

	Year to Date	Budget to Date	40 th Anniversary Offering
Income			
Total Contributions	\$ 937,573.16	\$ 1,259,994.00	263 families have pledged \$440,210 to date. \$90,958 has been given by families that have not signed pledge cards.
Total Other Income	1,921.53	0.00	
Total Income	\$ 939,494.69	\$ 1,259,994.00	
Expenses			
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 843,761.75	\$ 988,969.00	Goal: \$ 570,000.00
Total Ministries – Worship	15,259.86	30,463.00	Given or Pledged: \$ 531,168.00
Total Ministries – Education	51,106.02	85,193.00	Needed: \$ 38,832.00
Total Missions	96,615.93	137,414.00	
Total Capital Expenditures	40,408.88	38,250.00	
Total Equipment	5,626.87	19,535.00	
Total Expenses	\$ 1,052,679.31	\$ 1,299,824.00	

317 families have pledged \$1,595,143 to date for the 2009 Budget.

The Cross Tie Newsletter

June 15, 2009

Help Us Go Green!

If you would like to remove your name from the mailing list for the paper Cross Tie and begin receiving only the electronic version of the Cross Tie (see the schedule below), please e-mail us at crosstie@smokerisebaptist.org or contact Kim Ward in the church office at 678.533.0542.

Our Staff	Church Office: 770.469.5856
Robert F. Browning, D. Min.	Pastor
E. Ernest Forrester, Jr.	Associate Pastor
Kathy Dobbins	Minister of Spiritual Formation
Tim W. Adcox	Minister of Missions & Recreation
Danny Vancil	Minister of Worship & Music
Kellie Denton	Minister to Families with Children
Carra Hughes Greer	Minister to Families with Youth
David MacFarlane	Director of Administration & Communication
Linda Cummings	Coordinator of Congregational Life/Senior Adults
Amanda Burton	Nursery Director
Truett Gannon, D. Min.	Pastor Emeritus
Smoke Rise Counseling Center	770.469.6547
Affiliate of Care and Counseling Center of Georgia	
Gloria White, M. Div., LCSW	Counselor and Center Director
Rene Ely, M. Div., LMFT	Counselor
Gina Campbell, M. Div., LCSW	Counselor

Deaths

Join us in extending our sympathy to our friends and family at Smoke Rise who have lost loved ones:

John Crawford whose father died;
 John Kelly whose grandmother died;
 Doug Torbush whose mother died;
 Bob Hand whose sister-in-law died;
 Juanita Byrd whose sister-in-law died;
 Angie Callahan, whose father-in-law, Edward Jerome Callahan, has died. *Angie Callahan is the director of the Stone Mountain Co-op.
** Corrected from the previous Cross Tie publication. We apologize for any confusion this may have caused.*

Have You Ever Been on a Mission Trip?

Maybe you could go to one of these ministry places. The contacts are listed for more info.

Youth Missions
 July 5-11
 Carra Hughes Greer

New York
 July 11-18
 Whitney Calhoun

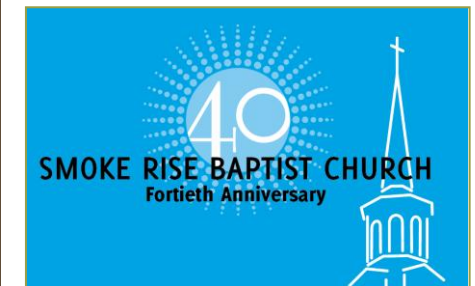
Tijuana
 July 25-Aug. 1
 Gary Prophitt

Appalachia
 July 25-Aug. 1
 Jenny Brannan, or Bill Blanton

Appalachia Construction
 Oct. 11-16
 Bill Blanton

Uganda
 Oct. 17-31
 Wilson Echols, or Janet Palmer

40th Anniversary History Books



The Smoke Rise Baptist 40th Anniversary History Book is a wonderful remembrance of our last 40 years in the Smoke Rise Community. Each page preserves memories of years past and testifies to the love of God that has continually been at work in the Smoke Rise Congregation. The books will be bound as they were for the 25th Anniversary.

The History Books can be pre-ordered in the lower breezeway before Sunday School, the upper breezeway after Sunday School and the worship service or from the church office during the week. Books will be available in September and are \$12 each.

All-Inclusive Mission Experience

From July 25th through August 1st in McDowell, KY, you can minister to children, nursing home residents, with the GAP distribution to the needy, by doing construction work and more!

Reserve your spot to minister in McDowell, KY, with a \$100 deposit online at smokeriseministries.org. For more information contact Jenny Brannan at 770.466.2001 or dickjenny@comcast.net.

SRBC Job Board

A job board has been added to the SRBC website to assist those who are currently seeking employment and for employers seeking to hire. By filling out a form online you can have an employment opportunity posted or post your job skills and availability for employment.

Take a look at the job board on the Smoke Rise website by selecting the 'Information' drop-down button and then selecting the 'Employment' link.



Summer Camp Openings



We have openings for all ages, 6 to 16, with age-appropriate field trips, swimming, crafts, music, recreation, academics, and chapel. An energetic staff and a Christian setting combine for an active and challenging summer.

Our teens, grades 7-10, focus on spiritual and personal growth through team building and SAT preparation with community experiences that expose our teens to the challenges of disabilities and disadvantages. Rock climbing, Six Flags and an active program of recreation, academics, study and service create an experience to challenge and interest any teen.

The all inclusive tuition includes a hot lunch, snacks and all activities. Enroll online at www.smokeriseministries.org, or call the camp office at 678.469.1377.

Looking Ahead...

Office Closed for 4th of July Holiday
 July 3, 2009

Pipe Organ Recital and Rededication
 August 16, 2009

40th Anniversary Celebration
 September 20, 2009

Family Comedy Night with Tim Hawkins
 October 11, 2009

<p>SMOKE RISE BAPTIST CHURCH 5901 Hugh Howell Road Stone Mountain, GA 30087</p> <p>THE CROSS TIE (USPS 002172) is published semimonthly by Smoke Rise Baptist Church Address Correction Requested</p>	<p>Periodical Postage Paid at Stone Mountain Georgia 30086</p>
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Submission Deadline: Thursday, Noon, week before publication.

July 5th Service

On Sunday, July 5th, there will be an 11:00am service only due to the 4th of July holiday.

Tijuana Mexico

If God is calling you to do light construction work or work with children and families in Tijuana, Mexico, please contact Gary Prophitt at gprophitt@bellsouth.net. The cost of the trip for July 25 – Aug. 1 is \$300 plus airfare. Please register online and pay the \$100 deposit by credit card or e-check.

Uganda

It isn't too early to make your commitment to join us on the Uganda Mission Trip. The trip dates are set for October 17-31. While in Uganda the team will work through the African Children's Mission, which provides medical, educational and spiritual help to children, plus meals for school children.

For more info, contact Janet Palmer at 770.922.9502 or jpalmer2006@comcast.net.

Smoke Rise Braves Game

Tuesday, June 30th

Braves tickets: \$8 per person
Add Chick-fil-A box dinner: \$13 per person
Tickets can be purchased from the church office on weekdays, the upper breezeway on Sunday mornings and by the Fellowship Hall door on Wednesday nights.

We will leave the church at 5pm.

For more information contact Linda Cummings at 770.469.5856 ext. 208 or lcummings@smokerisebaptist.org.

Weekday School Openings

Come see and hear about our exciting Weekday School. There are still openings for children ages 15 mo. – 4 yrs. Please contact Paula Reeves at 678.533.0554.

Employment Opportunity

A part time position is open at Smoke Rise. This job requires exceptional PC and Mac skills as well as solid experience in multimedia, particularly digital video production.

If you or anyone you know has these skills and would be interested in applying for this position, we are now accepting résumés at employment@smokerisebaptist.org.

40th Anniversary Trivia

Find out how much you know about Smoke Rise as we prepare to celebrate our 40th anniversary. The first set of trivia questions will be in the bulletin and available online July 5th and must be returned by July 31st along with your name and email. The second set of questions will be handed out on August 2nd.

These questions may be difficult for newer members. Find our long term members and let them help you with the answers.

The LIVING Room 2009 Schedule

Intercessory Prayer
Sunday, July 5th

The Forgiveness Prayer Process
Sunday, September 6th

Preparation for Communion: World Communion Sunday
Sunday, October 4th

Review of the Day: The Daily Examen as Prayer
Sunday, November 1st

The Jesus Prayer
Sunday, December 6th

Classes are held the first Sunday of every month in room A124 under the gym from 9:00-9:40am. Limited to 12 persons per class - see Kathy Dobbins to register. The class facilitators are Dr. Rick Bennett and Rev. Kathy Dobbins.

40th Anniversary Committee Meeting

The Anniversary Committee will meet Wednesday, June 24th, at 6:00pm in S223. Committee pictures will be made during this time also.

Wedding Announcement

Benjamin Smith and Kelly Nettles were married on May 29th, 2009. Benjamin is the son of Ken and Carol Smith.

Smoke Rise Academy: Summer Music Lessons

Smoke Academy of Arts is offering affordable and flexible music lessons that accommodate summer vacation plans and tight budgets. The program runs through July 31st. Students have the option to enroll in 4, 6, 8 or 10 lessons.

For beginners through advanced of all ages, the program is ideal for school band members ready to take music to the next level. The Academy offers conservatory-level instruction in piano, saxophone, violin, trumpet, clarinet, organ, trombone, solo guitar, voice, flute and cello.

"I have several students studying at Smoke Rise and they are showing excellent progress. I definitely recommend the program to band members," said Laura Moates Stanley, Band Director at Brookwood High School and Georgia Music Educator's Association District 13 Chair.

"Our family is so lucky to have found Smoke Rise Academy. My children have taken piano, trumpet and voice lessons over the years and the teachers at Smoke Rise have had an overwhelmingly positive influence on them," said Laura DelGaudio, an Academy parent.

To register, log on to www.smokeriseministries.org and click on "Arts Programs" then go to link for "Private Music Lessons." For more information, email smokeriseartsacademy@yahoo.com or call 678.533.0557.

From the Pastor's Heart . . .

Endings and Beginnings

This year Ascension Sunday fell on Memorial Day weekend. I thought this was appropriate and in my sermon weaved the two ideas together. Let me share some of those ideas with you in my article.

The ascension of Jesus reminds us that there will be times in all our lives when someone we depend upon will leave us. Even Jesus could not stay with his disciples forever. This relationship, like all relationships, was subject to change.

What relationships are changing in your life now? Are you preparing to send your child to college? Has a family member taken a job away from home? Is a son or daughter getting married this summer and heading in a new direction? Have you recently been to a cemetery and buried someone you dearly loved?

Is this a tender weekend for you because it reminds you of all the changes that have or will soon occur in your life? Will you place flowers on someone's grave tomorrow?

We must not let the loss of someone, even someone we are dependent upon, paralyze us. In both accounts of the ascension of Jesus, Luke looked forward as well as backward. He reminded his readers of Jesus' parting words to the disciples.

"Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem" Luke 24:47-48.

"You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth" Acts 1:8b.

How were they to do this, in light of the fact that Jesus would not be with them as he had been for three years? They were to be led and empowered by the Spirit, promised to them by the Father. Even though Jesus would not be with them in the flesh, they would not be alone. They would be "clothed" with the Spirit from above.

This is the key to moving on after any loss. We, too, must rely upon the Holy Spirit to comfort, sustain, lead, guide and empower us. Without His help, we run the risk of becoming hostages to anger, grief and bitterness. With His help, our very trials can become testimonies of God's grace and power.

I see another connection between this passage and Memorial Day. **I believe all of us have a responsibility to prepare those who depend upon us for the time when we will no longer be with them.** Jesus certainly did this. Listen to the words of Luke 22:44-49.

"These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled. Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures and he said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Messiah

is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.'"

Did you know that Luke emphasized the fulfillment of scripture in the resurrection appearances more than any New Testament writer? He quoted from the Torah, the prophets and the Writings. Why did he do this? He wanted to show his readers what Jesus did for his disciples. He used words familiar to them to "open the minds of the disciples" and prepare them for his arrest, crucifixion and resurrection.

Sometimes we, too, have to open peoples' minds to possibilities that they would rather ignore. Like Jesus, we have to expand their understanding.

Randy Pausch did this for his family and friends. You recall that he was the forty-seven year old computer science professor at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh. In 2005, he was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and he took the final two years of his life to prepare those dependent upon him for his death.

One of the things he did was to co-author a book titled, The Last Lecture. It was based upon the last lecture he gave to his students on September 18, 2007. In this lecture, Pausch spoke about the importance of overcoming obstacles, living life to the fullest and helping others achieve their dreams.

Perhaps you watched the lecture on You Tube, and if you did, you recall that he did not write this lecture for his students, but his three children and wife. The students merely listened to what he had to say to them, which applied to their lives, too.

This lecture and the book that followed were the way he prepared his family for life without him. I am certain that it helped him process his own grief, too.

In all likelihood, we'll not do something on the grand scale that Randy Pausch did, but we need to follow his example. We, too, need to prepare those who are dependent upon us for the time when we'll no longer be with them.

Who can help you do this? I believe the same Spirit that helped Jesus prepare his disciples will help you, too. Will you call upon Him?

Will you also call upon God to help you with your grief today? You may have visited a cemetery this weekend and are feeling the pain of separation. Will you ask Him to walk with you through the valley of the shadow of death and lead you in new directions? I am confident He will accompany you every step of the way, just as he did the first disciples.

Until Sunday, *Bob*

"...The same Spirit that helped Jesus prepare his disciples will help you..."

Stone Mountain Co-op

For the month of June the Stone Mountain Co-op pantry needs are peanut butter, jelly, hot and cold cereal, canned tuna, macaroni and cheese, dried beans, spaghetti sauce (no noodles), toilet paper, soap and liquid laundry detergent.

Appliances, Furniture & Household Items Needed

We are collecting appliances, furniture, and household items to take to God's Appalachian Partnership (GAP) in McDowell, KY.

We are most grateful for the overwhelming response from the church in the past and look forward to this continuing. Please call Bob Jernigan at 770.934.3005 to arrange for your items to be picked up.