



BE THE CHURCH GUIDE

JANUARY-MARCH 2023

HAPPY NEW YEAR

2023 is upon us and along with it another exciting season of ministry with Jesus! 2022 gave us many answered prayers that should remind us of God's faithfulness towards Belmont including the sale of the building, Fallon Park Thanksgiving Love outreach, the blessing of new babies born, 121st anniversary service, new families joining, missional outreach to Morningside Manor and so much more!

As you think about the New Year, remember our mission to help people grow to maturity in Christ by walking with them, step by step, through intentional discipleship and then to see them repeat the process with others. To reach people no one is reaching, we'll have to do things no one is doing. We don't just go to church, we are the Church! As you seek God and he ignites your heart for ministry, ask God for breakthrough thinking; breakthrough thinking in your homes, at work, for yourself and the church.

We love you and look forward to growing in Christ and being the church together!

- Belmont Elders

NEW CHURCH-CENTER APP

As a church, we are adopting a technological tool that will enhance how we do life together. It is an app that we will all download on our phones and it will simplify a lot of things about our ministry.

With the Church Center App we will be able to more easily:

- Connect with guests who fill out a digital connection card
- Communicate to the church family through notifications, texting, and email
- Facilitate Community Groups/Micro-Churches by keeping attendance, communicating, sharing resources, etc
- Calendar church-wide dates in one easy to find location
- Sign up to serve on a Ministry Team and receive automated reminders about our schedules in one location
- Check our kids into Children's Ministry at Sunday Gathering
- Register for events like Thanksgiving Love and be able to donate at the same time that we sign up
- Give by setting up recurring gifts, adjust gifts easily at any time, and donate to special causes like purchasing a poinsettia at Christmas

NEW MEETING SPACE AND TIME

After two years of prayer and congregational affirmation, we sold our church building on August 25, 2022. We are still 100% confident that we were obedient to the Lord in that move. Since then, we have been looking for a different space for our weekend Worship Service that would be a good fit for our church.

Geographically We began looking in SE Roanoke and worked our way to the South and East of downtown with the goal of staying on the SE side of the 1-81/220 corridor.

Design-wise We wanted a space that is not too dated and that has a simple layout that fits how we intend to use the space. We desired a good, clean space for children's ministry because that is an important part of who we are as a church.

Theologically We wanted to partner with a church or business that would not try to limit our message but would be aligned with the mission that Jesus has called us to.

Relationally We wanted to be in a space where we felt welcomed and where we have a friendly cooperation with the owner.

Financially We wanted a space to rent primarily for the time that we actually use it without having a 24/7 lease as we see how this new journey unfolds. On-site storage for some essentials would be a huge blessing.

We contacted dozens of churches, ministries, warehouses, coffee shops, businesses, schools, etc.. Some were not interested. Others were outside the target area. Some facilities were too old, confusing, or expensive. We asked God to close and open the right doors. At the end of the day, it became clear to us that the building owned by Crystal Spring Baptist is where we need to land as we start 2023. We are not seeing this as a permanent location but it does give us some certainty for 2023. The members of CSBC have been very gracious to us and we are especially thankful to Bruce Mitchell for his Kingdom mindedness and hospitality and to Pastor Travis Hilton for his kindness in receiving us.



We plan to start meeting at CSBC in January of 2023. Since they utilize the building on Sunday morning we will be moving our worship services to Sundays at 5pm for now. During the final weekend of December we will move the equipment over from Belmont that we need in order to get up and running. In mid-January, we will move items that we want to keep, but not use currently, to storage that we have available at Oakland Baptist Church. Thank God for his provision! Contact Pastor Jon with any questions that you have at jlaughinghouse@belmontlife.org

Weekend Gatherings Calendar

Sunday	Sermon Series	Scripture	Other
January 1	New Years Day - Transition Week - No Service		
January 8	Plentiful Harvest	Matthew 9:35-38	Fellowship Meal/Celebration Service
January 15	Plentiful Harvest	Matthew 9:35-38	Fellowship Meal/Celebration Service
January 22	Plentiful Harvest	Matthew 9:35-38	Fellowship Meal/Celebration Service
January 29	Plentiful Harvest	Matthew 9:35-38	Fellowship Meal/Celebration Service
February 5	Your Kingdom Come	Matthew 10	Celebration Service
February 12	Your Kingdom Come	Matthew 10	Celebration Service
February 19	Your Kingdom Come	Matthew 10	Celebration Service
February 26	Your Kingdom Come	Matthew 10	Celebration Service
March 5	Your Kingdom Come	Matthew 11	Celebration Service
March 12	Your Kingdom Come	Matthew 11	Celebration Service
March 19	Your Kingdom Come	Matthew 11	Celebration Service
March 26	Your Kingdom Come	Matthew 11	Celebration Service

WEEKEND GATHERINGS INFORMATION

Church-wide Gatherings still remain an important part of family life at Belmont. Since we have released our facility and stepped out onto this new journey of faith with Jesus, our Sunday Service will begin to look a little different. Thanks for staying flexible and for leaning into this adventure and not away from it! Not only has our meeting space and time changed but the format of our service will look a little different as well.

For the month of January, we will run our Sunday service like a big Community Group. Taking best practices from our current Groups, this will be a way to paint a picture of what our First Generation Micro-Churches should look like. We will gather at 5pm in the Fellowship Hall at Crystal Spring for a simple but healthy meal. Plan to arrive by 4:45 to help set up! At 5:30 we will flow into a celebration service that will consist of a variety of singing, testimonies, Bible teaching, communion, training, and prayer. We will wrap up the Gathering at 6:30 and be out of the facility by 7pm. These times are not set in stone and could be adjusted in February to accommodate the greater good of the Body.

We are not planning to meet on Sunday, January 1, but will instead use that as a respite week. So many of you serve faithfully every single week and this will be a Sabbath of sorts! On Sunday, January 8, we plan to spend a portion of our time walking through the building together and praying over each area of ministry like the Children's Ministry, Worship, and Hospitality. On January 15, we will have a Recognition Service for our new Elders and Deacons.

Community Groups Calendar

Week	Dates	Discussion Topic
1	January	Groups Rest
2	January	Groups Rest
3	January	Groups Rest
4	January	Groups Rest
1	January 29 - February 4	Groups Reset
2	February 5-11	Groups Reset
3	February 12-18	Groups Reset
4	February 19-25	Groups Reset
1	February 26 - March 4	Groups Restart
2	March 5-11	Groups Restart
3	March 12-18	Groups Restart
4	March 19-25	Missions Week [Trip to Pittsburg]
5	March 26-31	Recharge Week

COMMUNITY GROUPS AND THE METAMORPHOSIS TO MICRO-CHURCH

Community Groups are going through a metamorphosis! We know you love the Group you are a part of and you have probably found some steady, weekly rhythms with the meeting time and location of your Group. With the change in our Weekend Gathering meeting time, life changes with key leaders, and new leaders moving up, our Groups will be going through a reshaping process. That is why all Groups will be on a Rest Period for the month of January while we work with our New Wine Team to reshape and improve Group Life and model that on Sunday evenings at our Gatherings. We want to set all of our Groups up for long-term health and multiplication as they transition into Micro Churches. [MC's]

We plan to start our First Generation MC's sometime in the First Quarter of the New Year with an Elder serving as the micro-church pastor in each group. MC's will be on the Multiplication Track that we have been working on and will be growing spiritually and numerically so that they can multiply new, healthy MC's when the time is right. Our goal is to have great options for everyone to choose from starting in February. Your Group Leader will be reaching out to you to see if you have any questions or suggestions about the new shape of Groups/Micro-Church.

We have a rigorous 12-month apprenticeship that our MC pastors will go through before they are commissioned to lead their own Group. This training involves spiritual formation, theological education and practical, hands-on ministry in the life of the Group they are helping to co-lead. After approval by the Elders they will be commissioned to lead their own Micro-Church.

LEADERSHIP

We are so thankful for all of the people at Belmont who give their time and talents to serve and lead in different areas of ministry.

Elders | As we start 2023, the Council of Elders will consist of Pastor Jon, Wes Williams, and Jason Raines.

New Wine Team | The New Wine Team are the leaders and co-leaders of every Micro Church. They meet to encourage each other in the work of pastoring their people. They also pray and dream about the future of MC life and plan how to constantly improve how the MC's are functioning so they stay effective in their mission.

Leadership Meeting Calendar

Date	Team
January 2 7pm	Elders
January 9 7pm	New Wine Team
January 23 6:30pm	Ministry Team Leaders
February 6 7pm	Elders
February 13 7pm	New Wine Team
February 20 6:30pm	Ministry Team Leaders
March 6 7pm	Elders
March 13 7pm	New Wine Team
March 27 6:30pm	Ministry Team Leaders
Staff Meetings happen every Tuesday afternoon. New Wine Prayer Meetings happen every Monday morning.	

Management Team | The Management Team are the leaders of our different Ministry Teams. They meet to keep our different ministries united and functioning smoothly.

Worship Service Team - Carissa Divant

Care Team - Pam Hamilton

Family Ministry Team - Rene Ward

Finance Team - Rick St. Pierre

Hospitality Team - Liz Hogan

Property Team - Jim Howell

You can serve the Body with the gifts that the Lord has given you. If you are not plugged into one of our Ministry Teams already, please let us know which one you would like to be on and we can get you plugged in.

Upcoming Dates

December 11	Open house and planning session at CSBC 5:30pm. Everyone welcome.
December 18	Last service in the Belmont sanctuary. Reception to follow.
December 25	Online-only service for Christmas Day
Saturday, December 31	Move supplies to CSBC. 9am to Noon
January 1	Respite Sunday as we transition from one season to the next. Groups rest begins.
January 8	First Sunday Service at CSBC at 5pm. Pray for ministries.
January 15	Elder/Deacon Recognition Service
Saturday, January 21	Move remaining Belmont property to Oakland Baptist. 9am to Noon
February 1	Community Groups/MC's get reset and going again.
March 17-19	Trip to Pittsburgh for Covenant Service with Reggie and Courtney Johnston.

MISSIONS UPDATES



CHRIST CENTRAL CHURCH
Pittsburgh, PA

Trip To PA | March 17-19, 2023 | Covenant Service at Christ Central Church



We are so blessed to know, love and financially support Reggie and Courtney Johnson as they plant Christ Central Church in Pittsburgh. Reggie was here with us at Belmont for two years a church planting apprentice and we are their sending church. They took the big step of moving from Roanoke to Pittsburgh in the Fall of 2020.

After two years of getting to know the city, building a core team, and doing the work of discipleship, Christ Central Church has been blessed with the ownership of a small church building!

Now that they have a solid core team of members, they are planning a Covenant Service for Sunday, March 19, 2023. We are going to join them for this special day! Belmont Church and The Hill Church will be sending members to Pittsburgh this weekend to participate. Pastor Jon will be preaching and Pastor Charles will be participating in the service as well.

Before going to Bible college, Reggie worked as a Case Manager with VA-DOC, NC-DPS, and with at-risk youth. During college Reggie completed a two-year internship in Raleigh, NC. After college, Reggie served as a church planting apprentice and missions pastor at Belmont Church in Roanoke VA before being sent to plant a new church in Pittsburgh, PA.

Reggie met and married his beautiful bride Courtney in Southern Virginia. They have been married for 13 years. Together they have three children; Elizabeth Grace, Abigail Joy, and RJ. Courtney is a CVICU Nurse (RN) and has been nursing for 10 plus years. The Johnson's enjoy exploring new places, reading good books, and being outdoors.





Care Portal

CarePortal is an online platform that brings the needs of hurting children and families in our community to our attention. Caseworkers uncover the needs. CarePortal makes local churches aware, giving us a real-time opportunity to respond and meet the need.

Tyler and Logan Walker have a real heart for fostering and adoption and this is part of their own personal story. They are also the Response Team Leaders for Belmont's connection to CarePortal. Reach out to Tyler to see how you can be a blessing to those in need. tlwalker2383@yahoo.com

Roanoke City Public Schools

The Bible tells us to seek the good of the city that we live in. We understand that teachers and all of the staff of Roanoke City Schools have accepted a big responsibility when it comes to the education of the next generation. We want to be a blessing to RCPS by helping in a variety of ways.

We made a special connection to Fallon Park Elementary through our Thanksgiving Love ministry. We also want to help out in additional ways by being a blessing to teachers, by helping out with the reading program there with kids who need to improve their reading skills, and others opportunities as they become available.



Give To The Ministry Of Belmont Church

Your faithful giving supports the ministry here at Belmont. We support not only the ministry to our own church family but we give financially to two church plants, we support global missions, local outreaches to the homeless, and for women who find themselves in an unplanned pregnancy. These are just a few of the things that you support every time you give to the work here at Belmont.

You can give securely through our app, on our website, through a check dropped in the Connection Card box, or a check mailed to our PO Box. Pray about what percentage of your income the Lord would have you give and then give that amount faithfully. You will be surprised how the Lord blesses you through this!