

Joys and Concerns of Church and Community

- Prayers for **Lyman** and **Lily Delk** and family. **Lyman** is not going to Budd Terrace but is moving to A.G. Rhodes at Wesley Woods on Friday around 1 p.m. He is eating pureed food and thickened water and juices. Thankfully his mind is clear.
- **Louise Chesson’s** daughter, **Cinda Caiella**, said **Louise** passed away yesterday. Her burial will be on Saturday, May 5 in Washington, NC. Please pray for the family.
- **Larry Anderson** recently had surgery for a blockage in his carotid artery. He finally came home yesterday. He still has healing and regaining strength ahead of him.
- We lift up those participating in Children Worship and Wonder training this weekend at First Christian Church. 25 are registered, including 4 from our congregation. We welcome Disciples minister and expert trainer **Kaye Edwards!**
- Prayers for a speedy recovery for **Linda Neumann, Jackie Tate’s** stepmother.
- **Millie Linville’s** friend **Trisha** with Type-1 Diabetes is recovering from a c-section delivery of her son. All parties are in our prayers.
- **Hank Ferry** reports that his sister **Shannon** is “110% cancer free” after twenty years.
- **Glen Alsobrook, Jr.**, is recovering nicely at home after foot surgery.
- **Lillie Sapp’s** son-in-law **Nicholas Jordan** was hospitalized with gastro-intestinal problems, and had successful surgery. He is recovering at home. We lift up her daughter **Emelda** as she shoulders enormous challenges.
- **Betty Brewer-Calvert** requests prayers for the friends and family of **Connie Cannon**, our Disciples Women’s sister from Sandy Springs Christian Church. She is very active in regional women’s ministry. **Connie** passed away due to cancer last Friday. A memorial service will be held on May 12 at 11 a.m. at Sandy Springs CC.
- **Peggy** and **Jay Norton** request prayers for **Walt McCollum** and his wife, **Betty**, as **Walt** recovers from successful Heart By-Pass surgery he had this week.
- Chancel Choir member **Kayla Harriott** requests prayers as she undergoes school finals.
- **Wiley** and **Danl** invite us to join them in praying for soldiers and their families impacted by the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. We join them in praying for their friends **Greg** and **Sherry** and sister **Heide**.
- **Maggie Meador’s** father recently had a stroke and is not expected to recover. Please keep the **Meador family** in your hearts.
- **Rev. Jose Lingongo’s** father is sick in the DR Congo.
- **Linda Chesnut** lifts up **Jane Owens** and **Peter Dickens** for healing mercies.
- **Johnny Lee’s** father, **Johnny**, is recovering at home; he is no longer able to travel.
- **Jeni Flock** was back in church – an answered prayer! – remains in our prayers for healing and comfort.
- **Evelyn Greer** and **Mary** and **Brian Jobson** are in our thoughts and prayers.
- **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 **Andy Farmer**.
- **Larry Todd** requests prayers for his father, **Cecil**, who is in Unihealth Nursing Home in Fairburn.
- **Betty Perry** is recovering at home and a friend is staying with her to help for a month. Prayers for continued healing still needed. Please continue to pray for **Jay Love**, who is recovering at home.
- **Hopkins Kidd. Russell Broomfield. J.D. Fleming** and **Julie Fleming. Lee Stanley** and **Kim Stanley. Hank Ferry** and **Shannon Ferry. Jay Leslie’s** sister **Susan**.

- 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.
- Prayers for all who are seeking employment.

Church Calendar

Sunday, April 29:	Rev. Dr. Kaye Edwards preaching
8:30 a.m.	Awakenings Service in Chapel
9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
10:50 a.m.	Sanctuary Service
1:30 p.m.	Contemplative Prayer Group
2-5 p.m.	Children Worship and Wonder
5-7 p.m.	Pat Vas Dias Recital in Sanctuary
5-7 p.m.	2012 Planning Team Meeting for Regional Assembly in Pathfinders
8 p.m.	Narcotics Anonymous
Monday, April 30:	
10 a.m.	Staff Meeting
11 a.m.	Prayer Group
6 - 7:30 p.m.	Lisa Cottrell Course in Carmack Room
7 p.m.	Anita Renahan-White Ordination Council in Pathfinders
Tuesday, May 1:	
1:30 p.m.	Ruth Circle at church
3-5 p.m.	Spring Into Spanish
3:30 p.m.	Cello Lessons
8:00 p.m.	Alcoholics Anonymous/ALANON
Wednesday, May 2:	
9:30 a.m.	Spring Into Spanish
3-5 p.m.	Spring Into Spanish
3:30 p.m.	Violin Lessons
6:30 p.m.	Bell Choir Rehearsal
7 p.m.	Emory Chase
7:30 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, May 3:	
9:30 a.m.	Spring Into Spanish
3:30 p.m.	Cello Lessons
Saturday, May 5:	
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.	Spring Carnival
1-2 p.m.	Spiritual Growth with Rev. Grenpastures
Sunday, May 6:	
8:30 a.m.	Awakenings Service in Chapel
9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
10:50 a.m.	Sanctuary Service
12:30 p.m.	CYF meet after church
1:30 p.m.	Contemplative Prayer Group
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 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.



First Christian Church of Decatur (Disciples of Christ)

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Kaye Speakes Edwards, born in Paris, Ky., has been a member of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) all of her life. She graduated from Lynchburg College in 1970, with a B.A. degree in sociology and religious studies, and from Lexington Theological Seminary, Lexington, Ky., in 1980, with a M.Div. in Pastoral Care.

She was ordained to the Christian Ministry at Antioch Christian Church, Lexington, Ky. in 1980. Currently she lives in Lynchburg, Va., with her husband, David, who is minister of Church of the Covenant, United Church of Christ. Kaye and David have two adult children, Kent and Shelley and a granddaughter due at the end of July.

Kaye has spent much of her professional life working with special needs children and their families. In Boston, Mass., she worked as a play therapist on the Psychosomatic Unit of Boston Children's Hospital. While in Lexington, Kentucky, she directed a program to meet the educational and social needs of children with profound and multiple disabilities. After the arrival of her two children, Kaye worked from her home as the Director of the Lexington Mother to Mother Program. Mother to Mother was a national ecumenical program designed to bring together, in mutual supportive friendship, women from different ethnic, social and economic backgrounds.

Kaye has also served as the Children's Advocate in a shelter for abused women and as the Family Life Education Coordinator for a family service organization. As a volunteer she has worked with Parents Anonymous, Adults Molested as Children, Special Olympics, and Youth Services.

Before being called as Director of Family and Children's Ministries for Disciples Home Missions (where she worked for 16 years) Kaye served as the Associate Minister for Education and Youth at First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Lynchburg, Va.

Kaye retired on March 30, 2012. She currently lives in Lynchburg, VA with her husband, David, and is a member of The Church of the Covenant, UCC/Disciples.