



Voice

A PUBLICATION OF VALLEY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(Disciples of Christ) Birmingham, Alabama



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**Valley Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
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**Office Hours: 8:00am-
12:00pm Monday-Friday**

**Dates of Interest:
June 2026**

**June is for Kids' Summer
Snacks Donations to GBM**

- **June 3 - AAA Trip to Talladega College Museum
La Amistad Slave Ship Murals**
- **June 6 - Valley Workday**
- **June 7 - Elders' Prayer Elders' Meeting**
- **June 10 - Men's Lunch**
- **June 15 - VOICE DEADLINE**
- **June 17 - Disciples Women**
- **June 18 - BVM Dinner Paw Paw Patch**
- **June 19 - Set up for *The Way of Revival***
- **June 20 - *The Way of Revival Seminar* led by Rev. Dr. Cameron Douglas**
- **June 21- Father's Day Blanket Sunday**
- **June 27 - Regional Convocation Workshop**
- **June 28 - Blanket Sunday**

A Word From the Pastor

We have been talking quite a bit lately about sharing our stories and how effective that can be in opening the door for another person to find a relationship with Jesus. And we recently heard a message about two disciples who just couldn't remain silent, even when faced with retribution. Peter and John were compelled to share their story even in the face of adversity and were not about to let anything prevent it.

We all have a story that can be shared. How we came to the faith, what Jesus has done for us and what He has meant to us. But all too often we keep it to ourselves for a variety of reasons. Maybe don't think our story is all that compelling, is not that exciting or we just don't think it is all that important. Maybe we feel we don't know enough scripture or that if we are challenged won't know what to say. Maybe we are afraid of offending someone or even being rejected or made fun of. Maybe we just don't know what to say or how to say it.

I have shared with you how others took time to share their story with me and opened up the pathway for me to build a vibrant and fulfilling relationship with Jesus. They didn't need to convince me with scripture readings, they didn't need to show their Biblical knowledge, all they needed to do was tell me what Jesus was doing in their lives, how He had transformed them and given them a sense of meaning and purpose for their lives. They didn't preach, they didn't cite scripture and they didn't tell me that unless I accepted Jesus, I was going to hell. All they did was share their story and that was compelling enough to start my own journey growing in the faith and allowing the Spirit of Jesus to lead me into a relationship that I now cherish as my most important.

I am going to be honest here, even my best sermon doesn't have the power to transform as quickly as someone sharing their story. While I may link scripture to everyday lives, when someone shares a story about how scripture, how Jesus, how the Holy Spirit actually made a difference in their daily lives, it carries much more weight. It becomes more real and more relevant as others can see the difference in real time. It may even connect with them on a more personal level as they may have or are going through the same types of situations and trials that you did and it allows them to believe that it can happen to them as well. This can be the beginning of a lifelong relationship with Jesus that brings them a sense of peace, meaning and purpose in their lives and it all will have started with your willingness to share.

To that end, we are going to invite you to share your story in the confines of our sanctuary. In the safety of our sanctuary, you will have the opportunity to "practice" telling your story. This is not a test to see how proficient you are in reciting scripture, how well you speak or even how you deliver your story, rather it offers a place to begin the process of one; really knowing and understanding your own faith journey and story and two; being able and confident in sharing that story with others.

I invite you to prayerfully consider taking advantage of this opportunity to share your story, to speak of what Jesus means to you and how your faith has framed your life and who you are for who knows, your words may be the ones that brings another to Christ and helps grow the church.

Pastor Rick Malugani
Senior Minister
Valley Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)



ANNUAL PET BLESSING AT BROOKDALE

This time when Valley goes to Brookdale Senior Living on Saturday, May 23rd, we'll be taking our doggie obstacle course. As always, dogs must be on leashes, and cats will have to watch the action from inside their cages. The event starts at 3:00 PM, but church members should arrive around 2:00 PM to help with setup. Pastor Rick will bless each pet present and pray for past pets whose names have been put in the Rainbow Basket. There will be treats, certificates, St. Francis medallions and bandanas for the dogs and cats. In a couple of weeks we will put the pictures taken by Ellen into magnetic frames that will be given to the proud pet owners.

Carolyn Nunnelly, Evangelism Chair

PLASTIC GROCERY BAGS NEEDED

The Disciples Women group requests that you please save clean dry plastic grocery bags for a special service project of weaving the bags into sleeping mats for unhoused individuals. The mats provide some protection from moisture and cold as well as a softer surface for rest and sleep. Valley participated in a similar project a few years ago. More information will be provided later. Thank you!, Ginny Guindon



FIREFIGHTER TRAINING

We are pleased to welcome firefighters from around the area to our facilities for the first two weeks of June for their quarterly training. They will be here beginning Tuesday, June 2 and wrap up the first week on Thursday, June 4. They will reconvene on Tuesday, June 9 and wrap up on Thursday, June 11. While this training is in a classroom setting, we will have fire trucks and other emergency vehicles in our parking lot as they will be on duty and could be called away for an emergency.



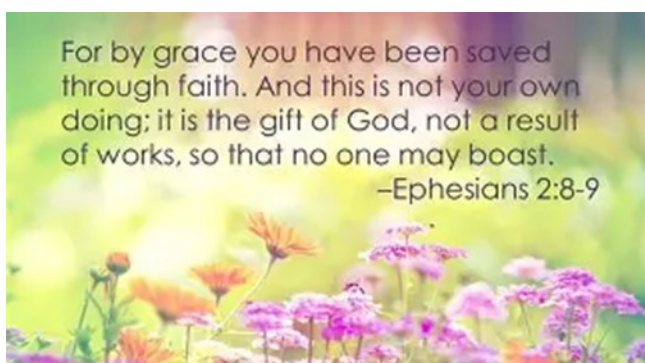
AAA JUNE 2026

The AAA Valley Seniors trip to the Talladega College Museum for a guided tour of the *La Amistad* Slave Ship murals **has been rescheduled for Wednesday, June 3, 2026**. We will leave the church at 9:45 AM, but please arrive at 9:30 AM. The tour begins at 11:00 AM and should last about 30 minutes. There are benches for those who want to sit. Following our tour, we will go to the Stampede restaurant for lunch. The gas fee is \$10.00. Please let me know if you wish to ride the van or if you plan to drive. Thank you, Peggi Zinser, Outreach Chair



All of us need a revival at times, and churches are no exception. If you believe that Valley needs a revival, please come to the seminar sponsored by the Education Department and led by Rev. Dr. Cameron Douglas, a distinguished Disciples Minister in the AL/NW Region of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Rev. Dr. Douglas will lead us in a discussion entitled "*The Way of Revival*", a presentation for older churches seeking a spiritual revival. Everyone is welcome to participate - members, visitors, deacons, elders, church officers, department chairs - all who seek renewal and revival. The seminar will on Saturday, June 20, 2026, from 9:00 AM until 12:00 noon, in the Fellowship Hall at Valley Christian Church. Come and see what Valley can be!

Lola Kiser, Education Chair



For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.
-Ephesians 2:8-9



OUTREACH DONATION BASKET

For the June 2026 donation basket, we will be collecting snacks and KOOL POPS for the kids this Summer. These will go to The Greater Birmingham Ministries. I have found everything at Dollar Tree and Walmart. Thank you, Peggi Zinser, Outreach Chair



BLANKET SUNDAY

Valley Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) will once again participate in Christian World Services Blanket Sunday beginning on Sunday, June 21 and running through Sunday June 28. There are many reasons to give; it provides an immediate and tangible resource for those in need, it reflects Christ’s compassion and it boldly shares the love of God. Jesus said, “Truly, I tell you, whenever you did one of these things for someone overlooked or struggling, that was me. You did it for me.” Matthew 25:40. Each donation of ten dollars purchases one blanket. We will have a blanket in the sanctuary during our blanket Sunday event and will be attaching either pink or blue strips indicating a donation. Valley’s Disciples Women’s Ministry thanks you for participating in this important and worthwhile ministry.



GENERAL ASSEMBLY JULY 10 AND 11, 2026

For the first time ever, the Disciples of Christ will hold their General Assembly online. This will occur on July 10 and 11, 2026, and all are welcome to attend. Registration is \$30 per person, and you may attend on your own using your personal electronic device, or you can join the group that will be participating at Valley.

The theme is **BEYOND: Love Surpassing** and is based on Ephesians 3:14-21. You may register online at GA2026.disciples.org. More details to follow!



REGIONAL CONVOCATION WORKSHOP

*Theme: The Disciples of Christ:
Engaged, Involved & Innovative*

*Keynote Speaker: Rev. Derrick Perkins, Director of
Congregational Vitality and Innovation
at Disciples Home Missions*

*One Day Workshop
June 27, 2026*

*9:00am New Vision Christian Church
Host Pastor: Edward Williams
1779 Jefferson Avenue SW
Birmingham, AL 35211*

Online registration is available at
www.alnwfldisciples.org

