



# First Christian Church of Decatur

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Resolve to Love • Agree to Differ • Unite to Serve • Break Bread Together

## Decatur Disciples Newsletter

April 24, 2024

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"What if we have more time than we think we do? What if God is working within the delays? What if the time we feel is wasted is making space for God to accomplish something that wouldn't be possible by speeding on to our destination? A detour may be God's straight line to their purpose. Not a waste of time, but time that we can offer to God to work in and through while we wait."

-Rev. Daniel Brower  
Sunday, April 21, 2024

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### *Little Free Pantry In Need!*

The FCC Decatur Little Free Pantry 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. The most needed item this month are: canned tuna, protein bars, and water. Thank you for helping us serve our community!

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## 601 Wednesday

Join Rev. Daniel Brower at 6:01 PM this evening for a midweek meditation. Check out past meditations on our YouTube channel by clicking [here](#).

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### Chancel Choir

Please consider joining choir to sing your praise and joy! Chancel choir rehearsals are held once a month on Wednesdays at 7:00 PM. The next rehearsal is tonight! We look forward to singing with you soon!

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## CHALICE THRIFT STORE

**Open this week: Thursday, April 25; and  
Saturday, April 27**  
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

**\*\*\* Still Seeking Volunteers \*\*\***  
Especially for the 3rd Thu and Sat of each month

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### Regional Assembly

Jesus often gathered groups of people who'd come to him from all over the place, and he spoke to them in stories. The power of a story to show us our connection to one another has endured through centuries, and at Regional Assembly in Macon, we welcome Rev. Dr. David Hooker, and his team from the Church Narrative Project, to remind us of that power, in a city rich with stories and learning to tell them. Join with us April 25th-27th for learning opportunities, the business of the Region, celebrations, and worship -- all

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threads in our shared story and strengthening us to do the work of Disciples on our shared journey. For more information regarding registration, hotel accommodations, and other pertinent event details, please visit <https://www.gadisciples.org/regional-assembly-2024>.

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### *Congregational Listening Sessions*

As part of our ongoing work of transition and renewal, congregational listening sessions will resume next Sunday, April 28th, following the congregational meeting. Anyone who feels led is welcome to participate. This time is designed to be a confidential time of sharing, to express what you are feeling and to be heard. Thank you for your continued prayer and support.

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### *Handbell Choir*

Bell Choir is open to all ages and skill levels. Rehearsals are Wednesdays at 7:00 PM, and performs several times a year at services. Our next rehearsal is May 1st! Give us a ring!

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### *Regional Minister Visit*

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On Sunday, May 5th, First Christian Church of Decatur will be visited by our Interim Regional Minister, Rev. Joan Bell-Haynes. Rev. Bell-Haynes will be our guest speaker for the day. We look forward to welcoming her and connecting with her in worship!

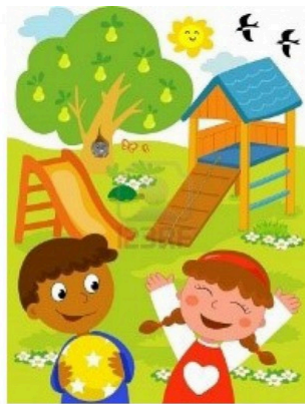
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### *Transition Team*

The Transition Team is diligently and faithfully working together in order to facilitate this time of change in our congregation. They meet on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month and have extended an invitation for anyone interested to attend these meetings as well. If you are interested, the next meeting will be on Sunday, May 5th following worship.

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### **Decatur Toy Park**

#### *Toy Park Clean Up Day!*

Spring has sprung at last, which means increased traffic to our beloved toy park. In order to neaten up the area for the spring crop of children and families, the next clean up day is scheduled for May 11th from 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM. We will be weeding out old toys, cleaning the signage and equipment, and more! Come fellowship with us as we practice good stewardship of our park.



## *Junk In The Trunk*

Spring has sprung and with it comes spring cleaning! Our next Junk in the Trunk event will be held on Saturday, May 18th from 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM. Mark your calendars and watch this space for more details. See you soon!

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## *Congregational Meeting*

We will be holding another Congregational Meeting on May 19th directly after worship in the Fellowship Hall with a light lunch provided. Please save the date and make plans to attend. The meeting will be provided in-person and via Zoom to ensure that all Members can participate.

If it seems like we're having a lot of congregational meetings lately, it's because we are. This is a powerful time of change in the church and we are all invited to take an active part in shaping our future. These meetings are vital for keeping the congregation informed and engaged as we move forward in this time of transition.

In about 1 week, the agenda and more specific information will be shared so that Members can attend the meeting prepared to discuss. Thank you.

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## *Camp Christian*

Registration is now open for all weeks of Camp Christian! During this summer camp experience, we will all grow together in community where we are all welcome and we are all connected by God's love as we learn to share his love with others. You can register and find more details here:

<https://www.gadisciples.org/summer-camp-2024>.



## *Directory Updates*

Did you know? Our church directory hasn't been updated since 2019! If your name, address, or other contact information has changed since 2019 and you're not sure whether the church has updated the directory, please call or email the church office so we can update our records. Thank you!



## *Four Seasons Chamber Orchestra*

The Four Seasons Chamber Orchestra rehearses in the Fellowship Hall on Saturday afternoons. Their first concern of the season will held in the Sanctuary in May. Four Seasons is a community orchestra open to all ages and skill levels, and welcomes everyone interested in joining for the upcoming season (especially if you play viola or cello)!



## *Mark Your Calendar*

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

**Thu, Apr 25 - Sat, Apr 27** - Regional Assembly, Macon, GA,

<https://www.gadisciples.org/regional-assembly-2024>

**Sun, Apr 28** - Congregational Meeting, immediately following morning service

**Sun, Apr 28** - Congregational Listening Session, following Congregational Meeting

**Sun, May 5** - Willow School Spring Recital, Sanctuary

**Sat, May 11** - Toy Park Cleanup Day, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

**Tue, May 14** - Red Cross Blood Drive, 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

**Fri, May 17** - Community Dinner, 6:00 PM

**Sat, May 18** - Junk in the Trunk, 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

**Sat, May 18** - Robbin Marcus Spring Recital, Sanctuary

**Sun, May 19** - Amy Wilson Spring Recital, Sanctuary

**Sun, May 19** - Pentecost Sunday!

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## ONLINE GIVING

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

You can create an account or download the Online Giving app. Please send us a private message if you have any questions. Blessings and peace!

You can also use this QR code for donations.

**First Christian Church of Decatur**  
**Welcome Statement**

*First Christian Church of Decatur (Disciples of Christ) is an open and affirming congregation. We welcome everyone into full participation in the life and membership of the church.*

*Inspired and informed by God's love, mercy, and justice, we are purposefully involved in healing and helping our community and our world. We covenant with God and the greater community to nurture a spirit of love and service to neighbors, honor one another's differences, and fellowship in the breaking of bread.*

*Actively striving to honor each other's race, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, nationality, ethnicity, marital status, physical or mental ability, family configuration, political affiliation, economic circumstance, or theological perspective, we truly do welcome all.*

Email: [fccdecatgur@gmail.com](mailto:fccdecatgur@gmail.com) - Website: [www.decaturdisciples.org](http://www.decaturdisciples.org)

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