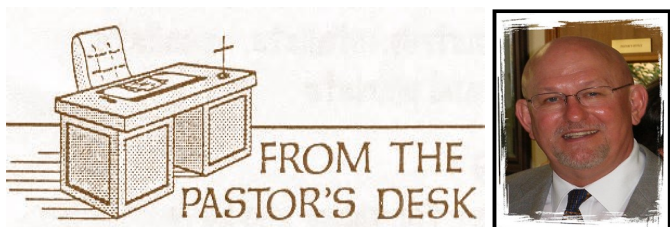


# ECHOES *from the Valley*

June 2021

Volume 47, No. 6



Historically, the second Sunday of June has been “Homecoming Day” at Valley Brook. It is also the day we celebrate the founding of this congregation. Happy Anniversary! Last year, 2020, for the first time ever, I suppose, we did not gather for that celebration, but our joy in being God’s church was not diminished.

We will of course meet this year, but with the lingering effects of a most peculiar year, it will be a different kind of celebration. I know only this: Homecoming 2021 will be a happy day of fond remembrance.

We have a rich heritage; an interesting history: Just over sixty-four years ago a local congregation did what the church is called to do . . . reproduce, make disciples, Christ followers. That act of obedience and initiative resulted in the founding of a local church, a meeting place for a body of believers, the people of Valley Brook.

Right here, First Baptist Decatur, started a mission church, a church plant. Our present

property was purchased, and the church began meeting in what is now the “middle building.” Within just a few years the rapidly growing congregation began construction of a new sanctuary that now serves as office space and the Fellowship Hall. Fast forward a few years to 1979. That is when construction began on our present worship facility. I thank God for those folks who worked, planned, and sacrificed to provide the lovely building where worship of God continues to this day.

No doubt, God’s blessings have been plentiful, overflowing . . . and He continues to pour His love and grace into his church. He has preserved this fellowship and that is especially obvious by His leadership and direction during the past year. Yes, God hears and answers our prayers.

Moving into the future, with God’s continuing help, we just need each person to be faithful and serve according to their individual ability. You may think or feel that your involvement is unimportant or makes little difference. We are only called to be faithful. God does not say, “Well done good and successful servant.” No, He says, “Well done good and faithful servant.” Just do your best, whatever that may be. God is faithful!

(continued)

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

The work goes on! We continue to maintain a “forward focus.”

During the 64-year history of the Valley Brook church, nine have served as pastor or interim pastor.

Ray Collins	1957 - 1977
Prue Kelly	1977 - 1982
James Bryant	1982 - 1992
Julian Pipkin	1993 - 1994
James McCain	1994 - 1998
Huey Perry	1998 - 1999
Mickey Krikindoll	2000 Jan- Dec
Perry Ginn	2000 - 2006
Josh Hughes	Interim early 2006
Mike Roper	June 2006 - present

Yes, we have a rich heritage. We have much to celebrate. God has been good to our church over the years. He has preserved, sustained, and continues to do so. Our continuing presence in this location is evidence of His grace. I am excited to see how God’s plans unfold in the future even as I reminisce about the past.

Thanks to every one of you who share in the ministry of Valley Brook Church as you use your time, talents, and spiritual gifts so that God’s kingdom will move forward, one humble act at a time.

*“For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”*

- Ephesians 2:10

*Pastor Mike*

“Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out? Come to me. Get away with me and you’ll recover your life. I’ll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me— watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won’t lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you’ll learn to live freely and lightly.”  
- Matthew 11:28 MSG

Dear Church Family and Church Friends:

It is with regret and a heavy heart that I submit my resignation from Valley Brook Baptist Church effective at the end of May.

I am grateful for having had the opportunity to serve you for the past five plus years, and I offer my best wishes for the church and for your continued success.

Sincerely,

*Candy*

Candy K. Rogers  
Ministry Assistant



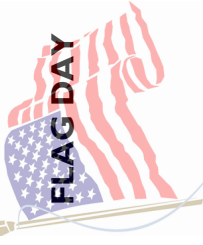

### Attendance in May

	A.M. Worship
May 2	41
May 9	40
May 16	39
May 23	41



# VALLEY BROOK BAPTIST CHURCH

## June 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Counters: Luther Lord Candy Rogers		1	2	3	4	5 BDAY
6 HOMEGOMING Worship at 11:00 Inv. - Dennis Jackson Ben. - Becky Markert	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 Worship at 11:00 Inv. - Dan Warnock Ben. - Terry Markert	14  FLAG DAY	15 SBC Annual Meeting	16	17 BDAY	18	19
20 FATHER'S DAY Worship at 11:00 Inv. - Luther Lord Ben. - Jeannine Peevy	21	22 BDAY	23	24	25 BDAY	26
27 Worship at 11:00 Inv. - Tom Gibbs Ben. - Tom Barnett	28 BDAYS	29	30			

### Birthdays:

Jesse Creech 6/5  
Lee Morris 6/25

Janet Roper 6/17  
Kenneth Kennedy 6/28

Kate Broyles 6/22  
Terry Markert 6/28

## Verses to Help You Rest this Summer

by Julie of Dayspring, 6-1-2020

Here are some verses you can focus on this summer – verses to remind you to rest in God and lean into Him so you can relax and fully enjoy the season.

For many of us, pushing the pause button is easier said than done, even during the summer months when life should slow down a little, giving us a chance to catch our breath and relax. But just as physical rest is necessary for a healthy body, spiritual rest is important for our spiritual well-being. And **the best way to rest your spirit is to rest in the One who created you.**

The notion of resting is a theme woven throughout Scripture beginning ... well, at the very beginning. Look at Genesis 2:2.

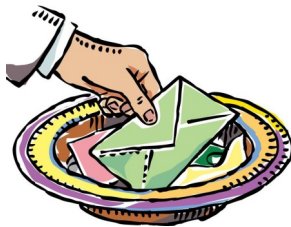
Also, take a look at Psalms 23:1-2, Psalm 127:2, Matthew 6:25-34, Matthew 11:28-29, Philippians 4:6-7, and John 16:33.

The next time a restless spirit threatens to ruin a perfect summer day, stop and remind yourself that, in Jesus, the victory has already been won! God is in control, our destiny as believers is set, and things won't fall apart when we pause to enjoy the beauty of the world around us.

He will care for you just as He does the flowers of the fields.

### Quote of the Month

“In the day-to-day trenches of adult life, there is actually no such thing as atheism. There is no such thing as not worshipping. Everybody worships. The only choice we get is what to worship.”  
- David Foster Wallace



### Monthly Financial Report

(May 2021 - 5 Sundays)

Receipts - \$

(May 2020 - 5 Sundays)

Receipts - \$16,322.00

### Contact Us

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