



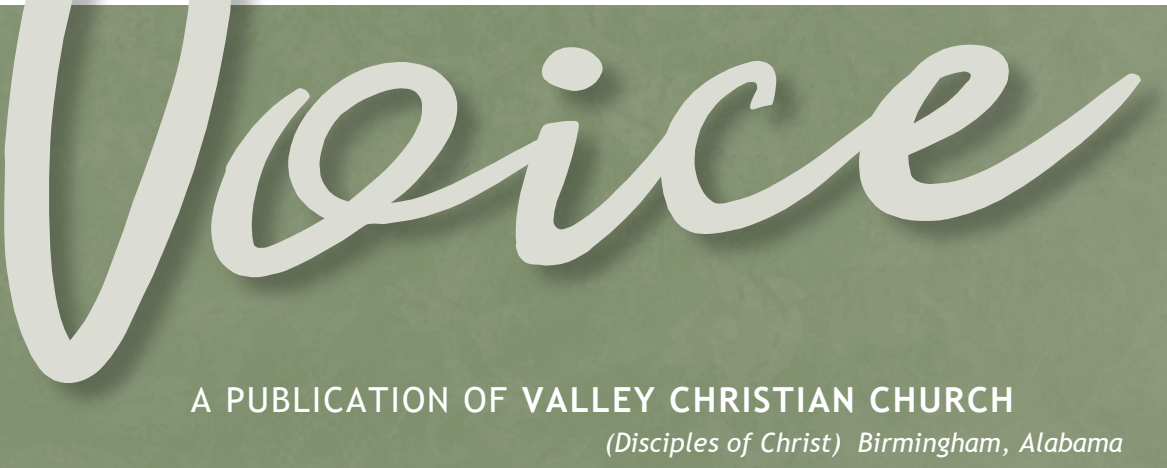
Valley Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
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Website: www.vccbhm.org
Office Hours: 8:00am-
12:00pm Monday-Friday

Dates of Interest:

June/ Donations to
GBM / Back to School
Supplies

- June 1 - Elders' Prayer
Elders' Meeting
- June 7 - Valley Work
Day
- June 9 - VOICE
DEADLINE
- June 11 - Men's
Luncheon
- June 15 - Fathers' Day
- June 18 - Disciples
Women
- June 19 - BVM Dinner
Paw Paw Patch
- June 20 - 22
Regional Convocation
Snow Hill Christian
Church
- June 25 - AAA Trip
Wilderness Park
Bamboo Forest,
Prattville, AL
- June 29 - Outreach
Committee Meeting



June 2025

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A Word From the Pastor

Growing up one of my dad's favorite sayings was "You are burning daylight." It was my dad's way of telling me that the sun was up, and it was time to get to work. My dad was a hard worker, and he wanted to instill that in me as well. He always wanted me to make the best use of my time, not waste any of it.

In **John 9:4** we read; ***"we must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work."*** This alludes to Jesus' life and death where His life reflects the light of day and His death the darkness of night. For Jesus, His life's work on this earth was to do that which God His Father appointed Him to do, that is make the love and commitment of God known to all through His teachings, His healings and His miracles, but also to demonstrate how we are to live and treat one another as his followers.

But there is an important piece of this phrase that we must not overlook and that is the pronoun "we." Jesus knew what lay before Him and He knew that His time on this earth was short as He would go to the cross bearing the sins of the whole world, a time of darkness and despair. In preparation for this, Jesus empowered His disciples to carry on the work He had started.

We remember in **Matthew 5:14-16** where He spoke these words to His followers; ***"You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket but on a stand and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."***

What this means is that even in the darkness of the death of Jesus, the light of His spirit will live on in those whom He has called to be His disciples. It would now fall to them to keep the light burning, to continue the work that He had begun and to show that even in Jesus' death, the power of God's love can and will overcome any darkness. And being filled with the Spirit, they used their days doing the work of their Lord proclaiming the gospel of Jesus to the world through not just words, but acts of mercy, grace and love.

Throughout our faith history the light of Jesus has continued to shine, passed on from generation to generation breaking through the darkness that seeks to envelop this world we live in. It has not been easy, there have been troubling times but through it all, the light has persisted, sometimes dimmer, sometimes more brilliant but never extinguished.

And this work of our Lord has continued right up to this moment in time entrusted to people like you and me. This is our time, this is our day to shine the light of Jesus into the lives of our family, friends, community and world. We have no time to waste for once our night falls, no more work can be done.

It is imperative that we take advantage of the time we have to not only profess the name of Jesus but live out that profession in everything we say and do putting nothing off until tomorrow for tomorrow may be too late. The time is now for us to act, to make the love of Christ known through word and deed.

Let's not "burn daylight," as my dad so pointedly reminded me, rather use our time wisely letting others see the light of Christ shining brightly in and through us and in doing so bring a little of that light into their lives as well.

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

✦ Life in the Valley

Prayers, Joys and Concerns

- ✦ Please continue to pray for Marilyn Ireland. Her recent cancer scan revealed that her tumor markers have returned. She is exploring treatment options with Caris Life Sciences.
- ✦ Jack Whisenhunt, friend of the Colliers', has pancreatic cancer. He is awaiting the results of his recent scan. Please continue to pray for him.
- ✦ Please keep Billy and Pat McDaniel in your prayers following Billy's recent surgery.
- ✦ Peggi Zinser's nephew, Brian, had his second trial for liver cancer and is responding well. This is good news! Please continue to lift him up in your thoughts and prayers.
- ✦ Peter Churchill, John's brother, has made some progress and there is hope for continued recovery. Please continue to lift him up in your prayers.
- ✦ Phillip Treadway's friend, Ralph Teeter, had surgery, is responding well, but still needs our prayers.
- ✦ Terry Nunnelly's sister, Kay Hammett, is recovering from recent surgery but still needs our prayers.
- ✦ De Sales Maranto, a friend of Pastor Rick and Ellen's, is having a difficult time following hip surgery. Please pray for her.
- ✦ Pray for God's revelation of Valley's mission moving forward.



AAA TRIP TO TROY UNIVERSITY - TOUR OF HUO BAO ZHU GALLERY

On May 7, AAA travelled to Troy University where replicas of the terracotta soldiers were set up. We were pleased to have our regional minister, Rev. Kerry Kesey, join us. We viewed several examples of the soldiers from Generals to archers and infantrymen set up around a courtyard on the campus. We could see the detail in the faces and dress of each different soldier, and it reminded us of the intricacy and detail of the originals, created between 246 and 208 BC during the Qin Dynasty. It is reported some 8,000 have been found with maybe more still hidden waiting for their story to be told. We followed this up with a meal at Sister's Restaurant and then some ice cream on the way home. It was a great day!

PET BLESSING BROOKDALE ASSISTED LIVING

As part of our growing outreach ministry, Valley Christian Church partnered with Brookdale Assisted Living to offer a Blessing of the Pets on Saturday, May 17, on the grounds of Brookdale. This is part of our commitment to live into our vision to be the hands and feet of Jesus, sharing the love of God and engaging the community in meaningful and exciting ways.



WELCOME FAMILIES
Saturday, May 17th
at 3:30 PM

Brookdale Gazebo Courtyard

Your pet must be on a leash or in a carrier.

**Receive a Blessing,
St. Francis medallion, bandana and photo from
Valley Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)**



CAHABA RIVER LILIES

AAA and anyone interested will travel to West Blockton, AL to see the Cahaba River Lilies on Thursday, May 22, 2025. The van will leave the church at 9:00 AM for the trip. Please let Lola or Peggi know immediately if you plan to go either by van or car. If the weather is predicted to be bad on that day, we will notify everyone of an alternate date. If you have binoculars, you may want to bring them. We will have lunch at the Home Town Café in West Blockton. Everyone is welcome to join us for this trip. Lola Kiser



PENTECOST SPECIAL OFFERING
SUNDAY, JUNE 1ST & SUNDAY, JUNE 8TH

The Pentecost Offering is our gift to God to help spread the word and support new communities of worship. Pentecost is considered the “Birthday of the Church” (Acts 2) and it marks the beginning of the disciples' ministry of preaching and spreading the gospel in regions outside their homelands. The disciples heard the rushing wind that filled their house, and they felt the fire on their tongues, which enabled them to speak to people from various lands. This led to the conversion of thousands; maybe through our donations we too can reach thousands. Please mark your check with Pentecost Offering.

Thank you, Peggi Zinser, Outreach Chair



AAA EVENT JUNE 2025

On Wednesday, June 25, 2025, AAA will travel to Prattville, AL to visit Wilderness Park and the bamboo forest growing there. The bamboo is impressive - giant trees soar to sixty feet in height with a base of six inches in diameter. The bamboo forest was used as a training site for servicemembers headed to Vietnam in the 1960's. Everyone is welcome to join us for this trip. Please contact Peggi or Lola if you want to go. The van will leave the church at 9:00 AM. Lunch will be at a local restaurant to be determined. Lola Kiser



TRANSITIONS

Valley Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), in Birmingham, AL, is offering a series of seminars about change and our response to it in keeping with God's call to each of us and to the church.

The Church in Transition, Saturday , July 19, 2025,
9:00 AM – 12:15 PM

Leader – Rev. Rick Malugani
Rick is a 2017 graduate of Lexington Theological Seminary with a Master of Divinity Degree. He has served several churches in our Region and is currently Senior Minister at Valley Christian Church. This seminar will address transitions that happen in and to churches as well those that occur naturally over the life span of a church and affect its growth.

Health in Transition, Saturday, August 16, 2025,
9:00 AM – 12:15 PM

Leader – Dr. Beth Gregory
Beth is a graduate of Kentucky - Western University where she earned her PhD Degree. She is also an Advanced Practice RN, Licensed Professional Counselor and Spiritual Counselor. This seminar will examine how mental, emotional and spiritual health all interact with physical health to impact our enjoyment of life and our relationships with others.

Valley Christian Church invites friends from our Region and our community to join us for these educational seminars.

For information: Church phone 205.879.0419
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