

## Church Calendar of Missions and Ministry Opportunities

Sunday, Nov. 1:	<b>All Saints Sunday</b>
9 a.m.	Continental Breakfast
9:15 a.m.	Spiritual Formation/Bible Study Classes
10:30 a.m.	Sanctuary Service
2 p.m.	Carol Fellows Memorial Service
8 p.m.	Narcotics Anonymous
Monday, Nov. 2:	
10 a.m.	Staff Meeting
11 a.m.	Prayer Group
3-7 p.m.	Cello Lessons in Carmack Room
Tuesday, Nov. 3:	
7 a.m. - 7 p.m.	Precinct Voting in the Social Hall
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.	Chalice Thrift Store
1 p.m.	Lydia Circle in Parlor
3:30-6:30 p.m.	Music Theory Group
4-6 p.m.	Spring Into Spanish
8 p.m.	AA/ALANON in Sanctuary
Wednesday, Nov. 4:	
3:30-6:30 p.m.	Music Theory Group
4-6 p.m.	Spring Into Spanish
6:30 p.m.	Bell Choir Rehearsal
7:30 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, Nov. 5:	
10 a.m.-2 p.m.	Chalice Thrift Store
4-6 p.m.	Spring Into Spanish
6:30-8:30 p.m.	Suzuki Violin
Saturday, Nov. 7:	
10 a.m.- 2 p.m.	Chalice Thrift Store
<b>Sunday, Nov. 8:</b>	<b>Rev. Melissa Fain Preaching on Faithful Stewardship</b>
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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### Holy Scriptures:

#### **Mark 12:28-34**

One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, "Which commandment is the first of all?" Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." Then the scribe said to him, "You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that 'he is one, and besides him there is no other'; and 'to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength,' and 'to love one's neighbor as oneself,'—this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices." When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." After that no one dared to ask him any question.

#### **2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17**

As to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we beg you, brothers and sisters, not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as though from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord is already here. Let no one deceive you in any way; for that day will not come unless the rebellion comes first and the lawless one is revealed, the one destined for destruction. He opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, declaring himself to be God. Do you not remember that I told you these things when I was still with you?

But we must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the first fruits for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and through belief in the truth. For this purpose he called you through our proclamation of the good news, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. So then, brothers and sisters, stand firm and hold fast to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by word of mouth or by our letter.

Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and through grace gave us eternal comfort and good hope, comfort your hearts and strengthen them in every good work and word.

## Joys and Concerns of Church and Community

- **Jeffrey Carroll** says, "I am thankful for the love and support of my church family. I had a pancreatitis attack at church two weeks ago on Sunday morning and had to leave service before communion. I found out I had to have my gallbladder out. Then I went into the hospital on the following Monday and due to surgery, clot concerns, etc. Thanks!"
- **Rich Spillane** asks for continued prayers for **Jeff Carroll** as he needs a morale boost in light of health issues. Please pray for **Rich Spillane's** friend **Sony**.
- Prayers for earthquake victims in Pakistan and surrounding areas and for flooding victims in Texas and Mexico.
- **Sylvia Gibbs** ask for prayer for her daughter-in-law's mother who has been arrested by immigration after being in the country for 35 years. She is facing deportation. Please pray for a good outcome.
- **Wiley** and **Danl** ask for prayer for their new roommate. We ask that Jay is touched, taught and learns what is important and what is temporary and worth in the end.
- Celebrate that **Amy** and **Rev. Micheal Yandell** joined the church on Sunday, October 18! Welcome home!
- **Rose Bianco Szymanski** requests prayer for her mother **Alida Gines** who is undergoing a catherization procedure on Wednesday, a procedure to unclog her heart valves.
- **Jeanette Duncan** says her son **Duane** has pneumonia and is in Johns Creek hospital.
- **Tom Rosenberger** asks for prayer for his friend **Leo** who had a stroke yesterday.
- **Julie Fleming** says, "My dad has an infection (suspected to be cellulites) that caused his leg to swell and turn hot, red, and painful over the course of about 90 minutes on Sunday. I'd appreciate prayers for his comfort." **Julie Fleming** asks for prayers for **Eleanor Kellett**, who has advanced cancer.
- **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."
- **Saundra Brundage** says, "My cousin **Paulette Young** had her surgery and she is recuperating now. Please keep praying for her,"
- **Dotti Laycock** seeks prayer for **Kevin Castelow**, 40, with terminal cancer. He has a wife and young children.
- Please pray for **Lily Delk**. She is recovering at home.
- 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 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.*