

EchoEs from the Valley

October 15, 2008

Volume 35, No. 12

Our Church Staff

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Rev. Michael D. Roper

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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

We THANK THEE,
AND *praise* THY
glorious
name.



I CHRONICLES 29:13, KJV

A Loving, Accepting, Affirming Baptist Church

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



Like many others (mostly guys) I do not like to stop for directions and I would rather keep moving even if it means going in the wrong direction. By the way, I have never been lost. I admit that I have found myself in areas that I did not intend to go, but never lost! No Siree!

I also must admit though, that I've learned there is something to be said for navigating with a guide. In some situations a human guide is needed but quiet often we can be aided by technology. Modern GPS systems are not to be scoffed upon. We can know how to get to our destination without asking for directions and play with a new toy at the same time. What a deal!

When it comes to navigating through life, we need a guide. There are uncharted areas, difficult turns and detours we need to somehow navigate safely through.

David understood this need. In Psalm 43:3, he asked God to "Send out your light and your truth; let them guide me. Let them lead me to your holy mountain, to the place where you live." We need direction. We need God to be our guide through life in order for us to navigate smoothly and arrive at the proper destination.

There are many people rushing aimlessly through life at breakneck speed trying to arrive at some undetermined destination. They are usually moving in the wrong direction.

The fact is that we need help to move in the right direction. Is your life going right? Ask God to be your guide. Here are some tips for allowing God to guide your life:

Trust Him. Remember that God loves you and wants you to rely upon Him Follow the instructions in His Word.

Be willing to think. God gave us a mind and has given us all the information we need to make choices and make decisions. He has also given us His Spirit to direct our thinking.

Be willing to take advice. None of have it absolutely ALL together no matter how much we may think otherwise. Seek influence and direction from those who have a genuine relationship with God. Seek God and ask for wisdom.

Be completely honest with yourself. How is your relationship with God? Are you sure? It is possible that you may need to take a closer look. This is true for all of us. Who are you? What are your priorities? Are living by faith or by sight? What does God see when He looks at you?

Be willing to change. No matter who we are and no matter how far we've come there is always opportunity for improvement. For many of us there is great opportunity. We are wise to be willing to change, to transform our life into something better.

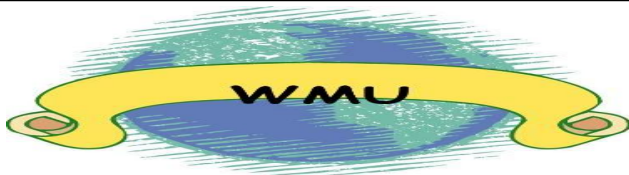
Romans 12:1 in the NLT tells us: "Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will know what God wants you to do and you will know how good and pleasing and perfect his will really is."

Rely upon your spiritual GPS, God's Positioning System. Just like David, ask God to "Send out your light and your truth; let them guide me." Find the true direction for the ultimate destination.

Pastor Mike



Once again, Valley Brook will be hosting **TRUNK 'R TREAT** on October 31, 2008, 6:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m. We always have a great time and as usual, we need you! You can help by bringing your car (trunk) and candy (treats). If you cannot attend or bring your car, please bring wrapped candy to the church office. Candy will be collected in the copy room. Flyers will be distributed in the community. Join the fun! Come and bring your kids and grandkids, or just yourself.



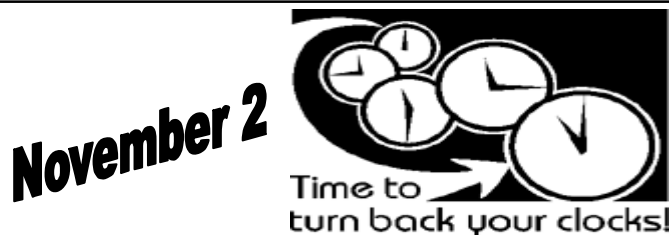
Come join us and help to make plans for the upcoming Holiday season. This is a wonderful time to help and minister to many who are in need.

Date: October 21

Where: Fellowship Hall

Time: 12:00 Noon

Please bring a vegetable dish or “fixings” to go with a Veggie Lunch. Everyone invited.



Daylight Saving Time Begins

On November 2, Daylight Saving time begins. It is time to FALL back! Turn your clocks back on Saturday night and enjoy that extra hour before coming to church on Sunday.



HALLMARK Entertainment “THICKER THAN WATER”

Starring

Melissa Gilbert, Brian Walker,

Lindsay Wagner


Friday Night, October 24 at 7:00 p.m.

A faded photograph leads powerful attorney Natalie Jones to the bittersweet secrets of her late father’s past. She takes to the sprawling countryside, where horses run free, families are bound by honor, true love really exists, and Natalie discovers her own past—and an enlightened future.



Keep those aluminum cans coming!
All proceeds from this recycling effort will be used for our Outreach Program.

Wednesday Night **Studies**



In the past few weeks we’ve been experimenting with a different format for our **Wednesday Evening Studies**. In addition to the lecture method, studies are becoming more interactive through the use of Power Point with handouts. Learners’ have the opportunity to grow in knowledge by seeing, hearing and through active participation.

Recent studies have included the following topics: “**Bible Basics**”; “**God the Father**” and “**God the Son**”. The session on Wednesday, October 22, will feature “**The Trinity**” and on October 29 “**Adversary Awareness**.” Your feedback is welcomed.

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1198 N. Valley Brook Road - Decatur, Georgia 30033
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FIRST PLACE is a Christ-centered program for men and women of all ages, utilizing a support system that incorporates Bible study, Scripture memorization, prayer, proper nutrition and exercise plans.

ORIENTATION

October 22 at 7:00 p.m.

CLASSES BEGIN

November 5 & continue for 10-13 weeks

Cost: \$87.00 for New Members

(Cost includes the Members Kit)

\$20.00 for Alumni

(Cost includes Bible Study Book)



Christmas is just around the corner. We want to help you with your Christmas shopping and move some of our excellent Valley Brook Cookbooks at the same time. From now until Christmas, we are offering the books for the bargain price of \$7.50 per copy or two (2) for the price of \$10.00. What a deal! Stock up.....They make great gifts! Just contact the church office with your order.

God loves a cheerful giver.

Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion.....

2 Corinthians 9:7 (NIV)