

REFLECTIONS

I have never been too keen on climbing mountains as sport or personal recreation. My thinking is if God had intended us to hike up a mountain, God would not have created asphalt roads and motorized vehicles. Although I have been known to walk to the top of a mountain ridge or peak for the view, I enjoy the journey down more. I like the brooks and streams and the shade of large old trees. Yet here I was at the end of July, on a day-long tour of the ruins of Pompeii which included climbing to the top of Mount Vesuvius. My first question was *how long has it been since the last eruption?* (March 17, 1944) My next question was *how high do we have to climb?* (1,000 meters) That did not help at all. Fortunately, the tour bus did take the winding, tiny two-lane asphalt road slowly upward to the passenger drop-off point (which needs a better name).

We were handed little paper tickets, told to look for the tour bus in about 90 minutes, and by the way, restrooms were not available. We smiled grimly. Mountain climbing is not straight up. That 1,000 meters up was a zig-zag path of crushed lava and dust. The temperature was a cloudless 96°. I pressed on. I started up the quiet volcano with my traveling adventurers Bryan and Deacon Enos. By the time we reached the first switchback rest area, I was feeling weary from the long flight, busy morning, and the altitude. I knew it would be best to go back down and find some shade. On the way down I noticed that an ambulance had quietly pulled up and parked beside the trail. Nice touch. Fortunately no one seemed to need the ambulance while we were there. Bryan and Deacon pressed on near the peak. The top of a volcano looks like a rock-strewn mountain with an edge. We reconnected and headed for the air-conditioned bus. We may have dozed off.

More than two million people, counting on an extensive evacuation plan, live in the shadow of Vesuvius today. I took advantage of my time up there to take in the view of mountains and towns in the valley down to the sea. I thought about mountaintop experiences good and bad, of beautiful times and tragedies mixed all together. It is good to know what mountain you are climbing.

Keep healthy. Pray mightily. Enjoy your life today. Know your challenges. And let's experience the love and power of God together.

Bro. Darryl

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The Evangel

Braden Park Baptist Church
4739 East Fifth Street (5th & Yale)
Tulsa, OK 74112-2716

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday Morning	
Continental Breakfast	9:20 a.m.
Worship	10:00 a.m.
Bible Study & Conversation	11:15 a.m.
Wednesday Evening	
The People's Pantry	5:00 p.m.
The Clothes Closet Ministry	
Prayer Service	6:30 p.m.

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Bill Ess, Music Minister

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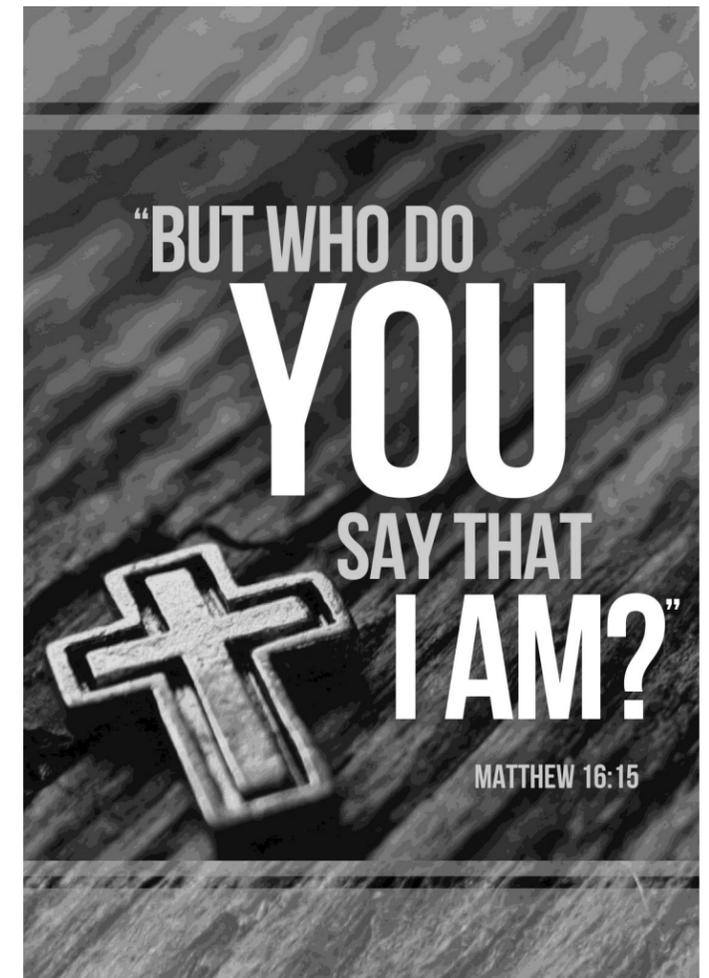


Proclaiming the Good News!
Braden Park Baptist Church
Tulsa, Oklahoma

VOL LIII

August 25, 2023

No. 31



Our Church Family

AT HOME

Alice Barrett
Elizabeth Burke
Marion Corbett
Lydia Ford
Paula McPherson

Georgia Metcalf
Bonnie Nutting
Margaret VanHorn
Leslie White

IN REHABILITATION CENTER

Bill Barrett Aspen Rehabilitation Center, Room 460

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

SEPTEMBER

2 Connie Gillis
Caryn Perrier
4 Lara Snyder
7 Molly Avery
10 Pam Yates
11 Terri Plummer Collins



OUR LOVE AND SYMPATHY is extended to the family of *Ray and Judy Martin* in the loss of their grandson.

Looking Ahead

SUNDAY, AUGUST 27

9:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast
10:00 a.m. **The Church's One Foundation**
—Matthew 16:15-18

When did Jesus first talk about *the Church*? The founding story of *the Church* begins with Peter's confession of Jesus as "the Christ, the Son of the Living God." What is the church today? Invite your family and friends to church, and be blessed.

11:15 a.m. **Conversations and Church Fellowship Dinner**
with Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal to follow

MONDAY, AUGUST 28

8:45 a.m. Monday Morning Prayers
Call (712) 832-8330, then access code: 887-7647

TUESDAY, AUGUST 29

8:00 p.m. Prayer for the Nations
Kevin Avery's Facebook Zoom link

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30

5:00 p.m. People's Pantry Ministry
Clothes Closet Ministry

6:30 p.m. **Bible Study and Prayer**

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

10:00 a.m. **House by House by House**

Behind the Scenes

CHURCH DINNER THIS SUNDAY AUGUST 27

Everyone is invited to our *Fellowship Spaghetti Dinner* followed by an ice cream social **this Sunday morning, August 27**. Bring a friend, a smile, and a good appetite.

THIS IS OUR LAST WEEK FOR THE FOOD DRIVE FOR THE PEOPLE'S PANTRY

We are asking for easy-open canned goods like chicken and tuna, vegetables and fruit, along with lots of peanut butter and jelly. Also, boxes of macaroni and cheese, and instant rice are needed. Place your groceries on the display table in the center foyer..

DEDICATION OF NEW SUPER COTTAGE

You are invited to the *Baptist Children's Home in Owasso*, 12700 E. 76th Street North, for a 50th Birthday Celebration Party and Dedication of the New Super Cottage, September 7, 4-7 pm. This is a time of food, family activities and open house. Our church, through the efforts of *Mr. and Mrs. J. Ray Smith*, helped found the Owasso campus and build the first cottage.

FOR THE CHURCH RECORD

Weekly Budget Need	\$ 2,050.00
General Receipts August 20	\$ 1,673.71
Special Offerings August 20	\$ 0.00

Thank You to all who are providing sustaining tithes and offerings.