FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH, UCC

Women's Fellowship Annual

HARVEST SUNDAY

Celebration

"Abundance of Grace - Celebrating God's Goodness"

OCTOBER 18, 2026
2:00 PM

Rev. Rodtric T. Robinson, Pastor

638 High Street at Union, Montgomery, 36104

"The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few."

Matthew 9:37

Our Guest Speaker
Stacia Robinson

From Air Force captain to leading voice in communications entrepreneurship, Stacia Robinson was appointed to the Governor's Cabinet to serve as Director of the Alabama Office of Civic Engagement. She is also the Agency Principal of Bene Choice Companies, LLC, a benefits and financial choices company that invests in businesses and organizational development, with a focus on boosting employee loyalty and retention. A Denver, Colorado native, Stacia is a dedicated servant of her community.

A proud alumna of Spelman College, Stacia earned a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics before beginning her trailblazing career in the United States Air Force as a communications-computer officer. During her seven years of military service, she advanced through the ranks at the Air Force Standard Systems Center to become a captain before trading in her uniform to pursue her passion for marketing and entrepreneurship. In business, Stacia carved a bold path to success. She helped make Alabama the ninth state to franchise BNI—Business Network International—and was later elected to the Montgomery Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors.

Stacia is an active member of the Montgomery community, using her talents to invest in and uplift businesses and entrepreneurs. She serves on the Huntingdon College Board of Trustees and as a director or leadership council member with Renasant Bank, the Montgomery Area Chamber of Commerce, where she is Immediate Past Board Chair, the National Federation of Independent Business, Leadership Alabama, and the Industrial Development Board of the City of Montgomery. Previously, she served as president of the boards of Habitat for Humanity and the Montgomery Rotary Club, Board Chair of the Central Alabama Community Foundation, and Commissioner for the 15th Judicial Court Pre-Trial Diversion Program.

Stacia also shares the insights and perspectives she has gained throughout her journey as an entrepreneur, executive, and community leader. A gifted communicator, she has received numerous awards and recognitions for her work. She is a graduate of Leadership Alabama Class 11, where she served as Montgomery Regional Council Co-Chair, and Leadership Montgomery Class 14. She also earned the designation of Distinguished Toastmaster, one of the highest levels of achievement awarded by Toastmasters International.

Beyond her professional accomplishments, Stacia nurtures her passion for communication and family. She is a contributing author to the New York Times and Wall Street Journal bestseller, *Masters of Networking*, and the proud wife of Montgomery native Toy Robinson. Together, they have two adult children, Maurice and Jaylin.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH, UCC

638 High Street at Union Montgomery, AL 36106

Women's Fellowship

Annual Harvest Sunday Program

October 18, 2026

President, Dr. Iris Gibbs Presiding

Prelude	**Dr. George West**
Music	**FCCC Male Chorus**
Welcome and Occasion	**Dr. Iris Gibbs**
Invocation	**Deacon Janice P. Scott**
Music	**FCCC Male Chorus**
Offertory	**FCCC Ushers**
Introduction of Speaker	**Mrs. Carolyn Olivari**
Guest Speaker	**Mrs. Stacia Robinson**
Special Musical Selection	**Dr. Djuana Paden**
Presentation of Award	**Dr. Iris Gibbs**
Daring to Make a Difference Award Presentation	**Mrs. Beatrice M. Forniss**
Recognition of Guests and Visitors	**Mrs. Kenyatta Miller**
Remarks	**Dr. Iris Gibbs**
Benediction	**Rev. Rodtric T. Robinson, Pastor**

A reception will be held in the Fellowship Hall immediately following service

2026 Daring To Make A Difference Honoree

Velora J. Ford is a devoted and faithful servant whose life reflects commitment to faith, family, service, and community. She was born in Fayette, AL, to the late Greene and Eula Mae Cannon.

Velora was educated in the Fayette County Public School System and graduated as the valedictorian of her class. After graduation, she attended Alabama State University (ASU) where she majored in Music and minored in Library Science. She furthered her education at ASU with a graduate degree in Guidance and Counseling. While attending Alabama State University, she was a member of the ASU Marching Band, The Alabama State Collegiates Jazz Band, the concert band, and the college choir. During that time, she was honored as the Best All-Around Musician and held the distinction of being the only female in the jazz band. She became a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. and served in several capacities until her graduation.

She began her career as an educator in Coosa County and continued in Montgomery County and Macon County. After retirement, she taught music at the Cleveland Ave. YMCA, and worked as office personnel at Bellingrath Middle School.

A faithful member of First Congregational Christian Church, she served as the musician and choir director for over 50 years. Velora has served in other capacities, including The Women's Fellowship, Church delegate, Chair of Music Task Force, Chair of the 150th Church Anniversary, and she was instrumental in the development of the Senior Ministry Program. Through her dedication to the ministry, she has exemplified the principles of Christian faith, love, humility, and service to others.

Beyond the church, Ms. Ford has made meaningful contributions to community organizations, civic organizations, and other areas of service. They include Retired Teachers' Association, Montgomery Chapter, American Association of Retired Persons (AARP), Alabama State University Alumni Association, Montgomery Chapter, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, Beta Nu Omega Chapter. Her most recent accomplishment was the selection of the 2025 Mitzi Dease Paige Pearl Soror of The Year representing Alabama, Mississippi, and Tennessee. Above all, she believes that every good gift comes from God and that a life of purpose is best measured by the love we share and the lives we touch.

Velora Ford was married to the late Andre' Ford. She is the mother of Andrea Ford Kemp and Rev. Juan Andre Ford. She is the mother in love to Katrina Taylor Ford and Micah Kemp, she is the proud grandmother of Asllynne, Avery, and Harper .

Past Daring to Make a Difference Honorees

Centennial Hill Gardening Project

The John F. Knight, Sr. Family

Montgomery Habitat for Humanity

Saint John the Baptist Catholic Church

Troy State University Montgomery

Mayor Bobby Bright

Fathers Active in Children's Education

Madison Park Neighborhood Assn

Mr. and Mrs. John (Jimmie) Felder

King Hill Community Improvement Coalition

Mr. and Mrs. Theodore (Elizabeth) Sankey

Mr. Ken Upchurch, III

Dr. Hagalyn Seay Wilson

Dr. Carl Marbury

The Men of FCCC

Mr. Walter L. Bush Sr.

Mr. Thomas R. "Buddy" Morgan

Mrs. Johnnie R. Carr

The Honorable Quinton Ross

Mrs. Aundria Jackson

Mr. Wayne Sabel

Mrs. Maricia Woodham

Mr. Reginald McKenzie Miller

Ms. Timikel Blakely Sharpe

Mrs. Sheyann Webb Christburg

Mrs. Katie Grimes Franklin

Mrs. Eudora Lee

Ms. Barbara Williams Thompson

Team Morris

Mr. Jerome Gray

Mr. David Bukette

Dr. Gwendolyn E. Boyd

Mr. Darryl Sinkfield

Mrs. Lela French Hamilton

Valiant Cross Academy

Ms. Diana S. Gray

Mr. Charles Lee

Mr. Terrence Baldwin

Dr. James B. Oliver

Mayor Steven L. Reed

Central Alabama Crime Stoppers

Pastor Ken Austin

Sisterhood and Brotherhood of the Devine Nine

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

First Congregational Christian Church, UCC

Faith Fellowship Service Community

The Women's Fellowship is a ministry of Christian women united by faith, strengthened through fellowship, and committed to serving God, the Church, and the community. Through shared purpose and a spirit of love, we seek to make a meaningful difference in the lives of others while encouraging spiritual growth and Christian sisterhood.

OUR MISSION

To unite women in Christian love and service, using our gifts, talents, and resources to strengthen the ministry of our church, support our community, and extend God's love beyond our doors.

OUR COMMITMENT TO SERVICE

Our work includes supporting church ministries and special programs, participating in community outreach, encouraging spiritual enrichment, and providing educational support to selected Montgomery Public Schools. Through acts of kindness, service, and giving, we strive to be a blessing to others.

FELLOWSHIP WITH PURPOSE

Membership welcomes women of our congregation and friends who share a desire to grow in faith, build meaningful relationships, and serve others. Together, we celebrate the power of Christian fellowship and the difference women can make when they work with one heart and a common purpose.

"Let all that you do be done in love." — 1 Corinthians 16:14

United in Faith. Dedicated to Service. Committed to Love.

OFFICERS

Dr. Iris Gibbs, President

Mrs. Kenyetta Miller, Vice President

Mrs. JoEtta Andrews, Treasurer

Mrs. Evelyn Lyle, Financial Secretary

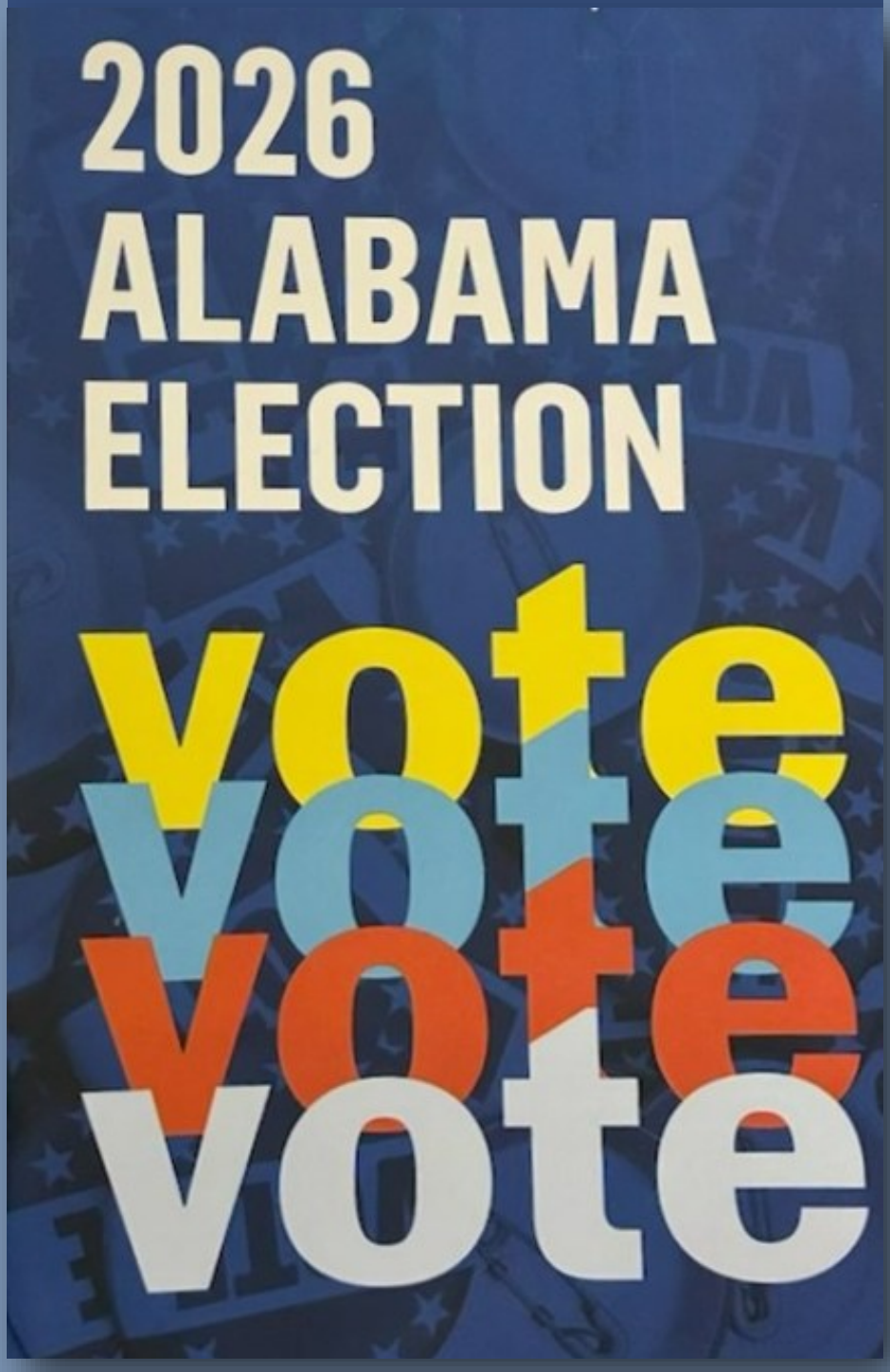
Mrs. Bea Forniss, Parliamentarian

Deacon Janice P. Scott, Recording Secretary

Deacon Jacqueline Grimes, Chaplain

Ms. Cecilia Thomas, Courtesy Chair

Exercise your political power.



Announcements & Acknowledgements

First Congregational Christian Church and members of the Women's Fellowship welcome you to this special Harvest Sunday Service. We thank you for sharing this program of thanksgiving for God's bountiful blessings, and we are delighted by your presence. Please join us immediately following service in the Fellowship Hall.

Program Chair - Carolyn Olivari

Awards- Jacqueline Grimes

Bulletin Board - Kim Gillis

Ushers - FCCC Men

Logistics
Dr. Iris Gibbs
Janice P. Scott
Bea Forniss
Evelyn Lyle

Sanctuary Decorations
JoEtta Andrews
Carolyn Olivari

Reception Committee
Bea Forniss
Virginia Harper
Brenda Martin
Deborah Freeman

A very special thank you is extended to the following families and supporters for their generous contributions toward making our 2026 Harvest Celebration a success. Your generosity, demonstrated through both in-kind and monetary contributions, is deeply appreciated. Your kindness and support reflect the true spirit of fellowship and community that make this celebration so meaningful.

The Sinkfield Family
Mr. & Mrs. Curtis Stewart
Forniss Enterprises, LLC

May God continue to bless each of you for your generosity and unwavering support.

Janeen Bush
PrettyPapers@yahoo.com