



The Journey

Volume XXVIII No. 28
July 13, 2020
www.fcc-hsv.org



First Christian Church Huntsville
A Virtual Vacation Bible School - July 20-24
Videos Will Launch Daily at 9:00 am
Ages 3 through 5th Grade

Plant seeds of faith in your children and watch them grow! Welcome to *Great Big Beautiful World!*, an interactive vacation Bible school curriculum where children explore, celebrate, and care for God's good creation! The five Bible stories in this VBS lead children on an awesome adventure through the Bible, from Genesis to Revelation. Through worship and songs, Bible study, nature-themed art projects & science explorations and snacks & story time, children will discover God's love for all of creation. They will be challenged to care for God's world in tangible ways - both during VBS and at home.

Families in the Huntsville area can come and pick up a "VBS Enhancement Pack" that has items for the Bible story, daily craft packs and snack packs. **Pick Up Date - Thursday, July 16 and Friday, July 17 (9:00 am-5:00 pm)**

Our videos will be on our church Facebook page as well as on our church VBS Google Classroom (see TO JOIN THE VBS GOOGLE CLASSROOM on the following page for instructions). Videos and materials will be released each day at 9:00 a.m. starting Monday, July 20. All videos and materials will remain on the our websites until Friday, August 21.

To register your child please contact Pastor Laura laura@fcc-hsv.org

JANUARY THROUGH JUNE 2020 GIVING STATEMENTS

If you would like to receive a FCC giving statement with your donations from January 1 through June 31 you will need to contact the church. You can email us at publisher@fcc-hsv.org or phone the office at 256 881-0150.

We can email your statement if you include the email address you want it sent to, or we can mail it to your physical address. We will only send the mid-year statements to those who request it. Thank you for continuing to support First Christian Church during these challenging months.

Deadline for the *Journey* is **Thursday, July 16**, at Noon. Email to: publisher@fcc-hsv.org

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

WEEKLY PRAYER CONCERNS

TO JOIN THE VBS GOOGLE CLASSROOM

1. Using your internet browser go to <https://classroom.google.com>
2. You must be logged in to a Google account in order to access any Google classroom. Click "Sign In" in the top right-hand corner if you currently are not signed into any Google account. It is free to set up a Goggle account.
3. After you have signed in. Click on the Google Apps icon at the top right of your screen. Scroll down until you see the Classroom icon and click on it.
4. Once you are logged in and on the classroom.google.com site, click the "+" in the top right-hand side of the screen. Then select "Join Class".
5. Enter the VBS class code. The code is **pkwhvcq**
6. The videos and materials for VBS will be released starting Monday, July 20. Each day during the week of VBS the videos will be released at 9:00 a.m. each day. All videos and materials will remain on the VBS Google Classroom until Friday, August 21.

IMPORTANT WORSHIP SERVICE UPDATES

- The **in door/in-person worship service in McMains Hall has been suspended** due to a lack of interest. The Board will review reoffering the service at its September 10th meeting.
- The time for the outdoor/drive-in worship service is being moved to **9:00 AM beginning Sunday, July 19th.**

WEDDING SHOWER FOR

ALYSSA BALDWIN AND ANDREW BURTON

July 26, 2020, 2:00 PM

An invitation is extended to all to celebrate with Alyssa and Andrew following their July 11, 2020 wedding. The couple are registered at both amazon.com and target.com. We can look forward to hearing from Alyssa at that time via Zoom sharing her joy as a newlywed. Please watch for more detail on Facebook and via a church wide email.



Not published on line

REGIONAL PRAYER REQUEST

Arbol de Vida (Tree of Life)
Pensacola, FL

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



THIS WEEK'S FOOD BASKET is in honor of Nina Senn by Pat Blackman.

SMALL GROUP MEETINGS AT CHURCH

Starting Monday, June 22nd, small groups will be allowed to start meeting inside the Church building in **Family Services**. At this time we can only allow **one meeting a day ending before 5:00 PM** since we will have a professional cleaning company sanitize the room each evening. The schedule for using the Family Services room is kept in the office. **Thursdays are reserved and not available to other groups**. We will also ask you to use the outside Family Services doors, located in our Bell Tower Courtyard on the west side of the church, to enter the building. The door will be unlocked for your meeting.

We ask that:

- You follow social distancing procedures.
- The meeting has less than 10 people.
- You record the names of all participants.
- All participants will wear a mask.



HELP THE CHURCH WHEN YOU SHOP AT AMAZON

If you shop at Amazon, why not help the church out at the same time? **First Christian Church-Huntsville** is a listed charitable organization with AmazonSmile and receives 0.5% of the eligible purchases you make on Amazon. To use AmazonSmile, go to <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/63-6017148> (this address is for First Christian Church in Huntsville and will automatically credit 0.5% of your purchases to the FCC account) and sign on your Amazon account as usual. Amazon pays all expenses of the AmazonSmile program and there is no additional expense to you or deductions from the donation amounts generated from your purchases.

Remember to log on AmazonSmile at <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/63-6017148> if you shop at Amazon!

STILL, STILL, STILL

by Rachel Hackenberg

O Lord, my heart is not lifted up, my eyes are not raised too high; I do not occupy myself with things to great and too marvelous for me. But I have calmed and quieted my soul, like a weaned child with its mother. - Psalm 131:1-2a (NRSV)

Maybe you've been feeling this psalm. I have. Tired. Heart low. Eyes downcast. Overwhelmed. Too discouraged to place much hope in goodness.

To manage, I've been moderating my energy – lowering my gears like a car climbing a mountain in fourth, down to third, then to second, then to first. Just expend enough energy to cross this mountain. Just make a plan for the next month. Just make a plan for the next week. Just try a plan for the next day. Just get through the next breath.

Keep anxiety from clogging the catalytic converter.

Keep anger from burning out the engine.

Keep overstimulation from misfiring across the spark plugs.

A low-energy spirit is not a quieted spirit. It's an injured spirit, rather than an imaginative spirit. A burned-out spirit, rather than a burning spirit. A despairing spirit, rather than a determined one. It's a spirit that needs to crawl into the lap of a mothering God, close its eyes for a spell, and feel the holy heartbeat quieting its chaos.

From the safety of God's lap, the now-quieted heart can notice great change and welcome hope. Hush, be still. From the solace of God's lap, the stilled spirit can delight in beauty more marvelous than it could imagine. Hush, be still.

Breathe in the beauty of life. Breathe out the assurance of love.

Be still. Be still. Be still.

PRAYER

Mothering God, even a weaned child needs a parent's comfort. Even a reliable car needs a tune-up. Even a faithful disciple needs quiet. Let my rest be marvelous in your sight.