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**AARP Defensive Driving Course**  
September 26-27



**World Communion Sunday**  
October 2



**Quarterly Church Conference**  
October 9



The September 23, 2005  
Newsletter of the  
Smoke Rise Baptist Church



**Fall Festival 2005**

Wednesday, October 26  
6:00 P.M. - 8:00 P. M.

For Children through Elementary Age  
Community Welcome!

We need volunteers to make our Fall Festival a success this year. Please contact Laura Smith at 770-934-7595 if you can donate money for candy, baked cookies, or work at a station.

## Defensive Driving Course

A defensive driving course sponsored by AARP is set for **September 26 and 28**. The class will meet from 9AM to 1PM each day. The cost for the course is \$15 per person. To those who complete both days of instruction a discount in their automobile insurance cost is available (you will need to check with your insurance carrier for details). To register for the course, please call the church office.

## World Communion Sunday

Sunday, October 2 Smoke Rise Baptist Church will celebrate the Lord's Supper on the day when all Christian traditions around the world will be observing this act of worship. This day commemorates the unity all Christians have as brothers and sisters in Christ. Mark the date and plan to attend.

## Prime Time Meets

The monthly meeting of the Prime Time is set for Tuesday, October 4 at 6:00 P.M. in the fellowship hall. A barber shop quartet is set to provide the entertainment. The cost is \$6 per person, payable at the door. Mark this date and plan now to join us.

## Finance Committee Meets

The monthly meeting of the finance committee is set for Thursday, October 6 at 7 P.M. in room S-223-224. This meeting date is a week earlier than normally scheduled. The committee will review and approve the 06 church budget. This is an important meeting and all committee members are urged to be present.

## Quarterly Church Conference

The next quarterly church conference is planned for Sunday, October 9 at noon in fellowship hall. Lunch will be served. A reservation for lunch must be made on or before Thursday, October 6. The congregation will vote on nominees from the Nominating Committee and the Committee on Committees.

Also, on October 23 the congregation will vote by ballot on 24 deacons and approve the 06 church budget. Please mark these dates and plan to be present.

## Deacons' Lunch & Meeting

The October deacons' meeting is set for Sunday, October 9. Lunch will be served in fellowship hall at noon with the meeting to follow in room S-223-224. Deacons are reminded to confirm any changes to your standing lunch reservation on or before Thursday, October 6.

## "Art in the PARK"

**Sunday, October 2, 2:00-4:00 p.m.**

For all preschoolers and their families!

Sand art, carpentry, autumn art and other fun activities

Bring a hammer and grocery bag to take home your creations. Baked goods and drink will be available for sale

## Wednesday Evening Guest Series

**6:30 pm in Fellowship Hall**

- Sept. 28 and Oct. 5: Dr. Peter Rhea Jones, Professor of Preaching and New Testament at McAfee School of Theology, will be speaking on The Parables of Jesus.

## Children's Hurricane Katrina Offering Update

This past Sunday our children turned in their offerings for the people who need help after Hurricane Katrina. After counting all the cash and sometimes sticky coins, to date we've given \$533.88, blasting past our \$250 goal that the children set! What a powerful and humbling experience it was for me to count all the money, knowing how much our children wish to help the people hurt by Hurricane Katrina!

If you haven't yet turned in your offering, it's not too late! Just be sure to bring it to my office and we'll add it to the total! Continue to pray for the work in Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama. Ways to help your child pray are as follows:

- o Pray for clean drinking water
- o Pray for areas to get electricity and telephones soon
- o Pray for volunteers traveling to the areas that they will be safe and be able to help others
- o Pray that people will have safe places to live while their homes are being rebuilt
- o Pray for the children who now live in new towns and states, are going to a new school and will make new friends.

You can also check our website for links to articles that may be helpful as a parent in how to talk with your child about this event.

## Faith & Issues

### Sundays at 9:45 am; Room A125

10/2 — What Natural Disasters Do To Our View of God

10/9 — What Natural Disasters Do To Our View of God – Part 2

Preparing for Death: How Christians Deal With The Issues, Rituals and Questions of Dying. A Four Part Series:

10/16 — What Do You Think About Death?

10/23 — How Does Scripture Help us Understand Death? What About Euthanasia?

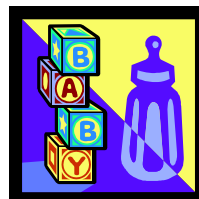
10/30 — Caskets & Casseroles: The Rituals We Follow

11/6 — How Should We Prepare? Wills, Living Wills, Your Funeral, Finances

## New Christian's Class

Has your child recently made a decision to follow Jesus? This class is offered to children in Grades 1-5. The class will meet for 4 weeks during the Sunday School hour in Room 119 underneath the gym. Class dates are: Sunday, October 2, 16, 23, and 30. Please call ext. 207 or email [bayers@smokerisebaptist.org](mailto:bayers@smokerisebaptist.org) to sign up.

Congratulations to Tom and Beverly Maiellaro on the birth of a son, *Thomas Matthew*, born August 24; brothers are Bo and Matthew; grandparents are Frank and Shirley Bowden; to John and Samantha Granade on the birth of a daughter, *Ansley Marie*, born September 2; grandparents are Jim and Janet Granade; and, to Larry and Tracey Brownlee on the birth of a son, *Bryce David*, born September 19; great grandmother is Marilyn Fitzgerald.



## Notes from the Pastor

### Hurricane Katrina

Your response to the victims of Hurricane Katrina has been outstanding. I want to thank all that have volunteered at local shelters or given money to help the evacuees rebuild their lives. Your compassion and generosity are greatly appreciated. Thanks for entering into the "mystery and mess of others' lives." This is the best way to transform the world!

### Wednesday Nights

One of my favorite times to be at Smoke Rise is on Wednesday nights. Lou and her staff prepare the finest meals and the fellowship around the tables is divine! What a wonderful time this is to connect with other church members and bring visitors so they can meet your friends. Make a point to be here every Wednesday, even if you can only come for the meal and have other responsibilities. Lou begins serving at 5:15 and activities for all ages follow soon after.

Each fall, we invite a guest speaker to lead a Wednesday evening Bible Study on a specific topic. This year, Dr. Peter Rhea Jones will lead a study of the Parables of Jesus. Dr. Jones is the former pastor of First Baptist Church in Decatur and currently teaching at the McAfee School of Theology on Mercer's Atlanta campus.

He will be teaching on September 28 and October 5 at 6:30. Make a special effort to be here to hear one of Baptists' finest scholars. You may want to purchase his book, *Studying the Parables of Jesus*, for your library. See Kathy for details.

### Kathy's Ordination

Speaking of Kathy Dobbins, our Minister of Education and Outreach, I want to invite you to her ordination service on Sunday evening, September 25 at 6:00 p.m. in the chapel. Kathy has been in ministry for several years, but has never been ordained. She and I have discussed this for some time. I am pleased that she feels led of God to be ordained and am honored that she has chosen Smoke Rise to handle the proceedings.

Kathy's ordination is one way we can affirm her gifts for ministry and endorse her role as an enabler in the ministry we all share. It is also a way that the church communicates its understanding of God's calling for ministry.

Our publications proudly proclaim that Smoke Rise is a church where each member has equal rights and privileges and shares equally in the responsibilities. No one is excluded from ministry or leadership based upon gender, race, age, position or marital status. We believe the call to ministry is inclusive, resting upon the shoulder of every Christian. As a result, we encourage all members to discover their spiritual gifts and use them to advance the Kingdom of God.

Kathy's ordination models this, especially for our children and young people. It helps them to understand what we mean by being inclusive, encouraging all members to seek God's will for the use of their gifts.

I'll use this opportunity to express my appreciation for all our staff and lay leaders. I am especially grateful for the women in leadership at Smoke Rise. Some of the most inspiring sermons, Bible studies and prayers have been delivered by the ladies of our church and their expertise in pastoral care is exceptional. What a joy it is to serve along side them!

### Klesis

On Sunday, September 25, three of our members will be recognized for the revised publication of their book, *Klesis: God's Call and the Journey of Faith*. Bo Prosser and Rick Bennett will be in our services that day to recognize Kathy Dobbins, Doris Nelms and Dr. Colin Harris.

*Klesis*, pronounced Clay-sis, helps individuals to identify their spiritual gifts and unique call and passions for ministry. It is a vital tool for helping believers transition from spectators of ministry to participants in ministry. It shows people how they can become the presence of Christ in the world, meeting others' needs. I certainly appreciate the role *Klesis* has played at Smoke Rise in helping us promote our theme, "Every member a minister."

The revised edition of *Klesis* contains more stories of biblical characters and their calling along with stories of our own members that have become more involved in ministry. It uses a variety of assessments related to vocation, personality and ministry in a workbook format, inviting participants to consider the relationship between ministry, calling and discipleship.

Thanks, Doris, Kathy and Colin for providing this valuable resource for us and so many others. We appreciate the pursuit of your passions and calling among us!

Until Sunday,  
Bob

## Deaths



We extend our sympathy to Jim Brown whose sister died; Julia Wiley whose mother died; Betty Freeman, whose cousin died.

### Letter of Appreciation

To my Smoke Rise Friends,

Thank you for visiting, sending cards, and making calls while I was in the hospital and at home. Thanks to Jack and Janice (my deacon) Hale for the wonderful food and fellowship. A special thanks to Bethann, Ernie and our faithful pastor, Bob.

Sincerely,  
Annette and Howard Norman

## Youth News

SNL Each Sunday Night 6-8p in the gym Oct. 2 "The Masks We Wear", A hands on approach to an age old problem. Everyone will want to participate as it will affect our UPS on 10.16



Oct. 16 @ 11 a.m. UPS in fellowship hall— come worship with us

Frightfest @ 6 FLAGS Oct. 16 after church

It's time to register for Fall Retreat. Meet Friday, Oct. 7, at church at 11 a.m. & return Sun. 5-6p.m. Oct. 9. Cost \$100, for grades 7-12

Hwy 78 Wed. 6:30 p.m. in the loft, Bible study for grades 7 & 8

HS Bible Study Wed. 6:15 p.m. A122

### Gwinnett Community Clinic Mission Work for Golfers

Monday, October 24, 2005, 9:30 a.m.

Event includes breakfast, BBQ lunch, golf shirt, prizes, silent auction, range balls, putting contest, fun and more.

Pick up entry forms at the church office or call Parks Mann at 770-979-9155.



## Genesis: From Creation to Chaos

**Mondays at 10:00 am beginning Oct. 3 in Room S220**

Join Dr. Moates for a four week study on the book of Genesis. Topics covered will include the creation accounts, theories of authorship, interpreting historical narratives, and application for us today.

### Attention Parents!

Sunday school classes are encouraged to come to a special class on Sunday, Sept. 25 in the Chapel. Bo Prosser and Rick Bennett from the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship will be speaking on *The Missional Parent: Nurturing Faith at Home*. The session is designed to give parents some practical steps and guidance for being your child's primary Christian educator. Bo Prosser is Coordinator for Congregational Life and a parent of young adults. Rick Bennett is Associate Coordinator for Faith Formation and a parent of young children. The session begins at 9:45 am. Bo and Rick will also be preaching at both services.

### Coats for Appalachia



Winters are cold in the mountains of Kentucky and children need warm coats. On October 21, Smoke Rise will take gifts of coats, jackets, gloves, mittens and hats to our friends in Appalachia. Please bring new or gently used items for school age children (grades 1 through 12) to the containers outside Tim's office by October 16.

### Letter of Appreciation

Dear Smoke Rise family,

Thank you for the gracious way you helped my family and me deal with Margaret's death. Both Margaret and I always felt blessed with the friendships we enjoyed at Smoke Rise. We regretted leaving the church and missing the opportunity to get to know Bob better.

May God continue to bless you.

Love,  
Richard King

## FINANCIAL STATISTICS

**As of September 16, 2005**

Four hundred forty-one families have pledged \$2,039,414.40 to date for the 2005 Budget.

	YEAR TO DATE (THIS YEAR)	BUDGET TO DATE
<b>INCOME</b>		
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS	\$1,585,504.86	\$1,800,000.00
TOTAL OTHER INCOME	<u>19,166.35</u>	<u>0.00</u>
TOTAL INCOME	\$1,604,671.21	\$1,800,000.00
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	\$1,303,828.14	\$1,490,471.00
TOTAL MINISTRIES – WORSHIP	14,514.95	24,800.00
TOTAL MINISTRIES – EDUCATION	70,206.02	98,623.00
TOTAL MISSIONS	118,984.88	140,911.00
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	17,911.44	25,236.00
TOTAL EQUIPMENT	<u>7,883.56</u>	<u>8,920.00</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,533,328.99	1,788,961.00
<b>MORTGAGE BALANCE:</b>	\$ 712,975.99	

### FAITH, FAMILY & FUTURE CAMPAIGN:

Four hundred fifty-four families have pledged \$2,692,774.00 to the Faith, Family & Future Campaign.

CONTRIBUTIONS	\$2,225,828.43
LINE OF CREDIT/SRBC LOAN	+ 345,621.74
EXPENSES	<u>- 2,675,594.15</u>
BALANCE	\$ (104,143.98)



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### OUR STAFF

**Church Office: 770-469-5856**

Robert F. Browning, D. Min.	Pastor
Charles L. Moates, Jr., D. Min.	Minister of Administration
Kathy Dobbins	Minister of Adult Education/Outreach
Marcus Beaver, Ed. D.	Interim Minister of Music
E. Ernest Forrester, Jr.	Minister of Youth
Bethann Ayers	Minister to Children
Tim W. Adcox	Minister of Recreation/Missions
Amanda Burton	Nursery Director
Truett Gannon, D. Min.	Pastor Emeritus

### Smoke Rise Counseling Center

**Affiliate of Care and Counseling Center of Georgia**

**770-469-6547**

Gloria White, M. Div., LCSW  
Elizabeth Walker, Th. D., LMFT

Counselor  
Counselor

## Fall Golf Fellowship

November 4

Indian Creek Golf Club, Covington

Two man better ball, flighted, handicapped,  
18-hole format!

Fellowship and brunch at 10:00 a.m.

Shotgun start at Noon

Cost: \$45

Pay Bobbie in the church office by October 31.

Contact: Ed Brantly at 770-469-1319

