

Across the Street – Around the World Global Impact Celebration February 4 - 8, 2015

It really is amazing that we are having a global impact. Through our prayer, participation, and Faith Promise giving, we are actually having an impact across the street and around the world. Last February (2014), we committed \$74,855 toward our Faith Promise Mission budget. Through December (2014), we had already given \$77,613 to the Faith Promise Mission budget. Those resources are being used to make an impact for Christ's Kingdom.

During our Global Impact Celebration, most of our mission partners will be with us to share the impact our partnership has had in the mission of Christ, *Across the Street and Around the World*. We will also have the opportunity to learn about some new mission partnerships, as we continue to make missions a priority here at Decatur First.

Make plans to be a part of the Global Impact Celebration, February 4-8, 2015.



Global Impact Celebration Daily Schedule

Wednesday, February 4

5:00 PM – First Fellowship – Visit the Mission Displays

6:15 PM – Kick-Off Worship Celebration – The Rev. Vaughn Stafford preaching

Thursday, February 5

11:30 AM – Church Family luncheon with Missionaries

5:00 PM – Global Home Briefings (Sunday School Classes to host)

Friday, February 6

10:00 AM – Missionary Worship & Lunch with Staff

5:00 PM – International Banquet

Saturday, February 7

9:30 AM – Community Service Day

11:00 AM – Snacks and Celebration

Sunday, February 8

7:30 AM – Men's Breakfast

8:45 AM – Worship – The Rev. Dr. Ken Dunivant preaching

10:00 AM – Missionaries in Sunday School Classes

11:00 AM – Worship – The Rev. Dr. Ken Dunivant preaching

12:15 PM – Send Off Luncheon

In the days leading up to the Global Impact Celebration, the GIC Mission team asks that you join with us in uplifting our mission participants with prayer. To facilitate your doing so, we have prepared brief descriptions of each mission as well as specific prayer requests of each. You will receive these via e-mail beginning Jan. 19 and continuing until Feb. 4. For those of you who prefer a print copy, booklets will be available at the Welcome Center beginning January 20. May God guide us as we prepare for this important event at Decatur FUMC.

First Fellowship

First Fellowship began on Wednesday, January 7. The Discipleship Team has been hard at work finding classes and teachers. We feel we have a great assortment of classes for all types of adults. If you didn't make it last week and would like to join a class, there is always room! Come and bring a friend!

The options for Winter classes are:

Living the Spirit Filled Life led by Rudy Guess (Room 350)

*Church Flowers** led by Stefanie Underwood (Fellowship Hall)

*Esther** led by Marilyn Sykes (Room 352)

*Book of Revelation for Block Heads** led by Wally Terry (Room 354)

Mark Twain and the Bible led by Mitch Summerlin (Room 353)


Beyond Ready led by Mary Ila Ward & Lisa Earley (Youth 3rd Fl.)

*Everyday Talk** led by Courtney Tomberlin (Room 351)

Messages from John Claypool led by Charles Adams (Room 225)

(* = book needed)

First Grace Center News

- First Grace Yard Sale, April 20-25 in Fellowship Hall
 - * April 20-23, Receiving Donations
 - * April 24-25, Yard Sale
 If you donate, you get a tax donation form. 
- Mountain Mania 5K & 15K Run, June 6th
 - * All proceeds go to the Kathryn King Memorial Scholarship Fund.
- First Grace is in need of a refrigerator. If you have a used one and would like to donate it to us, please call Laura Vines at 256-355-5555.
- First Grace is excited to announce that we will have a Summer Day Camp in 2015 serving children K - 4th Grade. This will be a 13 week program starting May 26th - August 12th. We will go to the public library weekly, have a weekly field trip, and a water day on Fridays. For more information, contact Laura at 256-355-5555. Please help us spread the word!

Church & Community

REFLECTIONS FROM BRO. RUDY

“Leadership Carries Expectations”

It was good to see so many persons being commissioned at the altar last Sunday as a leader in this church. At both services, persons were about three deep at the altar. One group after another knelt at the altar, presented their Leadership Covenant, and received the laying on of hands as they accepted their role of leadership here at Decatur First United Methodist Church.

In the Book of Acts, we find the selection of the first leaders beyond that of the Apostles. In the sixth chapter of Acts, seven men were chosen to provide leadership in the ministry of the church to the widows. As the Apostles presented the plan for leadership, they also presented some expectations. They gathered the church together and said, “...select from among yourselves seven men of good standing, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this task...” (Acts 6:3; NRSV) Notice, they were to be men of good standing in the church, men that others could see the presence of the Holy Spirit and wisdom.

How do you determine if a person has “good standing” in the local church? One way is the faithfulness to the vows they took in joining the church. When a person joins Decatur First United Methodist Church, the question is asked, “Will you be loyal to The United Methodist Church, and uphold it by your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service, and your witness?” The faithfulness to that vow is a good way of determining who is in “good standing.”

Using the membership vow as a springboard, leaders in our church are asked to make the following commitments:

- Be faithful to worship.
- Be involved in prayer.
- Be involved in at least one avenue of spiritual growth, outside worship.
- Be involved in at least one area of ministry, using spiritual gifts.
- Be a faithful financial contributor to the ministries of the Church.
- Be a faithful participant in my area of service.

On Sunday, all present had the opportunity to reaffirm their commitment to Christ through the Baptismal Renewal Covenant. A question that was asked said, “According to the grace given to you, will you remain faithful members of Christ’s holy church and serve as Christ’s representative in the world?” We all responded to that question in our baptism/confirmation. But this service called us to renew that commitment, in the knowledge that we have not always been faithful. However, God’s grace continues to pull us toward greater faithfulness.

Here, in the first weeks of a new year, it is a good time for all of us to consider our faithfulness to Christ and His Church. Christ’s grace is truly amazing. As Christ accepts us and cleanses us, He also expects us to live differently. You might ask yourself if your life practices reveal that Jesus Christ and His Church are a priority?

Rudy

Sympathy

Sharing sympathy with **Mark and Gay Maloney** on the death of his uncle **Richard Maloney**. Our prayers remain with the family.

Sharing sympathy with **Gail and Jim Herren** on the death of her brother **Denzil Yarbrough**. Our prayers remain with the family.

Sharing sympathy with **Jimmy and Barbara Smith** on the death of his sister **Edwina Thompson**. Our prayers remain with the family.

February Hilltoppers Trip Hudson Alpha

- **Thursday, Feb. 12 from 9:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

Come and join us for a fascinating tour of Hudson Alpha in Huntsville, followed by lunch in their Café. We will meet at the Church at 9:00 a.m. and travel to Huntsville. We will tour Hudson Alpha Facility which should be around an hour. We will then enjoy a very nice lunch in their Café. We will return to the church.



Our Stewardship of Presences

Attendance Numbers for Sunday, Jan. 4, 2015:

Total Count for 8:45 a.m. = 106

Total Count for 11:00am = 125

Total Count for morning services Jan. 4, 2015 = 231

Children- 8 teachers, 20 children

Youth- 2 teachers, 9 youth

Adults- 103

Attendance Numbers for Sunday, Jan. 11, 2015:

Total Count for 8:45 a.m. = 110

Total Count for 11:00 a.m. = 129

Total Count for morning services Jan. 11 = 239

Sunday School Jan. 11

Adults 120

Children 20 + 10 adults

Youth 9 + 2 adults

Total Sunday School Jan. 11 = 161

First Fellowship Jan. 7

Children 20 + 10 adults

Youth 21 + 4 adults

Adults 97

Total First Fellowship Jan. 7 = 152

Our Stewardship of Resources

Ministry Budget

Received YTD

\$95,462.58

Needed YTD

48,346.14

Given This Week

18,553.42

Needed Weekly

16,115.38

Capital Fund

\$7,354.11

4,290.00

Children's Ministry Team - Areas of Need for Volunteers

Dear First Church Family,

The Children's Ministry Team is writing you today to thank you for your prayers and contributions to this ministry that is so near and dear to our hearts! As a team, we are striving to maintain an excellent ministry, while doing what is best for our children.

In order for our children's ministry to thrive, we need and welcome volunteers to work with all elements of the ministry. Specifically, we need volunteers for Children's Church for the 8:45 and 11:00 services. Volunteers will work in pairs and be responsible for leading the children in activities, stories and snack. Our Children's Church will not be able to continue as it is now unless we have more volunteers by January 28. The structure of Children's Church will change in February if there are not enough volunteers. We want our children to receive a quality experience through Children's Church, and to accomplish that we need your help!

The Children's Ministry Team is asking you to prayerfully consider contributing your time and talents to the children of our church. Though our greatest needs are in Children's Church, we also need volunteers in other areas. See the attached form to decide which areas you are most interested in giving your time and talents. We are so thankful for all of our volunteers and look forward to having many more working with our children!

Blessings,
Children's Ministry Team

Lorri McGuire, Children's Ministry Director; Carrie Hart, Children's Ministry Team Chair; Charlie Ashwander, Leigh Ann Blankenship, Jami Buckner, Lindsey Faulkner, Molly Ferrell, Ruth Ann Fite, Jim Greene, Gina Guess, Meredith Matthews, Jenny Roby, Glenn Terry, and Laura Vines

If you would like to volunteer to help with our Children's program please send an email to Carrie Hart at carrglenn@aol.com or Lorri McGuire at lmcguire@decaturfumc.org, OR fill out and return this form by JANUARY 28.

Children's Ministry Areas of Need:

Sundays:

- Children's Church Teacher: the teacher is responsible for leading a small group through Bible stories, activities and snack.
- Children's Church Assistant: Assist teacher
- Sunday School Teacher, pre-k (ages 3-5): The teacher will be responsible for teaching children a lesson/story, and snack.
- Sunday School Assistant, pre-k: Assist teacher
- Sunday School Teacher, Elementary: The teacher will be responsible for teaching a lesson/story.
- Sunday School Assistant, Elementary: Assist teacher
- Sunday School Substitutes: Substitutes will fill in for teachers and assistants when needed.

Wednesdays:

- Station Leaders: These volunteers will lead children through a particular activity, depending on the station. Stations are crafts, choir and storytelling.
- Station Assistants: Assist station leaders.
- Shepherds: Shepherds will take groups of children from place to place.
- Vacation Bible School: Volunteers will be needed in all areas, such as teachers, assistant teachers, kitchen and snacks, decorations, etc.

FUMC Children's Ministry Volunteer

Name: _____ / Email: _____

Phone number: _____

Church Service you attend: 8:45 11:00

Frequency you wish to volunteer:

- weekly
 monthly
 quarterly

Volunteer Areas:



Servant Spotlight

Our Servant Spotlight this week shines on Sue Milner who faithfully sends out Memorial recognition notices.

First Grace Spotlight shines on the Ward family for donating baby items to the infant classroom and to the Disaster Relief Warehouse and Mr. Charles Taylor for donating cleaning items to First Grace.

If you have individuals to lift up in the Servant Spotlight, please contact any of our staff at (256)355-0277.



2015 Schedule

Children's Wednesday Night

New start Time **6:00 p.m.**

Kid Check Station 1st floor Children's wing!

Please check your Children in before going to the first Activity station!

All children will begin in their first Activity Station at **6:00 p.m.** This is a new time. We hope this will be more convenient for parents and guardians.

Wednesday Children's Schedule

6:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Pre- K & K Music - Room #250 New Building

Elementary 1st-5th Story/Arts/Games - Room #226/Children's Library

6:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Elementary 1st-5th Music-Room #250 New building

Pre- K & K Story/Arts/Games - Room # 231 Children's Wing

All Children will be dismissed from the children's wing Second floor!



Sunday, Jan. 25th at 4:30 p.m.

Items Needed for Fire Fighter Kits

Agents are excited that they have learned about first responders, our friends the fire fighters, and smoke jumpers. We would like to ask you over the next few weeks to collect and donate items for our **Fire Fighter Kits** that we will be putting together at our next meeting. Items needed for kits:

BANDANA: to wipe soot from face and to place over mouth to reduce smoke inhalation -to help themselves and others.

LOTION: (hotel size) to keep skin moist.

LIP BALM: to prevent lips from drying.

PENCIL: we will be placing brain teaser books into kits.

Other things we will need are band aids. We place three in each kit and a gallon zip lock bag for each kit.

Seekers Class

Sunday school Helpers 1st 2nd 3^d Grade Class

Jan. 18	Gail Herren
Jan. 25	Ed Kirby
Feb. 1	Margaret Dunivant
Feb. 8	Beth Roberts
Feb. 15	Mary Earley
Feb. 22	Marguerite Stone

Calling All 4th and 5th Graders

Exit456: CSI

An Overnight Event - March 13-14, 2015
At Camp Sumatanga

CSI: Christian Scene Investigation

The event will have plenty of activities, fun, fellowship, worship, and speakers. Come and try a night away.

Cost is \$85.00 per student

Includes: meals, housing, and tee shirt

Sign up on the Children's Ministry board or with Lorri McGuire at lmcguire@decaturfumc.org.



Decatur High School Winter Breakfast

This winter we'll host the DHS winter sports (Basketball, Wrestling and Cheerleading) for breakfast on Friday, January 23. If you are interested in serving in some capacity, please contact Beth (beth@decaturfume.org). Thank you for your continued help in making this ministry a success!

Volunteer schedule:

- 6:15am cooks arrive
- 7:15am greeters and servers arrive
- 7:30am serve the students
- 7:45am clean up teams arrive

2015 Jamaica Mission Trip Team

Start praying now for this team! If you are planning on going and your name is not on this list, please contact Beth ASAP! The registration form and \$300 deposit was due on January 15.

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Landess Brown | Natalie Frith |
| Louise Brown | Beth Green |
| Steve Brown | Mary Kate Hillis |
| Web Brown | Elizabeth Hunt |
| Nicole Casteel | Emily Hunt |
| Blakely Clemons | Karen Place |
| Whitney Clemons | Christopher Reavis |
| Scelby Duncan | Mary Ella Scott |
| Kathy Duncan | Katherine Scott |
| Hunter Dupes | Gena Tolleson |
| Sara Catherine Floyd | Mary Ashley Tolleson |
| Susan Floyd | Morgan Tolleson |

Coming Up...



Sunday, January 18

10:00 Sunday School
no evening activities

Wednesday, January 21

5:00 First Fellowship Supper
6:00 Bible Study

Thursday, January 22

7:30am Sr High prayer breakfast at Chick Fil A

Friday, January 23

DHS Winter Sports breakfast
6:15 Cooks arrive
7:15 greeters and servers arrive
7:45 clean up arrive

Sunday, January 25

10:00 Sunday School
6:00 Brown Bag Supper
6:30 UMYF

Monday, January 26

7:45am Jr High prayer breakfast at McDonald's (6th Ave)

Wednesday, January 28

5:00 First Fellowship Supper
6:00 Bible Study

Thursday, January 29

7:30am Sr High prayer breakfast at Chick Fil A

Saturday, January 31

3:00 Youth Season the Boston Butts (FUMC Kitchen)

It's Time for Boston Butts!

The youth are selling Boston Butts for Super Bowl Sunday (Feb. 1)! Each order is \$35 and will come with one Boston Butt (8-10 lbs.), 8 buns and 1 bottle of Gibson's red sauce. The money raised will help cut back on costs for the Senior High/College Jamaica Mission Trip and the Junior High Memphis Mission Trip. Please see any youth for orders.

Return this part to Beth

Sold by _____	Qty _____	Name _____	Phone _____	Email _____
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For the Customer to Keep

BOSTON BUTT ROAST SALE

Sunday, February 1, 2015

Pickup on the 1st by noon.

Quantity _____ \$35.00 each-due at time of order. ALL ORDERS due by Jan. 28.)

Sold By (Youth's Name):

Customer's Name:

**256-355-0277
First United
Methodist**

**Beth C. Green,
Youth Minister**

UPCOMING EVENTS

No UMYF on Sunday, Jan. 18

**Worship Team Practice
Monday, January 19 at 6:00 p.m.**

**Women's Bible Study, Courtyard Conf. Room
Tuesday, January 20 at 10:00 a.m.**

**Worship Planning Team, Courtyard Conf. Room
Wednesday, January 21 at 4:00 p.m.**

**First Fellowship Starts at 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday, January 21 (menu below)**

**UMM Bible Study, Minister's Conf. Room
Thurs., January 22 at 6:30 a.m.**

**UMM Breakfast, City Café
Thurs., January 22 at 6:30 a.m.**

**Sr. High Prayer Breakfast at Chick Fil A
Thursday, January 22 at 7:30 a.m.**

**Vision Team, Minister's Conf. Room
Thursday, January 22 at 6:00 p.m.**

Friday, January 23

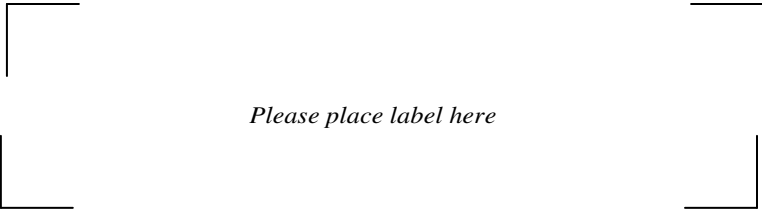
DHS Winter Sports breakfast
6:15 a.m. Cooks arrive
7:15 greeters and servers arrive
7:45 clean up arrive



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Please place label here

**Dr. Rudy Guess, Senior Minister, rguess@decaturfumc.org Beth C. Green, Youth Minister, beth@decaturfumc.org
Patrick McCormick, Director of Worship, patrick@decaturfumc.org
Cindy McCulloch, Administrative Assistant to the Senior Pastor & Finance, cmcculloch@decaturfumc.org
Alyson Quinn, Church Secretary, aquinn@decaturfumc.org Charlie Elliott, Custodian
Laura Vines, Interim First Grace Director, firstgrace@decaturfumc.org Melissa Wiley, Housekeeper
Lorri McGuire, Director of Children & Family, lmcguire@decaturfumc.org Sandy Callahan, Food Manager**

Upcoming Worship Services

(8:45 & 11:00 AM)

VISION STATEMENT:

**Growing in Christ, Sharing God's Love through...
Inspiring Worship
Empowering Ministries
Equipping Persons for Ministry
Promoting Well-Being**

Worship Services at 8:45 and 11:00 a.m.

January 18 -

**"Living As the Good Samaritan -
The Wounded Need a Samaritan" Luke 10: 30-37
Dr. Rudy Guess, preaching**

January 25 -

**"Living As the Good Samaritan -
Find a Need and Meet It" Luke 10: 25-37; Acts 2: 42-47
Dr. Rudy Guess, preaching**

February 1 - Holy Communion

**"Living As the Good Samaritan -
Compassion Leads to Action" Luke 10: 30-37
Dr. Rudy Guess, preaching**

Scheduled To Serve Jan. 18

Acolytes:

**8:45 a.m. - No Acolyte Scheduled
11:00 a.m. - Mary Emma Harper**

Greeters:

**8:45 - Joanne Wheat, Dennis & Sherrill Altice
11:00 - Brenda Terry, Larry & Leslie Weaver**

Ushers:

**8:45 - Kin Copeland, Mike Boozer, Michael Boozer, Mike Ward
11:00 - Lawrence Ford, Jim Norman, Larry Weaver, Sam Houston, Jimmy Ray Smith**

First Fellowship Jan. 21

Find an opportunity to grow in discipleship through great groups (inside this newsletter) and classes. **First Fellowship classes will begin at 6:00 p.m., following the meal at 5:00 p.m.**

The menu for Jan. 21 will be Chili, Hot Dogs, Pineapple Coleslaw, Toasted Italian Bread/Crackers, Peanut Butter and Jelly and Cheese Sandwiches, Salad Bar, Make Your Own Sundae Bar

Clean up crew for Jan. 21: Jim & Chris Surber and Tom & Mary Earley

January Money Desk: Mervyn & Susan Michael