

Joys and Concerns of the Church and Community

- **Julie** and **J.D. Fleming** offer prayers of thanksgiving for the birth of **Joanne** and **Matthew Smith-Farrell's** twin daughters, **Ava** and **Caleigh**.
- **Julie Fleming** and **J.D. Fleming** request prayers for **Vicky Likens**, who is in treatment for leukemia.
- **Wiley Harris** and **Dan'l Giles** share that they are so grateful that this is a second Christmas not alone, but surrounded by a gracious, loving family that showers us with so much love that makes this such a special and loving place to be any time.
- **Wiley Harris** and **Dan'l Giles** request prayers for their niece and for **Dan'l's** sister **Katie**.
- **Rosa Kent** requests prayers for traveling mercies for her son-in-law **Bob Miranda** who is traveling to Pennsylvania and will hopefully receive the "Salesman of the Year." **Bob's** thumb is still troubling him following surgery as well.
- Prayers for healing and relief from pain for **Marion Meador**.
- **Kathy Westbrook** requests prayers for the family of her cousin, **Ronald Denhaese**, aged 70, who passed away and whose funeral service was last Wednesday.
- **James Brewer-Calvert** is grateful for traveling mercies and wonderful celebrations in New York and Virginia.
- **Chris Butler** is concerned about the materialism/consumerism and loss of the spiritual aspects of this season.
- Prayers for strength and focus to make it through this semester for all students, especially seminarians **Melvin Bussey, Jr.**, **Sarah McClelland**, and **Anita Renahan-White**.
- The **Wade** family offers prayers of thanksgiving for their grandchildren!
- Continued prayers for God's comfort and solace for **Bob Kuhl** and his children, **Matthew**, **Ethan**, and **Hannah**, who are grieving the loss of wife and mother, **Lucy Steiner**, good friends of the **Brewer-Calvert's**.
- **Dee Cordell** requests prayers for her mother, **Carol Westman**.
- **Jeanette Duncan** requests prayers for her daughter-in-law, **Stephanie Duncan**.
- **Mark Ranney** requests prayers for his friend **Jay**, aged 25, who is battling cancer and is not responding to rehabilitation.
- **Cathy Keeler** requests prayers for continued healing for her mother and father; both are doing better!
- Prayers for the safety and endurance of emergency response personnel over this holiday season. Prayers for openness to God's guidance of our government leaders.
- The ministries and mission of Decatur First, and the prayerful discernment of faithful stewardship.
- **Yvonne Capshaw**, friend and colleague of **Michael Dodd**, her mother and husband, **Rodney**, have both been diagnosed with cancer.
- Continued prayers for recuperation and rest for **Glen** and **Elaine Alsobrook**.
- Comfort and solace for **Ruby Rathel**, **Elaine Alsobrook's** mother.
- **Alan Thomas**, friend of **Nathan Brown**, requests prayers for employment.
- **Dianna Williams** requests prayers for **Leah Gaubert**, a 3rd grade teacher at **Ellen** and **Mei Mei's** school, whose husband died suddenly.
- **Daphne** and **Ralph Reiley** are so grateful for all of the prayers, suppers, and hugs!
- Healing and wholeness for all of those who are recovering from cancer surgery and enduring the effects of chemotherapy treatments.
- God's comfort and mercy to embrace all of those in harm's way in all the areas of the world living in conflict. Prayers for resolution to the violence in the world.
- Healing and strength for **Judy** and **George Barrett**. Prayers of thanksgiving for **Alicia Maxwell's** positive response to treatments. Prayers for **Alicia's** friend **Andy**

- **Farmer**. Continued prayers for **Laura Thigpen**, friend of **Adei Grenpastures** who continues to undergo chemo treatments.
- **Adei Grenpastures** offers thanksgiving for life and for the ability to listen today; gratitude to the Church community for supporting the spiritual formation group on Saturdays.
- Support, healing, and strength for **Kimberly** and **Katya Kolberg**, and **Lori Keaton**, friends of **Daphne Reiley**.

Church Calendar

Sunday, December 5:	Second Day of Advent-Peace Sunday
8:30 a.m.	Awakenings Service in the Chapel
9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
10:50 a.m.	Sanctuary Service
5-7 p.m.	Chrismon Service and Tasting Party
8 p.m.	NA
Monday, December 6:	
10 a.m.	Staff Meeting
11 a.m.	Prayer Group
Tuesday, December 7:	
3:30 p.m.	Music Theory Group
4-6:30 p.m.	Music Teacher
8:00 p.m.	AA/ALANON
Wednesday, December 8:	Atlanta First Youth come to Decatur 1st Christian to sell Christmas trees
3:30 p.m.	Music Theory Group
6:30 p.m.	Bell Choir Rehearsal
7:30 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, December 9:	
6:30-8:30 p.m.	Suzuki Violin in Sanctuary
7:30 p.m.	Lydia Circle
Saturday, December 11:	
10 a.m. – 12 noon	Christmas Pageant Rehearsal
1-2 p.m.	Spiritual Growth with Rev. Grenpastures
4 p.m.	Beacon Class Xmas Desserts
Sunday, December 12:	Third Day of Advent-Joy Sunday
	Congregational Meeting after both 8:30 a.m. and 10:50 a.m. Services
8:30 a.m.	Awakenings Service in the Chapel
9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
10:50 a.m.	Sanctuary Service
12:30 p.m.	Eldership meets
3-4 p.m.	Piano Recital
8 p.m.	NA

Assisted Living: **Gus Head** Northlake Gardens 1300 Montreal Road, Room 228 Tucker, GA 320084-8141; **Matelyn Heyward** Ivy Hall 5690 State Bridge, Room 130 Alpharetta, GA. 30022-8188; **Velma McKinney** Wesley Wood Towers 208 Towers Circle NE Atlanta, GA. 30329-4095; **Gwen Sapp** Traditions Health & Rehabilitation 2816 Evans Mill Road-Room D10 Lithonia, GA. 30058-7440; **Ellen Young** and **Eunice Kalb** 3675 Kensington Road Decatur, GA. 30032-1735. **At Home:** **Julie Bryant** 2100 Clairmont Lake Montclair Room 213 Decatur, GA. 30033-4052; **Jean Crowe** 165 Marion Place, NE, Apt. 705 Atlanta, GA 30307-2791; **Hank Ferry** 1209 Highland Drive, NE Marietta, GA 30062-2206; **Maurice** and **Edith Jones** 4640 Stonemeade Court Atlanta, GA 30331-7988; **Jane Liles** 127 King's Bridge, NE Atlanta, GA 30329-2548; **Thetis Merritt** 631 Kirk Road Decatur, GA 30030-4524; **Don** and **Carolyn Middour** 1476 Oakridge Circle Decatur, GA 30033-2133; **Robbie Re** 1701 The Oaks Clarkston, GA. 30021-1276; **Sara Ripy** Arbor Terrace 425 Winn Way Rm. 224 Decatur, GA 30030-1733; **Millie Simmons** 221 Mimosa Drive Decatur, GA 30030-3733; **Virginia Smith** 336 Madisons Way Waleska, GA 30183-3182.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath: The Peace Candle

Liturgist: 8:30 a.m. Tamir Wade Family

10:50 a.m. Paul and Sage Appleby

One: Last Sunday, we lit the first candle in our Advent wreath, the candle of hope. Let us light it again, as a symbol of our desire for healing and wholeness for our world. Our hope is in God's way of Shalom.

(The Hope candle is lit.)

John the Baptist called on the people of his day to get ready for the coming of the Messiah. They were to repent -- turn around -- change their focus. The peace we seek grows out of a willingness to repent and change direction.

Many: We light this second candle to remind us that Jesus is the Prince of Peace. His life has shown us ways to share God's peace with others.

(The Peace candle is lit.)

One: Let us join together in a prayer for peace for ourselves and our world using the words of the International Peace Prayer.

**Many: Lead me from death to life,
from falsehood to truth.**

**Lead me from despair to hope,
from fear to trust.**

**Lead me from hate to love,
from war to peace.**

**Let peace fill our hearts,
our world, our universe. Amen**

All Sing: One Candle is Lit (verse 2) 128

**Come, quickly, shalom, teach us how to prepare
For a gift that compels us with justice to care.**

Our spirits are restless till sin and war cease.

One candle is lit for the reign of God's peace.

Beacon Class Potluck

On December 11th at 4 p.m., The Beacon Sunday School Class will have a Potluck or Xmas Desserts at the church.

Chris Butler

First Christian Church of Decatur

(Disciples of Christ)

601 West Ponce de Leon Avenue

Decatur, GA 30030

Phone: 404-378-3621

Fax: 404-378-1875

Email: 1stcc@bellsouth.net

Website: www.decaturdisciples.org



The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) was born in the early 1800s as a dynamic movement for God that spread across the American frontier. Seeking to move beyond denominational division and toward being a New Testament Church, our founders envisioned a united community of faith grounded in the love and grace of Jesus Christ. Today we are over 3,700 congregations strong across the United States, Canada, and around the world. The red Chalice with St. Andrew's Cross symbolizes our focus on the weekly celebration of Holy Communion and the openness of the Lord's Table, where all are made welcome and invited to partake.

First Christian Church of Decatur was founded on Christmas Day 1921, and has served faithfully ever since with a significant urban ministry, an inclusive theology, and a Kingdom-building vision. We are open and accepting of all of God's people, and encourage women, men, and young people to follow their call from God to serve, just as Christ first served us.

How to Join:

You may join First Christian Church by transfer of membership, confession of faith, or by renewal of the vows of your baptism.

Please fill out a Friends and Visitors Card (found in your worship program) and bring it forward with you during the Hymn of Invitation, where our Pastor will be delighted to welcome you.

Disciples of Christ congregations are delighted to recognize all baptisms. We baptize by immersion at an age of understanding. If you have not been baptized we will schedule one with you at a later date. Pastor-led classes on "Baptism and Belonging" are offered on a regular basis.