



The Journey

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June 1, 2020
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CELEBRATING 1,000 NEW CHURCHES... AND COUNTING

(From the Disciples Mission Fund Website)

In 2001 the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) embraced a bold vision: to start 1,000 new churches in 1,000 different ways by the year 2020. And we did it! We started 1,000 new churches... and counting! Today, we have welcomed 1,034+ new faith communities into the Church. The Table around which we gather has grown in language, diversity, and life experience. Our church has been transformed by the movement of the Holy Spirit and an audacious vision to start new churches.

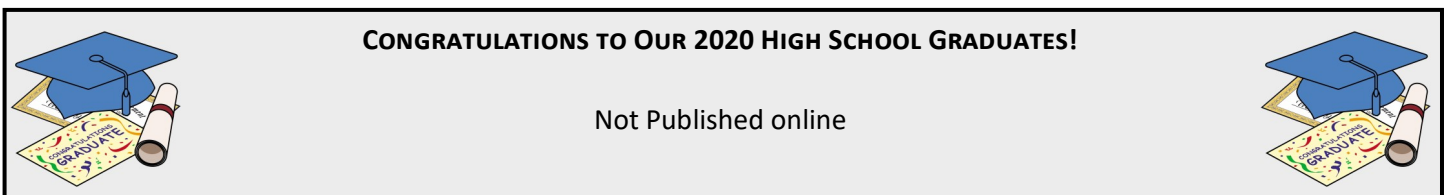
Courageous leaders have answered the call to grow the Disciples family through the new church movement. They have given their hearts to reach the underserved, welcoming new neighbors, and creating communities of love. And we, as a church, have committed to supporting those who have stepped out in faith to start new churches. We celebrate these brave leaders and recommit to continuing to support their call. Because, together, we started 1,000 new churches... and counting!

In order to continue this ministry we ask you to participate in the 2020 Pentecost Offering. Express your gratitude for what God has done and contribute to the continued work of starting more churches. Each year, half of what you give stays in your Region to support and sustain new churches near you. The second half helps train, equip, assist, and nurture leaders across the United States and Canada through New Church Ministry programs. Your gift to the Pentecost Offering will help the movement continue.

For more Pentecost Offering resources, including a brief video, visit: disciplesmissionfund.org/special-offerings/pentecost.

Pastor Paul's notes:

I was at the General Assembly when the 2020 Vision for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) was announced. I will admit that when I first heard of the goal of starting 1,000 new churches, I thought it was optimistic at best. However, this goal energized our denomination and we met it with time to spare. The work of starting new congregations is difficult, and sometimes it does not succeed, but even in the attempt we learn more about ourselves and spread the message of our denomination and Christ's table to new people. I hope that you will continue to support the Pentecost Offering because now more than ever the world needs to know that we are united in love at the table of Christ. Amen.



Deadline for the *Journey* is **Thursday, June 4**, at Noon publisher@fcc-hsv.org

3209 Whitesburg Drive, Huntsville, Alabama 35802 Telephone: 256-881-0150 **Leave a message.**

Online Sunday Worship Services: 8:15 & 10:30 a.m. (Where to stream following page)

**2020 PENTECOST OFFERING
THROUGH JUNE 7**

As we celebrate Pentecost and the birthday of Christ's Church, we also gather resources to support new church starts near us and across the country.

The Alabama-Northwest Florida region is currently supporting the new church formation of Pacific Islander Agape Church (Disciples of Christ) in Pensacola, Florida and of Iglesia Cristiana – Nuevo Comienzo (Discipulos de Cristo) in Oxford, Alabama. You can browse to a Pentecost Offering Promotion informational email to learn more about this new growth in our midst.

Our congregation will be collecting the Pentecost Special Offering through June 7. You can note through any of our ways of donating that you are contributing to this special offering. One-half (50%) of the Pentecost Offering is returned to our region; the other 50% supports general church efforts to establish new congregations.

Please give generously.

**ABRAHAMIC PRAYERS WELCOMES
IMAM AHMED FAWZY AHMED
FROM MADISON MASJID**

Abrahamic Prayers is a gathering of people from all faith traditions to pray for global peace and healing and to share our beliefs, similarities, and differences. We will meet online via Zoom on Thursday, June 4, at 7pm, CDT.

Our guest speaker will be Ahmed Fawzy, the Imam of Masjid Al-Madina in Madison, AL. He will share information about how COVID-19 affects the Muslim community of North Alabama Islamic Society, especially with the holy days of Ramadan and Eid and will also share some background about Islam in the area.

Imam Ahmed's discussion will be introduced by and followed by a time of sung, spoken, and silent prayer.

Zoom connection info and handouts with read-along text will be provided soon. See the event on the church website (<http://fcc-hsv.org/upcoming-events/>), keep an eye out on Facebook (First Christian Church (DOC) - Huntsville, AL), or contact Karen Ball for more details

WEEKLY PRAYER CONCERNS

Not published online.

REGIONAL PRAYER REQUEST

Oakmont Christian Church, Saraland, AL

We are temporarily publishing, as space allows in the printed version of the *Journey*, the prayer concerns that are usually listed in the Sunday bulletins. Concerns are listed for one month unless we receive an update. Long term prayer concerns are published monthly in the *Journey*. Send requests to publisher@fcc-hsv.org or call the church office at 256-881-0150 and leave a message.

Please notify the Pastors or the church office if you are going to the hospital and would like to be contacted

ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICES

Stream live at 10:30 am on Sundays (or watch pervious services anytime) on YouTube at: www.youtube.com/channel/UCzQCRY8Vfa-IDhuqUnUhCKw

You may also stream services live on Sundays at 10:30 am (and see announcements throughout the week) on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/First-Christian-Church-DOC-Huntsville-AL-227266764409

Finally, stream services at 8:15 and 10:30 am on Sunday at: www.twitch.tv/fcchsv



LONG TERM PRAYER CONCERNS



Not published online.

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.

CHURCH SCHEDULE UPDATE

Regular office hours, Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., have resumed with one staff member in the office each day. The office is closed from 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. for lunch. Other staff will continue to work remotely from home when they are not in the church office.

Temporary Office Entrance. Our Early Childhood Ministry re-opened on Monday, June 1, and will temporarily be using the north entrance to the church (by the office) exclusively for health safety reasons. You must use the exterior office door, approximately 40 feet to the left of the north entrance as you face the building, for church-related access. There is a doorbell button to press. **Church key cards will be temporarily deactivated until regular church activities resume.**

THIS WEEK'S FOOD BASKET is in memory of Lou Brown by Carolyn Brown.

WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

The Community Outreach Committee's project for June is collecting financial donations for the Foster Care Unit of DHR (Department of Human Resources). There are over 400 children in foster care in Madison County and funding is not adequate to cover all their needs. These children are in care through no fault of their own; they have been abused and neglected by those who should have protected them. Community Outreach, with your help, would like to give the Foster Care Unit \$25 Walmart gift cards to have on hand to use throughout the year to help our children who are suffering physically, mentally, and emotionally. A check can be made to FCC with "CO gift cards" in the memo line and mailed to the church. Thank you for caring about the vulnerable children in our community.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH REPORT

During this time of extreme need in our community, the Community Outreach Committee made donations of \$1,555.00 each to seven agencies in the community dedicated to helping those in need. The majority of the donations were made possible by the Sheryl Stiles' Memorial Fund and the generous gifts made in her memory. The rest were made by those hearing about the increased needs in the community due to the pandemic and sending funds to help. We should remember that the need is still there and will be for some time. Thank you for caring about your community and for your help in feeding the hungry.



Striping is complete. Next we will be adding new parking and directional signs.