

Church Calendar of Missions and Ministry Opportunities

- Sunday, Nov. 8:** **Rev. Melissa Fain Preaching on Faithful Stewardship**
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, Nov. 9:**
10 a.m. Staff Meeting
11 a.m. Prayer Group
3-7 p.m. Cello Lessons in Carmack Room
7 p.m. Administration Meeting
- Tuesday, Nov. 10:**
10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Chalice Thrift Store
4-6 p.m. Spring Into Spanish
8 p.m. AA/ALANON
- Wednesday, Nov. 11:**
4-6 p.m. Spring Into Spanish
5:30 p.m. L'Arche in Pathfinders Room
6:30 p.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal
7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- Thursday, Nov. 12:**
10 a.m.-2 p.m. Chalice Thrift Store
4-6 p.m. Spring Into Spanish
6:30-8:00 p.m. Grief Seminar
- Friday, Nov. 13:** Regional Assembly at First Christian Church of Tucker
November 13-14
- Saturday, Nov. 14:**
10 a.m.- 2 p.m. Chalice Thrift Store
- Sunday, Nov. 15:**
9 a.m. Continental Breakfast
9:15 a.m. Spiritual Formation/Bible Study Classes
10:30 a.m. Sanctuary Service
12 noon Board Meeting after the service
8 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous



First Christian Church of Decatur (Disciples of Christ)

601 West Ponce de Leon Avenue
Decatur, GA 30030
Phone: 404-378-3621
Email: 1stcc@bellsouth.net
Website: www.decatordisciples.org

Holy Scripture:

Deuteronomy 26: 1-11

When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, “Today I declare to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us.” When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the LORD your God, you shall make this response before the LORD your God: “A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have given me.” You shall set it down before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD your God. Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house.

Joys and Concerns for Church and Community

- **Kayla Harriott** says, "My friend **Dean** lost his mother to stomach cancer on Monday. Please pray for peace for the family."
- **Geraldine Davis** requests prayer for America, the world, sinners everywhere, our leaders, people in authority, and her family and her.
- **Saundra Brundage** says, "Thank you for your prayers for my cousin **Paulette Young**. She is getting better."
- **Lillie Sapp** requests prayer for **Danl** who had a procedure to reduce the pain he has suffered so long with and for **Wiley** who is a devoted caregiver.
- **Glen Alsobrook, Jr.** requests prayer for **Olivia Anglin**, their Goddaughter, who has been ailing and her doctors are a bit puzzled exactly why.
- **Susan Watts** says, "Hi **Pastor**. You know that God is good because I asked and got my grandkids with me in church." Her grandchildren offer prayers of their own. **Karleeyah Columbus** requests prayer for her mother and dad, and says, "Thank you, Pastor." **Jaylen DeShawn Columbus** writes, "Thank you so much Pastor."
- **Jeanette Duncan** requests traveling mercies for **Yolanda**.
- **Liz, Brooke, and Madelyn** have a praise! **Liz** starts her new job on Monday! "Thank you for all your prayers!"
- **Wiley and Danl** ask for prayers to strengthen **Danl's** body to be healed. "We ask for prayer for our friend **Jay** to help him clearly see the way."
- **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**.
- **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.
- **Rose Bianco Szymanski** requests prayer for her mother **Alida Gines**.
- **Tom Rosenberger** asks for prayer for his friend **Leo** who had a stroke yesterday.
- **Julie Fleming** asks for prayers for **Eleanor Kellett**, who has advanced cancer.
- **Dotti Laycock** seeks prayer for **Kevin Castelow**, 40, with terminal cancer. He has a wife and young children.
- 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, 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.