



The Journey

Volume XXVI No. 21
May 21, 2018
www.fcc-hsv.org

THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY, MAY 28, IN OBSERVANCE OF MEMORIAL DAY.

**THE JOURNEY WILL NOT BE PUBLISHED THE WEEK OF MAY 28.
PUBLICATION WILL RESUME JUNE 4**

BUT HIS DISCIPLES FINISHED HIS WORK...

Some weeks ago I read a story about composer Giacomo Puccini who wrote a number of famous operas including *La bohème*, *Tosca*, and *Madama Butterfly*. In 1922 he was stricken by cancer while working on his last opera *Turandot*. Puccini called his students together and said to them, "If I don't finish *Turandot*, I want you to finish it for me." Shortly afterwards he passed away.

Puccini's students worked diligently and soon completed the opera. In 1926 the world premiere of *Turandot* was performed in Milan with Arturo Toscanini directing. Everything went beautifully until the opera reached the point where Puccini had been forced to put down his pen. Tears ran down Toscanini's face. He stopped the music, put down his baton, turned to the audience and cried out, "Thus far the Master wrote, but he died."

A vast silence filled the opera house. Toscanini picked up the baton again, smiled through his tears and exclaimed, "But his disciples finished his work." When *Turandot* ended, the audience broke into thunderous applause. No one at the performance ever forgot that moment.

As Disciples of Christ we are called to continue the work of Jesus. Often that work can be difficult, long and labor intensive, but nothing feels better than to look back and realize that you have helped to create something that will live on in the hearts and minds of those who participated. The wonderful thing about our church is that we do this every day. We open our building to the community allowing groups that fill a desperate need in our city a place to meet, we open our church so that all are welcome and all can find a place to worship, and we open our hearts by giving so that our outreach commitments can be met.

July 16th - 20th we have another opportunity to open our church and our hearts to the world. We are excited about Vacation Bible School this year. The theme is *Shipwrecked: Rescued by Jesus*. The VBS material focuses on deepening children's faith by helping them discover that Jesus cares about them personally and can rescue them in life's toughest circumstances. It also reminds us of our need to help others and provide Christ's message of hope and reconciliation. We still need volunteers to teach the children, provide healthy snacks, and provide a great atmosphere by donating prizes, helping us decorate, and welcoming the children and their parents. It is my hope that we not only offer an opportunity for renewal to the participants of Vacation Bible School but that our church is renewed by our efforts to continue the work of the Master. Thanks be to God, Amen.

Pastor Paul

Deadline for the *Journey* is **Thursday, May 31**, 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 27

Scripture Isaiah 6: 1-8
Sermon "A Vision of God"

SERVING AT THE TABLE

8:15 Gayle Herber & Justin Givens
10:30 Mark Stiles & Andy Herron

COMMUNION PREPARATION

Lynn Abernathy

SERVING COMMUNION

8:15 Donna Blair & Margaret J. Vann
Eddie & Valerie Parks
10:30 Marie Bittle & Pam Clasgens
Troy Davis, Sr. & Tré Davis
Bev Williamson

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

Lynn Abernathy

SUNDAY'S FOOD BASKET is in honor of my mother,
Nan J. McMurphy, by Lucy Burdine.

CHILDREN WORSHIP & WONDER

Baptism
Karen Ball, Jan Mackenzie &
Abby Allen

YOUNG DISCIPLES

(Off until August 12)

AV SUPPORT TEAM

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

ATTENDANCE	5/13	5/20
First Service Worship	43	48
Sunday School	31	39
Second Service Worship	94	73
Children's Church	5	9
Young Disciples	0	NA
Total Worship	142	130

SUNDAY, JUNE 3

Scripture Mark 2: 1-12
Sermon "Tearing the Roof off the Church"

SERVING AT THE TABLE

8:15 Dale Thomas & Frank Fitzgerald
10:30 Andy Herron & Jan Mackenzie

COMMUNION PREPARATION

Bev Williamson

SERVING COMMUNION

8:15 Kathi Luzar & TBA
TBA
10:30 TBA
TBA
Bev Williamson

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

Chuck & Penny Jackman

SUNDAY'S FOOD BASKET is in honor of Matt & Karen
Ball's anniversary by Stan Ball.

CHILDREN WORSHIP & WONDER

Story Time
Janie Clasgens, Lee Boles & Brianna Jackson

YOUNG DISCIPLES

(Off until August 12)

AV SUPPORT TEAM

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

Please give a warm FCC welcome to Sharifa Love-Rutledge who joined us Sunday, May 20.

CONDOLENCES to the family of Gary Jordan who recently died.



LONG TERM PRAYER CONCERNS



Please remember to keep the following individuals in your prayers.

Christopher Brewer, grandson of Jan Mackenzie
Steve Brown
Thomas Burns, father of Karen Ball
John Busby, brother-in-law of Monty & Dinah
Love
Burl Chandler, father of Chris Chandler
Carroll Keller, brother of Walt Ketter
Iness Kellogg
Carey Link, friend of Margaret Vann
Bobby & Janis Moore
Joyce Neighbors
Jo Thomason
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.

GRATEFUL LIFE MAY SERVICE PROJECT FOR CWM AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Christian's Women's Ministries and Community Outreach have chosen Grateful Life Community Church as their Service Project for the month of May. We are collecting toiletries and hygiene items for this Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) congregation located at 207 Oakwood Avenue.

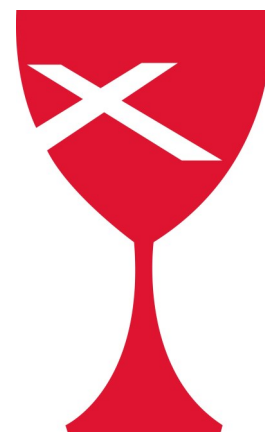
You can bring in hygiene items and place them in our basket in the Commons Area, or make your check out to First Christian Church with Grateful Life in the memo line and place it in the offering bowl or drop it by the church office. Thank you for your contribution.



JUNE BIRTHDAYS



1	C.W. Holland III & Ken Jordan
2	Dave McMahan
3	Imgard Elston & Petra Sue Richey
4	Joe Allen & Debbie Davis
5	Betty Earnest, Melissa McMahan, & Art Sanford
10	Elaine Jordan
11	Ryan Blackman & Jim Patterson
12	Shelby Lynn Brown, Serenity Holland, & Evelyn Cecilia Quails
13	Christine Gordon
14	Laura Hiller
15	Tina Hughes
17	Patsy Ammons
20	Gail Killough
22	Troy Davis Sr., Kathy Lawyer & Bobby Moore
23	Pat Volinski
24	Dave Sexton
26	Nathan Gordon, Jill Hall, & Dale Thomas
27	Billie Jordan
28	Duffy Boles
29	Rev. Paul Allen & Lucas Turner
30	Merrill Boles





- Deadline for Youth Summer Camp registration is May 30th.
- Missions Trip registration deadline is June 1st.
- Please email Pastor Linda with any questions at:
Fccyouthmin1@gmail.com

2018 PENTECOST OFFERING

The **2018 Pentecost Offering** will be collected in most congregations on **May 20 and May 27**. Currently the Alabama-Northwest Florida Region is sponsoring three new congregations-in-information and talks are in the early stages regarding a possible fourth new start-up. There is great excitement when a group begins to come together around the vision of becoming a new congregation. There is an eagerness to share the message and to invite others to be a part of the new church. The Alabama-Northwest Florida Region is greatly blessed by the energy and spirit that comes to us through our new congregations. In the early stages of a new church start, funding from the Regional Church is essential. Before an offering plate has ever been passed, there is a need for funding to secure appropriate leadership and a place to meet. There are also publicity and equipment costs. **The annual Pentecost Offering is a primary source of funding that this Region uses in support of new congregations.** Your support of this offering is an important part of the ministry of starting new congregations. One-half (50%) of the Pentecost Offering is returned to the Region in which it is given.

Current congregations-in-information in Alabama-Northwest Florida include:

Iglesia Cristiana - Arbol de Vida, Pensacola, FL
(Israel and Jeanette Martinez, co-church planters)

Pacific Islander Agape Church, Pensacola, FL
(Aisek William, church planter)



Primera Iglesia Cristiana, Huntsville, AL
(David and Gloria Vieyra, co-church planters)

PLEASE HELP SUPPORT THESE ACTIVE DISCIPLE OF CHRIST CONGREGATIONS GET A GOOD START.