

The C R O S S T I E

World Hunger Sunday — October 21

Special Offering Will Be Taken for Baptist World Aid,
a Division of the Baptist World Alliance
Congregation is Encouraged to Bring a Bag of Groceries for the Lilburn
and Stone Mountain Co-ops
to the Front of the Church during the Offertory Hymn

Smoke Rise Baptist Church

Annual Fall Festival

Wednesday, October 24

6:00pm – 8:00pm



Come for supper 5:15pm - 6:30pm
Hot Dogs, Chili, Baked Potatoes
for Children thru Elementary Age
Community Welcome!

Fun
Prizes

Hayride
Moonwalk

New Consecration Sunday, October 28

Sunday School – 9:00 a.m. ——— Morning Worship – 10:30 a.m.

Please remember your Estimate of Giving card.

There will be a special time during worship for everyone
to turn in their Estimate of Giving cards.

Between now and October 28, pray about you need to give in order to be a wise
and faithful steward of all that God has entrusted to your care.

Celebration Lunch – 11:30 a.m.

Lunch reservations will be taken each Wed. and Sunday.
(No charge for lunch but reservations are required.)

You may also call the church office.

Nursery Reservations for Babies (Bottle fed only)
also need to be made at the same time.

All other children are encouraged to join the church family for lunch.



The October 12, 2007
Newsletter of the
Smoke Rise Baptist Church

Called Church Conference

October 28

During 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

√ Deacon Election

√ Vote on Kellie Denton
for Minister to Families with Children

World Hunger Sunday October 21, 2007

“For I was hungry and you fed me,” said Jesus

Hunger continues to be one of the greatest problems facing our world today. Natural disasters and man-made catastrophies have a direct effect on food production. Government policies in both the developing and non-developing parts of the world can have a devastating effect on the food chain. Appalling poverty continues to affect a large proportion of the world's people. Approximately one billion people are extremely poor, struggling to survive on less than one dollar per day. A further 824 million people live in conditions of chronic hunger.

Poverty and chronic hunger are closely related. Chronic hunger creates poverty by reducing human intellectual and physical potential, and poverty or low income causes hunger by restricting access to food and adequate nutrient intake.

BWAid, a division of the Baptist World Alliance, doesn't only feed the hungry, but looks at some of the causes and seeks to alleviate them. We will take a special offering on October 21st which will go directly to BWAid to help them meet their goal of eradicating extreme hunger and poverty.

Consider Micah's Challenge that we ensure justice for all people who need the basics of life and give generously. Just \$25.00 will provide food for a whole family. Mark your envelope and check for BWAid. You can bring your offering on the 21st or anytime during the month of October. Also, the congregation is asked to bring a bag of groceries for the Lilburn and Stone Mountain Cooperative Ministries on that Sunday.

Coats for Atlanta's Homeless “Micah's Challenge”

November is National Homelessness and Hunger Awareness Month. You can make a personal response to the Micah Challenge by giving a coat for a homeless person in Atlanta.

Kay Whithear, Director of the Lilburn Cooperative Ministry, shared that they have distributed the following funds for the homeless:

- Jan. - Oct. 1, 2006 \$9,896 Motels for Homeless People
- Jan. - Oct. 1, 2007 \$24,422 Motels for Homeless Families with Children

That is an increase of 147%.

The fastest growing group of homeless people is children under 9 years of age. More children (48%) in Atlanta live in poverty than in any other city in the U.S.

Coats are needed by November 11. Please bring coats to the church and place in the bins or racks across from the main office.

Thank you for caring.

Wedding

Congratulations to Barry Kirkland and Adrienne Bowers who were married on July 21. Barry is the son of Johnny and Arlene Kirkland and the grandson of James and Inez Bryan.

Deaths

We extend our sympathy to Charlie Austin whose brother died; Tommy Benefield, Mary Chambers and Nancy Durden whose sister-in-law and aunt died; Kathy Farmer whose father died; Laurie Redmon whose grandmother died; and Larry Dodson whose sister died.

Request Help with Special Needs Children

We have received a request for help with special needs children...LD, ADD, Asperger's Syndrome, High Functioning Autism, Non-Verbal Learning Disabilities...at two locations for the Cumberland Academy. To find out more information or to volunteer, please contact James Meffen at 404.835.9000.

Is Honduras in your Future?

The excitement is growing! Reserve your space on the Mission Team now with a \$100 deposit. The trip will be April 5-12, 2008, during Spring Break. For more details, please contact Page Fulgham at 404-316-3544 or rpfulgham@bellsouth.net or Deb Leamon at 770-923-8762 or dalor53@comcast.net. YOU WON'T BE SORRY!

Advent Bible Study

- Led by Dr. Larry McSwain, Professor of Ethics and Leadership at McAfee School of Theology
- November 7, The Power of a Child: Manager Leadership (Luke 1:46-55)
- November 14, The Weakness of a King: Living Unjustly (Matt.2:13-23)

Prayer Retreat

- Do you value prayer? Would you like to deepen your understanding of prayer? Would you like to help us develop a dynamic prayer ministry in our congregation?
- **Come to a Prayer Retreat** sponsored by Best Practices for Ministry Network
- Led by Dr. Loyd Allen, Professor of Spiritual Formation at McAfee School of Theology
- February 15-16, at Simpsonwood Conference Center in Atlanta
- \$99.00 per person for double occupancy room
- Deadline is November 15, 2007 with a \$50.00 deposit
- Pick up a registration form in the Sanctuary Breezeway

Youth News

COATS FOR APPALACHIA CONTEST
Deadline is Wednesday, October 17
Sunday School class with the most coats wins a free breakfast and limo ride to breakfast

UPS - Sunday, October 21
Special guest - Mr. Bob Moek

FALL FESTIVAL - Wednesday, October 24
We are helping the children have a good time. Sign up

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28
Youth Choir sings in worship
Lunch in coffee house

ALL YOUTH TO SIX FLAGS (don't forget to sign up)
We return at 7:30 p.m.
Cost: \$30 (includes ticket, lunch, and transportation)

Thanks for your generous donations of pill containers for Le Moyne Blvd. Baptist Church. They do not need any more at this time.

Notes from the Pastor

Youth Choir

Do you get as excited as I do to see the youth in the choir loft leading worship once a month? I cannot thank our youth, Danny, the accompanists and the youth workers enough for all they do each week to make this happen.

I am also grateful for our children's choir workers. Recently, some of our children sang with the adult choir in a worship service and it was heavenly! Thanks for all you do on Wednesday evenings teaching our children to sing.

Speaking of worship, didn't you appreciate the way **communion** was presented last Sunday? Danny and Kathy worked on the displays that symbolized God's generosity and our response. I thought it was masterful and had a great impact upon all of us. How grateful I am for their creativity and good work.

Minister to Families with Children

On October 28, the church will be called into a business session to hear a report from the Search Committee assigned to bring us a recommendation for our next Minister to Families with Children. They will recommend that we call Kellie Denton. I am so pleased with their decision and her willingness to serve. Kellie has been our interim and has been one of the most creative, energetic and industrious persons with whom I have had the privilege of working. Her passion is ministering to children and their families. We are most fortunate that God has sent her our way. Give Kellie your support and thank the Search Committee for their good and thorough work.

Stewardship News

By now I am sure you are aware that October 28th is "**Consecration Sunday**" in our church. The Stewardship Committee has planned a special day of worship, celebration and fellowship for us and I want to encourage you to be with us. The schedule will be different that Sunday and I want you to be aware of the changes.

We'll have a combined worship service beginning at 10:30. This means Sunday school will begin at 9:00 that morning. Following the worship service, we'll have a luncheon in the fellowship hall that will give us the opportunity to fellowship with dear friends and celebrate what God is doing through our church to make the world better. I look forward to the worship service and celebration.

On **Consecration Sunday**, we are asking every member to turn in their estimate of giving card for 2008. The total will be tabulated and the results announced at the luncheon. This is one way we'll see what we can do together when we join hearts and hands and pool our resources to do God's work and to meet Micah's Challenge to "do justly, love kindness and walk humbly with God."

What is different about our stewardship emphasis this year is that the budget has not been drafted and the total figure has not been determined. **We are not asking you to "pledge a budget," but to determine what you need to give in order to be a wise and faithful steward of all that God has entrusted to your care.** Our goals for Consecration Sunday are more about our need to give in order to grow in Christ-likeness than the church's need to receive in order to pay its bills.

To be honest with you, the needs of people in our community, world and church are overwhelming. There is no limit that could be

Think about what the faithful stewardship of your resources means for you in the coming year. Seek God's will through prayer. Make a commitment to be in the **October 28th** worship service on **Consecration Sunday**. Turn in an estimate of giving card along with your fellow church members on that day.

set on what it will take to meet them, and even if we could it is not our task to try to figure that out and raise that much money. Our task is to be faithful stewards of what God has given us, and when we are, these resources will be used to meet real needs. This is why we want

our members and families to give this decision a lot of thought, prayer and discussion in order to respond as God leads.

Think about what the faithful stewardship of your resources means for you in the coming year. Seek God's will through prayer. Make a commitment to be in the **October 28th** worship service on **Consecration Sunday**. Turn in an estimate of giving card along with your fellow church members on that day. Come to the luncheon as our guest and celebrate what God is leading us to do as a church to meet Micah's Challenge and make the world a better place. In advance, I thank you.

Until Sunday,
Bob

Letter of Appreciation

Dear Church Family,

Our hearts have been deeply touched as you have reached out to Mike and our family. On September 6th when Mike suffered a massive heart attack, we needed your support.

Mike felt the many prayers as did the family. Thank you, friends, for the cards, calls and visits. You are such a caring fellowship. I hope our ministers know how important their visits are to a hurting member.

David, Matt, and I covet your prayers in the months ahead as Mike's heart muscles work to regain lost function.

*With gratitude,
Beverly Cavender*

WorldCrafts — Provide Hope When You Shop

WorldCrafts, a ministry of WMU, reaches out to those in difficult living conditions, discovers one-of-a-kind artistry, organizes product import, and brings hope and results for artisans with your purchases. When you purchase an item for yourself or as a gift, you are helping to bring transformation to poverty stricken people around the world. Catalogs are available in the Sanctuary Breezeway.

Other gift items can be seen at www.WorldCraftsVillage.com. Following Micah's Challenge: do justice, love kindness, walk humbly with your God.

Available at Smoke Rise

- Flu Shots – October 17, 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. in the Media Center. Flu shots are \$25. Checks or cash.
- Smoke Rise Baptist Church will host Life Line Screening Friday, November 2 in the gym between 9:00a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Pre-registration is required. You may call 1-800-324-1851 for an appointment. “These are Tests that can help Save Your Life”....4 tests in less than 1 hour. Brochures are in the lower breezeway for additional information.

Senior Adult Ministries Presents:

- October 22, 25 or November 8, a tour to the Hindu Temple in Lilburn. As soon as I get the exact date you will be notified. Please note this on your calendar if you are interested or call Linda in the church office at 770.469.5856, Ext. 208 to reserve your seat on the bus. Our tour should be at 10:00 or 10:30 a.m. Afterwards we will have lunch (on your own) and return to the church.
- December 2 our Christmas outing will be to the new Aurora Theater in Lawrenceville to see the “Christmas Canteen.” The performance begins at 2:30. We will leave the church at 1:15 p.m. After the play we will have a nice dinner (where TBA) before returning to the church.
- Tour of Northern Italy.. April 21-30..There’s still time to sign up. Brochures are in the lower breezeway. Questions, contact Linda at the number above.

Ladies Christmas Event: “A Simple Christmas”

Our annual Christmas dinner is Tuesday, November. 27 at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Guest speaker is Nancy Burgess, founder of Heart and Soul Connection. Her topic, “A Simple Christmas” will encourage women to prepare their hearts and homes for a stress-free Christmas that focuses on family, friends, and Christ throughout the season. Tickets will go on sale beginning Sunday, November 4. If you would like to host and decorate a table, please contact MaryLynn Manley.

Attention!

Nursery Parents and Extended Session Volunteers

It is time to sign up for November, December and January service dates. The scheduling poster is outside the Nursery Office.

FINANCIAL STATISTICS

As of September 30, 2007

Three hundred seventy families have pledged \$1,876,192.40 to date for the 2007 Budget.

	YEAR TO DATE (THIS YEAR)	BUDGET TO DATE
INCOME		
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS	\$1,689,727.01	\$1,893,753.00
TOTAL OTHER INCOME	<u>34,951.76</u>	<u>0.00</u>
TOTAL INCOME	\$1,724,678.77	\$1,893,753.00
EXPENSES		
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	\$1,424,587.19	\$1,498,650.00
TOTAL MINISTRIES – WORSHIP	35,082.43	32,850.00
TOTAL MINISTRIES – EDUCATION	84,208.80	109,874.00
TOTAL MISSIONS	158,409.65	167,467.00
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	47,987.88	51,250.00
TOTAL EQUIPMENT	<u>3,758.30</u>	<u>13,039.00</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,754,034.25	\$1,873,130.00
MORTGAGE BALANCE:	\$ 297,523.44	

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
Add'l Funds from Finance Comm	+ 163,972.14
Contributions	+2,589,785.41
Expenses	<u>-2,779,552.45</u>
Cash Balance	\$ 4,205.10
Outstanding Commitment	\$ 0.00



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OUR STAFF

Church Office: 770-469-5856

Robert F. Browning, D. Min.	Pastor
Linda Cummings	Interim Church Administrator/Senior Adults
Kathy Dobbins	Minister of Spiritual Formation
Danny Vancil	Minister of Worship & Music
E. Ernest Forrester, Jr.	Minister of Families with Youth
Kellie Denton	Interim Minister to Families with Children
Tim W. Adcox	Minister of Missions/Recreation
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
Rene Ely, M. Div., LMFT	Counselor
Gina Campbell, M. Div., LCSW	Counselor

2007-2008 Basketball Season

Skills assessment for Smoke Rise 7-14 year-old teams beginning in early November. One hour per week practices begin in mid-November. On-line sign up only at impactbasketballleague.com