

Joys and Concerns of Church and Community

- Answered prayers: **Suzette Perillioux** got accepted into both Young Harris College and Kennesaw State!
- More answered prayers: **Lonnie Sapp** is recovering at home, and we are grateful.
- We pray for the family and friends of **Larry Echikson**, who passed away last week.
- We remember **Kathryn Shakespeare**, 95, who passed away on February 2. She used to worship regularly here at FCC Decatur before moving away a few years ago.
- **Minnie Haynes'** family is travelling to the Great Lakes Naval Center for **Garret's** graduation.
- Please pray for **Katie** and **Betty Brewer-Calvert**, who are travelling to Fort Worth and Dallas. **Katie** will interview at TCU and they will visit friends and family in the area.
- **Nathaniel Brown** invites us to remember UGA students as they continue to explore their spiritual identity.
- **Rosa Kent** has prayer requests for friend **Nita's** great granddaughter, age 6, who is very ill in Egelston Children's Hospital.
- **Mark Ranney** is looking for additional employment to supplement his work at the church.
- **Evelyn Greer** and **Mary** and **Brian Jobson** are in our thoughts and prayers.
- **Millie Suttles** lifts up prayer requests for her friends **Mary** and **Bob Allen**, her brother and his family, and the **Fowler family**.
- **Lily** and **Lyman Delk** are in our prayers as is her sister who recently fell and has some degree of pain.
- **The Rev. Paul** and **Sage Appleby** celebrate that he has been called to serve as the pastor of Central Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Columbus, Georgia. They write, "We give thanks for our Decatur FCC family!"
- **The Rev. Adei Grenpastures** is in our prayers for healing. She requests prayers for **Jackie Hudson** and daughter **Alexis**; prayers of thanksgiving for **Alicia Maxwell**, and **Alicia's** friend **Andy Farmer**.
- **Danl** and **Wiley** ask for prayers for the family of the late **Whitney Houston**.
- **Tom Rosenberger** asks for prayers for his friend **Randy** and **his family**; **Randy's** father recently learned that he has liver and brain cancer.
- We celebrate that **Carl Sax** is recovering at home after a brief stay at the hospital. The **Sax's** lift up their daughter **Stephanie Baldi**.
- We are praying for our sister Disciples churches, including FCC Atlanta, FCC Lynchburg, and Community Christian Church in Fayetteville.
- **Jacqueline Tate** invites us to pray with her for her mother **Judith Tanner** as she continues to recover from her cataract surgery; she adds that **Lynn Black** is having shoulder surgery.
- **Tori** is thankful that she has gerbils, and **Theo** is happy that he has fish.
- **Larry Todd** requests prayers for his father, **Cecil**, who is in Holiday Nursing Home in Fairburn.
- **The Andrew family** invites healing prayers for niece **Becky Thompson** as she undergoes cancer treatments and friend **Judy Musick**.
- **Betty Perry** is in the NE ATL Health and Rehab Center. Please continue to pray for **Jay Love** at Scottish Rite Hospital, **Judy McMahan**, **Sue Kaustein**, and **Jim Goolsby**, whose wife died suddenly.

- **Hopkins Kidd. J.D. Fleming** and **Julie Fleming. Lee Stanley** and **Kim Stanley. Hank Ferry** and **Shannon Ferry. Jay Leslie's** sister **Susan** in Florida.
- Prayers for all of our home-bound members and friends, as well as those living in assisted living facilities, that they may experience the presence of God. **Genevieve Browning** is residing at Golden Living-Briar Lake on LaVista Road.

Church Calendar

Sunday, February 19:

- 8:30 a.m. Awakenings Service
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:50 a.m. Sanctuary Service
- 2 p.m. Chapel Memorial Service for Glen A. Hardesty
- 8 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous

Monday, February 20:

- 10 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 11 a.m. Prayer Group
- 7:30 p.m. Mary Magdalene Circle at Yolanda's

Tuesday, February 21:

- 3-5 p.m. Spring Into Spanish
- 3:30 p.m. Cello Lessons
- 6:30 p.m. Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner
- 8:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous/ALANON

Wednesday, February 22:

- 9:30 a.m. Spring Into Spanish
- 3-5 p.m. Spring Into Spanish
- 7 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service

Thursday, February 23:

- 3:30 p.m. Cello Lessons

Saturday, February 25:

- 8:30 a.m. Playground Taskforce Toy Cleanup
- 1-2 p.m. Spiritual Growth with Rev. Grenpastures
- 2-5 p.m. Ordination and Reception for Robbin Brown

Sunday, February 26:

- 8:30 a.m. Awakenings Service
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
- 9:45 a.m. Lenten Course on Identity and Vocation in Social Hall
- 10:50 a.m. Sanctuary Service
- 12:30 p.m. Board Meeting
- 3 p.m. Ian Parvin Asher Eagle Court of Honor at Oakgrove UMC
- 3:30 p.m. ATL CYF at Peachtree Corners Christian Church
- 8 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous

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.



First Christian Church of Decatur (Disciples of Christ)

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Website: www.decaturdisciples.org

Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Affirmation of Faith

As members and friends of the Christian Church,

We confess that Jesus is the Christ,
the Son of the living God,
and proclaim him Lord and Savior of the world.

In Christ's name and by his grace
we accept our mission of witness
and service to all people.

We rejoice in God,
maker of heaven and earth,
and in the covenant of love
which binds us to God and one another.

Through baptism into Christ
we enter into newness of life
and are made one with the whole people of God.

In the communion of the Holy Spirit
we are joined together in discipleship
and in obedience to Christ.

At the table of the Lord
we celebrate with thanksgiving
the saving acts and presence of Christ.

Within the universal church
we receive the gift of ministry
and the light of scripture.

In the bonds of Christian faith
we yield ourselves to God
that we may serve the One
whose kingdom has no end.

Blessing, glory and honor be to God forever. Amen.