

CROSSROADS NEWSLETTER



Church Highlights

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- The Gathering Place
- High Noon Music
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- Wed. Night Bible Study
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- Thanksgiving Baskets
- African Children's Choir
- Kroger Rewards
- Church in the Wild
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LIFE TOGETHER

In England, you may come across a “wavy” brick fence. Apart from being more aesthetically pleasing, I’ve read that a wavy fence uses less bricks than a straight one. A straight fence is not sturdy enough to stand strong unless it is the thickness of at least two layers of bricks. Straight brick fences are often reinforced as well with posts to support them. However, a wavy one-brick fence stands fine on its own due to the arch support provided by its wavy shape. Also, there’s an added benefit of how interesting it looks.



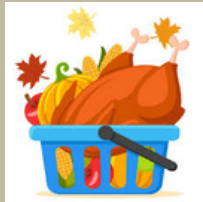
This idea of the strength of a wavy fence is not only interesting, it feels like a metaphor for life. We all know things get complicated and we can feel like the pathway ahead seems uncertain. Things happen unexpectedly, someone gets sick or loses a job, a relationship changes or ends, someone moves away, expectations are unmet, we find ourselves in a place we had not expected. Yet there is strength where we might not expect it, especially when we remind ourselves we do not handle these challenges alone.

We come to church for all kinds of reasons: to worship God, to be grounded in faith, to be with people who are also trying to live as disciples of Jesus Christ. It is good to remind ourselves that we are not alone when life takes unexpected turns, when we are unable to anticipate the future. Another reason we come to church is to be reminded we are loved and cared for by God, and when we get off course, to find our pathway leading back to God.

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The fact is, change is always coming at us. But we can be like that wavy fence and be grounded and strong knowing the Spirit of God is walking with us, giving us the strength for whatever is ahead. Peace,

Craig



Coming Soon!

Thanksgiving Baskets for those in need.

Saturday, November 23 at 10 a.m.



**This is an ecumenical effort supported by First Christian Church,
St. Stephen Episcopal Church and our church.**

Volunteers are needed on Saturday to build baskets and deliver.

**Please remember that the money raised by the Silent Auction
will be used to purchase our portion of the baskets!**

October Birthdays

Happy Happy Birthday!

Janet Jack	2	Joe Henderson	10
Camien Sumpter	3	Sybil Archer	21
Gretchen Durham	4	Keith Hooper	22
Tommy Fredregill	5	McKenna Perkins	24
Mark Tuttle	5	Milton Brock	27
Mike Dobraski	6	Carolyn Cottle	27
Barbara Mugg	7	Jim Alexander	29
Susan Cascaden	10		

Don't Forget
Wednesday Night
Dinners & Fellowship
5:30 p.m.

Financial Report

YTD as of July 31, 2024

Actual Income \$78,171.86
Actual Expense \$153,512.33

November
Newsletter Articles
due no later than
Tuesday, October 22nd

October Book Club

Wednesday, October 2, @ 8:30 am

“A Prayer for Owen Meany”
by John Irving

November Book
“In the Sanctuary of Outcasts”
by Neill White
*Hilarious, astonishing, and
deeply moving.*



Lectio Divina

Wednesdays at 11 .m.
in the Parlor

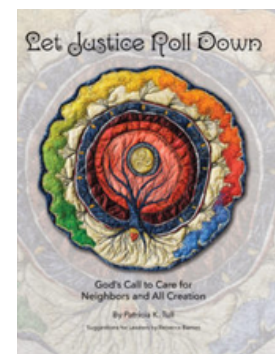
*“We do not pray so that we can
get God's attention. We pray so
that God will get our attention.”*

— David G. Benner,
Opening to God: Lectio Divina
and Life as Prayer

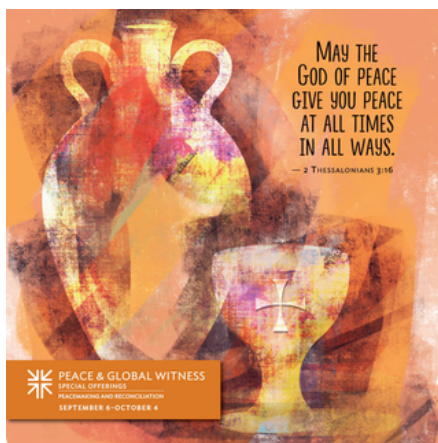
“Let Justice Roll Down” A Women’s Bible Study

Please join us as we discuss Chapter 1 of “Let Justice Roll Down: God’s Call to Care for Neighbors and All Creation” by Patricia K. Tull on Wednesday, October 16, at 10 a.m.

The Lesson is entitled “Environmental Justice”. We will read from the book of Ezekiel and discuss how we are called to protect the created world we share and need.



Peace and Global Witness Offering Sunday, October 6th Equipping Peacemakers in Congregations and Around the World.



Peace is possible, and it begins with us sowing the seeds of peace in every interaction and decision we make. The Peace & Global Witness Offering provides the tools and resources for us as we join together, connected as active peacemakers.

**The peace of Christ
belongs to everyone everywhere!**

Providing nurturing
reconciliation.

Supporting our global
brothers and sisters.

The Gathering Place

Celebrating 1 Year of Service in Huntsville!

The Gathering Place is growing and meeting the needs of people with dementia and their caregivers. Volunteers are needed.



Come
& See

High Noon Music

Tuesday, October 8, at Noon

Featuring:

Reverend Daniel Paul, Minister at
First Christian Church and
George Oliver, their Choir Director

An offering is taken with all proceeds
going to defray costs of medical bills
for Douglas Mills.



September's High Noon Music featured Brennan Aston on guitar. Brennan played and sang our old favorite hymns with a twist of country and folk. He will be coming again in November and bringing a friend. Don't miss it!

SILENT AUCTION

October 6 – October 13



Gift Baskets
and More!



Crafts
and More!

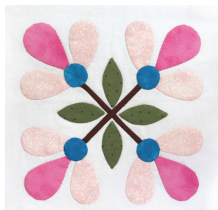


Food Items
and More!

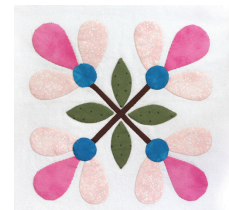
Proceeds will be used to purchase Thanksgiving Basket turkeys. Any remaining funds will be used to support the African Children's Choir.

We will collect auction items from now until Sunday, September 29.
Thank you for your donations and support!

Huntsville 19th Street Quilt Stroll



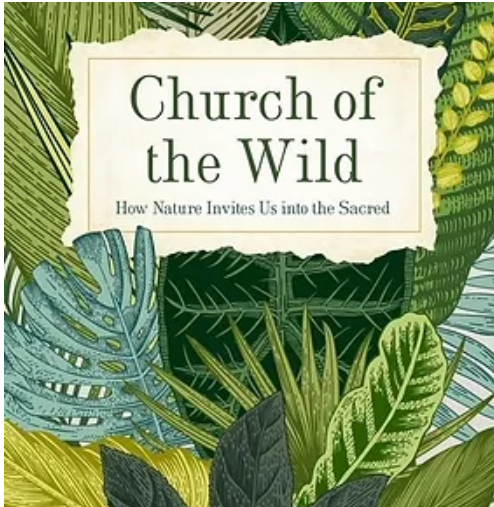
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12TH
10 A.M. - 3 P.M.



Join us as we share our favorite quilts.
New and antique quilts will be displayed.

Bring to Brenda's office no later than Tuesday, October 8th
Please put your name on each quilt.

For more information contact the church office. 936-295-2440



Join Us for an Ecumenical Worship Service

Prayer, Taize' Music and More

Sunday, October 13 at 6 p.m.

An outdoor service at
St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
Bring your lawn chair and water!



**Music
for Life**

African Children's Choir

Coming Friday, December 13, 7 p.m.

Mark your calendars and tell your friends!

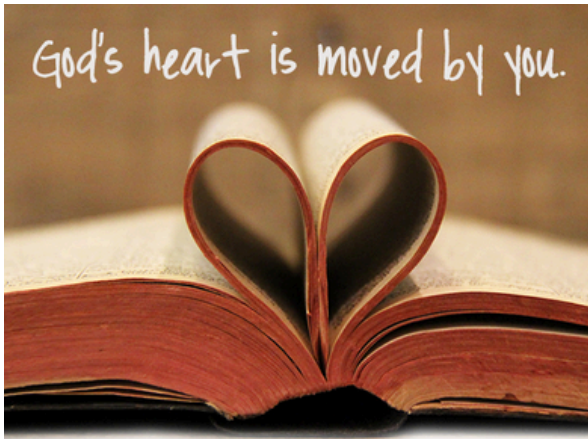


Thank You...

to all who participate in the Kroger Rewards Program! So far this year, we have collected \$121. Proceeds go to help restock the Food Pantry. For more information on how to sign up, contact the church office or a card with instructions is on the table in the narthex.

“Maturity in the Christian life is measured by only one test: how much closer to His character have we become?”

- Elyse Fitzpatrick



The Gospel of Mark

The Jesus We're Aching For
by Lisa Harper

7 Wednesdays
beginning October 2 at 6:15 p.m.
In the Parlor

Facilitated by Liz Speer

In The Gospel of Mark, we'll follow Jesus through His days of early ministry to the cross and discover what it means to be the recipients of His overflowing compassion and the very reason for His all-consuming passion.

Operation Happy Books

Benefitting Texas Children's Hospital

A box will be placed in the narthex during the month of October for offerings of new and gently used children's books.



Reading provides comfort, humor, distraction, and entertainment to children going through difficult experiences. Your support will help create smiles through the joy of reading.

Operation Happy Books is an Eagle Scout project created by David Beaty II, Troop 114. Thank you for your donations!

Caring for the Church

Without some place to gather, like a building, scattered saints cannot become a church. A building set apart for gospel use is a gracious gift from God, one that's often been given through the sacrifices of previous generations. We too easily overlook or even grumble about what we should be thankful for. Let us be good stewards of and thankful for our "gathering place".