



# *The Journey*

Volume XXV No. 38  
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[www.fcc-hsv.org](http://www.fcc-hsv.org)

## MILESTONES

This year my daughter Abby became a freshman in High School and Joe started fifth grade. I have to admit that this brought about unexpected feelings. My daughter and son are growing up and I am growing older. While we are lucky that they enjoy school it is also hard to see them growing up so quickly. Abby will be going to college in a few years and our family dynamic will change. I am looking forward to everything a new school brings: trips, music recitals, plays, teacher conferences, and all those times when parents can see the growth and development of their children. These are important milestones and I am proud of them, but sometimes I miss the sticky kisses and warm cuddles when they were small.

Just as people grow and change so do institutions. Churches must constantly develop new ministries, missions, and ways of understanding how God works with us and through us as a community. For some, change is a frightening experience. Churches bring comfort through their traditions and practices, and often it is hard to see something you love become different. However, it is through these differences that we reach out to new people and revive our spirits.

At First Christian Church we are moving forward by remembering the lessons of the past but also looking to the future. We rejoice to be a part of a church that worships together, builds a sense of family, does so much for the community, and provides opportunities to learn about our faith. I was very glad to note that you did not wait for a new minister to begin this process of transformation. The work on the parlor and kitchen is progressing well and with it will come parts of the sanctuary renovation. Our new youth and children's programs are succeeding and we have already seen how our youngest members have responded with joy and commitment. We are truly blessed as a congregation.

We need to recognize our present needs and then look ahead to what our needs will be in the future. God has a purpose for our church and we must seek this vision and make it our own to continue to be faithful to our call to ministry. As we grow and develop as a community of faith we will look back to this time as a milestone for our church and then look ahead to the next.

Thanks be to God, Amen.

*Pastor Paul*

Deadline for the *Journey* is **Thursday, September 21**, 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, SEPTEMBER 24**

Sermon Scripture Deuteronomy 31:1-8  
 Sermon "Moving Into A New Chapter"  
 In the pulpit Rev. John Mobley

**SERVING AT THE TABLE**

10:00 Frank Fitzgerald & Gayle Herber

**COMMUNION PREPARATION**

Rick Shrout

**SERVING COMMUNION**

10:00 Beverly Cannon & Jan Mackenzie  
 Pam Clasgens & Rick Shrout  
 Mary Ann Anderson

**COFFEE FELLOWSHIP**

Gray & Theresa Killough

**SUNDAY'S FOOD BASKET** is in honor of Chuck Jackman's birthday by Penny and the girls.

**CHILDREN WORSHIP & WONDER**

Noah  
 Nancy Woodall  
 John Hall  
 Troy Davis  
 Cara Sexton

**YOUNG DISCIPLES** (Meets 2nd & 4th Sundays)

A New Teaching  
 Stephanie Beutjer  
 Pastor Laura  
 Matthew Beutjer  
 Ty Davis

ATTENDANCE	9/10	9/17
First Service Worship	51	56
Sunday School	40	45
Second Service Worship	82	86
Children's Church	8	10
Young Disciples	8	NA
Total Worship	149	152

**WE JOIN FORCES WITH HEROES TO CELEBRATE CHILDREN**

In September Community Outreach and CWM are working together to support Shop With a Hero, a project designed to give less fortunate children in our community a Merry Christmas. The children will be given \$100 gift cards and will shop with the aid of a Hero. These Heroes are either active or retired military, police, fire fighters, first responders, teachers, medical personnel, etc. You can give toward this project in September by writing a check to FCC with Shop With a Hero on the memo line. Any amount is appreciated. As always, thanks for helping the less fortunate in our community.



Community Outreach and Christian Women's Ministries

**WOMEN'S FALL RETREAT**

**SEPTEMBER 29 - OCTOBER 1, 2017**

**YMCA Camp Chandler. Wetumpka, AL**

"Retreat to Refresh" Resource Leader - Rev Mary Beth Harper. Application forms are available in the Commons Area. Contact Mary Ann Anderson for more information.

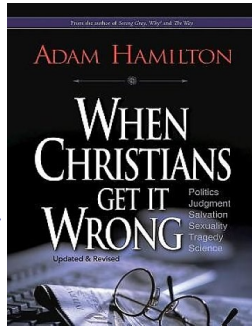


**CAN'T MAKE IT TO CHURCH?** Stream it live at: [www.fcchsvtech.weebly.com](http://www.fcchsvtech.weebly.com)  
**MISS A SERMON?** See previous sermons at: [www.fcc-hsv.org/sermons/](http://www.fcc-hsv.org/sermons/)

**COMBINED SERVICE ON SEPT. 24**  
 First Christian Church will have a combined service at **10:00 a.m. on Sunday, September 24**. Our Regional Minister John Mobley will conduct an installation service for Pastor Paul Allen and will have a commissioning service for Pastor Linda Davis. Plan to attend and support our ministers.  
 Margaret J. Vann,  
 Worship Chair

## WHY DO PEOPLE STAY AWAY FROM CHURCH?

Do you wonder what keeps people away from church? Adam Hamilton offers some insightful ideas in his book "When Christians Get It Wrong." A short-term study of the book and DVD will be offered Tuesday mornings at 9:00 a.m., beginning Sept. 26. This study may take you out of your comfort zone as we examine our attitudes toward politics, salvation, sexuality, and science. There will be a sign-up sheet in the office and on the table by the Commons Area (**deadline is Sept. 20**). Contact Ann Thompson if you need further information.

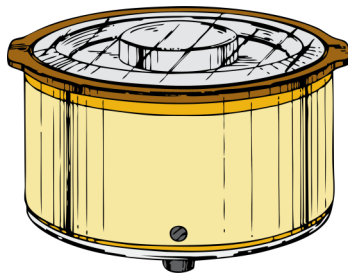


## PROPERTY UPDATES

The new HVAC units for the Church Kitchen and Parlor have been installed along with a new heating boiler for ECM, the Administrative/youth addition, and Garden Room. A new roof will be installed over the Kitchen, Family Services, and Parlor beginning in mid-October. A new ice machine has been installed. The water heater for the Parlor Kitchen and Parlor Restroom has failed and will hopefully be replaced by this weekend. The Toddler Playground committee has selected a contractor and is working on installation details. The new playground will be ready this fall.

## MISSION FAMILY 2 CROCK POT SOUP LUNCH

Mission Family 2 will have a soup luncheon in the Family Services Area **Sunday, September 24th** after the combined worship service. All MF 2 members and visitors are encouraged to attend for good fellowship and good food provided by your leadership team. In addition to soups, salads, beverages and dessert, there will be "child friendly" menu items. Please plan to join us on the 24th.



Thank you for the cards ,phone calls and food and a special thanks to all of you who came by to help my family celebrate my brother Mike Sharp's life. Your presence and prayers were greatly appreciated.  
Mary Sharp Propes

## Monetary Funding for Grateful Life

Even the very best monetary planning and budgeting can have major upsets for all of us. Grateful Life has had three events in the last two months that have caused an extreme financial shortage. The GL van used to transport the disadvantaged to and from church needed two new tires and other repairs costing over a thousand dollars. Another major expensive event was a problem with the freezer when it was discovered the door had not been properly secured and the freezer of meat was defrosting. One of the GL volunteers spent a day trying to salvage 60 lb. of meat by cooking all day. Please make your check to FCC with GL in the memo line if you can help out Grateful Life this month.

Thank you,  
Community Outreach

## Bottle Caps

Bottle caps **will no longer be accepted** for distribution to another group. Many wonderful volunteers have consistently saved and your help is appreciated. **The distribution site is no longer available.**

Thank you.

## HOW TO GIVE ON LINE?

Miss church, but would still like to give your tithe or offering? You may give online through PayPal by going to the church website <http://fcc-hsv.org/who-we-are/how-to-give/> and scrolling down to the donate button. You may designate your tithe or offering for the General Fund or specify a particular church ministry/fund. You may also designate if you would like this to be a recurring or single donation.