

## Church Calendar of Missions and Ministry Opportunities

Sunday, Sep.20:	
9 a.m.	Continental Breakfast
9:15 a.m.	Spiritual Formation/Bible Study Classes
10:30 a.m.	Sanctuary Service
12 noon	Hats Off Christmas Tree Sale Rally
8 p.m.	Narcotics Anonymous
Monday, Sep.21:	
10 a.m.	Staff Meeting
11 a.m.	Prayer Group
3-7 p.m.	Cello Lessons in Carmack Room
7:30 p.m.	Mary Magdalene Circle at Yolanda's home
Tuesday, Sep. 22:	
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.	Chalice Thrift Store
4-6 p.m.	Spring Into Spanish
8 p.m.	AA/ALANON
Wednesday, Sep.23:	
8 - 9:30 a.m.	L'Arche in Pathfinders Room
4-6 p.m.	Spring Into Spanish
6:30 p.m.	Bell Choir Rehearsal
7:30 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, Sep.24:	
10 a.m.-2 p.m.	Chalice Thrift Store
4-6 p.m.	Spring Into Spanish
7 p.m.	Bookclub in Pathfinders Room
Friday, Sep. 25:	<b>Disciples Women's Retreat Sep. 25-27</b>
7-8:30 p.m.	Interplay in Jerusalem Room
Saturday, Sep. 26:	
10 a.m.-2 p.m.	Chalice Thrift Store
Sunday, Sep.27:	
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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#### **Mark 9: 30-37**

**30** They went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; **31** for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." **32** But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

**33** Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" **34** But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. **35** He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." **36** Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, **37** "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

#### **James 3: 13-4:3,7-8a**

**13** Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. **14** But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. **15** Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. **16** For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. **17** But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. **18** And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

**1** Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? **2** You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. **3** You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures.

**7** Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. **8** Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

## Joys and Concerns of Church and Community

- Please pray for **Lily Delk** who is in DeKalb Medical Center and is recovering there. No visitors please.
- **Barbara Sims-King** has a new granddaughter and her name is **Mychela Delise Jennings** born 9/15/2015, 5 lbs 6 oz to **David** and **Miosha Jennings** in Columbus, GA. She also asks for prayer for **Mark** and **Tammie**, a homeless couple who need shelter here in the Atlanta area.
- **Elaine Alsobrook** asks for prayer for former member **Kathy Elliot** who will have surgery at Emory.
- **Robbin Brown** asks for prayers for a friend who is having surgery for cancer.
- **Susan Watts** thanks everyone for their support.
- **Rich Spillane** has a prayer of thanks...he relocated his 90 year old mother from Kansas to Georgia.
- **Tom Rosenberger** says, "**Jeff Carroll's** benefit is Saturday at 4 p.m. He's being very brave. Let's show our love."
- **Brooke Babbitt** asks for safe travel for **Madelyn, Liz,** and **Linda Stilwell.** they traveled to Birmingham, AL to visit family.
- **Nancy Oliver** asks for prayer for the **Weigle family.** **Tony** (husband and father of 2) is under Hospice Care (member of Peachtree Christian Church).
- **Minnie Dozier Haynes** says, "Praise God for all blessings of healing, hope and happiness available to His children on earth."
- **Jay** and **Peggy Norton** says, "Thank you for your prayers and concerns over our cancer journey. **Jay's** latest test showed no new growth and no changes. Continued prayers as we continue on with the maintenance program.
- **Wiley** and **Danl** say, "Praise God that **Randell** went back home to be healed, grow, to be renewed. We ask for prayers for our friend **Jay** that he will find joy, happiness, and peace. We ask for healing in his life that the past would be dim and the future bright."
- **Jasmine Baker** asks for prayer for the health of the **Baker family.**
- **Sandra Brundage** asks for continued prayer for her cousin **Paulette Young.**
- **Julie Fleming** has a joy. Her dad is stable and has improved cognitively! Traveling mercies for Julie as she will be going to Wyoming for a much needed R&R.
- Please offer a prayer for **Liz Stillwell** to find a new career path as soon as God sees fit! She's on the job hunt again.
- Please continue to lift up **Sylvia** and **Fred Gibbs** and the **Jackson Family.**
- **Deb Almauhy** has flown to Iraq to adopt a daughter. She asks for travelling mercies and for all to be well and for God's holy protection.
- We continue to lift up **Furat** and **Deb Almauhy, Johnnie Barber, 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, Alan Merritt, Don Middour, Rev.Carolynn Miller, Lynn Nabers, the Norton Family, William Pabst, Mary Beth Powell, Lillie Sapp, Matthew Smith Farrell family, Kim Stanley, Lee Stanley, Austin Swartz, Carlene Trapp, Mildred Trott, Hal Watkins, 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 worshiping 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.*