

The C R O S S T I E

Micah's Challenge: Opportunities for Service

Children's Corner at the Yellow Daisy Festival, Stone Mountain

Friday, September 7

Help children make crafts, interact with parents with a kind "spirit." Shifts are 9:30-Noon; Noon – 3:00; 3:30 – 6:30 p. m. Need 7 people per shift. Includes lunch and park pass. Sign up in the Sanctuary Breezeway.

Assist a Vendor at the Yellow Daisy Festival, Stone Mountain

Friday, September 7, 9:00 a. m. – 4:00 p. m.

Work in one of the craft booths assisting the vendor with any needs to make it easier for them to function during the day (this is not sales related). Sign up in the Sanctuary Breezeway.

Bring Supplies

Bring any of the following supplies for use in the children's craft area: Markers, Construction Paper, Paper Bags, Beads for bracelets, Foam sheets and shapes, Coffee filters, New Testaments in English and Spanish. Supplies can be dropped at the Missions Office. **Deadline is Sept. 5th**

New for Adults this Fall!

The Young Adult Class

A new Sunday School class began on August 12 designed to meet the needs of young professionals in their 20's - open to married couples and singles. The class will be led by Dr. Browning and his wife, Jackie. Please join us each Sunday at 9:45 a. m. in room 209.

Sacred Space

Sundays at 9:45 in Room A119 beginning Sept. 23, 2007

Sacred Space is an experiential exploration of the varied Christian spiritual disciplines. Weekly experiences will attempt to balance head and heart as together we learn about the history and personalities related to each discipline and the many ways that each one can be practiced for personal spiritual formation. Each weekly session will include time for reflection and silence in preparation for worship at 11:00 am. Anyone and everyone is welcome though some degree of comfort with silence is helpful. To learn more about this experience, please feel free to contact Rick Bennett at rbennett@thefellowship.info.



The August 24, 2007
Newsletter of the
Smoke Rise Baptist Church

Indoor Fall Soccer Registration Open

Ages 4-8

Practice on Tuesdays and Thursdays begins August 28

First game is September 8

Register online at smokeriseministries.org

Call Jill Wade for information at 770-413-2133, ext. 224

The Staff Reorganization Recommendation was approved at the August 19 business conference by a vote of 93 percent.

Competition Cheerleading

We are very excited to announce our first COMPETITION CHEERLEADING season through IMPACT Cheerleading! This opportunity is open to girls entering 4th and 5th grade and the season begins in September. The cost will be \$175 and includes the uniform, competition fees, an instructional DVD, and more! If you are interested, DON'T HESITATE TO SIGN UP NOW. We only have enough spots for 15 girls. For more information and to register, please see our web site at www.smokeriseministries.org.

Youth Help Wanted

Wanted three able-bodied youth willing to learn some special aspects of our church food service ministry. Times are Wednesdays, some Sundays and a few other times. To learn more about this opportunity, contact Lou Tankersley at 770-413-2133, ext. 212.

Life Connections

Living Well — (a Beth Moore video series) describes different types of people: some easy to love and some not so easy to love. \$6 for journal. The class meets for four weeks beginning September 9 in Room 223 at 5:00 p. m. Leader: Deb Leamon.

Grace Walk — What it means to understand our identity in Christ and walk in grace each day. \$14 for workbook. The class meets for eight weeks beginning September 10 in Room 223 at 9:45 a. m. Leader: Kitty Keadle.

Katrina Mission Trip Info Meeting Set

There will be an information meeting for the September Katrina Mission trip in the parlor at the end of the 11:00am worship service. The meeting will last no more than 30 minutes, and will cover the trip details, application forms and trip cost.

The next Katrina Mission trip will be September 6-9 with transportation provided by the Provost motor coach.

The October Katrina Mission trip dates has been changed to October 3-6. Other mission trip are set for November 1-4 and December 6-9.

Stephen Keeney's Mission Trip Testimony

My name is Stephen Keeney. I am a recent graduate from Shiloh High School and recently came back from a mission trip to Biloxi, Mississippi to help rebuild some of the homes that were destroyed by Hurricane Katrina almost two years ago.

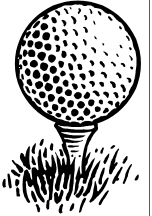
When I first went on this trip in October of 2005, many homes had been swept off their foundations and abandoned. There was a continuous trash pile five feet high on both sides of the road, the water was undrinkable, and, perhaps most memorable of all, there was a large ship that had been dumped on one man's front yard three miles inland. A year and a half later, many of the homes have been restored, the water is potable, and most of the trash is gone. However, there are a few things that have not changed since then. The residents who we help out are always grateful, whether they are church members or not, and the determination of the volunteers living in Biloxi is as strong as ever.

After Hurricane Katrina, I felt for the first time like God was calling me to mission, and I was blessed to be able to answer that call because of this church's dedication to mitigate the suffering of all God's children.

Disney's Aladdin, the Musical Drama, will be performed at SRBC on Wednesday, August 29 at 7:15 p. m. and Thursday, August 30 at 7:00 p. m. by the Academy of Arts drama classes. All ages are welcome! Please bring a friend and join us in the Fellowship Hall for some great entertainment!

Golf Fellowship Planned

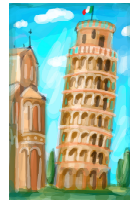
SRBC's 12th annual Ryder Cup Golf Fellowship will be in McCormick, S.C. on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday — October 4-6. Sign up now to reserve your spot - The number of players this year for SRBC has been limited to 52 - Slots will be given out as reservations are made and deposit paid..



Prime Time Mystery Trip!

September 24

To sign up, call Linda in the church office. This is a free, fun trip and lunch is included!



The Italy tour brochure and reservation forms are in the church office and upper and lower breezeways. Please return them ASAP - deadline is November. However, we need to know if you are interested as soon as possible.

A Scream Free Morning with Hal Runkel

Join National Relationship Expert and Marriage and Family Therapist Hal Runkel on September 23 as he provides a ScreamFree Marriage and Living seminar, and shares excerpts and insights into his new book: ScreamFree Parenting. Raising your kids while keeping your cool.

Church-wide breakfast at 9:15 a. m. Morning discussion starts at 9:30 am and continues during the 11:00 worship hour in the Fellowship Hall.

This is for parents, grandparents, couples and singles....Bring a friend or family member to join us for this exciting church-wide event and outreach opportunity. Children's activities provided.



Weddings

Congratulations to Keely Beshears Harris and Robert Del Bueno who were married on July 28. Keely is the daughter of Peggy and Jim Harris.

Congratulations to Shanna Barnes and Daniel Morris who were married August 4. Daniel is the son of Bob and LuAnn Morris.

Birth

Gabrielle Richards was born to Glen and Trudy Richards on July 19. Big sisters are Danielle and Abigail.

Deaths

We extend our sympathy to David Low whose mother died; Mark Gaines whose brother died; Don Allen whose father died; and to the family of Florence Veal (Margie Neville's mother) who has died. Florence had been a member since 1998.

Notes from the Pastor

I am pleased we have a theme for the 2007-08 church year which has just begun. It will give us a clearer sense of identity, purpose and direction in the months to come. It will also help us mobilize our members through all our church programs and ministries to achieve common goals. It will be exciting to see children, youth and adults talking about and working on the same agenda.

I am also grateful to Kathy Dobbins for leading us to adopt this theme, Micah's Challenge, and guiding us in researching, planning and incorporating this theme into our church calendar. Let me share with you the information that was in our bulletin on Kick-Off Sunday.

What is our theme?

Our theme for the 2007/2008 church year is taken from Micah 6:8. During this period we will be focusing our attention in Sunday School and worship on **justice, kindness, and humility** and in discerning how God is calling us to respond to Micah's challenge in our time.

Children, youth, and adults will study the same lesson three times during the year:

- √ September 30 Doing Justice
- √ January 13 Love Kindness
- √ March 30 Walking Humbly with God

Together we will put Micah's Challenge into action in many ways throughout the year. Here are three examples:

- √ October 7 World Communion Sunday – Food collection for the Coops
- √ October 28 World Hunger Sunday – Offering for the Baptist World Alliance for hunger relief
- √ November and December – Collect toys for the children our mission team works with in Brooklyn, N.Y.

Who was Micah?

During the 8th century BCE, Micah was a younger contemporary of the more famous Isaiah of Jerusalem. He came from the common people in the village of Moresheth, in the rural region southwest of the capital city. With this rural heritage, he was especially critical of the corruption and arrogance in the seats of power and the injustice that flowed from them to the ordinary people.

What was his Message?

The book of Micah, while relatively brief, is a penetrating summary of prophetic judgment on the excesses, distortions, and misdirection of religion in the eighth century before Christ. You may recognize what is perhaps his best known prophetic statement:

With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?

He has told you, O mortal, what is good: and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God. (Micah 6:6-8)

What does it mean for us?

Our world is a complex one with many conflicting issues, as was his. Our world is one filled with many kinds of actual and potential brokenness, as was his. The words of a prophet like Micah are not only an indication of how God spoke through a faithful servant in the eighth century BCE to a world of conflicting values, needs, and desires, but also an invitation to see and hear how God always speaks through faithful servants to a world of any age that is characterized by injustice (“do justice”), hostility and violence (“love kindness”), and arrogance (“walk humbly with your God”).

It is good for us to hear this call as well; and, maybe even more importantly, to be Micah's voice in our time.

What is Micah's Challenge for us?

Where do we see injustice in our community and world and how should we respond?

Who needs a word or an act of kindness that brings with it the presence of Christ?

How will “walking humbly” with God change us, our families, our church and our community?

Ask God to bless us as we discuss these questions, become Micah's voice in our time and respond to **Micah's Challenge**.

Until Sunday,
Bob

Letters of Appreciation

The Doverspike and Duvall families appreciate so very much all of the cards, calls, food received, prayers and love shown during the illness and death of my sister, Mrs. Nell Doverspike.

Orene Duvall

Dear Smoke Rise friends,

We are so blessed to have such wonderful Christian friends. Your prayers, cards and concern for my family and me during my brother's recent illness and death helped carry me through this sad and difficult time.

Thank you for all your love and support.

Sandra Ethridge

Dear Smoke Rise Family,

My family and I have been so appreciative of the prayers, calls, cards and other gestures of kindness during my recent hospitalization and recuperation. I am certain that your prayers helped to sustain me at a very critical time. From our family to yours, a very deep felt thank you.

Joy Crowe Burnette

Dear Smoke Rise Members,

What a wonderful church this is in which to worship and work! Thank you for the gracious acknowledgement given me Sunday morning, the beautiful floral arrangement and the many cards you have sent. The SRBC staff is truly a dedicated group. It has been a pleasure to work with them throughout the last twenty years.

Thank you for making me feel loved and appreciated.

Ann Carrollton

Dear Smoke Rise Family,

Thank you for all your prayers, cards, gifts, and monetary donations during Marlayna's illness. God's blessings and your support have helped us to survive thus far during this very trying time in our lives. Please continue to pray for Marlayna as she battles her brain tumor. We love you all.

Jerry, Marlo, and Marlayna Cooksey

Is God calling you to Honduras?

If so, now is the time to sign up for the 2008 Honduras Mission Team for April 5—12, 2008. The new deadline for Smoke Rise members to sign up is Monday, October 1, 2007. After this deadline, persons from other churches can be enlisted. For the 2008 trip, we can only take 20 to the Ranch. However, since we have expanded our mission to include helping a new Baptist church in Tegucigalpa, we can also take additional team members.

It is first-come-first-serve! Your initial Smoke Rise Mission Application and your \$100 deposit must be turned in by October 1. The smaller number is dictated by the new transportation provided by Honduras Outreach, Inc. We will be traveling in new Toyota Land Cruisers with air conditioning, not that we really need it or anything. Probably won't even turn it on! In addition, HOI has revamped the rules, policies and procedures to insure the utmost safety, security and success of each and every missionary.

If you want further information, you may contact Page Fulgham at 404-316-3544 or call the missions office at the church. You can also look at HOI's website at www.hoi.org

Please prayerfully consider the powerful impact you can have by your simple acts of kindness to those to whom we minister in Honduras. They will be changed; you will be changed; we will be changed.

Wednesday Night Schedule

- ✓ 5:15 p. m. — Dinner - Fellowship Hall
- ✓ 5:30 p. m. — Rainbows for Children / Parents Info. Meeting – Chapel
- ✓ 6:00 p. m. — Children's Activities
- ✓ 6:00 p. m. — Building Committee Meeting - Conference Room
- ✓ 6:00 p. m. — Children's Choir - Rms 210 301 302 304 306-308 310
- ✓ 6:00 p. m. — Hand Bells - Choir Suite
- ✓ 6:15 p. m. — Youth Event - Gym
- ✓ 6:30 p. m. — Prayer Service -Fellowship Hall
- ✓ 7:00 p. m. — Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal - Choir Suite
- ✓ 8:30 p. m. — Festival Singers - Choir Suite

Sunday, August 26 at 6:00 p. m. — Shut In Team Meeting
in the Conference Room

August 29 at 6:45 p. m. — Children's Missions will start with a BAM!

FINANCIAL STATISTICS

As of August 16, 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	\$1,415,077.79	\$1,683,336.00
TOTAL OTHER INCOME	25,930.10	0.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$1,441,007.89	\$1,683,336.00
EXPENSES		
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	\$1,177,617.11	\$1,328,610.00
TOTAL MINISTRIES – WORSHIP	28,746.79	29,525.00
TOTAL MINISTRIES – EDUCATION	68,548.87	102,159.00
TOTAL MISSIONS	132,159.39	152,139.00
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	39,896.24	45,500.00
TOTAL EQUIPMENT	3,263.30	11,956.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,450,231.70	\$1,669,889.00
MORTGAGE BALANCE:	\$ 329,979.17	

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	+2,586,425.41
Expenses	-2,778,982.55
Cash Balance	\$ 1,415.00
Outstanding Commitment	\$ 569.90



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OURSTAFF

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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

Academy of Arts Enrolling Students

is now enrolling for private music lessons and classes in preschool ballet tap, children/youth drama, and youth/adult oil painting.

We are also forming new classes in children's art (ages 6-11) and kindermusik (ages 3-5). To enroll or for more information, email us at smokerisearts-academy@yahoo.com or call 770.413.2133 x 226.