Church Calendar of Missions and Ministry Opportunities

Pledge Sunday and Church Board Meeting Sunday, Nov. 15: Continental Breakfast 9 a.m. Spiritual Formation/Bible Study Classes 9:15 a.m. Sanctuary Service 10:30 a.m. Church Board Meeting after Worship 12 noon Narcotics Anonymous 8 p.m. Monday, Nov. 16: 10 a.m. **Staff Meeting** Prayer Group 11 a.m. Cello Lessons in Carmack Room 3-7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 17: **Chalice Thrift Store** 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. 4-6 p.m. Spring Into Spanish 8 p.m. AA/ALANON Wednesday, Nov. 18: Disciples Clergy Luncheon at Peachtree Christian 12 noon Planning for "Conversations That Matter", Pathfinders Room 5 p.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 19: **Chalice Thrift Store** 10 a.m.-2 p.m. **Retired Teachers** 2 p.m. **Grief Seminar** 6:30-8:00 p.m. Book Club in Pathfinders Room 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 20: In home Prayer Group at Yolanda Lewellyn's home 7 p.m. Interplay in Jerusalem Room 7-8:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 21: 10 a.m.- 2 p.m. **Chalice Thrift Store** Wedding Rehearsal 11:30 p.m. Wedding in the Sanctuary and Reception in the Social Hall 1 p.m. Dedicate Christmas Shoeboxes in Church/ Tree Delivery at Noon Sunday, Nov. 22: Continental Breakfast 9 a.m. 9:15 a.m. Spiritual Formation/Bible Study Classes Sanctuary Service 10:30 a.m. Tree Delivery --- "All hands on deck!" 12 noon **Narcotics Anonymous** 8 p.m.

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.decaturdisciples.org

Holy Scripture:

Malachi 3: 10

Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in my house, and thus put me to the test, says the LORD of hosts; see if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing.

Luke 21: 1-4

[Jesus of Nazareth] looked up and saw rich people putting their gifts into the treasury; he also saw a poor widow put in two small copper coins.

He said, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them; for all of them have contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in all she had to live on."

Joys and Concerns for Church and Community

- Cathy Keeler asks for prayers for her sister Jennifer's partner, Polly Cameron and her family. Polly's sister Emily Cameron, was killed by a hit and run driver on Arizona Avenue in Atlanta.
- **Jennifer Esposito** asks for prayer for her daughter **Gianna's** surgery on Tuesday. Please pray for her quick recovery.
- "My nephew **David Bianco** died on Sunday, Nov. 8. Please pray for our family." **Rose Bianco Symanski** asks for prayer for her mother **Alida Gines.**
- **Minnie Haynes** and **Deenie Kirkman** request prayers for their Clairmont Oaks neighbor, **George Anderson** who has been diagnosed with cancer.
- **Deb Almauhy** asks for continued prayer for their daughter's visa and for her husband's health and safety in Iraq.
- **William Garner** says, "Stepping into new territory and experiences with the Atlanta Boy Choir. I ask for courage and strength as I perform three operatic selections with two other tenors on Saturday evening, November 14, at 7:30 p.m."
- **Kayla Harriott** says, "My friend **Dean** lost his mother to stomach cancer on Monday. Please pray for peace for the family."
- Pray 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.
- **Liz**, **Brooke**, and **Madelyn** have a praise! **Liz** starts her new job on Monday! "Thank you for all your prayers!"
- **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.
- Tom Rosenberger asks for prayer for his friend Leo who had a stroke.
- **Julie Fleming** asks for prayers for **Eleanor Kellett**, who has advanced cancer. Her dad **JD Fleming** is coping with cellulitis.
- **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 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 Kingdombuilding 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.