



## First Christian Church of Decatur

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January 15, 2025

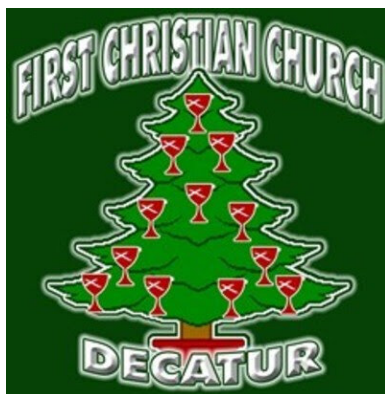
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"Church is not always easy, and it doesn't always look the way we think it should, and we keep on going anyway. Because we are more than individuals in a place. We are witnesses and testaments to a light that does not go out, even in the midst of ice and snow."

Rev. Daniel Brower

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### 2024 Christmas Tree Sale

Due to the snowstorm, the cleanup day on January 11th has been postponed. Please watch this space for information on rescheduling.



## Board Retreat

Our Annual Board Retreat will be held **Monday, January 20th from 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM** in our beautiful sanctuary. This will be a day dedicated to fellowship, reflection, and planning for the year ahead.

Please **RSVP by Friday, January 17th at 2:00 PM** to ensure we can prepare materials and lunch for everyone. There is a Zoom component; please let us know if that is how you plan to take part. We're looking forward to spending this meaningful time together!

## EMERGENCY NEED

Severe winter weather and wildfires have forced thousands of blood donations to go uncollected. There is an emergency shortage of blood, especially, **types O negative and B negative** blood. Donors are needed TODAY!

Schedule an appointment by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting [RedCrossBlood.org](https://www.redcrossblood.org) or calling 1-800-733-2767.

## First Drive of '25

Start the new year off right -- and enter to win a trip to the Super Bowl!

All blood types are needed, but type O negative blood donors and

A promotional banner for blood donors. On the left, a yellow background features the text "Blood Donors Needed" and "Come give blood Jan. 1-26 for a chance to win a trip for two to Super Bowl LIX.\*" Below this is a white input field containing "30030" and a red button labeled "MAKE AN APPOINTMENT". On the right, a football is shown with "THE BIGGEST WINNERS" and "LIX NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE" printed on it.

those giving platelets are especially urged to give.

Schedule an appointment for **Monday, January 20 from 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM** in our Fellowship Hall by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting [RedCrossBlood.org](https://www.RedCrossBlood.org) or calling 1-800-733-2767.



## **New Bell Choir Season**

The Spring 2025 season of the First Christian Church of Decatur Bell Choir commences **Wednesday, January 22nd at 7:00 PM.**

Come ring a joyful noise with us! *No experience required.*

## **Break Bread Together**



We are blessed in January to Break Bread Together TWICE. Join us on **Sunday, January 26th** for a worship service and potluck meal. We will be joined by Rev. Lee Carroll who will lead us as we construct a timeline of our congregation's past in order to gain insight into our future. We are looking forward to this wonderful time of sharing and fellowship as we talk about our history and legacy through the years.

**Welcome!**

## **Greeter Training**

If you've been interested in our greeter program but unsure what it entails or what it may be for, the Greeter Team would like to invite you to a session of Greeter Training on **February 9th during our Sunday School hour of 9:15 AM.** We will talk about what

greeter responsibilities are, our policies and systems, and what the program is all about. Everyone is welcome to attend and we look forward to seeing you soon."



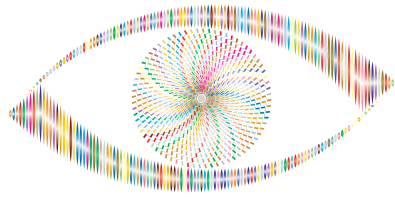
## Transition Team Update

The Transition Team met with Rev. Scott Woolridge via Zoom on Sunday, January 12th to begin preparations for our upcoming Vision Retreat to be held on **February 16th**. We explored our hopes, goals, and expectations for the day and ended the session excited to begin visioning with you. This congregation has always been a source of Christ's light in our community and we look forward to discerning what the next iteration of that mission will be.

We also said farewell to two Transition Team members who have stepped back from the Team in the new year. The Transition Team and leadership of First Christian Church of Decatur extend heartfelt gratitude to Rev. Answai White-Burch and Rev. Phil Foster for their excellent work on the team in the past year and we look forward to their continued participation on the congregational side of things going forward.

The Transition Team remains grateful for the support and prayer of our beloved community. Our next meeting will be held **January 30th via Zoom**. If there are any questions or suggestions, please don't hesitate to reach out to the transition team at [transitionteamfccdecatur@gmail.com](mailto:transitionteamfccdecatur@gmail.com). Thank you and God bless.

## Vision Retreat



It's time to get excited! Our Vision Retreat with Rev. Scott Woolridge is almost here. Join us on **Sunday, February 16th** for a fun and fast paced day of discernment, creativity, and yes, visioning together as a congregation. This is a day to affirm who we are and explore what God is calling us to do. It promises to be a great time so please plan to take part. We will start the **morning session at 10:00 AM**, move into our **worship service at 11:00 AM**, and conclude with lunch and our afternoon session.

Please be in prayer for this process as we begin to consider some big decisions about our future. Who are we? What is God asking of us in this moment? How can we best serve our community in Christ? Prayerfully consider these things and come ready for God to move among us, on retreat day and every day.



## **2025 Disciples Women's Retreat**

Although Hurricane Helene changed the Disciples Women's fall retreat plans, the Regional Disciples Women's Leadership Team has been able to reschedule the event on **February 21-23, 2025** at Little Ocmulgee State Park and Lodge. Disciples women will gather for fellowship, worship, learning, and service, guided by the theme "Crazy Love: Sharing

Stories of Jesus.” Learn more and register here: <https://www.gadisciples.org/gadisciples-women-retreat-2025>.

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## 601 Wednesday

Pastor Daniel Brower will be live at 6:01 PM tonight for "601 Wednesday." For past meditations, check out [our YouTube channel here](#).



## Chalice Thrift Hours

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

**OPEN THIS WEEK:**

**Thursday, January 16**

**Saturday, January 18**



## Little Free Pantry

### FCC Decatur Little Free Pantry

This is an important community resource that provides food and other items to our neighbors in need.

You can help by donating funds or items to the church; either directly to the box or bringing them to worship on Sunday. If you would like to arrange an Instacart delivery directly to the church office, please let the office know to expect the delivery.

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## Mark Your Calendar

**Sundays** – Rev. Stan Saunders Sunday School, Pathfinders, 9:30 AM

**Mon, Jan 20** – 2025 First Christian Church of Decatur Board Retreat

**Mon, Jan 20** – American Red Cross Blood Drive, Fellowship Hall, 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM, [Make appointment](#)

**Wed, Jan 22** – Handbell Choir Spring Season, Music Room, 7:00 PM  
**Fri, Jan 25 – Sun, Feb 2** – 2025 Regional Youth Assembly, Epworth by the Sea, St. Simons Island, GA, [Registration](#)  
**Sun, Jan 26** – Break Bread Together and Church Timeline Workshop with Rev. Lee Carroll  
**Thu, Jan 30** – Transition Team Meeting, Zoom  
**Sun, Feb 9** – Greeter Training, 9:15 AM  
**Sun, Feb 16** – Visioning Retreat with Rev. Scott Woolridge, 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
**Fri, Feb 21 - Sun, Feb 23** – 2025 Disciples Women's Retreat, Little Ocmulgee State Park and Lodge, Helena, GA, [Registration](#)

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## Online Giving

For those who would like to give out of gratitude for all the Lord is doing for us, [click this link](#) or scan the QR code.

You can create an account or download the Online Giving app. Please send us an email if you have any questions.



You received this email because you subscribed to our list. You can [unsubscribe](#) at any time.

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