

# The C R O S S T I E

## Relay for Life Silent Basket Auction/Biscuit Breakfast

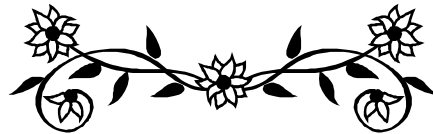
April 30



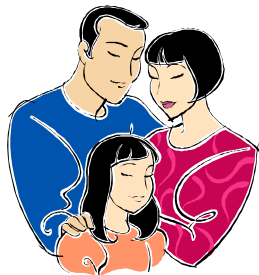
The Smoke Rise Relay for Life team is sponsoring a Silent Basket Auction and Biscuit Breakfast to raise money for the American Cancer Society. Beautiful themed baskets will be on display in the Fellowship Hall beginning at 9:00 a.m. Bidding ends at 9:45 a.m. You will want to take one of the baskets home with you as you support our team and the American Cancer Society.

Sausage biscuits and orange juice will be available for \$3.00.

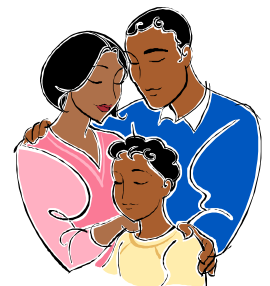
Support your team and help fight the battle against cancer.



### The Smoke Rise Parenting School Presents:



*Talking to Your Child  
About Sex in a Culture of Sex”*  
May 7 at 9:45 a.m. in the Chapel



Led by Rick Bennett  
Associate Coordinator of Faith Formation  
The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship

Rick will be addressing these issues:

- How do we respond to the seeming obsession of our culture with sex ?
- How to validate sexuality as a God-given component of what it means to be human
- Explore ways that parents can talk with their children about both sex and sexuality.
- How do we help our children identify with a healthy, biblical sexuality in the midst of a highly sensual and “sexualized” culture?



*Dear Smoke Rise Baptist Church Family,*

*It is with great joy and honor that I accept the call as your Minister of Music. I thank you for the care and thoughtful consideration you have given to this process.*

*Your prayers and support continue to mean so much as I make this transition.*

*I look forward to working and singing with you as we travel this journey of faith together.*

*To God alone be all the glory.*

*Danny*

## Welcome, Danny Vancil

We warmly welcome Mr. Danny Vancil as our new Minister of Music. Danny begins his ministry with us on May 1. His first Sunday leading in worship is May 7. Please make every effort to be at church on the 7<sup>th</sup> to extend your welcome to him.

## Thank You, Marc Beaver

The congregation and choir are deeply indebted to Dr. Marc Beaver for his enthusiastic and superb leadership as our Interim Minister of Music. Marc's last Sunday with us is April 30. A reception for Marc is planned for Wednesday, April 26 at 7:30 P.M. in room S-223-224. Everyone is invited to attend to express your personal appreciation for his work with us.

## Chuck Moates to Retire

Dr. Chuck Moates, Minister of Administration has announced his plans to retire at the end of June. Chuck and Alice-Ann will be moving to Greenwood, S. C. in July where they will establish their permanent residency in retirement. Chuck's last Sunday at Smoke Rise will be June 25.

## Prime Time News

The May meeting of the Prime Time group is set for Tuesday, May 2 at 6:00 P.M. in fellowship hall. The program will feature Jay Aiken and Karen Stitt, picking and singing for your enjoyment and pleasure. Mark the date and plan to join us.

## Deacons' Lunch/Meeting

The monthly meeting of the deacons is set for Sunday, May 7. Lunch will be served in fellowship hall at noon. Deacons, if there is a change in your standing lunch reservation, please call Bobbie by Thursday, May 4. The deacons' meeting will be conducted in room S-223-224.

## Hurricane Katrina Rebuilding Trip Dates

May 4-7, June 8-11, August 10-13,  
and September 7-10.

For information, contact Jim Huston at 678-300-9303  
or [jhuston3@comcast.net](mailto:jhuston3@comcast.net).

## Marriage Enrichment Series

Dr. Browning will lead the second of this series on Friday, April 28, at 6:30 pm. The cost is \$15.00 per couple – includes dinner. Childcare by reservation.

## Faith and Issues

**Sundays at 9:45 a.m. in Room A125**

April 23 — People of Faith and Courage: Oscar Schindler

April 30 — People of Faith and Courage: Martin Luther

## Letter of Appreciation

*Dear Smoke Rise Family,*

*On this tenth anniversary of Jack's death, I want to thank all of you again for the love and support that you gave to me and my family during his illness and death.*

*The dedication service for the beautiful Stained Glass windows is something I will never forget, and a part of me will always be at Smoke Rise.*

*I am so blessed to have a wonderful church family.*

*With much love,*

*Nonie Williams*

## Smoke Rise Baptist "Back Hall Bunch"

Smoke Rise Baptist Church has been building a unique summer program for teens 13 to 16 years old. "The Back Hall Bunch" is a program that combines community service, team building, creative academics, and recreation in a balanced approach to spiritual, personal and social growth. They are searching for a limited group of teens to participate in this summer program.

The community service aspect of this program is what truly sets the Smoke Rise program above the rest. Through this involved program teens develop a sense of community that transcends their personal concerns.

Team building includes a course in communication and trust ending in a high ropes course. There is also an outdoor tree-climbing challenge and paint ball teams to add fun. Their Odyssey of the Mind academic program features creative challenges.

If all this activity is not enough, each week these teens go to Six Flags and White Water. Swimming, putt-putt and skating are weekly choices. When they have a rare few moments to relax they have exclusive use of a 54" movie screen, a pool table, ping pong, foosball and the ever enjoyable couch.

For more information, call Gregory Burdett at 678-469-1377 or email to [daycamp@smokeriseministries.org](mailto:daycamp@smokeriseministries.org).

## Youth News

### World Changers = Missions Connect

June 25 - July 1

\$300

Gulfport, Mississippi

**Registration Deadline is April 30**

**(or when it fills up)**

### Andy and Becca's Reception

April 23

Fellowship Hall 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Andy with the students for final  
farewell

at 7:00 in the gym

### SNL

April 30

Staff vs. Youth in kickball

Be here at 6:00 p.m. for snack supper

Game will begin around 7:00 p.m.

## Notes from the Pastor

### Easter

What a celebration we had on Easter! I don't believe I have ever seen a more beautiful Easter weekend and our services were filled with joy and love. Thanks to all that made the day so memorable and meaningful.

Allow me a personal word about the 11:00 Easter service. This marked my thirty-sixth Easter as a pastor. I have been a part of some wonderful celebrations that I cherish. The second service last Sunday was the best I have ever witnessed. From beginning to end, it was spectacular and many of you felt the same way from your comments.

To conclude the service, Marc led the choir in singing the "Hallelujah Chorus." What made it even more special was the fact that everyone that wanted to be a part of the finale was invited to join the choir on the platform. From all over the sanctuary, people streamed out into the isles and came forward. The choir number quickly doubled as young and old alike took their places on the platform. Simply stated, it was heavenly! I'll never forget the sound of the choir and orchestra and all those smiling faces singing one of the most glorious songs ever written. It was truly a moment for the ages!

In addition, I had a grand time at the Easter egg hunt for our children. What a delight it was to see so many young families and happy children. I appreciate Bethann and all her dedicated helpers for their good planning, making this event special for so many in our church and community.

I must also express appreciation to all that planned our Maundy Thursday service. This year, the service was held in the fellowship hall utilizing our new audio/video equipment. It was one of the most inspiring Holy Week services I have attended. This service, which included dramatic readings and communion, did so much to prepare me for Good Friday and Easter. Thanks to all that made it so special!

### Staff Members

Wow, my head is spinning from all the staff members coming and going. 'Tis the season for change at Smoke Rise.

On May 7, we shall welcome **Danny Vancil** to our church as our new Minister of Music. I cannot tell you how excited I am about Danny coming our way. What an asset he will be to our church and staff.

On Wednesday evening, April 26, we have a reception planned for **Dr. Marc Beaver** to express our appreciation for his wonderful work as our interim Minister of Music. Words cannot express our deepest appreciation to Marc for his fine leadership. What a joy it has been to have him on staff the last year!

On Sunday evening, April 23, we shall have a farewell reception for **Andy and Becca Jones**. Andy has been the assistant Minister to Youth for the last five years. He has graduated from the McAfee School of Theology and Becca will graduate this spring. Andy has accepted his first full-time position as the Youth Minister at First Baptist Church in Augusta. Becca will be seeking a youth position in that area, also.

By the way, on Sunday evening, May 21, Andy and Becca will be ordained to the Gospel Ministry in our chapel. What an honor it is for Smoke Rise to affirm this fine couple as they embark on their professional ministry. It is also another way for us to express our appreciation to them for their good service among us.

In June, we shall say goodbye to **Dr. Chuck Moates** as he and Alice-Ann prepare to move to Greenwood, South Carolina. Chuck

will retire after serving thirty-seven years in ministry, fifteen as the Administrator at Smoke Rise.

It is with deep appreciation for Chuck's good work among us that we say bye to him and Alice-Ann. Chuck has been far more than an administrator at Smoke Rise, as important as this role is. He has supervised the ministerial staff, visited members in hospitals, conducted funerals and weddings, planned special worship services, taught Sunday School and Bible studies, preached in my absence, worked closely with our senior adults as the director of Prime Time and served the broader family of Baptists by serving on several denominational committees. He has worn many hats and worn them well. He will be missed and retires with our blessings.

### Thank you, Lord.

Each time a staff member comes or goes, I am reminded of God's goodness and faithfulness. He provides what we need at all times. I have witnessed this often but never cease to marvel at His generosity each time it occurs. While dear friends come and go, God remains and His presence sustains and encourages us. His guiding hand also leads us to new friends that become partners in ministry and traveling companions through life. Thank you, Lord.

### Faith, Family and Future

Let me give you an update on our three-year capital campaign that has provided the resources needed to upgrade our facilities. The price for the renovations was \$2,700,000. To date, we have received \$2,444,948 in contributions. Thank you for your generosity and faithfulness! Our consultant has been amazed at the ratio of pledges made and contributions received, 93%. According to him, this is far above average.

Now is the time to check your contributions to see if you have fulfilled your pledge. Feel free to call the office and talk to Debbie Lloyd, our financial secretary, to see if you have completed your pledge. If you have not and can complete it by the end of the month, the official end of the campaign, it would be greatly appreciated. If you need more time, we understand. Continue to give to your pledge until it is fulfilled. Contributions received after April and throughout the year will still be credited to your pledge and help pay for the renovations.

If you have fulfilled your pledge, would you continue to give to the campaign until the goal is met? If you did not make a pledge, would you give a gift to help us achieve this goal? Your generosity would be greatly appreciated, too.

Almost every week I have members or visitors compliment the improvements made to our facilities and express appreciation for them. The renovations have certainly enhanced our ministries and made it possible for us to reach more people in our community that need a loving church family like Smoke Rise. Thank you Smoke Rise members for "giving yourselves away" to help others!

### For the Beauty of the Earth

Spring in Atlanta is breathtaking. "Thank you, Lord, for the beauty of the earth, especially azaleas, tulips, pansies, daffodils and dogwood trees."

Until Sunday,  
Bob

## Births

Congratulations to Michael and Hannah (Caudill) Holtmann on the birth of a son, Michael David, born April 5. Grandmother is Marcia Gadoua; aunt is Rebecca; and to Bill and Alyson Knight on the birth of a son, Samuel Asa, born April 7. Brother is Jack; grandmother is Margie Neville; great-grandmother is Florence Veal; uncle and aunt are Matt and Merry King Neville.

## Deaths

We extend our sympathy to Marcella Howard, whose father died; to Margaret Morgan, whose brother died; and to John Temple, whose sister died.

### Helper Needed

First Sunday of Each Month  
in Two-Year-Old Sunday School Class  
Contact Amanda Coe Burton  
770-413-2133, ext. 218  
or [aburton@smokerisebaptist.org](mailto:aburton@smokerisebaptist.org)

## CBF National Meeting – Volunteers Needed!

The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship annual meeting is June 21-23, 2006 at the World Congress Center in Atlanta. Area churches in the host city are sharing responsibilities for this event. Smoke Rise will be staffing five hospitality stations in the Omni Hotel and World Congress Center on June 21 & 22<sup>nd</sup>. Shifts are two to three hours for one day only. Information and training will be available. Parking fees will be provided to volunteers. The conference includes over 100 breakout sessions on a variety of topics. If you have never attended this annual event, this will be a great time to check it out and give of your time as well.

To volunteer, contact Kathy Dobbins at (770) 469-5856 or [kdobbins@smokerisebaptist.org](mailto:kdobbins@smokerisebaptist.org).

### FINANCIAL STATISTICS

As of April 13, 2006

Four hundred nineteen families have pledged \$2,088,531.00 to date for the 2006 Budget.

	YEAR TO DATE (THIS YEAR)	BUDGET TO DATE
<b>INCOME</b>		
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS	\$ 668,613.32	\$ 833,332.00
TOTAL OTHER INCOME	<u>15,487.39</u>	<u>9,000.00</u>
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 684,100.71	\$ 842,332.00
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	\$ 534,435.36	\$ 671,799.00
TOTAL MINISTRIES – WORSHIP	5,130.62	11,075.00
TOTAL MINISTRIES – EDUCATION	29,495.52	52,017.00
TOTAL MISSIONS	48,202.46	68,086.00
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	21,622.96	24,084.00
TOTAL EQUIPMENT	<u>2,660.37</u>	<u>5,752.00</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 641,547.29	\$ 832,813.00
<b>MORTGAGE BALANCE:</b>	\$ 602,070.85	

#### **FAITH, FAMILY & FUTURE CAMPAIGN:**

Four hundred fifty-one families have pledged \$2,691,604.00 to the Faith, Family & Future Campaign.

CONTRIBUTIONS	\$2,444,947.60
SRBC LOAN	+ 300,000.00
EXPENSES	<u>-2,754,605.27</u>
BALANCE	\$ (9,657.67)



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### OUR STAFF

**Church Office: 770-469-5856**

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

## VBS (June 12-16) Supplies

We are collecting: 8 oz. and 16 oz. empty water bottles, ziploc sandwich bags and 2.5 oz. empty baby food jars. Place items in containers at Family/Nursery Welcome Desk!

## Centri-Kid Camp Sign-Up

June 26 - 30 at Toccoa Falls College  
For kids who have completed grades 3-6.  
Cost: \$265 (\$50 deposit now).