

Church Calendar of Missions and Ministry Opportunities

Sunday, Aug. 30:	Music Ministry leads service
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.31:	
11 a.m.	Prayer Group
3-7 p.m.	Cello Lessons
Tuesday, Sep. 1:	
10 a.m.	Staff Meeting
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.	Chalice Thrift Store
1 p.m.	Lydia Circle
3:30-6:30 p.m.	Music Theory Group in Pathfinders Room
4-6 p.m.	Spring Into Spanish
8 p.m.	AA/ALANON
Wednesday, Sep.2:	
3:30-6:30 p.m.	Music Theory Group in Pathfinders Room
4-6 p.m.	Spring Into Spanish
6-8 p.m.	Decatur Education Foundation in Social Hall
6:30 p.m.	Bell Choir Rehearsal
7:30 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, Sep.3:	
10 a.m.-2 p.m.	Chalice Thrift Store
4-6 p.m.	Spring Into Spanish
6:30-8:30 p.m.	Suzuki Violin in Social Hall
Friday, Sep. 4:	Decatur Book Festival
Saturday, Sep. 5:	Decatur Book Festival
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.	Chalice Thrift Store
Sunday, Sep.6:	Decatur Book Festival
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



First Christian Church of Decatur (Disciples of Christ)

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Psalm 95: 1-6

1 O come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!**2** Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!**3** For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods.**4** In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also. **5** The sea is his, for he made it, and the dry land, which his hands have formed. **6** O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!

Colossians 3:12-17

12 As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. **13** Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. **14** Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. **15** And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. **16** Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. **17** And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Joys and Concerns of Church and Community

- **Amy Yandell's** mother's partner had a stomach ache and went to the doctor on Monday. The doctor found a tumor on his pancreas. The doctor assumes cancer and they are going to operate on Friday. Please pray for the partner and the family that the outcome is favorable. **Amy** and **Michael** will be traveling to South Carolina for the surgery.
- **Jack Duncan** says **Jeanette Duncan** fell on Tuesday. Please pray for a full recovery.
- **Susan Watts** asks for prayer for her and her husband as well as her family.
- **Wiley** and **Danl** ask the church to pray for them as they were scammed.
- **Barbara Sims-King and Mary Frances Early** says, "We give God the glory and thanksgiving for **Minnie Haynes** successful breast surgery. We ask for continued prayers for her recovery and the family's strength."
- **Stephanie Duncan's** nephew was in a bad car accident. Keep him in your prayers.
- **Jeff Carroll's** procedure on the 18th went well. **Jeff's** other surgery is Friday, August 28th. He loves his church family and draws strength from your prayers.
- **Rev. Betty Brewer-Calvert** asks for prayers for congregations in our Region seeking pastors and for the 2015 Disciples Women's Retreat planners as they prepare for the September event.
- **Larry Todd** says, "please continue to keep my brother-in-law, **Terry Tolbert** in prayer."
- **Rose Bianco** says, "My cousin **Wanda** learned this month that she has breast cancer, and a week later her 20 year old daughter **Aymara** had a malignant tumor removed from her lung. Pray for them."
- **Pastor Paul Turner's** partner, **William Pabst**, is now home and is resting well.
- **Sandra 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."
- **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."
- **Elaine Alsobrook** asked for prayers for **Hal Watkins** (return of colon cancer), **Sally Sutton**, (chemo treatments for breast cancer).
- We continue to lift up **Furat** and **Deb Almauhy**, **Johnnie Barber**, **Betty Carroll**, **Jeffery Carroll**, **Elizabeth Cunningham**, **the Delk Family**, **Willie Mae Durr**, **Sylvia Ennis**, **Hank Ferry**, **Shannen Ferry**, **J.D. Fleming**, **Mary Ellen Fountain**, **Alida Gines**, **Julia Glenn Carter**, **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**, **Mary Beth Powell**, **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.