

Church Calendar of Missions and Ministry Opportunities

- Sunday, Jan. 17:
9 a.m. Continental Breakfast
9:15 a.m. Spiritual Formation/Bible Study Classes
9:30 a.m. Transforming Series: "New Beginnings" in Parlor
10:30 a.m. Sanctuary Service
12 p.m. Nominating Ministry
8 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous
- Monday, Jan. 18:
11 a.m. Prayer Group
12 p.m. Staff Meeting
2-6 p.m. Cello Lessons in Carmack Room
7-8 p.m. AA Men's Big Book Study Grp.
7:30 p.m. Mary Magdalene Circle at Yolanda's home
- Tuesday, Jan. 19:
10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Chalice Thrift Store
4-6 p.m. Spring Into Spanish
8 p.m. AA/ALANON
- Wednesday, Jan. 20:
4-6 p.m. Spring Into Spanish
6:30 p.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal
7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- Thursday, Jan. 21:
10 a.m.-2 p.m. Chalice Thrift Store
2 p.m. Retired Teachers
4-6 p.m. Spring Into Spanish
7 p.m. Stewardship Meeting in Pathfinders
- Friday, Jan. 22:
7 p.m. Prayer Group at Yolanda's home
- Saturday, Jan 23:
10 a.m.- 2 p.m. Chalice Thrift Store
10 a.m. Disciples Women Cleaning Kitchen
- Sunday, Jan. 24:
Installing of Church Officers and Deacons
9 a.m. Continental Breakfast
9:15 a.m. Spiritual Formation/Bible Study Classes
9:30 a.m. Transforming Series: "New Beginnings" in Parlor
10:30 a.m. Sanctuary Service
12 p.m. Church Board Meeting
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.decaturchurch.org

Isaiah 62: 1-5

¹For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. ²The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give. ³You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God. ⁴You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be termed Desolate; but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her, and your land Married; for the LORD delights in you, and your land shall be married. ⁵For as a young man marries a young woman, so shall your builder marry you, and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you.

John 2: 1-11

¹ On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. ² Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. ³ When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." ⁴ And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." ⁵ His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." ⁶ Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. ⁷ Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. ⁸ He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. ⁹ When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom ¹⁰ and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." ¹¹ Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

1 Corinthians 12: 1-11

¹ Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters I do not want you to be uninformed. ² You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. ³ Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says "Let Jesus be cursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit.

⁴ Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵ and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; ⁶ and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷ To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸ To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰ to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹ All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

Joys and Concerns of Church and Community

- **Rev. Betty Brewer-Calvert** requests prayers for the following: (1.) Service for Ana Guardiola was Tuesday at the Community Christian Church in Fayetteville. (2.) Elouise Sapp's funeral service was this past week; continue to keep the Sapp Family in prayer. Lillie Sapp's cousin Ethel Mason is in ICU in Florida (3.) Service for Mary Reimer was yesterday. We remember and celebrate her faithful work with DEAM and Church Women United. (4.) Traveling mercies for Katie who arrived safely in KY.
- **Lee Stanley** is home and is doing well after a kidney problem. He began radiation for the cancer in his esophagus on January 12th. He is also on a chemo medication each day. The radiation will be for 5 and 1/2 weeks. Lee appreciates our prayers and cards.
- **Danl and Wiley** said, "Thanksgiving for '**Fred**', a young man who found my phone and safely kept it until returning it to me. Thank God for our church family's support, love and gifts. When we move into our new place, we hope for your support as we rebuild."
- **Mary Beth Schneiderman** requests a place to serve and a local Wednesday night Bible study.
- **Jeanette Harris** asks for support during her transition.
- **Helen Huyler** reports, "**The Huyler and Cooper** families are grateful to our Church Family for prayers and expressions of condolence during the illness and passing of **Willie Cooper**."
- **Quinn Stevenson** requests that we notice and celebrate grace notes in the midst of suffering.
- **Barbara Powell** requests prayer for the family of **Ana Guardiola** and **John Horton** (former member) in Athens Hospital after another stroke.
- **Lynn Trapp** requests prayers for the family of **June Chitwood**, my great aunt, who passed away last night. She is survived by her son **Al Lewis Chitwood** and her daughter **Gayle Dobbs**.
- **Brooke Babbitt** and **Madelyn Stillwell** offer praise and thanks to God that **Madelyn** and **Brooke** are no longer sick with colds. Pray for **Liz** who is now sick. We have missed our church family.
- **Sandra Brundage** thanks for your prayers. My family and I are getting better. Please keep us and others in your prayers as I will also.
- **Nancy Oliver** requests prayers for healing and sleep for **Steve Oliver**.
- **Deb** and, **Furat Almauhy** and baby **Annie Zanab** request prayers for their daughter's visa. They should find out this week if it is granted. Thanks so much.
- **Mark Ranney** and **Russell Broomfield** request prayer as they will be making their annual trip to visit family. Prayers for traveling mercies and good weather.
- **Rich Spillane** requests traveling mercies for myself, and roomie **Willie** and **Ma** travel to Kansas for mom's 90th B-Day.
- Prayer for **Helen Chilton's** family.
- We continue to lift up **Furat** and **Deb Almauhy**, **Johnnie Barber**, **Jeffery Carroll**, **Kevin Castelow**, **Elizabeth Cunningham**, **the Delk Family**, **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**, **Alan Merritt**, **Don Middour**, **Lynn Nabers**, **the Norton Family**, **the Smith Farrell family**, **Kim Stanley**, **Lee Stanley**, **Austin Swartz**, **Mildred Trott**, **Carol Wheeler**, **Nancy Williamson**, **Betty Young** 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.