



Voice

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



Valley Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
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Email: office@vccbhm.org
Website: www.vccbhm.org
Office Hours: 8am-12pm
Monday through Friday

Spring Worship Schedule

Sunday Service

May 29 10:30 a.m.

Pentacost

Sunday Service

June 5 10:30 a.m.

Sunday Service

June 12 10:30 a.m.

Sunday Service

June 19 10:30 a.m.

Dates of Interest:

- May 25 - AAA Blue Bell Ice Cream Tour
- May 30 - Memorial Day - Office Closed
- June 4 - Valley Educational Seminar "The Church and Senior Adults"
- June 5 - Pentecost Sunday
- June 5 - Dove Release after worship
- June 6 - Voice Deadline

May 24 2022

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A Word from Your Pastor

A Pastor closed his worship service by asking, "If we could compare the kingdom of God to a locomotive, what part would you like to be?"

One person said, "Pastor, I would like to be the whistle and sound God's praises". Another said, "I would like to be the wheel and just roll down the track". Then another man said, "Pastor, I would like to be the black coal and burn for Christ's sake!" and the pastor replied, "Church, we have enough whistles and wheels in the church now, we need more coal".

No church ever moves forward if it is made up of whistles and wheels. Somebody has to be willing to burn for Jesus. That is what Pentecost is all about. To be on fire for Jesus. To burn for Jesus. To be excited in serving Jesus.

On Pentecost the disciples were gathered in a room and the Holy Spirit entered the room. The Holy spirit was in the form of fire and the disciples were filled with the fire of the spirit.

When the disciples were filled and touched by the Holy Spirit they were "Fired Up!". To be fired up is to be excited, optimistic, hopeful, confident, courageous, energetic. To be fired up is to be glad to be alive and enthusiastic about living. To be fired up is to celebrate life and its wonderful possibilities and opportunities.

May we as disciples at Valley Christian get "Fired Up" with the filling of the Holy Spirit. To be on fire with excitement and enthusiasm in proclaiming Christ as Lord to the community.

So Valley, let's get spirit-filled and share our experience with others.

God Bless You, Edd

Education Seminar

Remember our Education Seminar entitled "The Church and Senior Adults" on Saturday, June 4, 2022 from 9:00am to 12:00noon in the Fellowship Hall. Melvia Carter from Snow Hill Christian Church in Fort Deposit, Alabama will lead the discussion as we consider what the church can do for senior adults and what senior adults can do for the church. We have invited the churches of District II to participate as well as others. Visitors are always welcome! Come and bring a friend!

Lola Kiser, Education Dept.

June AAA Event

On Wednesday, June 29, 2022, AAA will visit the Cook Museum of Natural Science in Decatur, Alabama. This museum provides a hands-on experience about nature, animals, environment, etc.. Located inside the museum is Nature's Table where we can enjoy healthy food. The van will leave the church at 9:00am for the trip. You can make your reservations by calling Marilyn in the church office by Friday, June 27, 2022. Entrance fee is \$17 for seniors and \$20 for other adults. Mark your calendar and join us! Visitors are welcome!

Life in the Valley

Prayers, Joys and Concerns

- Sarah Draper, one of our beloved members, is doing better but still recovering from pneumonia and needs our prayers. The doctor wants her to stay at home for a while so she won't contract anything. Please lift her up for healing.
- Ruby Wilkes is still in the hospital recovering but out of intensive care. Please pray for her, her husband, four daughters and grandchildren.
- Please continue to pray for the Ukrainian people as their senseless violence and destruction has continued.
- Please wear red on Sunday, June 5th for Pentecost Sunday.
- Please pray for Margaret Cox's family. Her sister's foster child, 5 year old Will, is back in court for a decision of custody. Margaret prays that the best decision for the child be made.
- Edd Spencer had a joy that for his birthday his wife Mary Pat took him on a trip to Rock City in Chattanooga, Tennessee and then on to a surprise visit to their daughter, son-in-law and granddaughter in Lexington Kentucky. They were privileged to see their granddaughter in the play "Little Women".
- Jan Watts was pleased that last week we prayed for our sister church, Cedar Plains Christian Church in Falkville. It brought back many fond memories of her great-grandfather who was the first pastor of that church. Also, her three grandchildren graduated!
- Mary Pat Spencer has a prayer request for her grandson's best friend, Zack Pickard. Zack has progeria which is a disease which causes children to age prematurely. The walls of his heart are thickening and doctors are doing surgery soon in which Zach will be the first progeria patient to have this particular surgery. Please pray!
- Ginny Guindon is asking for prayers for her daughter and son-in-law, Jessica and Spencer Johnson. They have COVID. Bless them.
- Flora Richardson, a long-time Valley member is now out of the hospital and back at Fairhaven Nursing Home. Please pray for her.
- A beloved member of Macedonia Christian Church in Birmingham has passed away. Please pray for the church, family and friends of Jessica Triggs.
- A big thank you to all who helped water the new plants on the walking trail. They are delicate until they are established.

June 5th GBM Pantry Items

For June we have chosen Canned Meat. 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

Pentecost - Happy Birthday to the Church - Acts 2:1

A dove release is being planned for the Celebration of Pentecost on Sunday, June 5th after our tradition-

al service starting at 10:30am. Please wear red to celebrate Pentecost. When the service concludes at 11:30am we will be led by our Minister Edd Spencer to the circle outside in front of the sanctuary. Mr. Butch Glass of Love Birds of Birmingham will have dozen or more of his doves ready to release for the ceremony. Edd will say a prayer and explain about the releasing of the doves as we all sing together to celebrate the birthday of the Church. Mr. Glass will then release the doves in the name of peace, love and the fire of the spirit of hope as we watch them follow the lead bird to fly back home. Please join us as we celebrate this momentous event for Valley Christian Church.

Pentecost Offering

On May 29 and June 5 the Pentecost Offering will be received. These gifts support our own region's new church development and the national New Church Ministry that includes programs such as Coaching, New Church Hacks and Water the Plants. Please consider giving generously.

The Spirit of the Dove

Throughout biblical history God has used the dove to bring spiritual gifts to the world. Doves have been messengers for God. They have connected humans with God through the story of Noah and the dove returning to the ark with an olive leaf after the flood. In the baptism of Jesus he saw the spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on him and on Pentecost the spirit of the dove is a symbol of the birthday of the church. Therefore, on Pentecost Sunday, June 5, we are going to gather outside after worship and release doves as a symbol of grace, purity and spirit. As they fly above us, they will be our spiritual messengers opening our hearts to a higher love. They will gently guide us toward God. Invite a friend for this special service of worship. In our moments together may the cooing sound of the doves give us a sense of serenity. Their calming presence and gentle manner help us to release all that is painful or upsetting. And may they deliver the promise that peace is near.

Three Mountains in the Bible

God loves mountains. On mountains in the bible God revealed to people His will and love. During three Sundays in June we will travel with God on three mountains in the Old Testament. May the following mountains of scriptural history bring us closer to God. May they help us have a mountaintop experience with the Lord! The schedule for these mountain sermons are as follows:

Sunday June 12	"Mount Moriah: God Provides" Genesis 22:1-14
Sunday June 19	"Mount Sinai: The Law of God" Exodus 20:1-17
Sunday June 26	"Mount Carmel: Making a Decision" 1 Kings 18:16-39

Invite a friend to worship as we encounter God on several important mountaintops. Invite a friend as we: Lift up our eyes to the Hills—where does our help come from? Our help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth. Psalm 121:1-2

