

Retirement Celebration



Honoring
Philip and Delaine May
Sunday, September 8, 2024



From the Pastor's Desk

Delaine and I thank you for the honor of serving with you for 27 years. In our fast-paced world, having an opportunity to serve in one place for that long is rare. In fact, a new trend for pastors is to serve on a church staff for about 20 years then transition to a college or seminary teaching position, or start a different kind of ministry.

Allow us to answer frequently asked questions from you. "Are you moving to Columbia County near Phil's sister?" The answer is, "No, not at this time." We like our home. We've decided to live here for at least two years to see if we want to stay in Rome.

"Will Phil look for an interim position?" Phil is ready to call time out and invest time with Delaine. We have places we would like to see, so travel is first on our list.

"Where will you go to church?" PVS is our choice. We believe we need to remove ourselves from PVS during your search until you get a new pastor. If we came back, we would consult him and be sure he approves. We will be a couple without a church home for a long time. We don't want to do anything to hinder a new pastor.

We appreciate all you have done for us. We have been the most blessed pastor and wife in Rome and Floyd County. You are special to us. Our prayer is that PVS will grow spiritually and numerically in the future.

We Love You!
Philip & Delaine May

Reception for Philip and Delaine in the FLC
immediately following the service.
Light refreshments will be served.



STATE OF GEORGIA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
ATLANTA 30334-0090

Brian P. Kemp
GOVERNOR

Marty A. Kemp
FIRST LADY

August 12, 2024

Pleasant Valley Baptist Church
c/o Mrs. Ellen McMeekin
PO Box 519
Silver Creek, Georgia 30173

Dear Dr. Philip May,

We would like to extend our congratulations to you for over 40 years of pastoral services to the Silver Creek community and the state of Georgia. We join many others in thanking you for your selfless leadership.

This recognition is marked by your kindness and the dedication you have shown as you continue to serve. We pray you have continued health and happiness in the coming years. God bless.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Brian P. Kemp in blue ink.

Brian P. Kemp

Handwritten signature of Marty A. Kemp in blue ink.

Marty A. Kemp

*Thanks for your
good work! God
Bless and all the
best!*

September 8, 2024

Dr. Philip May
Senior Pastor
Pleasant Valley South Baptist Church
Silver Creek, Georgia

Dear Dr. May,

The oldest Psalm in the Word of God, penned by Moses says:

“And let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us,

And establish the work of our hands for us;

Yes, establish the work of our hands.” (Psalm 90:17, NASB)

I can think of no one who more exemplifies the work of the Lord than you—you have served with diligence, dignity, grace, and love through your ministry at Pleasant Valley South, and Teresa and I love you and Delaine, not because of the things you do but because of who you are and to whom you belong. Your hard work is a beautiful reflection of your love for Jesus Christ.

We are personally sad to see you leave the role of senior pastor at Pleasant Valley South, but we realize that your ministry will continue because once called by the Lord, always called by the Lord. You have been and continue to be such a special encourager and blessing to myself and Teresa. When we first came to Rome, you invited us to the church, and you graciously allowed us to become a part of the fellowship.

The years you have served there have been blessed because of your conviction to preach the whole counsel of God. You have not shied away from that, and we appreciate such dedication. You will only discover in heaven the countless lives that you and Delaine have touched through your gifts, and the Lord has woven a beautiful tapestry of divinely appointed service during your time at PVSBC.

I want to thank you on behalf of the students, faculty, and staff at Shorter University. We all have enjoyed your chapel sermons (and the Chic-fil-A gift cards!), as well as the fellowship of a kindred soul. Moreover, your time as a Board member here provided the University with sagacious advice and committed service. I know you saw that service as a great responsibility and as a joy.

I am proud to call you my pastor.

“The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord make His face shine upon you,
And be gracious to you;
The Lord lift up His
Countenance upon you,
And give you peace.” (Numbers 6:24-26, NASB).

Teresa and I remain your friends. Thank you for helping us to grow spiritually.

All the Lord’s best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Don Dowless', written in a cursive style.

Don Dowless, President
Shorter University

P.S. You can always tear up your retirement letter.



Ellen McMeekin
Administrative Assistant to Dr. Philip May
Pleasant Valley South Baptist Church
P.O. Box 519
Silver Creek, Georgia 30173

August 9, 2024

To the Congregation of Pleasant Valley South Baptist Church:

I am grateful to have this opportunity to join with you in the celebration of the life and ministry of your beloved pastor, Dr. Philip May and his precious wife Delaine on this occasion of his retirement from 27 outstanding years of leadership at Pleasant Valley South. I would have cherished the opportunity to be present with you today, but a prior commitment has prevented my being with you. Ever since I first met Philip and Delaine, I have been so impressed with them. Without a doubt, Philip May has consistently been one of our leading pastors in Georgia. I love his heart for missions and evangelism, his effective preaching of the Word and his winsome personality that has drawn people to your great church and enriched his ministry.

Philip has been a dear friend to me and to Georgia and Southern Baptists. Through the years we have benefited greatly from the capable leadership of Dr. May. He served on the Board of Trustees at Shorter University (2014-2018). He has served on the Georgia Baptist Executive Committee (1994-1997) (2019-2024), and on the Administration Committee (2020-2025). As a matter of clarification and to demonstrate how much Georgia Baptists admire and trust Dr. May's leadership, the Administration Committee is literally the executive committee of our Executive Board. This is where the decisions are made about receiving and spending the mission dollars that Georgia Baptists place in the offering plates in our churches across Georgia every Sunday. This is a matter of sacred trust.

Philip and Delaine, I want you to know how grateful I am for our friendship through the years. As you embark on this next chapter in your lives and ministry, I encourage you to enjoy each other, take some time for travel and treasure the moments with your family and friends. I am confident that after more than forty years of faithful ministry, today the Lord is saying, "Well done good and faithful servant."

Warmest Personal Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "J. Robert White".

J. Robert White

Dr. J. Robert White, Executive Director Emeritus

920 Mountain Crest Way, Hoschton, GA 30548 · 678-521-4188 · rwhite1946@aol.com



FROM THE DESK OF THOMAS HAMMOND

September 8, 2024

Dear Dr. Phillip May,

I am honored to have this opportunity to share my thoughts and feelings with you. As you approach this milestone of retirement after more than 40 years of devotedly preaching the Word and shepherding God's people, I wanted to take a moment to extend my heartfelt congratulations and express my deepest gratitude for your remarkable service.

Your ministry has been an example for everyone to learn from and emulate. For over four decades, you have offered spiritual wisdom, prayers, service and compassion for so many. Your unwavering dedication to nurturing the spiritual growth of your church, providing guidance in times of need, and exemplifying the teachings of Christ has left an indelible mark on all who have had the privilege of living under your leadership.

Throughout your ministry, you have touched countless lives with your kindness, understanding, and unwavering faith. Year after year your sermons offered inspiration, your counsel guided many through challenging times, and your commitment to sacrifice set a powerful example of what it means to live out one's faith. The impact of your work is reflected in the vibrant and loving community of believers you have helped to build and sustain.

As you step into this new chapter of your life, I hope you find joy and fulfillment in the well-deserved rest and new adventures that await you. Your legacy of faith and service will continue to inspire and guide, and the investment you have made in the Kingdom will continue to reap a harvest until Jesus returns.

May the days ahead be filled with peace, happiness, and joy. Phil, you have made a profound difference in Georgia, and for that, we are all deeply grateful.

Congratulations once again on your retirement and one more thing...thank you for being my friend.

From a Heart Filled With Appreciation,

W. Thomas Hammond Jr.

4295 Brogdon Exchange, Suwanee, GA 30024-3980
770-455-0404 • gabaptist.org

FLOYD COUNTY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

*Encouraging and equipping pastors and people to do
the Great Commandment and the Great Commission.*



Dr. Phillip May, Senior Pastor
Pleasant Valley South Baptist Church
702 Pleasant Valley Road, SE
Silver Creek, Georgia 30173

September 8, 2024

Dr. May,

Congratulations on your upcoming retirement! You have been blessed to serve as Senior Pastor of Pleasant Valley South Baptist Church since 1997, but I believe they have been more blessed over these twenty-seven years. You have done an incredible job leading this wonderful congregation and God's Kingdom is better because of you.

1997 seems like a lifetime ago. Just think how much the world has changed in the past twenty-seven years since you came to PVSBC...

- Titanic was the number one movie at the box office and the first Harry Potter book came out.
- Netflix was started, the first Wi-Fi was invented, and Google.com was registered as a domain name.
- It's also the year Princess Diana died and the comet Hale-Bopp passed by Earth.
- Tiger Woods became the youngest golfer to ever win the Masters.
- The price of a new home was \$176,000, the median household income was \$37,000, the price for a gallon of gas was \$1.22, a gallon of milk was \$2.50, a dozen eggs cost 92¢, and a loaf of bread was 89¢.

It is a much different world today and you have led Pleasant Valley South well during so many changes and challenges.

There are so many individuals who could speak about your investment in their lives. How you visited them, cared for them, taught them God's Word, and how you have led them. Here is a little of what I discovered when I looked at the past twenty-seven years at PVSBC

- Church membership has increased from 1,028 to 2,263. That is an increase of 1,235 or growth of 120%.
- In twenty-seven years there have been 760 new believers in Jesus baptized at PVSBC!
- There have been another 1,440 new members added.
- Since 1997, PVSBC has given \$3,988,660 to missions! This includes the Cooperative Program, Lottie Moon, Annie Armstrong, and the Floyd County Baptist Association.

Your leadership has made a difference, and it will continue to make a difference for years to come.

I am grateful for your leadership at PVSBC; as well as the FCBA, the Georgia Baptist Convention, and the Southern Baptist Convention. But most of all I am thankful for your friendship and encouragement. In my three years at the FCBA you've made time for me, you've helped me and you've encouraged me. Thank you for all you have done for me in these past few years.

You will be missed but I know that God is not through with you, and I look forward to seeing what He has planned for you. I do encourage you to take some time off and enjoy this new season of life.

Your Friend & His Servant,

Dr. Tim S. Smith
Director of Missions

✉ P.O. Box 729 Rome, Georgia 30162

📍 308 Redmond Road Rome, Georgia 30165

📞 706-291-0904

🌐 www.floydbaptist.org

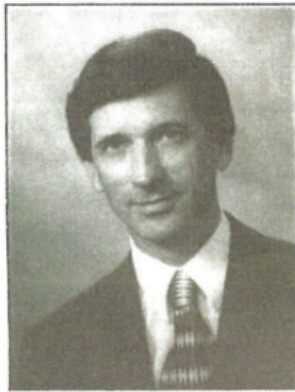
September 7, 1997

PLEASANT VALLEY SOUTH BAPTIST CHURCH

SILVER CREEK, GEORGIA



An Old Church with a New Vision



*Welcome to
Dr. Philip May*

702 Pleasant Valley Road, S.E.
Silver Creek, Georgia 30173

"WHERE BURDENS ARE LIFTED"

TODAY

Combined Worship

10:00AM

Prelude	Miriam Moon & Orchestra
Baptism	
How Great Thou Art	Congregation with Kim Harrison
Build My Life	Praise Band with Robbie Vincent
Look What the Lord Has Done	Choir with Melodie Penn
Prayer	Barry Saunders
Welcome	Eric Gargus
Music Medley	Miriam Moon
Made For More	Praise Band with Kim Harrison and John Peterson
To God Be the Glory	Congregation
Praise His Holy Name	Choir
Message	Dr. Philip May
Invitation - Come Just as You Are	Congregation
Speakers	Sherie Payne Eddie Waters Mark Winstead Warren Jones
Recognition	Richard Brown Greg Clark
To God Be the Glory	Congregation
Closing	Richard Brown

SERMON OUTLINE & NOTES

Grace to You Revelation 22:21

The message today is a prayer that we have for you as we leave this place. It is from my heart, that God grant you grace in four areas. We pray:

- A. May God grant you sanctifying grace
- B. May God grant you serving grace
- C. May God grant you sustaining grace
- D. May you continue to experience and proclaim the saving grace of the Lord

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with all of you!

Sermon Notes

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sunday

Bible Study..... 9:00 AM

Morning Worship..... 10:30 AM

Traditional Service in the Worship Center
Contemporary Service (sermon simulcast) in the Family Life Center
Children's Church for ages 4 - Kindergarten
PVS kids Church for 1st - 5th grade

Orchestra Rehearsal..... 12:00 PM

DLife..... 5:00 PM

Wednesday

Worship..... 6:30 PM

Student Fusion..... 6:00-8:00 PM

Team Kid..... 6:00-7:30 PM

Choir Practice..... 7:15 PM

TREASURERS REPORT

9/1/2024

Budget for 2024.....\$1,745,222.10
Received to Date.....\$1,175,145.39
Remaining Budget.....\$570,076.71
Tithes & Offerings.....\$26,080.00
Heritage Fund.....\$200.00

ATTENDANCE

9/1/2024

Sunday School..... 224
Worship Service..... 318

STAFF

Senior Pastor—Dr. Philip May
Associate Pastor/Minister of Education—
Rev. Richard Brown
Minister of Music—Rev. Mark Winstead
Minister of Children—Rev. Barry Saunders
Minister of Youth—Rev. Eric Gargus
Minister of Media—Tom Pilcher
Worship Director—Jennifer Pilcher

Technical Specialist/
Business Administrator—Jeff Byrd
Orchestra Director—Bill King
Pianist—Miriam Moon
Administrative Assistant—Ellen McMeekin
Financial Secretary—Kim Sisson
Church Secretary/Financial Secretary
Assistant—Candy Yarbrough

On Call: September 13-15: Richard Brown 770-265-9804

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Pastor's Office (706) 234-5646 • Fax (706) 234-5647
Office Hours • Monday - Thursday 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM



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