  
Mickey Guthrie, friend of Lisa Fitzgerald  
Carey Link, friend of Margaret Vann  
Joyce Neighbors  
Jean Patterson  
Tom Paul, son of Doris Paul  
Mona Qualls  
Amanda Ridley  
Mack Vann

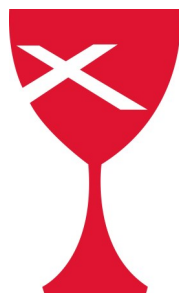
Long term prayer concerns are published once a month in the *Journey*.

*Please keep the church office informed of the status of individuals you put on the lists.*

## 2017 DISCIPLES WOMEN SPRING DAY OF UNITY

Saturday, April 29, 2017 9:00 am until 2:00 pm  
First Christian Church, 1705 Taylor Road, Montgomery, AL 36117  
9:00 am - Registration  
9:30am - Short Business Session and Program.  
Lunch - \$10.00

Rev. Beth Thomason speaks about her trip and 500-mile Camino Walk in Santiago, Spain. "Break the Chains" Demonstration along Taylor Road against Human Trafficking. Make your reservation with our District I CWM Director Mandy Harbin, 256-278-0446



## APRIL BIRTHDAY



1	Peyton Patrick
2	J.B. Hodge
3	Jack Montgomery
4	James Blackman
6	Tom Hodge
7	Beverly Cannon & Dr. Brian Roberts
9	Janie Clasgens, Andrew Herron, Linda Mayne, & Margaret J. Vann
10	John Paul Hampton, Brenda McDowell, Virginia Prozan, & Lynne Ursery
11	Matt Ball, Gaylia Roberts, Jennifer Spain, & Terry Sullivan
13	James Mason
14	McKenzie Williams
15	Pam Clasgens
17	Sharon Blackman, Craven Gibbs, & Michael Smith
18	Braly Beutjer
20	Christy Clasgens
21	Janet Sholes & Mark Stiles
22	Macey Johnson & Mary McMahan Langevin
23	Quilla Rice & John Robinson III
24	Neal Salisbury
25	Linda Hooker & Chip Volinski
27	Chris Blackman & Michael Blackman
29	Sarah Brockway & Sue Seward

## COMMUNION SERVERS NEEDED

We are in need of volunteers to help serve communion at both services. Please consider volunteering, it would help to lighten the load for the existing volunteers.

There are preparation serving procedures for guidance; if you are interested in serving communion please contact Gayle Herber, Communion Coordinator, herbersg@yahoo.com 256-653-3914.

Thank you, Gayle Herbers