

Belmont Beacon

April 2015

Vol. XXIV, No. 4

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Following worship on March 22, 2015 we entered into a business session to consider a proposal from the Central Hispanic Seventh-day Adventist Church of Charlottesville. Thanks to everyone who participated in the meeting. 42 church members were present. We addressed that congregation's need for worship space and our call to live out our mission statement: "To Share Christ and Serve Others." The specific details of the request were discussed along with the potential implications of this decision. An overwhelming majority voted to support this new venture.

These are the details of the partnership with this church. Each Friday evening from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., they will meet for Bible study and prayer time. On Saturday mornings from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., they will worship in the church sanctuary. On the second and fourth Saturday evenings from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., they will meet for Bible study and prayer time. On the fourth Sunday evening, a women's group will meet at the church for Bible study and prayer time.

The proposal was approved for a period of ninety days that will begin on April 10. We will provide space for them to store a small sound system and other materials. We will evaluate how the arrangement is going at the regularly scheduled July business meeting. That meeting will coincide with this time frame. The agreement is for the Central Hispanic Seventh-day Adventist Church to pay \$200 per month to Belmont Baptist. This amount is based on our mission to reach people for Christ in our



community that we would otherwise not be able to reach. Utility bills were part of the business meeting discussion and previous conversations. We recognize the amount may need to be renegotiated as we move forward.

Most of this congregation's activities will be held in the sanctuary or the two classrooms behind the sanctuary. As concerns and potential needs have been expressed in ongoing dialogue, our partner church is willing to meet in the classroom areas if musicians need to practice in the sanctuary or our cleaning crew needs to work. We addressed what to do with weddings and funerals that may occur during these time frames. We discussed issues with decorating the sanctuary for special seasons of the church year. We addressed the issues that may arise with the recovery groups (Alcoholics Anonymous) that utilize our space. Through many conversations we have attempted to address the potential issues that may arise.

This congregation has approximately 40 people. Their hope is to have their own worship space in five years. Our commitment at this point is to see how the next 90 days go and move forward from there. In our efforts to utilize beautiful facilities for the glory and mission of God, a partnership with a Seventh-day Adventist Church works well. Their practice is to worship on the real "Sabbath" that is still on Saturdays. Our practice, as you are aware, is to worship on the day of the resurrection. These different perspectives make this partnership possible.

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Thank you for your willingness to engage in this partnership. This partnership is about our mission. This involves being good stewards of our resources, which includes our facilities. We are also committed to transforming lives in our community. We are making this happen through our ministry, through the recovery groups that we host and in this new way to share the love of Christ. I hope that you will be able to meet the people of this congregation. Their humble and sweet spirits reflect their commitment to Christ. My hope is that people recognize the same when they encounter the people of Belmont Baptist Church.

Blessings,
Greg



To the Belmont Baptist Church Family,

I would like to thank the congregation for their cards, concerns and prayers during my recent hospital stay. A special thank you to Reverend Anderson for his visits and prayers during this difficult time.

Thanks again, Shirley North



Dear Pr. Greg Anderson and all Members of Belmont Baptist Church,

On behalf of The Seventh-Day Central Hispanic Church of Charlottesville and I would like to express our profound gratitude to God for the great opportunity of providing us your church facilities. We thank you for your time and energy and your patience and kindness which you have demonstrated to us through this decision of faith. To grant us your church facility makes us feel the call to expand the Kingdom of God in the Hispanic community in Charlottesville.

Again thank you very much and May God bless you!

Sincerely,

Pr. Josue Gabriel

& the Seventh-day Adventist Central Hispanic Church of Charlottesville Members

This month I would like to make reference to the book we have been studying in Cross Roads, as well as encourage everyone to attend this bible study on Wednesday nights at 6:30 in the fellowship hall.



The book is titled The God We Can Know – Exploring the “I Am” sayings of Jesus, by Rob Fuquay.

I had the privilege of teaching the first night we started in this book. The Author began the book with a quote from Brother Lawrence. “*Let us occupy ourselves entirely in knowing God. The more we know God, the more we will desire to know God.*” What a beautiful thought. The book is about knowing God, and more specifically, knowing God through Jesus. The point is made that God desires for us to **know Him**. He proved that to us when he gave us the gift of Himself in the person of Jesus. How much clearer could he make it? Each chapter explores the different “I Am” sayings of Jesus, and how they pertain to us in our lives.

The author uses an exercise in which he asked the participants to name all the attributes that they believe describe who God is. They mentioned things like, Loving, Powerful, Forgiving, Beautiful, Creative, Compassionate, Gracious. **Here is the kicker** -- he says --Remember, we are not just made by

God, we **are made out of God**. Those same attributes describe us too. Ultimately, they define us. Something we should all remember on a daily basis. Pastor Greg asked us in one of the studies on this book to try this –When you look in the mirror, think that “Jesus is looking back at you.” This is so powerful.

In this Easter season it is good to remember that not only does God want us to know him, he also wants us to know that in Jesus He can identify with our challenges. Jesus can be heard saying, “I know what it is like to hurt. I know what it is like to receive news that a friend has died. I know what it is like to be betrayed by someone you love. I know what it is like to be treated unfairly. I know what it is like to be misunderstood. I know what it is like to suffer. And I know what it is like to die.”

The passages in this book are thought provoking and bring it home that we should have a deep desire to [Know God](#).

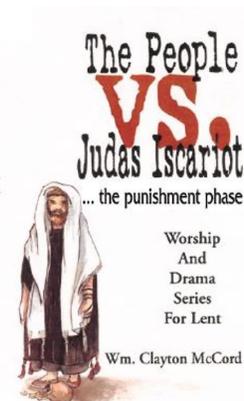
This is the kind of studies we have at Cross Roads on Wednesday night, and I assure you will be so blessed by attending.

Cheryl Rodriguez

Matthew 10:31, "So don't be afraid; you are more valuable to God than a whole flock of sparrows."

A special thanks goes out to everyone who led in worship during Lent by participating in the dramatic presentations: *The People vs. Judas Iscariot... The Punishment Phase* and *Two Faces in the Shadows*. Be sure to express your appreciation to the cast that has led us to reflect on the journey to the cross in such a unique way.

The People vs. Judas Iscariot... The Punishment Phase



Attorney Justice: Abigail Anderson

Attorney Grace: Mark Buckner

Bailiff: Bill Sampson

Judge I.M. Pilate: Greg Anderson

John the Beloved Disciple: Randy Melton

Judas Iscariot: Rick Wharam

Mary Magdalene: Ashley Lowery

Unnamed Woman: Kathryn Suyes

Young Boy: Amelia Anderson

Simon Peter: Jim Haluska

Mary, Jesus' Mother: Sharon Bower

Friend of Judas: Larry Breeden

Chief Priest: Gary Johnson

The Apostle Paul: Sonny Fields

Death: Jon Lowery

Two Faces in the Shadows

Simon Peter: Mark Buckner

Judas Iscariot: Greg Anderson

BELMONT BAPTIST CHURCH
830 Monticello Avenue
Charlottesville, VA 22902

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



**easter
egg
hunt**

Saturday, April 4, 2015

11 am-1 pm

All children are invited to come
for Lunch, Crafts,
and an Egg Hunt!

The illustration features a cheerful pink Easter Bunny wearing a green jacket, a yellow bow tie, and blue pants. The bunny is holding a yellow egg with a cracked pattern in its right hand and a yellow basket filled with colorful eggs in its left hand. The scene is set outdoors with a tree stump, a yellow flower, and several colorful Easter eggs scattered on the ground.