



The Valley Voice

VALLEY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

2600 Cherokee Place, Birmingham, AL 35216
(205) 879-0419

www.vccbhm.org; office@vccbhm.org

COFFEE (OR SWEET TEA!) AND A STORY

We are excited to get to know all y'all at Valley, and to give all y'all a chance to get to know us, and so we warmly invite you to coffee (or sweet tea!) with us on the back deck of our house. We have many morning and early evening times available throughout September, and you can sign up for a convenient timeslot with Marilyn in the church office. And if you would prefer to spend some time having coffee or tea together over Skype/Zoom instead of in-person, we would love to do that too!

We also care deeply about the safety of the Valley community during the pandemic, so here is what we have done and what we ask of you to keep us all safe and comfortable:

- ✓ We have created a space on our back deck complete with comfy chairs, shade, a fan, mosquito prevention, sunscreen and bug spray, an entrance from the driveway (you do not have to come inside), and at least six feet of space between the two families
- ✓ We ask that only members of one household attend at a time
- ✓ We will practice "love from six feet away," meaning handshakes and hugs are on hold for our safety
- ✓ In keeping with Alabama's mandatory mask order, we will keep masks on unless eating or drinking
- ✓ No teasing the pastor for always choosing coffee over sweet tea

While that final guideline is firmly tongue-in-cheek, our preparation of this space, these guidelines, and this time, is a reflection of our sacred commitment as members of the Body of Christ to care for one another through trials such as these. In the words of the Son of the Living God: "Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them." (Matthew 18:19-20)

We can't wait to get to meet in the Lord's name.
Christ's and yours,
Pastor Eric, Carrie, and Sadie Lou

PASTOR ERIC'S OFFICE HOURS

You will typically be able reach me at my church office Mondays through Wednesdays between 9:30 am – noon, or by appointment on Sunday afternoons. Those are not the only hours I will be at the church, but they will be the hours you can reliably expect to reach me there unless outside

events or emergencies call me away. I am setting aside Thursdays for preaching, teaching, and worship preparation, and I am likely to be working from home on those days. I will be taking Fridays and Saturdays as my regular Sabbath days. ~Pastor Eric

NEW LIBRARY BOOK

After reading the book "Becoming a Just Church" by Adam L. Gustine I felt it was something that should be shared with the whole congregation so it is now in the church library. The title describes the content very well. The book challenges congregations to make pursuing justice a fundamental part of congregational life. It discusses ways to go about that and some of the obstacles that a Church is likely to face.

The arrival of a new minister is a good time for us to take stock and to consider the best ways for us to share God's love with the surrounding community. I found "Becoming a Just Church" thought provoking and informative. Hopefully, many other members of the congregation will as well. John Neville

THANK YOU

Dear Friends in Christ, Thank you. Thank you...

Whew! I just can't thank you enough for your wonderful love gift. It will go a long way in providing joy for Mary Pat and me on our trip to the Smoky Mountains. Whatever we purchase with it will serve as a constant reminder of your friendship and Christian love. Thanks for being a blessing to me. God Bless You, Edd

VALLEY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
2600 CHEROKEE PLACE
BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA 35216



LIFE IN THE VALLEY

- Rev. Vivian Oliver's new address is: 14504 Ravenbrook, Apt. 208, Tampa, FL 33613. Her phone number is still the same: 205-413-6765.
- Eloise Hatcher, Sharon Hill's (Macedonia) mother is home and doing much better. Thank you for your prayers.
- John Gregory's foot is doing much better. Thank you for your prayers.
- Please pray for Beth Gregory's family on the illness of her brother, Fred Cox.
- Eve Harman's friend Tom Boone (Phyllis) is doing well after surgery.
- Andrea Clark's mother, Sue Mohon is doing well. Thank you so much.
- Terry Nunnally and John Gregory expressed our joy to have Pastor Eric as our minister.
- Clarence Sellers is doing well after surgery.
- Prayers for Pastor Eric's friends, Emily and Ben Whitecotton and family on the stillborn of their daughter Josie.
- Thanks to everyone who helped with the tailgate picnic last Sunday. It was great!
- Please share what is happening in your life, for all of us to read in "Life in the Valley".



AAA TRIP TO ORR PARK

Wednesday, September 23, 2020 we will meet at the Church at 9:30 am and caravan to Orr Park in Montevallo. Please let Marilyn know by noon Friday, September 18th if you are planning on going, if you can drive and what sandwich from Ousler's you want to order (Chicken Salad, Ham Salad, Egg Salad or Pimento Cheese). Each box lunch contains a sandwich, deviled egg, chips and a brownie – water will be provided, the cost is \$5.00 each. Peggi Zinser will collect the money that morning.

Our speaker will be Tim Tingle, an artist and storyteller. Mr. Tingle will walk with us and explain each of the story book fairytale characters he has carved into the trees. I know this will be a very enjoyable fun filled AAA visit to the park.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

It's nearly that time again – time to begin work on our Advent/Christmas Devotional Booklet once

more. A list of topics for the booklet is given below in this newsletter. This year we are asking that you write the devotional in the first person – i.e., write it as if you were actually the person, animal or thing suggested. Use your imagination to tell us how your character felt or expressed emotions, what he or she thought, did or saw, how each was changed by the birth of the Christ Child. Please call Marilyn in the office to indicate your choice of topic. We will need the completed devotionals by Sunday, November 1st. They should be approximately 250 words each in length and given to Marilyn or Lola by the above date. Thank you very much for your help and interest.
Lola Kiser

- Nov. 29 John the Baptist
- Nov. 30 Gabriel
- Dec. 1 Zechariah
- Dec. 2 Elisabeth
- Dec. 3 Mary
- Dec. 4 Joseph
- Dec. 5 A Donkey (carried Mary and Joseph)
- Dec. 6 Innkeeper
- Dec. 7 Innkeeper's wife
- Dec. 8 Shepherd (Remains with sheep)
- Dec. 9 Shepherd (Goes to manger)
- Dec. 10 A Lamb (Remains with sheep)
- Dec. 11 Angel (Choir director)
- Dec. 12 Angel (Littlest singer)
- Dec. 13 A sheep
- Dec. 14 A cow
- Dec. 15 The star
- Dec. 16 Resident of Bethlehem
- Dec. 17 A dove
- Dec. 18 Herod
- Dec. 19 Herod's wife
- Dec. 20 Wiseman (Gold)
- Dec. 21 Wiseman (Frankincense)
- Dec. 22 Wiseman (Myrrh)
- Dec. 23 Anna
- Dec. 24 Simeon
- Dec. 25 The Christ Child

