

The Valley Voice

VALLEY CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST) 2600 Cherokee Place, Birmingham, AL 35216 (205) 879-0419 www.vccbhm.org; office@vccbhm.org

March 9, 2021

NO. 5

COFFEE AND A STORY

Chatting with several of you over the past few weeks about the Lenten "We Were There" sermon series, I've commented that for the first time, this feels like an "us" sermon series, rather than a "me" sermon series. My first few months' worth of sermons were really focused on introducing all y'all to me and my preaching, but with this sermon series directly inspired by our Advent "We Were There" devotional book, this series feels much more like an "us" project, which I am greatly enjoying.

Another "us" project is fast approaching, one that is rooted in our nearly thirty-year relationship with Macedonia Christian Church: the Maundy Thursday worship service traditionally shared between Macedonia and Valley. I am delighted to share that this year's Maundy Thursday worship service will be hosted at 6:00 pm Thursday, April 1, on Macedonia's conference call program that they have been utilizing for worship during the pandemic. In our next newsletter, I will include instructions for how to call in to the worship service. For those of you who have been using your phones to call into our Zoom worship services every Sunday, this will likely be very familiar to you!

Pastor Kenneth Hill of Macedonia and I are working on a simple, but hopefully meaningful, order of worship to fit this format. If Holy Week fell even a month or so later in the calendar, it could well be conceivable that we would be commemorating it in person. I have been very encouraged by our receptiveness to the COVID-19 vaccines, and that receptiveness is going to get us back to in-person worship hopefully very soon. But until we get more of our people vaccinated, Pastor Hill and I agreed that a virtual shared Maundy Thursday worship service was best this year.

My excitement to share in that worship experience with all of you, and with our siblings in Christ at Macedonia, is very real, though. Maundy Thursday is one of my favorite holy days of our entire calendar, and I am very much looking forward to my first Maundy Thursday with Valley and Macedonia, with the hopes of many more commemorated together inperson.

As we continue the journey to both the empty tomb and the return to in-person worship, I am appending to this column a short list of websites you can go to for scheduling a covid-19 vaccination. If you have any questions about making an appointment, or need some assistance in making an appointment, please let me know and I will do my best to point you in the right direction!

Christ's and yours, Pastor Eric

MONDAY, MARCH 15th BOARD MEETING

March 15 is the third Monday of March, when the Official Board typically meets. We will gather at 7:00 pm in the **Valley Recorded Meeting** room. You can attend via computer or phone:

Meeting ID 876 1857 6881, Passcode 205879 By computer, smart phone or

tablet: <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87618576881?p</u> wd=UE8wZGJOQnZqRVpHbmx4MG1qb3IYZz09 By Phone: 1 (312) 626 6799 ID 876 1857 6881, Passcode 205879

For a live link you may go to our website at <u>www.vccbhm.org</u> and then "Links to Zoom".

COVID-19 VACCINATIONS

UAB has been doing its very best to vaccinate as many people as quickly as possible. I also want you to be aware of additional avenues for getting a COVID-19 vaccine. The following websites allow you to either sign up for a waiting list for a vaccination appointment, or to sign up directly for an appointment. - Pastor Eric

Jefferson County Department of Health: <u>https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/394c2fa2bd154f</u> <u>3d860f3d630cca8d3f</u>

Alabama Department of Health: <u>https://al-telegov.egov.com/alabamavaccine/</u>

CVS Pharmacy:

https://www.cvs.com/immunizations/covid-19vaccine?icid=cvs-home-hero1-link2-coronavirusvaccine

Walgreens Pharmacy:

https://www.walgreens.com/findcare/vaccination/co vid-19?ban=covid_vaccine_landing_schedule

DEAD SEA SCROLLS ON APT

Alabama Public Television March Guide states on Wednesday, March 17, at 8:00pm there is a show on NOVA about the "Dead Sea Scrolls". Also, on Wednesday, March 24 at 8:00pm on NOVA is "Saving the Dead Sea".

> VALLEY CHRISTIAN CHURCH 2600 CHEROKEE PLACE BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA 35216



PROPERTY WORKDAYS

Ginny Guindon, Carol Speed, Ed Guindon, John Gregory, Stewart Draper and Peggi Zinser have been working for a couple of months on cleaning out the storage room next to the kitchen. Everything is now labeled and has it's own place, you can actually walk in and find, at your fingertips, what you might need to complete a job.

CALL FOR PICTURES!

The Evangelism Committee is working on several things that need pictures: the display by the entrance, the website, a brochure, and more. We have a few hundred (!) pics already, but I do not have ANY from Triple A excursions, nor from the 2020 Halloween Event. If you have any of these, please email or text message a few of them to Linda Reeves at the contact information found in the 2020 Directory. (I would like anywhere from 1 to 20 of your best, from 2019 and 2020.) Thank you! Please call or text message Linda if you have questions.



INSPIRATION AT SUNRISE

As our time changes with Day Light Savings, we look forward to Springing forward with more light in our lives each day. This picture is of a beautiful Sunrise by Dana Stuckenschneider somewhere overlooking the Gulf of Mexico.

SAVE THE DATE for VALLEY'S 2021 EARTH DAY EVENT Saturday, April 24, 1 PM

The Evangelism Committee is hosting an Outdoor Event to highlight God's Creation and to mingle with our neighbors. There will be a talk on Our Local Birds, by Dr. Richard Ryel, a bird expert. We will have refreshments and more. Seating will be available. We hope to see all of you, and please invite your friends and neighbors.

SATURDAY WORKDAY AT VALLEY

The Saturday Workday group will gather March 13th from 9:00am to 12noon to do their awesome assignments for the church. Please join us if you can!

ADULT EDUCATION

The Adult Education class is currently using a study book entitled "Savior", written by Magrey R. deVega, pastor of the Hyde Park United Methodist Church in Tampa, Florida. The Bible uses many images to help us understand the meaning of Jesus' death and resurrection. This study will continue through Lent as Pastor deVega helps us understand the various ways of interpreting the atonement. Everyone is welcome to join us by Zoon In the room **Valley Meeting 1** at 6:30pm each Tuesday evening.

ID 829 5294 8962, Passcode 205879

By computer, smart phone or tablet: <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82952948962?pw</u> <u>d=SXFheDBOYWtINmE0WERKVzdnVmRPZz09</u>

By Phone: 1 (312) 626 6799 ID **829 5294 8962**, Passcode **205879**

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We are planning a seminar for early summer led by medical personnel on the general topic of navigating the medical system. If you have questions along with line, please let us know and we will try to address them. We hope to have two seminars each year about topics of general interest and need for our congregation. Suggestions for such seminars are always welcome! - Lola Kiser

LIFE IN THE VALLEY

- Clarence Sellers had a severe case of vertigo and has been released from Princeton Hospital to recover at home last week. Thank you for your prayers.
- Peggy Hiller's son, George Hiller, III, had a stent put in his heart in St. Vincent's. He is at home and recovering well. Thank you for your prayers.
- Please pray for Carol Speed as she will have a procedure done next Wednesday.
- Margaret Cox had an update on her friends Mason and Lindsey, who is pregnant with conjoined twins. The doctors at UAB have said that the boys are not doing well and likely will not survive outside the womb. She has six weeks of pregnancy left.
- Ted and Dana Stuckenschneider got their second vaccines and it was a joy to go to their friends' house for dinner.
- Pastor Eric's parents also received both doses of the vaccine as well.
- Please call or email the office with your prayer concerns, joys or reports to include in "Life In The Valley".

