

# The C R O S S T I E

## Lord's Supper

8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

October 1



## Deacons' Lunch and Church Conference

October 8

Noon in the Fellowship Hall

Deacons' Meeting to follow Conference

## The Decoder Key for The Da Vinci Code

*Exploring the Phenomenon of Some Prominent Errors  
and Fanciful Ideas*

Wednesdays, October 4 & 11 at 6:30 pm, Fellowship Hall

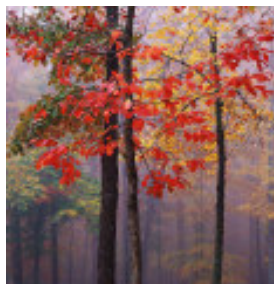
Dr. James Fisk Gentry, Jr., Pastor

Tabernacle Baptist Church, Carrollton, GA

While the wave of media enthusiasm and reaction to Dan Brown's best selling novel (and the movie that followed) has passed, the influence on cultural theology remains. Whether you have read the book or not, this study, hopefully, will help you wade through some of the fiction in *The Da Vinci Code*.

## Prime Time Trip

October 19



We'll travel to Unicoi State Park for lunch at the Lodge with a stop on the way at Jaemor Fruit and Vegetable stand for apples, etc. After lunch we will tool through the mountains and view the fall foliage with a short stop in Dahlonega and then home. Please contact Linda in the church office at 770-469-5856 to sign up.



To my family at Smoke Rise Baptist Church,

Someone really smart once said, "Always be amazed at what God does, but never surprised." So let me tell you how amazing you are. Never in my wildest dreams would I think that a group of people would/could do so much for me and my family. I was NOT surprised that you would rally around us (after all, you have carried us for years), but I was truly amazed at the extent. On behalf of my entire family, including Debbie's, let me thank you for the calls, cards, hugs, prayers, support, encouragement, meals, transportation, lodging, etc. We have been overwhelmed by your goodness and grace. Not a single family member has failed to ask me to tell you how much they appreciate all that you have done for us.

From the bottom of my heart I tell you that I love you and appreciate you more than I can say. What has been a very difficult time for my family has been eased somewhat through your gracious outpouring of concern and support. I have known for years what a blessing it is to be here, I just didn't know the full extent.

Thank you and God Bless,

Ernie Forrester and family

### State Missions Offering

Envelopes are in your individual envelope offering boxes. You may give through the month of September.

### Life Connections - October Schedule

#### A Religious History of the American People

Sundays at 6:00 p.m. beginning October 1 — 6 weeks

Leader: Dr. Gary Leazer

October 1 - The Colonial Period / Puritanism: 1620-1720

October 8 - 1st Great Awakening / American Independence: 1720-1800

October 15 - 2nd Great Awakening / Rise of Sects & Denominations: 1800-1850

October 22 - Civil War / Social Gospel Movement: 1850-1910

October 29 - Rise of Christian Fundamentalism: 1910-1960

November 5 - Post-Protestant Period: 1960-present

#### The Enneagram & Spiritual Growth

Understanding Yourself Through The Enneagram System  
of Personality Types

Sundays, October 1, 8, 15; 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Leader: Gloria White, M.Div., LCSW, Smoke Rise Counseling Center

The Enneagram delineates nine fundamental personality types and their complex interrelationships. It indicates ways in which each person can grow personally and spiritually. \$8.00 for materials. Preregistration required.

"What's the Good of Prayer?"

Bible Study for Senior Adults and Everyone Else

Led by Dr. Colin Harris

Monday mornings — October 16, 23, 30 at 10:00 a.m.  
in Room S220-222.

### Finance Committee meeting

Thursday, October 5 – this is a change.

The Budget Prep Committee will present the 2007 Ministry Plan for approval. This is important!!!  
Please make every effort to attend.

### The Building Committee announces.....

√ Sanctuary Renovations begin.....Monday, September 25. The ceiling and all soft walls will be replaced with hard surfaces and the sanctuary painted. The project should take approximately two months.

We will have a few inconveniences during this period. Scaffolding will be in the sanctuary on Sundays and a dumpster will be located in front of the church. The plan is to be completed by Thanksgiving.

√ Deck for youth will be built off the side of the gym. A door will replace the current window in A200 to access the deck. Maybe the youth will share the deck with the adults.

These are exciting renovations for our church. The finished projects will be enjoyed by all. Let's support our Building Committee as they continue to make progress for Smoke Rise. This is a busy committee.

### Letters of Appreciation

Dear Church Family,

It's great to be a part of this wonderful, caring church family of Smoke Rise. Thank you for all of the many prayers, cards, phone calls, visits and food during my recent heart problem and back surgery.

In Christian Love,  
Paul Parham

Dear Smoke Rise Family,

Thank you so much for your prayers, calls, cards and acts of loving kindness during Mark's recent heart surgery and recuperation.

We are blessed to be part of this Christian family and to experience God's grace through you.

Love,  
Mark and Carole Gaines

Dear Smoke Rise Family,

The roses are beautiful!

Thank you for remembering and recognizing us on our 50th wedding anniversary.

Love,  
Sandra and Bob Ethridge



◆ Congratulations to Fred and Alison Papuga on the birth of a daughter, "Morgan Elizabeth," born August 9; brother is Dustin; grandparents are Gary and Debbie Durham; uncle and aunt are Johnny and Kellie Pulliam;

◆ To Kacey and Tami Wells on the birth of a daughter, "Addison Lee," born August 18; grandparents are Don and Elizabeth Wells;

◆ To Ryan and Jennifer Sullivan on the birth of a son, "Lawson Duke," born August 30; grandparents are Ernie and Peggy Duke;

◆ To Joel and Kelly McLendon on the birth of a daughter, "Sophia Grace," born September 2;

◆ And to Christin and Justin Flowers on the birth of a daughter, "Emma Jane," born September 6; grandparents are Bill and Debbie Flowers.

## Notes from the Pastor

### Eulogy for Debbie Forrester

(Debbie was the wife of our Youth Minister,  
Ernie Forrester)

September 12, 2006

“Give sorrow words,” Shakespeare advised his readers in “Macbeth.” This is what we have done in this holy place today. Actually, we have been doing this long before this afternoon. Our grief has been too intense to ignore or remain silent. To borrow Luke’s words, if we had not been able to give sorrow words in recent months, “the rocks would have cried out.”

We have grieved Debbie’s declining health and now her passing. We shall miss this dear friend, teacher, colleague, and fellow church member more than words can express. She made our lives better through her contagious smile, words of encouragement and example of courage. What a role model she has been for all of us.

Through her emails she taught us how to value each day, treasure every relationship and pursue what is permanent. She made Mitch Albom’s book, *Tuesdays with Morrie*, come alive. She was our Morrie.

We have also grieved with Ernie, Aubrey, Will and all Deb’s family. We have seen the toll it has taken on them. What should have been the happiest years of their lives have been filled with worry and fear. This has broken our hearts.

In the story of the death of one of Jesus’ best friends, Lazarus, there is no mention of Jesus shedding tears until he saw Martha crying. It was then that he broke down and sobbed uncontrollably. Her tears moved him to tears. I understand.

Ernie, there is no way that I can tell you how much this congregation loves you. You have endeared yourself to all of us with your compassion, dedication, accessibility, humor and

hard work. Simply put, you are one of the best persons I know and finest staff members with whom I have had the pleasure of working.

Your tears have moved us to tears. Your worries have put wrinkles on our brows and your pain has been felt in our hearts. Sorrow has given way to words as we watched you, Aubrey and Will travel this difficult road. Those words have reflected the highest degree of love and respect for all of you.

**On this day filled with immeasurable grief, though, I want to encourage all of us to let God have the final words spoken.** His are words of hope, peace, love and even joy.

“Blessed are they that mourn, for they will be comforted,” Jesus said. (Matthew 5:4)

“I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.” (John 11:25-6)

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, trust also in me. In my Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so I would have told you. I am going to prepare a place for you. If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.” John 14:1-3.

“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.” (John 14:27)

**“Thank you, Lord, for giving our sorrow these words of hope, peace, love and joy. And thank you for the precious gift of Debbie.”**

*Continue to remember Ernie, Aubrey, Will and all of Deb’s family in your prayers.*

Until Sunday,  
Bob

## Deaths

We give our sympathy to these who have lost loved ones: Lisa Connell, whose sister died; Sandra Roundtree, whose father died; David Low, whose father died; Maxine Goins, whose brother-in-law died; Martha Crawford, whose sister died; Paul Parham, whose brother-in-law died; Susan Jobe, whose father died; the family and friends of Lloyd Johnson; and the family and friends of Anne (Clayton) Williams. Anne has been a member since 1982.



We extend our sympathy to Pat Thomas, whose husband Mark died. Pat and Mark have been members since 1993.

We also extend our sympathy to Ernie, Aubrey and Will Forrester on the death of his wife and their mother, Debbie. Ernie and Debbie have been members since 1989.

## Uth News

See you at the Pole is September 27 at your school.

### MercyMe, along with Audio Adrenaline

In concert  
at the Gwinnett Civic Center Arena  
We will go if we have 15  
or more pay the \$25.



Congratulations to Nicholas and Ashlyn Morgan who were married in Birmingham on September 9. Nicholas is the son of Ken and Terry Morgan.

**Check out SRBC on the Web**  
at [www.smokerisebaptist.org](http://www.smokerisebaptist.org)

Find up-to-date information and announcements about opportunities to give, grow, worship and serve at Smoke Rise. The CrossTie bi-monthly newsletter can be accessed on Thursdays, a day before it is mailed on Fridays. Contributions can be made online. If you miss church or would like to have a copy of a sermon you may go to the multimedia page on our website and either listen to the sermon or print it off.



**Fall Golf Fellowship**

Indian Creek Golf Club (Covington)  
Monday — November 13  
10:30 a.m. Shotgun Start  
Cost: \$45 (Golf and Box Lunch)



Format: 2 man better ball, flighted, handicapped (Play your own ball and take the best net score of your partner and you.)

Deadline to sign up is noon, Sunday — November 12  
For more information, call Ed Brantly at 404-295-2628  
Or pay Bobbie Wade in the church office

**Flu Shots – October 4 – 4:30-6:30 p.m. – Fellowship Hall – Cost \$25**

**Children's News**



First Grade Bible Presentation  
October 8 in the 11:00 am Worship Service

Come to Art in the Park  
for preschoolers ages 2 years through kindergarten on October 8,  
from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.  
This is a festive event where children have fun creating Fall crafts.  
Held outside on Chapel parking lot.

Thank you to G-Force Boys (1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> grades) on Wednesday Night for cleaning up sanctuary after funeral. Great job!

**FINANCIAL STATISTICS**  
As of September 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
<b>INCOME</b>		
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS	\$1,594,952.06	\$1,874,997.00
TOTAL OTHER INCOME	41,655.59	20,250.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$1,636,607.65	\$1,895,247.00
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	\$1,364,298.18	\$1,532,182.00
TOTAL MINISTRIES – WORSHIP	17,368.62	28,975.00
TOTAL MINISTRIES – EDUCATION	68,416.76	101,978.00
TOTAL MISSIONS	129,316.43	158,817.00
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	52,879.56	57,186.00
TOTAL EQUIPMENT	9,065.91	11,170.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,641,345.46	\$1,890,308.00
MORTGAGE BALANCE:	\$ 519,550.97	

**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	+2,518,203.70
Expenses	-2,754,605.27
Cash Balance	\$ (206,401.57)
SRBC Loan	\$ 208,582.57



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**OURSTAFF**

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

Robert F. Browning, D. Min.	Pastor
Linda Cummings	Interim Administrator
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. 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**

Rev. Gloria White, M. Div., LCSW

Counselor

**Lilburn Co-op Needs**



Canned vegetables, canned fruit, canned meat, cereal, macaroni and cheese, soup, flour and sugar. Please leave these items on the shelves near the church office, or on the shelves in the hallway under the gym.