



# The Journey

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January 6, 2020  
[www.fcc-hsv.org](http://www.fcc-hsv.org)

## SEEKING A 2020 VISION

It is strange to think that by the time you read this newsletter article it will be the year 2020. I can remember when this year seemed to be a dream. Several Science Fiction movies are set in the year 2020, it used to be a benchmark for the future, now it is a reality.

In much the same way it seems as if Christmas was just a few days ago and now we are beginning the season of Epiphany and looking ahead to Lent. During Epiphany, we are celebrating the manifestation of God to the world and studying what we know about the early life of Jesus. However, this time is also a reminder of our own journey with Christ, how our decision to be a Christian has changed our lives and caused us to grow and develop into the people God wants us to be.

This is not just something we do as individuals; this should be a community exercise as well. Our congregation needs to take the time to reestablish our priorities, set goals, and seek out what God wants us to be and what we are called to do in our community and the world. In essence, we are seeking vision and direction from God so that we can better serve others.

We should begin this process by returning to our mission statement: ***Through Jesus Christ, we come to know real connection with God, with each other and with the world.***

In order to put this statement into action, we need to accept this mission and develop ways to meet our goals. We must ask ourselves, does First Christian Church provide education, fellowship, worship, and other events that allow us to more fully connect to God? What are we doing to serve our community and the world? Are we sharing the good news of Christ in all that we do?

In the next few weeks we will begin a new Evangelism program, during the Sunday School hour, which will focus on training our members to reach out to our community. This will be a 10-week course beginning on January 19th. The class materials will be based on a book and video lesson series by Sam Chan called *Evangelism in a Skeptical World* and is full of specific ways and methods to draw on. There will also be plenty of time for questions and discussion, focusing on implementing the ideas presented in the session. It is my hope that in this New Year we will realize that God has plans for our congregation. By attending this class, focusing on our mission statement, and seeing the vision God has for our congregation we are actively seeking to fulfill our purpose by spreading the mission and message of Jesus Christ.

Thanks be to God, Amen.

Deadline for the *Journey* is **Thursday, January 9**, 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, JANUARY 12**

**Scripture** Acts 10: 32-43  
**Sermon** "Keeping Up with God"

**SERVING AT THE TABLE**

8:15 Andy Herron & Monty Love  
10:30 Margaret J. Vann & Pam Clasgens

**COMMUNION PREPARATION**

Mary Ann Anderson

**SERVING COMMUNION**

8:15 Marilee Keim & Margaret Vann  
Carl & Carol Jones  
10:30 Abby Allen & Mary Ann Anderson  
Beverly Cannon & Jackie Sameck  
Beverly Williamson

**COFFEE FELLOWSHIP**

Gayle Herber

**SUNDAY'S FOOD BASKET is Open**

**CHILDREN WORSHIP & WONDER**

*Jesus is Baptized*  
Alyssa Baldwin, Jan Mackenzie & Tré Davis

**NURSERY VOLUNTEERS**

TBA

**AV SUPPORT TEAM**

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

ATTENDANCE	12/29	1/5
First Service Worship	31	45
Sunday School	39	40
Second Service Worship	75	85
Children's Church	NR	7
Total Worship	106	137

**THERE ARE MANY OPEN FOOD BASKET DATES FOR 2020**

The 2020 sign up chart for **FOOD BASKETS** is now 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. The donated funds go to our Community Outreach ministry.

**JANUARY SERVICE PROJECT FOR CWM**

January has traditionally been blanket month for CWM service activity.

Once again, CWM is partnering with Church World Service in their Blankets+ program. We are the "+" in the blanket project. FCC



in Huntsville, Alabama, can make a difference all around the world as the need arises. \$10 can provide a warm blanket for anyone left homeless by an earthquake or other natural disaster. Please consider a monetary donation to FCC with CWM "Blankets" in the memo line.

Margaret J. Vann

**MENTORSHIP PROGRAM**

This is your personal invitation to participate in the new mentorship program here at First Christian Church! We need both mentors and mentees!

This program is designed to partner children and youth with adult mentors to enhance both parties' church experience. The commitment is only 4 one hour sessions during Sunday school this year. Please consider signing up for this exciting opportunity!

Mentor Application: <https://forms.gle/KFb66EwYxUnrKY1q6>

Mentee Application: <https://forms.gle/yFYAeRSyAMtpBPQR7>

Application close date is January 12th!

Alyssa Baldwin, Youth Director

[alyssa@fcc-hsv.org](mailto:alyssa@fcc-hsv.org)

### COMMUNION SERVERS NEEDED

*Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.* - 1 Peter 4:10 NRSV

One way you can literally serve others is to serve Communion on Sundays. **Please contact Gayle Herber, or the Church Office 256-881-0150, if you are interested in serving Communion.**

“The Lord’s Supper or Communion is celebrated in weekly worship. It is open to all who are followers of Jesus Christ. The practice of Holy Communion has become the central element of worship within the Disciples tradition.” [disciples.org/our-identity/communion-and-baptism/](https://disciples.org/our-identity/communion-and-baptism/)



### CAN'T MAKE IT TO CHURCH?

Stream it live at:

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

### JOIN THE COFFEE CREW

Looking for a way to serve the church? Join the Coffee Crew! It is not rocket science, but rocket scientists are welcome. Drop a coffee pouch in the machine and press brew, get some orange juice out of the refrigerator, and set out some snacks from home or use the ones in the Parlor kitchen. Bingo! You’ve helped to facilitate fellowship at the church. (Kitchen orientation is provided.) Depending on the size of the crew, you serve about once every other month.



Email [publisher@fcc-hsv.org](mailto:publisher@fcc-hsv.org) or call 256-881-0150 and say that you want to sign up for the Coffee Crew!

### FOOD PANTRY REMINDER

Please remember to bring a non-perishable item, or several, for the food cart outside of McMains Hall on a Sunday. Pick your own Sunday and make it a habit. Let’s help keep the pantry full at the Huntsville Assistance Program.

Thank you,

Community Outreach Committee