

Belmont Beacon

February 2012

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Some decisions are easy and some decisions are difficult. "Will I have some ice cream?" is an easy decision, but determining what flavor of ice cream to eat is a difficult decision. Often we want our decisions to be easy, but the reality is that most decisions we make are difficult. Most of the decisions we make are of far greater importance than what flavor of ice cream to put in your cone. (I am shocked that I just thought that, much less put it down on paper!!)

We want our decisions to be absolute. We want decisions that are unequivocally a "Yes" or a "No." In an election year we will get to vote on different offices. The likelihood is that many of us will be voting from a perspective of choosing the candidate who will "do the least damage." Some of us make decisions based on a checklist of "pros" and "cons." Our decisions are often 60% one way or 40% the other. The decisions might not even be that close; 52% one way to 48% the other is more accurate. We want a world where our decisions are mostly 95% to 5%.

Thankfully, I have an opportunity for you that offers an obvious decision that you can make. On Friday, February 17 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and Saturday, February 18 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. the Virginia Baptist Mission Board is sponsoring a church leadership event that will benefit what we do in 2012. Eddie Hammett, a national strategic leadership coach and deacon trainer with the Columbia Partnership, will be in Virginia to lead this event.

This Church Leadership Event will take place in Waynesboro at the First Baptist Church. We won't have to travel far to participate. The cost of the event is \$125 **per church**. The cost is for all of the participants from Belmont. We can bring five participants or we can bring fifty-five participants, and the cost will stay the same. A light supper will be provided on Friday



evening, and a light lunch will be served on Saturday. We will travel to Waynesboro together on the church van. We need to register by Friday, February 10, so they will know how many participants will be coming.

Here is what we will experience. On Friday evening the presentation will center on Eddie Hammett's book, Reaching People Under 40 While Keeping Those Over 60. We will

consider how culture impacts the way that we do church now and in the days ahead. Hammett will offer insight for creating situations that are "Win/Win" for all ages. This session will also examine discipleship strategies that work in our present culture.

Saturday will focus more specifically on deacons. Hammett will look at the deacon's role in growing churches in challenging times. We will examine critical issues that impact a church's ability to grow in faith and membership. Hammett will offer practical solutions deacons can lead that will move a plateaued church into a growing church. Hammett will also offer solutions to breaking growth barriers and provide form and functions that enable deacon ministry to serve their church into growth and missional ministry.

This training event promises to be a great opportunity for Belmont Baptist Church as we continue to discern where God is leading us in 2012 and beyond. This event is not just for deacons. This event is for everyone who is willing to lead and serve as we fulfill God's mission in the Belmont community and through out our world. Please contact the church office by Friday, February 10, to reserve your spot.

Blessings,

Greg



Thanks to God and the giving spirit of our church members, the nominating committee has been able to fill most of the positions for the church slate for the coming year. For your convenience, we are providing the following list so that you will know who to contact should you have any questions regarding these subject areas. We still need folks to serve in Caring Ministry Team (food pantry) and the Audit

Committee. Also, although it is not included in this list, the church needs more counters to document the contributions from both Sunday School and the church service. If you are willing to serve in these roles, or if you have any questions, please feel free to contact Ann Haney or Dana Peebles. Thanks!!!!!!

Praise and Worship Team

(responsibilities: music support, audio-video services, Lord's Supper preparation, sanctuary preparation, baptism preparation, church ushers)

Greg Johnson, Jeannette Durham (usher), Alvin Sprouse (audio-video), **Willie Bowers** (audio-video), **Libby Nackley** (flowers), **Maxine Baird** (flowers)

Spiritual Growth Team

(responsibilities: Bible study ministry, children's ministry, youth ministry, library, nursery and preschool-age ministries)

Becky Bowers, Linda Breeden (Bible Study Coordinator), **Melanie Anderson** (Preschool-age Ministries Coordinator), **Pam Ingalls**

Caring Ministry Team

(responsibilities: benevolence, visitation coordinator, prayer ministry)

Janet Shiflett and Virginia Brewer

Friendship Ministry Team

(responsibilities: food services, recreation activities, new members)

Tina Smith, Frances Cason, Dot Hunt

Missions and Outreach Team

(responsibilities: pub. relations, organized evangelism, website, worship styles, missions)

Barbara Lowery, Ashley Lowery, Linda Wilberger

Ministry Support Team

(responsibilities: properties, van maintenance and use, nominating committee, personnel committee, audit committee)

Charles Haney, Jr., Herman Bryant, Bob Wheeler

Nominating Committee

Dana Peebles, Margaret Brown, Pat Taylor Beasley

Personnel Committee

Ann Haney, Linda Breeden, Gladys Bryant

Audit Committee:

Angie Sims, Rodney Thomas

Finance Team

(responsibilities: stewardship and counting group)

Larry Breeden, Randy Melton, Diane Grubbs, Pat Walker, Norman Morris, Mary Hawkins (Financial Secretary), and **Bill Sampson** (Church Treasurer)

Other Positions:

Director of the Women's Missionary Union (WMU) - Jeannette Durham

Clerk – Gladys Bryant

Assistant Clerk – Linda Wilberger

Treasurer – Bill Sampson

Assistant Treasurer – Virginia Brewer

Assistant Treasurer – Gene Lively

Trustees (3) – Charles Haney, Sr.

Rodney Thomas

Gladys Bryant

Church Historian – Jeannette Durham

The Benevolence Committee would like to thank you for your continued support of the Food Closet. In 2011, we received 3,695 donated items from our congregation and Slate Hill Baptist Church. With these items we were able to help 128 families throughout the year. We also prepared four Thanksgiving baskets this year. As part of our Benevolence fund, we also help families in the Belmont/Carlton area with rent and utilities.

We continue to need donations for the food closet. We need peanut butter, saltines, soup, canned meats, canned fruits, dried beans, cereal, macaroni & cheese, canned vegetables, individual beverages (tea bags, coffee, or hot chocolate), spaghetti sauce and pasta. The food collection is the third Sunday of each month; however, you

may bring your donations to the church office any time.



The Food Closet also benefits from your purchases from Food Lion through the Com-

munity Rewards program. If you have not registered your number, call the church office with the 12-digit number on your Food Lion card, and we will add your name to our list.

Also, if you are in the Crozet area on Wednesdays, have lunch at Sal's Pizza and a percentage of your receipt will be donated to Belmont Baptist Church.



New Year's Resolutions

Now is a great time to consider joining the choir. We will be doing some very good music in the coming weeks. During Lent (which begins February 26 and runs through March 25) we will be doing anthems each week based on the hymn, *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*. The words of the hymn will be sung to several different tunes, both familiar and unfamiliar. Two of the anthems will employ a solo oboe, one with piano and one with organ accompaniment. Our guest oboist will be my good friend, Yasuko Kawasaki, who has played for us several times in the past couple of years.

On Maundy Thursday the Sanctuary Choir will present a new cantata by Pepper Choplin entitled *Come Walk with Me*. Pepper is the same person who composed the cantata the choir sang on Christmas Sunday, *I Hear the Prophet Callin'*, which you enjoyed so much. He also composed the anthem, *The Christmas Gift*, which the choir presented on New Year's Day as we brought our Christmas gifts for Jesus to the altar. *Come Walk with Me* features music about each of the events during Holy Week, from Jesus triumphal entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday to his death on the cross.

So come join us and get extra inspiration regarding the Passion of Jesus by rehearsing and performing this meaningful music. Maybe you could just make a commitment through Easter. If you need to drop choir from your schedule after that, we will understand.

Bob

Belmont Baptist Worship Services air on
Charlottesville Public Access TV
Channel 13
on Sunday evenings at 10 pm.



Dear Belmont Family,

I want to thank my church family for all the Christmas cards. Also, thank you to the Adult III class for the beautiful red rose.

God bless, Ressie Bailey



We want to thank you for all the calls, cards, food, and expressions of sympathy at the time of my sister, Lillian Dunn's death. We appreciated all you did for our family. Thank you for your loving kindness.

In God's love, Tom & Eula Allen



Unfortunately, the child we sponsor with Compassion International, Yessenia Gwyneth Quirhuayo Gratelly has moved out of the ministry area and is no longer able to participate in their services.

However, we do have a new child in the same area of Peru. Her name is **Yeraldin Liset Ramos Vilchez**. Her birthdate is June 1. Please remember Yeraldin in your prayers. I'm sure she would like to receive letters and pictures from her Belmont sponsors.

Here are a few tips if you would like to write to her:

- * Encourage and uplift, let her know that she is special and valued.
- * Share something about yourself, what your life is like.
- * Ask questions about her life and family.
- * Include gifts flat paper items like bookmarks, stickers with her sponsor number on each item (PE-331-0181)

Bring the letters to the church office to be mailed. Your letter will be translated by Compassion into Spanish.

BELMONT BAPTIST CHURCH
830 Monticello Avenue
Charlottesville, VA 22902

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE PD.
Charlottesville, VA
Permit #36

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Valentine's dinner

Bring a dish to share at our potluck dinner.

Saturday, February 11

5:00 pm

Food, Fun, Fellowship, Entertainment!

Please bring a donation for Loads of Love:

HE detergent, softener, softener sheets, bleach, laundry basket.

