

The C R O S S T I E

**Promotion Sunday is August 7
(No 8:30 Service)**



**Wednesday Night Activities Resume
August 10**



**Deacons' Meeting &
Quarterly Church Conference
August 14**



**Pastor's Pancakes
August 14, 21 and 28
Fellowship Hall
9:15 - 10:00**



The July 29, 2005
Newsletter of the
Smoke Rise Baptist Church

Wonderful, Wacky Wednesday Nights in August!

What happened to summer? School seems to start earlier and earlier each year! For the month of August, we are going to help ease you back into the Wednesday evening schedule! Our August Wednesdays will be a time of fun and fellowship for families!

- Wed. Aug. 10—Frantic Family Field Night—join us for hot dogs, hamburgers and field games with your kids!
- Wed. Aug. 17—Christmas in August—start saving your shoeboxes as we get a jump start on our Operation Christmas Child shoebox ministry!
- Wed. Aug. 24—Smoke Rise Academy of Arts Wizard of Oz Production
- Wed. Aug. 31—Tune Talented—a great night of music and talent!

****More Information to follow!!!**

Children's Ministry News

Promotion Sunday is August 7!

Our Children's Ministry still has opportunities to serve our preschoolers and grade school children. Positions include a helper each for our two kindergarten Sunday School classes; shepherds for Grades 1-4 Sunday School rotation; 2 Sunday School assistant coordinators; and Adult Sunday School classes to help with September's rotation classes. Wednesday night opportunities include leading and assisting positions with Mission Friends (preschool age); teaching and assisting positions with Girls in Action (Grades 1-4) and Royal Ambassadors (Grades 1-4). We are also expanding our preschoolers and children's greeters at our welcome desk. Please contact Bethann at ext. 207 or bayers@smokrisebaptist.org for more information.

Security and Safety at Smoke Rise

The issue of building security and personal safety has been a major concern of the building committee. In order to provide a more secure facility, a new locking system is being installed. The new system will feature an electronic door locking system that will automatically open and lock major entrances to the building, e.g., nursery entrance, gym entrance, breezeway entrance. The doors at these entrances will require a card with an implanted computer chip to open them. Staff members will be provided these cards for their use.

We are asking our members to use the breezeway entrance on the gym side during the week. This entrance provides ample parking and easy access with no steps from the parking lot to the breezeway door. In addition, this new locking system provides a greater measure of security for the children and staff in our weekday school program.

The breezeway entrances will have outside video cameras to identify those seeking entry into the building. A monitor will be placed on the receptionist's desk in the office and the receptionist will unlock the door for those entering. On Sundays and Wednesday nights, all outside entrances will be open for use.

Our plan is to begin using the new locking system following Labor Day. This new procedure will require some adjustment in the way most of us access the church during the week but the security and safety it provides is worth the small inconvenience we might experience.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation during this time of change and for your help and understanding.

Our Sympathy



We extend our sympathy to these who have lost loved ones: Sid Jones, whose father died; Cindi McComsey, whose brother-in-law died; Carol Garner, whose grandmother died; and Ruth Leazer, whose mother died.

Births

Congratulations and best wishes to Randy and Heather Black on the birth of a daughter, Kamry Paige, born June 14; sisters are Katie, Kellie, Kassie; grandmother is Mary Robinson; and to Bill and Julie King (prospects) on the birth of a son, Andrew Wyatt, born June 29.

Recommended Reading List

The fourth edition of the reading list is now available in the Sanctuary Breezeway. Pick up a copy and start reading! The first Monday Night Roundtable for the Fall will be on Oct. 3. The featured selection is *God's Politics* by Jim Wallis. You can sign up and purchase the book in the Sanctuary Breezeway.

Life Connections

Connecting Faith With Real Life

September Class Schedule:

The Sacred Texts of the World Religions led by Dr. Gary Leazer — Sundays at 6 pm beginning September 11

The Patriarchs — This new Beth Moore study begins on September. 11 (Sundays at 6 pm) and Sept. 12 (Mondays at 9:45 am)

Register online or in the Sanctuary Breezeway

Faith & Issues

Sundays at 9:45 am in Room A124

August Topics:

- 8/7 Putting our faith into action: Class will discuss how we want to be involved in meeting needs locally and globally
- 8/14 From Dunkin' to Dancing – Our Baptist history, beliefs and distinctives.
- 8/21 Baptist Beliefs – part two
- 8/28 Baptist Beliefs – part three

Meet the Adult Education Advisory Team

Who are we? People selected from the congregation to represent the different generations in the church: *Joel McLendon, Laurie Boltin, Anne McClearn, Colin Harris, Debbie Stephenson, and Doris Nelms*. Also meeting with us are the Sunday School Advisory Team members: *Thad Smith, Michele Deriso, Dennis Cummins and Gary Leazer*. These four represent our adult Sunday School classes. Every class has an assigned representative. To find your representative, go to the church website and look on the Adult Ministries page or call Kathy Dobbins (we still need one more person).

These teams have been meeting with Kathy to evaluate our adult education ministry which includes: Sunday School, Bible studies, spiritual formation groups, retreats, Monday Night Roundtable, women's ministry, Wednesday evening lecture series, special events, marriage enrichment, Klesis (gifts & calling), and worship as education.

We are also looking at our educational objectives, asking the questions: What is our stated goal? How do we challenge people to engage in the process of learning (that which fosters spiritual growth)? Our educational purpose or mission is taken from one of the church's core values: ***To nurture spiritual growth and maturity.***

These advisory teams welcome your input as we seek to carry out this mission and reach more young adults who will be taking their places of leadership at SRBC

Congratulations to Tami Owens and Scott White, who were married July 16. Tami is the daughter of Ted and Teressa Owens.

Notes from the Pastor

Mission Trip Reports

Good reports are coming in from those that have been on the mission fields during July. This includes members that have been to New York City, Tijuana, and Smithfield, North Carolina. Bethann also brought good news from Centri-Kid Camp at Toccoa Falls College. I want to thank the leaders of all these trips and those that participated in them. I know many lives were touched and changed forever.

Kick-Off Sunday

I hope you have marked August 7 on your calendar. This is our annual kick-off Sunday as we begin a new year of church activities. Lou will have a delicious breakfast ready for us that morning as we fellowship with one another before Sunday School. At our combined service that day, we'll have the annual "Blessing of the Children" as they prepare to return to school. Make sure your children and grandchildren are here for this special service and the group picture that will follow. It is a treat to look back at the pictures taken over the years and see how our kids have grown.

New Sunday School Classes

I am excited about the three new classes that will be offered this fall. Descriptions of these classes can be found elsewhere in the Cross Tie. Take a moment to read about them to see if you are interested in joining one of them. I am grateful for the new leaders of these classes and for Kathy Dobbins' efforts to get them going.

If you have not been attending Sunday School, consider coming to one of these new classes. An excellent time to join a class is when it is beginning because everyone is new to the class and getting to know one another. I know you would be welcome in any of our classes, but especially these new ones. Come on Kick-Off Sunday and one of our greeters will help you find a class.

Door Numbers

I am glad to see the new numbers on each of the doors throughout the educational buildings. This is a part of our renovation and will make locating classrooms much easier. Even I have gotten lost a time or two...or three or four.

Pastor's Pancakes

Do you smell those hot pancakes and waffles and see that butter melting all over them? If you come to the fellowship hall on August 14, 21, 28 between 9:15 and 10:00 you will. My Sunday School Class is busy making final preparations for feeding the church these three Sunday mornings before Sunday School. Bring your family and friends and enjoy some hot pancakes and warm fellowship before heading to Bible Study. We'll have our aprons on and spatulas in hand cooking for you.

By the way, I have a much greater appreciation for anyone that works in food services. My goodness, how do you do it? How do you feed the masses daily or weekly? My hat's off to Lou and her fine crew! They deserve aprons lined with gold!

Wednesday Night Meals

Speaking of meals, the Wednesday night activities resume on August 10. Lou will be preparing her fine meals for another season. Make plans now to eat at church every Wednesday night. I cannot imagine a better meal in a finer atmosphere than Lou's Place on Wednesday nights. I certainly enjoy seeing the seasonal decorations, visiting with everyone and eating delicious meals. Serving lines are open from 5:15 until 6:30 p.m. Stop on your way home from work. You will be greeted with smiles and cheery hellos from lots of friends and neighbors.

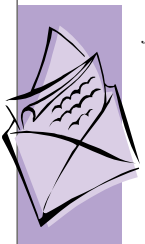
Parents, be sure to read what Bethann has planned for the children on Wednesday nights in August. I got excited listening to her talk about the activities and know your children will, too. Make a special effort to have your children here every Wednesday night!

August Has Arrived

Can you believe we are entering the eight month of the year? You know what this means. School bells will soon be ringing and footballs will be flying. It's time to get serious about life after the lazy, hazy days of summer and study those football rankings. Just who is #1 in each conference and why? What will those injuries mean to each team? Which will be the most crucial game of the season? This is the stuff that keeps people awake at night, you know...that is unless you are a basketball fan!

Until Sunday,
Bob

Letters of Appreciation



On behalf of my entire family, I would like to express our deepest gratitude to everyone at Smoke Rise. Your love and tremendous show of support during this very difficult time has meant more to us than words can describe. Please know that we are forever grateful.

Sid Jones and Family

Smoke Rise Baptist Church, you are tremendous! Lou and I thank you for your many acts of loving kindness during my heart attack and recovery. May God bless each of you.

Russ McGuff

Youth News

Laser Show — Friday August 12. We will meet with the group from N.C. that we met at World Changers. Join us as we show them some Georgia kitsch. We leave the church at 8:30.

Rafting Trip — Wednesday, August 3. Raft the Nantahala (30 spots for the first 30 folks to give me \$10).

Sunday Night-LIFE- (but different) for Gr. 7-12 begins August 7

8.14 — Sign Language Ministry begins meeting again Time & place TBA.

Drama Group meets Sundays @ 4:00 p.m.

8.28 — Youth Parent Lunch - find out how parents & students can grow through the Student Ministry at SRBC

8.28 — "Big Daddy Weave" in concert at Rehoboth. Cost is \$5; we leave at 6:00.

Congratulations to David Harrison and Vivian Richardson who were married Saturday, July 16, in Cedar Key, FL. David is the son of Joel and Georgianne Harrison.

Attention Deacons

The next scheduled deacons meeting is set for Sunday, August 14. Please mark your calendar and confirm any change to your lunch reservations by Thursday, August 11.

Quarterly Church Conference

The next quarterly church business meeting is set for Sunday, August 14 at noon in fellowship hall. Lunch will be served and a reservation for lunch is needed. To make your lunch reservation, please call the church office on or before August 11.

Wednesday Night Activities

Wednesday night activities for the new school year will begin on August 10. Serving for supper begins at 5:15 P.M. Activities for children and youth begin at 6:00 P.M. Adult activities begin at 6:45 P.M. in fellowship hall. Mark your calendar and plan to be present.

Finance Committee

The monthly meeting of the finance committee is set for Thursday, August 11 at 7 P.M. in room S-223-224. All members are urged to be present as plans for the 06 church budget will be discussed.

Mighty and Strong.

Exercise to build strength, improve balance, increase bone mass, release tension and loosen joints. A series of eight classes will begin on Thursday, August 4. Register with Pat Madden at 770-806-9385.

FINANCIAL STATISTICS

As of July 20, 2005

Four hundred forty families have pledged \$2,039,364.40 to date for the 2005 Budget.

	YEAR TO DATE (THIS YEAR)	BUDGET TO DATE
INCOME		
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS	\$1,227,273.17	\$1,400,000.00
TOTAL OTHER INCOME	<u>12,533.48</u>	<u>0.00</u>
TOTAL INCOME	\$1,239,806.65	\$1,400,000.00
EXPENSES		
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	\$1,014,584.67	\$1,168,472.00
TOTAL MINISTRIES – WORSHIP	12,128.26	16,450.00
TOTAL MINISTRIES – EDUCATION	53,859.76	83,445.00
TOTAL MISSIONS	92,758.80	113,744.00
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	16,207.12	20,060.00
TOTAL EQUIPMENT	<u>4,252.52</u>	<u>7,836.00</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,193,791.13	\$1,410,007.00
MORTGAGE BALANCE:	\$ 743,380.11	

FAITH, FAMILY & FUTURE CAMPAIGN:

Four hundred fifty-six families have pledged \$2,703,714.00 to the Faith, Family & Future Campaign.

CONTRIBUTIONS	\$2,137,651.43
LINE OF CREDIT/SRBC LOAN/GIFT +	370,000.00
EXPENSES	<u>-2,513,952.05</u>
BALANCE	\$ (6,300.62)

Periodical Postage
Paid at Stone Mountain,
Georgia 30086

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

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

OUR STAFF

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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



I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.”

— John 10:9