

Church Calendar of Missions and Ministry Opportunities

Sunday, Oct. 4:	World Communion Sunday
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, Oct. 5:	First Christian serves dinner at Haggar's House Oct.5-7
10 a.m.	Staff Meeting
11 a.m.	Prayer Group
3-7 p.m.	Cello Lessons in Carmack Room
Tuesday, Oct.6:	
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.	Chalice Thrift Store
1 p.m.	Lydia Circle in Carmack Room
3:30-6:30 p.m.	Music Theory Group in Pathfinders Room
8 p.m.	AA/ALANON
Wednesday, Oct. 7:	
3:30-6:30 p.m.	Music Theory Group in Pathfinders Room
6:30 p.m.	Bell Choir Rehearsal
7:30 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, Oct. 8:	
10 a.m.-2 p.m.	Chalice Thrift Store
6:30-8:30 p.m.	Suzuki Violin in the Social Hall
Friday, Oct. 9:	
6 p.m.	Wedding Rehearsal
Saturday, Oct. 10:	
10 a.m.-2 p.m.	Chalice Thrift Store
10 a.m. - 1 p.m.	Fall Festival at the Church
3 p.m.	Wedding in Sanctuary
Sunday, Oct. 11:	
9 a.m.	Continental Breakfast
9:15 a.m.	Spiritual Formation/Bible Study Classes
10:30 a.m.	Sanctuary Service
12 noon	Disciples Women Executive Committee Meeting
8 p.m.	Narcotics Anonymous



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Romans 12

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

3 For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

9 Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

1 Corinthians 11:17-26

17 Now in the following instructions I do not commend you, because when you come together it is not for the better but for the worse. For, to begin with, when you come together as a church, I hear that there are divisions among you; and to some extent I believe it. Indeed, there have to be factions among you, for only so will it become clear who among you are genuine. When you come together, it is not really to eat the Lord's supper. For when the time comes to eat, each of you goes ahead with your own supper, and one goes hungry and another becomes drunk. What! Do you not have homes to eat and drink in? Or do you show contempt for the church of God and humiliate those who have nothing? What should I say to you? Should I commend you? In this matter I do not commend you!

23 For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Joys and Concerns of Church and Community

- Please pray for **Lily Delk**. She is recovering at home.
- **Debbie Almauhy** requests prayers from our congregation that their adopted daughter's visa will be granted.
- **Mary Jane Goins** asks for prayer for her best friend **Jimmy** who is very sick.
- **Jeanette Duncan** says, "Tracy Tabacek is ill. Jack Duncan is being her caregiver."
- Please pray for continued healing for **Doug Dyer**.
- **Nancy Brewer** fell at the Disciples Women's Retreat and is recovering at home.
- **Sandra Brundage** says, "Thank you for your prayers for my cousin **Paulette Young**. Please keep my friends **Bernard** and **Maxwell** in your prayers. They are on a peace keeping mission in Africa. Pray for a safe return."
- **Cathy Archibald** asks for prayers for everyone on her prayer list, especially their siblings and their families, **Debra** and **Thomas, Bob** and **Cyndi, Wes** and **Kate** and the **children, Pope Francis** (he is doing so much to build believers,) **James** and **Betty, Tommy**, and please pray for **Cathy**.
- **Jay** and **Peggy Norton** ask for prayers for their brother-in-law **David Perkins** who will have a heart cauterization on Sept. 24 with heart valve replacement to follow at a later date. 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.
- 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. 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.