

The Belmont Christian

A witness to the past, a tool for the present and a window on the future of Belmont Christian Church!

Volume 58 Issue 18

May 5, 2010



*The Symbol of the
Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)*

Upcoming Calendar

- Sunday, May 9, Mother's Day
NO Friendship time, BP
checks with Deborah Stanley
- Monday, May 10, RVHC/FH
1-9:00 pm with Brenda Allen
- Wednesday, May 12, 5:15
pm, 6:00 pm Adult Bible
Study & Youth Group, 7:00
pm Board Mtg.
- Thursday, May 13, 10:30 am
Knitting, 7:00 pm Choir

This Needs Your Attention Now

Mark your calendars for a Special Birthday Party here at the church on Saturday, May 29th. From 1-3:00 pm. See article on page 2.

Remember our sick and shut-ins.

Next DWF meeting at 10:30 am on May 25th, Night group at 7:00 pm, and Disciples Men here at Belmont at 6:30 pm

CWU are you planning to go to the meeting and Luncheon on Friday, May 7th, May Friendship Day? See Faye Askew.

See article on page 3 about important dates to remember, such as Vacation Bible School, Camp Registration Deadline and last Wonderful Wednesday before the summer break.

Wear Red, May 23 for Pentecost Sunday. (See page 2)

Pastor's Pen Missing Out

Mary was on her way to the grocery store one afternoon. She wanted to pick up a few last minute items that she would need to fix dinner for her family that evening and maybe a few extras for the next couple of nights. The Store was not far away and would only take a few minutes of her time to accomplish her mission. The route that she took was a familiar one and just happened to take her by the church that she attended. Mary had not been in attendance for a couple of weeks now because of some events on the weekends that had conflicted with the Sunday church services. That was OK to Mary as she "knew" everyone at the church would understand.

As Mary drove on the route

to the store and began to pass the church building she glanced over to look at the building. She was expecting to see the old building standing there looking as majestic as ever. She always thought how beautiful the building was. The church constantly



reminded her of an ancient castle that stood on a hillside and looked down on the villagers below. A sense of protection emanated outwards from the old structure, giving comfort to those who looked at the building and somehow promoting the belief that something larger was behind

it. The King sits on the throne, ever watchful to the horizon for the first sign of trouble, ready to sound the alarm.

What Mary was not expecting was to see all of the cars parked in neat rows in the parking lot. Her mind quickly raced through all of the files in her brain as Mary scanned to remember what the event might be that was taking place at the church this day. Mary asked herself out loud, "Was there a funeral today?" She had not heard of anyone passing away recently. "Was someone getting married?" No, that could not be it; no one was engaged to be married that she knew. No, there was no meeting that she could come up with to explain why all the cars were at the church.

(Cont'd on page 2)

Thanks for Making the Yard Sale/Bake Sale a Success!

Our Annual Yard Sale/Bake Sale was a down and so forth, they are too numerous to list success again this year thanks to the hard in such a short space. But please know that we work and support from our faithful Belmonters.

Frank Sparks does a lot of the behind the scenes preparations. Sharon Stoneman and Betty Ballengee line up the event for the yard sale, and Joyce Chewning and Garry Sands line up the Bake Sale.

There are so many who take part in pricing, setting up, carrying up and



could not help our community without you! thank each and everyone for the part you played! Thanks also goes out to everyone who donated items for the yard sale and bake sale. Your efforts were tremendous and we THANK YOU!

The total amount taken in was \$3,176.34. Ten % will go to Good Samaritan Hospice.

Again, thanks to each of you! We could not help our community without you!

News From Around the Church

100th Birthday Party You are Invited



Keep your calendar open. The family of Eloise Wright will be having a Birthday Party here in the Church Fellowship Hall on Saturday, May 29th. The time is 1:00 until 3:00 pm.

See the Bulletin Board on the first floor for more information.

Also watch your newsletter and bulletin inserts for this Special event for such a Special Lady!

You will certainly want to be here and honor Eloise Wright along with her family. She is our prayer warrior as most of you know. She keeps the newsletter supplied with prayer thoughts each week.

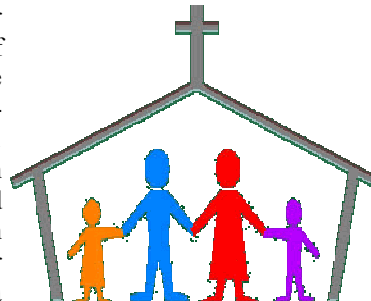
Pastor's Pen *(cont'd from page 1)*

Mary continued her path to the store, but the vision of the cars still remained on her mind. The more she thought about it, the more she became perplexed. Finally, she wheeled the car around and headed back up to the church. Mary was now determined to find out just what was happening at the church. It was beginning to really bother her that she did not know what was going on. She considered herself very active in the life of the church.

As Mary walked into the church, she was greeted by the joyous sound of people laughing. The sweet smells of homemade cakes and breads drifted through the air. Mary could even smell her favorite pie that one of the ladies of the church makes for special occasions. "What's going on here?" Mary said openly to no one in particular. The answer came in the form of a friend of hers walking up to her saying, "Mary, I'm so glad you and your family made it!" Mary looked confused. "What is the occasion?" This made her friend laugh. "You remember, we are celebrating the church's birthday today!" This still did not ring any bells with Mary. "I don't remember anything said about this in church," Mary said. "I don't know how you could have missed it" her friend countered, "It's been in the church bulletin for the past three or four weeks, the newsletter mentioned it for a couple of months, and I know that the pastor emailed everyone early this past week." Mary looked down at the floor. She had let her life outside take over from

her church life. Mary barely read the newsletter, in fact she usually only scanned it before tossing it in the trash. She also had a habit of deleting the pastor's e-mails, they were commonly about some sick member of the church that she had not taken the time to know, but most sadly, she had not been in church for some weeks because the events outside the church had become more important to her than the events inside the church. Mary had to admit that it was her own actions that had caused her, and her family, to lose contact with the church.

How much do we miss out in the life of the church when we don't pay attention? There are so many ways in which the church provides for us to participate in the life of mission within the church. There are so many events that are designed for the members of our families or us to take part in. We can do so with so little effort.

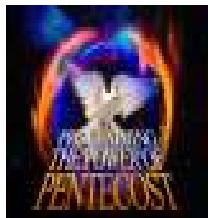


God calls us to be a part of the community and to be faithful. He calls us to be a willing and active member that helps in the growth of the church.

Praying for you as I hope that you are praying for me

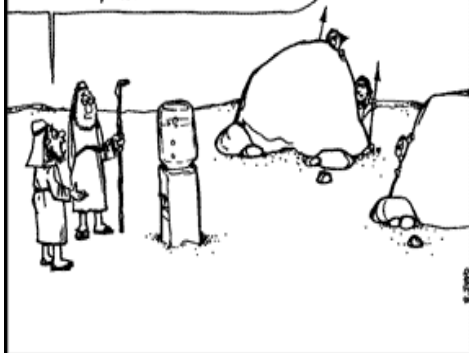
Craig

Date To Remember



Sunday, May 23rd is Pentecost Sunday. This is the day that everyone wears RED

YEAH, IT'S PROBABLY AN AMBUSH. BUT A WATER COOLER OUT HERE, IN THE MIDDLE OF THE DESERT! YOU GOTTA HAND IT TO THESE PEOPLE, THIS IS CREATIVE.



Attendance Figures:



Sunday School: 66
Worship Attendance: 113
Memorials for: Katherine Hamilton

Prayer Cues for Belmonters

As you go to God in prayer this week, consider including the following prayer cue in your devotions.

Your life is a journey you must travel with a deep consciousness of God. 1Peter 1:17

Amen





Wonderful Wednesday Menu For May 5th

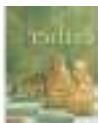
Dinner: 5:15 pm, Adult Bible Study and Youth Group: 6:15 pm
 Adults: \$5.00
 Children: \$2.50

The menu is: Beef Stroganoff with Egg Noodles, Toss Salad, Yeast Rolls and Dessert.

Come and join us for good food and fellowship as we worship Jesus our Lord and Savior! Fill out on the bottom of your attendance slip Sunday and drop in the offering plate, or call the church office at 343-7502 if you plan to eat.

Ladies

If you haven't already, let Pastor Elaine know if you would be interested in a Bible Study of the Book of Esther, @ 772-0250 or @ austin-rva@cox.net.



“Women’s Night Out” (All women invited) May 10, 2010—5:30-7:30 pm Belmont Christian Church—Fellowship Hall

In recognition of the week of May 9-15 being National Women’s Health Week, RVHC, Carilion’s Every Woman’s Life and the American Cancer Society are co-hosting this special event.

The purpose is to remind women that taking care of themselves is essential to living longer, healthier and happier lives, since their focus is on taking care of others instead of themselves. It is important especially at this time to educate women about the steps they can take to improve their own health and prevent disease.

During our event on May 10, presentations will be given about “Health Screenings—What Women Need to Know and Healthy Eating on a Budget.” In addition, representatives from various agencies in the Roanoke Valley will be available to talk to women one-on-one about services provided. Light refreshments will be served, free blood pressure screenings

door prizes will be given away—plus much more!

It will be a fun and informative evening for those who attend. Please plan to attend and share this information with friends and family.

For more information, you may call Brenda Allen @ 312-6302 or 345-9477.

Important Notice



Please be aware that there will not be a Friendship Reception on Sunday, May 9th. This is the day we celebrate Mother’s Day, so spend your time with your family on this “Special” Day.

Graduates Needed:

Please notify the church office as soon as possible with names and information about any of our young people who will be graduating this year. Whether they are graduating from high school, college, or graduate school, please let us know.



Thank You.

The Belmont Kids Connection

How about a Trip to India???

Have you ever been on a trip around the world? Well during the week of July 12-16 we are going to go to India, which is halfway around the world from here. Actually we are going to pretend that we go there during our Vacation Bible School this year. It is going to be a fun time as we learn some of the customs of India and as we learn about three of the outreach missions that our church supports in India.

We will spend our first day preparing for our trip. On the second day, we will learn about who our family is and we will see how “The Family Village Farm” is a great place to help families in India. The next day we will travel



to “the Deep Griha Society” and learn how this group helps people in India who live in the worst places of the country. On the fourth day of Vacation Bible School, we will go to the “Mungeli Hospital” where many of the people of India go for medical care. Almost half of the people of India are too poor to even buy food for their families. This hospital provides care for those who need it. It has been around for over 100 years.

We will have a great time visiting India and sharing together in fun and fellowship. We will begin each evening with a “bag dinner” at 5:30. We will conclude each night at 8:00. Make sure that you have July 12-16 on your calendars and make sure that your bags are packed for an exciting week!!

Children’s Worship for the Summer

Our 3-8 year olds will be taking a break from Children Worship & Wonder for the summer. Beginning on May 30th, following the Children’s Moment, you will still go up to third floor. Instead of meeting in the “Worship Center,” you will go in the “Children’s Department” room for a time of learning. We will focus on lessons about choosing God’s direction; making wise decisions; and having courage with God. It will still be a special time for you.

Attention 9-12 year olds: If you participate in Journey Worship during our 11:00 service, we will be taking the summer off as usual. So May 30th will be our last scheduled session for the summer. During the summer, you will remain in the sanctuary.

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A publication of:

Belmont Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)

Service Times:

Sunday School: 9: 45 AM
Sunday Worship: 11:00 AM
Wednesday Family Night: 6:00 PM

Rev. Craig Rutherford, Sr. Minister
Rev. Elaine Austin, Director of Youth and Family Life
Pastor Rutherford: 540.890-4454
Church Phone: 540.343.7502
Fax: 540.344.4706
Email: belmontchristianchurch@yahoo.com



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Belmont Christian Church



Still the friendly church on the corner!

See YOU this Sunday!

Visit us on the web at: www.belmontchristianchurch.net

For Your Information

News You Can Use

Prayer List:

Our Church Family: Tim Argenbright, Jennifer Bailey & family, Cathy Ferguson, Letha Holland, Roger & Wanda Law, Joan Sands, Mary Spradlin & sisters, Donnie Stanley, Donald Stanley Sr., Pat Wirt

Our Extended Church Family: Family of Jennifer Angell, Jason Blair, Jim Brown, Tim Chocklett, Kim Duff, Jerry Fernatt, Family of Joyce Geary, Sue Mustard. Dean Schrupf, Cole Smith, Cindy Strausbaugh, Jean Tuck, Sheila Vatano, Charlotte Woodzell

(If you know of any updates to this list, please let the Church office know.)



Thank You From PCC

The support we receive throughout the year to fulfill our mission is tremendous...amazing...inspirational! We are blessed with a generous spirit from area churches and partner organizations like you.

Today we thank the congregation of Belmont Christian Church for showing such a caring spirit. Your ongoing food collection for April totaled \$55.14, which will help feed many hungry people in SE, NE, and Vinton. In these trying economic times, assistance with food will make utility and rent payments possible.

Again, we thank you for your continued support!



"God Will Take Care of His Own"

*There is a lot of struggling...
Going on in this world today....*

*We sometimes question how
we are going to make it....
But with our Lord and Savior there is a
way....*

*It is hard to understand....
When things aren't going right....*

*God's love surrounds us....
We're never out of his sight....*

*We don't need to fret or worry....
He is always a step ahead....*

*He knows our every need....
By his hand we will be fed....*

*Not just for bodily needs....
But spiritual needs as well....*

*He knows us inside and out....
No one has to tell....*

*He is an all knowing Lord....
With so much love for us....*

*And he will care for his people....
Just believe in him and trust!!*

By: Pat Lumsden
April 29, 2010