

Church Calendar of Missions and Ministry Opportunities

Sunday, March 8:	Daylight Savings Time begins, Spring Forward One Hour
9 a.m.	Continental Breakfast
9:15 a.m.	Spiritual Formation/Bible Study Classes
10:30 a.m.	Sanctuary Service
2:30-4 p.m.	Pam Martin Recital in Sanctuary
8 p.m.	Narcotics Anonymous
Monday, March 9:	
10 a.m.	Staff Meeting
11 a.m.	Prayer Group
3:30 p.m.	Cello Lessons
6 p.m.	Finance Ministry Meeting
6:30 p.m.	Administration Meeting
Tuesday, March 10:	
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.	Chalice Thrift Store
4-6 p.m.	Spring Into Spanish
8 p.m.	AA/ALANON
Wednesday, March 11:	
4- 6 p.m.	Spring Into Spanish
6 p.m.	Dinner and Seminar on “Simple Living: Life as a Work of Art”
7:30 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, March 12:	
10 a.m.-2 p.m.	Chalice Thrift Store
4-6 p.m.	Spring Into Spanish
4 p.m.	AJC Book Festival in Pathfinders Room
Friday, March 13:	
9:30 a.m.	Wisdom Weavers go to the Quilt Show at Bulloch Hall in Roswell
Saturday, March 14:	
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.	Chalice Thrift Store
Sunday, March 15:	All Church Meal to honor new members and eldership
9 a.m.	Continental Breakfast
9:15 a.m.	Spiritual Formation/Bible Study Classes
10:30 a.m.	Sanctuary Service
After worship	All Church Meal
After meal	Deaconate will meet
8 p.m.	Narcotics Anonymous

Spiritual Formation Each Sunday at 9:15 a.m.

“Exploring the Bible” in Carmack Room

“Pathfinders Class” in the Pathfinders Room

This Week: “Lord, Give Me Patience! And give it to me right now!” by James Moore and Bob J. Moore.

“The Nature of True Community” Bible Class. Study texts include Dietrich Bonhoeffer’s **Life Together**.

First Christian Church of Decatur (Disciples of Christ)



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John 2: 13-22

13 The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. **14** In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. **15** Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. **16** He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" **17** His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." **18** The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" **19** Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." **20** The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" **21** But he was speaking of the temple of his body. **22** After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

1 Corinthians 1: 18-25

18 For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. **19** For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." **20** Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? **21** For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. **22** For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, **23** but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, **24** but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. **25** For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.



Joys and Concerns for Church and Community

The joys and concerns of our congregation and community follow. Please remember that some requests are marked confidential and are lifted up within the Monday Morning Prayer Circle yet not reflected here. Sometimes, simply a person's name will be listed with no explanation. Trust in the wisdom and confidentiality of the Prayer Group, and lift up that person's whole being to God's holy, healing Light.

- God answers prayers! Jesus said, "Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you." (Matthew 7: 7)
- **Dave and Laura Andrew** said, "Joy for two new oak trees donated and planted on church property by Trees of Atlanta."
- **Ashley Buchanan** says, "Thank you to everyone who attended my Junior Recital! I am grateful for your love and support. God bless you all."
- **Rev. Betty Brewer-Calvert** requests, "Prayers as the Brewer family celebrates the life of **Ann Brewer Berry** this Saturday. She is the aunt of Betty Brewer-Calvert. Thanksgiving for the Disciples Women Day of fellowship, service, worship and learning at Koinoina Farm in South Georgia yesterday. **Minnie Haynes, Lillie Sapp and Betty Brewer-Calvert** attended from First Christian Church."
- **Susan Watts** said, "Lest not separate the trust of the love of God."
- **Sandra Brundage** said, "I would like to thank you for your prayers for my friend **Maxwell James** who is in the Army stationed in Africa. He is still there. Please keep praying for his safe return."
- **Wiley and Danl** ask for guidance for their Sunday School class in new beginnings.
- **Mary Frances Early** asks for prayers for her friend **James Camp** and his family.
- **Wilton "Wolf" Hugh Thomas** (2/18/42 – 2/24/15) was a Charter Member (1995) of Gentle Spirit Christian Church. His Memorial Service will be on May 3 in Candler Park at 10:30 a.m. Wolf was a regular participant in FCC Decatur ministries as well, including our Christmas Tree Sale, shared worship services, and the distribution of food and hygiene kits to homeless neighbors. He will be missed.
- **Mary Ellen Fountain** asks for prayers for her neighbor **Laura Seaman** who recently moved to a nursing home.
- **Randy Finley** asks for prayers for his mother **Sue Finley** who is hospitalized with pneumonia.
- **James and Betty Brewer-Calvert** are saddened that **Paul Elvin Duncan**, 47, a NYC Police Narcotics Detective, was killed in a car accident last Friday. Paul married **Rechelle Abraham**, who was an active member of the Church of the Living Hope's Youth Group when the B-Cs served there in the 1980s; they were witnesses of their budding romance and joy in each other. Paul and Rechelle have a daughter named **Laila**, 13. His funeral service is March 4 in New York.
- **Barbara Powell** said, "**Polly Brock** fell Friday night. She was in the hospital but she has been moved to Eastside Heritage Rehab, 2160 Fountain Drive, Room 115, Snellville, GA 30078. Her dementia is worse but the doctor says it's due to the anesthesia, hopefully it will return to normal in a few weeks. She probably won't recognize any one, so no visitors please."
- **Mary Jobson** asks for prayer for the family of **Bob and Lauchi Castro**. **Bob's** mother, **Helen Therese Castro** broke her hip last week is under hospice care due to complications and organ failure.
- **Heather S. Bellville** asks for prayers for her dog **Maggie** whose is now in Heaven.
- **Mark Ranney** wants prayers for friends **Liz Bookheimer** and **Darryle Worley**.
- **Kayla Harriott** asks for prayer for the family of her dear friend **Tae Edwards**, 22 years old, who passed away from a car accident.
- **Marcus Hill, Indra Thomas, Ann Marie McPhail, and Pamela Dillard** will be in recital here on Sunday, March 22 at 4 p.m.at First Christian Church of Decatur.
- **Bridgette Boker** asks for prayers for her son **Andre**.
- **Larry Todd** asks for prayer for his brother-in-law **Terry Tolbert** who is awaiting surgery for a kidney stone removal.
- We continue to lift up **Furat and Deb Almauhy, Glen Alsobrook, Sr., Johnnie Barber, Betty Carroll, Julia Glenn Carter, Elizabeth Cunningham, the Delk Family, Jeanette Duncan, Willie Mae Durr, Sylvia Ennis, Hank Ferry, Shannen Ferry, J.D. Fleming, Mary Ellen Fountain, Dottie Gill, Adei Grenpastures, Barbara Hennig, Clara Holley, Jackie Hudson** and daughter **Alexis, Nicolas Jordan, The Kidd Family, Patti King, Blair Lewellyn, Jay Love, Monte and Sarah Mathis, Judy McMahan, Carol Givens (Evans) McGinnis, Lynn Nabers, The Norton Family, Mary Beth Powell, Ramona Rathel, Kim Stanley, Lee**

Stanley, Tate Family, Terry Tolbert, Mildred Trott, Carol Wheeler, Nancy Williamson, and Ellen Young.

Dear Friends:

On behalf of First Christian Church of Decatur, I write to thank you for your participation and prayers while worshiping Jesus Christ here amongst the whole people of God. Shalom, Pastor James Brewer-Calvert

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.

Here is a brief theology and history lesson about this Body of Christ. First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) of Decatur, Georgia has a covenantal relationship with sister churches across the city and around the world. While each congregation is independent – no one has the ecclesial authority to direct us what to do, say, believe, or call to serve as pastor—we are connected by a covenant of love. Beginning in the early 1800's, Christian Churches and Disciples of Christ congregations flourished across the USA and around the world. In 1968, the separate bodies yoked to become the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) with three manifestations: local congregations, regional churches, and a general church to facilitate national and international missions. Ever since we have covenanted to support and encourage fellow Disciples and to practice Christian ministry locally, regionally and globally.

Having said that, there are some theological practices we share in common.

We are non-creedal; everyone is invited to love and serve God through Jesus Christ, but how and why you move in that direction is between each soul and God. We practice baptism by immersion at an age of understanding, yet we recognize all forms of baptism and therefore do not require anyone to be re-baptized. The Lord's Table is open because Christ is the host and the purpose. We celebrate the birth, ministry, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, and in the context of worship we offer Holy Communion every Sunday. Everyone has a vocation, and we affirm Christ's call to children, youth, women and men to serve. We turn to the Holy Scriptures for guidance and direction in our daily living, yet also recognize that the Holy Spirit, in God's infinite wisdom, continues to lovingly communicate through additional voices and acts of grace. At the intersection of faith and reason we meet the Risen Christ and one another. The call of the Gospel for social justice and the building of community is intricately woven into the very fabric of the worship, study, and prayer life of the church.

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.