



# The Valley Voice

VALLEY CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

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## COFFEE AND A STORY

With four in-person worship services now under our belts—while also continuing to stream live on Zoom—I hope that you are starting to feel a bit of a rhythm come back to your Sunday mornings. For me, it has been another crash course learning experience as the vast majority of my time and energy since returning from Dauphin Island in mid-April was dedicated to getting us ready for our return to in-person worship and getting that initial inertia going.

I am grateful for everyone whose effort has made this resumption possible, and I am grateful for your patience as we continue to work out issues of technology, order of worship, and the like as we fine-tune our shared Sunday morning worship experience. Especially if you notice that our technology is not functioning the way it should, please let me or our current worship chair, Rev. John Gregory, know about it.

I also want to emphasize that we will continue to monitor public health trends around the current covid-19 related restrictions we have in place. For instance, at our regularly scheduled cabinet meeting next week, I plan to ask for a discussion on whether and/or how to resume in-person fellowship time after worship.

Please know that we are moving cautiously and purposefully as a matter of sacred intention. My own preference would be to be a bit slower in releasing us from guidelines and restrictions rather than potentially go too fast and have to reinstitute them. We have all exhibited a tremendous amount of patience in arriving at this point intact as a church family, and I gently ask for your patience again as we discern how and when to amend the guidelines we currently have in place. You will hear from me in this space if and when those guidelines are changed.

As I benefit from reaching peak immunity and have a bit more time after having kicked off in-person worship again, I am preparing plans to make more and more in-person visits especially to our homebound and more geographically distant members across the Birmingham area. Feel free to call on me at the church office to set up a visit—I am here most mornings Mondays – Thursdays and am happy to drive out to you at least one or two afternoons a week.

Finally, I want to thank again everyone who has gotten vaccinated against covid-19. Your decision to do so made our resumption of in-person worship possible, and it continues to make it a relatively safe choice for Jesus followers who wish to gather together in God’s house to worship. Christ’s and yours, Pastor Eric

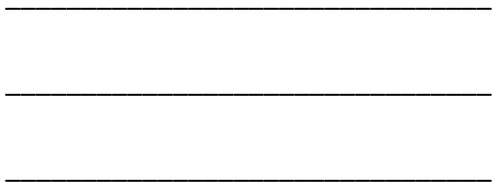


Turkey Creek AAA Trip - 6-9-21

## AAA VISITS TURKEY CREEK

Fourteen AAA members traveled to Turkey Creek Nature Preserve near Pinson, AL last week for our June outing. We enjoyed a very interesting talk by Charles Yeager, grandnephew of Sarah Draper and the manager of Turkey Creek, followed by a picnic lunch in the new pavilion (pictured above). Thank you, Charles, for a great day!

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## KYMULGA GRIST MILL AND COVERED BRIDGE

The grist mill and covered bridge are located in Childersburg which is the oldest continually occupied city in America, preceding St. Augustine by 25 years. The grist mill and bridge are listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the only site in Alabama with a mill and bridge still in its original location. Most other mills and bridges were burned by the Union Raiders, but Kymulga survived and still grinds stone ground grits and cornmeal for sale at the mill. There is a lot more to this interesting story from early explorers (Hernando Desoto), Native Americans and the Civil War. Join us on July 28<sup>th</sup> as we discover more about our Alabama History.



Hernando Desoto

## 2021 YEARBOOKS

The 2021 Valley Christian Church Yearbooks are here to be picked up in the office or during worship in the narthex. Please sign the log that you have picked yours up and we will not have to mail it to you. Otherwise, you will receive it in the mail soon. As always, please call or email the office to let me know of any changes.

## THE SECRET PLACE

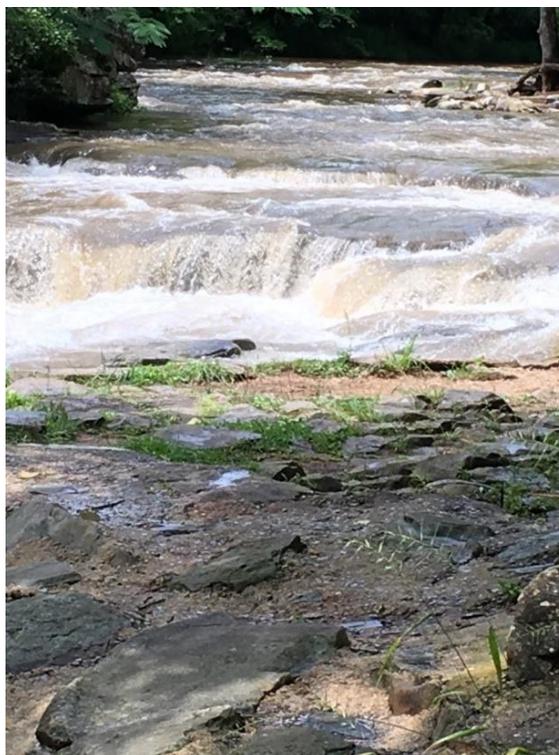
The Secret Place devotional magazines (Summer 2021) are in the lobby on the table next to the elevator. We have large print and regular print available.

## LIFE IN THE VALLEY

- Please pray for our beloved member Carol Speed, who will be having her second heart-related surgery on Tuesday, June 15, 2021.
- Terry and Carolyn Nunnely ask you to be in prayer for their daughter's (Paige Nunnely Deason) mother-in-law, Vickie Deason of Memphis, Tennessee. She has congestive heart failure and must have dialysis three times per week.
- Ed and Ginny Guindon have been busy traveling with their grandson, Scotty, born in Jackson, Mississippi and their daughter Jessica moving from Colorado to Auburn, Alabama.

Robert Scott McWhirter, Scotty, was 7 pounds and 20 inches long. All is well with the Guindon clan.

- Ted Stuckenschneider's friend John experienced a seizure and was then diagnosed with brain cancer. Please pray for John.
- Andrea Clark's cousin, Lindsey Canaday went into the hospital for a procedure and had to stay for more than week because of complications. However, she is at home now and recovering nicely.
- Melinda Robertson's son Rob is going to Iraq for his industrial construction job. Please pray all goes well for him.
- Sara Simon's neighbor, Alicia Moman, passed away. She was 93. Please pray for her family.
- Jan Watts has asked for our prayers for the family of Brian Hall and Carol Tatum. Carol was murdered very recently and they have the suspect in custody.
- Jan Watts' second grandson graduated from high school this week.
- John Neville was recently in an automobile accident, but thankfully was not injured. Please keep John and Cindy in your prayers.
- Ruby Wilkes from Macedonia Christian Church is now at home recovering from surgery for a fractured wrist and elbow. Please keep her in your prayers.
- Sharon Hill's (of Macedonia) mother, Eloise Hatcher, is being treated in North Hill Rehab Center
- Please pray for our member Hal Clark who had a bad fall. He is now in physical therapy and they are working to get him back up to speed with his walker.
- Joan Noland had a bad fall at Brookdale and fractured her pelvis in two places. She is home from St. Vincent's Hospital and back at Brookdale where she will receive Home Health care.
- Please call the church office for any news you want to add to "Life In The Valley".



Turkey Creek Falls 06-09-21