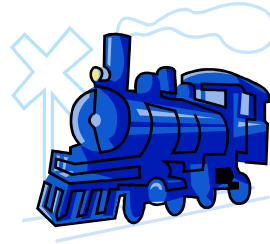


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Annual Model Train Exhibit



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



Observance of the Lord's Supper

Sunday, July 30

8:30 and 11:00 a.m.



“The Family Connection”: A Weekend Retreat



August 4-6, 2006 at Smoke Rise

(See Page 4 for Details)



The July 21, 2006
Newsletter of the
Smoke Rise Baptist Church

Be a BIG Fish!

The new Sunday School year is swimming near.

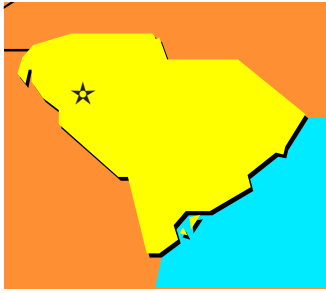
Come be a BIG fish in our Nursery pond.

Nursery Sunday School teachers and helpers
are needed for the 2006-07 year.

If you are able to serve one or two Sundays
per month,

please contact Amanda Coe Burton
at 770-413-2133, ext. 218, or aburton@bellsouth.net.

Thank You from Greenwood, S. C.



Alice-Ann and I arrived safely in Greenwood, S.C. on July 1. Still fresh in our memory is the wonderful retirement celebration provided by the church. Everything was just perfect and the event will be one we will always remember with gratitude.

I especially want to thank Gloria Bennett, Elizabeth Byars and Linda Cummings for the outstanding job they did in planning and putting it all together. Lou and the kitchen staff again made the event so much more enjoyable with culinary delights for every appetite.

I want to thank the church and personnel committee for the generous gift of underwriting the cost of medical insurance coverage until age 65. This is without a doubt a very kind and thoughtful gift for which I am deeply grateful. Additionally, the matching Florida State rocking chairs were simply the best. I'm sure Alice-Ann and I will put many miles on them on our front porch.

For those who might want to know, our new mailing address is: P.O. Box 50182, Greenwood, SC 29649. Phone number is: 856-227-0829. My new e-mail address is: clmoates@hotmail.com. Please keep in touch and know of our prayers for you each day. As Billy Graham once said, "May your troubles be few, your blessings more, and may nothing but happiness come through your door."

God bless you!

Chuck and Alice-Ann Moates

Congratulations to Justin and Melissa Burger on the birth of a daughter, "*Alayna Michelle*," born July 1; sister is Haley McNall; grandparents are Donna and Richard Read; aunt is Carley Read.

and to Allen and Page Holman on the birth of a son, "*Joshua Allen*," born July 13; sister is Caroline; grandparents are Ray and Linda Cummings.

Congratulations to Tim Engram and Jessica Dennis who were married Saturday, June 24, at the First Baptist Church, Columbus, GA. Tim is the son of Michael E and Mary Engram,



Weekday School

Smoke Rise Baptist Weekday School will begin September 5, 2006. There are still openings in some of our classes (2,3 & 4 Years Old). Please call Paula Reeves @ 770-413-2133 Ext. 227 for more information.

Liturgical Dancers

There will be an informational meeting for dancers Sunday, July 30th immediately following the 11am Worship Service. Please meet Rebecca at the front of the Sanctuary.

Faith & Issues

Sundays at 9:45 am; Room A125

July Topics:

- 23 Who are Jehovah's Witnesses? — Gary Leazer
- 30 What is Scientology?

August Topics:

- 6 Understanding the Great Commission: Evangelism in today's world
- 13 Understanding Jesus' Greatest Commandment
- 20 Can a Christian be committed to Christ and also be inclusive?
- 27 Can a Christian be committed to Christ and also be inclusive? Session Two

Attention Nursery Parents and Extended Session Volunteers

It is time to sign up for August, September and October service dates. The scheduling poster is outside the Nursery Office.

Hospice Training

Peachtree Christian Hospice

Three Thursday evenings in August — 6-9 p.m.

Call Linda Scott @ PCH — 770-232-7727

or Doris Nelms at United Hospice Atlanta — 404-292-2081

Children's News

Children's Teacher Appreciation Reception for Sunday School and Wednesday Night Missions Teachers
July 23 in the Fellowship Hall after the 11:00 Worship Service

Children's workers needed for Family connection Retreat
Saturday, August 5 from 10:00-11:30am.
Special activities will be planned for ages 4 & 5 and 1st through 5th grade during the adult session.
We need you! Some paid positions available.
Contact Kellie Denton 770-469-5856 ext. 207
to be a part of this fun-filled event.

Promotion Sunday is just around the corner!
Children's Ministry is looking for Gardeners!
If you can help plant the seeds of a strong spiritual foundation in a child we need you for Sunday School and/or Wednesday night mission discipleship activities!
You can use your talents to help our children
Grow up to Love and Honor God.
Your time as a volunteer is highly valued
and you can make a difference in this important ministry.
Please contact Kellie Denton at 770-469-5856 ext. 207
or sign up on July 23 at our Teacher Recognition Reception in the Fellowship Hall after the 11:00 service.

Summer is flying by! We will soon be collecting school supplies for the Cooperative Ministries starting August 1st.
Get your pencils sharpened!

Childcare workers needed for Extended Session
Two paid substitute positions available.
Contact Kellie Denton 770-469-5856 ext. 207 for more info.

Notes from the Pastor

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!

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.

Blessing of the Students

Our annual **Blessing of the Students** will be on Sunday, August 13. This is the day we highlight our new fall programs, commonly known as **Kick-Off Sunday**. We'll have **Pastor's Pancakes** that morning in the fellowship hall followed by Sunday school and a combined worship service at 11:00.

I look forward to this service for many reasons, most of which is the Blessing of the Students. At the end of the service, all our school age children will come to the platform for a blessing followed by a group picture. How much fun it is to see how they have grown through the years and pictures.

We'll also distribute the names of the students on slips of paper that members take as they leave. Each member takes the name of one student and prays for that student throughout the year.

We shall also pray for our school teachers and administrators. We want to pray for God's leadership in their lives as they lead our little ones.

By the way, the **Blessing of the College Students** will be at the conclusion of the 11:00 worship service on Sunday, August 6. Since many of them will be leaving that week to go to college, we want to pray for them a week earlier. Actually, college students can be included in either service, depending upon their schedules.

Children's Ministry

I appreciate the good work that Kellie Denton and Rebecca Kearney Orton are doing as our Children's Ministers. They have so many new and exciting ministries and programs planned for the fall, which will be highlighted at a luncheon for teachers and workers after the worship service this Sunday, July 23. If you are interested in working in Children's Ministry this fall, contact Kellie Denton at kdenton@smokerisebaptist.org.

Perhaps you noted the addition to Rebecca's name. She is now Mrs. John Orton. I assisted in her beautiful wedding at First Baptist Church in Huntsville, Alabama. How fortunate we are to have Rebecca as our children's intern while she is a student at McAfee.

Order of Service for Worship

Last Sunday, Danny announced that changes will be coming after Labor Day in the bulletin you receive each week. Currently, our bulletins are half order of worship and half announcements. This will shift to the bulletin becoming a worship guide, taking up ninety percent of the space available. Copies of other publications that have announcements will be on the table in the Narthex or at the Information Desk for you to pick up. Of course, the place to go to receive the most current information about church programs and ministries is the website, www.smokerisebaptist.org.

I am excited about this change because it will allow Danny more opportunities to use his skills in worship planning. Danny's passion is planning worship so that services flow with meaning and purpose. If there is one word I would use to describe the kind of worship he leads, it would be majestic. He uses the choir, instrumentalists and congregation in ways that lift our hearts in celebration and praise. A worship guide will help him do this more effectively.

I appreciate Danny's blend of traditional and contemporary elements of worship. Last Sunday, for instance, our worship included “God and God Alone,” “To God Be the Glory,” “Glorify Thy Name,” “Down to the River to Pray,” “Hear Our Prayer O Lord” and “Amazing Grace.” They blended beautifully and led us to the throne of God eager to receive His comfort, forgiveness, blessing and spoken word through the message. Thanks, Danny, for leading us to worship in such meaningful ways.

Mission Volunteers

I look forward to hearing reports from our mission teams that have been sent around the world this summer. As I type this, we have over fifty members in Tijuana and New York City working on our behalf and in the name of Christ. How grateful I am for them and all that make sacrifices to help others locally and globally. This is the church at its best!

Let me conclude my article with an excerpt from last Sunday's message from Mark 6:14-29. This is the account of the death of John the Baptist at the hands of Herod.

“Don't let the spread of evil cause you to despair and quit doing good deeds. It certainly did not paralyze Jesus and the twelve. What occurred in Mark's gospel soon after the account of John's death? Jesus fed the crowd of five thousand by multiplying the loaves and fishes. This was Mark's way of telling his readers that Jesus was neither intimidated by Herod Antipas nor distracted by concern for his own wellbeing, even though he was aware of the dangers and risks. He was, if anything, more inspired and motivated to do God's work.

Evil in its ugliest form tends to cause us to throw our hands in the air and give up. ‘What's the use?’ we cry. ‘All our efforts are in vain!’

No, they are not. We can make a difference in the world if we remain committed to the cause of Christ to overcome evil. Just ask Baby Noor and her grateful family.

You recall that she was the two-month-old baby discovered last December in Baghdad by soldiers of the Georgia Army National Guard. When Pfc. Justin Donnelly, an Army medic in the unit found the child and examined her, he realized she was suffering from spina bifida, commonly referred to as ‘open spine.’ Without medical attention, Baby Noor would have lived about a month.

Arrangements were made to have Baby Noor flown to Atlanta where she received six months of treatments, including several surgeries and other medical procedures. On Wednesday, June 28, Baby Noor returned to her loving family. Doctors predict that Baby Noor will have a chance at a fairly normal life.

We can make a difference in the world if we don't grow weary in well doing. We must not let the constant threat of violence cause us to retreat or miss opportunities to help others. I know there is a tendency on the part of every person, even believers, to take care of themselves and their families and let their neighbors fend for themselves. We must not do this. For the cause of Christ and the sake of mankind, we must not abandon our mission to make the world better.

Evidently Jesus believed this could be done because his focus was not upon what happened to John the Baptist, but what he and others could do to continue the work the faithful prophet began. As devastating as John the Baptist's death was, it would have become a tragedy if Jesus and his followers had walked away from the mission and gone back to fishing and building houses.”

Until Sunday,
Bob

“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 30th.

New Members

We welcome the following new members:

Mr. and Mrs. Scott (Lisa) Connell, 3276 Deshong Drive, Stone Mountain, GA 30087; tel. 770-465-4542. Deacon: Larry Yates.

Mr. and Mrs. Bob (Jacki) Sellmansberger, 708 Haralson Drive, Lilburn, GA 30047; tel. 770-921-4594. Deacon: Richard David.

Deaths

We extend our sympathy to these who have lost loved ones: Jeanette Davis, whose mother died; and to Scott and Lisa Connell, whose son, Mark Cochran, was killed on duty in Iraq.



Summer Singers



Each Sunday until August 6, we will have a choir in the loft. Rehearsal will be at 10:30 a.m. 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.

FINANCIAL STATISTICS

As of July 14, 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
INCOME		
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS	\$1,223,561.58	\$1,458,331.00
TOTAL OTHER INCOME	30,568.54	15,750.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$1,254,130.12	\$1,474,081.00
EXPENSES		
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	\$1,049,620.13	\$1,201,821.00
TOTAL MINISTRIES – WORSHIP	11,301.77	20,675.00
TOTAL MINISTRIES – EDUCATION	51,044.69	86,444.00
TOTAL MISSIONS	100,184.72	126,498.00
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	40,970.92	44,910.00
TOTAL EQUIPMENT	6,254.53	9,086.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,259,376.76	\$1,489,434.00
MORTGAGE BALANCE:	\$ 552,712.44	

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	+2,504,100.20
Expenses	-2,754,605.27
Cash Balance	\$ (220,505.07)
SRBC Loan	\$ 223,649.07



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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
Damy Vancil	Minister of Music
E. Ernest Forrester, Jr.	Minister of Youth
Kellie Denton	Interim Minister to Children
Tim W. Adecox	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



2006 Fall Soccer

Sign-Up Now

Ages 4-8

Cost \$85

Practice starts August 28

Games begin September 9

Register online at

www.smokeriseministries.org