



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

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Planning Team on Board for 2015 Christmas Tree and Wreath Sale

For the past six years First Christian Church of Decatur has offered to the wider community a vibrant and thriving Christmas Tree and Wreath Sale. With each successive year our congregation sold more Grade A Fraser Fir trees and handmade wreaths than the year before. In the past couple seasons we sold out within 11 days! The church's winter 'Friend and Fund Raiser' has generated energy, relationships, and financial support for local congregational ministries and our beloved Decatur Toy Park. The net benefit of \$32,500 in 2014 has gone a long way this year to making possible vital church and community ministries.

**Here are the
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**Annual
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**Offerings for
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**Eighth Sunday
after Pentecost,
July 19, 2015**

**Worship the Living
Christ at 10:30**

More importantly, the Good Will generated by the offerings of genuine smiles and warmth from church members and friends to our hundreds of guests still burns bright long after the last wreath was carried off to a happy home.

**The 2015 Christmas Tree/Wreath Sale
Organizational Chart of Leadership Team**

Chair -- **Nancy Shealy**

Inside Table – **Yolanda Llewellyn**

Meals – **Elaine Alsobrook**

Wreaths – **Brandy Alsobrook**

Foremen -- **Glen Alsobrook and Dave
Andrew**

Volunteer Recruitment -- **James Brewer-
Calvert and Sub-Committee**

Marketing -- **Nancy Oliver**

Technology - **Ruth Lutz**

If you would like to serve by helping to recruit tree lot volunteers from the church and across our fair city, then please contact James Brewer-Calvert at citykid4evr@gmail.com. One of the blessed gifts of the experience that we have gleaned and cherish is that everyone in the church and city can find a way to participate. The sale calls on the talents of those who can provide a meal, sit at a table and welcome customers, cut branches into “trim” for wreath making, load a tree onto a car roof, make tree deliveries, help customers pick out trees on the church lawn, and more! We have some folks who cannot be present physically yet support the sale by donating a few dollars to support the hiring of additional helping hands. Pray for your church and our leadership team as we prepare together for a mission that will benefit so many and bring so much joy.

a.m.

Holy

Scriptures:

Numbers 22: 28-31

Sermon Title:

"Donkeys: God in Unlikely

Moments"

Preaching:

Rev. Melissa Fain

Worship

Leaders:

Julie Fleming and

Rev. Lynn Trapp

Deacons: Russell

Broomfield, Susan

Watts, Tom Gard,

Robbin Brown

Greeters: Russell

Broomfield, Lee

Stanley

Acolytes: Tori

Jackson



Welcome Home!

First Christian Church of Decatur

(Disciples of Christ)

601 W. Ponce De Leon Ave.

Decatur, GA 30030

Key Prep and Sale Dates:

Set Up Tree Lot on Lawn – Saturday, Nov. 14

Set Up Wreath Tables – Saturday, Nov. 21

Christmas Tree Delivery – Sunday, Nov.

22 @ 12:00 noon after worship

Tree/Wreath Sale Begins Friday, Nov. 27 and concludes Dec.12.

Mental Health Workshops with Peg Griffin

A workshop for our entire congregation on mental health issues in congregations with Peg Griffin, licensed therapist will be on Sunday, July 19 from 12 to 2 p.m.

August Board Meeting on August 16

On August 16 there will be a Church Dinner and Board Meeting - Town Hall focus on Mission. All are invited.

Sabbatical Update and News from Rev. Dr. Brewer-Calvert

Please be aware that our Senior Pastor James Brewer-Calvert is on Sabbatical from July 1 through August 31, 2015. Rev. Dr. Barbara Sims-King is faithfully serving Christ's church as Acting Pastor throughout the summer. Her contact info is 317-487-9554. Acting Pastor Barbara's church office days and hours are:

Sunday Hours: Sunday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. (includes lunch and/or consultations with members or visitors, meetings, etc.)

Church Office -- Monday, Thursday and Friday -- 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

404-378-3621

DecaturDisciples.org
1stcc@bellsouth.net

"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.

Saturday 9:30am - 5:30pm (visitation to homebound and hospitals)

Dear Church Family, Thank you so much for your far-too-generous Love Offering. What an unexpected blessing! Our medical bills are also unexpected, and this gift is a boon in a time of need. Thanks to one and all. God is so good and we are so grateful. Personally, I am doing very well. The surgery was successful and the chemotherapy treatments are for "let's make sure" reasons. Two treatments down: 10 to go. My oncologist, who shared this week that my latest blood count is excellent, said, "Give credit to Him!" Please keep your prayers coming, and know that you and your family are in mine as well. Shalom, **Pastor James**

Here are the Ministers scheduled to preach in July and August:

July 19 Rev. Melissa Fain, Fig Tree Christian Church
July 26 Rev. Melissa Fain, Fig Tree Christian Church
August 2 Rev. Dr. Barbara Sims-King, Decatur First Christian Church
August 9 Rev. Paul Turner, Gentle Spirit Christian Church
August 16 Rev. Wendy Wyche, Decatur First Christian Church
August 23 Rev. Lynn Trapp, Decatur First Christian Church
August 30 Music Director William Garner and Chancel Choir to lead Worship

Annual Women's Retreat Sept. 25-27

Registration is open for 2015 Disciples Women's Retreat to be held in Toccoa, GA, Sept. 25-27. The keynoter is the delightful and joy-filled Ms. Marilyn Williams, President of International Disciples Women's Ministries. The theme, "Beloved Daughters of God," will be explored through the dramatic portrayal of Biblical women, worship and music, interest groups, fellowship, and fun. You may register online at www.gadisciples.org. You may pay in full or make a deposit to reserve your room. Paper registration forms are downloadable from the website or will be received by recent attendees and DW Presidents in the mail later this week!

Would you like to provide housing for a local seminary student?

The Office of Admissions and Financial Aid at Candler School of Theology is looking for housing opportunities in the Atlanta area to extend to our incoming and current students. These opportunities could include:

- Apartments, condos, houses, or rooms for rent
Rooms available a few nights per week for out of town students
- Housing available in exchange for assistance with childcare, caring for the elderly, or housekeeping

If you have such an opportunity available and would like to offer it to a Candler student, would like additional information, or have questions about this project, please email the Office of Admissions and Financial Aid at candleradmissions@emory.edu, or call (404) 727-6326.

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

1. Seeking Understanding in Scripture Bible Study in Carmack Room **“Exploring the Bible”**
2. Pathfinders Class gathers in the Pathfinders Room. This Week: **“I Love Growing Older, But I’ll Never Grow Old”**
3. Weekly Montessori-based **Godly Play for Children**, Sundays, 9:15 a.m. on the main floor near the Fellowship Hall.
4. **Jesus Junction Sunday School** for 3rd through 5th 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.

Sign-up for Sunday Continental Breakfast

We need some people to step up and volunteer to bring in breakfast for July and August. Please call the church office, email the date you want, or sign up at the church.

Thanks, Sherry L. Davis

Did you meet and greet...? Recent Visitors

We are delighted to welcome friends and neighbors who recently visited to worship God here, including: Melissa, Linc Fain with Caitlin and Aeden, Rhonda Lederer, Linda, Maryellen Merrill, Weldon Sailors, Amy and Rev. Michael Yandell.

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:

July 19: _____

July 26: _____

Aug. 2: _____

Aug. 9: _____

Aug. 16: _____

Aug. 23: _____

Aug. 30: _____

Watching Our Figures

Sunday, July 12th Worship

Participation

50

Church Offerings

\$ 1,364.00