

Church Calendar of Missions and Ministry Opportunities

Sunday, July 12:	Rev. Melissa Fain preaching
9 a.m.	Continental Breakfast
9:15 a.m.	Spiritual Formation/Bible Study Classes
10:30 a.m.	Sanctuary Service
12 noon - 2 p.m.	Licensed Therapist Peg Griffith works with Eldership in the Social Hall
8 p.m.	Narcotics Anonymous
Monday, July 13:	
8 a.m.- 5:30 p.m.	Forefront Arts Children's Theater
10 a.m.	Staff Meeting
11 a.m.	Prayer Group
12 noon	Christian Education Meeting in Carmack Room
Tuesday, July 14:	
8 a.m.- 5:30 p.m.	Forefront Arts Children's Theater
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.	Chalice Thrift Store
8 p.m.	AA/ALANON
Wednesday, July 15:	
8 a.m.- 5:30 p.m.	Forefront Arts Children's Theater
Thursday, July 16:	
8 a.m.- 5:30 p.m.	Forefront Arts Children's Theater
10 a.m.-2 p.m.	Chalice Thrift Store
Friday, July 17:	
8 a.m.- 5:30 p.m.	Forefront Arts Children's Theater
7 p.m.	Forefront Arts Children's Theater in Sanctuary
Saturday, July 18:	
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.	Chalice Thrift Store
Sunday, July 19:	Rev. Melissa Fain preaching
9 a.m.	Continental Breakfast
9:15 a.m.	Spiritual Formation/Bible Study Classes
10:30 a.m.	Sanctuary Service
12 noon - 2 p.m.	Licensed Therapist Peg Griffith works with Congregation in the Social Hall
8 p.m.	Narcotics Anonymous



First Christian Church of Decatur (Disciples of Christ)

601 West Ponce de Leon Avenue

Decatur, GA 30030

Phone: 404-378-3621

Email: 1stcc@bellsouth.net

Website: www.decaturdisciples.org

Daniel 6: 16-24

16 Then the king gave the command, and Daniel was brought and thrown into the den of lions. The king said to Daniel, “May your God, whom you faithfully serve, deliver you!” **17** A stone was brought and laid on the mouth of the den, and the king sealed it with his own signet and with the signet of his lords, so that nothing might be changed concerning Daniel. **18** Then the king went to his palace and spent the night fasting; no food was brought to him, and sleep fled from him.

19 Then, at break of day, the king got up and hurried to the den of lions. **20** When he came near the den where Daniel was, he cried out anxiously to Daniel, “O Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God whom you faithfully serve been able to deliver you from the lions?” **21** Daniel then said to the king, “O king, live forever! **22** My God sent his angel and shut the lions’ mouths so that they would not hurt me, because I was found blameless before him; and also before you, O king, I have done no wrong.” **23** Then the king was exceedingly glad and commanded that Daniel be taken up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no kind of harm was found on him, because he had trusted in his God. **24** The king gave a command, and those who had accused Daniel were brought and thrown into the den of lions—they, their children, and their wives. Before they reached the bottom of the den the lions overpowered them and broke all their bones in pieces.



Joys and Concerns of Church and Community

- **Jeanette Duncan** says her son **Wendall** has bronchitis, but is doing better.
- 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**
- **Danl** and **Wiley** ask for prayers for **Randell** and **Tyler** as they rebuild their lives and find the help they need in so many ways.
- **Roland Haynes, Jr.** says, "Thank you for your continued prayers and support for my mother, **Minnie Haynes.**"
- **Robbin Brown** is thankful for good news on her eye check up.
- **Minnie Haynes** advises that she has breast cancer and asks for prayers.
- **Vivianne Aponte** writes: "Our two years in New Orleans are over. We were hoping to move back to ATL but job availability for **Cristian** is so limited that we have to move where the jobs are. We will be moving to Long Island in August. **Cristian** will be working for the State University of New York at Farmingdale. It's a permanent job so that is a plus. Please keep us in your prayers as we move and start over AGAIN in a new place and **with a baby** now. Love, **Vivianne**"
- Please lift up in prayer the **Rev. Dr. Barbara Sims-King** who assumes the mantle of Acting Pastor while **Senior Pastor James Brewer-Calvert** is on sabbatical from July 1 to August 31, 2015.
- **Saundra Brundage** thanks everyone for praying for her cousin **Paulette Young** who is still suffering from the surgery she had, and ask that we keep praying for her recovery. She also asks everyone to pray for **Rev. Dr. James Brewer-Calvert** to recover from his illness.
- **Betty Brewer-Calvert** has a joy: "My sister and family are moving to Buford, Georgia. Brother-in-law **Shane** will be flying for Delta."
- **Jolie Hamilton** says, "I am so sorry you got sick **Pastor James** but am glad you're feeling better."
- **Julie Fleming** asks for prayer for **Matthew Smith Farrell** for an apparent reoccurrence of a brain tumor. Also pray for his wife **Joanne** and three daughters **Alana, Caleigh** and **Ava.**
- **Larry Todd** asks for prayer for **Terry Tolbert**, his brother-in-law who is having kidney surgery August 4th in Macon.
- Continued prayers are requested for **Lillie Sapp** who is recovering from surgery to straighten out ankle and repair tendon.
- Please keep **Peggy** and **Jay** in your prayers.
- **Marion Meador** is in Cobblestone Health Center, Room 141, recuperating from a fall. She welcomes visits, calls, and cards.
- **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."
- We continue to lift up **Furat** and **Deb Almauhy, Johnnie Barber, Polly Brock, Betty Carroll, Jeffery 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, Rev. Carolyn Miller, 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.