

Joys and Concerns of Church and Community

- **Bridgette Boker, Liz and Madelyn Stillwell, and Brooke Babbitt** joined the church on Sunday, Aug. 5, by transfer of membership. Welcome home!
- We celebrate that **12 teenagers and adult advisors** actively participated in a Youth Lock-In on Saturday and then worship on Sunday. We are delighted to welcome back **Elly Tatara**, granddaughter of **Dave** and **Laura Andrew**, who is visiting from Seattle. **Gabrielle Bruton** injured her rotator cuff during a volleyball clinic. **Kasey Bezio** and **Suzette Perrillioux** are embarking on their journey of life at Young Harris College this weekend. We lift up all students, teachers, and bus drivers as the 2012-13 school year begins afresh.
- The Grand Opening of the **Chalice Thrift** was an exceptional event in the life of the church. Our new thrift store offers quality, gently used products for neighbors in the community; all proceeds will benefit outreach and missions for families in need in Decatur. Thank you, one and all, for your support.
- **Rev. Thomas Delk** was in St. Joseph's Hospital for a cauterization after a heart attack last Friday. **He** and his wife **Cathy** are returning to their home on Thursday. Keep the **Delk family** in your prayers.
- **The Rev. Adei Grenpastures** is in our prayers for healing. Keeping off her feet helps her knees to recover. She requests prayers for **Jackie Hudson** and daughter **Alexis**, and prayers of thanksgiving for **Andy Farmer**.
- **Pastor Paul Turner** of Gentle Spirit Christian Church was presented with the Championship Award in recognition for his outstanding umpire achievements at the ASA Fast Pitch Girls A 14-Under Southern Tournament.
- **Dr. Bill Sexson** is recovering from rotator cuff surgery.
- **The Smiths** celebrate that their daughter **Karen Lynne** is back in Atlanta!
- **Russell Broomfield** is recovering at home. He writes, "I want to thank everyone for your prayers while I was in the hospital."
- **Nicholas Jordan**, son-in-law of **Lillie Sapp**, is in our prayers for healing and comfort.
- **Anita Renahan-White** requests prayer as she prepares to preach at Williamson Christian Church on Aug. 12 and 19.
- **Cathy** and **Tommy Archibald** lift up **Patti Ireland**, who broke both arms and is in AG Rhodes for rehab.
- **Mark Ranney** is looking forward to a vacation with his family.
- **Jeni Flock** and her roommate continue to be in our prayers.
- **Carl** and **Ursula Sax** are in our prayers after she fell and is recovering at home.
- **Rosa Kent** adds her cousin **Arthur** and the **Miranda family** to our prayer list.
- **Evelyn Greer, Terry Capes, Mary** and **Brian Jobson** are in our thoughts and prayers.
- **Carolynn** and **Brad Miller** request healing prayers for **Mary Smith** and **Dale Miller**.
- **Amanda Kern** requests prayers for her mother **Sandy** as she recovers from surgery, and she invites us all to lift up prayers for **Lynn Aniskiewicz** on the passing of her grandmother **Anne Aniskiewicz**.

- **Daphne Reiley** requests prayers for the **Reiley family** as they live their way through transitions, grief, and new schools and routines.
- **Chuck Joyner**, a former church member, is currently living in Hawaii and coping with cancer.
- **Jackie Jenkins'** son is in recovery and we pray for his continued healing.
- Please continue to keep **Elaine** and **Glen Alsobrook, Sr.**, in your prayers.
- **Jose** and **Marie Lingongo** request continued prayer for their family.
- **Millie Linville** requests prayer for **Max Linville, John Linville, Hideko Abe, Brad Wallace, Alan Wallace, Diane Robb**: may God show his grace in their lives!
- **Larry Todd** requests prayers for his father, **Cecil**, who is in Unihealth Nursing Home in Fairburn.
- **JD** and **Julie Fleming** lift up the family of **Matthew Smith-Farrell** and his wife **Joanne** and their daughters, and for her father **Dr. Richard Farrell**. Prayer for healing and mercy.
- We lift up prayers for **Betty Perry, Jay Love, Hopkins Kidd, Lee Stanley, Kim Stanley, Julie Bryant, Elizabeth Cunningham**, and each one of our beloved homebound members and friends.
- **Garrett Rothman**, husband of **Alex Parvin Rothman**, is in St. Joseph's Hospital.

Church Calendar

Sunday, August 12:	
8:30 a.m.	Awakenings Service in Chapel
9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
10:50 a.m.	Sanctuary Service
8 p.m.	Narcotics Anonymous
Monday, August 13:	
10 a.m.	Staff Meeting
11 a.m.	Prayer Group
7:30 p.m.	Stewardship Meeting
Tuesday, August 14:	
9 a.m. – 1 p.m.	Chalice Thrift Store
3 p.m.	Cello Lessons
8:00 p.m.	Alcoholics Anonymous/ALANON
Wednesday, August 15:	
6:30 p.m.	Bell Choir Rehearsal
7:30 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, August 16:	
3 p.m.	Cello Lessons
5-8 p.m.	Chalice Thrift Store
Saturday, August 18:	
9 a.m.-1 p.m.	Chalice Thrift Store
Sunday, August 19:	
8:30 a.m.	Awakenings Service in Chapel
9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
10:50 a.m.	Sanctuary Service
3:30-6:30 p.m.	Suzuki Violin Parents Meeting in Chapel
4 p.m.	Regional Assembly Planning Meeting
4:30-6:30 p.m.	Disciples Youth in Metro Atlanta
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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Romans 8: 6-17

6 To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. **7** For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, **8** and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. **9** But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. **10** But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. **11** If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you. **12** So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh— **13** for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. **14** For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. **15** For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" **16** it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, **17** and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

