

Church Calendar of Missions and Ministry Opportunities

Sunday, Aug. 2:	Rev. Dr. Barbara Sims-King preaching
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
Monday, Aug.3:	
10 a.m.	Staff Meeting
11 a.m.	Prayer Group
3-7 p.m.	Cello Lessons
Tuesday, Aug. 4:	
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.	Chalice Thrift Store
8 p.m.	AA/ALANON
Thursday, Aug. 6:	
10 a.m.-2 p.m.	Chalice Thrift Store
Friday, Aug. 7:	
11 a.m. - 2 p.m.	Decatur Education Foundation in Social Hall
Saturday, Aug. 8:	
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.	Chalice Thrift Store
Sunday, Aug. 9:	Rev. Paul Turner preaching
9 a.m.	Continental Breakfast
9:15 a.m.	Spiritual Formation/Bible Study Classes
10:30 a.m.	Sanctuary Service
2 -4 p.m.	Pastor Paul Turner does Wedding in Chapel
8 p.m.	Narcotics Anonymous

Sunday, August 16th Church Dinner and Board Meeting/Town Hall



First Christian Church of Decatur (Disciples of Christ)

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John 6:25-28

25 When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, “Rabbi, when did you come here?” **26** Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. **27** Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.” **28** Then they said to him, “What must we do to perform the works of God?”

Ephesians 4: 1-7, 11-16

1 I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, **2** with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, **3** making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. **4** There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, **5** one Lord, one faith, one baptism, **6** one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all. **7** But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ’s gift.

11 The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, **12** to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, **13** until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. **14** We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people’s trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. **15** But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, **16** from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body’s growth in building itself up in love.

Joys and Concerns of Church and Community

- **Wiley** and **Danl** ask for prayer for their friend **Randell**, who is unemployed.
- **Bridgette Boker** asks for prayer for her cleaning company to get more customers and for my son **Romaine**.
- **Barbara Powell** says, "**Polly Brock's** Memorial Service was Saturday, August 1st at 2 p.m. at Shiloh Christian Church. Prayers are needed for her family."
- **Jessica McRay** asks for prayer that God gives clarity to her and a place to stay for her and her children.
- **Harold L. Land** asks if anyone has a car to donate to a needy family and he asks for prayer to receive steady work to support his family.
- **Romaine Walford** asks for prayers for his wife Esther and himself.
- **Josh Alexander** prays for the blessed, both at peace and stressed. Prayers to the fallen, but certainly not forgotten.
- **Lynn** and **Joona Trapp** asks for prayers for Christian Colleges in this country facing financial problems; especially prayers for Northwestern College in Iowa forced to cut tenured staff.
- **Sylvia Gibbs** asks for traveling mercies for **Todd, Tumara** and **family** as they go on vacation.
- **Hank Ferry** had all his teeth extracted and is experiencing vertigo. Hank asks for our prayers.
- **Mary Beth Powell - Barbara Powell's** niece has continued medical problems and asks for prayer.
- **Charlotte** and **Jim Ivy** - keep them in our prayers.
- **Minnie Haynes** says, "Her Breast Cancer surgery has been scheduled for August 19th at DeKalb Medical, the day after her 82nd birthday."
- 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**
- **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.
- **Marion Meador** is home at Cobblestone, Room 208. She welcomes visits, calls, and cards.
- **Jeffery Carroll's** surgery has been moved to August 26, Marietta, GA at 1 p.m. Prayers are requested.
- We continue to lift up **Furat** and **Deb Almauhy, Johnnie Barber, Betty Carroll, Jeffery Carroll, Elizabeth Cunningham, the Delk Family, 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, Judy McMahan, 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.