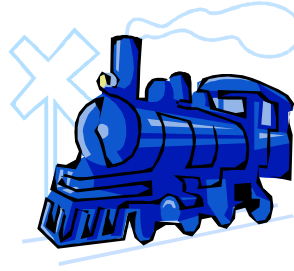


# The C R O S S T I E

## Annual Model Train Exhibit



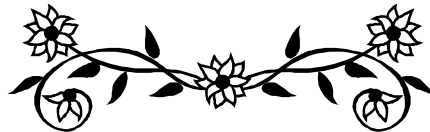
Saturday, July 22 — 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, July 23 — noon - 3:00 p.m.

In the Gym

For Information, contact Rob Keeney

at [largo84@gmail.com](mailto:largo84@gmail.com)



## “The Family Connection”: A Weekend Retreat



August 4-6, 2006 at Smoke Rise

(See Inside for Details)



The July 7, 2006  
Newsletter of the  
Smoke Rise Baptist Church

## 2006 Fall Soccer



Sign-Up Now

Ages 4-8

Cost \$85

Practice starts August 28

Games begin September 9

Register online at [smokeriseministries.org](http://smokeriseministries.org)



*Congratulations to Karen Low & Nathan Phillips who were married June 17<sup>th</sup>. Karen is the daughter of David & Ellen Low.*



**NEW ADDRESS** for Chuck and Alice-Ann Moates: P. O. Box 50182, Greenwood, SC 29649. Phone (864) 227-0829.

## Letters of Appreciation

Dear Smoke Rise Baptist family,

*I greatly appreciate the many prayers, calls, cards and visits from my church family during my recent surgery and recovery. Kay and I are truly blessed to be surrounded with such a loving and caring church.*

*May God bless each of you.*

Ronnie Jowers

## Thank You to Volunteers!

A special note of thanks to all who volunteered at the CBF General Assembly recently. It was great to see so many of our Smoke Rise congregation at the Information Stations greeting and assisting the participants. Our volunteers were an essential part of a successful meeting and the meeting was certainly a success. You made us proud! Thanks so much!

Michele Deriso

## Join the Summer Singers



Each Sunday in the summer, until August 6, we will have a choir in the loft. Rehearsal will be at 10:30 on Sunday mornings in the music suite. If you have the gift of singing and want to try the choir, this would be a great opportunity!

## Congratulations

“Laura Grace” was born May 23 to Perry & Kim Rentz, sister is Anna Lea; grandparents are Dick & Jenny Brannan, aunt is Kristen Owens.



## Dates to Remember – One Service Only 11:00 a.m. Mark your calendar

August 13 — Kick-off Sunday  
September 3 — Holiday Weekend

## “The Family Connection”: A Weekend Retreat

August 4-6, 2006 at Smoke Rise

The Family connection is for people who are members of a family which is – everybody! We’re all part of the Smoke Rise family and we’ll have a great time. Friday evening is an interactive session designed for the whole family (including dinner). Saturday will be half day only with activities especially for children. Our guest speakers will be speaking on “Secrets of Strong Families” in the 8:30 and 11:00 worship services on Sunday. Retreat leaders are Otis & Deigie Andrews, popular marriage enrichment conference speakers. Pick up a brochure in the Sanctuary Breezeway. Cost is \$15.00 per adult (includes two meals). Registration deadline is July 30<sup>th</sup>.

## Faith & Issues

Sunday at 9:45 am; Room A125

### July Schedule

- 9 How our prejudices influence our faith
- 16 How our prejudices influence our faith: Session Two
- 23 Who are Jehovah’s Witnesses?
- 30 Who are Scientologists?

## Sign On For A Smoke Rise Mission Trip!

There are still places available for Mission Trips to Biloxi:

Katrina (Biloxi, MS)

Monthly

Jim Huston 678-300-9303 or

[srbckatrinamission@comcast.net](mailto:srbckatrinamission@comcast.net)

The Appalachia Mission Team is collecting used appliances to take to Kentucky. If you have unused warehouse or garage space, please contact Andy Williams at 678-469-7412 or email at [waandy@bellsouth.net](mailto:waandy@bellsouth.net).

Also, school supplies are needed for children in Appalachia: clear backpacks, spiral notebooks, pens, pencils, etc. Please place them in the container outside the Missions Office. These items will be taken to Kentucky on August 4.

## Deaths

We extend our sympathy to these who have lost loved ones: Jimmy Johnson, whose brother in law died; Larry Holmes, whose sister-in-law died, Rebeca Roper & Betty Herrington, whose brother-in-law, John Stanfield, died. John had been a member at Smoke Rise since 1977.

We also extend our sympathy to Tom and Ken Duvall and Janet McDonald in the death of their mother, Doris Duvall. She had been a member sine 1984.



## *Notes from the Pastor*

### **Yonder**

I'm still singing "I'll Fly Away." The program the choir presented on Wednesday, June 28, in a packed chapel was wonderful. All of us tapped our feet and clapped our hands along to songs such as "Farther Along," "Mansion over the Hilltop," "I Will Meet You in the Morning," "Turn Your Radio On," "Beyond the Sunset," "When the Roll is Called up Yonder," "Dwelling in Beulah Land," "When We All Get To Heaven," "The Unclouded Day," "Shall We Gather at the River" and "Will the Circle be Unbroken?" I felt like I was at a Gaither Homecoming Sing-A-Long. To top it off, Danny had the programs printed on old fashion church fans. Thanks to all that made this a special night filled with "heavenly" music!

### **Celebration of Freedom**

While I'm at it, I would like to thank Danny, the instrumentalists and all that led in the service on July 2<sup>nd</sup> celebrating freedom. The music, readings and prayers helped all of us to thank God for His blessings and focus upon our responsibility to be faithful stewards of our resources and influence as Americans. Let me share an excerpt from the sermon that morning based on Galatians 5:1-15.

Can you imagine how excited Paul would be to live in a country like ours with all the resources, opportunities and freedom he would have to "serve others in love?" The possibilities for service would be limited only by his imagination.

I have no doubt that Paul would be one of former President Bush's "Thousand Points of Light." He would have resonated with John Kennedy's call, "Ask not what your country can do for you but what you can do for your country," and joined the Peace Corps. He would be the chairman of our Missions Committee encouraging all of us to fulfill our church's dream to "give ourselves away," showing us where and how we could do it.

Paul doesn't live here, but we do, and it is up to us to take advantage of the opportunities God has given us to make the world better. This will require that we broaden our concept of freedom to include others, their well-being and fullness of life. It means we must be convinced that God can use us, just as He did Jesus, to bring His presence to others so they, too, can experience healing and restoration.

This is why I challenge you to use your freedom, especially as an American, as the means by which you can "serve others in love." Ask God to liberate you from anything that would keep you from seeing the plight of others and helping them.

By the way, what would that be? What keeps you from seeing or helping those in bondage? Until you grapple with this, you are not as free as you thought you were and certainly not as free as you could be.

### **Camps and Mission Trips**

I have heard glowing reports from the children that attended Centri-Kid camp and the youth that spent the week on the Gulf Coast helping families rebuild after Hurricane

Katrina. Thanks to all the leaders and chaperones that made these trips possible!

Remember in prayer those that will be going to New York City, Tijuana and Appalachia this month. How I appreciate their willingness to spend a portion of their vacation on the mission field. Let's support them with encouragement and prayer.

### **A Family Connection**

Sign up now for the retreat on August 4-6 that will focus upon strengthening families. It will be at our church and be led by Otis and Deigie Andrews, popular marriage enrichment conference speakers. Topics to be discussed are "Discovering and Celebrating Family Strengths," "Growing Happy and Healthy Families," and "Secrets of Strong Families." Pick up a brochure for more information or ask Kathy Dobbins, the staff coordinator for this conference.

One reason we are having the retreat in our fellowship hall is to keep the cost down. The entire weekend retreat will cost only fifteen dollars per adult and this includes meals and materials. You can't beat this price! "Come one and come all" as the old carnival barker would shout. Don't miss this!

By the way, this conference is open to everyone, not just those with children. Everybody is a part of a family and needs to discover ways to enrich those relationships. Grandparents, this conference will be very helpful to you as you influence your children and grandchildren. This would be a great time for all of us to invite friends and neighbors that are not members of Smoke Rise. I can think of no better way to introduce them to this wonderful Smoke Rise family.

### **Stewardship**

Continue to be faithful stewards during the summer even when you are away on vacation. The financial support of our church and its ministries is our responsibility and privilege. Thank you for taking it seriously.

### **Summer Day Camp**

The summer day camp under the direction of Greg Burdett continues to go well. We are experiencing record enrollment and attendance. How grateful I am for this ministry to the families in our community. This is the church at its best! Thanks to all that make it possible.

### **The Braves**

Now, if we could just figure out a way to get the Braves back on track, our summer would be perfect. I haven't given up hope that they will capture their fifteenth straight division title. Of course, I haven't ordered post-season tickets yet, either! We'll see. As the song says we sang Wednesday night, "Farther along we'll know all about it..."

Until Sunday,  
Braves Fan Bob

## COMMITTEE OPPORTUNITIES

The Committee on Committees will begin its work later this summer. Please take a minute to peruse the committee opportunities below for a place you might like to serve. Contact Walter Martin (678-344-6237) or Linda Cummings (770-469-5856) to volunteer or for further information. Please seriously consider a place to share your gifts with others through committees or any of our program areas.

### Administrative Commission

Building Committee	Charlie Ray, Chairman
Committee on Committees	Walter Martin, Chairman
Finance Committee	Wade Higgins, Chairman
Nominating Committee	Amy Allison, Chairman
Personnel Committee	Reed Bennett, Chairman
Stewardship Committee	
Trust Committee	Bill Hearn, Chairman

### Pastoral Ministries Commission

Deacon Selection Committee	Past Deacon Chairman
----------------------------	----------------------

### Recreation and Missions Commission

Mission Support Committee	Janet Palmer, Chairman
---------------------------	------------------------

### Worship Commission

Music Committee	Karen Stitt, Chairman
Worship Committee	

## FINANCIAL STATISTICS

As of June 29, 2006

Four hundred twenty families have pledged \$2,092,531.00 to date for the 2006 Budget.

	YEAR TO DATE (THIS YEAR)	BUDGET TO DATE
<b><u>INCOME</u></b>		
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS	\$1,121,629.74	\$1,249,998.00
TOTAL OTHER INCOME	<u>27,112.89</u>	<u>13,500.00</u>
TOTAL INCOME	\$1,148,742.63	\$1,263,498.00
<b><u>EXPENSES</u></b>		
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	\$ 978,259.00	\$1,043,920.00
TOTAL MINISTRIES – WORSHIP	10,767.11	17,275.00
TOTAL MINISTRIES – EDUCATION	46,868.45	71,893.00
TOTAL MISSIONS	96,991.32	105,013.00
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	36,160.92	39,272.00
TOTAL EQUIPMENT	<u>5,795.50</u>	<u>7,169.00</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,174,842.30	\$1,284,542.00

**MORTGAGE BALANCE:** \$ 569,410.46

### **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	+2,500,956.20
Expenses	<u>-2,754,605.27</u>
Cash Balance	\$ (223,649.07)
SRBC Loan	\$ 230,513.07



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 semi-monthly by  
Smoke Rise Baptist Church  
Address Correction Requested

## OUR STAFF

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

Robert F. Browning, D. Min.	Pastor
Linda Cummings	Interim Minister of Administration
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  
Elizabeth Walker, Th. D., LMFT

Counselor  
Counselor

## Lilburn Co-op Needs for July



The food pantry is extremely low and can use ALL types of non-perishable food items.