



## First Christian Church of Decatur

*Resolve to Love – Agree to Differ – Unite to Serve – Break Bread Together*

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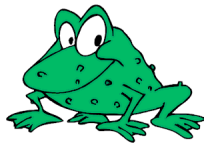
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## Preschool Summer Camp "Creation Celebration"

The Scripture tells us that children are our example  
in Christian faith.

"Then little children were being brought  
to him in order that he might lay his hands on them  
and pray. The disciples spoke sternly to those who

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**Thanks, Thanks,  
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**Third Sunday after  
Pentecost, June 14,  
2015**

Worship the Living  
Christ at 10:30 a.m.

**Holy Scriptures:**

Ezekiel 17: 22-24; 2  
Corinthians 5: 14-19;  
Mark 4: 26-34

**Sermon Title:**

"What is Your Story?"

**Preaching:**

Rev. Don Brewer

**Worship Leaders:**

Tom Rosenberger and  
Ruth Lutz

**Deacons:** Doug

brought them; but Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs." (Matthew 19: 13-14 NRSV)

Our congregation has a great history of offering loving and caring hands to all the little children who pass through our doors. This past week has been another example of that loving and caring welcome. Nineteen children ages 3 through 5 passed into our car every day from Monday, June 1 through Friday June 5 from 9 a.m. until noon. We welcomed each family with a smile, a name tag and the blessing of our hands as we shepherded them into the sanctuary.

The Storyteller, Sherry Davis began each morning with an engaging tale about God's creation and never-ending love for all God's children. The music leader, Kathy Westbrook, lead the children in singing and dancing to the songs of creation celebration.

Our memory verse was shared and the children learned several phrases each day. "Praise the Lord in the heavens, praise the Lord you sun and moon and all you shining stars, for at shining his command they were created" (Psalm 148: 1-5 TNIV)

The volunteer shepherds (William Garner, Minnie Haynes, Maryellen Merrill, Liz Kellogg and Mary Frances Early) led the little ones to their classes on rotations of 30-40 minutes each. Miche Baskett taught the words for creation daily themes in Spanish while Yolanda Lewellyn and Robbin Brown brought creative opportunities to living creation to life for the children. Kathy Westbrook filled them with songs and playing little musical instruments, just their size. A feast of crackers and juice was shared each day as a snack for those who desired to partake.

Our final gathering time each day was one of laughter, song and encouragement. Parents, grandparents and guardians were welcomed to be a part of our time together and many stayed to share time in the sanctuary with children showing their crafts and joy in the gathering.

The Creation Celebration concluded Sunday morning as several children and their families participated in worship.

We thank and praise God through Jesus Christ

Schuette, Bridgette  
Boker, Steve Oliver  
**Greeters:** TBA  
**Acolytes:** Will Kidd



**Welcome Home!**

First Christian Church of  
Decatur  
(Disciples of Christ)  
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Decatur, GA 30030

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"We are Disciples of Christ, a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world. As part of the one body of Christ, we welcome all to the Lord's Table as God has welcomed us." --Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Statement of Identity.

for all those who gave of themselves to be present to these little ones and for the resources provided by this congregation to make a difference in their lives.

**Rev. Dr. Barbara Sims-King**

### **Preschool Summer Camp Pictures**



**Arts & Crafts with Minnie, Mary Frances, Robbin, Sherry and Yolanda**



**Music with William, Maryellen and Kathy**

## **"Over My Head, I Hear Music in the Air"**

June 7, 2015 was another wonderful day at the First Christian Church of Decatur. The Music Ministry offered four musical selections during the 10:30 a.m. Worship Service as well as hosted "Over My Head, I Hear Music in the Air" at 4 p.m.

The Handbell Ensemble played the first three selections:

\*Canon of Grace, the Pachelbel Canon and Amazing Grace combined into one melodious song;

\*Bwana Asifiwe, a Swahili selection with exciting rhythms and syncopation which, when translated, means "Praise the Lord!" and \*Give Me Jesus, an African American Spiritual with Kayla Harriott singing the Soprano Solo.

The Chancel Choir offered A Bach Alleluia, a beautiful SATB arrangement of the famous Bach/Gounod Ave Maria originally woven together in 1853.

Later that afternoon, the Church hosted a wonderful concert themed "Over My Head, I Hear Music in the Air!" Speaking for the congregation at FCCD, we are so grateful to have met and hosted each of the talented participants:

Marcus Hill, Baritone  
Indra Thomas, Soprano  
Ann Marie McPhail, Soprano  
Pamela Dillard, Mezzo-Soprano  
Ben Leaptrott, Pianist

as well as the accompanying instrumentalists, Charles Absher on guitar and Fred King on alto saxophone.

The vision for the event came from small and large group discussions held during our New Beginnings Long Range Planning Process. The resounding success of the concert, the first in our series at FCCD, was beyond my hopes and dreams. We drew music lovers from FCCD, other Disciples churches across

the Region, the wider Atlanta community, and even out of state! The enthusiastic response confirms the vision of our beautiful sanctuary as a hosting place for quality music programs. Thank you to all who made it possible!

William E. Garner  
Director of Music

### **Please Help Us Send Church Youth to Serve as Counselors at Camp Balaam**

Camp Balaam is a summer day camp for at-risk children held at Camp Christian in Gordon, Georgia. This special camp is sponsored by our Regional Ministry and staffed by youth and adults from Christian Churches across the Georgia Region. While our congregation has resources to supplement half or more of the costs to send our church youth to a week-long experience at summer camp, we did not budget resources to cover the costs of sending support staff to Camp Balaam. The joyful fact that we now have two young people who are eligible (16 – 18 years old) and want to serve and guide children in Camp Balaam is a double blessing. Please give what you can and earmark your gift to Camp Scholarship Fund. In case there is any overage the funds will be designated for 2016 camp scholarships. Thank you for your prayerful consideration.

### **Offerings for Spiritual Formation on Sunday at 9:15 a.m.**

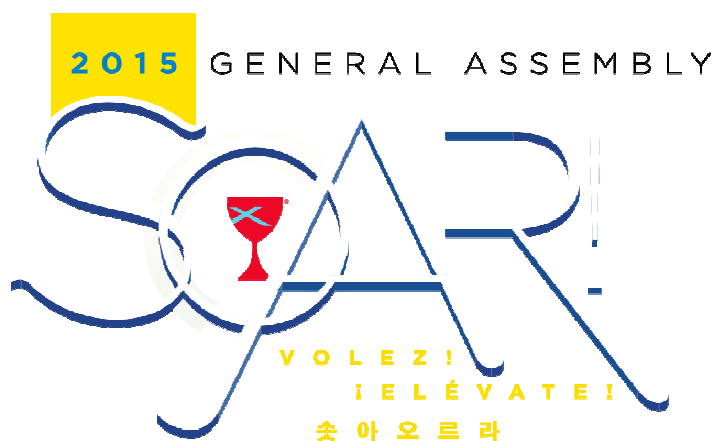
- . Seeking Understanding in Scripture Bible Study in Carmack Room **“Exploring the Bible”**
- . Pathfinders Class gathers in the Pathfinders Room. This Week: **“Formations Adult Bible Study”**
- . Weekly Montessori-based **Godly Play for Children**, Sundays, 9:15 a.m. on the main floor near the Fellowship Hall.
- . **Jesus Junction Sunday School** for 3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> grade uses the study of Easter drawing on *Easter from the Back Side* by J. Ellsworth Kalas. Books are

provided for class members. All are welcome.

**Music Workshop at Christmount June 18-21**

222 Fern Way, Black Mountain, NC 28711

This year our own William Garner is the Director and Kathleen Westbrook is the Accompanist.



July 18-22, 2015 in Columbus, Ohio. Please go online at [www.gadisciples.org](http://www.gadisciples.org) to register.

**Thanks, Thanks, Thanks**

The Christian Education Ministry wishes to thank the following people for their service as volunteers for the Preschool Summer Camp 6/1-6/5 here at the church. Instructors:

Arts and Crafts - Betty Brewer-Calvert, Yolanda Lewellyn, and Robbin Brown

Spanish Language: Miche Baskette

Music: Kathy Westbrook

Storytelling: Sherry Davis

Shepherds: Mary Frances Early, Mary Ellen Merrill, Minnie Haynes, Liz Kellogg, and William Garner

Your sacrifice of time and your loving care are greatly appreciated. May God bless you richly.

Rev. Dr. Barbara Sims-King

**Did you meet and greet...? Recent Visitors**

We are delighted to welcome friends and neighbors who recently visited to worship God here, including: Randy Finley, Cornell, Joseph, and Fred Gibbs, Kayla Harriott, John Lo Jereb, Melinda Jereb, Rhonda Lederer, Ching Ling Lo, Mary Ellen Merrill, Hope to see you again soon.

**Continental Breakfast**

Ever run late to church on Sunday morning and don't have time to eat? No problem; a continental breakfast is available! Feel free to sign up to bring breakfast once in a Blue Moon. First Christian Church offers Continental Breakfast year round, and everyone is invited to participate in both enjoying and providing delicious fare. Fill in your name on an open date, place in the offering plate or return to Church Office:

June 14: Mary Frances Early  
June 21: Saundra Brundage  
June 28: James Brewer-Calvert

**Watching Our Figures**

Sunday, June 7th Worship	
Participation	<b>59</b>
Church Offerings	<b>\$8,487.00</b>

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--Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Statement of Identity.

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You are either a member, or frequent visitor of First Christian Church of Decatur.

**Our mailing address is:**

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