

THE

LAMPLIGHTER

Publication of

Belmont Baptist Church

Interim Pastor, Tom Johnson

Youth Pastor, Michael Talluto



February 2012

"Your word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path" Psalm 119: 10

A Note from the Pastor's Desk...

This month, let me introduce you to some of our family. When I think of introductions, I often have the image from one of the Bob Newhart shows where three brothers walk in and the first says to Bob (pointing to the person next to him), "This is my brother Larry and my other brother Larry." Hopefully my introduction will be more helpful since, right now, you don't know these family members. But we can benefit from knowing them. I am talking about members of our American Baptist Churches family—especially those here in Pennsylvania and Delaware (ABCOPAD).

First, let me introduce you to Rev. Frank Frischkorn who is the Executive Minister of ABCOPAD. He served a church in Hollidaysburg (near Altoona) before becoming part of region staff. He has now served the region for over 20 years having become the Executive about four years ago. He wrote in a recent mailing: "We want to take (our) puzzle-defeating skills honed on the dining room table and apply them to the challenges of our... churches. We want to bring order out of the chaos, sense out of what appears to be random...and begin finding ways to construct the preferred future that we long for, but we've got one very large problem—the picture isn't on any box." That is a very apt image of the problems we face in the church today. Frank provides overall leadership for the Region and its committees, Board, and staff as well as represents the Region on national committees for the life of our denomination. He relates, where possible, to individual churches and pastors as well.

Serving with Frank is Rev. Kevin Walden. Some of our members know Kevin because he has been relating to our Search Committee in their efforts to find our next pastor. Kevin had served as pastor in Nebraska before coming to our Region 18 months ago to take the staff position of "Pastor with Pastoral Leaders." In a recent mailing, he wrote: "An ethical violation by a clergy member is near the top of any top 10 list of things that kill or stifle the growth potential and vitality of a church...This is why Morals and Ethics are important...Ethics are the behavioral boundaries that we put into place to protect our morals. They are the fence we put around our moral property to keep us "safe" within what God has taught us is appropriate. Without ethics, there is no fence. And we can readily see what a fenceless moral society looks like." This is another good image for the church to apply to our life together. Kevin relates to all the pastors in our region—those in active ministry (both full time and bi-vocational) and those who are interim ministers (like myself).

We have great resources in our wider American Baptist family. John Kofroth has begun to get acquainted with some of these people (both clergy and lay persons) and understands that we not only have resources but also opportunities to provide ministry to others. It was in this light that he presented the mission trip to Haiti. Ruth Severino will be going to Haiti with a team of people from our ABCOPAD church on Feb 25 which will provide ministry to others in need.

I have been part of this family for a long time. Thanks for allowing me to start introducing you to some of your family that you have not yet met. I think you will see that being an active part of our family can help our church as well as advance God's Kingdom around the world.

In Christ's service,
Tom Johnson, Pastor

Belmont Baptist Church Services

Sunday

9:30 a.m., Sunday School
11:00 a.m., Morning Worship
6:30 p.m., BYG 4 Jesus
6:30 p.m., Jr. Youth Group

Wednesday

7:00 p.m., Prayer Meeting

Thursday

7:30 p.m., Home Bible Study
(For locations and times contact church office)

February Sermon Schedule

February 5 “Blessing the Nobodies”
February 12 “Freed to Serve”
February 19 “Christ Our Example”
February 26 “What Are You Suffering For?”

Belmont Baptist Pre-School

Teachers -

Mon-Fri.—9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.
(Serving children age 2 to 4 years)

Joann McDougald
Jane Kofroth
Rose Gallagher
Jeanne Scott



Worship Leaders

Feb. 5 Fred Eliassen
Feb. 12 Fred Eliassen
Feb. 19 Mike Talluto
Feb. 26 Mike Talluto

Song Leaders

Feb. 5 Tom Sheehan
Feb. 12 Tom Sheehan
Feb. 19 Bob Flubacher
Feb. 26 Bob Flubacher

February 2012

Door Greeters



Feb. 5 Terry Yates & Caitlyn Nichols
Feb. 12 Winnie Marshall & Birdie Sharp
Feb. 19 Michele & Jackie Yates
Feb. 26 Clare LaPalombara & Jayne Wilhelm

Communion Preparer

Jeff Kimmel



Communion Servers

Kevin, Jim, Sr., Jim, Jr. & Don Yates

Head Usher

Lynn Reinhart

Childcare Ministry

Feb. 5 Jayne Wilhelm & Lauren Talluto
Feb. 12 Marlyn Eliassen & Caitlyn Nichols
Feb. 19 Michele Yates & Kevin Lawson
Feb. 26 Maryanne Yates & Brian Nichols

Cleaning Teams

2/4/12 Church Work Day
2/8/12 Jim & Maryanne Yates; Steve Smythe
2/18/12 Mike Talluto & Lynn Reinhart
2/25/12 Gary, Kay & Jeff Kimmel





BELMONT BAPTIST CHURCH MISSIONARY NEWS!

Missionary News and Prayer Items for February 2012

Helen Miehle writes “Thank you for all your prayers and support during the past several months.” She ask prayers for:

- Safety in all of her travels
- Good health as well as strength and wisdom
- Increasing skill as she learns how to be a spiritual mentor
- The Lord’s provision for her tuition and daily expenses

She offers praise for:

- Deepening relationships with friends and supporters
- Storage of her personal belonging on the mission field
- Healing of the radial nerve in her arm and pain in her knees

Her letter (as well as the most recent letters from other missionaries) is on the bulletin board.

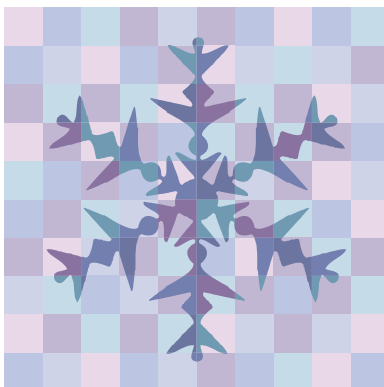
Bob McKemey has sent a letter which includes a thank you for the Christmas gift that we sent. He reports:

- A highlight of this past year was the Jr/Sr High English Camp where nine youth received Jesus as their Savior
- One young man shared his newfound faith with his parents and all three were baptized together
- There is good progress on the new cabin being built at the camp
- He will be coming to the states this spring for Home Service

BYG FOR JESUS

Thank you for your continuous support and prayers for our youth group! The kids have been very faithful in attendance and we have a good core group of kids who all get along and enjoy each other. This year we have had a variety of different topics that I hope will help the kids to both grow in the Lord and to have success in their lives. It is our goal to train the kids to grow up to be mature Christian adults, and our lessons are designed to do that. We also have a time of prayer and worship, and a time for them to just play and hang out afterwards. Please continue to pray for them that the Lord will use them to help grow His kingdom and that He will guide them through their lives to be faithful and obedient to Him.

Please keep the kids in prayer for our upcoming Winter Weekend as well. From February 17-19th, we will be at Camp Victory Valley with our speaker, Rob Garrish, who will be speaking on the topic, “Are You a Leader or Follower?” We are hoping to show the kids that they don’t have to follow the crowd when it comes to their behavior, that they can say no to temptations like drugs, alcohol, sex and other things. We want them to have influence over their peers and not the other way around. Please pray that this weekend will be an opportunity for them to commit to a life of obedience to God and to rise above the temptations of the world. Pray that a good number of kids will be able to attend and that we will have safety, fun and a little bit of snow!



Michael Talluto

Youth Pastor



BELMONT BAPTIST CHURCH PRESCHOOL NEWS!

The following review was taken from our website and we would like to share this testimonial with our church family.

“When I met the teachers at Belmont Baptist Preschool I was instantly put at ease and felt that they could handle anything regarding my shy, very-attached-to-mommy two year old. She has now been at Belmont Baptist Preschool six months, and has absolutely flourished! I truly feel that the teachers love my child and they have been wonderful in dealing with separation anxiety and working through potty training, all the while teaching her the ABC’s, days of the week, and countless songs. Ms. Jane and Ms. Joann have formed a true connection with our family and emphasize creating a caring, compassionate, Christian environment at Belmont Baptist Preschool. My daughter is now talking more, is much more interactive, and is delighted to go to preschool. Belmont Baptist Preschool comes with my absolute highest recommendation, and you will feel at ease with your child in their care.”



This testimonial pretty much sums up our goal at Belmont Baptist Preschool. Please continue to pray for our children and our teachers.

Thank you Lord for...SIMPLE THINGS

Thank you, Lord, for simple joys..
Homemade cookies, handmade toys
Cotton clouds in bright blue skies;
Buttercups and butterflies,
Kittens, puppies, birds and squirrels,
Little boys and little girls.
Starlit nights and sunny days
Words of hope with love and praise.

Wednesday Suppers and Services
Lent 2012

SUPPERS AT 6:00 P.M.

SERVICES AT 7:00 P.M.

February 29 Marple Christian Church
475 Lawrence Road
Broomall, Pa 19008
610-356-6186

Preacher: ***Rev. Hentzi Elek, St. Alban's Episcopal Church***

March 7 Marple Presbyterian Church
105 North Sproul Road
Broomall, Pa 19008
610-356-1098

Preacher: ***Rev. Kenneth Getzhiser, St. Mark's Methodist Church***

March 14 St. Mark's United Methodist Church
2220 South Sproul Road
Broomall, Pa 19008
610-356-1199

Preacher: ***Michael Talluto, Youth Pastor, Belmont Baptist Church***

March 21 Grace Lutheran Church
2191 West Chester Pike
Broomall, Pa 19008
610-356-1824

Preacher: ***Rev. Karen Nelson, Marple Presbyterian Church***

March 28 St. Alban's Episcopal Church
3625 Chapel Road
Newtown Square, Pa 19073
610-356-0459

Preacher: ***Rev. Bruce Davis, Messiah Lutheran Church***

ALL SUPPERS AND SERVICES FOR WEDNESDAYS IN LENT ARE HOSTED BY MARPLE NEWTOWN COOPERATIVE MINISTRIES AND ARE ALWAYS FREE AND OPEN TO EVERYONE.

THE FREE WILL OFFERINGS FROM OUR SERVICES WILL ALLEVIATE HUNGER IN OUR AREA THROUGH THE FOOD BANK AT ST. MARK'S METHODIST CHURCH, THE LIFE CENTER FEEDING THE HOMELESS IN UPPER DARBY AND THE HUNGER WALK AT ST. ALBAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN APRIL. OUR GATHERINGS WILL FEED YOUR BODY AND SOUL AND YOUR GIFTS WILL HELP FEED OUR HUNGRY NEIGHBORS.



Upcoming Events at Belmont!

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT!

On Saturday evening, February 25th at 7:00 p.m. we will be showing the film, “Courageous.” This is a powerful and entertaining film for the entire family to enjoy and it will certainly have everyone who sees it thinking about their relationship with the Lord. No father should miss seeing this film!

Please make a special effort to invite your family and friends for this night of fellowship. Refreshments will be served.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MEETING ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH
AT 7:00 P.M.

BOARD OF DEACONS MEETING ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21ST AT
7:00 P.M.

BYG 4 JESUS WINTER RETREAT AT CAMP VICTORY VALLEY ON
FEBRUARY 17-19TH.

ASH WEDNESDAY IS FEBRUARY 22ND.

2012 Lenten Focus

We will be providing a daily Bible reading guide for anyone who is interested in devoting themselves to strengthening their walk with Jesus during Lent. The guide is entitled “The Teachings of Jesus” with each week devoted to a specific area of concern.

With Lent beginning on February 22 this year, we will make the guides available starting the second Sunday of February. There are readings for every day of the week—Sunday through Saturday—and conclude on Easter Sunday.

In devoting ourselves to reading through the Gospels during October through December this past year, we got immersed in the general call of Jesus to follow Him. This guide will enable us to focus on one specific aspect of our life with Jesus each week. We pray that you will use this discipline for spiritual growth.



Valentine's Day

What did the boy sheep say to the girl sheep on Valentine's Day?
I Love Ewe.

What did the stamp say to the envelope on Valentine's Day?
I'm stuck on you.

What did the boy owl say to the girl owl on Valentine's Day?
Owl be yours.

What kind of flowers do you never give on Valentine's Day?
Cauliflowers!

What do you call a very small Valentine?
A Valentiny!

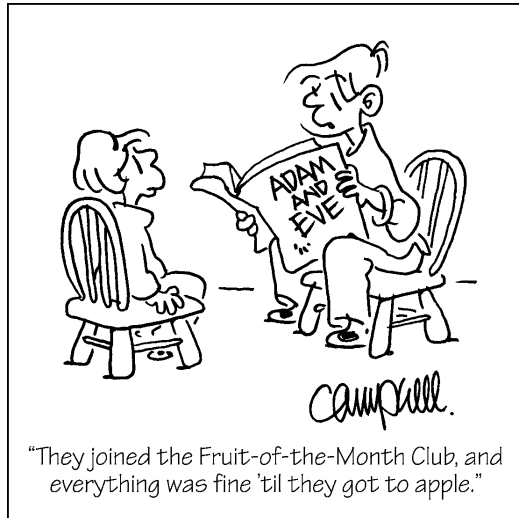
What did the boy squirrel say to the girl squirrel on Valentine's Day?
I'm nuts about you.

What did the chocolate syrup say to the ice cream?
I'm sweet on you!

What did the paper clip say to the magnet?
I find you very attractive.

What did the French chef give his wife for Valentine's Day?
A hug and a quiche!

GIGGLES AND SMILES



Places I have and have not been.....

(Submitted by Barbara Russell)

I have been in many places, but I've never been in **Cahoots**. Apparently you can't go alone. You have to be in Cahoots with someone.

I've also never been in **Cognito**, I hear no one recognizes you there.

I have, however, been in **Sane**. They don't have an airport; you have to be driven there. I have made several trips there, thanks to my friends, family and work.

I would like to go to **Conclusions**, but you have to jump and I'm not too much on physical activity anymore.

I have also been in **Doubt**. That is a sad place to go and I try not to visit there too often.

I've been in **Flexible**, but only when it was very important to stand firm.

Sometimes I'm in **Capable**, and I go there more often as I'm getting older.

One of my favorite places to be is in **Suspense**! It really gets the adrenalin flowing and pumps up the old heart! At my age I need all the stimulation I can get!

And, sometimes I think I am in **Vincible** but life shows me I am not!

I have been in **Deep Doo Doo** many times. The older I get, the easier it is to get there.

February Birthdays

Feb. 2 Loretta Bastedo
Feb. 4 Dylan Yates
Feb. 5 Kevin Haines
Feb. 16 Mike Freeman
Feb. 17 Anne Moore
Feb. 21 Ruth Severino

Feb. 26 Joyce Flubacher
Feb. 28 Esther Sangiorgio



What's Cooking?



This month's recipe is from Allrecipes

STUFFED GREEN PEPPERS

Here's a delicious stuffed pepper recipe that's easy to make. Each green bell pepper contains ground beef, onion, tomatoes, rice and cheese, and is cooked in tomato soup.

Prep Time: 30 minutes

Servings: 2

Cook Time: 30 minutes

Ingredients:

2 green bell peppers
5 oz. ground beef
1 tablespoon and 2 1/4 teaspoons chopped onion
Salt and pepper to taste
1/3 (14.5 oz.) can whole peeled tomatoes, chopped (San Marzano preferably)
1/4 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
2 tablespoons and 2 teaspoons uncooked rice
2 tablespoons and 2 teaspoons water
1/3 cup shredded Cheddar cheese
2/3 can condensed tomato soup
Water as needed

Directions

Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil. Cut the tops off the peppers and remove the seeds. Cook peppers in boiling water for 5 minutes, drain. Sprinkle salt inside each pepper and set aside.

In a large skillet, sauté beef and onions for 5 minutes, or until beef is browned. Drain off excess fat and season with salt and pepper. Stir in the tomatoes, rice, 1/2 cup water and Worcestershire sauce. Cover, and simmer for 15 minutes, or until rice is tender. Remove from heat and stir in the cheese.

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Stuff each pepper with the beef and rice mixture and place peppers open side up in a baking dish. In a medium bowl combine tomato soup with just enough water to make the soup a gravy consistency. Pour over the peppers.

Bake covered for 25 to 30 minutes, until heated through and cheese is melted and bubbly. Enjoy!

* A JAR OF *

Love and Appreciation



Sometimes we forget to show love and appreciation to people who are closest to us. Use this fun craft to let everyone in your family know how much you care.

What you need:

- Plastic jar with lid
- Heart-shaped foam pieces
- Heart-shaped stickers
- Glue
- Construction paper
- Scissors
- Pencil or crayons

What you do:

1. Decorate the jar and lid with heart-shaped foam pieces and stickers.
2. Cut out 2" or 3" heart shapes from the construction paper.
3. On each paper heart, write what you appreciate and love about your family and each member. Have all family members do this, too.
4. Place the heart messages inside the jar. Fold them in half, if necessary.
5. On each day in February, pull out one heart and read the message aloud to the family.
6. Notice the changes in your family when everyone feels loved and appreciated!

Our first love

In Deuteronomy 10:12 (NIV), Israel is asked a question that's also for us to answer: "What does the LORD your God ask of you?"

To find the answer, write the words from the puzzle pieces on the matching shapes in the completed heart.

... your heart and with all your soul ..."

Answer:
 " ... fear the LORD ... " " ... to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all ... "

Belmont Baptist Church
 551 Paxon Hollow Road
 Broomall, Pa 19008
 610-356-8211
 Belmont Baptist Preschool - 610-356-3144
www.belmontbaptistchurch.info
 Email—belmontbaptistchurch@comcast.net

Editors
 Tom Johnson, Interim Pastor
 Terry Freeman, Secretary



We relate to the Riverside Association, the American Baptist Church of PA and DE and the ABCUSA.