



## 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.

### A REINTRODUCTION TO RECONCILIATION MINISTRY FUND

by Rev. April Johnson, Reconciliation Minister

In October of 1967, members of the Christian Church gathered in St. Louis, Missouri at the annual International Convention of Christian Churches where a group of those members brought up the distress urban areas across the country were experiencing regarding issues of racism and poverty. Participants at the Convention felt strongly that the church should make intentional effort to address these issues happening throughout the church and nation. So, they got to work.

Almost immediately the United Christian Missionary Society through the Urban Emergency Action committee received funds to begin providing grants to social services organizations who were already serving communities in the work the church was looking to support. Organizations like the Boys and Girls Club and the YMCA received grant money to aid in their efforts dismantling societal oppression.

What the church thought would be a temporary fund that would eventually lose interest became a movement. Reconciliation: The Urban Emergency Program consistently met its fundraising goals, with congregations within the denomination generously donating money, overwhelmingly supportive of a mission working within the vain of social justice during the tumultuous civil rights era.

Today, the ministry works to break down systems of oppression that effectively marginalizes people through practices of social and economic exclusion through it education and granting program. Reconciliation Ministry offers anti-racism and anti-oppression trainings throughout the Church to foster a denomination-wide understanding of the importance of dismantling systemic racism and poverty in their community where we serve and participate in mission.

Reconciliation Ministry still participates in funding community organizing networks and church-wide ministries through its granting program and robust anti-racism educational efforts. Exciting programs funded this year include one entitled Reconciliation In Real Time with four congregations in Georgia who meet monthly to determine intersections of their shared social and racial justice witness. Another program funded the Coastal Plains area of Texas to mine their history and visit congregations in the area for conversation that will promote area-wide racial justice programming. During the last week of September and the first week of October, the Reconciliation Ministry Special Offering will be received in congregations. This year's Special Offering theme is "Embracing the Call" inviting the church to name and live Micah 6:8. You may donate by writing your check to First Christian Church with Reconciliation in the memo/note line.

From the Disciples New Service at Disciples.org

Deadline for the *Journey* is **Thursday, September 27**, 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.





## October Birthdays



## LONG TERM PRAYER CONCERNS



Please remember to keep the following individuals in your prayers.

Lynda Baig, cousin of Penny Jackman  
 Thomas Burns, father of Karen Ball  
 Burl Chandler, father of Chris Chandler  
 Betty Joe Estes, friend of Donna Blair  
 Grateful Life Church  
 Lynn Harris, daughter of Bob & Mary Spencer  
 Phil & Ginny Jackson, brother-in-law & sister of  
     Cathy Rosol.  
 Carroll Keller, brother of Walt Keller  
 Carey Link, friend of Margaret Vann  
 Joyce Neighbors  
 Betty Rogers  
 Bob Spencer  
 Jo Thomason  
 Lynne Ursery, former member  
 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.

1	Bobbye Riggs
2	Annelle Craig & Jo Thomason
3	Mary Ann Anderson
4	Monty Love & Mary Ann Williams
5	Vickie Wright
6	Cara Sexton
7	Allison Landreth
8	Gene Cowart & Richard Leonard
9	Heather Black & Sheryl Stiles
11	Wendy Qualls
13	Frank Fitzgerald & Don Williamson
14	Pat Blackman
15	Chris Hood & Kyle Pung
16	Noah Wright
19	Lynn Abernathy, David Beutjer, Gray Killough, & Christi Sexton
23	Mike Beutjer, Marilee Keim, Flora Salisbury, & Nancy Stayman
24	Adam Fitzgerald
25	Reggie Anderson
26	Lloyd Unfred
27	Leland Blackman
28	Alma Kingsbury
29	Matt Johnson
30	Chase Volinski
31	John Allen, Theodore Elston & Trey Leonard

