

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 21

May 26, 2010



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

Upcoming Calendar

- Sunday, May 30, Memorial Day Service, No Friendship Time today, Private Lunch for the Wright Family/FH 12:30-2:00 pm.
- Monday, May 31, Memorial Day, the Church Office will be CLOSED.
- Wednesday, June 2, NO Wonderful Wednesdays until after Labor Day, enjoy your summer.
- Thursday, June 3, 10:30 am Knitting, 7:00 pm Choir
- Friday, June 4-6 Regional Assembly, Pastor Craig will be here by Sunday for Worship Service

This Needs Your Attention Now

Plan to come to a Wonderful Celebration of Life →

Mark your calendar for the next Elders' Breakfast to be held Saturday, June 12 at 8:30 am

Have you turned in the Graduates to Pastor Elaine?

Have you volunteered to help with Vacation Bible School?

Pray for our shut-ins & sick.

Pastor's Pen Looking towards the Future

These last few weeks have been a crazy time to some of our younger members of Belmont Christian and for some families also. During the last few weeks we have witnessed graduation of members, relatives or friends from colleges around the area. In a couple of weeks from now we will be celebrating with others, graduations from local High Schools. For some, this time marks another year of advancement in school and in the attempting to accomplish some degree. But whether this school year ends with a sheep skin and diploma or not, the same question faces each of our current flock of

students, what now?

Most of those who will be stepping across some stage to the cheers of family and friends will now be confronted with that ever perplexing question of how do they go about finding that job that they had been working so hard for. Those who still have more years of schooling will find questions that have to be looked at. It seems that whenever we reach some milestone in our life, we find that there is still more road ahead of us. When my son was completing his 8th year in school, he asked me how much more he had ahead of him. I said that if he was asking about High School then he had only 4 years to go. If he was talking about going on to College, than he could add another 4 to 5 years for that. If he was going after a Mas-

ter's degree, than another 4 to 5 years would be added and if he wanted to go after some form of Doctor's Degree, that could be as long as 7 more years. Adding that all together, he could be looking at a total of 21 more years of schooling. He looked at me with shock on his face and said, "you mean that I'm not even half of the way yet?"

Life is a marathon and not a sprint. Life is a long process of living each day one at a time. While we may have our eyes only fixed on some close by event or some approaching time, we may fail to look at the long term that lies behind it. Far too many graduates complete all of the hard work that has placed them into a position to graduate and realize late that they had done nothing to prepare

(Cont'd on page 2)

You're Invited to a Birthday Celebration

The family of Eloise Wright cordially Church on Saturday, May 29th from 1:00-3:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. invites you to a Birthday Reception in her honor. She will be celebrating 100 years of life here on this earth.

Eloise has been a long-time member of Belmont Christian Church and has been an inspiration to all!

The Birthday reception will take place at Belmont Christian



Eloise says the advantage of being 100 years old is that you have many people to love.

Come and join us for this special occasion. No gifts please, just come and share this moment with Eloise and her family as we honor her life and share precious moments and memories!

News From Around the Church

A Little Humor

Until a child tells you what they are thinking, we can't even begin to imagine how their mind is working...Little Zachary was doing very badly in math. His parents had tried everything and nothing worked.

Finally, in a last attempt they enrolled him in the local Catholic school. After the first day, he came home with a very serious look on his face. He went straight to his room and started studying.



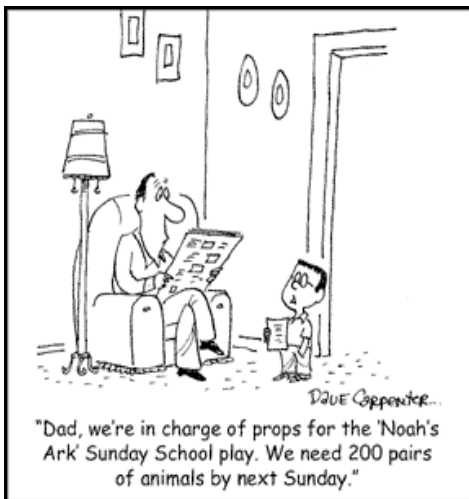
Books and papers were all over the room. Little Zachary was hard at work. His mother was amazed and called him down to dinner. He immediately went back up to his room and was hitting the books as hard as before.

This went on day after day, as his mother tried to understand what had made the difference.

Finally, little Zachary brought home his report card. He quietly laid it on the table, went to his room and hit the books.

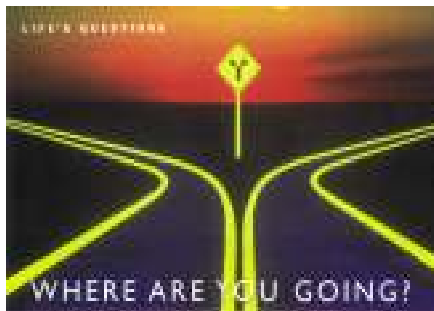
To his mother's surprise he got an A in Math. She could no longer hold her curiosity and went to his room and said, "Son, What was it? Was it the nuns?" Little Zachary looked at her and shook his head, no. "Well then, was it the books, the discipline, the structure, the uniforms, what?"

Little Zachary looked at her and said, "Well, on the first day of school when I saw that guy nailed to the plus sign, I knew they weren't fooling around."



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

for what was further down the road or around the next bend.



The bible points out to us that the goal of the church, and the goal of our lives, is to look further down the road. It shows us that we should be spending as much time on current events of today as we do on planning for the years to come. Are we setting the ground work for the church into the next few decades so that it will be able to continue its ministry? Do we look to the future or do we just look to next week or month?

We preach a message of hope for the future. That we are willing runners in a marathon of life and even when we reach the end of this race and go across the finish line, there is still more and more beyond this life. We preach that eternity awaits us as we cross over the finish line for those who planned beyond this milestone. We preach that there is far more that waits beyond this point and that this life is not even half of the way.

When we were 18 we felt that we were old and grown up. When we were 29, we felt that 30 were near the end. When we reached 40 we were "over the hill." When we reached 50 we felt that it was all over and when we reached 100 we knew that we had run a good

race. At each of the steps we believed that there was nothing left to look forward to. We believed that we had reached some panicle in life and there was no higher place to go. What we found was that each point in our lives was just the starting place for our next great adventure. Even the end is just the beginning. We look toward the next beginning point in our lives with God beside us knowing that the race continues.

We send our heartfelt Congratulations to all of the Graduating Class of 2010, both those who are graduating from High School or College. Our prayers go out to you and your families. Remember that this is just the beginning and we know that God will be with you all of your days.

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

Craig



Prayer Cues for Belmonters

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

God is being patient with you...He wants all people to change their hearts and lives. 2 Peter 3:9

Thank You Lord!
Amen



Attendance Figures:

Sunday School: 68



Worship Attendance: 113

Memorials for:
None today

Choir Schedule For June



Please note the schedule for June is as follows: Practice will take place on June 3 and 24. **There will be NO choir on the 10th or 17th.**

Please Note

Monday the 31st of May is Memorial Day. The church office will be closed. We will re-open Tuesday morning, June 1st.



If you have an emergency, you may reach Pastor Rutherford at 890-4454.

Have a wonderful Holiday with your family!

Seniors Dance

Are you getting ready for a real country –western night? Are you getting your outfits together?



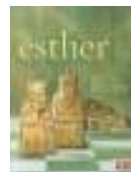
Don't forget to mark your calendars and plan to be here. It's going to be different this year, but lots of fun!

The date is Friday, June 18, 2010. The Dinner is at 6:00 pm. The dance will be from 7:00 pm until 10:00 pm.

The menu is Baked Ham or Chicken, Vegetables, Bread, Beverages and Desserts by Joyce Chewning, so you know it's going to be good!

Reservations are required. Please call the church office at 343-7502 or see Barbara Blair. The cost is \$7.00 per person due in advance, by June 11th.

A Study of Esther



Don't forget, women, that we will begin our study on the Book of Esther on Tuesday, June 8th at 7:00 pm at the church. Our study will be based on the book, "Esther, It's Tough

Being a Woman" by Beth Moore. If you would like to purchase a copy and need help finding it, please contact Pastor Elaine or the church office.

Something New



Starting on Sunday, June 6, Pastor Craig Rutherford will be teaching an eight week class on Church Growth and Church Outreach. It will last about 40 minutes. The name of the class will be called "The Church Reaching Out Class".

If you would like to sign up for this special class, see Pastor Craig.

The Belmont Kids Connection

Don't Forget

There will be NO JYF (ages four through third grade) or Chi-Rho (grades four through sixth grade) meetings during the summer months. But watch your newsletter for some upcoming fun family nights, like a drive in movie in our parking lot; a trip to a Salem Red Sox game; and more.

Congratulations to Erica Derrick who has been accepted into the "Practical Nursing Program" at Va. Western Community College. She has finished most of her general education courses & now will buckle down to her major courses. Pray for success!

Graduate Recognition Sunday

We will be honoring our graduates on Sunday, June 6th, during the worship service and Friendship time. So far, we have five names of graduates in our church family. They are: Justin Sparks, Vicky Blair, Courtney Thompson, Forrest Gabrielson, and Dillon Smith.

Please contact the church office IMMEDIATELY if you know of anyone else.

Attention CYF Members

We will be meeting on Wednesday evenings during the month of June. On June 2nd we will have a fun evening of playing Xbox & relaxing before exams. We will meet from 5:45-8:15 pm.

Vacation Bible School Is Coming

Don't forget to put July 12-16 on your calendars for our annual Vacation Bible School.

We will be traveling to India this year for a great week of fun and fellowship as we learn about the people of India and some wonderful mission work that we do there.

There will be classes for three years through adults. So come and be a part of our journey.



The Belmont Christian
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

Belmont Christian Church
1101 Jamison Avenue
Roanoke, VA 24013

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Roanoke, VA
Permit No. 25

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, Elaine Austin, & family, Jennifer & Joseph Bailey & family, Ina Bobbitt, Clark Davis, Cathy Ferguson, Debbie Cromwell Heck, Letha Holland, Roger &

Wanda Law, Joan Sands, Mary Spradlin & sisters, Family of Donald Stanley Sr., Loni Stoneman, Jane Taylor, Pat Wirt & family

Our Extended Church Family:

Family of Jennifer Angell, Jason Blair, Jim Brown, Tim Chocklett, Crystal Clinebell, Kim Duff, Family of Lois Elmore, Jerry Fernatt, Family of Joyce Geary, Mr. & Mrs. Harry S. Goggin, Eddy & Deb Hannabass, Debbie Harris, The Rick Hartman family, James Jacobs, Pansy Layman, Billie Lothian, Ginny Martin, June

McCoy, Sonia Morris, Sue Mustard, Jack Newbill, Debbie Ragland, Irma Reynolds, Dean Schrupf, Cole Smith, Cindy Strausbaugh, Jean Tuck, Sheila Watano, Mary Alice Walton, Charlotte Woodzell

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

Great Turnout

Thanks to everyone who made the annual SRCP picnic a success again this year. The food was really good and everyone seemed to have a really good time.

We were very pleased at the turnout from Belmont Christian Church. We felt we were well represented.

Thank you so much for coming!



“There’s Only One Way To Heaven”

*There is only one way to heaven...
Yes, the Bible says one...
And that is through Jesus...
God’s only son...
The world was so wicked...
God came up with a plan...
Jesus was born of a virgin...
And died on a cross for man...
God raised him from the dead...
And forever he lives...
Believe this with all of your heart...
And confess of your sins...
Ask him into your heart...
From your sins truly repent...
Live forever for Jesus...
Your Savior and Friend...
He is the light...
And guides your way...
He lives in your heart...
Day by day...
When your time is up here...
He’ll take you away...
To heaven with him...
Forever you’ll stay!!*

By: Pat Lumsden
May 21, 2010

