



# The Valley Voice

VALLEY CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)  
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June 23, 2020

NO.12

### CALLED CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

There will be a called congregational meeting on Thursday, July 2, 2020 at 7pm on Zoom for the purpose of calling Eric Atcheson as the Senior Minister of Valley.

Join the Zoom Meeting in one of three ways:

1. **Smart phone, tablet or computer, use the following link:**  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89452465827>
2. **Telephone (audio only)**  
Dial 1 (312) 626 6799  
Enter Meeting ID: 894 5246 5827
3. **Meet at the church to view on TV screen.** Please let Stewart Draper or Ed Guindon know if you plan to come to the church for this.

If you have any questions, please give me a call.  
Stewart Draper, Moderator

### INTRODUCTION TO ERIC ATCHESON

There will be an opportunity for the congregation to meet our ministerial candidate, Eric Atcheson, on Thursday, June 25, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. This will be by Zoom meeting including video with time for questions and discussion. This is particularly for those who have not already met him; however, even those who have are welcome to join us.

You can participate in one of three ways:

1. **With a computer, tablet, or smart phone using the following link:**  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86457179992>
2. **By telephone (audio only):**  
1 (312) 626-6799 or 1 (346) 248-7799  
Meeting ID: 864 5717 9992
3. **By coming to the church to view the meeting on the TV screen.** Please let Stewart Draper or Ed Guindon know if you prefer this option, so we can plan the space. Social distancing will be observed.

This is your opportunity to meet the candidate that the Board has approved, so we welcome any questions you have on your mind. There will be a follow-up meeting when the entire congregation will vote whether to call Eric as our next senior minister.  
Ed Guindon 205-709-6626

### WORSHIP SERVICES 6-28-20 BY PASTOR CANDIDATE

Pastor Eric Atcheson will preach to Valley at our worship service on Zoom, Sunday, June 28, 2020 at 10:30am. Please join us to hear this important message. You can join in one of two ways:

1. **By telephone (audio only)**  
1 (312) 626 6799  
Meeting ID: 867 5713 3623
2. **By video with computer, tablet, or smartphone – click the link below**  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86757133623>

### VIDEO HAS NOW BEEN ADDED TO OUR SUNDAY WORSHIP ZOOM MEETINGS!

This Sunday, we are going to provide voice and video for the service. Please carefully follow the instructions listed below. The following phone numbers and links are the ones to dial between 10:15am and 10:30am on Sundays. You can join in one of two ways:

1. **By telephone (audio only)**  
1 (312) 626 6799  
Meeting ID: 867 5713 3623
2. **By video with computer, tablet, or smartphone – click the link below**  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86757133623>

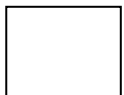
### SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES BEGIN

Below is the info for joining the Sunday School class starting Tuesday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30PM and repeating every Tuesday until further notice. This will accommodate audio only on the phone or audio plus video using the link.

John Gregory will be leading our Bible Study. The topic will be the Lord's Prayer. You can join the meeting one of two ways:

1. **Join Zoom Meeting on smart phone, tablet or computer**  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82952948962>
2. **Phone (audio only)**  
1 (312) 626 6799  
Meeting ID: 829 5294 8962

VALLEY CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
2600 CHEROKEE PLACE  
BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA 35216



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## A WORD FROM YOUR PASTOR

After a heavy rain there is a blanket of fog around the church, the hills of Mountain Brook and our neighborhoods. This fog limits our visibility to drive. A great deal of life is like driving in the fog. Our visibility is limited and we move slowly along the roads of life. We do not have a clear vision of what will happen next. Trying to find our way through personal problems, the Coronavirus, economic concerns, protests in our cities and family issues is like driving through the fog rather than moving down the road on a clear day.

Likewise, matters of faith are sometimes more like a fog than a clear day. Most of us live in a fog when it comes to questions like, "Why God, is the Coronavirus happening?" And, "What does God want me to do during these challenging days?" We are not really sure of how to live our lives for God.

Where is the answer for these moments of limited vision? Maybe an answer comes from a young preacher who walked by a man's house every morning. The man was always outside working in the garden. Every time he passed that house, the pastor heard the man whistling as loud as he could.

The pastor wondered why he was whistling all the time. One day, he decided to ask him. As he got to the man's house, he noticed on the porch a woman sitting in a wheelchair. After some conversation, the pastor asked the man, "Sir, I hear you whistling all the time when I pass by. Tell me, why do you whistle so much?" The man said, "Well, you see, my wife is crippled and also blind. She cannot see where I go and what I am doing. I whistle to let her know that I am nearby. I whistle to let her know that if she ever needs me I will be there."

We need to remember in those moments of fog and spiritual blindness in our lives, God is whistling and trying to let us know that He is near. That He loves us. The He will answer some of our questions in His time. That He wants to use His power to perform some fog clearing moment in our lives.

So, on a foggy spiritual day, may we keep our ears open to the whistle of God. This gives us assurance that He is near and that with Him we can see forever and ever. God Bless You, Edd

## LIFE IN THE VALLEY

- Garrett Smith, Whitney Devine's cousin is now in rehab after the car accident. He has good days and bad days, but he is working with physical and occupational therapists to relearn things. His brain experienced trauma and is still in the process of healing.
- Lynda Rothoff, Peggi Zinser's sister-in-law, is now at her daughter's house in Hoover and is receiving physical therapy.
- Beth Gregory, John Gregory's wife, has no symptoms from COVID19. She was released by

the health department on Sunday. They are thankful. Praise God.

- Cristie Watts, Bill and Jan Watt's daughter
- Jean Thrasher is not feeling well.
- The disposable Communion juice/wafer Cups have arrived and we are ready for the in-person worship services when they begin.
- Thank you to Stewart Draper for painting the side portico drive-through. It looks great!
- Name tags have been revitalized in anticipation of the new pastor's arriving. We hope to wear them for him for a while. Thank you Valley!
- Please share what is happening in your life, for all of us to read in "Life in the Valley".

## VIRTUAL CAMP

Due to the pandemic, the Alabama/NW Florida region, of which we are a part, has decided not to hold summer church camps in a traditional way this year. In its place, they are designing an alternative church camp experience, which will utilize packets (containing trinkets, candy, Bible lessons, etc.) for all campers and Zoom sessions (containing keynote addresses and activities) for the older campers. The camp will be held July 31 – August 3.

## MAYBE

The book of Proverbs in the Old Testament contains short sayings with a very practical point. They are drawn from the everyday life of the people.

The following sayings can be drawn from our lives. They can be a modern-day book for practical advice called the Book of Maybes.

- ✓ Maybe... When the door of happiness closes, another opens. But often times we look at the closed door and we don't see the one that has been opened for us.
- ✓ Maybe... It is true that we don't know what we have until we lose it. But it is also true that we don't know what we have been missing until it arrives.
- ✓ Maybe... Giving someone all your love is never an assurance that he or she will love you back. Don't expect love in return; just wait for it to grow in a heart, but if it does not, be content that it grew in yours.
- ✓ Maybe... You should always put yourself in others' shoes. If you feel that it hurts you, it probably hurts the other person too.
- ✓ Maybe... The happiest of people don't necessarily have the best of everything; they just make the best of everything that comes along their way.

