

LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

Elders on Call

Libby Carpenter
Carl Crosby

Serving Diaconate

Andrew Ford, Kimberly Jones, Jeff Jones, Mae Margaret Davis,
Barry Dillon, Jennifer Dillon, Lynn Eastman, Ardis Gillespie,
Cameron Gillespie, Susan Storer, Ashton Strachan

Communion Preparer

Sarah Ford

Acolytes

Luke Tatum
Riley Tatum

Sunday School Greeter

Steve Pasky

Worship Greeters

Boyce & Virginia Guthrie (Door)
Donna Strickland (Sanctuary)

Children Worship & Wonder

The Parable of the Sower
Tom Scales (storyteller)
Susan Scales, Jennifer Powell (greeters)

Nursery Volunteer

Leigh Ann Tatum

Rev. Troy Tatum
Senior Minister

Rev. Robin Blakemore
Associate Minister

Rev. John Allen Bankson
Music Director

David Brasher
Pianist/Organist

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Disciples  of Christ

"Where the Grace of God Awaits You"



April 15, 2018

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

WELCOME

We're delighted you're here today, and we hope you'll find this to be a meaningful time of worship with a vibrant community of faith.

NEW HERE?

If today is your first time visiting at First Christian Church, please be sure to stop by the welcome table near the front doors so that we can give you a small gift to thank you for worshipping with us.

CONNECTION CARDS

We ask everyone to take a few moments during worship to fill out the Connection Card included in this bulletin. You may place your card in the offering when it is received.

WORSHIPPING WITH CHILDREN

Children age 3K through fourth grade are encouraged to participate in Worship and Wonder, a special worship and education experience designed just for them. Young people may leave the service for Worship and Wonder following "A Time for Children." Of course, children of all ages are welcome to participate in morning worship, and childcare for infants and toddlers is available in the church nursery for all or part of the service. Worship bags with activity sheets, crayons, and children's bulletins are available in the narthex.

WAYS TO GIVE

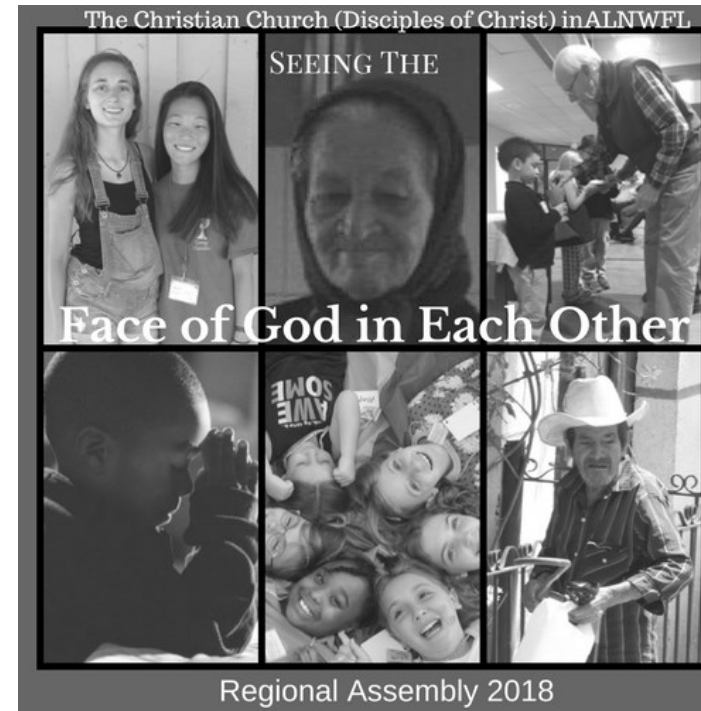
Thank you for investing your gifts in the mission and ministry of First Christian Church. Your act of worship through giving is appreciated. You can give in person by cash or check, or online by visiting www.fcc-bhm.org/give or by scanning the QR code to the right with your smart phone. You may also contact the church office to learn more about automated giving.



GET IN TOUCH

fcc-bhm.org | info@fcc-bhm.org

office: 205-991-5000 | clergy on call: 205-295-6708



The 2018 Regional Assembly for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Alabama-Northwest Florida will be April 27 - 29 at Valley Christian Church in Birmingham. We are excited to hear a message from Rev. Terri Hord Owens, the General Minister and President of the Christian Church (DoC), during worship on Friday, April 27 at 7:30. There will be a reception to follow where you can meet Rev. Terri Hord Owens. We'd love to have you join us at Valley Christian Church for this meaningful worship gathering. For more information or to register for Saturday, April 9 go to: <http://www.alnwfldisciples.org/2018-regional-assembly>.



Register for summer 2018!

Week 1 June 12-14	By the Sea
Week 2 June 19-21	Treasure Island
Week 3 June 26-28	Backyard Fun
Week 4 July 17-19	Bugs & Butterflies
Week 5 July 24-26	Art Explosion

Join Us for TAN
Summer Fun 2018
Ages 12 mos to 7 y.o.
(rising 2nd grade)
Tues Wed, & Thurs
9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

No school week of July 4
Vacation Bible School July 9-13
All 3's + are invited to VBS (free)
Please send your child with a lunch
Snack is provided

For more information, please call 205.991.9952 or email theadventurenook@fcc-bhm.org

THIS WEEK

Today, April 15

10:15 AM Morning Worship
11:30 AM Potluck Lunch
4:00 PM The Table
5:00 PM Children and Youth

Monday, April 16

7:00 AM Men's Bible Study
11:00 AM Staff Meeting

Tuesday, April 17

10:00 AM Ladies' Bible Study

Wednesday, April 18

6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

GET INVOLVED

THE LOVELADY CENTER

The Outreach Committee is launching an on-going donation drive to benefit The Lovelady Center, a Birmingham non-profit dedicated to wholly healing women and families touched by addiction and domestic abuse. A list of on-going needs of the center is located on the table in the Narthex closest to the church office. Feel free to take a list. Items may be dropped off in the designated Lovelady Center box located in the gym. This is a simple way our congregation can help this amazing ministry touch lives and break the cycle of addiction, abuse, and poverty, certainly answering Jesus' call to be his hands and feet. Thank you all in advance!



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: JULY 9-13, 2018

Mark your calendars, and make plans to join us for this exciting week of VBS!

We Gather Before God

Prelude *Here I Am to Worship* Hughes

Introit *Thine Is the Glory* MACCABEUS

*Call to Worship Rev. Troy Tatum
Leader: Let praise to God resound in the heavens!
People: Let praise to God fill the earth!
Leader: Let all God's people offer praise and rejoicing!
People: Let all God's creatures sing praise and joy!
Leader: Open your hearts and spirits today.
People: Let us praise the Lord today and always!

*Hymn of Praise *Alleluia! Sing to Jesus* Red Hymnal No.233

*Invocation and Lord's Prayer Rev. Troy Tatum
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

*Prayer Response *Gloria Patri* Red Hymnal No. 35
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, World without end. Amen, Amen!

*Passing of the Peace
Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
People: And also with you.

A Time for Children Ashley Chester
Children age three through fourth grade may leave for Children's Worship & Wonder

Invitation to Present Gifts Nancy DeVore

Offertory Music *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee* Kartsonakis
Jeanette Brabson Hightower, Violin arr. Scott

*Doxology Red Hymnal No. 46
Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication Rev. Troy Tatum

We Offer Our Prayers With Love

Pastoral Prayer Rev. Troy Tatum

We Gather at Christ's Table

Communion Hymn *Seed, Scattered and Sown* Red Hymnal No. 395

Invitation to Communion Libby Carpenter

Prayer of Communion Carl Crosby

Words of Institution 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

This is the Lord's Table; all believers in Christ are invited. As the communion elements are passed, please partake of the bread and hold the cup so that we may share together after the congregational response.

Elder: The Lord Jesus, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, broke it and said, "This is My Body which is given for you."

Communion Music *Surely the Presence of the Lord* Wolfe

Elder: In the same way also the cup, after supper saying, "This cup is the new covenant of My Blood. Do this as often as you drink it in remembrance of Me."

People: As often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

We Proclaim God's Word

Scripture Mark 4:1-9

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem *God So Loved the World* Wayne Wold

Sermon "Sowing Seeds" Rev. Troy Tatum

We Respond With Our Lives

Invitation to Discipleship Rev. Troy Tatum

*Hymn of Discipleship *In the Bulb There is a Flower* Red Hymnal No. 638
vs. 1 & 3

We Go Forth to Love and Serve

*Announcements & Benediction Rev. Troy Tatum

*Congregational Response *Come, Sing A Song of Harvest* Red Hymnal No. 719

Come, sing a song of harvest, of thanks for daily food!
To offer God the first fruits is old as gratitude.

And lest the world go hungry while we ourselves are fed,
make each of us more ready to share our daily bread.

*Postlude *Because He Lives* arr. Brasher

**All who are able please stand.*