



*Resolve to Love – Agree to Differ – Unite to Serve – Break Bread Together*

### **In This Issue**

**Planning Team on Board for 2015 Christmas Tree and Wreath Sale**

**Meet Our New Custodial and Thanks For Everything Azeb**

**Christian Education Ministry Kick-Off**

**Thanks, Thanks, Thanks**

**Donations to Deam**

**50% Off Sale for Chalice Thrift thru Saturday, August 1st**

## ***Planning Team on Board for 2015 Christmas Tree and Wreath Sale***

For the past six years First Christian Church of Decatur has offered to the wider community a vibrant and thriving Christmas Tree and Wreath Sale. With each successive year our congregation sold more Grade A Fraser Fir trees and handmade wreaths than the year before. In the past couple seasons we sold out within 11 days! The church's winter 'Friend and Fund Raiser' has generated energy, relationships, and financial support for local congregational ministries and our beloved Decatur Toy Park. The net benefit of \$32,500 in 2014 has gone a long way this year toward making possible vital church and community ministries. More

**August Board Meeting on August 16th**

**Sabbatical Update and Ministers Scheduled to preach in August**

**Annual Women's Retreat Sept. 25-27**

**Offerings for Spiritual Formation on Sunday at 9:15 a.m.**

Recent Visitors

Continental Breakfast

Watching Our Figures

**Tenth Sunday after Pentecost, August 2, 2015**

Worship the Living Christ at 10:30 a.m.

**Holy Scriptures:**

Ephesians 4: 1-7, 11-16

**Sermon Title:**

"Six Steps to Ultimate Spiritual Maturity"

**Preaching:**

Rev. Dr. Barbara Sims-King

**Worship Leaders:**

Ruth Lutz and Tom Rosenberger

**Deacons:**Mark

importantly, the Good Will generated by the offerings of genuine smiles and warmth from church members and friends to our hundreds of guests still burns bright long after the last wreath was carried off to a happy home.

**The 2015 Christmas Tree/Wreath Sale Organizational Chart of Leadership Team**

Chair -- **Nancy Shealy**

Inside Table – **Yolanda Llewellyn**

Meals – **Elaine Alsobrook**

Wreaths – **Brandy Alsobrook**

Foremen -- **Glen Alsobrook and Dave Andrew**

Volunteer Recruitment -- **James Brewer-Calvert and Sub-Committee**

Marketing -- **Nancy Oliver**

Technology - **Ruth Lutz**

If you would like to serve by helping to recruit tree lot volunteers from the church and across our fair city, then please contact James Brewer-Calvert at [citykid4evr@gmail.com](mailto:citykid4evr@gmail.com). One of the blessed gifts of the experience that we have gleaned and cherish is that everyone in the church and city can find a way to participate. The sale calls on the talents of those who can provide a meal, sit at a table and welcome customers, cut branches into "trim" for wreath making, load a tree onto a car roof, make tree deliveries, help customers pick out trees on the church lawn, and more! We have some folks who cannot be present physically yet support the sale by donating a few dollars to support the hiring of additional helping hands. Pray for your church and our leadership team as we prepare together for a mission that will benefit so many and bring so much joy.

**Key Prep and Sale Dates:**

Ranney, Wiley Harris,  
Steve Oliver  
**Greeters:** TBA  
**Acolytes:** Theo  
Jackson

## Welcome Home!

First Christian Church of  
Decatur  
(Disciples of Christ)  
601 W. Ponce De Leon Ave.  
Decatur, GA 30030

404-378-3621

[DecaturDisciples.org](http://DecaturDisciples.org)  
[1stcc@bellsouth.net](mailto:1stcc@bellsouth.net)

"We are Disciples of Christ, a  
movement for wholeness in a  
fragmented world. As part of  
the one body of Christ, we  
welcome all to the Lord's  
Table as God has welcomed  
us." --Christian  
Church (Disciples of  
Christ) Statement of Identity.

Set Up Tree Lot on Lawn – Saturday, Nov. 14  
Set Up Wreath Tables – Saturday, Nov. 21  
Christmas Tree Delivery – Sunday, Nov. 22 @ 12:00  
noon after worship  
Tree/Wreath Sale Begins Friday, Nov. 27 and  
concludes Dec.12.



### **Meet Our New Custodian, Ron Smith and Thanks For Everything Azeb**

Hello, I'm Ronald (Ron) Smith. I am your new Facilities  
Custodian at FCCD.

Let me tell you all just a little about myself. I was born  
and raised in Atlanta, GA and moved to Decatur, GA in  
1987. My primary schooling was in Atlanta but I  
completed high school in a home study with American  
School of Chicago, IL. I am also graduate of Atlanta  
Area Tech in air conditioning/heating, United Business  
Institute in building maintenance and repair, Stratford  
Career Institute in business management and also  
psychology/social work. Most of my work history was  
doing maintenance. I am retired and hope to continue  
my work history working part time with you.

Thank you,

Ronald Smith

### **Thanks For Everything Azeb**

If you haven't heard yet, Azeb Gidey, our custodian resigned last week. Azeb has been employed here for about six years. She always had a great work ethic and she was a great addition to the staff. We are going to miss you Azeb.

### **Christian Education Ministry Kick Off**

First Christian Church of Decatur's Christian Education Ministry Kick Off Event is scheduled for Sunday, September 13th at 9:15 a.m.

### **Thanks, Thanks, Thanks**

Thanks to the following volunteers who helped prepare our congregational meal and presentation by Peg Griffith, LPC on mental health July 19.  
Dave Andrew

Jack Duncan

Mary Frances Early

Sylvia Gibbs

Liz Kellogg

Yolanda Lewellyn

Mark Ranney

Kathy Westbrook

### **Donations to DEAM**

First Christian Church of Decatur recently donated two bags of non-perishable food items and four boxes of potato chips to the DEAM food bank. They were very much appreciated.

**50% Off Sale for Chalice Thrift  
thru Saturday, August 1st**

Don't miss out on the 50% Off Sale at Chalice Thrift now through Saturday, August 1st. See you there.

**August Board Meeting on August 16**

On August 16th there will be a Church Dinner and Board Meeting- Town Hall focus on Mission at noon. All are invited.

**Sabbatical Update**

Please be aware that our Senior Pastor James Brewer-Calvert is on Sabbatical from July 1 through August 31, 2015. Rev. Dr. Barbara Sims-King is faithfully serving Christ's church as Acting Pastor throughout the summer. Her contact info is 317-487-9554. Acting Pastor Barbara's church office days and hours are:

Sunday Hours: Sunday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
(includes lunch and/or consultations with members or visitors, meetings, etc.)

Church Office -- Monday, Thursday and Friday --  
9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Saturday 9:30am - 5:30pm (visitation to homebound and hospitals)

**Here are the Ministers scheduled to preach in August:**

August 2 Rev. Dr. Barbara Sims-King, Decatur First Christian Church

August 9 Rev. Paul Turner, Gentle Spirit Christian Church

August 16 Rev. Wendy Wyche, Decatur First Christian Church

August 23 Rev. Lynn Trapp, Decatur First  
Christian Church

August 30 Music Director William Garner and  
Chancel Choir to lead Worship

### **Annual Women's Retreat Sept. 25-27**

Registration is open for 2015 Disciples Women's Retreat to be held in Toccoa, GA, Sept. 25-27. The keynoter is the delightful and joy-filled Ms. Marilyn Williams, President of International Disciples Women's Ministries. The theme, "Beloved Daughters of God," will be explored through the dramatic portrayal of Biblical women, worship and music, interest groups, fellowship, and fun. You may register online

at [www.gadisciples.org](http://www.gadisciples.org). You may pay in full or make a deposit to reserve your room. Paper registration forms are downloadable from the website or will be received by recent attendees and DW Presidents in the mail later this week!

### **Offerings for Spiritual Formation on Sunday at 9:15 a.m.**

- . Seeking Understanding in Scripture Bible Study in Carmack Room
- . Pathfinders Class gathers in the Pathfinders Room. This Week: **"I Love Growing Older, But I'll Never Grow Old"**
- . Weekly Montessori-based **Godly Play for Children**, Sundays, 9:15 a.m. on the main floor near the Fellowship Hall.
- . **Jesus Junction Sunday School** for 3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> grade uses the study of Easter drawing on *Easter from the Back Side* by J. Ellsworth Kalas. Books are

provided for class members. All are welcome.

**Did you meet and greet...? Recent Visitors**

We are delighted to welcome friends and neighbors who recently visited to worship God here, including: Josh Alexander, Rose Bianco-Szymanski, Collin Butler, Marlin Ellis and Donovan Duckett, Lynn Ely, Melissa and Linc Fain with Caitlin and Aeden, Fred Gibbs, Jasmine Ice, Rhonda Lederer, Mary Ann Mears, Maryellen Merrill, Emily and Harper Nall, Josh Pease, Weldon Sailors, Christopher Schoepke, Randall Smith, Romaine Walford, Rev. Mike and Amy Yandell.

### **Continental Breakfast**

Ever run late to church on Sunday morning and don't have time to eat? No problem; a continental breakfast is available! Feel free to sign up to bring breakfast once in a Blue Moon. First Christian Church offers Continental Breakfast year round, and everyone is invited to participate in both enjoying and providing delicious fare. Fill in your name on an open date, place in the offering plate or return to Church Office:

Aug. 2: \_\_\_\_\_  
Aug. 9: Robbin Brown  
Aug.16: Yolanda Lewellyn  
Aug.23: \_\_\_\_\_  
Aug.30: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Watching Our Figures**

Sunday, 7-19-15 Worship	
Participation	54
Church Offerings	\$3,173.00
Church Offsets	\$ 810.00

Sunday, 7-26-15 Worship	
Participation	57
Church Offerings	\$978.00
Church Offset	\$900.00