

# The Cross Tie Newsletter

March 19, 2014

## Family Mission Trip Reflection

By Emily Holladay  
Interim Minister to Children

What happens when you take 34 men, women, and children to Asheville, N.C. to do mission work together? You experience three full days of constant, tangible reminders of God's active, loving presence.

17 children and youth from 10 months to 17 years old and 17 adults gathered on Friday night at Montreat Conference Center in the heart of Black Mountain. Greeted by beautiful scenery, the children and adults alike were in awe of God's magnificent creation.

Before heading to our mission site on Saturday, we shared a devotion reflecting on the places where we find God, and how we see God at work. We left with a reminder that we would be Christ's presence in the lives of those we served and to look for God's presence in them as well.

We found the Steadfast House, a women's and children's shelter in Asheville, full of life and opportunities for service. Our group worked in the lower level, where women with children lived. Living in single rooms with their children, these women have little access to childcare or solitude.

Our job for the day was to clean toys that were carrying germs from the winter flu and cold seasons, and to play with the children so their moms could have a few hours of free time. Our group was full of creative, artistic people, so our hosts asked us to bring life to the laundry room by painting murals on the walls.

Eager and motivated, the group worked at the Steadfast House from 10am until 3:45pm, accumulating 195.5 hours of service. The work excited our kids because they made new friends and felt like they helped them have a better day. Our group could see and feel the impact they were making.

Reflecting on the work, the kids and adults alike shared about how much they had learned from the experience, and how grateful we were to be able to share love with the people whose daily reality was so much more difficult than our own.

Now home, we hope to continue this attitude of service and join the church in finding ways to contribute to the community around us. We will also be looking for new local family mission projects. These will keep developing the spirit of service in our shared lives together.

Thank you, church family, for all your prayers as we embarked on this new adventure! Be sure to ask the children and families about their experience. We encourage you to join us next year, and be on the lookout for news about next year's trip coming soon!



## A Word From Your Deacons

By Roy Vreeland  
Deacon Chair

In January 1983, I walked into my first ever deacon meeting at a former church. How did the meeting go? Well, for starters, there were no women. Nor was there any routine activity of a spiritual nature. No, this was a group of long-standing leaders gathering to run the business of the church. A young Roy Vreeland wasn't made to feel welcome and my opinions were not important. We met and listened to a senior deacon. The pastor told us how things were going to happen. Deacons voted but there were no questions or discussion.



What a refreshing change to find myself a few years later at my first deacon meeting at Smoke Rise with a committed group of men AND women! I quickly realized that we do things quite differently here. Let me explain.

At Smoke Rise, we assign each deacon about fifteen church families. It is our job to minister to these families during the year. We stay in touch with them and seek to be available to them. Although we have business duties, we are not a business-oriented body. We are becoming a spiritual group that leads by example. Many deacons visit those hospitalized or homebound. We pray for you and seek to provide support to you.



What does all this mean? A Smoke Rise Deacon is a Christian friend

who you can count on in your time of need. None of us are perfect, but each of us dedicates our lives to God's work in and through this church.

You will be reading more of how we are serving our congregation and our community in future columns. In the meantime, we are looking to meet your needs and help everyone experience the welcome of Christ. Smoke Rise is a wonderful place to serve.

### Our Ministers

Tim Adcox  
Kathy Dobbins  
Ernie Forrester  
Truett Gannon  
Chris George  
Emily Holladay  
Danny Vancil

### Church Office: 770.469.5856

Minister of Missions  
Minister of Spiritual Formation  
Associate Pastor  
Pastor Emeritus  
Pastor  
Interim Minister to Children  
Minister of Worship & Music

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

Faye Herring, M.Div., M.S. Resident Counselor  
John Moore, Ph.D., M.S., M.Div., LAPC Counselor  
Katie Setterberg M.A., LAPC Director, Counselor



## Help Us Make a Mess!

Messy Art Night is coming up on March 29<sup>th</sup> from 6-8pm on the ball field.

We have planned lots of fun, messy crafts for the children but we need your help!



There are three areas we would love volunteers:

**1. Before Messy Art Night** - We need help prepping crafts. This would involve cutting shapes out of poster board, writing words on popsicle sticks, and other general craft prep that could be done while watching TV!

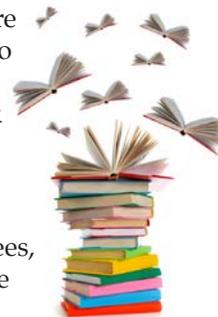
**2. On Messy Art Night** - We could use volunteers to help us set up in the hours before Messy Art Night (3-6pm), volunteering to man stations during the event (6-8pm), and helping to clean up afterward.

**3. After Messy Art Night** - Many of the crafts the children will make on Messy Art Night will be used to decorate the church on Children's Sunday (May 4<sup>th</sup>). In the month leading up to Children's Sunday, we will need help putting finishing touches on the crafts.

Please e-mail Emily Holladay at [eholladay@smokerisebaptist.org](mailto:eholladay@smokerisebaptist.org) if you would be willing to help with any of these needs and we will provide all the supplies and training that you need.

## Return Books

The Media Center is updating its records. We have a large number of overdue items that we would like to retrieve. Please check your shelves at home and see if there are any books that belong to the church library and return them to the book drop outside the Media Center door.



We do not charge late fees, so it is easy to return the items without penalty.

## Ladies Spring Event

On April 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30pm, come and hear award-winning author and speaker Marcia Gaddis. Her book, *When God Comes Near* garnered three distinguished awards from the Blue Ridge Mountains Christian Writers Conference. For two years she was the co-host of the gardening television show, "Backyard America." She will share lessons on hospitality through her topic, "Daffodils at My Door."



Tickets are \$15 and will be on sale beginning March 23<sup>rd</sup>. If you would like to host and decorate a table, contact MaryLynn Manley at 770.925.7509.

## Journeys 2014 Session 3 The Season of Lent

**Lenten Series: The "I Am" Sayings of Jesus** in the Fellowship Hall. In this series, we will study six of Jesus' "I Am" statements from John's Gospel to see how they speak to us today.

### Remaining Sessions:

March 26

#### **I Am the Gate & I Am the Good Shepherd**

Dr. Peter Rhea Jones, Sr., J. Truett Gannon Professor of Preaching and New Testament, McAfee School of Theology

April 2

#### **I Am the Resurrection and the Life**

Dr. Alan Culpepper, Dean, McAfee School of Theology

April 16

#### **I Am the Way, the Truth & the Life**

Dr. Alan Culpepper, Dean, McAfee School of Theology

### **ZUMBA®: The Original Dance-Fitness Party in the Gym**

Are you ready to party yourself into shape? Forget the workout, just lose yourself in the music and find yourself in shape at the original dance-fitness party. Before you know it, you'll be getting fit and your energy levels will be soaring! It's easy to do, effective and totally exhilarating. Zumba will be led by Jennifer Thomas, owner of Wholly Fit. Please bring \$5 for every session. Email [asizemore@smokerisebaptist.org](mailto:asizemore@smokerisebaptist.org) to signup.

### **Art Series: Make a Birdhouse in the Art Room (rm 233 in the Gym)**

Design and paint a birdhouse for indoor decoration. Choose a style of birdhouse, draw your design, paint and then seal it for indoor decor. Please contact Jeanne George at 770.935.5770 or email: [creativejeanne@mac.com](mailto:creativejeanne@mac.com) for supply list and to sign up.

### **Talk Time in the Library**

Talk time is a gathering place for young parents to come together and enjoy discussions about current issues, parenting and married life. This is largely a free form discussion group.

## All About Lilburn Co-op Ministry

Lilburn Co-op – a place where God's love is shared and lives are changed! We learned a lot about the Lilburn Cooperative Ministry at the annual Volunteer Banquet last week and here are some highlights. Clients, who are helped to get back on their feet, then give back to the



Co-op by volunteering to help others. Over \$400,000 was used to pay bills for clients in 2013 and Lily's Cloak Thrift Store, with their \$1.00 items, sold over \$200,000 in donated items. Over a 4 year average, 110 families are helped each week.

We thank God for Kay and Patty, their staff, and the over 200 volunteers who make this ministry work to help those in need and to glorify God. Smoke Rise is one of 30 churches who support the Lilburn Cooperative Ministry.



As a Smoke Rise Mission Budget item, LCM receives \$1,000 each month, not including individuals and Sunday School classes who give regularly to the Lilburn Co-op – a place where God's love is shared and lives are changed!



## Relay for Life Breakfast and Silent Auction

See baskets on display Sunday morning and come early to be able to select the ones you like. Eat breakfast for \$3, honor or remember someone for \$10 with a luminary and donate to American Cancer Society.

Buy beautiful baskets and country store items with something for everyone. Bidding will close at 10am.

We would love donations of baskets or country store items. Bring them before 9am on Sunday.

Be there to support the team and help us reach our goal of more birthdays for everyone.



## Why Go To New York?

There are many reasons, but one of the most important is to offer hope to the children in Hell's Kitchen and Brooklyn in New York City. The New York Mission Team is beginning to form. If you want to be a part of this team and work with inner city children for a week, July 12 – 19, then plan to attend a brief Informational Meeting on Sunday, March 23. Meet in Room 220 at noon following the 11am Worship Service. For more information, please call Lynne Felton at 770.934.8552 or 404.310.8442.



Congratulations to Landon and Rachel Barton Booker on the birth of a daughter, "Caroline Adele," born January 27, 2014. Grandparents are Neal and Bobbie Jo Barton. Congratulations also to Kevin and Lauren Knapp Hammond on the birth of a son, "Kolton Donald," born February 27, 2014; big sister is Kyler; grandparents are Dale and Donna Knapp; uncle and aunt are Chris and Megan Knapp Walker; great grandmother is Jerrie Long.

## birth congratulations

# Holy Week 2014 at Smoke Rise Baptist Church

### Palm Sunday - April 13<sup>th</sup>

9:00am: Worship in the Chapel

9:45am: Sunday School

11:00am: Worship in the Sanctuary featuring the Processional of Palms

### 5:00pm: "Pipes of Praise Concert"

Featuring Jason Payne, Guest Organist, and the Sanctuary Choir

### Wednesday - April 16<sup>th</sup>

(Regular Wednesday Evening Schedule)

### Maundy-Thursday - April 17<sup>th</sup>

(Fellowship Hall)

6:00pm: Reflection Stations

7:00pm: Holy Communion

### Good Friday - April 18<sup>th</sup>

7:00pm: Community Worship Service at

*Mountain Park United Methodist Church*

1405 Rockbridge Rd, Stone Mountain, GA 30087

### Resurrection Sunday - April 20<sup>th</sup>

9:00am: Sunday School

11:00am: Easter Worship

THE CROSS TIE ISSUE 1403P2 SMOKE RISE BAPTIST CHURCH Send feedback, information and updates to: [crossie@smokerisebaptist.org](mailto:crossie@smokerisebaptist.org)

## Passover Seder

April 8, 2014 at

6:30pm Rm 223

You are invited to participate in an interfaith sharing of the traditional Passover Seder led by Rabbi Ronald Bluming.

Please RSVP

to Kathy Dobbins

ASAP.



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