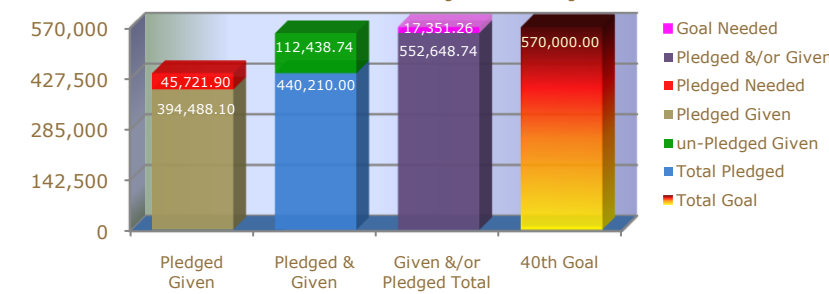
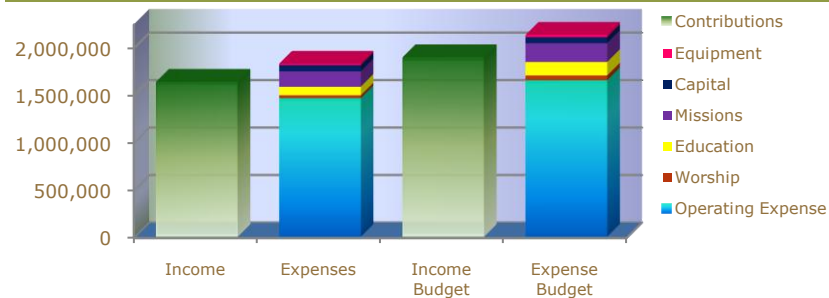


Financial Corner: through October 12, 2009



“It’s Spooky To Be Hungry”
It’s Spooky To Be Hungry is the name of the Stone Mountain Co-op’s food drive for October. Items needed are: canned fruit, canned green vegetables, hot and cold cereal, peanut butter, jelly, mac & cheese, soup, tuna and toilet paper.

Online Pictorial Directory
 Follow the link on the SRBC home page to view an online version of our new pictorial directory. Call the church office to receive the member access code needed to view membership information.

40th Anniversary Offering Update
 Watch as we continue to work towards finishing some of the renovation projects that are still underway; such as completing the pews and the carpeting in the sanctuary (both floors)!

The Cross Tie Newsletter

October 19, 2009

Sign-Up for Missions!

Katrina
 November 12–5
 Contact Gary Prophitt

Siberia
 January 29–February 10
 Contact Jim Palmer

Honduras
 March 6–13
 Contact Deb Leamon

Uganda Mission Team
 We have five mission volunteers from SRBC serving in Uganda October 19 – November 2. They are Wilson & Charlene Echols, Tom Griffin and Jim & Janet Palmer. Please pray for them during this time.

Date Change for Katrina Trip

The NEW DATE is November 12–15. Gary Prophitt would like to know that you are going on this last Katrina Trip. Please contact Gary at gprophitt@bellsouth.net or 770.979.8472.



Fall Festival

Wednesday, October 28th, from 6-9pm
 It’s time to have fun with cute kids in costumes, the smell of popcorn, games with prizes, a hayride and moonwalks and jumpies! All made possible by adults and youth giving time to make the night special for our community. Come for family supper first. We need your help! Invite your neighbors and children of all ages. Contact Lois Jernigan at 770.934.3005 to sign up as a worker.

The LIVING Room

Review of the Day: The Daily Examen as Prayer
 Sunday, November 1st at 9am in The LIVING Room

Long ago, a man by the name of Ignatius developed a prayer exercise called the Daily Examen. This experience of prayer leads you to review your day with a view toward where God was at work. Five simple steps help bring clarity to what God is saying on any given day, as well as discern where God might be leading for the future. You are invited to experience this prayerful process as a tool for spiritual growth and direction. Register with Kathy Dobbins at kdobbins@smokerisebaptist.org.

Deck the Halls...for the Holidays!

Tuesday, November 17th 6:30pm in Fellowship Hall
 Sponsored by Smoke Rise Women’s Ministry

Come enjoy a delicious holiday dinner followed by floral designs and holiday decorating ideas from our multi-talented Minister of Music, Danny Vancil. All of Danny’s creations will be given as door prizes with a very special grand prize for one lucky lady. If you would like to host and decorate a table, please contact MaryLynn Manley at 770.925.7509. Tickets will be on sale beginning Sunday, October 25th.

Apples, Leaves & Great Food

Adult Apple Trip
 October 22nd - Don't Delay!

Leave Smoke Rise 10am. Eat at the Smith House in Dahlenega, stroll around the square for a short time, ride through the mountains for leaf viewing and stop at an Apple stand on the way home. Return around 4:30pm. Cost is \$26. Sign up with Linda Cummings in the Church Office.



Our Staff

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

Church Office: 770.469.5856

Deaths

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

Steve Huff's father, Mellin; Mark Sowell's sister, Doris; Henry King's mother, Frances.

Nursery Parents & Volunteers

It’s time to sign up for November, December & January service dates. The scheduling poster is outside the nursery office. To volunteer during Early Offering, see Amanda Coe Burton.

Smoke Rise Counseling Center

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

770.469.6547

THE CROSS TIE ISSUE 809P2 SMOKE RISE BAPTIST CHURCH Send feedback, information and updates to: crosstie@smokerisebaptist.org

Looking Ahead...

Smoke Rise Christmas Choir presents, *Handel's Messiah* at 7:00PM December 20th
 Family Christmas Eve Service December 24th, Sanctuary
 Dave Ramsey Seminar January 2010

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

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 www.smokerisebaptist.org

Birth Announcements

Join us in celebrating these new births in the Smoke Rise family:

"Jackson Richard," born September 23rd to Emily and Bronson Swancey; grandparents are Judy and Hugh Buchanan.

"Justin Hampton," born October 22nd to Karen and Chris Carrollton; grandparents are Ann and Jack Carrollton; aunt is Kathy Carrollton.

Oakland Cemetery "Crypt Tour"

Friday, October 23rd

Leave Smoke Rise via motor coach at 5:45pm
Dinner at Six Feet Under (on your own)

Cost: \$18 per Person

Sign up on Wednesdays and Sundays through October 21st. Tickets are limited, so don't delay! Contact Linda Cummings for more information.

Help SRBC Families in Need

Assistance is still available through Smoke Rise Families In Need (FIN). If you have a need or know a fellow Smoke Rise member who is in need, please contact Bob Browning, Ernie Forrester or Tim Adcox.

Adults Game Days

Our next Game Day will be on November 5th from 10am-2pm. Call the church office at to make your reservation. Lunch will be served by Lou and her staff. Cost is \$5 per person.

There will be an array of games to choose from (including Bridge). The choice is yours - we'll teach you these games in record time. Bring a friend. See you on November 5th!

Thank You!

Smoke Rise Family,

Two bricks for the Stone Mountain Co-op Prayer Garden have been given in honor of the Smoke Rise Congregation and Smoke Rise Church Staff as a thank you for the prayers, help and support given to us during my recent illness and recovery. You were our solid foundation throughout the entire ordeal. We have also given a donation to the Lilburn Coop in your honor a while back.

Again, thank you! You are the best support group anyone could hope for!

Linda and Ray Cummings

Watch for These Upcoming Events...

Lights at Lanier

Mark your calendars now....the Family Fun Events Team has planned a road trip to Lake Lanier to see the Christmas Lights on Saturday, November 28th. Details coming soon!

Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace Seminar

Coming in January - sign up will begin in November. Watch for details!

Upcoming Care Class

Dealing with Grief Through the Holidays
Wednesday, November 4th, from 6-7:30pm in the Parlor

After the loss of a loved one, holidays can be a heart-wrenching time. Rev. Julie Cannon will give you tools for coping with your grief during this holiday season that will also help with future special occasions and holiday events. Julie is an experienced counselor currently working with students at Mercer University. She has also been a counselor on our Counseling Center Staff.

To sign-up or for further information contact Linda Cummings at 770.469.5856 ext. 208 or lcummings@smokerisebaptist.org or Marcia Griffith at marciagriffith@comcast.net.

Atlanta Flood Response

In response to the extensive flooding we've seen in Atlanta neighborhoods, Smoke Rise is ready to help! To begin our response, we need the following information: Who is it that needs help - contact information, location and description of basic need(s). Donations will be accepted to help those in need, make checks payable to Smoke Rise Baptist Church, designated Atlanta Flood.

Are you willing to volunteer? If so, please contact the church office at 770.469.5856 or smokeriseinfo@smokerisebaptist.org and provide your contact information and availability (email preferred).

Academy Fall Music Lessons

The Academy of Arts is now offering adult art classes, drama classes for children and teens and private music lessons for most band instruments. Conservatory-level instruction is offered for piano, saxophone, violin, trumpet, clarinet, organ, trombone, solo guitar, voice, flute and cello. Register at smokeriseministries.org. For more information, email smokeriseartsacademy@yahoo.com or call 678.533.0557

Fall Study: God's Voice for a Troubled Time

The three-session study on Jeremiah, led by Dr. Colin Harris, Continues Wednesdays at 6:30pm in Fellowship Hall

October 21st - *Session Two: The Assurance*

In spite of the breakdown of religious and political systems, God is still sovereign and the covenant is still valid.

November 4th - *Session Three: The Promise*

God is with people in ways they cannot imagine, and a new level of covenant relationship awaits their faithful openness.

A Message from Impact Basketball

The Impact Basketball League, operated by the Smoke Rise Baptist Recreation Department, offers an opportunity for children and youth in this area to play basketball in a safe and faith-based environment. This ministry is a great way for SRBC and the other local churches to reach out to people in the Smoke Rise community.

The deadline to sign-up is October 31st. For more information or to register, go to www.impactbasketballleague.com. A player does not have to be a member of Smoke Rise or any other particular church.

Prime Time

The next Prime Time meeting is November 3rd at 6pm in the Fellowship Hall. We've had great entertainment this year and will continue to do so in our November meeting as we welcome *Mystic of Southern Lady*, one of the best storytellers in the South.

If you are not on a Prime Time group, call the church office to make dinner reservations. The cost is \$8 per person.

From the Pastor's Heart . . .

Our Journey Continues...Grateful Hearts and Generous Spirits

I like the theme of our stewardship campaign this year. **"Our Journey Continues...Grateful Hearts and Generous Spirits."** Since the 40th Anniversary Celebration, which was wonderful in every way, we have focused our attention upon the next generation of ministry through Smoke Rise. The Sunday following the celebration was one of the most significant in our church. The staff talked about our future using the core values as a guide. Your response to the staff's presentations has been most appreciative.

I said that day that I had never seen the staff more excited about ministry. Their love for God, one another, our church and this community is evident. Each feels that God has called him or her to Smoke Rise "for such a time as this." The entire staff wants to be the presence of Christ in our church and the marketplace, encouraging and equipping others to do the same. Truly, it is a great time to be on mission together through this wonderful church. Thanks for your role in making this happen.

Ministry is expensive. I've said this on many occasions. Helping others requires that we give our time, talents and resources. We have no better role model than our Lord, who gave himself away every day on behalf of those who needed his help. As a result, he made hope visible and his world a better place to live. So must we.

I call on you to join our staff and leaders in helping those who are struggling. Remember our motto: "Every member a minister." The greater the participation, the greater our impact will be upon our community and world.

We must have a strong home base if we are going to respond to the overwhelming needs around us. Now, more than ever, our church needs your financial support. This is no time for us to be timid or fearful. We must be confident and bold.

I know the recession has hit us hard, as it has all charitable organizations. We have been most fortunate because we were poised and prepared to weather this economic storm by paying off our debt and tightening our belts. Your generosity, especially at the end of last year and throughout 2009, has provided that strong

home base we needed this year. We must, however, be as faithful and generous as we wind down this year as we were the previous year. Without this kind of sacrificial generosity, we will have to make some tough decisions about ministry in 2010.

As a result, I am asking two things of you. **Give generously and even sacrificially the remaining Sundays of 2009.** Our giving must be strong in the last quarter of the year if we are going to be able to minister to our people and community as they need and God expects. I cannot stress this enough. Make this a matter of prayer.

Make your contribution to the 2010 Ministry Budget a matter of prayer and serious deliberation, too. Talk to your

family about the importance of financially supporting our church and the ways you can do this in the coming year. Fill out a commitment card and turn it in on November 15th, along with fellow church members. This year, especially, we need to walk together on this common faith journey.

If every member will do these two things, ministry through the church we love so much will continue

to thrive. Even a recession as severe and long as this one will not threaten us.

Recently, I talked with a member about the 40th anniversary celebration. He spoke of the great number of people that returned that day to tell their stories of how this church impacted their lives. I recall hearing many people tell me that even though they had moved, they had not found another Smoke Rise. 1,500 people came together that day to say thank you for the role this church has played in their lives.

I understand why people came. This church is like no other. The bonds of love that develop here nourish hungry spirits and souls. The ties that bind us are filled with life, love and loyalty. We must build upon that tradition and continue feeding hungry spirits. This community needs us. This church needs us. Let's rise to the occasion.

Until Sunday, *Bob*

Staycation Thank You Notes

Dear Smoke Rise family,

Thank you so much for your enthusiasm and support of Staycation weekend and the Family Comedy Night with Tim Hawkins. Friday and Saturday we had over 75 folks attend the movie night and family service project day singing at the nursing home, delivering cookies to the fire department, making volunteer bags for the animal shelter and helping flood victims. Sunday evening we had over 800 people filling our sanctuary, laughing together. What an energizing and amazing weekend! Below is a letter from Kim Marks, Marketing Manager of Dream House for Medically Fragile Children that I wanted to share with you. I feel blessed to have such a wonderful church family. Thank you Smoke Rise you shine Gospel light brightly!

Kellie Denton, Kara Blankenship & Amanda Burton

Smoke Rise,

What an incredible gift Smoke Rise Baptist Church has given Dream House: exposure to the 700+ attendees, a chance to participate in a great community-owned event and the opportunity to make new friends and further the mission that is changing lives. On behalf of everyone at Dream House, thank you for choosing our organization for this mission outreach initiative. We are sincerely grateful for all the time, energy and effort that your team and congregation volunteers put forth to make the event such a wonderful experience for all who attended.

The Dream House