

## Church Calendar of Missions and Ministry Opportunities

- Sunday, Aug. 16: **Rev. Wendy Wyche 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. Church Potluck/Board Meeting/Town Hall Outreach Discussion  
8 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous
- Monday, Aug.17:  
10 a.m. Staff Meeting  
11 a.m. Prayer Group  
3-7 p.m. Cello Lessons  
7:30 p.m. Mary Magdalene Circle @ Yolanda's home
- Tuesday, Aug. 18:  
10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Chalice Thrift Store  
8 p.m. AA/ALANON
- Wednesday, Aug. 19:  
6:30 p.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal  
7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- Thursday, Aug. 20:  
10 a.m.-2 p.m. Chalice Thrift Store
- Friday, Aug. 21:  
11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Decatur Education Foundation in Social Hall
- Saturday, Aug. 22:  
10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Chalice Thrift Store
- Sunday, Aug. 23: **Rev. Lynn Trapp preaching**  
9 a.m. Continental Breakfast  
9:15 a.m. Spiritual Formation/Bible Study Classes  
10:30 a.m. Sanctuary Service  
2-5 p.m. Gloria Jacobson Parent Meeting in the Social Hall  
8 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous



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

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#### **Deuteronomy 10:12,20-21**

**12** So now, O Israel, what does the LORD your God require of you? Only to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul,

**20** You shall fear the LORD your God; him alone you shall worship; to him you shall hold fast, and by his name you shall swear. **21** He is your praise; he is your God, who has done for you these great and awesome things that your own eyes have seen.

#### **Proverbs 2:1-5**

**1** My child, if you accept my words and treasure up my commandments within you, **2** making your ear attentive to wisdom and inclining your heart to understanding; **3** if you indeed cry out for insight, and raise your voice for understanding; **4** if you seek it like silver, and search for it as for hidden treasures—**5** then you will understand the fear of the LORD and find the knowledge of God.

#### **Ecclesiastes 12:9-14**

**9** Besides being wise, the Teacher also taught the people knowledge, weighing and studying and arranging many proverbs. **10** The Teacher sought to find pleasing words, and he wrote words of truth plainly. **11** The sayings of the wise are like goads, and like nails firmly fixed are the collected sayings that are given by one shepherd. **12** Of anything beyond these, my child, beware. Of making many books there is no end, and much study is a weariness of the flesh. **13** The end of the matter; all has been heard. Fear God, and keep his commandments; for that is the whole duty of everyone. **14** For God will bring every deed into judgment, including every secret thing, whether good or evil.

#### **1 John 4:16-18**

**16** So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. **17** Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. **18** There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love.

## Joys and Concerns of Church and Community

- **Pastor Paul Turner's** partner, **William Pabst**, is now home and is resting well.
- **Robert Lee Echols** asks for prayer for shelter, clothing, and transportation. He also wants a closer relationship with God.
- **Saundra Brundage** says "Please keep my cousin **Pauletta Young** in your prayers, she is still recovering. Thank you very much. Also, pray that **Minnie Haynes** surgery is successful."
- **Larry Todd** says, "answered prayer(from God) that brother-in-law **Terry Tolbert** had successful kidney surgery. Doctors removed malignant tumor."
- **Sylvia Gibbs** asks for prayer for **Lillie Sapp** as she recovers from foot surgery.
- **Wiley** and **Danl** are asking for healing for our friends **David** and **Randell**. **Danl** has seen a new GI doctor.
- **Lillie Sapp** says, "Thank you so very much for your prayers, cards, and phone calls. I have been renewed and energized during this healing process. God bless you mightily."
- **Jeffery Carroll** asks for prayer for a successful surgery on 8/18 and 8/28.
- **Bridgette Boker** asks for prayer that her cleaning business is successful.
- **Denise Kelly** says, "She is very grateful to have a 2nd church home at FCCD! Pray for all teachers beginning a new school year."
- **The Alsobrook Family** thanks our church for prayers surrounding the death of **Glen's** brother, **Jim Alsobrook**. Also, **Hal Watkins** (return of colon cancer), **Sally Sutton**, (chemo treatments for breast cancer).
- **Mary Ellen Fountain** asks for prayers for **James Brewer-Calvert** and **family**, **Minnie Haynes**, **Lily Delk**, **Herschel** and **Imogene Maxey**, **Mary Frances Early**, **Elaine Alsobrook**.
- **Hank Ferry** had all his teeth extracted and is experiencing vertigo. He had a fall and is suffering from pinched nerves in his arm. He cannot drive more than one mile. 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."
- 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**, **Marion Meador**, **Rev. Carolynn Miller**, **Lynn Nabers**, **the Norton Family**, **Matthew Smith Farrell 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.