



TAKING A JOURNEY WITH GOD

John Steinbeck once wrote about his travels in America, "I did not take the trip, the trip took me." This reminded me that in the same way God is not ours, we are God's and the Church is not ours, we are the Church's. In the gospel of John Chapter 15 Jesus told the disciples that, "You did not choose me but I choose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name."

This powerful statement reminds us that everything we have, everything we are, and everything we will be belongs to God. We are chosen to bear the fruit, the good news of Jesus Christ, to the ends of the earth, and when we look beyond ourselves we find this is our mission.

One of the things I looked at very closely when making my decision to come to First Christian Church was your Spiritual Strategic Journey plan. The Rev. Dr. Richard L. Hamn, the consultant for the strategic plan, highlighted six outcomes in the results.

1. An energized, Christ-centered congregation led by the Holy Spirit to do God's will in our community.
2. Growth: Spiritual Growth of the congregation and membership growth.
3. A strong sense of membership connection.
4. Enhancing and Expanding Outreach programs, local, regional and global.
5. Stewardship broadened to reflect commitment to God's purpose for our congregation.
6. Maintain, enhance and expand our facilities to encourage existing programs and future growth.

While the time period for the Strategic Plan has come to an end, I believe that these outcomes are still relevant for our congregation today. Our new leadership team will be elected by the congregation on May 5th. In this time of transition, as these new leaders fill their respective positions in July, we need to make sure that they receive our support. It is my hope that these new leaders will bring a new vision for the life of our congregation that will lead us further along our Spiritual Strategic Plan and allow for God to work in innovative ways within the church.

If we are God's and we know that we are all a part of the Body of Christ we must celebrate the positive steps we have already taken, and work with each other to develop our growing edges. It is exciting to be a member of a church that takes its mission to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ seriously; now we ask God to take us, use us, and create the church that God wants us to be. Amen.

First Christian Church owns four cemetery lots in Valhalla Memory Gardens (698 Winchester Rd NE, Huntsville, AL 35811). These lots are available at market value, either in pairs or four total. We are offering these to our members and friends before advertising through various outlets. If you would like more information, please contact Leeboles@aol.com Lee Boles, Trustee.

Deadline for the *Journey* is **Thursday, May 9**, at Noon 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, MAY 12

Scripture John 10: 22-30
Sermon "Hearing the Shepherd's Voice"

SERVING AT THE TABLE

8:15 Gayle Herber & Dave Crockett
10:30 Dale Thomas & Roger Sameck

COMMUNION PREPARATION

Mary Ann Anderson

SERVING COMMUNION

8:15 Carl & Carol Jones
Margaret Vann & Jeff Seward
10:30 Lynn Abernathy & Mary Ann Anderson
Patti & Abby Allen
Marilee Keim

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

Gayle Herber

SUNDAY'S FOOD BASKET is given in honor of Lauren's
Birthday by Glenda & Emil Luft.

CHILDREN WORSHIP & WONDER

Jesus Is Risen: The Road to Emmaus
Chuck Jackman, Jan Mackenzie, &
Ty Davis

YOUNG DISCIPLES

TBA

AV SUPPORT TEAM

Technical Director - Chuck Herber
Assistant Director - Michael Smith
Sound - Michael Smith &
Malcolm Landreth
Stream Operator - Michael Smith

ATTENDANCE	4/28	5/5
First Service Worship	45	37
Sunday School	16	41
Second Service Worship	82	90
Young Disciples	NA	NA
Children's Church	NA	5
Total Worship	127	132

GRADUATIONS

Please contact the church office, 256-881-0150, if you have someone who will be graduating high school or college this spring.

CHURCH LEADERSHIP ELECTIONS

By a vote of the Membership on Sunday, May 5, the following individuals were elected to the following positions of leadership at First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Huntsville, Alabama.

- To fill the position of **Trustee** for a six year term, July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2025. Chris Barr.
- To fill the associated positions for one year terms, July1, 2019 - June 30, 2020.

Moderator: Jon Ahlbin and **Moderator Elect:** Brad Clasgens.

- To fill the associated positions for a two year term, July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2021.

Financial Secretary: Don Coburn. **Assistant Financial Secretary:** Dick Christiansen and Chuck Jackman. **Treasurer:** Roger Sameck. **Assistant Treasurer:** Jim Daniel. **Elders:** Sabrina Beckman, Lee Boles, Pam Clasgens, Lisa Fitzgerald, Justin Givens, Gayle Herber, Andy Herron, Mike Lash, Monty Love, Margaret Vann, Kerry Williams, and Nancy Woodall.

Deacons: Troy Davis, Frank Fitzgerald, Caroline Herron, Ruth Lackey, Allison Landreth, Carrie Love, Kyle Love, Sharifa Love-Rutledge, Roberta Shivers, and Mary Ann Williams.

Conveners: Lynn Abernathy, Mary Ann Anderson, Nancy Waites, and Anita Wood.

BOARD MEETING

Thursday, May 9, at 6:00 pm in Family Services.

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

MISSION TRIP

May 27th- June 1st

Location: Mexico City Beach, Florida

Cost: \$0 unless you require your own bedroom.

- Volunteers are needed to chaperone youth to worksites and or cook meals. All food will be purchased and taken to Mexico City Beach.
- Goal of this mission's trip is to help rebuild areas that were hardest hit from last year's storms.
- We are accepting donations such as (hygiene products and laundry soap.
- Mission Trip forms are available in the church office.
- If you would like to attend please email Pastor Paul: paul@fcc-hsv.org

HELPING A SISTER CHURCH

In May, Community Outreach is teaming up with Christian Women's Ministries to collect monetary gifts for Grateful Life Church. This church serves many of the homeless in our area. Your generous gift will help provide building maintenance, transportation, food and other needs they experience as they strive to minister to the disadvantaged and to show them God's love and care. Your check should be made out to First Christian Church with "Grateful Life" on the memo line.

Thank you for all you do for our community, Community Outreach and CWM



2019 CAMP & CONFERENCE

Location: Montgomery, Alabama

When: June 17th – 21st

Who Can Attend?

Chi Rho Camp (6th, 7th & 8th grades)

CYF (9th - 12th grades)

If your youth has volunteered at the church they are qualified for Tiered Pricing.

Camp applications are available in the church office. Please return them by May 24th. Please feel free to contact the office if you have questions.

256-881-0150 office@fcc-hsv.org

The **Worship Committee** is not meeting in May.

Can't Make It To Church? Stream it live at:
www.twitch.tv/fcchsv

