

	Year to Date	Budget to Date	40 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Offering
<b>Income</b>			263 families have pledged \$440,210 to date. \$98,807.74 has been given by families that have not signed pledge cards.
Total Contributions	\$ 1,256,757.06	\$ 1,679,992.00	
Total Other Income	3,441.74	0.00	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 1,260,198.80</b>	<b>\$ 1,679,992.00</b>	
<b>Expenses</b>			Goal: \$ 570,000.00
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 1,116,253.33	\$ 1,295,198.00	Given or Pledged: \$ 539,017.74
Total Ministries – Worship	25,189.01	40,617.00	Needed: \$ 30,982.26
Total Ministries – Education	62,691.90	115,381.00	
Total Missions	128,281.43	169,714.00	
Total Capital Expenditures	51,829.04	51,000.00	
Total Equipment	7,562.04	22,011.00	
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 1,391,806.75</b>	<b>\$ 1,693,921.00</b>	

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

### 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	

### Smoke Rise Counseling Center

Affiliate of Care and Counseling Center of Georgia

Gloria White, M. Div., LCSW	Counselor and Center Director	770.469.6547
Rene Ely, M. Div., LMFT	Counselor	
Gina Campbell, M. Div., LCSW	Counselor	

### Co-op Donations

Stone Mountain Co-op needs peanut butter, jelly, soup, hot and cold cereal, tuna and macaroni and cheese. Also, bring in school supplies for both the Lilburn and Stone Mountain Co-ops.

### Deaths

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

Mary Davis Woodell's brother-in-law and sister; Donna Redmon's mother; Bruce Jackson; Charles Hancock; Bo Prosser's Aunt; and Jim and Kay Howie's Son, Neal, (former members).

### 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. Call Nadalie Goldstein at the Co-op at 770.879.5977.

# The Cross Tie Newsletter

August 10, 2009

### A Place for You in Missions?

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

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

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

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

**Siberia**  
Jan. 29-Feb. 10, 2010  
Jim Palmer

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



### Fall Bible Studies

Register online or in the sanctuary breezeway

**The Love Languages of God:** Through his best-selling series, Dr. Gary Chapman has defined key ways in which people of all ages communicate and understand love. This eight week study expands on these practical, biblical principles by showing how they apply to the One who loves us most. Tuesdays at 9:45AM beginning September 14<sup>th</sup>. \$13.00 for workbook.

**Take It To The Limit:** Come Back from the Edge Overloaded? Maxed out? Our culture encourages us to live as if we have no limits. We do, spend, and acquire as much as we can in an effort to get as much as we can out of life. This six week study with DVD shows that the secret to getting more out of life is not by doing more, but by doing less. You'll learn to create the margin you need to live the life God intends for you. Sundays at 5pm beginning September 13<sup>th</sup>. \$7.00 for study guide.

### Organ Rededication Recital

The new organ chimes and bells, given in loving memory of James L. Dodson by family and friends, will be dedicated at the 11AM Worship Service. The Organ Rededication Recital will be at 3PM.

### Got Skills? We Need You!

Children's Department needs people to teach three or four Wednesdays evenings (6:45-7:30pm) for our Club 410 missions unit. Our children need to learn life skills that will help them serve others.

If you have a talent, skill or interest area that you could teach or share, please call Kellie Denton at 770.469.5856 or email at [kdenton@smokerisebaptist.org](mailto:kdenton@smokerisebaptist.org).

Help is needed in the following areas: sewing, (or quilting or crochet), pottery, scrapbooking, first aid, videography or reporting, handyman skills (older children), computer, painting and puppetry.

### Wednesday Night Activities

Wednesday night activities resume August 19<sup>th</sup> with dinner at 5:15PM. Adults \$6, children \$3 (10 & under), family max \$20.

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

You may now make reservations for the Smoke Rise 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Lunch. At that time you will receive a ticket for use on September 20<sup>th</sup>. Lunch is free but reservations are required. Please invite former members and ask them to contact the church office to make their reservation.

Reservations can be made on Sundays, now through September 6<sup>th</sup>, in the breezeways and Wednesdays, August 19<sup>th</sup> to September 2<sup>nd</sup>, at the fellowship hall. Deadline for reservations is September 6<sup>th</sup>. Contact Linda Cummings, 770.469.5856 ext. 208, for more information.



### Looking Ahead...

40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration  
September 20, 2009

Flu Shots  
September 23, 2009

Family Comedy Night with Tim Hawkins  
October 11, 2009

SMOKE RISE BAPTIST CHURCH  
5901 Hugh Howell Road  
Stone Mountain, GA 30087

Periodical Postage  
Paid at Stone Mountain  
Georgia 30086

THE CROSS TIE (USPS 002172)  
is published semimonthly by  
Smoke Rise Baptist Church  
Address Correction Requested

\*\*\*\*\*CAR-RT LOT\*\*C 044

Graham & Penny Stovall  
2007 Carrington Ct

Stone Mountain, GA 30087-1449



## 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.

## 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.

### 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.

## Prime Time

Prime Time begins the 2009-2010 year with the first meeting on September 1<sup>st</sup>. Group leaders will be calling soon for dinner reservations. We look forward to great dinner and entertainment this year!

If you are not a member of Prime Time you have a special invitation to join us on September 1st for the beginning of our new year. You may call the church office (770.469.5856) by Friday, August 28<sup>th</sup>, at noon to make your reservation.

## Birth Announcement

"Ryder Brantly," was born July 10<sup>th</sup> to Brannon and Meredith Bass; great grandmother is Mary Davis Woodell.

## Online Devotional

Does it help to spend a few moments with God in the morning, but you're just too busy? Take a minute to check out an online devotional at [www.d365.org](http://www.d365.org).

## 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.

## 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 or 770.934.9341 to register. For other questions, contact Ed Brantly at golf@comcast.net or Linda Cummings at lcummings@smokerisebaptist.org. This should be a great time of reminiscing.

## 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 or 678.469.1377 ext. 101.

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

The second set of questions are available in the church office, the lower breezeway and online. Return your answers along with your name and e-mail by September 4<sup>th</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.

## 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.

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

February 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 or Marcia Griffith at marciagriffith@comcast.net.

## From the Pastor's Heart . . .

**40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** I can hardly believe that we are less than two months away from our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration. Over two years ago we started planning and getting ready and I am glad we did. Working out all the details and getting the facilities ready take time. We were wise to begin the process early.

I want to thank Arlene Kirkland and Kathy Goodenow for their excellent leadership. They have worked closely with Linda Cummings and others to plan a wonderful celebration. Check our publications and website for all the details.

I also want to thank Penny and Graham Stovall for helping us raise the money needed to get our facilities ready and make the celebration possible. We are approximately \$30,000 away from our goal of \$570,000, and in these difficult economic times, this is phenomenal. Thanks Penny and Graham! Let's reward their hard work by achieving this goal before the celebration begins.

By the way, the facilities are looking so good. Each time I walk into the sanctuary, I stand and gaze at it. I am grateful for all the improvements made to it, the narthex and the breezeway. These improvements, along with others throughout the building during the "Faith, Family and Future" campaign a few years ago, make our building look fresh and inviting. In my opinion, this is so important. Taking pride in our facilities and maintaining them is wise stewardship and an act of worship. I think it speaks volumes to visitors, too, about our commitment to this community and the Lord's work.

I need you to do a few things before September 20<sup>th</sup>. Contact friends and family members about our celebration. Give former members a personal invitation. Call a church member that has not been with us for some time and encourage them to be with us that day. Word of mouth is going to be the best way to spread the news about our celebration. We can send invitations and publicize it in a variety of ways, which we have done, but there is something special about receiving a personal invitation. Don't assume that someone knows about it and is coming. Call them!

Lou needs a head count for the meal that will be served after the service on September 20<sup>th</sup>. There is no charge for the meal, but she needs to know how many to prepare for that day. Look for MaryLynn Manley in the breezeway on Sundays or the fellowship hall on Wednesday evenings and make your reservation. When you do, you will receive a ticket for use on September 20<sup>th</sup>. If you know of someone out of town that is coming, encourage them to contact us so that we can add them to the count.

I am so excited about the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration. What a great event this will be and a wonderful time to renew old acquaintances. Pray that God will honor us with His presence and bless us with an outpouring of his gracious spirit.

**Mission Trips** I am hearing glowing reports from our members that went on mission trips this summer. We have scanned the globe and made a great impact upon people that desperately need help to survive. I cannot thank our church enough for hearing their pleas for help and responding with such an outpouring of compassion and grace. Your sacrifices on behalf of others have been noticed and appreciated. Thank you and God bless you for your valiant efforts.

**Families in Need** Our own Families in Need Ministry continues to go well and is making a difference in many lives. This ministry is designed to help our members who

are struggling in these tough economic times. I sleep better at night knowing that we are doing our part to help our own. No other church is responsible for their welfare. I am grateful for those who oversee this program. They are doing an outstanding job!

I still get requests from other ministers and churches wanting to know the details of this program. They are impressed with what we are doing and how efficiently it is operating and responsibly it is handled.

**Our Budget** Continue to be faithful stewards and generous givers to our own budget. All our mission and ministry efforts rely upon a strong home base. The stronger our foundation, the more ministries, missions and programs we can build upon it.

Let me conclude my article with an excerpt from the final chapter I have written for our revised church history.

"I believe one yearning that is universal is the desire to make a difference in the world. People want to help others. This has been demonstrated many times throughout our church's history, especially the last ten years. The growth in hands-on mission activities beyond our campus has

been phenomenal. The number of participants involved in mission projects topped 1,000 for the first time in 2006. Helping others has become a passion as members have adopted our new dream, "to give ourselves away."

We need to continue this tradition and provide opportunities for our neighbors from all walks of life and religious traditions to work with us to make the world better. Repairing homes can repair our world. I am convinced this is our calling and that growth in impact is as important to our future as numerical growth. Actually, I believe the two are undeniably linked.

We must be wise and faithful stewards who give generously of our time, talents and money to provide the ministries and programs needed to help our neighbors grow and mature in their faith. Like all worthwhile endeavors, ministry is expensive. Meeting people's needs in Christ's name will require sacrifices from us as it did our Lord. We must love people as he did and accept that challenge. I encourage all the members of our church to give generously and faithfully to support the work of our church and to include our beloved church in your will.

Until Sunday,

*Bob*

You are cordially invited to the  
Fortieth Anniversary Celebration of  
Smoke Rise Baptist Church  
Sunday, September 20, 2009  
9:30 am - 10:20 am Gathering Time, Sanctuary  
9:30 am Aiken College Student  
Sunday School Class Reunion, Chapel  
10:00 am Charter Members and Former Ministerial Staff  
Group Photos, Sanctuary  
10:30 am WORSHIP SERVICE  
Please be our guest for Lunch  
Fellowship Hall and Gymnasium  
Music by Mr. Dale Stone during Lunch  
Please Note:  
"UNHINDERED" in Concert  
Saturday, September 19, 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary  
No Sunday School  
5901 Hugh Howell Road  
Stone Mountain, Georgia 30087