

## Church Calendar of Missions and Ministry Opportunities

- Sunday, Oct. 18:
- 9 a.m. Continental Breakfast
  - 9:15 a.m. Spiritual Formation/Bible Study Classes
  - 10:30 a.m. Sanctuary Service
  - 12 p.m. Christian Children's Fellowship to go bowling
  - 5 p.m. Pat Vas Dias Recital
  - 8 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous
- Monday, Oct. 19:
- 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, Oct. 20:
- 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Chalice Thrift Store
  - 4-6 p.m. Spring Into Spanish
  - 8 p.m. AA/ALANON
- Wednesday, Oct. 21:
- 4-6 p.m. Spring Into Spanish
  - 6:30 p.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal
  - 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- Thursday, Oct. 22:
- 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Chalice Thrift Store
  - 4-6 p.m. Spring Into Spanish
  - 7 p.m. Book Club in Pathfinders Room
- Friday, Oct. 23:
- 7-8:30 p.m. Interplay in Jerusalem Room
- Saturday, Oct. 24:
- 10 a.m.- 2 p.m. Chalice Thrift Store
  - 1 -5 p.m. Interplay International Day of Celebration
- Sunday, Oct. 25:
- 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



**Susan G. Komen Greater Atlanta invites you to be a part of the  
Worship in Pink Weekend taking place on October 23-25, 2015.**



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

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### Holy Scriptures: Ephesians 4: 1-6, 11-16

I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, 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. 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. But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, 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.



**that was easy.**

## Joys and Concerns of Church and Community

- **Carol Fellows**, 96. passed away on Sunday, Oct 11. Her memorial service is set for Sunday, Nov. 1, at 2 p.m., with visitation and reception to follow. Please keep her three children and their families in your prayers.
- **Debra Almauhy** writes via email: "Please continue the prayers for my husband **Furat** and adopted baby **Anna** for God's mercy of a miracle that we get her visa. I have been waiting for 2 days in the Chicago Airport for him to get back from him taking the baby back to Iraq. **Furat** was stranded in his wheelchair in the Istanbul airport for 3 days because they did not get him off the plane to make his connecting flight home. He had to do this because we did not get the visa for **Anna**. We are at the end of our rope with this."
- We give thanks for a delightful Fall Festival organized and staffed by **Nancy Oliver** and our amazing church crew. 56 neighbors attended!
- **Joshua Alexander** request prayer for his friends and family, both living and passed.
- **Julie Fleming** asks for prayers for **Eleanor Kellett**, who has been diagnosed with advanced cancer.
- **Jackie Tate** says, "Praise God! I am very thankful for the help I received to fix my brakes. Prayers for Greg to get a part time job so that we can have money for Christmas, much needed car maintenance and money for any future emergencies. Prayers that changes at work will not result in me having to work every Sunday."
- **Sandra Brundage** says, "My cousin **Paulette Young** had her surgery and she is recuperating now. Please keep praying for her,"
- **Wiley** and **Danl** want to thank God for family and friends, for love and support.
- **Jay** and **Peggy Norton** shares, "My brother-in-law **David Perkins** is now the proud owner of an aortic pig valve. He is doing fine and hopes to go home tomorrow."
- **Jeanette Duncan** says, "**Tracy Tabacek** is back in the hospital at Piedmont."
- **Rich Spillane** requests prayer for his friend **Sony**.
- **Stanley Armstrong** prays for healing sleep.
- **Dotti Laycock** seeks prayer for **Kevin Castelow**, 40, with terminal cancer. He has a wife and young children.
- **Jay** prays for good health, resourcefulness, an abundance of happiness in life, love, and clarity in life and for those around me.
- **Jake Wright** prays for rest from the turmoil in Syria and war-torn countries in that region.
- Please pray for **Lily Delk**. She is recovering at home.
- Please pray for continued healing for **Doug Dyer**.
- 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**, **Sylvia and Fred Gibbs**, **Alida Gines**, **Julia Glenn Carter**, **Adei Grenpastures**, **Robert Hamilton**, **Clara Holley**, **Jackie Hudson** and daughter **Alexis**, **Jackson Family**, **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. Please let me know if there is anything we can do for you.*

*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.