

## Church Calendar of Missions and Ministry Opportunities

Sunday, June 28:  
9 a.m. Continental Breakfast  
9:15 a.m. Spiritual Formation/Bible Study Classes  
10:30 a.m. Sanctuary Service  
12 p.m. Church Board Meeting  
4:30 p.m. Rev. Dr. James Brewer-Calvert preaching at  
Campbell Stone in Buckhead  
8 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous

Monday, June 29:  
10 a.m. Staff Meeting  
11 a.m. Prayer Group  
3-7 p.m. Cello Lessons  
7 p.m. Administration Ministry meeting

Tuesday, June 30:  
10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Chalice Thrift Store  
9 a.m. Host Camp Peace  
8 p.m. AA/ALANON

Thursday, July 2:  
10 a.m.-2 p.m. Chalice Thrift Store

Saturday, July 4:  
Independence Day- July 4th  
Church Office and Chalice Thrift Store Closed  
Decatur Fireworks on the Church Lawn  
6:30 p.m.

Sunday, July 5:  
9 a.m. Continental Breakfast  
9:15 a.m. Spiritual Formation/Bible Study Classes  
10:30 a.m. Sanctuary Service  
8 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous

### Church Board to Meet Today Immediately After 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Everyone is invited and welcome at the Church Board Meeting Lunch will be provided; all Board Officers, Deacons, Elders expected to attend.



## First Christian Church of Decatur (Disciples of Christ)

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### 2 Corinthians 8: 7-15

**7** Now as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in utmost eagerness, and in our love for you—so we want you to excel also in this generous undertaking.

**8** I do not say this as a command, but I am testing the genuineness of your love against the earnestness of others. **9** For you know the generous act<sup>[c]</sup> of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich. **10** And in this matter I am giving my advice: it is appropriate for you who began last year not only to do something but even to desire to do something— **11** now finish doing it, so that your eagerness may be matched by completing it according to your means. **12** For if the eagerness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has—not according to what one does not have. **13** I do not mean that there should be relief for others and pressure on you, but it is a question of a fair balance between **14** your present abundance and their need, so that their abundance may be for your need, in order that there may be a fair balance. **15** As it is written, “The one who had much did not have too much, and the one who had little did not have too little.”



## Joys and Concerns for Church and Community

- Answered prayers: **Mary Frances Early** asked for safe journeys for all those returning from the Christmount Music Workshop.
- Answered prayers: **Robbin Brown** wrote, "My air conditioner in my apartment is broken." She is grateful for the gift of a fan.
- Continued prayers are requested for **Lillie Sapp** who is having surgery on Friday, June 26 at Emory Midtown to straighten out ankle and repair tendon.
- **Our Church Board** is set to gather this Sunday after worship. Your prayers are requested that, as always, God's will be made clear and our leaders' decisions be made in accordance with the Holy Spirit's transformational guidance. This is an open meeting and lunch is provided.
- **Lily Delk** offers thanksgiving that **Cheryl Delk's** ablation went well. "She is back home and feeling better. Thanks for your prayers."
- **Emily Smith** shares, "**Betty Gates**, former church member, passed away recently. Services will be June 30 at noon at Turner and Sons Funeral Home."
- **Wiley Harris** requested, "We thank God for the course we are taking. We pray that we can focus and get a new job and new plan in life."
- **Larry Todd** said that his brother-in-law **Terry Tolbert's** kidney surgery is scheduled for August 4 in Macon.
- **Julie Fleming** asks for traveling mercies for **Oldrich Musalek**, who is traveling to the Czech Republic to be with his family.
- **Liz Kellogg** said, "I'm thankful to God for my friend **Katherine's** recovery."
- **Jay Norton** is home. Please keep **Peggy and Jay** in your prayers.
- **Jeanette Duncan** asks for prayers for her son **Duane Wendell** who has pneumonia.
- **Marion Meador** is in Cobblestone Health Center, Room 141, recuperating from a fall. She welcomes visits, calls, and cards.
- **Rev.Carolynn Miller** fell on June 4 and broke her left leg. She had surgery and is in recovery. **Brad** and **Carolynn** request our prayers for healing.
- **Mary Ellen Fountain** requests prayer as she has been diagnosed with chronic heart failure.
- **Deb Almauhy** says, "Thank you so much for your love and prayers. Please continue to keep my husband and daughter in Iran safe and that all paperwork will be completed to bring them home safely."
- Our thoughts and prayers are with **Jeffery Carroll** who has been diagnosed with colon rectal cancer. **Jeffery** is preparing for surgery on August 12th.
- We continue to lift up **Furat** and **Deb Almauhy, Elaine Alsobrook, Johnnie Barber, Polly Brock, Betty Carroll, Julia Glenn Carter, Elizabeth Cunningham, the Delk Family, Jeanette Duncan, Willie Mae Durr, Hank Ferry, Shannen Ferry, J.D. Fleming, Mary Ellen Fountain, Alida Gines, Adei Grenpastures, Robert Hamilton, Clara Holley, Jackie Hudson** and daughter **Alexis, Nicolas Jordan, The Kidd Family, Jay Love, Monte and Sarah Mathis, Judy McMahan, Carol Givens (Evans) McGinnis, Lynn Nabers, the Norton Family, Kim Stanley, Lee Stanley, Tate Family, Terry Tolbert, Carlene Trapp, 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 worshipping 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.