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**Church-Wide Breakfast**

**Sunday, March 26  
9:15 A.M. - 9:45 A.M.  
Fellowship Hall**



**Deacons' Lunch/Meeting  
& Quarterly Church Conference**

**Sunday, April 9**



**Maundy Thursday Communion  
and Tenebrae Service**

**April 13 at 7:00 P.M.  
Fellowship Hall**

**Vote on Minister of Music Candidate**

The congregation will vote by ballot this Sunday, March 26 to call Mr. Danny Vancil to serve as Minister of Music. Danny is jointly recommended to the congregation by the Minister of Music Search Committee and the Personnel Committee. His selection is the culmination of much prayer and work for over a year by the Minister of Music Search Committee. We are deeply indebted to Barry Beard, chairman of the selection committee and the other members of the committee for the generous gift of their time and commitment toward this effort.

Please make every effort to be present on March 26 to share your vote for our next Minister of Music.



The March 24, 2006  
Newsletter of the  
Smoke Rise Baptist Church

## Faith & Issues

Sunday at 9:45 am; Room A125

### April Schedule

- 2 What are the essentials of the Christian faith?
- 9 What does a bunny have to do with Easter? The traditions and origins of one of Christendom's holiest days
- 16 People of Faith & Courage: Dietrick Bonhoeffer
- 23 People of Faith & Courage: Oscar Schindler
- 30 People of Faith & Courage: Martin Luther

## Prime Time



The April meeting of the Prime Time group is set for Tuesday, April 4 at 6:00 P.M. in fellowship hall. The program will feature Yin and Bryan Moore presenting a concert of piano and guitar music. This very talented couple is well known in the Atlanta area for their outstanding musical abilities. You will not want to miss hearing them.

## Deacons' Lunch/Meeting & Quarterly Church Conference

The monthly meeting of the deacons and the quarterly church conference is set for Sunday, April 12. Lunch will be served in fellowship hall at noon. A reservation is needed if you plan to have lunch. The deacons' meeting will follow the business meeting in room S-223-224.

## Maundy Thursday Communion and Tenebrae Service



You are invited to share in a special Maundy Thursday Communion and Tenebrae service on April 13 at 7:00 P.M. in the fellowship hall. This service commemorates Jesus' gathering with his disciples in the upper room and the sharing of their last supper together. Please mark this date and plan to attend.

## Church-Wide Breakfast

You are invited to breakfast at Smoke Rise on Sunday, March 26. Breakfast will be served in fellowship hall from 9:15 to 9:45 A.M. Bring the entire family and experience the good food and fellowship of breakfast at Smoke Rise.

## Letter of Appreciation

Dear Smoke Rise family,

We are grateful for your thoughtfulness and support during the loss of our mother and grandmother.

Thank you for your phone calls, cards and emails. The friendship of Smoke Rise staff and friends has been a source of comfort for all of us.

Sincerely,

Janice, Emmett, Maribeth and Martin Lawson

We want to encourage you to complete your contacts for the March- calling blitz. We designated March as a time for all classes to contact everyone on their class roll. If you found out any changes, please turn those in to me or your Sunday School Advisory team liaison. He or she will be in touch with you to collect the number of calls you made. We want to update changes in our computer data. — Kathy

## Ladies Trip to Charleston, SC



The ladies of Smoke Rise and their friends are invited to a three-day get away April 27-29 to beautiful and historic Charleston, SC. The group will travel via luxury motor coach, enjoy delicious low-country cuisine, tour the sights and places in this historic city and even have time to shop on King Street. The cost for the trip is \$300 double occupancy, \$400 single and includes meals at some of the best restaurants in Charleston. A \$100 deposit per person is required for reservations. Contact Linda in the church office for more information or to make your reservation. Space is limited so please sign up early.



We extend our sympathy to these who have lost loved ones: Dennis Goforth whose uncle died; Lois Jernigan whose aunt died; and to the family and friends of Eileen Warren who died.

## Hurricane Katrina Rebuilding



Trip Dates

April 6-9

May 4-7

June 8-11

August 10-13

September 7-10



For information, contact Jim Huston at 678-300-9309

Email: [jhuston3@comcast.net](mailto:jhuston3@comcast.net)

## Youth News

**WORLD CHANGERS = MISSION CONNECT**

**JUNE 25 - JULY 1**

**Cost: \$300**

**Registration is NOW**

**Deadline: April 30**

## Notes from the Pastor

### Danny Vancil

Thank you for the warm reception you gave Danny last weekend. He was deeply impressed with your hospitality. Your kindness meant a lot to him.

I cannot thank the choir enough for their attendance at practice on Saturday morning and in the Sunday services. You filled the choir loft and sounded so good! Thanks for being so faithful.

Danny enjoyed being with the youth during Sunday School. He was warmly received by them, especially the guys that wore bow ties. Danny wears bow ties and so many of the guys wore bow ties Sunday in his honor, along with some of our staff. This tickled Danny and made him feel comfortable.

I hope you got to meet Danny and spend some time with him. Everyone that did mentioned how impressed he or she was with his people skills. They specifically mentioned an appreciation for his warm smile, contagious laugh, pleasant personality, sense of humor and quick wit.

What a talented musician Danny is, also. His command of the choir, instrumentalists and the congregation was superb. His variety of music selection was refreshing. As one person told me, "It is obvious he loves designing and leading worship. You can tell he is passionate about both." I agree.

The Search Committee highly recommends Danny as our next minister of music. This decision will be made Sunday, March 26, in both services with a ballot vote. Make this important decision a matter of prayer as you seek God's will for our church.

### Church Calendar

Spring is a fun time to be at Smoke Rise. There are so many activities planned for children, youth and adults that promote warm fellowship and spiritual growth. Check the calendar closely so you do not miss any event designed for you.

How I appreciate our hard working staff for the programs and ministries they plan to meet our spiritual and social needs. What a joy it is to work with them and be a part of their ministries among us.

### Lent

As we continue our journey through Lent in preparation for the celebration of Easter, let us be mindful of the sacrifices made by our Lord on our behalf. The final weeks of his life had to be heavy, filled with countless challenges and temptations. Yet, he was faithful all the way to the cross. His faithfulness has certainly made a difference in our world and each of our lives. As faithful disciples, we can have a positive impact upon our world and acquaintances, too. Lent reminds us of this and gives us opportunities to renew our level of commitment. I hope you are doing this through personal devotions and corporate worship.

### March Madness

In a recent sermon titled "March Madness," I talked about Peter's reaction to Jesus' prediction of his suffering and death. Peter thought Jesus had gone mad and rebuked him. Two conclusions I drew from this passage in Mark 8:31-38 were these. I will not always be rewarded for doing good. I need to do it anyway. I will not always want to hear what others say to me when they are honest. I need to listen anyway.

I quoted Kent Keith, who wrote the book, *Anyway*. Some of you have asked me to print his words in the *Cross Tie*.

As a student at Harvard in the 1960s, Keith articulated ten principles for living well and being happy that he referred to as "The

Paradoxical Commandments." After learning that Mother Teresa taped these principles to the walls of her orphanage in Calcutta, he decided to publish them and the stories that bring them to life. It is Keith's premise that we need to face the worst in our world with the best in ourselves. Let me share the ten principles with you.

People are illogical, unreasonable and self-centered. Love them anyway.

If you do good, people will accuse you of selfish and ulterior motives. Do good anyway.

If you are successful, you will win false friends and true enemies. Succeed anyway.

The good you do today will be forgotten tomorrow. Do good anyway.

Honesty and frankness make you vulnerable. Be honest and frank anyway.

The biggest men and women with the biggest ideas can be shot down by the smallest men and women with the smallest minds. Think big anyway.

People favor underdogs but follow only top dogs. Fight for a few underdogs anyway.

What you spend years building may be destroyed overnight. Build anyway.

People really need help but may attack you if you do help them. Help them anyway.

Give the world the best you have and you'll get kicked in the teeth. Give the world the best you have anyway.

I went on to say that we assume in our idealistic world that good will always be rewarded with gratitude and praise. Sometimes it is. Many times it is not. This doesn't need to dissuade us, though, from doing good. Nor does it need to make us bitter, turn us cynical or cause us to seek revenge when hurt. We need to be good and do our best not for selfish reasons but for the difference it will make in our world. Our influence is more important than our ego. The world we provide our children and grandchildren is our most important legacy.

Think about this along your journey toward Easter.

Until Sunday,  
Bob

### Prime Time April Trip

Wednesday, April 19

Lunch & Shop in Jackson  
& Outlet Shopping in Lovejoy

Plan to join us.

Call Linda in the Church Office to reserve your Seat

### Smoke Rise Country Club

Offers Sunday Brunch

\$17.95 for adults; \$14.95 for senior adults

Call 770-908-2582 for reservations

Identify yourself as a SRBC Member.

Brunch is 11:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Pay by credit card.

### Siberian Mission Experience

Wednesday, April 19 at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

Jim Palmer will present his mission experience with pictures.

## Relay for Life

I just couldn't "not participate" anymore. I just couldn't sit back and do nothing . . . not when so many, so close have been affected. And so last year I joined the Smoke Rise Relay for Life team. As a first-timer, I had no idea what to expect. Thank goodness for experienced Relayers! I just did what they told me to do and had the experience of a lifetime. It felt so good to be doing something to fight cancer, the disease that hurts so many people I love. Participating in Relay for Life gave me a sense of control. It put me in the driver's seat in the battle against cancer. And when I got to the Gwinnett County Fairgrounds, I was overwhelmed at the number of other drivers. We took to the track. The emotion, the energy, the celebration of life raced through me. I knew that I had made the right decision and I knew we would eventually win! Join me in the fight against cancer. Join the Relay for Life team.

— Brenda Neisler

### Spring Missions Offering

Our Goal is \$15,000.

You may designate your gift for Annie Armstrong (SBC)  
or Global Missions (CBF)

### Basement Bible Study (For Men)

2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:00 a.m.  
Men of all ages welcome.

For information, call Walter Martin at 678-344-6237

## FINANCIAL STATISTICS

As of March 16, 2006

Four hundred eighteen families have pledged \$2,086,031.00 to date for the 2006 Budget.

	YEAR TO DATE (THIS YEAR)	BUDGET TO DATE
<b><u>INCOME</u></b>		
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS	\$ 472,084.70	\$ 624,999.00
TOTAL OTHER INCOME	<u>12,119.69</u>	<u>6,750.00</u>
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 484,204.39	\$ 631,749.00
<b><u>EXPENSES</u></b>		
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	\$ 377,671.21	\$ 497,523.00
TOTAL MINISTRIES – WORSHIP	3,456.77	6,025.00
TOTAL MINISTRIES – EDUCATION	22,345.03	38,039.00
TOTAL MISSIONS	34,584.63	52,329.00
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	16,368.64	18,446.00
TOTAL EQUIPMENT	<u>1,824.98</u>	<u>3,835.00</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 456,251.26	\$ 616,197.00
<b>MORTGAGE BALANCE:</b>	\$ 618,250.01	
<b>FAITH, FAMILY &amp; FUTURE CAMPAIGN:</b>		

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

CONTRIBUTIONS	\$2,434,309.80
SRBC LOAN	+ 300,000.00
EXPENSES	<u>- 2,754,605.27</u>
BALANCE	\$ (20,295.47)



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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

## Stone Mountain Co-op Needs for April



**Peanut Butter  
Jelly  
Soup  
Pasta**

**Hot Cereals  
Toilet Paper**