

# Belmont Beacon

**May 2014**

**Vol. XXII, No. 5**

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I appreciate the words of Episcopal rector, (same thing as what we call a pastor) Frank Logue and wanted to share them with you. "There is no 'I' in Christianity. I always thought that would make a nice saying for a T-shirt or a bumper sticker. The only downside is that the letter 'I' occurs three times in the word Christianity. I could always opt for 'There is no 'I' in church.' Somehow that's not as catchy. I guess I'm just jealous of the pithy sayings of football coaches who love shouting, 'There is no 'I' in team' ... Christianity is about 'y'all' because the community part of Christianity is so important. Christianity is not, at its best, an individual effort. It is better compared to a team sport."

Logue is on target when he speaks about the importance of community and living out our faith in relationships together as the church. Bumper stickers and T-shirts with catchy phrases are unable to capture this truth even though attempts are made. I have seen one of those church signs like we have with the words, "CH\_\_CH- What is missing? UR", but this still does not do justice to the importance of faithful life together.

In the coming days, we will begin into those days ahead of us that point us to the power of relationships. Often these are guided by the "Hallmark" calendar, but we still have something to learn. Mother's Day is coming this month and Father's Day is also around the corner. Graduations are taking place and we are reminded of the importance of celebrating accomplishments with those we love.

We will also highlight some significant



relationships and events surrounding those in the life of Belmont Baptist Church. One of those that you will discover in the pages that follow is the addition of Peggy Haluska to our church leadership. We are thrilled to have Peggy leading us as our new Minister of Music as we strive to worship God faithfully together.

Our worship in the near future will include the baptism of Amelia Anderson as well as a special Sunday when our women who will lead worship. We look forward to this time that is an important tradition for us. In the month of June we will start work on a new church pictorial directory. We last did one in 2006 and much has changed. We dearly miss some significant people and their smiles. We have also been blessed by some new faces with equally important smiles. You will be hearing more about this project in the days ahead.

The relationships are essential to being the church and the pictorial directory is a valuable tool for cultivating these. As we seek to love God with our whole beings and our neighbors as ourselves, it begins with relationships. Consider how you might invest in relationships you have with church family and those not connected with Belmont Baptist Church. Research tells us that the most effective outreach tool for churches is someone they know inviting them to church. Share your excitement by inviting a co-worker or friend. If you need some excitement, let me know and we will help you find it. Together we can do great things together for the kingdom of God.

Blessings,

Greg



## Bike & Build, Inc.

**Bike & Build, Inc.**, a non-profit organization whose mission is to promote affordable housing, sends out several groups on biking trips across the country each summer. The groups are comprised of young adults who have raised their own money to participate in this event—a portion of their fund-raising will go to affordable housing non-profits.

We will host one of these groups on Sunday, June 1. They will bike in Sunday afternoon, share a meal with us and spend the night in our fellowship hall ready to start out Monday morning as they continue on their trip. There will be between 30 and 35 young adults. They will use the facilities at ACAC for showering, etc.

If you would like to help with the evening meal preparation, please let me know. They would love to be able to have breakfast before they leave on Monday morning, if anyone would like to participate in providing breakfast let me know as well. Last year, it was a privilege to meet such a devoted group of young people, Tina and I both were thankful that we were able to fill the need they had for a place to stay while they were in Charlottesville and we were overwhelmed by the appreciation by this group of young adults.

Barbara Turner Lowery  
Missions and Outreach



Dear Sponsors Belmont Baptist Youth,

I greet you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. I'm very glad I made it to my junior year in high school and also because I'm going to have a new cousin in the family. I spent my school break at my aunt's house who live in Suliana. I also went to the pool in El Mirador with the guys from the Compassion project. I went to the beach and I played with my friends from the neighborhood every afternoon. We played volley ball and jump rope. I want you to pray for me and my family. How are you and your family doing? I hope to hear from you soon. I say bye with hugs and kisses. God bless you.

Yeraldin

## If you missed the April Business Meeting here are some updates:

### Finance:

- We had a really good 1<sup>st</sup> quarter in 2014
- We have paid the 1<sup>st</sup> half, \$29,875, of the new air conditioning system
- We will need to tap into a CD in order to pay the 2<sup>nd</sup> half which will be due soon.

### Spiritual Growth Report:

- The Music Camp will be held the week of July 28 through August 1, 2014. If anyone would like to help with that, please contact Melanie Anderson.

### Missions and Outreach Report:

- Our laundry ministry doing well, need more volunteers.
- Bike and Build, stay in our facilities on the night of 06/01/14. They bike across the county & help with Habitat for Humanity
- Ways to connect with our neighbors in the community? Sponsor a community yard sale and invite all in the Belmont.

### Properties Report:

- Air conditioning will be available soon
- New handrails in baptistery will be installed
- Clean up day in May

### Paint Committee Report:

- Painting in the baptistery has been completed.
- The Committee was given permission to get bids to paint the choir loft area, of painting completed if they can secure a bid of \$10K or less. /
- We have secured two bids thus far for repair of several windows in the sanctuary.

### Deacons Report:

- A committee has been formed to plan new-member orientation.
- The Catch-Up-Get-Acquainted activity will resume with refreshments served outside the main doors.

### Minister of Music Search Team Report:

- The job description for our new part-time Minister of Music, was presented and accepted..
- Peggy Haluska will begin serving with us May 1.



This year is almost half gone. And, when I think about Belmont Baptist turning 65 in September, I find it very difficult to believe. But, it is true because I remember that in September 1949 ,when I was 5 years old, my Mom, my Sister and I walked from 813 Blenheim Avenue through the Graves yard to Bolling Avenue and over to Belmont Baptist Church. This was my first Sunday School visit to BBC. It has been 65 years for me. I will never forget Mrs. Mary Houchens greeting me at the door of the Beginner Department with a smiling face and open arms. Boy, how time flies, whether it be 6 months or 65 years.

This Church has created a lot of memorable times for me and because of this I feel a tremendous closeness to the membership of Belmont. People like (the late) Miss Mary (Mary Robinson) have really made lasting impressions on me that have actually made me who I am today. Miss Mary was always the perfect role model for all of us that grew up in Belmont Church. From her ever-loving smile to her stare when I misbehaved, she always had a loving way about herself. Another SS teacher that meant a lot to all of us as young boys was Mr. Wilson (Baldly) Waldorf. His nickname, Baldy, was because he had a very short hair cut and I think it would have been called a "flat top" haircut. In that same Junior Department I had the easy going, laid back Mr. Lacy Frazier, I never had anything but good experiences in Mr. Frazier's SS class. In the Intermediate Department, my parents were Co-leaders and that meant that I had to be on my P's and Q's. The two teachers that I remember were Mr. Bill Davis and my special friend Mr. Norman Morris, which he is still a very dear friend today.

In 1977 the church called me to be a Deacon and that is still the greatest honor for me to be ordained a Deacon, to follow in my Dad's and my Grand-daddy's footsteps and be a Deacon in Belmont Baptist Church, well it is fantastic. As you can see I have a lot of memories about our Church. And like my Dad and Grand-Daddy, in 1998 I was Chairman of our Deacons. I could go on and on talking about Belmont because "I love Belmont Church, the Congregation, and I love being a Christian."

Well, TIME DOES FLY and I take advantage of all of the Christian opportunities and fellowship that are available in Belmont. Make time to attend any and all of the training classes and worship services that our staff works so hard on to provide for all of the Congregation.

See You In Church,  
Rodney Thomas, Deacon Ministry Chairman

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To the Belmont  
Baptist Church  
Family,

On behalf of the Glocal Missions team of the Virginia Baptist Mission Board, I want to thank you personally for your generous gift of \$500 as contribution for the "More than Nets" project in Ghana, Africa.

Gifts like this honor our Lord and uplift His people as we seek to live our His command to love one another. We are so thankful for your support of the Baptist general association of Virginia and our vision to reach our world for Christ.

May God bless you as you bless others in His name.

Yours in Christ,  
Jerry d. Jones



I would like to thank all of you for your prayers and the lovely luncheon you prepared for my family during our loss of Teddy.

Thanks you so much,  
Mary Morris and family



I want to thank my church family for their cards, calls and their love and prayer concerns for me, Special thanks to Barbara Lowery, Becky Bowers and Norman Morris for their visits that meant so much. God bless each of your for caring.

Love and prayers,  
Maxine Baird

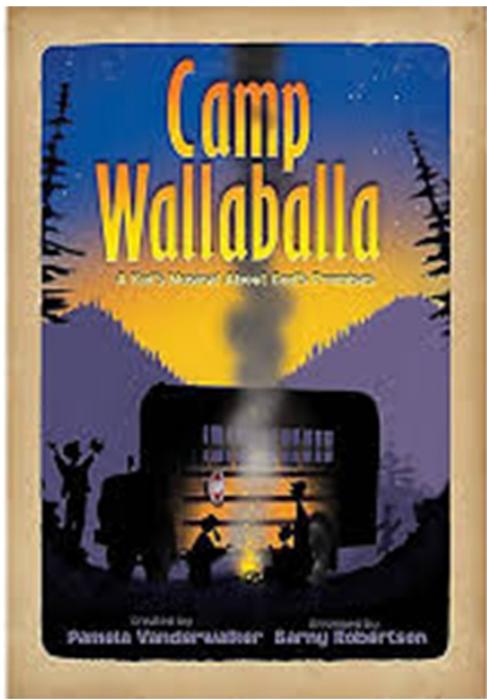


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### Coming Soon! Music Camp!

This year we are going to return to **Camp Wallaballa!** Come hop on the bus and join the kids for this delightful journey. Camp this year will run **July 28-August 1** from 9 am-12 noon for Preschool-2nd grades and 9 am-3pm for 3rd-8th grades. Our Musical Presentation will be on August 1 in the evening.

We will need teachers and helpers for all the age groups. The younger group will be doing Bible School activities while the older group will be learning in specific areas or skills. We will need help preparing snacks. But **mostly** we need your help getting the word out to children and families about this fabulous opportunity.

Serendipity is a great week for kids and a great deal for parents (\$40 per child or \$60 per family--scholarships are always available). If you have questions or would like to volunteer let me know.

Melanie