

ECHOES *from the Valley*

March 2018

Volume 45, No. 3

Our Church Staff

Pastor

Rev. Mike Roper

Music Director

Ms. Marcia McBride

Pianist

Mr. Thom Martin

Organist

Ms. Sandy Mize

Ministry Assistant

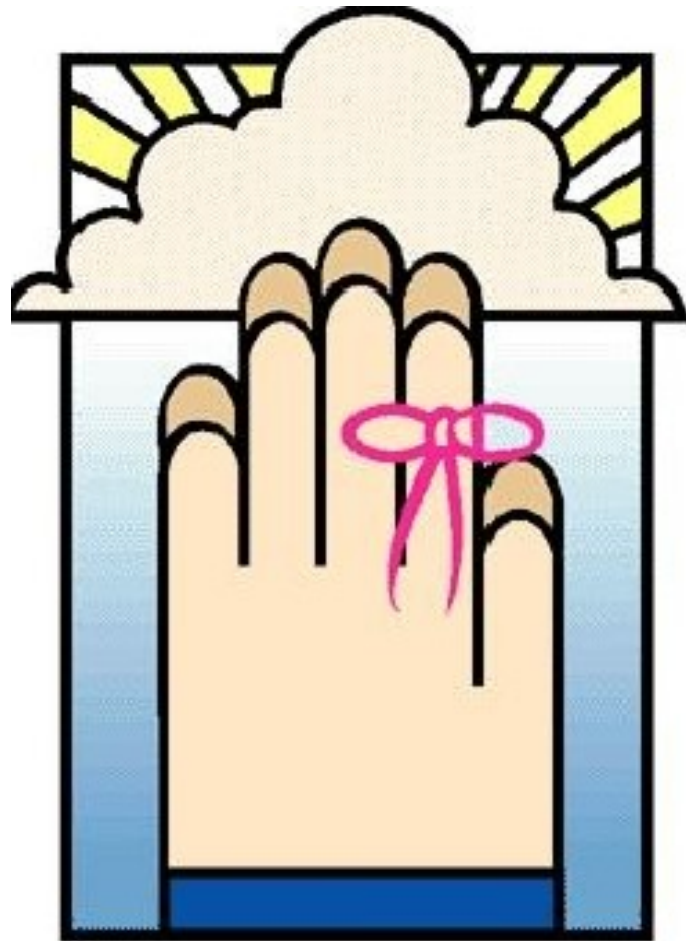
Mrs. Candy Rogers

Nursery Assistant

Mrs. Shelia Harkleroad

Housekeeper

Mrs. Brenda Waters



**The Week of Prayer
for North American Missions
and the Annie Armstrong Easter
Offering is March 4 - 10.
Our Missions Offering Sunday
will be March 11.**

March 2018

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Valley Brook Baptist Church

1198 N. Valley Brook Road • Decatur, Georgia 30033

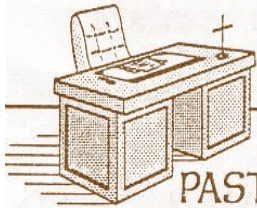
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Valley Brook is a place of grace, where everybody is somebody and Jesus is Lord.



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



Just a couple of weeks ago we were in the grip of an unusually cold weather pattern in Georgia. The low temperatures lasted much longer than we normally experience and presented a few challenges for many of us. If you were like me, you were eager to get out of the house and enjoy nicer weather. Well, wait no longer ... warmer weather has arrived (for now) and perhaps we can get outside and enjoy the beauty of God's creation.

Yes, this is a wonderful time of year, made even more special as we anticipate the arrival of Spring, the Easter season, and Holy Week that concludes with Resurrection Sunday. We look forward to Palm Sunday on March 25 with Easter following on April 1.

As always, we at Valley Brook will celebrate the Easter season in meaningful ways, intended to bring our attention to the source of the blessed hope that lives within us, the atoning sacrifice, and the resurrection of Christ. I am looking forward to these very special services as we celebrate together the promise we share in Jesus Christ.

Most of you are familiar with the name Alfred Hitchcock. He was a master story teller, specializing in the macabre, the grim, and the ghastly. His stories often included a spell binding, memorable, or unusual ending. Did you ever watch the show entitled "Alfred Hitchcock Presents – The Final Escape?" If not, you can google "Alfred Hitchcock Final Escape 1964" and be gripped as you view the story.

This episode is about two prison inmates - one doing life for murder, and the other a trustee prisoner who served as a gardener and a gravedigger for inmates who died. Both the garden and the cemetery for prisoners were just outside the prison walls.

These two inmates plotted a scheme that would result in an increase in wealth for the gravedigger and freedom for the convicted murderer. It was a simple plan. The next time an inmate died, the murderer would get in the burial box with the corpse, the gravedigger would continue as usual with the burial, and the next day he would open the grave securing freedom for the prisoner.

Whenever an inmate died, the prison bell would sound a single ring on the hour. After a short period of time one afternoon the bell sounded. That evening, leaving the dining area, the inmate managed to slip away and make his way to the preparation room. In the dim room he pried open the box and climbed in next to the deceased.

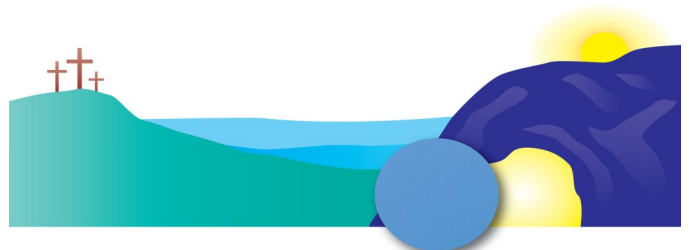
He smiled the next morning as the coffin was moved away; he felt the tilt of the box as it was lowered into the ground. Waiting patiently until the afternoon, he expected to be released. Nothing happened, and the hours passed.

He became frantic and finally lit a match to evaluate his surroundings. The light played across the face of his coffin mate. He was horrified to learn why he was still underground as the shroud slipped off the face of the corpse sharing the coffin with him. It was the gravedigger who had died of a heart attack the night before! What an unexpected twist indeed!!

Although Mr. Hitchcock did not include a "moral to the story", I think one is appropriate. "If you want to get out of the grave, you better trust the One who will not die; the One we trust in life, through life, and beyond the grave."

Hallelujah! He is risen, He is risen indeed!!

Pastor Mike





In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Valley Brook extends our deepest sympathy to the family of Louise Gibbs, mother of Tom Gibbs, who recently passed away.



Remember to
change your clocks at
midnight on
March 11!

Spring Ahead

Recycling Discontinued

While our partnership with Newell Recycling has provided us with funds which we have used for mission projects, it has become increasingly difficult to get them to pick up the recently overflowing trailer. Therefore, we will no longer be continuing our partnership with them. In the future, we ask that you take your aluminum cans (and glass) to the Fire Station at 3858 North Druid Hills Road in Decatur. Thank you!

March Birthdays

- 03/01 Vicki Edwards
- 03/06 Joe Brown
- 03/08 Barry Vinson
- 03/12 Mary Gibbs
- 03/15 Becky Markert
- 03/16 Beverly Tarleton
- 03/17 Dennis Jackson
- 03/22 Edith Kennedy
- 03/22 Tommy Shockley
- 03/23 Jane Harrell
- 03/23 Joyce Shadinger



March Dates to Remember

*Week of Prayer for North American Missions
and the Annie Armstrong Offering*



- 04 4:30 pm - Deacons' Meeting
6:00 pm - Family Night Potluck Supper
- 06 7:55 am - OTH - McDonalds (N. DeKalb)
9:30 am - Water Colors Class
- 07 10:00 am - Prayer Warriors
6:00 pm - Prayer Meeting/Bible Study

- 11 Daylight Savings begins - Spring Ahead!
Missions Offering Sunday
- 5:00 pm - Finance Committee Meeting
- 5:30 pm - Church Council Meeting



- 13 7:55 am - OTH - Bojangles
9:30 am - Water Colors Class

- 14 10:00 am - Prayer Warriors
6:00 pm - Prayer Meeting/Conference

- 15 12:00 noon - Keenagers

- 17 Saint Patrick's Day
8:00 am - Men's Breakfast



- 18 Church Planting Emphasis Sunday (SBC)

- 20 First day of Spring
7:55 am - OTH - McDonalds (Tucker)
9:30 am - Water Colors Class
12:00 noon - W.M.U.

- 21 10:00 am - Prayer Warriors
6:00 pm - Prayer Meeting/Bible Study

- 25 Palm Sunday



- 27 7:55 am - OTH - Chick-fil-A
9:30 am - Water Colors Class

- 28 10:00 am - Prayer Warriors
6:00 pm - Prayer Meeting/Bible Study

- 30 Good Friday
7:00 pm - Movie Night

- 31 10:00 a.m. - Community Easter Egg Hunt



VALLEY BROOK BAPTIST CHURCH

1198 North Valley Brook Road
Decatur, Georgia 30033

Return Service Requested



When Irish Eyes Are Smiling

*When Irish eyes are smiling,
Sure it's like a morn in spring.
In the lilt of Irish laughter,
You can hear the angels sing.
When Irish hearts are happy,
All the world seems bright and gay.
And when Irish eyes are smiling,
They steal your heart away.*



Worship with Us

Sunday Morning/Evening

Sunday School Bible Study 9:45 A.M.
Morning Worship 11:00 A.M.
Evening Worship 6:00 P.M.

Wednesday Night

Prayer Meeting/Bible Study 6:00 P.M.

Do you honor God with the tithe?

If everyone in our church followed God's instructions for tithing, what could we do? Only God knows how much more ministry we could accomplish. Think about what tithing means as you look at last year's total annual gift range and the number of contributors:

\$5,000 + = 16
\$1,000 - \$4,999 = 22
\$ 500 - \$999 = 10
\$ 100 - \$499 = 14
\$ 1 - \$99 = 8
\$ 0 = 11



We thank you for your tithes and offerings!

Attendance in Jan./Feb.

Date	Sunday School	Sunday A.M.	Sunday P.M.	Wed. P.M.
Jan. 28	17	42	19	20
Feb. 4	23	49	47*	17
Feb.11	24	49	22	26**
Feb.18	17	52	22	22

*Family Night Supper

** Conference

Contact Us

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