

# ECHOES *from the Valley*

April 2018

Volume 45, No. 4

## 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



April 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					

“Ask the Lord for rain in the spring-time; it is the Lord who sends the thunderstorms. He gives showers of rain to all people, and plants of the field to everyone.”

- Zechariah 10:1 (NIV)

## Valley Brook Baptist Church

1198 N. Valley Brook Road • Decatur, Georgia 30033

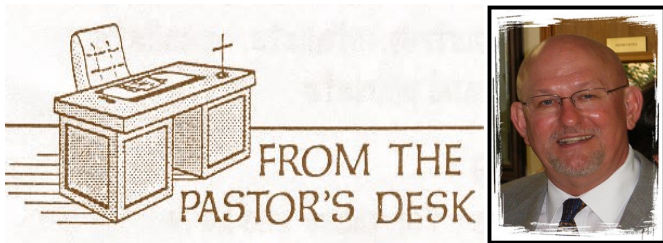
Voice: 404-292-0212 • Fax: 404-292-8459

Website: [www.vbbchurch.com](http://www.vbbchurch.com)

Email: [valleybrook@vbbchurch.com](mailto:valleybrook@vbbchurch.com)

Facebook: [fb.me/VbbcDecatur](https://www.facebook.com/VbbcDecatur)

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



Thank you, people of Valley Brook, for a generous and faithful response to the annual Annie Armstrong Easter Offering (AAEO). To date we have received \$524 toward our goal of \$800. If you have not given yet, or would like to give more, we will gladly accept your contribution.

Together with other churches across America, our giving to the AAEO helps support a mission emphasis in North America which includes the United States, Canada, and the U.S. territories of Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, Guam, and American Samoa.

The offering, which started in 1895 with \$5,000 given, was re-named for Annie Armstrong in 1934 to encourage more to follow her sacrificial example. For most of us today, it has been a lifelong practice, and a good one.

It was Jeff Foxworthy who once said, "You know you're a Southern Baptist if you've ever wondered when or if Annie Armstrong would finally be paid off."

But just who is Annie Armstrong? According to [anniearmstrong.com](http://anniearmstrong.com), she was a Baptist woman ahead of her times. In the late 1800's women were not expected to be leaders, to speak up, or to have and share grand ideas.

But Annie Armstrong was never concerned with what the world expected. She once said, "When I get hold of an idea that seems to me to be a good one, I somehow do not feel comfortable until I see it carried out."

Annie's father died soon after she was born in 1850. Her mother, a godly woman, taught her five children to see the needs around them and to act; to do something. Annie took this teaching seriously and devoted herself to meeting the needs of others.

She and the women of her church joined with other churches in giving and doing

missions work. Her tireless and focused work soon helped unite the missions movement which had begun in several states.

In 1888, despite opposition by male dominated church leadership who stood against women organizing, the national W.M.U. or Woman's Missionary Union was formed. And, Annie was elected as the first executive leader.

She traveled throughout the United States encouraging missionaries, challenging churches to give and support missions, and helping to take the gospel around the globe. She paid her own expenses and refused even a small salary.

After a faithful and successful ministry, she died on December 20, 1938; but her legacy and heart for missions continues today through the AAEO offering. Since its inception, over \$1 billion has been given to missions by Southern Baptist churches and individuals.

Every dollar given supports more than 5,000 missionaries and 3,800 chaplains across the U.S. and Canada. Receipts also support the North American Mission Board's Send Network, church planting missionaries, and Send Relief, missionaries who help address poverty, refugees, foster care and adoption, and human trafficking.

With continuing support from partnering churches, the AAEO will continue to fulfill God's mission of showing His love through action.

We appreciate our own W.M.U. organization at Valley Brook, who leads us in keeping the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering tradition alive.

Again, thanks for your faithfulness. Indeed Valley Brook is a giving church. I am glad to be your pastor.

*Pastor Mike*



**ANNIE  
ARMSTRONG**  
EASTER OFFERING®



## In Our Prayers



Valley Brook extends our deepest sympathy to the family of Steve Perry who passed away on March 10 after a long battle with Parkinson's disease.

### Praying in the Delight of God

by Bo Prosser

"One of the earliest forms of prayer is song. The Psalms are the "hymn book" of the Bible. Singing one's prayers traces back to the beginning of creation.

Hans Christian Anderson said, "Where words fail, music speaks!" Let the music of your soul speak to the Lord for a while. Settle yourself and play your favorite hymn or Christian song.

Let the words and the melody of your favorite songs fill your soul and impact your mind. Hear what the Spirit is saying to you as you ponder God in your life.

As you pray, sing your favorite hymn as part of your prayer. If you play an instrument, play a hymn and pray through your playing. Or, play the music in the background and voice your prayers.


Whichever way you choose, surround yourself with music as you pray and reflect on God's blessings. Fill your heart with the melody of Jesus; sing, pray, praise and see what God might do! The Creator delights when we sing!"

### April Birthdays


- 04/04 Samantha Walker
- 04/06 Sonia Aleman
- 04/10 Paulette Howard
- 04/16 Sandy Mize
- 04/16 Nancy Warnock
- 04/21 Susan Wooten
- 04/25 Thom Martin
- 04/26 Cathy Jenkins




### April Dates to Remember

- 1 *Easter Sunday*  
7:00 am - Sunrise Service with breakfast afterwards  
No evening activities 
- 3 7:55 am - OTH - McDonalds  
9:30 am - Water Colors Class
- 4 10:00 am - Prayer Warriors  
6:00 pm - Prayer Meeting/Bible Study


---

- 8 4:30 pm - Deacons' Meeting  
5:00 pm - Finance Committee Meeting  
5:30 pm - Church Council Meeting  
6:00 pm - Family Night Supper
- 10 7:55 am - OTH - Bojangles   
9:30 am - Water Colors Class
- 11 10:00 am - Prayer Warriors  
6:00 pm - Prayer Meeting/Conference
- 12 12:00 noon - Keenagers

---

- 17 7:55 am - OTH - McDonalds (Tucker)  
9:30 am - Water Colors Class  
12:00 noon - W.M.U. 
- 18 10:00 am - Prayer Warriors  
6:00 pm - Prayer Meeting/Bible Study
- 21 8:00 am - Men's Breakfast

---

- 23 11:00 am - AMBA's Annual Spring WMU Meeting at 2nd Ponce de Leon BC
- 24 7:55 am - OTH - Chick-fil-A  
9:30 am - Water Colors Class
- 25 10:00 am - Prayer Warriors  
6:00 pm - Prayer Meeting/Bible Study
- 27 7:00 pm - Movie Night 
- 29 6:00 p.m. - Sunday Night Sing

# VALLEY BROOK BAPTIST CHURCH

1198 North Valley Brook Road  
Decatur, Georgia 30033

Return Service Requested



“It’s not important who does the planting, or who does the watering.  
What’s important is that God makes the seed grow.” 1 Corinthians 3:7 (NLT)



## 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.

## **Giving God All of Ourselves**

by Charlotte Watson, April 2018 *Missions Mosaic*

“A steward is someone who manages the possessions of another. We are a steward of the possessions, abilities, opportunities, and resources God has given into our care. God entrusted these possessions - all that we are and all that we have - to us. We must daily surrender them *all* back to him.

The hymn “I Surrender All” by J.W. Van DeVenter supports this lifelong attitude. The chorus says, “All to Thee my blessed Savior, I surrender all.” Do we truly surrender our money, time, and talents to God each day?”

## Attendance in Feb./March

Date	Sunday School	Sunday A.M.	Sunday P.M.	Wed. P.M.
Feb.25	25	50	27	19
Mar. 4	23	51	56*	12
Mar.11	23	50	24	28**
Mar.18	21	46	27	21

\*Family Night Supper

\*\* Conference

## Contact Us

Voice: 404-292-0212

Fax: 404-292-8459

Email: [valleybrook@vbbchurch.com](mailto:valleybrook@vbbchurch.com)

Website: [www.vbbchurch.com](http://www.vbbchurch.com)

Facebook: [fb.me/VbbcDecatur](https://fb.me/VbbcDecatur)