

# FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

## Staff

Music Director – Ron Montgomery  
Secretary – Dona Sulzmann  
Custodian – Rosa Jennings

## Office Hours

9:00 AM – 1:00 PM Monday through Friday

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**First Christian Church**  
**627 Paul W. Bryant Drive**  
**Tuscaloosa, AL 35401**

# FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

(Disciples of Christ)  
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## OCTOBER 2016

## THE EPISTLE

Last Sunday we celebrated the ministry of Ron Montgomery. Ron has led the music ministry at FCC with energy, faithfulness, passion and creativity for 40 years. It is difficult to find another example of someone who has accomplished such a feat in any discipline. We, as a community of faith are indeed blessed. The following story has nothing to do with Ron (really!!) but I was thinking about it Sunday as we surprised him by honoring his service.

It seems the first hint of trouble came when the Pastor preached this stirring sermon on "dedicating yourselves to service" and the Music Director chose to sing "I Shall Not Be Moved." Trying to believe it was a coincidence, the Pastor put the incident behind him. The next Sunday he preached on "giving and the importance of tithing". Afterwards, the choir squirmed as the director led them in the hymn "Jesus Paid it All." By this time, the Pastor was losing his temper. Sunday morning attendance swelled as the tension between the two built. A large crowd showed up the next week to hear his sermon on "the sin of gossiping". Would you believe the Music Director selected "I Love to Tell the Story"? There was no turning back. The following Sunday the Pastor told the congregation that unless something changed he was considering resignation. The entire church gasped when the Director led them in the song "Why Not Tonight." Truthfully, no one was surprised when the Pastor resigned a week later, explaining that Jesus had led him there and Jesus was leading him away. The Music Director could not resist and chose "What a Friend We Have in Jesus."

Ron, you are a gift to us! Thank you for leading our experience of worship in a thoughtful and faithful way. You have blessed us. May the blessings continue.

Honored to be with you along this part of the journey! See you in church!

Jim

**Church**  
Elders & Deacons

- October 2<sup>nd</sup> Polly Bailey  
Woodie Payne  
\*Ed Carson  
Mike Largin  
Will Largin  
\*Kate Matheny
- October 9<sup>th</sup> Polly Bailey  
Woodie Payne  
Bailey Farish  
Kim Farish  
\*Brinley Hocutt  
\*Martha Hocutt
- October 16<sup>th</sup> Polly Bailey  
Woodie Payne  
Cindy Harris  
\*Chris Largin  
\*Ken Largin  
Amy Montgomery
- October 23<sup>rd</sup> Polly Bailey  
Woodie Payne  
Bailey Farish  
Kim Farish  
\*Rosa Jennings  
\*Steve Jennings
- October 30<sup>th</sup> Polly Bailey  
Woodie Payne  
Brinley Hocutt  
\*Rosa Jennings  
\*Steve Jennings  
Chris Largin
- Liturgist: Jon Atkinson



**Hope Circle** will meet **October 3<sup>rd</sup>** at **9:30 am**.

**Circle I** will meet at **10:00** **October 11<sup>th</sup>** at the church.

**Serendipity Circle** will meet **October 10<sup>th</sup>** at **5:30** at **Chuy's** (new shopping center).

CWF/DW General Meeting is on **October 17<sup>th</sup>** at **6:00 pm**.

**CMF Breakfast**  
**cancelled for**  
**October**



**Sandra Brennan**  
**Wiley Hales**  
**Linda Ingram**  
**Buddy Mason**  
**Anita Smelley**  
**Brenda Tanner**

**MINISTRY TEAMS**

**Sunday, October 9<sup>th</sup>**  
**1:30 pm**




Ron Montgomery

**Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Gift materials will be available this month, including pre-made shoeboxes.**

*The Search Committee will host a Fellowship Dinner following the worship service October 9<sup>th</sup>. During our time together, we want to invite the congregation into a conversation about our vision and mission for the future as God's church.*



**October 29<sup>th</sup>**  
**8:00 - noon**

One more game day this month, the 22<sup>nd</sup> (Texas A&M). We need desserts (you just don't realize how much our guests ask for these desserts!)  We also need some additional help especially in the middle of the day up to closing, even if it's just for a couple of hours.

Just a few more pictures need to be taken for the directory. Hope to have it completed by end of this month. If you have a change from your old listing, please let Dona know ASAP.



