



# The Valley Voice

VALLEY CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)  
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## CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT COMMUNION

The Christmas Eve service is Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm. The service will include Christmas music, a Christmas story “The Manger is Empty”, coming forward to receive the Lord’s Supper and forming a circle around the sanctuary, singing Silent Night by candlelight.

Circle your Christmas calendar for this special worship service. Invite a friend or neighbor to worship on Christmas Eve.

## I WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS

A little girl climbed up into her mother’s lap and said, “Mommy, tell me a story of Jesus and put me in it.” I celebrate that for the past two months you have accepted me as your Interim Pastor and have put me in your story of life in Valley Christian Church.

I want to wish all of you a Merry Christmas. Remember that God has put all of us in his story of love and grace that began in the little town of Bethlehem.

Merry Christmas, Edd

## SERMONS FOR JANUARY

After celebrating the birth of the Christ Child in December, it is now time to look at the childhood of Jesus. During January, we will consider how the experiences of Jesus’ childhood shape our lives. The sermons are as follows:

January 5 “His Journey to Egypt” Matthew 2:13-23

January 12 “His Presentation in the Temple” Luke 2:22-40

January 20 “The Boy Jesus in the Temple” Luke 2:41-52

January 26 Laity Sunday

## DIAPER DRIVE RESULTS

Our diaper drive was a success and very much appreciated. We delivered 22 bags and 11 boxes for a total of 1,626 diapers to Greater Birmingham Ministries. Way to go Valley! Your contributions will help many needy families during this holiday season.

## ANNUAL CHURCH PLANNING RETREAT

The annual church planning retreat will be on Saturday, January 18, 2020 in the church fellowship hall at 9:00am until 12noon. At this time, committees of the church will plan our program for the year. It is important that all who are asked to be on one of the committees be present to participate in this important work. – Stewart Draper

## A NEW YEAR’S PRAYER

O God, in the new year of 2020, help us to live closer to you. Help us to spend more time being quiet and knowing that you are God. Help us to be more loving to our family, friends and to our enemies. Help us to live more generously, sharing with others the many gifts you have entrusted to our care. Help us to behave justly, to love mercy and to walk humbly with you. Help us to let the spirit of our Christ become our spirit as well. Help us make every day of the coming year a time of faithful service to you. For all of this we pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen!

## JANUARY AAA

Our January AAA event will be a luncheon here at the church in the Fellowship Hall on January 22, 2020 at 11:30am. The event will feature spaghetti by Eve Harman and a program by Carolyn and Terry Nunnelly about their trip to Italy. Ginny Guindon will coordinate the meal. Everyone is welcome – friends are invited! Come and enjoy!

## DISCIPLES WOMEN MEETING

### SPECIAL PROGRAM WITH MARY JONES OF GBM

MONDAY, JANUARY 13, 2020 10:30AM

The Disciples Women (DW) are privileged to host Mary Jones, Direct Services Coordinator at Greater Birmingham Ministries (GBM), at the January meeting in the Christian Issues classroom. Mary will be sharing information about needs of women who are served by GBM and how the DW could be involved to assist these women. Mary graduated from UAB with a major in criminal justice and a minor in social work and has been involved with numerous agencies which seek to address human social, economic and justice needs locally and beyond. She was the speaker on Bread for the World Sunday at Valley in recent years. Everyone is welcome to attend the meeting to learn more about how we can help with these issues.

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