

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 13

March 31, 2010



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

Upcoming Calendar

- Sunday, April 4, Easter Sunday, No Friendship Time
- Monday, April 5, 6:30 pm Worship Department
- Wednesday, April 7, No Wonderful Wed.
- Thursday, April 8, 10:30 am Knitting, 7:00 pm Choir
- Saturday, April 10, 8:30 am Elders' Breakfast

This Needs Your Attention Now

Maundy Thursday Service is at 7:00 pm., April 1.

Don't forget to bring your fresh flowers to put on the cross for Easter Sunday as you enter the church.

Make plans to be here for the annual Post Easter Brunch.

Sunday, April 11th is the deadline to bring in your forms for Camp. See Pastor Elaine.

If you can help with the Relay For Life on April 16th, please see Barbara Blair. We have not had much response and this is very important to us.

Pastor's Pen The Most Surprising Thing

Many Church historians have looked to the events of Jesus' passion and resurrection with wonder. Besides the historicity of the this week in the life of the Christian movement, it is how this one event impacted those early believers and then spurred them on into making a small movement to one that has changed the very foundation of the world. What was it that caused such a change?

By all indications, at the time of the crucifixion, the movement that Jesus had started only a few years before in the area around Galilee was in a state of great crisis. Within

a short period of 24 hours this small band which had reached the pinnacle of success when their leader had rode through the gate with triumph a week earlier now witness the arrest of that very leader. We read in the bible how Jesus was moved from place to place and put on "trial" by both the religious and civil leaders of the community. We bear witness to the beatings and nailing to the cross. All of this had put an unbearable stress on the disciples.

We continue to read that most of the group, except for

one and the women of the group, had fled the group and were now themselves in hiding. We know by the biblical story that even on the day of the resurrection that the disciples were too afraid to go out. Only the women who were going to complete the burial of Jesus were brave enough to venture out that day. Only when the women return with their account of events did some of the men go out. We then have a story of a group that by all means was broken and in all probability would not recover.



(Cont'd on page 2)

Post Easter Brunch

It is that time again. Our Annual Post Easter Brunch is on Sunday, April 11 at 10:30 am.

This is a wonderful time of worship, fellowship and of course the best tasting food you have ever put in your mouth.

If you have not experienced

one of our Post Easter Brunches, then you have got to be here! Belmont Christian Church is known for their good cooks!

Some of you are new to our congregation this year and we welcome you to come be a part of this special time.

Come worship and eat with us as we honor our Lord and Savior!



News From Around the Church

Thank You

Belmont, you are the greatest! You are always willing to help with the needs at hand.

Thanks to each of you for the wrapped candy to make our Easter Bunny Breakfast and egg hunt a success for our children.

Pastor Elaine & Carol Clarkson



A Sincere Thanks

I want to thank each of you who remembered me with food, cards, calls and visits, not to mention all the prayers while I was home recovering from a broken ankle.

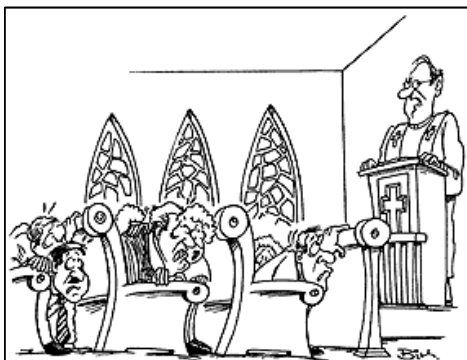
It is so frustrating not to go and do when you are so used to it. You all made it possible for me to deal with it a little better. I am so thankful for my church family!

Thanks again,

Pat Wirt

Ladies

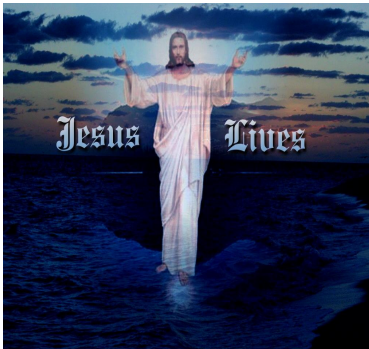
The next CWU Meeting is May 7th, FRIENDSHIP DAY at the First United Methodist Church of Salem. This will be a luncheon meeting. More details will be furnished soon. Watch your newsletter or see Faye Askew.



"All right, perhaps I should rephrase that last question...Which of you 'Brave Committed Souls' would be willing to fill in today in our preschool?"

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

But that is not the end of the story. This small and beaten group of followers of Jesus found the New Life. They



discovered in the resurrection of Jesus the power and strength to begin to take the message of Jesus and of God out into the world. A group that was no more than that size of one of our Sunday school classes was moved to grow and grow until it became one of the three most impacting religious movements. Many in the group then, and many that would follow in the footsteps, felt a deep desire to tell others about what they had seen and heard.

When we let the power of the resurrection to fully flow throughout our being, we begin to see the importance of the event to us and to all of those around us. When we let the power of God fill us and lead us, then there is nowhere that we will feel afraid of going. We will have the power to take our message outside of the walls of the church and take it into the fields around us. We will have the power to sit with those who are in need and to begin to tell them the old story of how Jesus allowed himself to go through all of those evil things because he wanted to show us how much God loved each one of us. To borrow a famous phrase of my favorite TV show, "To boldly go

Attendance Figures:

Sunday School: 70
Worship Attendance: 122
Memorials for: In Honor of Belmont Christian Church, Memory of George & Gladys Owen and in Memory of Kathy Hamilton

where no one has gone before!"

The story of the resurrection is not only a story of how Jesus walked out of the tomb of death and showed us that we could do that also, but it is a story of the power of the event to change us also. We are sometimes a beaten and small group. We seem to be on the verge of disaster and we see no hope for us. Then we come to the tomb and see the transformation of that small group of disciples. We see that the power is still there and is able to work within us. It still holds the ability to make the church alive again. We are not dead, but walk in newness of life with Jesus.

We are renewed in the love of God and through the resurrection of Jesus the Christ.

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.

Lord, help me to remember that a simple courteous gesture is one way to apply the golden rule, for it is in your Son's name we pray.

Amen



Reminders

Thursday, April 1, Maundy Thursday Service is at 7:00 pm.

Friday, April 2, the church will be open from Noon until 3:00 pm for those who would like to come and have prayer.



Sunday, April 4th is Easter Sunday. There will be NO Friendship Time.

Bring your fresh flowers to put on the Cross as you enter the church.

NO Wonderful Wednesday on April 7th.

NO Newsletter Wednesday after Easter.

Saturday, April 10 is the next Elders' Breakfast at 8:30 am.

Relay For Life

The Relay for Life event takes place on April 16-17 at William Byrd High School. We need to have a team to support this great cause. Please see Barbara Blair or Pastor Elaine and they will tell you how you can help.



Spaghetti Dinner



Come out and support our Spaghetti Dinner following Worship on Sunday, April 25th.

MS Walk

Elaine Michael is walking on Saturday, April 17th. She would appreciate any donations for this cause.



Easter Bunny Breakfast

Plan to come to the Easter Bunny Breakfast at 9:00 on Saturday, April 3rd. The Egg Hunt begins at 9:30 am in the church.



This event is open to children, ages 2-10. Bring your own Basket and come enjoy a fun morning. We will also have a special visit by the Easter Bunny, so bring your cameras.

Yard Sale—Friday April 30 and Saturday, May 1 from 8:00 am until??

Bring your stuff to the church M-F. Call at 343-7502. Let us know if you have large items to be picked up.

Softball Season Is Upon Us



The first practice took place last Sunday afternoon. Watch your newsletter for the next update.

The Belmont Kids Connection

Camp Deadline is April 11th

Wouldn't you like to spend a wonderful week surrounded by God's beautiful creations? How about a week of fun and fellowship with lots of kids from all over the state of Virginia? How about a week filled with excitement and energy as you worship and study and enjoy God's love? All of these things can happen, and much, much more. Craig Springs is our beautiful camp, located just one hour away from Roanoke. There is a week just for you. Please see Pastor Elaine to sign up to go or if you have questions.. Below is a list of the weeks and the age group for each one. Come and join in the fun!!



- *GAP Camp—June 10-14—post high school through age 22
- *AMPDD Camp—June 20-25—grades 6-12 - music, arts, and drama
- *CYF Conference—June 27-July 2 grades completed 9-12
- *Special Camp—July 4-9—special need adults
- *Nature Camp—July 11-16—grades 9-12
- *Cross-Roads Camp—July 18-23 grades 3-12
- *Outdoor Adventure—July 25-30 grades 6-12
- *ChiRho—July 25-30—grades 6-8
- *New Covenant—Aug. 1-6—grades 1-4
- *Family Retreat—Aug. 6-9
- ****All grades listed are grades completed in June 2010.

Spaghetti Dinner—Apr. 25



Please mark your calendars and plan now to attend our annual Spaghetti Dinner and fundraiser for our campers. This year we are doing something a little different. The Education Department will be serving the spaghetti dinner immediately following worship on Sunday, April 25th in the Fellowship Hall. There is no cost for the dinner. We are asking for donations to help with the cost of sending our young people to camp this summer up at Craig Springs.

There will be fellowship and entertainment. So plan now to stay and enjoy. Church camp is a great place for our young people to experience the love of God, surrounded by God's beautiful creation and other young people from around the region. Will you please support this great effort?

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A publication of:

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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

Phone: 540.343.7502
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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

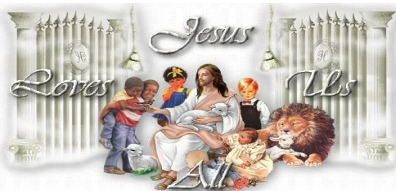
Prayer List:

Our Church Family: Tim Argenbright, Elaine Austin & family in the death of her Aunt Ethelene Wilson, Darlene Coon, Ruth M. Davis, Erica Derrick, Robert Early, Barry Fisher, Shirley Fulp, Jane & Richard Hamilton in the death of their daughter Katherine Hamilton & extended family of Katherine Hamilton, Debbie Cromwell-Heck, Letha Holland, Charles Marks, Gerard Mitchell, Bill & Hazel Moody, Maegan Puckett, Joan Sands, Frank & Bonny Sparks in the death of their son-in-law Bear D'Avanzo, Mary Spradlin & family in the death of her sister-in-law Lucille Baldwin, Donald Stanley Sr., Donnie Stanley, Ethan Walton, Pat Wirt, Melvin Wiseman's wife Norma



Our Extended Church Family: Tim Chocklett, Janet & Martin Cliser, Mary Helen Cliser, Family of Dream D'Avanzo (Robin Sparks) in the death of her husband Bear, Jerry Fernatt, Rodney Fisher, HAITI, Ed & Deb Hannabass, Marion Hicks, Leo Hirsbrunner, Angela Lewis & family, Mountainer's Basketball Team, Andrew Mullen, Sue Mustard, Ryan Newburn, Kristin Perkins, Family of Roy Prusak, Carol Purdham, Connie Quarles, Ginger Ribble, Family of Bob Schuermann, Alden Shelor, Melanie Smith, Josh Stokes, The Thompsons, Lissa Velesquez & Father, Joan Walters

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



"Back Seat of Our Harley"

Some of the best conversations with God...

*Come as I'm on the back of our bike...
Totally relaxing behind my husband...
Taking in God's beautiful sights...
He blesses and protects us...
As he fills our hearts with joy...
Gives me words to share with others...
About our loving, saving Lord...
There is a special closeness I feel...
Different than at any other time...
He shows us amazing beauty...
As we continue on our ride...
He puts a peace in our hearts...
As we cruise along the roads...
Putting all our faith and trust in him...
Allowing him to carry the load...
I pray a lot as we ride along...
And it isn't out of fear...
I feel a serenity beyond belief...
Provided by our Lord so dear!!!*

By: Pat Lumsden
March 29, 2010