Ninth Annual Family Literacy Day To Be Held Sat., April 4
‘Read With Me’ event scheduled for 1-4 p.m. at Rose Park in Edgehill

Belmont University’s Ninth Annual Family Literacy Day will take place, rain or shine, on Saturday, April 4 from 1-4 p.m. at Rose Park in the Edgehill community. The event, called “Read With Me,” is aimed at children from pre-K through grade 6 and their families and is designed to celebrate the joys of reading with a free afternoon of interactive story times, crafts and games. The primary focus of the event is Reading Circles, hosted by various campus groups such as the Student Government Association, the Pan-Hellenic and Intra-Fraternity Councils, and Reformed University Fellowship. Each group picks a different theme and offers a variety of books for all ages.

When children visit a circle and listen to or read a book, they receive a sticker. After collecting three stickers, children can visit the games area or crafts area where they can play a reading related game or make a reading related craft such as a book mark or even their own book, or visit the refreshment area for a treat.

After collecting six stickers by visiting six different Reading Circles, children can pick out a book of their choice from hundreds of new children’s books donated by Book’em. In addition, there will be drawings for a variety of door prizes, as well as balloons, face-painting and plenty of fun to go around. The event has been made possible through the support of Belmont University, Dollar General, Metro Parks, BetterWorld Books, Book’em, Books from Birth of Middle TN and Pencil Foundation.

Belmont’s Family Literacy Day is but one of many components of the Belmont Volunteers for Literacy program, which includes ongoing tutoring programs at Carter-Lawrence School, Sevier Park Community Center, and English tutoring with children and adults through the YMCA Hispanic Achievers program. Family Literacy Day is designed to serve as a celebration of the year’s activities, giving the children and student participants of the ongoing programs a chance to have fun and reflect on their accomplishments. It also serves as a way of encouraging additional Belmont students, faculty and staff to get involved in the literacy effort in our community, and it provides a way for Belmont to give back in a small way to the community of which it is a part and from which it receives so much.

For additional information about Belmont’s Family Literacy Day, contact Tim Stewart, Coordinator of Community Service at Belmont University at 615-460-5431 or stewartt@mail.belmont.edu.