

Belmont Beacon

October 2016

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A little over a year ago Marc Rehmar was arrested in Denver, Colorado. He was charged with a felony count of endangering transportation and a misdemeanor count of hindering transportation. How all that happened is an interesting story.

Rehmar was attempting to fly to Ohio for his 40th high school reunion. Apparently he was running late or some other reason compelled him to open an emergency exit door in the Denver International Airport concourse. He ran onto the runway trying to stop the plane that was pushing back from the gate. Upon asking to board the plane, Rehmar was arrested. Eventually he was freed on \$10,000 bond and due back in court later that week.

As this story was reported, we were given the facts without any of our questions answered. Why would Marc do this? What was so important about attending that reunion? All we really know is that Marc will likely have one of the best stories to share at his 50th high school reunion. I hope that he can wait that long.

Most of my questions about that encounter involve motivation. Rehmar was clearly motivated to do whatever necessary to get on that plane. What priorities motivate you and me so much that we would risk just about anything to make it happen? I imagine that family ranks highly on that list. Where does our commitment to Christ and the church rank on that list?

What are we willing to risk as members of a community of Christian disciples? Often this kind of question turns into a long discussion



about an overwhelming action or choice. A number of examples are readily available of those who have given their lives or risked their lives for their faith in a foreign culture or other circumstances.

What about the daily opportunities we have to act and to risk in the name of Christ and the church? These might appear mundane, but are extremely important. How we spend our time matters. I struggle with time management. Being a faithful steward of this gift is an ongoing personal challenge.

What about our finances? Money is discussed more than any other topic in the pages of our Bibles. What does your checkbook reveal about you? What priority is the church given on this front? Is your financial commitment to God something that you have considered and decided before an offering plate is passed or do you simply "tip" God with what you have in your wallet? Is giving to the church a commitment when you attend worship and when you are unable to attend?

Initially, I laughed at Marc Rehmar and his actions in August 2015. As I consider these challenging questions about my priorities and motivations stirred by his actions, my laughter has turned into prayerful reflection. I wish the same for you. What am I willing to risk as a Christian disciple living in community with other believers?

Blessings,
Greg

Story found at: <http://roadwarriorvoices.com/2015/08/23/man-who-really-wanted-to-go-to-high-school-reunion-arrested-for-running-onto-tarmac-trying-to-stop-plane/>



Dear Friends and Family at Belmont,

I was looking forward to writing this month's Beacon. Obviously we are heading into fall and some of you may recall from previous letters it is my favorite time of year. The crisp weather, beautiful colors, crisp leaves on the ground. There are as many descriptive words about fall as there is beauty in the season. So much happens. School is in, children are getting ready for all the holidays and life is good.

We all know life is good, but every minute of every day is not always good. I stole a phrase from a friend and choir member here at Belmont that I have been using in my new role as a widow. The phrase is "grief bomb". They hit any given time with no warning and attack you in a heartbeat. That is when I feel the closest to God and in the same breath the most confused with God. I wonder why He needed Jim more than I did. More than the children and grandchildren did and so on. But He knows. I trust that (He knows) and know that someday I will understand. As I travel this journey I also have discovered a new word that I simply despise. That word is "widow". It has a club membership feel to it and that is a club I did not want to join. So when my "grief bombs" hit and I am feeling sorry for myself for being a "widow", I pull out the coping skills I learned when Jim was in the military. I believe he is TDY, "Temporary Duty Yonder". Jim is serving God as only he can, and I will see him in the yonder. I hope as the beauty of fall approaches that the holidays Jim so loved roll around, peace will enter all the hearts in our family. I want them to say "this will be the best season yet" and not "how will we get through these holidays". The answer is with us already...by the grace of God.

Blessings,

Peggy



Comcast Channel 13 will Re-broadcast the Worship Service Sunday at 7:00 pm.

Pew markers



Is there anyone in the congregation interested in having a pew marker placed on the plaques at the rear of the Sanctuary?

We have received requests to add some additional names to the Pew Plaques in the Sanctuary. Ronnie Snoddy is willing to add any additional names to the plaque at no charge. If anyone wanting to add additional names will contact Becky Bowers either in person, phone (434-960-5215) or email (rdw7w@virginia.edu) and provide her with the correct spelling of the names to be added by October 16 she will work with Ronnie in hopes to have all of the remaining names added prior to the November 8 All Saints Service. Becky will also send out an email with the same information since we are missing names of our members who have passed away in the last few years. Thanks in advance for your assistance.



Some members are concerned and annoyed with the number of cell phones that have gone off during the worship service during the past few weeks and months.
Please turn off phones or at least silence the ringers while in the service.



We will host the Central Virginia Baptist Association Meeting on Sunday, October 23, 2016 at 3:00 p.m. As hosts for this meeting, we will provide light refreshments at the conclusion.

Did you know that shopping at your favorite grocery store can help raise money for local schools?! Clark Elementary proudly joins Giant's A+ Rewards, Harris Teeter's Together in Education, and Kroger's Community Rewards programs to help raise funds for our school's educational needs. These programs do not interfere with your grocery savings or cost you any money!

Here's how to connect your Harris Teeter VIP card, Kroger Rewards Card or Giant Card from your home computer:

Giant:

Log on to www.giantfood.com/aplus select "CUSTOMER REGISTRATION" to register online using your Giant Card. Clark's School ID is 02750. You can also call the A+ Rewards hotline at [1-877-275-2758](tel:1-877-275-2758) to register.

Kroger:

Go to www.kroger.com/communityrewards select "SIGN IN/REGISTER." Most users will be new online customers, select "SIGN UP TODAY". Clark's School NPO# is 87494

Harris Teeter:

http://www.harristeeter.com/community/together_in_education/ select "Relink your school". Clark's TIE # is 6134. Or simply tell the cashier during check-out that you want to link your VIC card to Clark. TIE#6134

Thank you to the Belmont Baptist Church Family,

As Of October 1, I plan to retire as church secretary. I have enjoyed working here, and I feel that it has helped me grow as a Christian.

With regrets and anticipation,
Janet Shiflett

I'd like to take time to thank all of you for your thoughts, your kindness and most of all for the many prayers during the illness and passing of my sister. You all are so very caring and loving. Her family and mine will be forever grateful.

Sincerely and with love,
Pat Taylor Beasley



Thank you so much for the reception following our dad's funeral service. The food and fellowship were great. We truly appreciate your kindness.

In Christian love,
The family of G. B. Robertson



Tuesday Morning Bible Study,

How very thoughtful of this group to send a card when my sister passed away. I am very tgrateful and love you all.

Cheryl



Know Yourself As Truly Loved

My thirty day trip to Beijing, China at Peking University in July 2011 is with me constantly. I taught English to sixty Chinese English teachers. East coast Chinese are in constant contact with visitors from abroad; however, Chinese English teachers from Central and Western China rarely encounter English speakers. This is why their government ships them to Peking University to study English. During the thirty days, I discovered that we have so much in common. They love children and want to touch their lives.

I believe it was Tuesday evening, July 26, 2011 at 9:00 pm, when the time arrived to go to the airport and return home. To my surprise, my sixty Chinese students were outside the dorm, surrounding the taxi and yelling, "God bless you, Rick." I cried all the way back to the airport! I'll never get over that experience.

In his book, *The Inner Voice of Love*, Henri Nouwen writes: "The more you come to know yourself-spirit, mind, and body-as truly loved, the freer you will be to proclaim the good news. That is the freedom of the children of God."

Nouwen also states: "True friendships are lasting because true love is eternal. A friendship in which heart speaks to heart is a gift from God, and no gift that comes from God is temporary or occasional. All that comes from God participates in God's eternal life. Love between people, when given by God, is stronger than death. In this sense, true friendships continue beyond the boundary of death." I look forward to seeing them again, when I get to heaven.

Richard Wharam, Deacon Chairman.

BELMONT BAPTIST CHURCH
830 Monticello Avenue
Charlottesville, VA 22902



Children's Visit to the Pumpkin Patch
Sunday, October 30
1-4 pm



**Life sized Hungry Hippo Game
and Activities Afternoon**
Sunday, October 16
1-3 pm
For 3rd graders and up and their families.
Come join the fun.