



*Resolve to Love – Agree to Differ – Unite to Serve – Break Bread Together*

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## **Blue Christmas: Dealing with Sadness During the Holidays**

On successive Thursdays, Nov. 5, Nov. 12, and Nov. 19, going from 6:30 to 8 p.m. we will offer a three session seminar addressing feelings of sadness and loneliness plus providing coping techniques that will be held here at First Christian Church of Decatur. As you know, the winter holiday season is joyous for many people yet some find the loss of loved ones and friends, or feelings of abandonment, most acutely during such times. Rev. Dr. Barbara Sims-King, a licensed professional counselor, will facilitate the seminar. Our hope is to bring together people from the community for support and comfort. No registration is required. All are welcome.

**Decatur Cooperative  
Ministry Sponsors  
City-wide  
Community  
Thanksgiving  
Service**

***Our Story is One of  
Prayer  
Prayer Circle,  
Groups, and Chains  
of Grace  
Enveloping,  
Engaging,  
Expanding, &  
Enriching***

**First Christian  
Church Book Club**

**Offerings for  
Spiritual Formation  
on Sunday at 9:15  
a.m.**

**An Appalachian  
Advent  
December 1-4, 2015**

**Recent Visitors**

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**Watching Our Figures**



## **Christmas Tree Sale- Lot Set Up**

November 14, 9 a.m.- 3 p.m. Help wanted, needed, and appreciated. Please contact Dave Andrew for more info. Thank you for your support.

## **2016 Stewardship Campaign**

First Christian Church of Decatur offers to the glory of the Lord a *Narrative Budget*, one in which our Story is told and supported by the whole people of God. We are called by God to give generously and faithfully out of gratitude for all that Jesus Christ has done and is doing in our daily lives. Starting in late October and concluding on Pledge Sunday, November 15, we will hear and respond to a variety of church members who are going to share their personal stories of faithful stewardship. Plan now to be present to hear their words of hope, and to celebrate the movement of the Holy Spirit in all of our lives.

## **Samaritan's Purse Shoeboxes**

Please turn in the shoeboxes that you are filling with toys and items for children around the world. We will receive them starting on Sunday, November 15. They will be dedicated on Sunday, November 22 during worship.

**Pledge Sunday,  
Season of Pentecost,  
November 15, 2015, at  
10:30 a.m.**

Worship the Living  
Christ at 10:30 a.m.

**Holy Scriptures:**  
Malachi 3: 10; Luke 21:  
1-4

**Sermon Title:**  
"Why Tithe? A Fresh  
Theology of Giving"

**Preaching:**  
Rev. Dr. James Brewer-  
Calvert

**Worship Leaders:**  
Rev. Wendy Wyche and  
Julie Fleming

**Deacons:**  
Doug Schuette,  
Bridgette Boker, Steve  
Oliver

**Greeters:**  
Russell Broomfield and  
Lee Stanley

**Acolyte:**  
Tori Jackson



**Welcome Home!**

First Christian Church of  
Decatur



## **Now is Prime Time to Sign Up to Help with the 8th Annual 2015 Christmas Tree and Wreath Sale**

You can sign up right now on the church bulletin board in the main hallway and reserve your favorite time slot to serve on the Christmas Tree Lot! For more information about volunteering please contact Pastor James (404-229-2326).

These past eight years have been a blessing! First Christian Church of Decatur has offered to the wider community a vibrant and thriving Christmas Tree and Wreath Sale. With each successive year our congregation sold more Grade A Fraser Fir trees and handmade wreaths than the year before. In the past couple seasons we sold out within 11 days!

**Our 2015 Christmas Tree/Wreath Sale  
Organizational Chart of Leadership Team  
Chair -- Nancy Shealy**

Inside Table – **Yolanda Llewellyn**

Meals – **Elaine Alsobrook**

Wreaths – **Brandy Alsobrook**

Foremen -- **Glen Alsobrook and Dave Andrew**  
Marketing -- **Nancy Oliver**  
Technology- **Ruth Lutz**  
Volunteer Recruitment -- **James Brewer-Calvert  
and Sub-Committee**

**Key Prep and Sale Dates:**  
Set Up Tree Lot on Lawn – Saturday, Nov. 14  
Set Up Wreath Tables – Saturday, Nov. 21  
Christmas Tree Delivery – Sunday, Nov. 22 @ 12:00  
noon after worship

(Disciples of Christ)  
601 W. Ponce De Leon Ave.  
Decatur, GA 30030

404-378-3621

[DecaturDisciples.org](http://DecaturDisciples.org)  
[1stcc@bellsouth.net](mailto:1stcc@bellsouth.net)

"We are Disciples of Christ, a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world. As part of the one body of Christ, we welcome all to the Lord's Table as God has welcomed us." --Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Statement of Identity.

Tree/Wreath Sale Begins Friday, Nov. 27 and concludes Dec.12.



**Decatur Cooperative Ministry Sponsors  
City-wide Community Thanksgiving  
Service Sunday, Nov. 22 at 5 p.m.**

at Columbia Presbyterian Church on Kirk Road and Columbia Ave. in the Hazelwood Hall- simple meal, testimonies, prayer.

***Our Story is One of Prayer***  
**Prayer Circle, Groups, and Chains of  
Grace Enveloping, Engaging,  
Expanding, & Enriching**

*"The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of righteous is powerful and effective." -- James 5: 15-16*

New Prayer Groups and Circles are officially and spiritually under way! The following faithful Christian member and friends have committed to prayer groups through December 31st. Anyone interested in joining a Prayer Group or the Monday Morning Circle are invited to contact Rev. Dr.

Barbara Sims-King at the church (404-378-3621) or  
at (317) 487-9554 for more information.

**In Home Prayer Group 1**

Mary Frances Early  
Minnie Haynes  
Helen Huyler  
Tom Rosenberger

**Prayer Chain**

Julie Fleming  
Becky Kidd  
Pat Oliffe

**In Home Prayer Group 2**

James Brewer-Calvert  
Julie Fleming  
Yolanda Lewellyn  
Ruth Lutz

**On-Line Prayer Group**

Betty Brewer-Calvert  
Sylvia Gibbs  
Helen Huyler  
Barbara Sims-King  
Rich Spillane  
Wendy Wyche

**Monday Morning Prayer Circle at 11 a.m.**

Elaine Alsobrook, James Brewer-Calvert, Sandra  
Brundage, Lily Delk, Elizabeth Hamm, Helen Huyler,  
Yolanda Lewellyn, Barbara Sims-King.



## **First Christian Church Book Club**

First Christian's Church of Decatur's Book Club is reading Sarah's Key by Tatiana de Rosnay. Next gathering is November 19 at 7 p.m.

### **Offerings for Spiritual Formation on Sunday at 9:15 a.m.**

See you Sunday morning for meaningful, informative, and uplifting spiritual formation! Weekly Montessori-based **Godly Play for Children**, Sundays, 9:15 a.m. in worship and wonder room for 3 yr old through 2nd grade. **Jesus Junction Sunday School** for 3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> grade.

Nursery is available for infants up to 3 years old  
Adult Classes Gather Sundays from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m.:

**Pathfinders Class** is listening to "Freedom: The View From A Roman Jail" by Dr. Fred Craddock. **Transforming Series** -- Pastor James will teach on the **Parables of Jesus** on Sunday, Nov. 15 and 22. We meet in the Church Parlor and all are welcome.

### **Plan Ahead! Mark Your Calendar and Plan to Participate**

-- **Church Board Meeting on Sunday, November 15**

-- **Congregational Meeting on Sunday, December 13**



## **An Appalachian Advent December 1-4, 2015**

If you are looking for a fun time in the mountains in December, you are looking for Christmount's Appalachian Advent! This year's event will feature a concert on Wednesday night by Appalachian folk artist **Laura Boosinger**, an internationally-known singer. The **Rev. Joanne VerBerg** will kick off the event Tuesday night and bring our daily devotions each morning.

Each day there will be time for sight-seeing and, on Thursday morning, Christmas craft-making at Christmount. Thursday night we'll have a Christmas party around the Christmas tree and fireplace, sing our favorite Christmas carols, and be treated to poet **Debbie Parvin** and husband/storyteller **Rev. Bob Parvin** sharing their talents! **Prepare for the birth of the Christ child. Rekindle your heart in this special experience.**

### **Did you meet and greet...? Recent Visitors**

We are delighted to welcome friends and neighbors who recently visited to worship God here, including: Joshua Alexander, Rose Bianco Szymanski, Bryan & Lindsay Carswell, Henoeh Davila, Jennifer, Gianna, Stella Esposito, Mary Jane Goins, Christine Jetta, Rhonda Lederer, Connie Meyer, Weldon Sailors.

## Continental Breakfast

Ever run late to church on Sunday morning and don't have time to eat? No problem; a continental breakfast is available! Feel free to sign up to bring breakfast once in a Blue Moon. First Christian Church offers Continental Breakfast year round, and everyone is invited to participate in both enjoying and providing delicious fare. Fill in your name on an open date, place in the offering plate or return to Church Office:

Nov. 15: \_\_\_\_\_  
Nov. 22: \_\_\_\_\_  
Nov. 29: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dec. 6: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dec. 13: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dec. 20: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dec. 27: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jan. 3: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jan. 10: \_\_\_\_\_

## Watching Our Figures

Sunday, Nov. 8, 2015 Worship

Participation	<b>49</b>
Church Offerings	\$4,016.00
Church Offsets	\$1,510.00
Donation for Playground	\$ 200.00
Total	\$5,726.00