



Volume III, Issue 4 \ April 2010

# PERSPECTIVE

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL OF MOUNT VERNON BAPTIST CHURCH

will you  
disciple?



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**STAFF** ▶ **SERMON SCHEDULE**

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- April 11**    **Who Should Preach?**
- April 18**    **The King and His Kingdom of Love**  
*Psalm 107*  
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- April 25**    **How Should We Listen to Preaching?**

▶ **FIGHTER VERSE**

But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed.

Isaiah 53:5

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▶ **Ministry Highlight:**  
**Sandy Springs Mission**

An Interview with Felix Lora, Director  
 Interviewed by Brad Thayer



**Brad Thayer:** Felix, you are the director of the Sandy Springs Mission (SSM). Before you tell us about your ministry, we want to know a little about you. Where are you from? How did you come to Atlanta?

**Felix Lora:** I was born and raised in Villa Altagracia, Dominican Republic. I came to Atlanta in the Fall of 1993 to attend Kennesaw State University and later the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

**BT: And your family?**

**FL:** I have been married to Abigail Lora for twelve years. We have a six year old son, Isaac.

**BT: Tell us your testimony. How did you become a Christian?**

**FL:** I came to a personal relationship with Jesus at the age of eighteen through a missionary from Marietta, who was serving on a short-term mission project in my hometown. I was not happy with the things I was doing and I tried to bring changes in my life, but I was not successful. That missionary introduced me to the only Person who could transform my life, Jesus Christ. And Jesus did!

**BT: Praise God! You work and serve as the director of the Sandy Springs Mission. For those may not know what that is, give us a little bit of history. When and how was the Sandy Springs Mission formed?**

**FL:** The Sandy Springs Mission came as a result of a vision of some members and leaders of Mount Vernon Baptist Church in 1999. They saw the need to reach out to the diverse and needy community living along Roswell Road in Sandy Springs. So the church gave them the blessing. Later that year, a board of directors was formed and the Sandy Springs Mission officially became a 501 (C) (3) non-profit organization.

**BT: So it really is a direct ministry of Mount Vernon. What is the purpose of the Mission?**

**FL:** It is dedicated to helping and inspiring at-risk students from the Sandy Springs community to achieve academic success while also leading them into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

**BT: That's great a great balance in responsibilities. You labor for the good of the community and society without neglecting the greater responsibility of evangelism. So what are the programs and how is it structured to help accomplish your purpose?**

**FL:** We offer a variety of programs. Our main program is an after school enrichment program, where we serve students from three schools in Sandy Springs. It runs Monday – Wednesday throughout the school year. However, the work does not stop when the school year is over. We offer a six-week summer camp between June and July. In addition to the after school and the summer camp, we provide counseling, test preparation, translation, and other services.

**BT: How do you get your funding?**

Churches, individuals, service organizations, and corporations fund the Mission.

**BT: This past school year, you moved the after school program to Mount Vernon. Walk us through that program. What do you do each week?**

**FL:** We are very grateful to Mount Vernon for allowing the Mission to use its facility for the expansion of God's kingdom. Monday through Wednesday we bring about 85 at-risk students (1<sup>st</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grade) to the church from the community to participate in the after school enrichment program. About 55 of them arrive at 2:40 pm. First, they do some sports or other activities and then around 3:30 they eat a snack. By 3:45, they go to their classrooms to begin their homework. The middle school students, on the other hand, arrive about 3:50. They eat their snack and go straight to work on their homework. Every group has a Bible study once a week.

**BT: If members of Mount Vernon wanted to be involved and support the Mission, what exactly could they do?**

**FL:** We need volunteers, both youth and adults, to help students with homework and reading Monday – Wednesday from 3:45 – 5:15 pm. If a person is interested in serving, he or she can call us at 404-943-1540 or email us at flora@sandyspringsmission.org. If a person would like to make a donation, our mailing address is: Sandy Springs Mission, P.O. Box 28636, Sandy Springs, GA 30358, or visit our website at www.sandyspringsmission.org.

**BT: Excellent! As you think about the Mission 5 years from now, what do you envision?**

**FL:** I believe the Mission is reaching and transforming a generation that will be the leaders of their communities. Academically, we would love to see our children breaking the patterns of the generations before them in their family who did not make it out of high school. Spiritually, we want to see them become the missionaries of their communities wherever they end up going.

**BT: Well, we want to encourage members to be feet on the ground and hands that labor with you. We also want to know how we can be praying for you and the Mission.**

**FL:** Thank you! I'll give you three specific things. Please help us pray (1) that God continues to prepare the students' and families' hearts for the Gospel, (2) for more volunteers in the after school enrichment program, and (3) for funding. We join so many non-profits who are having a hard time meeting the budget.

**BT: Thank you, brother, for your sacrificial service and love for those kids. Most importantly, thank you for preaching the Gospel to them daily! ■**

# The Bookshelf



## Visit the Sick: Ministering God's grace in times of illness

by Brian Croft

Reviewed by Bob Neal

"WHAT? YOU WANT ME TO VISIT THE SICK? I'm not a pastor or on the church staff. What good could I bring? It's just not one of my gifts." These comments may sound familiar. At one time or another, we all may have had these responses to being asked to visit a sick or homebound member of our church. In this book *Visit the Sick: Ministering God's Grace in Times of Illness*, Brian Croft takes us on a journey back to the Garden of Eden when mankind was faced with the choice not to obey God and thus brought sin, sickness, and death into the world. The world we know it with medical professions, emergency rooms, screening and testing, prescriptions, and all the other medical conveniences we take for granted are not part of God's original design. God wanted his creation to live and worship him unendingly and uninhibited by a dying body. Adam and Eve had access to all of creation except the "tree of knowledge of good and evil" (Gen. 2:9). Yet, Adam and Eve chose to disobey God. God cursed them and all of mankind through them. Thus, through this one act of disobedience and God's righteous judgment for it, we now experience pain, suffering, and death.

But even as God cursed mankind, he also promised a way of redemption. God began creating a people for himself, a nation called Israel. They were called out of their homelands and traveled to the land promised by God. From Abraham to Jacob, God guided and protected his people. Even when the Israelites went away from God's will, God always gave them a way back to Him. And, yes, there were consequences for their actions. As God's people grew into a great nation and rebelled against him at times, he used his prophets and leaders to speak his words of health, protection, and restoration, as well as his words of condemnation and sickness. God always longs for restoration and provides a way back to himself.

We often experience things in life that reminds us of our frailty. We have to endure sickness and eventually death because of our sinful nature. But God sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to bring redemption to man, healing not only our physical ailments but giving spiritual life to dead sinners. And our hope is in the final resurrection of the body (1 Cor. 15).

We all have been instructed to visit and care for the afflicted. What is so remarkable is that our caring for others is service to Christ. In Matthew 25:35-36, Jesus teaches that when we have ministered

to the hungry, thirsty, strangers, naked, sick and imprisoned, we have done the same for him. In Matthew 10:8, Jesus commanded his disciples to "Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons." This command was fulfilled on the day of Pentecost and the church grew showing that God's sovereign redemption was being fulfilled. And that plan is being fulfilled today as believers go forth and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them and teaching them all Jesus commanded (Matt. 28:18-19).

With that biblical foundation in mind, Croft next takes us through some theological considerations when visiting the sick. We must be prepared in mind and spirit. Through asking leading questions, reading scripture, praying the gospel, and pointing out God's promises and attributes, we can show those in distress a way to trust in God's sovereign plan. We, as members and not just pastors, come equipped to wield the word of God in the life of those who may be unusually tempted to doubt God's goodness.

Next, Croft turns to pastoral considerations. "Pastoral" as he's using it does not mean just those "whose job it is to minister," but instead it means everyone who ministers to the sick and needy. *It is not just the staff's responsibility.* We must all be available to help bridge the gap when God opens a door of opportunity. As we visit, we must be prepared for the particular visit we are about to make. Each visit is unique and should be approached that way. Here are a few very helpful suggestions: Don't over stay your welcome. Alistair Begg put it this way: "It is always better that people should feel that our visit is too short than too long." As a visitor, we need to be listeners not solvers. Listen to the people and offer comfort. If you miss the person you are visiting, leave a note with contact information so they can call for help and comfort. Be sure to include any family or friends present in your conversation. Above all else, enjoy your visit. On numerous visitations, I have come away more blessed by the one visited than by my feeble efforts to bless them.

Lastly, Croft now offers some other practical considerations. Make eye contact. Wandering eyes show a lack of honest concern. If you are a "touchy-feely" person, use discernment in physical contact. Be pleasant. A smile can mean a lot to those who are suffering. Be perceptive. Be aware of what the visited is going through. There is usually pain and discomfort associated with what folks are going through. And last but not least, freshen your breath. Think about how someone has spoken to you and his or her breath takes you back. The use of gum or mints is encouraged.

In conclusion, the theological underpinnings and practical application Croft sets forth in *Visiting the Sick* are a refreshing reminder that all members are called to visit the sick and afflicted. Even though the author's words are primarily targeted for staff, the reality of the message is for all of us. From the history of sin and sickness to the practical applications of visiting, Scripture and prayer cover every word. This book is a short read but loaded with great tools for being a minister of the gospel of peace and comfort. Croft included several appendices that have "check lists," sample interactions, frequently asked questions, and an abridged version of J. C. Ryle's work on "Sickness." Get a copy of this book and see for yourself how God wants us to be part of his plan, not that he needs us but that he wants to include us. And finally, remember Jesus' words in Matthew 25:40—"Inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me." ■

# & Preaching the church today

current sermon series



You can order a copy of each sermon in the current sermon series by filling out the CD request envelopes in the pew racks or by calling the church office.



## Vacation Bible School

June 7-11

## Holy Land Adventure Bethlehem Village

If you would like to sign up as a volunteer, please do so at Connections Corner, and child registration (ages 4 through 6<sup>th</sup> grade) can be found online at [www.mvbchurch.org](http://www.mvbchurch.org) by clicking on the VBS logo.

For more information, contact Terry Earl at [terryearl@mvbchurch.org](mailto:terryearl@mvbchurch.org) or 404-255-3133.



JESUS CALLS US TO MAKE DISCIPLES. It is not a command given to pastors or church leaders or the super-holy. It is a call to every Christian. If the church fails in this important task, we are failing to be the church. The mission of the church is not to make converts, it is to make disciples—followers of Jesus Christ.

It all begins with evangelism. We evangelize when we share the Good News—the message that our sin has earned us God’s condemnation. God is just and good when he stands against us and our sin. But in his love, God sent His Son, Jesus Christ, into the world. Jesus never sinned. Jesus always existed. Jesus is God. When Jesus died on the cross he did what no man could ever do. He died in the place of sinners, as our substitute. Then, when he rose from the dead, the church was born. Since that day, Christians have been telling others about Christ. They have been growing in their knowledge and love of Christ. They have put their lives on the line for Christ.

One of the earliest disciples was a man named Timothy. He was nurtured in the faith by his spiritual mentor, Paul. In fact, Timothy probably first heard the gospel in Lystra from Paul! Not long after his conversion, Timothy joined Paul in the gospel ministry. He served the persecuted church, he corrected false teachers, he supervised corporate worship services, and he helped churches select pastors. Timothy struggled with all the things you and I struggle with: anxiety, fear, lust, and shame. Though his weaknesses were obvious, Paul warmly greeted Timothy as his “true son in the faith” (1 Timothy 1:2).

When you look at your life, is there someone or a small group of individuals, who have helped you spiritually? Maybe it is a parent. Perhaps you can remember from an early age sitting in your room while your mom or dad prayed faithfully for you. Maybe it is a brother or sister who pointed you in the direction of Christ. Perhaps you had a friend in high school or college who was different. He really seemed to love the Lord and was confident in his faith. Perhaps you met someone later in life who made an investment in your soul—a woman in your mom’s group, a bible study leader, or a colleague at work.

When I look at my past, I see so many faces who influenced me. In high school, the dad of one of my friends spoke to me about Jesus. I recall that he worked all day with computers, but he took evening classes at a Bible college. He was committed to Jesus. A college pastor in Eugene, Oregon spent hours with

me, answering question after question. My pastor in DC did the same thing. But it wasn’t just the pastor! Many people shared Christ with me over lunch and dinner on walks and at church. Through hundreds of conversations I learned what it means to be a Christian.

All of this makes me wonder where you are on your journey. Who is speaking into your life today? Into whose life are you speaking? The goal of this short essay is twofold: first, to convince you that being discipled and making disciples is important. Second, to give you some practical tips on how to get started.

### The Importance of Disciple-Making

Every Christian needs to be discipled. We need to be taught how to follow Christ. We aren’t supposed to go it alone. We are in this together. We see it in the Great Commission. We see it in Hebrews 3:13, “But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today, so that none of you may be hardened by sin’s deceitfulness.” We are supposed to be encouraging one another daily. This encouragement protects us from sin.

Every day we face lies. These lies tell us that our primary value should be found in something or someone outside of Christ. At times like this (which is really all the time) we need someone to remind us of the gospel of Jesus Christ. He is our hope, our salvation, our joy, and our strength. We all need this and, so, we all need to be discipled.

The person who helps me the most here is my wife. She speaks the truth to me. She reminds me of the gospel. But there are others, too. You don’t need to be married to have this kind of relationship. What is a friend if not someone who helps you see yourself through the eyes of Scripture?

Every Christian should make disciples. Just as parents can’t outsource the responsibility to raise their children to neighbors or a youth ministry, so we can’t assume that someone else is going to disciple the Christians in our church. As a congregation of believers we are a family. We have a unique responsibility for the members of our household of faith. And so we must disciple. I love how one Christian worker put it, “Everyone has the gifts necessary to be a disciple-maker. You may be a teacher, a housewife, or an engineer, but regardless of your vocation, you are also to be a disciple-maker.”

### Practical Tips on How to Get Started

*First, know what it means to make a disciple.* Here’s a straightforward definition: to disciple means to help someone grow in his knowledge of, love for, and service to Jesus Christ. To disciple another person is to teach him or her about Jesus Christ. To disciple another person is to encourage a love for Jesus Christ. To disciple another person is to press someone to put his faith into action by serving Jesus Christ. This may take 1,001 different forms. It will always vary from person to person. But it will always involve people helping people to know, love, and serve Jesus.

This definition should take some of the mystery out of discipling. It is not a program to be implemented. It is a relationship in which we enter. It may last a few months. It may last a lifetime. The goal is simple: helping others know, love, and serve Jesus.

*Second, get to know other people.* A few years ago, Robert Putnam came out with a book called *Bowling Alone*. He noted how a social change has taken place in America. We are increasingly able to isolate ourselves from others. Instead of hanging out on the front porch we retreat to our air-conditioned homes.

### Discipling is helping one another know, love, and serve Jesus.

Instead of conversations over the fence we are sucked in by our technological advancements. These “advances” have changed the way people relate. They have made something as simple as a face-to-face conversation seem almost obsolete.

The vices of the culture have become the sins of the church. Many of us are much more comfortable offering a smile and a handshake on Sunday morning than we are opening up our homes (and, for that matter, our lives) to others.

We have to be deliberate about getting to know others.

- Invite a neighbor over for dinner. Begin to share life with those who live around you. You already have something in common: a neighborhood. Take advantage of that for the gospel. Discipling and evangelism should not be separated.
- Come to the public meetings of the church. You may not be able to attend every meeting, but besides the Sunday morning service you should come to an evening meeting. There you will find smaller groups. Conversation may be more natural. You will get to know people.
- Stick around after the public meetings of the church. These are great opportunities for conversation. Take the initiative. Ask someone how long they have been coming to Mount Vernon. Ask them what brought them to the church. Ask them how you can be praying for them.
- Get plugged into a shepherding group. These are the adult Sunday school classes that take place every Sunday before the morning service. These are much smaller gatherings and provide opportunities to know others and to be known by others.

The more you talk to people, the better you will know them. You will have a sense of their spiritual maturity. You will have a sense of their needs. All of this takes time, but it is time well spent.

*Third, take the next step.* Once you get to know someone, ask them if they’d like to meet for lunch or coffee. Tell them that you’d like to get to know them better. Ask them how they became a

Christian. Ask them what has been hard about being a Christian. Ask them how they have seen the Lord work in their lives.

As you are talking, you may also be praying. “Is this a good person for me to meet with regularly? Is this someone that I could encourage in the faith? Is this someone that could encourage me in the faith?” Pray the Lord would give you wisdom. Then, if it seems appropriate, consider asking to meet regularly. Every week. Every other week. Once a month.

*Fourth, have a plan.* If you are going to meet regularly with someone, it is helpful to have a plan. Do you know why you are meeting? (You should: it is to help one another know, love, and serve Jesus). Do you know what you will do? I love to meet with people to read Christian books together. They serve as little commentaries on Scripture, helping us think through practical matters of the Christian life. Some books I’m currently reading with people are, *Dug Down Deep* by Joshua Harris; *Knowing God* by J. I. Packer, *Worldiness* by C. J. Mahaney, and *Spiritual Disciplines within the Church* by Donald Whitney. These are very practical books on topics like theology and holiness. They help keep the conversation going. They help us focus on God. But there are lots of things you can do. You could read through a book of the Bible together. You could review a sermon you both recently heard. You could meet for extended prayer.

*Fifth, it is less about the “plan” and more about sharing life.* The key is to get to know one another so it is natural to talk about spiritual things. Why are we so comfortable talking about the latest movie and so uncomfortable sharing what is going on in our souls? It could be because we are not used to talking about what’s going on within us. But we must remember that this is ultimately the goal. To know one another well enough that we can easily speak into one another’s lives, so we can help one another know, love, and serve Jesus.

*Sixth, commitment is a must.* Sometimes I come into the church building early on Tuesday morning and I pass a group of men who are there to catch up and pray together. This is commitment. It seems almost every Wednesday morning, women are gathered to invest in each other. This is commitment. Our schedules make this kind of commitment difficult. But we must find a way to connect.

The commitment I’m calling for is more than just time. It is an emotional commitment as well. Getting to know someone spiritually means difficult conversations. It means sharing trials. It means being willing to challenge. All of this may be difficult and draining. It is, however, all part of the commitment to disciple.

*Seventh, discipling can take place individually and in small groups.* Thus far I’ve focused on meeting one on one with another Christian. I think that there is no replacement for this kind of mentoring and accountability. Nonetheless, meeting in a small group is a good option. If you are interested in a small group, there are several taking place at Mount Vernon and the best place to start is by calling the church office and asking, “Is there a small group I can be a part of?”

At Mount Vernon, we are praying for a culture that longs for regular, satisfying, challenging, and spiritual conversations. We want to help one another know, love, and serve Jesus. Though this requires time, we are convinced it is time well spent. As Leroy Eims wrote in his little book, *The Lost Art of Disciple-Making*, “When you start spending individual time with another Christian for the purpose of having a ministry in his or her life—time together in the Word, prayer, fellowship, systematic training—something happens in your own life as well. May God grant you patience, love, and perseverance as you begin to share the life He has given you with others.” ■

~ Aaron Menikoff



**Knowing MVBC: The Membership Class** is a four session course that introduces you to life at Mount Vernon, covering the following topics:

- Knowing Our Commitments: Church Covenant
- Knowing Our Beliefs: Statement of Faith
- Knowing Our Disciplines: Personal Discipleship
- Knowing Our Structure: Nuts & Bolts

Anyone interested in membership or knowing more about life at Mount Vernon is invited to **Knowing MVBC: The Membership Class**. Session 1 will be Sunday, April 11 beginning at 9:15 am and sessions 2-4 will be from 12:00 - 2:30 pm on the same day. (Lunch will be provided.) You may sign up on the edge of the bulletin.

# Deacon Recommendations

▶ due April 26

NOW IS THE TIME TO BE THINKING and praying about what men at Mount Vernon should serve us as deacons. Every year seven deacons rotate off the deacon body and we select seven men to take their place. As a member of MVBC, your input is needed. Who are the men at MVBC that you see living an exemplary Christian life, displaying faithfulness to this local church, and constantly serving wherever a need exists? These are the men you should recommend to the Deacon Nominating Committee.

The qualifications for a deacon can be found in 1 Timothy 3:8-12. Every deacon must be:

Worthy of respect, sincere, not indulging in much wine, and not pursuing dishonest gain. They must keep hold of the deep truths of the faith with a clear conscience. They must first be tested; and then if there is nothing against them, let them serve as deacons.

In the same way, their wives are to be women worthy of respect, not malicious talkers but temperate and trustworthy in everything.

A deacon must be the husband of but one wife and must manage his children and his household well.

Here are a few observations about these qualifications as you prayerfully consider who to recommend to the Deacon Nominating Committee.

*First, someone who is eligible to be a deacon must be known by the congregation.* That does not mean that every deacon must be known by every member of the congregation. It does mean that, generally speaking, this individual is present often enough to gain a reputation for faithfulness and service. So, when you are considering whom to nominate as a deacon, remember how important it is for this person to be known by the church.

*Second, Paul's list of qualifications is not meant to be exhaustive.* The main point is that a deacon must be godly. He should not be plagued by a moral scandal such as drunkenness or sexual immorality. Paul is saying that a deacon should be walking with Jesus in a faithful, observable way.

*Third, the qualification to be the husband of but one wife is an important one.* Married deacons are to be, literally, one-woman men. Does this mean a single man cannot be a deacon? No, it just means that if a man is married he must be faithful to his spouse. What about divorced men—can they serve as deacons? Let me just say that many churches disagree over this very question. I think the best way to answer is, "maybe." If a man has been divorced it may disqualify him for this kind of leadership in the church. This is especially the case if the divorce is a direct result of his poor leadership in the home. It has been the practice of Mount Vernon throughout the years to allow men who are divorced to serve as deacons so long as an examination of the reasons for the divorce are taken into account.

What now?

Please pray about the nomination process and the seven men whom you will recommend as candidates for deacon. As you do, keep this list of qualifications in mind. Remember we are looking for men who are known by the body, exemplary Christians in the body, and have a proven track record of service to the body. A deacon nomination ballot will be provided for all MVBC members at the morning service on April 18 and April 25. In addition, if you will be absent from MVBC on these two Sunday's, you can pick up a nomination ballot at the church office. A deacon nomination ballot will also be included as an attachment in the April 19 edition of *The Courier*, the MVBC weekly e-newsletter. You can turn in your deacon nomination ballot in the offering plate on April 18 or April 25, or you can turn in your ballot at the church office by April 26. If you turn in your nomination ballot at the church office, please place the ballot in a sealed envelope marked "Deacon Nominating Committee." As a reminder, only MVBC members should complete nomination ballots and you are required to sign your nomination ballot.

Please pray for the Deacon Nominating Committee. It consists of me, Pat Knowles (the deacon chair), Troy Kubes (the deacon vice-chair), Connie Heiskell, Bill Timmons, Brian Ferguson, and Larry Norwood. Pray that we would have wisdom as we consider your recommendations and then, finally, make a recommendation back to you. Our goal is to bring a list of seven men's names to be affirmed by a vote of our active deacons on June 28. If these men are affirmed by the deacon body, we will let you know immediately of the results so that you have several weeks to pray over these recommendations. Lord willing, on July 18, we will have a specially-called Church-in-Conference for MVBC members to ask any questions about the proposed new deacons. After the Q&A session, MVBC members will have a chance to vote and affirm these men as newly appointed deacons.

Please thank God for the leadership that He has given Mount Vernon. I am so thankful to see how so many individuals in this church sacrificially give of their money and their time for the spread of the Gospel and the growth of the believers in our community. So many individuals serve Mount Vernon on the Leadership Team, in the Deacon body, on committees, and in ministry teams. God has provided for us well—we should thank Him.

Please speak to me or a member of the Deacon Nominating Committee if you have any other questions about this process. It is certainly my prayer that in the weeks and months ahead you will be encouraged by the leadership provided for our body. ■

~ Aaron Menikoff

## Mount Vernon Softball

Mount Vernon's Spring softball league starts in April. This is open to members of the church and community. We encourage Mount Vernon members to participate as this is a great opportunity to meet and interact with members of the community and a means of personal evangelism. Even if you don't play, make a point to attend.

**Men and Women 16 and older.**  
**Coed - Tuesday night beginning April 6**  
**Men - Thursday nights beginning April 8**

**Please contact Chip Cofer for more details and to sign up.**

**Office: 404-255-3133 ext. 235**  
**Mobile: 678-778-3580**  
**chipcofer@mvbchurch.org**

# April 2010

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

4 Easter Sunday  
6:00 pm Lord's Supper

7 Spring Break

11 9:00 am Knowing MVBC: Session 1  
12:00 pm Knowing MVBC: Sessions 2-4

18 10:30 am Guest Preacher: Bryan Pillsbury

25 4:30 pm Church in Conference

23 InTents D-Now

## EVENTS

### Churchwide

#### Good Friday

April 2 12:00 pm Good Friday Service

We encourage you to come and invite friends for this special service where we will spend time reflecting on Christ's death through song, scripture reading, and a brief devotional.

April 4 6:00 pm Lord's Supper

We will celebrate the Lord's Supper during the morning service. We encourage members to examine their hearts and relationships with one another in preparation for this celebration of Christ's death and resurrection.

April 18 10:30 am Guest preacher: Bryan Pillsbury

April 25 4:30 pm Quarterly Church in Conference  
Please make a point to attend our next regularly scheduled Church in Conference as we consider membership, budget, and other matters related to the life of our church.

### Adult

April 19 12:00 pm RW&A Luncheon

### New Members

April 11 9:15 am Knowing MVBC: Session 1  
12:00 pm Knowing MVBC: Session 2-4

### Students

April 23-25 In Tents DNow  
This event is a unique retreat where we will be camping and hiking while having fun and fellowship that will draw us closer to each other and Christ.

## BIRTHDAYS

- |                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1 Melissa Cosey   | 19 Luke Gurley    |
| 2 Joy Branch      | 20 Donna Anderson |
| 3 Nell Baldwin    | 21 Dan Nable      |
| 4 Ragan DeFreese  | 22 Ruby Fussell   |
| 5 Bob Earl        | 23 Martha Camp    |
| 7 Rodney Barry    | 24 Pam Hutchins   |
| 9 Drew Clayton    | 25 Paul Hoover    |
| 12 David Carver   | 27 Jane Payne     |
| 13 Amelia Holmes  | 28 Stephanie Nash |
| Rick Hutchins     | 29 Donna Brundage |
| Bethany Saunders  |                   |
| 14 Susan Lawrence |                   |
| 17 Jo Anne Tyson  |                   |
| 18 Angi Bemiss    |                   |
| Josh Brundage     |                   |
| Alex Pattillo     |                   |

## HEROES AMONG US: THE GREATEST GENERATION

SUNDAY, MAY 2

FELLOWSHIP HALL  
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE MORNING SERVICE

COST: \$10/ADULT  
\$3/CHILD  
\$25 - FAMILY MAX.

Our church family is blessed with 18 WWII veterans. Join us in a tribute to them that will include their amazing stories of patriotism and faith. Reservations are required by Wed., April 28. On Sundays, April 11, 18, and 25, you may make reservations at Connections Corner.



## "BEING A TITUS 2 WOMAN"

SATURDAY, MAY 15  
10:00-12:00 IN ROOM 211

SIGN UP WILL BE AVAILABLE  
WEDNESDAY NIGHTS  
DURING DINNER AND AT  
CONNECTIONS CORNER.



*Mount Vernon*

BAPTIST CHURCH

850 Mount Vernon Highway NW  
Sandy Springs, GA 30327