



Valley Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
2600 Cherokee Place
Birmingham, Alabama
35216

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Email: office@vccbhm.org

Website: www.vccbhm.org

Office Hours: 8am-12pm

Monday through Friday

Winter Worship Schedule

Sunday, Feb 27

10:30 a.m.

Sunday, Mar 6

10:30 a.m.

Sunday, Mar 13

10:30 a.m.

Sunday, Mar 20

10:30 a.m.

Dates of Interest:

- Feb 20 and 27 - Week of Compassion
- Mar 2 6:00pm Ash Wednesday Service
- Mar 6 3:00pm District II Subcommittee
- Mar 8 National Yearbook Data Entry Deadline
- Mar 13 Spring Forward - Daylight Savings Time
- Mar 16 AAA Event - American Village in Montevallo



From the Pastor's Desk

Coffee and a Story

I first would like to thank everyone who helped make this past Saturday's seminar on African-American music in the church with our special guest speaker Mary Godfrey such a success. It was a wonderful and enriching event, and if you attended you were sure to have gotten something very special from the experience.

I am also pleased to report from our cabinet meeting this past Sunday to look for the return of post-worship fellowship time on Sundays. With covid case numbers, hospitalizations, and positivity rates all falling dramatically over the past few weeks, the cabinet and I have felt comfortable enough to decide to bring back our post-worship refreshments in March. Spiritually, it seems to me a nice Lenten practice, even though we associate Lent with fasting, because these two years have been a Lent of fasting from all sorts of things, and as part of Lent we can also add spiritual disciplines, such as the ministry of fellowship!

And as we begin to pivot from the church season of post-Epiphany ordinary time to Lent, I would invite you to our Ash Wednesday worship service in the sanctuary at 6:00 pm on March 2. It will be a brief but meaningful service that will include the imposition of ashes, which connects us to the Biblical practice of donning ashes as an outward symbol of the inward reality of our repentance. Just as baptism is an outward expression of the inward reality of faith (as is the anointing practice that baptism comes from), so too do ashes represent our personal repentance for our sins.

Finally, I am excited to share with you the outline of my Lenten sermon series, inspired by the "Cross Words" many of you supplied to Lola Kiser and me. Some of those words will go into our Holy Week devotional book, and some have gone into this sermon series—see if you recognize yours! Each week, I will talk about one of those words as a representation of something that Christ accomplished on the cross, and I look forward to unpacking those meaningful words with you.

Lent 2022: "Cross Words: Our Language of Atonement"

March 6: "Substitution," Hebrews 9:24-28

March 13: "Atonement," Philippians 2:3-9

March 20: "Ransom," Mark 10:35-45

March 27: "Victory," 1 Peter 1:13-21

April 3: "Redemption," Romans 5:12-19

April 10 (Palm Sunday): "Forgiveness," 2 Corinthians 5:14-21

Christ's and yours,
Pastor Eric

February 22 2022

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Life in the Valley

Prayers, Joys and Concerns

- Sarah Draper's nephew John Thompson had a stroke. He is 59 years old and was born the year Sarah and Stewart got married. He was moved from Pell City to UAB's ICU. Please pray for him.
- Ed Guindon would like to thank everyone who helped with the Valley Work Days recently. The fellowship hall got painted and a lot of other things taken care of. You are so appreciated for keeping Valley clean and beautiful.
- Jan Watts' has requested prayers for the family of Preston Hurst, who passed away this past Sunday morning. He was Jan's daughter-in-law's brother. Pray for his wife, children and two sisters.
- There was a tragedy in Eric Atcheson's family yesterday. Members of his mother's side of the family had a fatal car accident. Please pray for the family and friends of Larry, Kimberly, Karly and Nicholas Klingensmith. Please use your prayers to help the family withstand this horrific tragedy.
- Amanda Harris's nephew Josiah is having a procedure to relieve pressure in his skull. This is after the family came down with COVID, and Josiah's mother is also expecting, so please pray for the family as well as for Josiah and his medical team.
- Marilyn Cutcliffe was injured in a bad fall and needs your prayers.
- Janice Clifford, wife of our former minister, Jim Clifford, is being treated with chemotherapy for ovarian cancer. Please pray for them.
- We suggest that you bring Cereal, Oatmeal, Grits, Cream of Wheat, and/or any Breakfast Cereal for the Food Pantry on March 6th this month.

March AAA Event

It's Tulip Time!

Wednesday, March 16, 2022 AAA will be going to the American Village in Montevallo for the Tulip Festival. We will leave the church at 10:00am arrive at the American Village and tour the tulips and the shop. We are checking to see if any characters will be there for us to see. Lunch will be at the Main Street Tavern in Montevallo at 12:30pm.

Holy Week

Devotional Booklet

We are changing the name of our Lenten Devotional Booklet to Holy Week Devotional Booklet since it contains devotionals just for Holy Week. This year the booklets will be available at the church on Sunday, April 3, and devotionals start on Palm Sunday, April 10. The booklets will be mailed to shut-ins, out-of-town people, and those who were unable to pick them up. We hope you enjoy the booklet and use it in your devotionals.

March 6th GBM Pantry Items

For March we have chosen Cereal, Oatmeal, Grits, Cream of Wheat, and/or any Breakfast Cereal. You can bring any one item or as many of each item as you want. We will announce each month's item at the end of the previous month. We try to bring the items the

first Sunday of each month. If you are worshipping by Zoom, just drop them off at the church any time. - Outreach Department

Thanks!

Many thanks to everyone who participated in or helped with our seminar, "African American Music in the Church". Twenty-three people enjoyed the presentation by Mary Godfrey from Snow Hill Christian Church. We thank especially the Anti-Racism Team from the Alabama-Northwest Florida Region of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) for the grant which funded this event. Lola Kiser - Education Department

