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Smoke Rise Baptist Church

Annual Fall Festival

Wednesday, October 25

6:00pm – 8:00pm

Come for supper 5:15pm - 6:30pm
Hot Dogs, Chili, Baked Potatoes



for Children thru



Elementary Age

Community Welcome!

Fun Hayride Prizes Moonwalk



Dealing with Grief during the Holidays

Sunday, November 12 from 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Fellowship Hall

This one-day workshop deals with establishing new traditions after the loss of a loved one. Led by Peachtree Hospice. Reception following the workshop. For information, contact Elizabeth Byars at 770-813-1041.

Church Basketball League: 2006-2007

Register Online Now

at www.smokeriseministries.org/new/Basketball.htm.

Deadline: October 30

- 5-6 Coed — \$85 (Jersey Provided)
 - 7-8 Coed — \$90 (Jersey Provided)
 - 9-11 Girls — \$90 (Jersey Provided)
 - 9-11 Boys — \$90 (Jersey Provided)
 - 12-14 Girls — \$90 (Jersey Provided)
 - 12-14 Boys — \$90 (Jersey Provided)
 - High School Girls — \$80 (Optional Jersey)*
 - High School Boys — \$80 (Optional Jersey)*
 - Men's Open and 35+ — \$65 (No Jersey)
- * The optional jersey may be purchased for \$12



For more information call Tim Adcox, League Director, at 770-469-5856.

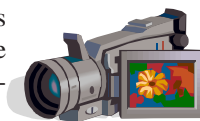
Mari Jo Ford Honored

Mari Jo Ford will be inducted into the Atlanta Hospitality Hall of Fame by the Atlanta Convention and Visitors Bureau for her work as one of "those unique individuals who have made a one-of-a-kind impact on Atlanta and Georgia, and who have raised our city and state to a new level in the eyes of residents and visitors from around the world."

She will be recognized at the Eighth Annual Awards Ceremony on October 24. Others previously recognized for this honor include Andrew Young, Ted Turner, John Portman, Truett Cathy and Horst Schulze. Smoke Rise congratulates this special member!

Multimedia Team Needs Volunteers!

Available jobs include camera operators, slideshow & video editors, production directors and lighting & video control personnel for live performances. Expertise is desirable, but not required. Training will be available.



Contact Team Leader Adrian Clift or the church office or visit the multimedia page on the church website for additional information.

Our Military Away Project

Our Military Away project at Smoke Rise is in need of funds in order to continue sending our Christmas and Easter packages. If you or your Sunday School Class would like to help us continue this project, you may contribute in the following ways:

- Place the money — either Cash or check — made out to Smoke Rise Baptist Church with a note that it is designated to Military Away — in an envelope.
- Label the envelope — MILITARY AWAY FUND.
- Place the envelope on Debbie Lloyd's desk or in her box in the church office, or in the offering plate.

Thank you for your support when we began this ministry, and we appreciate your contributions so that we can continue to remember our Military Away.

Thanks from Susie Middlebrooks and Margaret-Anne Prophitt, Smoke Rise Military Away Committee.

Pick up a description of fall Life Connection classes in the sanctuary breezeway.

Sunday, October 22- A Religious History of the American People: The Impact of the Civil War on Churches, Immigration, and the Social Gospel Era: 1850-1920. Taught by Dr. Gary Leazer at 6 p.m.

Monday, October 23-What's the Good of Prayer? Study for Senior Adults & anyone interested. Led by Dr. Colin Harris at 10 a.m. in S220.

The Gift That Keeps Giving

The Gideons distribute Bibles all over the world in a variety of ways. The organization places Bibles in 80 different languages in more than 170 countries. Smoke Rise members can be a part of this ministry by giving Bibles in memory of a friend or loved one. There is a Gideon memorial Bible rack located on the wall outside the fellowship hall. Envelopes are there with complete instructions on the process. If you have any questions, please contact Larry Yates or Bill Blanton.

Georgia Baptist Convention Annual Meeting

The Georgia Baptist Convention will hold its annual meeting on November 13-14. Please call Bobbie in the office if you wish to go as a messenger.

Letters of Appreciation



Dear Church Family,

Thank you for your prayers, cards and phone calls for Omer during his procedure for a kidney stone, and also for the prayers on behalf of my sisters at their critical time.

It is wonderful to be a part of such a caring church family.

Love,

Omer and Carol Marcus

Dear Smoke Rise Family,

Please accept my heartfelt gratitude for all of your prayers, phone calls and numerous cards since my family's car accident. My recovery is much easier to bear knowing that I have the support of such wonderful people, most of whom I have known since I was in the nursery at Smoke Rise.

Thank you again for your continued prayers!

Love,

Christa Edgar

Fall Golf Fellowship



The Fall Golf Fellowship will be at the Indian Creek Golf Club in Covington on November 13. Cost: \$45 includes golf and lunch. Format: 2 man better ball, flighted and handicapped. (Play your own ball and take best net score of your partner and you.)

Deadline to sign up is Noon on Sunday, November 12. Contact Bobbie in the church office or Ed Brantly at 770-469-1319 or 404-295-2628.

Volunteers Needed for the Kitchen

Help is needed for set-up, events, washing dishes, etc. Join this hardworking fun group and minister to our church family. Contact Lou at 770-413-2133, ext. 212.

Notes from the Pastor

Last Sunday's message focused upon Mark 7:24-37, two healing miracles. I mentioned that I was intrigued by Mark placing them together and wondered why he did so. For me, they were connected because in each story someone had to speak for the person in need. A young girl's mother had to be her voice and a group of people had to speak for the deaf and dumb man. Without help, neither victim's circumstances would have changed.

In these stories I see the mission and task of the church. We are to speak for those that have no voice in order to make their lives better. Without our voice, they have no hope.

Quite simply, there are two groups of people in the world. One is people in need that can speak for themselves and get help. They have adequate resources and opportunities to obtain what is needed to improve their situation. This group has hope for a better day.

The other is composed of people that have no hope for change because they have neither resources nor opportunities to improve their lot in life. For the most part, they are unnoticed and unloved. No caring community embraces them or listens to their story.

Who are they? They are abandoned children in Senegal, orphans in Siberia, the starving masses in Sudan, AIDS patients in Africa or political prisoners suffering under repressive regimes. Closer to home, they are abused children or battered wives in our neighborhoods, the working poor that skip meals to make ends meet or the sick that have no medical insurance. They are the under-educated that cannot find employment, the immigrants that cannot speak English or the neglected senior adult that has no family.

Society is not tuned in to these people. They have no voice or when they speak no one listens.

Isn't it the role of the church to find these people and speak for them? I think so. As a matter of fact, I believe the message behind these two stories is this. If we have food to eat, clothes to wear and a roof over our head, we need to be grateful and ask who doesn't. If we live in peace and have good health, access to medical care, a quality education, and a meaningful job, we need to ask who doesn't. If we have a loving family, dear church friends and close relationship with God, we need to ask who doesn't and why not. We need to find these people and bring their plight to the attention of the entire world so that their basic needs can also be met.

Wasn't this Mark's point for connecting these two stories? The task of the church is to speak for those that society is ignoring or shunning. Believers are to be like that mother crying out for her child's welfare or the group seeking healing for their friend. We are to be advocates for those that have none. This means that we must care deeply for those that are hurting and be moved by their plight, even when we are tired from carrying our own burdens.

There can be no limits on the people we help if we are going to partner with Jesus. Compassion knows no season or geographical, economic, racial, ethnic or ideological boundaries. If Jesus was willing to help a Canaanite woman whose ancestors occupied the Promise Land, and a Gentile from Decapolis, then the church must hear the cry of adversaries as well as allies.

The church must find and tell the stories of any oppressed people that have no hope of being liberated. The world may deem some people unworthy, but the church must never. Instead, the church must see their value and offer them community. The church must find them, listen to their stories and then tell their stories with the same intensity of this mother with a sick child. The church must be determined, pushy and, if necessary, as impolite as this desperate mother.

Is the church doing this? The best way I know to answer this is to say that it is not being done to the degree it should. I don't hear the church speaking out for those in despair as much as I do journalists and leaders of humanitarian organizations. I hear far more saber rattling coming from pulpits than talk of the toll violence is taking upon innocent victims.

Do you know how many innocent children and adults have been injured, displaced or killed by the violence in the Middle East, Sudan, The Democratic Republic of the Congo, Afghanistan, Iraq or a host of other countries? Do you know how often domestic abuse occurs in our country? Do you know how many children go to bed hungry each night? Do you know how many people suffer from treatable diseases because they can afford no health care? I don't and am indicted by my own questions. How about you?

Years ago, I would have preached this sermon differently. I would have talked about Jesus' ability to heal sick people and offered hope to anyone with a disease. I still offer that hope.

However, I see it in a new light now. The people that need a miracle performed in their lives so they can hear and speak are not at home or in a hospital room. They are sitting in the pews and standing in the pulpits of churches all over this world. We are the ones that need God to perform this great work. For we, like the Pharisees that Jesus encountered in the first half of this chapter, have grown deaf to the cries of those that are hurting instead of seeking them to be their advocates. May God forgive us and touch our ears so we can hear and our tongues so we can speak boldly.

Until Sunday,
Bob

Uth News



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29

It's a Murder Mystery

6:30 in Fellowship Hall

Don't forget choir at 5 and snack supper at 6!

UPS is Sunday, November 19.

Our special guest will be Eydie!

Have you met Eydie?

DEATHS

We extend our Christian sympathy to these who have lost loved ones: Pat Herndon, whose father died; Shannon Sowell, whose grandmother and great-uncle died; and Sylvia Dodson, whose husband died; Sylvia and Jim have been members since 1976.

BIRTHS

Congratulations to Chris and Laurie Boltin on the birth of a son, "Henry Thomas," born October 3. Grandparents are Tom and Nancy Fowler.



WEDDINGS

Congratulations to Emmett Martin Lawson III, and Danielle Jean DeAngelo who were married October 14. Emmett is the son of Janice and Emmett Lawson, Jr.



HONDURAS INFORMATIONAL MEETING

An Informational Meeting for the next Honduras Mission Trip will be held Sunday, October 29, immediately after the 11:00 worship service in Room 223.

We're Blessed To Bless Others

The Children will be collecting new toys for God's Appalachia Project. 1st through 5th grade boys and girls (GA's & G-Force) have made collection boxes which are in the upstairs breezeway. 5 Year Old Sparks have made a collection center at the nursery entrance across from the fish tank. Please bring in your new toy by November 26th.

3 & 4 Year Old Mission Friends will be collecting Toys and Hygiene products for the Appalachian children. They will be assembling hygiene kits on Nov. 1st. Please show your support to our children by donating items for their special mission project.

Special thanks to all those adults helping on Wednesday nights, we really appreciate your time. A GREAT JOB goes to all the Wednesday evening children for making such wonderful collection centers!

KIDS CAN DO MISSIONS, TOO!

Give and it shall be given unto you, since the gifts go around and back again. —Robert Fulghum

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Over the past few weeks, the children 1st-5th grades have been learning about the importance of Making Good Choices and Peer Pressure. We have studied various Bible stories where individuals were confronted with having to make the right decisions. Pray for our children as they learn to make good choices day to day and confront the challenges of peer pressure at school. Thank you to all our Sunday School teachers who so willingly give their time and special thanks to our new volunteers who responded to help out this rotation.

PARENTS (AND GRANDPARENTS) OF CHILDREN BIRTH THROUGH AGE 5

Please Don't Forget To Sign Up For Extended Session before Oct 29th.

FINANCIAL STATISTICS

As of October 12, 2006

Four hundred twenty families have pledged \$2,089,351.00 to date for the 2006 Budget.

	YEAR TO DATE (THIS YEAR)	BUDGET TO DATE
<u>INCOME</u>		
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS	\$1,762,235.41	\$2,083,330.00
TOTAL OTHER INCOME	47,196.93	22,500.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$1,809,432.34	\$2,105,830.00
<u>EXPENSES</u>		
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	\$1,520,574.23	\$1,687,633.00
TOTAL MINISTRIES – WORSHIP	20,300.24	31,325.00
TOTAL MINISTRIES – EDUCATION	75,539.01	117,023.00
TOTAL MISSIONS	157,084.89	172,926.00
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	62,884.88	63,824.00
TOTAL EQUIPMENT	11,305.45	13,420.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,847,688.70	\$2,086,151.00
MORTGAGE BALANCE:	\$ 502,733.45	

FAITH, FAMILY & FUTURE CAMPAIGN:

Four hundred forty-nine families have pledged \$2,689,784.00 to the Faith, Family & Future Campaign.

Funds designated by Finance Comm	\$ 30,000.00
Contributions	+2,523,572.20
Expenses	-2,754,605.27
Cash Balance	\$ (201,033.07)
SRBC Loan	\$ 204,081.57



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Georgia 30086

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

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OUR STAFF

Church Office: 770-469-5856

Robert F. Browning, D. Min.	Pastor
Linda Cummings	Interim Administrator
Kathy Dobbins	Minister of Adult Education/Outreach
Danny Vancil	Minister of Music
E. Ernest Forrester, Jr.	Minister of Youth
Kellie Denton	Interim 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

Counselor

October Donations

will go to the Stone Mountain Co-op.

They are in need of Peanut Butter, Jelly,
Pasta, Mac & Cheese, Soup, Tuna, and Rice.

Please bring all items to the shelves
near the office or the shelves in the hallway
under the gym.

Thank you for your generosity!