

|                              | Year to Date           | Budget to Date         | 40 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Offering                                                                               |
|------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Income</b>                |                        |                        | 263 families have pledged \$440,210 to date. \$97,312 has been given by families that have not signed pledge cards. |
| Total Contributions          | \$ 1,163,132.17        | \$ 1,469,993.00        |                                                                                                                     |
| Total Other Income           | 2,388.59               | 0.00                   |                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Total Income</b>          | <b>\$ 1,165,520.76</b> | <b>\$ 1,469,993.00</b> |                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Expenses</b>              |                        |                        | Goal: \$ 570,000.00                                                                                                 |
| Total Operating Expenses     | \$ 1,032,586.35        | \$ 1,144,873.00        | Given or Pledged: \$ 537,522.74                                                                                     |
| Total Ministries – Worship   | 20,488.74              | 35,540.00              | Needed: \$ 32,477.26                                                                                                |
| Total Ministries – Education | 60,173.62              | 104,383.00             |                                                                                                                     |
| Total Missions               | 110,917.74             | 154,826.00             |                                                                                                                     |
| Total Capital Expenditures   | 48,287.04              | 44,625.00              |                                                                                                                     |
| Total Equipment              | 6,074.28               | 20,823.00              |                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Total Expenses</b>        | <b>\$ 1,278,527.77</b> | <b>\$ 1,505,070.00</b> |                                                                                                                     |

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

# The Cross Tie Newsletter

July 27, 2009

**Our Staff**

|                             |                                                  |                             |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Robert F. Browning, D. Min. | Pastor                                           | Church Office: 770.469.5856 |
| 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                                  |                             |

**Deaths**

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

Gloria Bius', Bob Bius' and Kaila Bius' mother and grandmother;

Jim Romine's and Brittani Romine's mother and grandmother.

**A Place for You in Missions?**

Maybe one of these ministry places below is calling you. The contact person is listed for more information.

**Katrina**  
Aug. 13-16  
Jean Bliss

**Park Avenue Baptist**  
Sept. 26  
Mickey O'Kelley

**Appalachia Construction**  
Oct. 11-16  
Bill Blanton

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



**Be a Big Fish!**

The new Sunday School year is swimming near. Come be a big fish in our Nursery pond!

Nursery Sunday School teachers and helpers are needed for the 2009 – 2010 year. If you are able to serve one or two Sundays per month, contact Amanda Coe Burton at 678.533.0555 or aburton@smokerisebaptist.org.

**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                     |

**Follow SRBC Missions Online**

Follow Smoke Rise Mission Teams on Facebook and Twitter! Become a fan of Smoke Rise Baptist Missions and follow the team on Twitter at srbc\_missions.

**On The Road Again...to Biloxi!**

Jim Huston is calling on Smoke Rise to help build one more house in Biloxi, MS. The next Katrina Mission Trip will be August 13 – 16. The mini bus is reserved – all we need is your commitment to go. For more information, please contact Jean Bliss at jbsnoopy@aol.com or 404.861.0098. You can register online at www.smokeriseministries.org.

**Youth Ministry**

Do you have old furniture, rugs, or lamps that you want to get rid of? Let the SRBC Youth Ministry take it off your hands! We are looking for gently used furniture for the new youth room. If you're interested in donating couches, chairs, rugs, lamps, tables, etc., e-mail Carra Hughes Greer at carragreer@gmail.com or Kristy Eggert at kristy.eggert@gmail.com or call 678.533.0551.

40<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION NEARING – SEPTEMBER 20<sup>TH</sup> – MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**Introduction to Journaling**

Sunday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9-9:40pm in The LIVING Room (A124)

Journaling can be a means to "think things through," and it can also be a spiritual discipline when we use pen and paper to strengthen our faith in God. It provides a means of reflection. One person may like to write about daily events, another may find meaning in writing in response to Bible study. There are are numerous ways to journal and see how God speaks in words, events, thoughts, and actions. If you enjoy writing, this class is for you. To register, contact Kathy Dobbins at kdobbins@smokerisebaptist.org.



- Looking Ahead...**
- Pipe Organ Recital and Rededication August 16, 2009
  - Unhindered Concert September 19, 2009
  - 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration September 20, 2009
  - Family Comedy Night with Tim Hawkins October 11, 2009

|                                                                                                                         |                                                               |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| SMOKE RISE BAPTIST CHURCH<br>5901 Hugh Howell Road<br>Stone Mountain, GA 30087                                          | Periodical Postage<br>Paid at Stone Mountain<br>Georgia 30086 |
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**Siberia**  
Jan. 29-Feb. 10, 2010  
Jim Palmer

**Honduras**  
March 6-13, 2010  
Deb Leamon

**Deacons' Meeting**

Due to the Church-wide Breakfast on August 9<sup>th</sup> we will be unable to serve lunch. Therefore, we will have an abbreviated Deacons' Meeting in room S223, immediately following the 11am service.

**Wednesday Night Activities**

All Wednesday night activities restart August 19<sup>th</sup> with dinner at 5:15pm.

Cost: Adults \$6  
Children \$3 (10 and under)  
Family max. \$20

**August 9<sup>th</sup> Services**

Church-wide Back to School Breakfast - 9:00am

Sunday School - 9:45am  
Blessing of the Students  
11:00am service

No 9:00am Early Offering Service

## 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reservations

40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary lunch reservations will begin in early August. When you make your reservation you will receive a ticket for use on September 20<sup>th</sup>. Lunch is free but reservations are required. Contact Linda Cummings for further information at 770.469.5856 ext. 208.

## Employment Opportunities

### Full Time Position at Smoke Rise

A full time position is open at Smoke Rise. Requirements: exceptional PC and Mac skills as well as solid experience in multimedia, particularly digital video production. To apply for this position, send your résumé to employment@smokerisebaptist.org.

### US Census Bureau

The US Census Bureau is preparing to hire people to begin working towards the 2010 census. To view the available openings, go to their Atlanta regional employment page, [www.census.gov/roatl/www/employ.html](http://www.census.gov/roatl/www/employ.html). The opportunities change frequently, so check often.

To prepare for the upcoming recruitment effort, download the Census Practice Test from [www.2010.census.gov/2010censusjobs/](http://www.2010.census.gov/2010censusjobs/). The practice test is similar to the actual test, which measures basic skills and abilities required to perform a variety of census jobs.

Interviews will be conducted at Smoke Rise August 10-14 - more details will follow.

### After School Program

The Smoke Rise After School Program has openings for drivers as well as individuals to assist with recreation and help children with homework. To apply for a driver position, you must be at least 21 years old. The hours for each position are 2-6:30pm daily on school days only and will begin August 15, 2009. To apply, contact Greg Burdett at 678.469.1377 ext. 101.

## Birth Announcement

"Macie Kate," was born June 10th to Kacey and Tami Wells; grandparents are Don and Elizabeth Wells.

## Attention Truck Owners:

The Stone Mountain Co-op needs several individuals with a truck to help pick up food donations from Target in Stone Mountain on Mondays and Wednesdays. To help, please call Nadalie Goldstein at the Co-op at 770.879.5977.

## Coming Soon...Adult Game Days!

Our first Adult Game Day will be on September 3<sup>rd</sup> from 10am - 2pm. Lunch will be provided for a cost of \$5 per person. Let's get together and keep those brains active. During our first meeting we will get organized and name the group. So come with your suggestions. Watch for more details. For more information contact Linda Cummings.

## Care Classes

In the upcoming church year Care Classes will be offered on specified Wednesday evenings and Thursday mornings. Thursday morning classes will be a repeat of Wednesday evening for those unable to attend on Wednesdays. There will be a question and answer section to each class. The current classes scheduled are:

October 7 & 8 - Depression: Do you know someone suffering from depression? Come and get a better understanding of what depression is and how it affects and how you can help them, their friends and family. The leader for the class, Rev. Julie Cannon, is an experienced counselor who previously worked with our Smoke Rise Counseling Center and is currently a Counselor at Mercer University working with students.

Nov. 4 & 5 - Dealing with Grief Through the Holidays: The leader, Rev. Julie Cannon, will give you tools for coping with grief during the holidays.

Feb. 10 & 11, 2010 - The Simple Gift of Presence: Why It's Not So Simple and The Power of Listening. The leader for the class is Dr. Robert Browning. You will learn how important your presence and/or listening is, as well as how to be present and listen to someone in a crisis whether it be illness, divorce, job loss, financial, death, etc.

You will hear more as each class nears. For more information, contact Linda Cummings at [lcummings@smokerisebaptist.org](mailto:lcummings@smokerisebaptist.org) or Marcia Griffith at [marciagriffith@comcast.net](mailto:marciagriffith@comcast.net).

## 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Golf Reunion

September 19<sup>th</sup> - Indian Creek Golf Club  
Shotgun Start - 10:30am  
Cost: \$43 - pay at the Club

Invitations have been mailed to all those who have played in the past men's golf tournaments and Ryder Cups. However, we could have missed someone. If you did not receive an invitation and have played in these tournaments, please contact Bobbie Wade at [bwade4181@gmail.com](mailto:bwade4181@gmail.com) or 770.934.9341 to register. For other questions, contact Ed Brantly at [golfed@comcast.net](mailto:golfed@comcast.net) or Linda Cummings at [lcummings@smokerisebaptist.org](mailto:lcummings@smokerisebaptist.org). This should be a great time of reminiscing.

## Early Offering Notes

The 9:00am Early Offering Service will continue to be held in the Fellowship Hall through August 2<sup>nd</sup>. On August 9<sup>th</sup> there will be no Early Offering Service at 9:00am. There will be a "Church-wide Back to School Breakfast" from 9- 9:45am, followed by Sunday School at 9:45am and Worship & Blessing of the Students at 11:00am in the Sanctuary.

## Elementary After School Program

The SRBC After School Program will begin in August. Our price is a consistent \$240 per month - an average of about \$66 per school week. There is no enrollment fee. The program is limited to 28 children. We are not open if school is closed. Pick-up is until 6:30pm.

Our program includes: snacks, small group homework help, reading club, chess, Spanish, dance, crafts, sports, recreation and other club-type activities. The Smoke Rise Academy of Arts programs are available for an additional fee.

Drop-in care is available, but school pick-up must be scheduled on a consistent basis. Schools we already have definitely scheduled include: Livsey, Smoke Rise, Mt. Carmel, Wynbrook and Camp Creek. Schools tentatively scheduled (depending on response) are: Mtn. Park and Shiloh. We will consider other schools where the response is appropriate.

For more information, contact Greg Burdett at [gburdett@smokerisebaptist.org](mailto:gburdett@smokerisebaptist.org) or 678.469.1377 ext. 101.

## From the Pastor's Heart . . .

### Compassion and Courage

Luke 19:41-48

### Communion Devotion

**Courage.** It was the focus of my most recent communion devotion. How was Jesus able to walk into the eye of a storm on Palm Sunday? He knew his enemies were looking for him and plotting to get rid of him. **From where does this kind of courage come?**

If you asked the cowardly lion in the 1939 classic movie, *The Wizard of Oz*, he would tell you that it does not come from a con artist in the Emerald City. You recall that the lion joined Dorothy and her crew of misfits, a scarecrow and the tin man, on their search for those things they thought were missing in their lives. The lion could hardly wait to have an audience with the wizard and receive courage. How disappointed he was to discover that the wizard was no miracle worker, but merely a man pulling levers behind a curtain.

We know that courage doesn't come from a magician, but where can we find it? *I think it comes from within.* Hopes and dreams give birth to courage that compassion and deep convictions nurture.

I believe this was true for Jesus. One reason he was brave was because he had lofty hopes and dreams for this world and was passionate about pursuing them.

He dreamed of a world where "justice rolled down like a mighty stream" and people lived in peace. "Thy kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven," he taught his disciples to pray. His mission was to do his part to answer that prayer, whatever the cost.

Making the world a better place for all people to live was his purpose and overcoming evil trumped self-preservation. His compassion for the oppressed and strong convictions to help them never allowed him to take the easy way out and settle down in any number of villages that would have embraced him.

Are you in search of courage today? Dream noble dreams and aspire to reach them. Focus upon the people who need you to remain faithful to your calling and I believe you will find the same courage that Jesus did.

*I also believe that courage comes from outside of us.* Courage grows in the soil of encouragement. It blossoms as others reveal their confidence in us.

All was not lost on the lion's trip to the Emerald City. His spirit soared when

the wizard wisely pointed out that the lion's behavior revealed that he already had the courage for which he was searching. On several occasions, he acted courageously even though he was afraid. He just needed someone to recognize it and point it out to him, which the wizard did. As a result, the wizard gave the lion a medal of honor and bravery that he could wear around his neck as a reminder of his inner strength and courage.

"Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord," Jesus' fellow pilgrims chanted on Palm Sunday. They saw more than a Galilean carpenter or itinerant preacher that day. They saw a messenger sent from God to help them in their plight. This had to encourage Jesus.

Are you looking for courage today? Listen to family and friends that see your potential and believe in you. Courage grows in the soil of encouragement. Be an encourager and receive it from others.

Courage is also a gift from God. It is rooted in faith, the kind of faith that enabled Jesus to confront and overcome his fears.

Do you remember where Jesus was when he was arrested four days after Palm Sunday? He was in the Garden of Gethsemane praying. Faith and fear collided that night, as they had on other occasions, and his faith sustained him. God gave him the strength to do the difficult and He will do the same for you.

**Do you need courage?** Are you facing stiff challenges and heavy responsibilities? Are you grappling with complex problems or struggling with powerful temptations? Are you gripped with fear and wrestling with the urge to run away from those who need you or those who can help you?

**How do you walk into the eye of a storm and face down your fears?** Do what Jesus did. Listen to your heart. Dream noble dreams and pursue them passionately. Surround yourself with encouragers. Rely upon God and confront your fears with faith.

Take a few minutes to talk to Him about this now.

Until Sunday, *Bob*

## Uganda, Anyone?

Join us on the Uganda Mission Trip October 17-31. The team will work through the African Children's Mission to provide medical, educational and spiritual help to children plus meals for school children. For more information, contact Janet Palmer at [jpalm2006@comcast.net](mailto:jpalm2006@comcast.net) or 770.922.9502.

## Mission Teams

Please keep the Appalachia and Tijuana mission teams in your prayers this week, July 25 - August 1.

Appalachia: Andy Alexander, Brenda Alexander, Bill Blanton, Jenny Brannan, Page Fulgham, Carole Harrison, Georgianne Harrison, Marcella Howard, Pat Thomas and Tim Adcox.

Tijuana: Karen Bates, Michael Danishek, Peggy Duke, Charlene Echols, Wilson Echols, Tom Griffin, Brittney Johnson, David Prophitt, Gary Prophitt, Alex Roberson, Hannah Roberson, Fernando Uribe, Roy Vreeland, and Ashley Wood.

## 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Trivia

The first set of trivia questions are currently available in the church office and online. Return your answers with your name and e-mail address to the Linda Cummings by July 31<sup>st</sup>.

The second set of questions will be available as in insert in the bulletin at 11am on August 2<sup>nd</sup>, in the foyer area after the 9am service, in the church office, the lower breezeway or online. Return these answers by September 2<sup>nd</sup>. The winner will be announced at our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration on September 20<sup>th</sup>. Contact Linda Cummings for more information.

## Co-op Donations

The Lilburn Co-op's thrift store, Lily's Cloak, needs ladies clothing for clients to wear to work and on job interviews. Bring your donations to the store at Five Forks Trickum Road in Mountain Park. Store hours are Mon. - Fri. from 10am - 8pm and on Sat. from 10am - 5pm.

Also, school supplies are needed at both the Lilburn and Stone Mountain Co-ops.