

# EchoEs from the Valley

August 15, 2009

Volume 36, No. 8

## Our Church Staff

### Pastor

Rev. Michael D. Roper

### Music Director

Ms. Marcia McBride

### Pianist

Mr. Thom Martin

### Organist

Ms. Sandy Mize

### Ministry Assistant

Ms. Louise LePortier

### Nursery Assistant

Mrs. Shelia Harkleroad

### Housekeeper

Mrs. Brenda Waters



September 26



## A Loving, Accepting, Affirming Baptist Church

1198 N. Valley Brook Road • Decatur, Georgia 30033 • Voice: 404-292-0212 • Fax: 404-292-8459

Website: [www.vbbchurch.com](http://www.vbbchurch.com) • Email: [valleybrook@vbbchurch.com](mailto:valleybrook@vbbchurch.com)

The Hearts Of The People And The Doors Of This Church Are Open To Everyone



We are fortunate at Valley Brook to have many opportunities for involvement. The reasons we come together include:

- Praise and worship
- Prayer
- To find encouragement through relationships.
- To study and grow, digging deeper into the treasure of God's Word.
- To become equipped for ministry, evangelism and service.

I want to take this opportunity to emphasize one part of the educational ministry of our church, Sunday morning Bible study. We have teachers who are committed to the task and come each week prepared to lead in study. Effective lesson preparation doesn't just happen; it is the result of time spent in prayer and study. We appreciate Jean Tarvin, Luther Lord, Becky Markert and Tom Gibbs, who each week lead groups in the study of God's Word. Also greatly appreciated are our substitute teachers, Bob Whaley and Gene Harlan.

Effective Sunday morning study groups are the backbone of a church, serving as an extension of the overall emphasis of the church through, ministry, outreach, fellowship and evangelism. Each of these important tasks can be accomplished more effectively and more personally in a small-group setting, rather than in the larger congregation.

We encourage you to become an active participating member in the class of your choice.

*"Study to present yourself approved unto God . .  
.. " 2 Timothy 2:15*

As matter of information, please allow me to mention the financial status of the Valley Brook church. You have been faithful in giving, enabling us to meet obligations and continue our budgeted ministries. While our annual budget is very conservative, we can be proud of our congregations' response in the area of financial stewardship. You need to know, however, that we recently lost a regular donation source, resulting in a 6% reduction in our anticipated annual receipts. My response has been: "God will continue to bless the Valley Brook Church, our people, our giving and our wise use of His resources."

How can you help? Consider your own giving. Are you prayerful, careful and systematic? Is God pleased with your financial management, including offerings to the church? Perhaps this is the time to begin giving according to God's plan, the tithe. Some may be able to increase their giving by 6%. Not an additional 6% of income, merely a 6% increase in the offering amount: that amounts to six dollars per hundred.

Talking about money is never comfortable, but as your pastor I feel it my duty to keep you informed and offer solution possibilities. Please prayerfully consider your response.

A special thanks to our Nominating Committee. This team has done a commendable job filling many positions for the 2009-2010 church year. Thanks to them and the many who willingly accepted important positions.

Please remember to pray for our 2009-2010 Deacon Fellowship under the leadership of Dan Warnock.

*Pastor Mike*



**September 26, 2009**

From 8:00—2:00 p.m., come sell your junk and maybe it will be someone else's treasure. To reserve a table, contact the Church Office at (404) 292-0212.

Come sell, buy, or just visit and have fun. Feel free to bring a canopy to set up for shade.



### The Wedding Dress

*What a small world it can be when it comes to love.....*

A radiant wedding gown is hand stitched with love, in anticipation of Hannah's fiancée's return from war. He is killed and the gown is packed. Years later, she sends the dress to her nephew, Travis. He is engaged but doesn't realize his true love is his assistant.

Travis' car is stolen with the wedding dress in it. This starts a chain of events taking the dress from the car thief, to a cab driver, to a struggling couple, to a second-hand shop, and to a dry cleaners where the dress is mistakenly sent to a lonely woman who finds love.

Magically, the dress changes the lives of six brides. Will the chain of events come full circle and reaffirm what a small world it can be when it comes to love?

## The Valley Brook Community Dance Project Fall 2009

### The Valley Brook Community Dance

The Valley Brook Community Dance Project is an outreach program designed to teach dance (ballet, modern and creative movement) with the highest excellence, artistically, technically, spiritually and morally. To provide a visual and artistic program that will inspire our youth to become positive and Christ centered individuals. Our curriculum will include class work, examinations and performances. Auditions will be held for company members. All classes are on Fridays and Saturdays. Classes are for ages 5-Adult.

**Classes start September 26, 2009.**

Lucretia Roberson, Instructor  
(404) 292-0212



**September 20, 2009**

**6:00 p.m.**

Hamburgers & Hot Dogs!

You and your family and friends are invited to come at 5:30 p.m. to fellowship. The deacons will be cooking and serving.



Let's Go  
Exploring  
The  
Fruit  
Of the  
Spirit

Enjoy the teaching of Beth Moore (DVD)

**"Living Beyond Yourself".**

Join us for a time of fellowship and learning every Thursday, 10:15 a.m., beginning August 21 through October 30.

Sign up sheet is in the Vestibule.

Non Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Permit No. 238  
Decatur, GA 30030

**VALLEY BROOK**  
*A Loving, Accepting, Affirming Baptist Church*  
1198 N. Valley Brook Road - Decatur, Georgia 30033  
Return Service Requested



Thanks to all our brothers and sisters for making our day special. Hope it was as enjoyable for you as it was for us.

Charley & Carolyn Scott



**REMEMBER....**Please use the Prayer Slips available in the Vestibule for Sunday a.m. prayer requests.



### God uses Kool-Aid

The Prayer Warriors have been praying for a Chaplain in Iraq, Captain Steve Bryant. He was concerned with the troop pullout; the remaining troops would be exposed to more danger. So, the Prayer Warriors have been praying for him and his unit and sending him PrayerGrams each week. Last week, the church got an e-mail from Steve's assistant, Joel. He had attached newsletter that tells that they are trying to make a difference in Iraq. They also have a slushie machine in the chapel and the troops love to come by the chapel each day to get a slushie. The only problem is that they only have cappuccino flavor and they have asked if someone could send them some Kool-Aid. Monday, July 27, the first shipment of Kool-Aid was sent out and we have enough for another shipment. If anyone wants to contribute either some money or presweetened Kool-Aid, we can send out another shipment. Any donations can be left with the church secretary or Tom Gibbs. Remember, God works in mysterious ways.