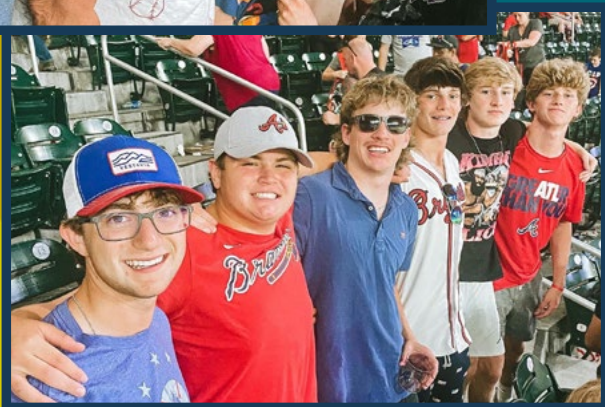


CONNECTIONS



CELEBRATING OUR YOUTH

SUMMER FUN WITH OUR YOUTH



Our First Church Youth have much to be excited about this summer! We have opened up our newly renovated youth room, brought on board Rev. Sam Burcham, our new Minister of Youth and Justice, and are taking lots of fun trips. In June the youth traveled to Atlanta for a Braves game and a trip to Six Flags. However, the summer fun isn't over yet! You still have two opportunities to join us:

FAMILY LAKE DAY

JULY 9 AT 11:00AM - 5:00PM | Lay Lake

CLICK [HERE](#) FOR MORE INFORMATION

BEACH TRIP

JULY 22-25 | Cost: \$250

CLICK [HERE](#) FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information or to be included on information about all of the exciting opportunities in our youth ministry, contact Sam Burcham at Sam@firstchurchbhm.com.

JULY 4 WORSHIP

On Sunday, July 3 we are planning a virtual worship service only. You are invited to make plans to celebrate the 4th with friends and family or give yourself some much needed down time. Tune into worship at 9:00am on Sunday, July 3 to worship with your First Church family wherever you are located. There will be no in-person worship or Sunday School.

FIRST CHURCH & THE WORLD GAMES

WE ARE STAYING IN TOUCH WITH BIRMINGHAM CITY OFFICIALS ABOUT PLANS FOR THE WORLD GAMES AND HOW THEY MAY IMPACT OUR LOCATION. WE ARE CURRENTLY PLANNING TO OFFER WORSHIP IN-PERSON ON SUNDAY, JULY 10 AND JULY 17 BUT WILL CONTINUE TO MONITOR THE TRANSPORTATION PLAN FOR THE CITY. WE WILL MAKE A CALL ABOUT POSSIBLE CHANGES TO WEEKDAY OFFICE HOURS AND WORSHIP AS WE GET CLOSER TO THE GAMES. WE APPRECIATE YOUR UNDERSTANDING AS WE WORK TO HELP MAKE BIRMINGHAM AS HOSPITABLE AND WELCOMING TO THE WORLD GAMES AS POSSIBLE.

THE BIBLICAL CANTICLES

PROPHETS

And Their Songs

A CANTICLE IS A NON-METRICAL SONG USED IN LITURGICAL WORSHIP, A TRADITION THAT AROSE IN THE CHURCH CENTURIES AGO. CANTICLES ARE DRAWN FROM BIBLICAL TEXTS OTHER THAN THE BOOK OF PSALMS.

THIS IS NOT A SERMON SERIES ON SINGING, THOUGH WE WILL SING HYMNS AND SONGS THAT SUPPORT THE THEMES OF THE CANTICLES WE'RE PROCLAIMING, BUT WE WILL USE THE CANTICLE AS A LENS INTO THE WIDER STORY OF THE BIBLICAL CHARACTER TO WHOM THE CANTICLE BELONGS.

[CLICK HERE](#) FOR MORE INFORMATION

7.17.22 | CANTICLE OF MIRIAM & MOSES

EXODUS 15:9-21, GENESIS 40, NUMBERS 20

7.24.22 | CANTICLE OF DAVID

1 CHRONICLES 29:10-1, 2 SAMUEL 11-12:25

7.31.22 | CANTICLE OF HANNAH

1 SAMUEL 2:1-10

8.7.22 | CANTICLE OF ANNA & SIMEON

LUKE 2:25-38

RETURN TO ESSENCE:

Dive Deeply Into the Spirituality of the Enneagram

AUGUST 12 - 13

We are excited to be hosting the Institute for Conscious Being's workshop "Return to Essence: Dive Deeply Into the Spirituality of the Enneagram" on August 12 - 13. Over the course of Friday evening and Saturday, Dr. Joseph Howell and the faculty of ICB will help us understand how the Enneagram's wisdom can unlock your soul. The weekend will feature live music, teachings, theater, small groups for exploration of your type, as well as interactive exercises that apply to daily life.

Click [HERE](#) for more information

H O M E B O U N D

COMMUNION

In the coming weeks, First Church will be relaunching our Homebound Communion ministry. We are looking for volunteers to take communion to our homebound members once a month, spending time in prayer and checking in with folks who are no longer able to join us for in-person worship. If you are interested in learning more, email Pastoral Intern, Sutton Smith, at Sutton@firstchurchbhm.com.

Click [HERE](#) for more information

STORIES FROM

150 YEARS



Two Women of Faith for Women of Birmingham & Beyond

BY HANNA SCHOCK

.....
She was full of good works and acts of charity.
(Acts 9:36b, about Tabitha aka Dorcas)

.....
...they took him aside and explained the Way of God to him more accurately.
(Acts 18:26b, about Priscilla & Aquila)

.....
Louise Branscomb, MD, (1901-1999) and Ethel Gibson (1927-2019) knew well the stories of Tabitha and Priscilla. They embodied these stories of godly devotion and wise correction to church leaders. Their biblical orientations to Christian community have blessed FUMC and the Kingdom of God long before and far beyond us. Truly they were God's servants whose loving legacies are now our good fortune and future.

.....
Click **HERE** to read the full story.

CITY KIDS UPDATE

BABIES WHO BRUNCH

JULY 14, JULY 28 AT 11:00AM - CITYKIDS WING

Meet on the CityKids wing with your picnic lunch for a casual morning of crafts, music, & storytelling.

SWEET!

JULY 19 AT 4:00PM
UNLESS U SCOOPS IN VESTAVIA HILLS

A 4th and 5th Grade Hangout.

CAMP SUMATANGA DAY CAMP

JULY 11-15

For Rising 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Grade Students

More detailed information is included our CityKids email updates and social media sites - if you are not receiving this information, send Cristin an email at Cristin@firstchurchbhm.com



COMMUNICATIONS AT FIRST CHURCH

If there is a First Church event that you would like to have shared in any of our First Church communications (the bulletin, newsletters, or TV slides), please contact Katie Gilbert at Katie@firstchurchbhm.com. All information for the Monthly Connections must be submitted by 5:00pm on the 15th of the month prior. Please help us as we work to communicate all that is happening at First Church!

NEW MEMBER PRAYERS FOR FIRST CHURCH

AS WE SEEK TO BE
AN OPEN PLACE FOR ALL

MY PRAYER FOR FIRST CHURCH IS:

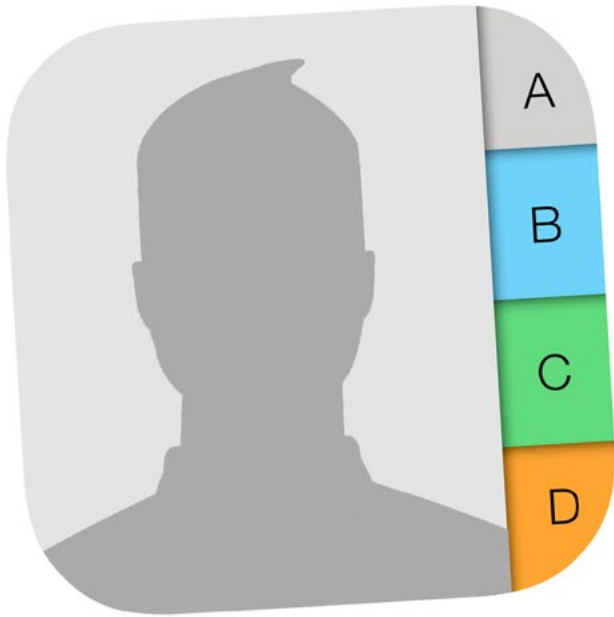
Our prayer for First Church is that it's love and service for all will continue to grow, evolve, and spread through this city and state, to set an example of what God's people could be for each other.

- Lauren & Brandon Chisholm

That all may experience the warmth and welcome I have. May God continue to work through First Church that ALL may be welcomed and experience the love of God first hand.

- Sonya Pearson





CONTACT CHANGES?

As a part of our transition to a new database, we want to make sure we have all of your contact information up to date! This is more important than ever as we will be making a push to communicate more information electronically. So, have you recently moved, changed email addresses, or made other changes to your contact information? If so, we would love to know!

Please send any changes or updated information to Peg Thompson at Peg@firstchurchbhm.com.

OUR CALENDAR

SUNDAY

9:00am: Virtual Live Stream Service

9:45am: Sunday School

11:00am: Loft & Sanctuary In Person Worship

4:00pm: Student Ministry

TUESDAY

7:00pm: Converge Young Adults

WEDNESDAY

6:30pm: Chancel Choir

[Click HERE](#) to view our monthly calendar.

FIRST CHURCH BIRMINGHAM STAFF

YOU MAY REACH OUR STAFF AT 205-254-3186 OR BY EMAIL

Senior Pastor: Stephanie York Arnold	Stephanie@firstchurchbhm.com
Pastor: Jonathan Goss	Jonathan@firstchurchbhm.com
Executive Pastor: Katie Gilbert	Katie@firstchurchbhm.com
Minister of Children: Cristin Dedmon	Cristin@firstchurchbhm.com
Minister of Community Engagement: Katherine Mullen	Katherine@firstchurchbhm.com
Minster of Youth & Justice: Sam Burcham	Sam@firstchurchbhm.com
Organist: Richard Byrd	Richard@firstchurchbhm.com
Design: Blake Hobbs	Blake@firstchurchbhm.com
Minister of Music: Patrick Evans	Patrick@firstchurchbhm.com
Office Administrator: Peg Thompson	Peg@firstchurchbhm.com
Business Administrator: Steve Pitts	Steve@firstchurchbhm.com
Maintenance Supervisor: Ron Dates	Ron@firstchurchbhm.com
Wedding Director: Betsy Pate	Betsy@firstchurchbhm.com
Executive Director of Early Learning Center: Cassandra Copeland	ELC@firstchurchbhm.com



an OPEN place for ALL to **WORSHIP, GROW,** and **SERVE**

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205-254-3186 • www.firstchurchbhm.com