

EchoEs from the Valley

May 15, 2008

Volume 35, No. 07

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

Housekeeper

Mrs. Brenda Waters



Wherefore
take unto
you the
whole
armour of
God, that
ye may be
able... to
stand.

Ephesians 6:13

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 ▪ Email: valleybrook@vbbchurch.com

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



Shalom! Salam!
Hello!

In Israel, you will hear all three greetings. They will welcome you in Hebrew, Arabic, and English to one of the oldest and, at the same time newest nations on Earth. The Holy Land, given to Abraham and his descendents, is a place of incredible contrasts within a relatively small area. Culture, religion, geography and political emphasis seem to shift with every few miles covered. Here lie the ruins of the world's ancient civilizations: the Phoenician, Philistine, Hebrew, Nabatean, Roman and Greek. Each has left its imprint.

The history of this beautiful, and in places barren land, has been marred by a lack of peace. Since the day God made the promises to Abraham in Genesis 12 and 13, establishing a covenant agreement and decreeing Canaan as the land of promise, invaders from far and near have resisted and fought to establish prominence in this incredible region of the world.

Walking the shadowy streets of old Jerusalem was like being on an Indiana Jones movie set. The colors, smells, jostling crowds, over laden carts of wares and aggressive vendors made us feel we had indeed been transported back to the time of Jesus.

And yes, it was incredible to walk where Jesus walked, to sit where Jesus sat, to pray where Jesus prayed and to worship where Jesus worshipped. It is

an experience Janet and I will neither forget nor cease to be influenced by. To visit the Holy land is indeed a life changing experience!

You were in our prayers continually and we sensed yours for us as well. Thank you for the way you welcomed and treated my friend Rob Rhew who spoke here on Sunday, May 4th. He was very impressed with your graciousness. I expected nothing less; you are a wonderful church family and much loved by this pastor and his wife.

And . . . as good as it all was, it is even better to be back home with you all.

Pastor Mike



HOME COMING WORKDAY

In preparing for Homecoming, we will have a clean-up opportunity on Saturday, May 24 at 8:00 a.m.

Bring tools that you need to work with and let us really spruce up our church for Homecoming guests.

Everyone has a job whether it be big or small.

Your words are windows to you heart.

*“For out of the abundance
Of the heart the mouth speaketh.”*

Matthew 12:34



Our 51st Homecoming Celebration is just around the corner. I am looking forward to this exciting day in the life of the church and I know you are as well. Homecoming is a warm and wonderful time as we renew friendships, reminisce and fellowship in an atmosphere of praise, worship and festivity. Valley Brook has a rich heritage with much cause to celebrate as we realize the goodness of God in the affairs of this church over the years. Our very presence in this location is evidence of His grace. He continues to bless our efforts as we look toward the future.

NOTE: On Homecoming Day we will not have Sunday Bible Study so that we may begin worship at 10:30 a.m. Choir members from years gone by are invited to meet with the present choir at 10:00 a.m. for a brief time of practice.

Following worship we will meet in the fellowship hall for a great time of fellowship with dinner as the focal point. All are invited. If you are able, bring some side dishes and desserts to go along with the provided meats, bread and beverage. If you are unable to bring food, don't let that hinder you from joining the festivities. Our current membership is being asked to bring a "little extra." There will be plenty for all!

Hoping to see you there!!

Paster Mike

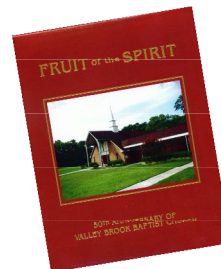


Terry Markert - Sunday School Director

Did you know that the "The Word For You Today" devotional book that the Sunday School Department distributes is not just for the Sunday School classes.

The devotional book is available to all church members that would like to have one. The next quarterly issue of the devotional book will be available May 25th.

For those of you who haven't been getting the book, please let me know so that we will have enough for everyone or let the church office know that you would like one.



HOMECOMING COOKBOOK SALE !

Our 50th Anniversary Cookbook is being offered at a **SPECIAL PRICE**. You can now get them for:

1 for \$7.50 or 2 for \$10.00

Contact the Church office (404-292-0212) if you would like to reserve your copy/copies today! They make great gifts!

To love what you do and
feel that it matters — how could
anything be more fun?

*".....for my heart rejoiced in all
my labor...."*

Ecclesiastes 2:10

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1198 N. Valley Brook Road - Decatur, Georgia 30033
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Our Summer Session

FIRST PLACE is a Christ-centered health program for men and women of all ages. Using a support system that incorporates Bible study, Scripture memorization, prayer and balanced eating and exercise plans.

FIRST PLACE provides the opportunity to change your life, not only physically but spiritually and emotionally. Come join us for an enlighten experience.

Orientation: June 4 at 7:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall

Classes Begin: June 18—September 10, 6:45 p.m.—8:00 p.m.

Cost: \$87.00 for New Members (Cost includes the Members Kit)

\$20.00 for Alumni (Cost includes the Bible Study book)