

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF BELMONT



SERVICE OF WORSHIP

December 29, 2024 – 8:30 a.m.

The First Sunday after Christmas



.....
*United in the Spirit, First United Methodist Church of Belmont exists
to be more like Jesus Christ for our community and beyond*
.....

THE REVEREND GEORGE RAGSDALE, SENIOR PASTOR

807 South Point Road // Belmont, NC 28012

P: 704-825-2106 // F: 704-825-2176

www.fumcbelmont.org

PRAISE AND PRAYER

*OPENING SONG	<i>"Joy To The World" (Joyful Joyful)</i>	CCLI Song # 7128618
*PRAYER		Margie Ligon
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS		
MOMENTS WITH CHILDREN		Jennifer Martin

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON	Ecclesiastes 1:1-7, 3:1-4	The Rev. Kristen Surratt
SERMON		The Rev. Dr. Larry Kimel
SILENT REFLECTION		

RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

As a forgiven and reconciled child of God, you are invited to give your offerings and gifts to God by placing them in the offering plate when you come forward to receive communion.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

*THE PEACE

THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION

*TAKING THE BREAD AND CUP

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*THE LORD'S PRAYER

*BREAKING THE BREAD (gluten free option available)

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

"Go Tell It" (Gloria)

CCLI Song # 7229082

While shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night
Behold throughout the heavens
There shone a Holy light
Over the hills and everywhere
(Go tell it on the mountain)
The heart of the Father has heard our prayer
(Go tell it on the mountain)
Joy to the world praise to the Lord
The Savior is born
Over the hills and everywhere
Go tell it on the mountain

The shepherds feared and trembled
When lo above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus
That hailed our Savior's birth
Gloria gloria in excelsis Deo
Hallelujah God is with us
Jesus Christ is born
Joy to the world praise to the Lord
The Savior is born
Over the hills and everywhere
Go tell it on the mountain

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

GOING FORTH AS WITNESSES TO THE WORLD

*BENEDICTION

*CLOSING SONG

"Every Step"

CCLI Song # 7199816

**Those who are able please stand*

Welcome to First United Methodist Church of Belmont! We're glad that you've chosen to worship with us this morning. We invite you to explore all the opportunities we have for children, youth and adults of all ages and stages of life. We seek to be a community of faith that welcomes all as we grow to be more like Jesus Christ for our community, loving and serving God and one another in all that we do.

If you are a guest, we are honored to have you with us. Please stop by the information center as you leave this morning to receive a small gift and more information about our church. We look forward to getting to know you in the days to come! Welcome!

Prayer after each worship service is available in the prayer room off of the Narthex. Our Congregational Care Ministers and retired clergy are available to pray with you.

CHURCH GATHERINGS

First Kids and families are invited to Snowless Tubing at Crowder's Chutes on Saturday, January 4 from 6:00-7:00. The link to purchase tickets can be found at www.fumcbelmont.org/kids.

All Youth are invited to the New Year's Hike on January 5 from 1:00 to 2:30 at Rocky Branch Trail. Meet at 103 Sacco Street in Belmont.

January Men's Meetings Friday, January 10 at 6:30 a.m. and Saturday, January 18 at 8:30 a.m. at the Youth House. Start 2025 meeting new people and growing your faith. Attend one or both meetings. Whichever fits your schedule.

Connect begins again on January 12 from 5:30 to 7:30 in Carpenter Hall. Join us for a few rounds of Grog and other fun games!

Square Two January 16. Lunch at the community Cafe at 11:45 a.m. then visit "Bunny Blessings" in Belmont. Bunny Blessings travel to nursing homes to help those who need some love. Contact Pam Stowe for more information: wstowe5612@yahoo.com

Youth are invited on January 19 for a day of service where we will help our fellow church member with her yardwork. We will meet from 2 to 4 pm for a time of service and fellowship. All hands are needed. Contact Quanna today to sign up and for the address.

All eight through twelve graders are invited for a Valentine's inspired Lockout on Friday, February 7 beginning at 5 pm. We will adventure out for the evening and then spend the night in the narthex of the church. Please sign up online or email Quanna at Quanna@fumcbelmont.org.

OPPORTUNITIES TO GIVE AND SERVE

You still have 1 more Sunday to **Share the Warmth** by decorating our tree with hats, gloves and mittens. All donated items will be delivered to S.O.C.K.S Crisis ministry in the Springwood community.

The Dahlia Grove Community Cafe will be closed this week. They will reopen January 9th.

Feeding the Children ministry is actively serving over 240 children in our community. Sign up to serve on December 30th or January 2nd. Visit fumcbelmont.org/feedthechildren to sign up.

Our next **Stock the BCO Sunday** is coming up soon. Please bring your non-perishable food donation to the narthex by January 5th.

Our next Room in the Inn night is January 11th as we partner with Christ UMC in Charlotte. Learn more and sign up to help at fumcbelmont.org/roomintheinn.

Thanks to those who have faithfully provided a dinner for our families at **Catherine's House** throughout the year. Our January schedule is full but we need meals starting in February. To read more about this feeding opportunity or to sign up go to fumcbelmont.org/catherineshouse

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, December 29

8:30 a.m. Worship

9:15 a.m. Fellowship Breakfast

10:00 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Worship

Monday, December 30

Feeding the Children

Tuesday, December 31

Wednesday, January 1

Church Office



Thursday, January 2

Feeding the Children

Friday, January 3

Saturday, January 4

Sunday, January 5

8:30 a.m. Worship

9:15 a.m. Fellowship Breakfast

10:00 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Worship

1:00 p.m. Connect Youth New Years Hike

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Mary, Linda England's sister

Linda England

Danielle Kelly's father

The family of Teresa who passed away (Beverly LaBoone)

Trevis Lunsford's sister, Shirley Hunt

Ronnie and Susan Clements (Barbara Byrum)

Chris, friend of Teri Wilson

Greg Stanforth

Barb Lange and family upon the passing of her brother, Bob Shaffer

Friends, Richard & Judy Treneer (Nicole Stanforth)

Jaxon Forbes

Erin Carver, Renee and Tim Painter's daughter

Murphy Clark and family

*You can submit prayer requests to
prayers@fumcbelmont.org*

A Light to the Nations

Experiencing and Sharing the Light of Christ

Begins January 5

2025 SCRIPTURE FOCUS

But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.



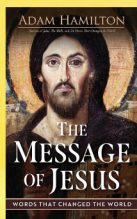
FIRST AND SECOND PETER

Start the New Year with Adult Sunday School

Disciple

Everyone who is aiming to learn more about our faith is welcome in this class. We start with the children's Bible intentionally - to ensure everyone starts with a basic understanding of the scripture.

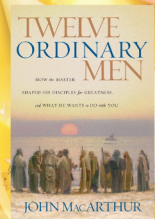
Route 66



New Class! Salt & Light Fellowship

Meeting in the Narthex Meeting room. A place to have real conversations and build relationships. They will begin with a Scripture devotional and then talk about how God is moving in their lives that week.

Wanderers



OUR STAFF

Carole Bertino | Administrative Assistant | carole@fumcbelmont.org
Doreen Collins | Director of Adult Discipleship | doreen@fumcbelmont.org
Heather Gaskins | Director of the Child Development Center | heather@fumcbelmont.org
Margie Ligon | Director of Missions | margie@fumcbelmont.org
Jennifer Martin | Director of Children's Ministry | jennifer@fumcbelmont.org
Quanna McAlister | Director of Youth Ministries | quanna@fumcbelmont.org
George Ragsdale | Senior Pastor | george@fumcbelmont.org
Ellen Robison | Minister of Worship and the Arts | ellen@fumcbelmont.org
Mark Sutton | Business Administrator | mark@fumcbelmont.org