



# The Journey

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[www.fcc-hsv.org](http://www.fcc-hsv.org)

## WELCOMING OTHERS TO THE TABLE

When I was growing up one of the rules set by my parents was that, if at all possible, we would sit down and have our evening meal together. Our family dinners were times to relax, talk about our day, make plans for the days ahead, and remember that we were a family. My parents also enjoyed having dinner parties and so we would invite friends, neighbors, and co-workers to our home quite often. My father would cook, sometimes making lavish meals, and we would spend hours eating and talking, building the bonds of friendship, sharing dreams, and sometimes the pain of reality. I loved those meals, and not just because my father was a great cook. I enjoyed the conversations. My parents always made sure I was a part of the discussion, if I minded my manners and did not try to dominate the conversation. I learned a great deal from the people who were invited to our table, lessons that I have kept to this day.

On September 5<sup>th</sup> our congregation began a new tradition on Wednesday night. We have been hosting a meal and I am incredibly pleased by its success. We arrive around 5:30 pm and get in line to enter the kitchen. Yolanda is there serving the food she has prepared with a smile on her face and then we sit together in McMains Hall, eating and talking, the kind of fellowship that helps relationships grow. If you have seen me at these dinners you can tell that I am always one of the last in line, an old habit I picked up in my first church. I do this so I can see who is here and I usually look for a person who might not have anyone to sit with, but so far I have not found anyone, so I join a table and the discussion. Thank you to everyone who has attended, set up the rooms, bought or made food, helped to clean up, or in any way have helped to make these dinners a success.

Everyone is welcome at these Wednesday Dinners just as everyone is welcome at the communion table on Sunday. As Disciples sometimes we have been called “the people of the table” because of the importance of communion to our denomination. Just as family dinners are meaningful to my relatives so too is the family dinner we have on Sunday important to our congregation. It is a meal of remembrance, a time of thanksgiving, an opportunity to confess our brokenness and let go of our burdens, and a time of encouragement so that we might continue to welcome others into God’s great family. Like our family dinners, the meal is more than the elements of bread and wine, communion is a way of connecting with God and with one another.

I hope that in the weeks ahead that you might welcome someone to have a meal with you. Invite your family to come together, welcome a neighbor or a friend, perhaps you can invite them to our Wednesday Night Dinners or to our services on Sunday. Whatever the case may be, when we eat together we open ourselves to conversations, new ideas, and new relationships and we let others know of the love and grace of God that we feel each and every day. Welcome someone to the table of the Lord because there is always space.

Thanks be to God, Amen.

*Pastor Paul*

Deadline for the *Journey* is **Thursday, September 20**, 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  
SEPTEMBER 23**

Sermon Scripture  
Sermon

Mark 9: 30-37  
"True Greatness"

**SERVING AT THE TABLE**

8:15 Frank Fitzgerald & Dale Thomas  
10:30 Dave Crockett & Justin Givens

**COMMUNION PREPARATION**

Bev Williamson

**SERVING COMMUNION**

8:15 Duffy & Lee Boles  
Anita Wood & Nancy Waites  
10:30 Nancy Adams & Carolyn Brown  
Troy Davis, Sr. & Tré Davis

**COFFEE FELLOWSHIP**

Chuck & Penny Jackman

**SUNDAY'S FOOD BASKET** is Open

**CHILDREN WORSHIP & WONDER**

*The Good Shepherd*  
Nancy Woodall, Abby Allen, & Greyson Rogers.

**YOUNG DISCIPLES**

*Jesus Appears to the Disciples by the Sea*  
Pastor Laura, Carrie Love, & Ty Davis

**AV SUPPORT TEAM**

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

ATTENDANCE	9/9	9/16
First Service Worship	40	39
Sunday School	33	29
Second Service Worship	96	87
Children's Church	6	6
Young Disciples	4	NA
Total Worship	146	132

Our Wednesday night programing continues with a 5:30 pm meal for anyone who would like to come. **Enter Family Services through the outside door (in the Bell Tower Courtyard).** **WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 19TH**, we will be having Pork Tenderloin for the adults, Tenderloin Sliders for the children, Roasted Red Potatoes drenched in olive oil and rosemary, Cauliflower Casserole and deserts. **Please call the office immediately (256-881-0150) if you have not signed up for the meal.** We ask for a \$5.00 donation per person, with a \$20.00 limit per family, to help pay for the meal. Also, please plan on staying for our Bible studies, youth group, children's activities and choir as well. We hope to see you here on Wednesday night!

Pastor Paul

**LIFESOUTH BLOOD DRIVE AT FCC**  
**Sunday, September 30, 8:30 am - 12:30 pm.**  
**Please give!**

**FIFTH SUNDAY GRATEFUL LIFE BRUNCH**

FCC will provide fifth Sunday brunch to Grateful Life (GL) Church on Sept. 30. We are planning to feed 100. Could you help by baking a brunch casserole for that day? An easy recipe will be provided. You would need to deliver your hot, baked casserole in a disposable 9x13 aluminum pan to the FCC side kitchen by 9:15 AM on Sept. 30. Leave it on the GL table in the communion prep kitchen. If you need to drop off the casserole before Sunday, please bake your casserole, cool, wrap in foil, clearly mark for GL 9/30/18, and place in communion refrigerator in side kitchen between 9-5 on Friday. Call Sue Seward, 256-508-5384, if you can help with this service project and to receive the recipe. Thanks! This fifth Sunday brunch is a blessing to GL members and to those who provide it.

The 2018 sign up chart for **FOOD BASKETS** is 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.

### FIFTH SUNDAY UNIFIED SERVICE

Sunday, September 30, we will have a single unified service at 10:00 a.m. with Sunday School at 9:00 a.m.

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEAL SEPTEMBER 26 RESERVATIONS

Please call the office (256-881-0150) to reserve a place at our Wednesday night meal on September 26. We will have Chicken Fajitas with all the trimmings (guacamole, sour cream, mixed vegetables, etc.) Rice, Quesadilla (Tortillas with Cheese, and Tortillas with Mexican Sausage). We will also serve Vegan and Vegetarian Fajitas. We ask for a \$5.00 donation per person, with a \$20.00 limit per family. Also, please plan on staying for our Bible studies, youth group, children's activities and choir as well. **Enter Family Services through the outside door (in the Bell Tower Courtyard).**

### FALL RETREAT FOR DISCIPLES WOMEN

Please join Disciples women of the Alabama-Northwest Florida region for their annual retreat at Camp Chandler in Wetumpka, AL, Sep 28-30. The program, "One in the Spirit," will be led by Rev Pat Donahoo, Executive Director of Disciples Women for the Christian Church (DoC). Pick up your application forms at the Commons area display. Scholarship funds are available. Contact Mary Ann Anderson for more information at: [maryannanderson256@gmail.com](mailto:maryannanderson256@gmail.com)



### TAIZÉ SERVICE

Please join us for a contemplative time of prayer, meditation and music on Sunday, September 23rd at 6 pm in the FCC Sanctuary. The Taizé service is designed to give participants a quiet and peaceful break from the busyness of life. Come and rest in God's presence.

A reminder to all **Mission Family Four** members of the baked potato bar luncheon on Sept.ember23 after 2nd service in Family Services. Lisa Fitzgerald

### COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND CWM

The September project is collection of needed supplies for schools. Needed supplies include: pencils, paper, glue, rulers, crayons, colored pencils, scissors, index cards, and colored markers. Hygiene items include tissues, hand sanitizer, plastic zip lock bags of all sizes, Clorox sanitizing wipes, and various sizes of band aids. In addition, counselors need personal hygiene items for students (toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, shampoo, soap--small hotel items are ideal) as well as articles of clothing including underwear. Please place your donations in the basket under the poster in the Commons Area, or you may make a monetary donation to FCC with *School Supplies* on the memo line. **Some of your donations will help pay the student \$35 computer fee for those who cannot afford to pay it.**



Community Outreach and CWM

### TWENTY FIVE AND COUNTING

We dedicated our twenty-fifth Habitat Home on Saturday. We started building homes in 1990. Our church gave the new home owner two garden hoses and sprinklers for watering the Bermuda sod.

Our local Habitat organization has four more homes to dedicate over the next few weeks. They have completed a total of 282 homes in the Huntsville Madison County area since they first began in 1990. What a wonderful ministry!



**Habitat  
for Humanity®**