



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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Birmingham, Alabama
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**Office Hours: 8:00am-
12:00pm Monday-Friday**

Dates of Interest:

**August - Donate
Women's and Men's
Socks & Toiletries to
The Foundry**

- **August 2 - Valley
Work Day**
- **August 3 - Elders'
Prayer**
- **August 10 - Elders'
Meeting
Ice Cream Social**
- **August 11 - VOICE
DEADLINE**
- **August 13 - Disciples
Women
Men's Lunch**
- **August 15 - Prep for
Health in Transition
Seminar**
- **August 16 - Health in
Transition Seminar**
- **August 21 - BVM
Dinner**
- **August 23 - AAA and
Valley Lunch at Watts'
Lake House**

A Word From the Pastor

For the past several weeks, Valley Christian Church along with Macedonia Christian Church has been investing some time and resources into refurbishing the cafeteria at Miracle Academy. What began as a small foray into helping this Christian based school do some needed updates grew into a project that included patching some holes in the walls, fixing joints between the panels of sheetrock, sanding it all smooth, applying primer and then two coats of paint. The walls turned from a dull tan color to a lively blue that is inviting and inspiring. We also applied window film to two sets of windows to aid in privacy but also to add color. The last part of this project was to purchase and install new blinds for the 22 windows. It was a big project but one that was also filled with a sense of purpose and joy.

Miracle Academy is a Christian based school that is residing in a school building that had been closed for several years. They serve children from all races from kindergarten through the twelfth grade with about half being special needs and they do it with love and a great sense of conviction fueled by faith in God. Everywhere we went we witnessed teachers telling their students how much they loved them and how much they cared for them. It created an environment of acceptance and respect that is so lacking in our world today and it felt so good to offer some good old fashioned elbow grease to help make the cafeteria space more welcoming and conducive to learning and growth for the children and the staff.

Besides giving new life to the cafeteria, we have also refurbished some plant beds in front of the school to make the entrance more inviting. One more project we are looking at is refurbishing their flagpole and providing them with a flag.

There is so much more to do, quite frankly more than we can handle at this time but it was a blessing to be a small part of the recovery of this school and its mission. And while we know we are not able to tackle everything needed, we still plan to partner with them in other projects in the future.

I want to take this time to thank all of the volunteers who offered their talents and time to make this project a reality, it was not without its challenges, but we met them all and I believe we have made a tremendous difference not just in those who work and attend the school, but also in ourselves. We not only embraced the idea of serving others, but we also lived it out and though we may be graying and a bit slower now, our enthusiasm and commitment was very evident. This is who we are, and it lives into the vision statement we adopted late last year.

Valley Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is a Bible-based, Spirit-filled family where the love of God meets the world through outreach and a growing commitment to be the hands and feet of Jesus Christ.

This is the guiding statement that will continue to fuel our mission as we seek to be positive difference makers in our community and world both in word and in deed. To God be all honor and glory, Amen.

Pastor Rick Malugani

Senior Minister

Valley Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)



TRANSITIONS

Please remember our Transitions Seminars on Saturday, July 19 and Saturday, August 16, 2025. Everyone is invited to join us from 9:00 AM until 12:15 PM for interesting and challenging programs. Come and bring a friend!



On August 10, 2025, at 3:00 PM, we will have an Ice Cream Social. There is a sign up sheet on the table outside the secretary's office. Please sign and specify what flavor of ice cream you plan to bring. Come and invite your friends. We will have a wonderful time! Jean Thrasher



Many thanks to the Reconciliation Committee of our Region for the \$400 grant we received. This grant money is being used for the renovation of facilities at Miracle Academy. Thank you to everyone at Valley and Macedonia involved with this project! Lola Kiser

It has been a process, but we finally launched our new website at VCCBHM.ORG. In it you will find information about our worship times, ministries and upcoming events. There are also links to our Facebook page as well as our Instagram page where pictures and videos are stored. We have also included a prayer request page where anyone can leave a prayer request, and I will be able to respond to it in a timely manner. We tried to make it more user friendly and engaging. I encourage you to take a look and give feedback as we are always looking for ways to improve our messaging and communication with both members and our community. A big thank you to Ed Guidon and Lauren Lambert for their time and effort in getting this site updated and launched! Pastor Rick



ANNUAL FUND

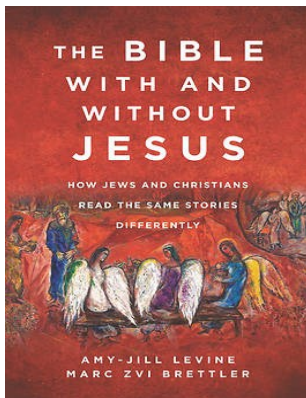
Valley Christian Church has received the information for this year's "Annual Fund" from the Regional Minister, Rev. Kerry Kesey. The theme for 2025 is **"Weave Us Together"**. Through giving and stewardship, the Region can do so much more together than we can individually. God continues to do amazing work in and through our Region, such as supporting all ages in ministry, both within and outside church walls. Children and youth can attend weeklong church camp and winter retreats. This year, churches received grants for community gardens, food pantries and mission work. Because of every gift to the Annual Fund we continue to be woven together in unity and love. Sara Simon

AUGUST AAA

Jan and Bill Watts have invited AAA and Valley up to their lovely home on Smith Lake on Saturday, August 23, 2025, for a delicious lunch at 11:30A.M. Afterward, boat rides, swimming and "front porch" visiting with friends will be available. Please be at the church at 9:15 AM. The van will leave the church at 9:30 AM. Van transportation is \$8 per person. For those who wish to drive, the Watts' address is 696 County Road 175, Crane Hill, AL 35053. Valley folks are invited to bring desserts for the lunch. Mark your calendar for a delightful day at the lake! Reservations can be made with Peggi.

*"Weave, weave, weave us together,
Weave us together, in unity and love.
Weave, weave, weave us together,
weave us together, together in love."*

"Weave" from the Chalice Hymnal
Words (and music) by Rosemary Crowe, 1979,
"used by permission"



ADULT BIBLE STUDY CLASS

The Adult Bible Study class, which meets by Zoom on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 PM, is beginning a new study using the book entitled, "The Bible With and Without Jesus", by Amy-Jill Levine and Marc Zvi Brettler. We invite everyone to join us for this challenging study, looking at how Jews and Christians read the same stories differently. Lola Kiser

