

Rotary



Club of Belmont

Bulletin

For Meeting - Aug. 30, 2023

www.BelmontRotaryClub.com

Club Meeting

Belmont First Presbyterian Church
102 S. Central Ave.
Belmont, NC 28012

Time: Wednesday at 12:30 PM

Speakers

August 30th

David Hamrick, Publisher,
Gaston Alive Magazine

Gaston Alive began as a monthly printed magazine and now is published weekly online, providing readers news and information on community events and advertisers a place to promote products and services. Rotarian Rebecca Johns will host the program.

September 13th

Alyssa Andrews, owner, Belmont
Wellness Center

Massage therapy, Accupuncture and hydration therapy will be discussed when Alyssa Andrews and others from her team present the Rotary Club program this week. Rotarian David Demperio will host the program

September 20th

Club Meeting: District Governor
Debra Corbett

Making her first official visit to Belmont Rotary Club, District Governor Corbett will speak to members about goals and objectives for the year.

September 6th

Former FBI Agent Randy Walker

Former Agent Walker will talk about his role and experiences in the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Rotarian Whitney Norton will host the program.

September 20th

Board of Directors Meeting

Rotary District 7680 Governor Debra Corbett will participate as she makes her official visit to the club. President Thomas Hunter, III, presiding.

PROGRAM RESPONSIBILITY: *Confirm your speaker at least 4 weeks in advance and notify Program Chair Mike McKeever and Public Relations Chair Ted Hall.*

Sept. 27 - Jacqueline Podzinski

Oct. 4 - Michelle Petty

Oct. 11 - Mike McKeever

Events

October 21st, 9 AM - 4 PM

Belmont Rotary Pickleball Tournament

Location: Davis Park 204 Park Drive, Belmont,
NC 28012

Claim Your Promotional



Birthdays



Ryan Murphy
September 11th



Richard S. Cromlish Jr.
September 18th



Monica Mattioli
September 25th



Samuel P. Stowe III
September 26th



Tammey C. Thomas
September 27th

Wedding Anniversaries



Thomas M. Hunter Jr.
September 11th

Club Leaders

Thomas M. Hunter III
President



[Jennifer Grant](#)
Treasurer



[Ted B. Hall](#)
Public Relations/Image Chair
Webmaster



[Whitney Norton](#)
Rotary Foundation Chair
iPast President



[Michelle Petty](#)
Membership Chair

Account Leaders



[Debra L. Corbett](#)
District Governor



[Kevin Kendrick](#)
DG - Elect



[Laurel Roe Morris](#)
Assistant Governor- Gaston County



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LAST WEEK'S PROGRAM

Belmont First Presbyterian Weekday School

Wednesday, August 23, 2023

Belmont First Presbyterian Church pastor, the Rev. Sam Warner (left), spoke to Rotarians about the church's outstanding Weekday School. Rotarian Jim Davidson hosted the program and introduced Rev. Warner.



"Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.'" (Matthew 19:14)

The scripture above forms the foundation upon which Belmont's First Presbyterian Church has built one of Gaston County's largest Weekday School programs, church pastor the Rev. Sam Warner told Belmont Rotary Club members recently. He spoke at the club meeting on short notice after a schedule conflict arose for Weekday School Director Tina Walker.

The Belmont First Presbyterian Weekday School began 35 years ago as a small daycare center for children aged 3 months to kindergarten. Today, it serves more than 200 children in daycare, pre-school and after-school programs and every class has a waiting list. The school employs 32 full-time staff members and a part-time staff that varies from 17 to 49 depending on the season.

"One of my greatest joys as pastor is to come and watch the energy of these children," said Rev. Warner, who has served the church for 18 years.

A key to attracting and retaining an outstanding staff is the church providing Weekday School workers medical insurance, Rev. Warner said. He also said medical insurance makes up the largest expense category in the church's \$2.5 million budget.

Noting that most church buildings are empty most of the time, Rev. Warner said, "Our goal at First Presbyterian is to use every square inch of the church every hour of the day." Welcoming Belmont Rotary Club to hold its weekly lunch meetings at the church is one example of that commitment, he said.

Rev. Warner also acknowledged another benefit of the popular school. "The Weekday School is a backdoor entry to the church," he said, "Members often learn about First Presbyterian because their children attend the school."

A committee of church members oversees the Weekday School, and Rev. Warner commended the committee's long-time chairwoman Margaret Packard, who he called "the Queen of this church" for her devotion to the school.

For more information on Belmont First Presbyterian Church and its Weekday School, visit: www.fpc-belmont.org.



Belmont Rotary welcomed a very special guest today

Sister Carmelita Hagan, (*left in photo*) long-time house manager at Catherine's House in Belmont, was a special guest at today's meeting of Rotarian and Catherine's House CEO Kathy Gauger (*right in photo*).

Catherine's House provides transitional housing, counseling, training and other assistance to women and their children who otherwise would be homeless.

During her 15 years at Catherine's House, 2002 until retirement in 2017, Sister Carmelita helped more than 1,200 women and children make the transition to better lives.



In retirement, Sister Carmelita continues to lead an annual new car raffle, which is the largest fund-raising project for Catherine's House. This year's 21st car raffle ticket sale is under way, with the car to be given away on Dec. 7, 2023. Ticket prices begin at only \$10. Get your tickets online by clicking this link: [2023 Car Raffle](#), or calling 704.825.9599.