



Celebrating Sylvester Poole

25 Years of Service to Decatur Presbyterian Church and
Decatur Presbyterian Children's Community
Sunday, June 19, 2022

Today we offer our thanks and appreciation to Sylvester Poole for 25 years of faithful service to the church (DPC) and pre-school (DPCC), serving as custodian and groundskeeper. Sylvester began working for DPCC on July 1, 1997 and nearly 10 years later started also working for DPC.

Sylvester's primary responsibility for the church is grounds maintenance and upkeep, and for the pre-school he serves as custodian during the school year. Other than Sunday mornings when he opens and closes the church campus, most of Sylvester's work is done evenings and weekends when no one else is around. On Saturdays, he cuts grass, trims bushes, and picks up trash and other waste. He also vacuums the Sanctuary each week before worship, cleans up after, and handles other duties as requested.

Sylvester's work at DPC and DPCC is actually a second job for him. He arrives at DPCC at 3:30 am to sweep, mop, vacuum, and scrub until 6:00 am before heading off to his full-time job at OFS (Optical Fiber Solutions) in Norcross where he works from 6:30 am to 2:45 pm weekdays.

Sylvester grew up in Sandersville, GA and is one of eight children. He attended Limestone Baptist Church and still considers that his church home. After graduating from TJ Elder High School in 1963, he moved to Pennsylvania and worked for a trucking company. Despite disliking the cold weather, he stayed there for over 30 years before moving back to Georgia.

Sylvester will turn 77 on October 17 – although many people think he looks decades younger. He is not thinking about retirement, following the model set by his mother who, he says, worked until she couldn't work anymore. He has six children – four sons and two daughters. His younger daughter and 10-year-old "grandbaby" live with him in Decatur.

Sylvester loves all holidays – especially Christmas – and enjoyed attending the annual summer reunion of his extended family until it stopped in the first year of the pandemic. His favorite sport is basketball, which he played a lot in his younger years. He likes watching re-runs of "Walker, Texas Ranger". His favorite food is chicken – fried, BBQ, any way you cook it.

Sylvester's wish is that everybody would like everybody else. "I know it won't happen," he says, "but that's my wish in life.... I love everybody. I don't care who you are. I've always felt like that. The good Lord has been good to me. He looks out for me ... and I just want to do the best for Him. I say my prayers every night and thank Him for every day that I wake up and thank him for all the health He has given me.... I know I'm the way I am because of Him."

Sylvester, DPC thanks God for you!



"The DPC family today expresses profound gratitude for Sylvester Poole. For 25 years, Sylvester has been working behind the scenes, taking good care of DPC's facilities and property. Sylvester is a hard worker; he is consistent, reliable, helpful, unflappable. Always ready with a smile, Sylvester handles whatever comes his way with grace and kindness. DPC has truly been blessed by Sylvester's faithful work over these several decades. Thank you Sylvester!"

~Todd Speed, Senior Pastor