



# Voice

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



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**Monday through Friday**

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## A Word from Your Pastor

A little boy complained about saying his prayers. He said, "I don't need anything!" His mother suggested that he thank God for the things that he already has. The boy then began to list his toys, his food, his bed, his parents, and his friends. His prayers became very long. When the prayers was finished, the boy remarked that he didn't realize how many blessings had come his way.

Let us look at some of the blessings for which we should be thankful. This wonderful world in which we live. A great country with freedoms which most people on Earth cannot enjoy. We have experienced medical progress such as vaccines for COVID and cures for cancer. Material blessings beyond belief have been given to us.

But God has not only given us many blessings but also given us the ability to enjoy them. We have eyes to see the wonders he has created, ears to hear the beautiful sounds of birds in the morning, and a nose to smell the fragrance of His creation.

Then there are the spiritual blessings that God has given. He has brought to us salvation for our sins through Jesus. Let us be thankful that we don't have to save ourselves. Paul says in Ephesians 4, "By grace are we saved by faith, not of ourselves, it is a GIFT OF GOD..."

So this Thanksgiving may we offer this prayer, "O God, You have given us so many things, give us one more thing—a grateful heart".

Happy Thanksgiving, Edd

## Fall Worship Schedule

- Sunday Service**  
Nov 13 10:30 a.m.
- Sunday Service**  
Nov 20 10:30 a.m.
- Sunday Service**  
Nov 27 10:30 a.m.
- Sunday Service**  
Dec 4 10:30 a.m.
- Sunday Service**  
Dec 11 10:30 a.m.

## Dates of Interest:

- Nov 9 - AAA Event St. Elias B'ham
- Nov 10 - Men's Luncheon
- Nov 11 - Veteran's Day
- Nov 13 - Bread for the World Sunday with Speaker
- Nov 13 - Board Meeting
- Nov 13 - Yes I Can Event - Bring back full bags
- Nov 13 - Thanksgiving Offering
- Nov 20 - Advent Devotional Pickup
- Nov 20 - Thanksgiving Dinner

## Thank You

Our Stewardship Campaign began with the phrase, "Blessed - In Order to Bless Others." Beyond a shadow of a doubt, the financial pledges and sacrifices shared on Commitment Sunday toward this campaign will go to bless and transform the lives of people in need, both here and across the world. Thank you for being a blessing. I am encouraged by the way in which God's people at Valley chose to respond to God's call. God Bless You, Edd

## Church Thanksgiving Dinner

The Thanksgiving Dinner will be after worship on Sunday, November 20th. The church will provide the meat and drinks. A Sign Up sheet is in the narthex for members and friends to bring side dishes, salads, and deserts. Please sign up this Sunday. May we all enjoy the dinner together as we celebrate blessings from God.

## Thanksgiving Offering

Just a reminder. We will be receiving the Thanksgiving Offering Nov. 13 & 20. This offering is for Higher Education. Our Goal is \$500.

# Life in the Valley

## *Prayers, Joys and Concerns*

- We welcome into the church Effie King, who comes by Statement of Faith. Edd, Mary Pat and Judy Sellers received her confession of faith in her home on Sunday, November 6th.
- Ted and Clarence, our beloved members who have been ill, were both back in church today and are feeling better. Praise the Lord!
- Seven members of Valley Christian attended the Senior Retreat. Valley had more people attending the retreat than any other church in the region.
- Clarence would like everyone to pray this Thursday before dinner for all the Marines who never came home. This Thursday is the Marine Corps Anniversary. This Friday is Veteran's Day when we pray for all the service members who did come home.
- We would like to thank everyone who wrote a Devotional for the Advent Booklet. The Booklet will be distributed at church on Sunday, November 20th. Thanks to Marilyn Ireland for assembling it.
- Ed Guindon would like to thank everyone who attended the Valley workday last Saturday including the people from the Embellishments Group.
- John Gregory tells us that Beth Gregory is leading a spiritual enrichment experience at the Labyrinth all this week. The details are on the bulletin board.
- Please pray for Jan Watts who has COVID and is quarantining.
- Please pray for Lola's niece's granddaughter, Emerson, who has RSV Respiratory Infection which has been affecting babies and toddlers.

## Offering of Letters

We will be observing Bread for the World Sunday during worship on November 13, 2022. There will be a table set up in the parlor that will have letters addressed to both Alabama Senators and the Members of Congress from the Birmingham area. All in attendance are asked to sign the letters, and to put your contact information under your name. Please feel free to add a handwritten personal statement if you would like.

While Churches and service organizations such as Greater Birmingham Ministries do what they can to feed people in need, the resources of the Federal Government far exceed the combined resources of all the Churches in the United States. Public policy can do more to keep people fed than any amount of charitable activities. Bread for the World's purpose is to organize citizens to lobby their representatives to make policy that will relieve hunger in the U.S. and all around the world.

## Food for the World

(In many ways)

On Sunday, November 13, the focus in morning worship will be on food in two ways:

Elizabeth Wix, with The Society of St Andrew, will bring the morning message.

The Society is a gleaning organization (she will make

this clear).

From Bread for the World, there will be letters for us to sign that go to our

legislators to bring the needs of hunger to their attention.

Hunger is a problem for people of all ages in every community, state, nation, and country. This Sunday, we will focus on our "Yes I Can Food Bags, letters, and gleaning.

"As much as you have fed the hungry, you have done unto me." Let us do as Jesus said and did.



## Christmas and Advent Events

### BROWN BAG LUNCH-PARLOR

11-30-22 - 11:30am - Animals at the manger - Donkey

12-7-22 - 11:30am - Animals at the manger - Birds

### DISCIPLES WOMEN CHRISTMAS COFFEE-PARLOR

12-3-22 - 10:00am-12:00pm - All are invited to Holiday goodies and a Christmas Program

### CHRISTMAS STUDY GROUP - ZOOM

11-29-22, 12-6-22, 12-13-22, 12-20-22 - Meets Tuesday nights on Zoom at 6:30pm to discuss "The Redemption of Scrooge" by Matt Rawle based on Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol". On your smart phone go to [www.vccbhm.org](http://www.vccbhm.org) - click on "Links to Zoom" then click on the "Valley Meeting 1" link.

### WALK TO BETHLEHEM - WALKING TRAIL

12-11-22 - 3:00pm-4:00pm - Walk with us along the trail to Bethlehem - visit the inn keeper and Joseph, Mary, and the Baby. Snacks in the Fellowship Hall.

### BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR JESUS - FELLOWSHIP HALL

12-17-22 - 10:00am - 12:00pm - Christmas Crafts, Magic Show, Christmas Pinata, Santa Claus, and Birthday Cake

### CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE- SANCTUARY

12-24-22 - 4:00pm-5:00pm - Special Service where we walk forward for communion and gather to sing Silent Night

### CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP - PARLOR

12-25-22 - 10:30am - Christmas worship in the church Parlor as we celebrate His birth as a church family.



## Yes, I Can

Just a Reminder for Sunday November 13 - Don't forget your food bag for Yes, I Can Event.

## Toys for GBM

GBM is asking for Gift cards again for the toy drive. They would like to receive them by the first week in December. Please make your purchase of \$20 or \$25 gift cards from Walmart. Please bring them to Marilyn in the office or give them to Sarah Draper. Last year we received \$660 for the children that GBM serves.