



# Voice

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



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**Monday through Friday**

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*From the Pastor's Desk*

## Coffee and a Story

As October turned into November, we were all served up a belated reminder of the change of seasons as the daily temperatures plunged almost overnight from the mid-70s to the 50s. First and foremost, I would ask you to keep on your hearts and in your minds those among us for whom such rapid changes in temperature can be difficult or even dangerous to adjust to, including people experiencing homelessness. We are keeping with our commitment to the more vulnerable among us this week with our “Yes, I Can” food pantry drive on behalf of Greater Birmingham Ministries, and it is still not too late to participate! Contact Marilyn or me in the church office to receive a bag.

Meanwhile, I wanted to also share two other opportunities for education and fellowship in the near future that I hope you will enjoy: first, our November Sunday School monthly topic is on forgiveness—a topic I have very much looked forward to teaching on ever since Lola Kiser and I arrived at our autumn list of class topics back in July and August. At 9:30 am each Sunday in November, we will be looking at what both Paul and Jesus have to say about forgiveness before asking what other faith traditions say about forgiveness and what we, ourselves, personally ultimately believe about forgiveness. If you have been worshiping with us online and would like to participate in Sunday School as well, please reach out to me so that we can arrange that!

Second, I am happy to share that beginning Wednesday, December 1, we will be bringing back an Advent Valley tradition: the weekday lunchtime “Sounds of Advent” carol-sing. On three Wednesdays in December, the 1<sup>st</sup>, the 15<sup>th</sup>, and the 22<sup>nd</sup>, you are invited to join us at the church at 11:30 am for a hymn-sing of Advent hymns (on the 1<sup>st</sup>) and Christmas hymns (on the 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>) and a brief Advent Bible study before adjourning for an optional lunch off-site. John Neville will help us kick festivities off on the 1<sup>st</sup> with his piano playing. We will observe our usual covid-19 protocols of universal masking, social distancing, and the availability of hand sanitizer at each Wednesday event. My thanks to John Gregory and Cindy Neville from the worship department in brainstorming this revival of a Valley Advent tradition to help it fit for our current circumstances.

I hope to see you at either or both of these upcoming offerings, and stay warm as autumn continues to get closer and closer to winter!

Christ's and yours,  
Pastor Eric

## Fall Worship Schedule

**Sunday, Nov 7**

10:30 a.m.

**Sunday, Nov 14**

10:30 a.m.

**Sunday, Nov 21**

10:30 a.m.

**Sunday, Nov 28**

10:30 a.m.

## Dates of Interest:

- Nov 4 & 5—Senior Adult Retreat—Rolling Hills
- Nov 7—Finish of “Yes I Can” GBM Pantry Event
- Nov 10—AAA Event—Classic on Noble—Anniston
- Nov 21—Board Meeting
- Nov 25 & 26—Office closed for Thanksgiving
- Nov 28—Hanging of the Greens

## Life in the Valley

### Prayers, Joys and Concerns

- Please pray for Matt Cutcliffe, who is trying to get home from England and there are a lot of blockades in his path.
- Sara Simon had a joy that we are able to come to the sanctuary and worship here. There is a lot of gratitude for your pledge cards.
- We have a joy from Ed and Ginny Guindon that their move is imminent! Into a home that isn't quite ready. Please pray for them
- Please pray for Carolyn Nunnelly's sister, Faye Meads, as she recovers from COVID Pneumonia.
- Please pray for Carolyn and Terry Nunnelly's friend, Leon Arant, as he recovers from a heart attack.
- All our thanks to Jean Thrasher and Midge Hoke for planting wonderful new flowers at the front of the church They are beautiful!
- Our friend Bobinell Ricci is at home from rehab now and is feeling better.
- Thank you to everyone who contributed to the house fire fund for Maria Colon and her husband. The check has been sent to Regional Office for distribution.
- Peggi Zinser is now is at home recovering from her shoulder surgery. She is improving.
- Clarence Sellers has recovered from his bout with COVID and has returned to worship.
- Please pray for Joel Kramme, Lola Kiser's niece's husband. He needs our prayers right now.

## November AAA Event

Everyone is welcome to join us for our next AAA event — a trip to Anniston, Alabama on Wednesday, November 10 for lunch at the "Classic on Noble" restaurant, 1024 Noble Street, Anniston, Alabama 36201 at 11:30am. We will leave the church by caravan at 9:45am. Please call Marilyn in the church office by Friday, November 5, 2021 for reservations. Several members of First Christian Church in Anniston will join us for lunch. We have eaten there a number of times before and enjoyed the excellent food and atmosphere. This is a great way to begin the holiday season. (See pictures at right)

## Autumn Series

### Sunday School Class

On Sunday, November 7, 2021 at 9:30am our adult class will be a study of "Forgiveness", led by Pastor Atcheson. Everyone is invited to join us, whether or not you registered earlier for it. This is a Bible study of forgiveness as well as a sharing of personal perspectives on forgiveness. The class will be an interesting study as we prepare ourselves for the Advent season of the year.

## Advent Devotional Booklet

Thank you to everyone for sending in your Advent Devotionals! If you haven't sent it yet please do so as soon as possible! The books will be distributed at church on Sunday, November 21, 2021

## "Yes, I Can" Food Bags

Don't forget to fill your Yes, I Can Bags with non-perishable food items and bring them to the church Sunday November 7  
If you did not receive a bag, you may fill any bag you have.  
The food items will be given to GBM and St Anne's Home for Women  
Thank you for all you do for others.



Scenes from Classic on Noble, Anniston, Alabama