

The Cross Tie Newsletter

October 22, 2012

Water Walk Fun



Thank you, Smoke Rise, for your generosity toward the Water Project in Tijuana, Mexico. Clean water means so much in the lives of the children in Tijuana.

When “We” Get Together

By Kathy Dobbins
Minister of Spiritual Formation

Six years ago representatives from CBF of Georgia and the American Jewish Committee got together and designed an evening of dialogue and fellowship among Baptists and Jews. Each year since then has offered opportunities to build friendships and share impressions from each tradition. This year’s program was focused on the “Role of Religion and Politics: What we have Learned from the Past.” Twelve members of Smoke Rise participated.

Speaking for Baptists was Walter Shurden, retired professor of Christianity and Executive Director for the Center for Baptist Studies at Mercer University. Speaking for the Jewish community was Gary Simson, Dean of the Mercer University School of Law. Dr. Simson teaches American constitutional law and spoke on the value of the First Amendment saying that the “establishment clause” treats every religion equally. One of the values of these gatherings of people of different faiths is to learn about and share what we have in common. Jews, like historic Baptists, take a strong stand for the separation of church and state.

After hearing from both speakers, the audience, sitting around tables comprised of both Baptists and Jews, were given some questions for discussion: How does religion inform your political views?



How have you seen religion entering the current presidential campaign? The discussion was lively as we explored how the First Amendment protects the issues we care about most.

The highlight of the evening for me was Walter Shurden’s rationale for why we had gathered. [CONTINUED ON PAGE 3]

“I really felt everyone had deep respect for all opinions. I learned we need to listen as well as express our own opinions. It was a very good evening.”

Carole Still

Welcome to Our New Organist Mary Lynn Weatherly

Mary Lynn begins her new duties on Sunday, October 28, 2012

Mary Lynn Weatherly first played organ in worship at Sandersville First Baptist Church at age 16, and this led to a lifelong love of sacred music. She studied at Georgia State University, earning



both the Masters and Bachelors of Music degrees and later held full time positions in church music ministry, serving as organist, or-

ganist choir master, and music director in several denominations in metro Atlanta. As a community service volunteer, Mary Lynn is a past President of the Atlanta Chapter of Choristers Guild where she was a board member for ten years. In addition, she chaired the restoration of the Callanwolde Pipe Organ for four years and served as house organist there. After wearing many hats in music ministry, Mary Lynn is very happy to now focus primarily on her organ playing, and she states, "I've been looking at Stone Mountain from my kitchen window for over 20 years, and I am so happy to now have such a wonderful job with a terrific staff so close to home." Mary Lynn is married to Stone Mountain native, Thomas Weatherly, Professor Emeritus of Psychology at Georgia Perimeter College, and they have one married daughter and two young grandsons.

Welcome Home, Men!

Please welcome these men home from Appalachia and thank them for a job well done: Bill Blanton, Wilson Echols, Jim Fulgham, Page Fulgham, Jim Huston, Bob Jernigan, Bob Knell, Cliff Mueller, Gary Prophitt, Ron Sikes, Ronnie Smith, and Jim Still.

God at work through Lilburn Coop and Your Donations

by Kay Whitehear

Lilburn Cooperative Ministry

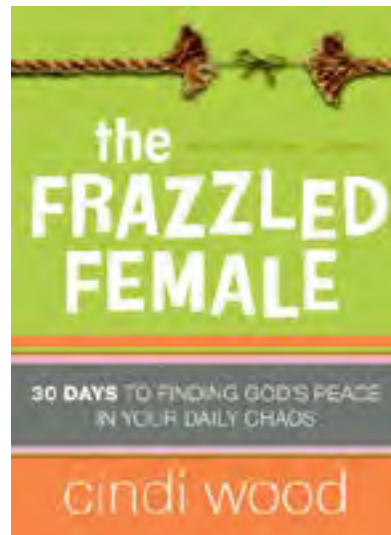
For the last two months we have been helping a family living in Intown Suites motel Lilburn, in one room, The single mother of the children was arrested and is

now in jail for at least 2 more months, so the children's uncle, who is only 27 took on responsibility for the family to pre-



vent them going into Department of Family and Children's Services. There are 3 children, one in elementary school, one in middle school and 1 in high school. The uncle has a job telemarketing and clears around \$250 a week and the motel is \$180 a week. We have helped with 2 weeks in the motel and if needed will help again, we are also helping weekly with food. He cannot get food stamps for the children as he does not have legal custody

We also contacted the school counselors so that they were aware of the situation and so that they could help with needs connected with the school.



Frazzled Female

The Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study is starting a new book on October 30 th from 9:45am till 11am each week. The Frazzled Female: 30 Days to finding God's Peace in Your Daily Chaos is designed to guide

every busy woman toward sanity, peace, and a deeper, more vibrant relationship with God. The study is 6 weeks and the cost is \$10.

Childcare is available. Please make reservations by calling the church office at 770.469.5856 or by emailing Marti at mandrews@smokerisebaptist.org

Photos of Our Veterans

Sunday, November 11, 2012, is Veterans Day. In recognition of our Smoke Rise folks who have served in the United States Military, we want to display their picture in uniform.

The display will be a rotating video presentation and located near the current Military Away display. We want all of our veterans to be represented in this presentation,



but to do so, you will need to provide us with a picture. There are two ways that you can do this. (1) If you have access to a scanner, scan the picture and email to gprohitt@bellsouth.net. Include your name, military branch and telephone number. (2) Bring your picture, in an envelope, to the Mis-

sions Office. A box will be located there. Please write your name on the back of the picture and your name, branch of service and telephone number on the envelope. Thank you.

Your Military Away Committee

Families In Need

Our Families In Need Ministry Fund is at its lowest point since its beginning in January 2009. We still have many Smoke Rise families coming for financial assistance. In the month of July, \$8,000 was distributed to several families. Please consider making a special gift above your regular budget giving to this worthy ministry.



[WHEN "WE" GET TOGETHER CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1]

He used Jewish philosopher Martin Buber's definition of dialogue, "to speak across." Buber writes that there are two ways to enter relationships. One is the "I – it" in which people are treated as nothing more than objects. The other is the "I – thou" which is person to person, communication that values the whole person. The language of our current society is generally "us and them." Polarization prevails in both religion and politics. To enter dialogue with one another can bring healing to our fragmented society. The best quote of the night was one attributed to Maurice Friedman: "If we do not allow a general "we" to life, we will destroy ourselves." Dr. Shurden proclaimed that "we" is the underlying rationale for why we have this interfaith dialogue implying that we can have a transforming effect when we see others as "thou's" not "its."

"I enjoyed our Baptist/Jewish evening. The information we had from our panel was excellent. The first amendment was explained in great detail."

Lois Jernigan

Pastor Search Report

Charlene Echols reports on the process and progress of the Pastor Search Committee. Recorded October 14, 2012 at the end of the 11:00am worship service.



smokerisebaptist.org/media/sermons/special_events.aspx





Year—to—Date

Total Income	\$ 1,080,915.44
Expenses	
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 845,924.91
Total Ministries—Worship	10,618.05
Total Ministries—Education	43,539.27
Total Missions	81,037.53
Total Capital Expenditures	35,888.47
Total Equipment	1,630.97
Total Expenses	\$ 1,018,639.20
Total Difference	\$ 62,276.24

birth congratulations!

“Emery Jane,” born to John and Hailey Scott; grandparents are Charlie and Debbie Scott.



Our Ministers

E. Ernest Forrester, Jr.
Kathy Dobbins
Tim Adcox
Danny Vancil
Marti Andrews
Carra Hughes Greer
Truett Gannon, D.Min.
Rob Nash, Ph.D.
Allen Walworth, Ph.D.

Church Office: 770.469.5856

Associate Pastor
Minister of Spiritual Formation
Minister of Missions
Minister of Worship & Music
Interim Children’s Ministry
Minister to Families with Youth
Pastor Emeritus
Co-Visiting Preacher
Co-Visiting Preacher

Smoke Rise Counseling Center 404.636.1457 x424 Affiliate of Care and Counseling Center of Georgia

Evie Bodine, MA, LAPC	Counselor
Heather Weimer, M. Div., STM	Counselor
Jennifer Weimer	Counselor



condolences

Join us in extending our sympathy to our friends and family at Smoke Rise Baptist who have lost loved ones:

Jan Vreeland’s brother-in-law;
Crystal Blackwell’s father, Don Norton



CBGA Keynote Speaker:
Preacher/
Lawyer/
Standup
Comic
Susan
Sparks



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