

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF BELMONT



SERVICE OF WORSHIP

August 10, 2025 – 8:30 a.m.
The Ninth Sunday After Pentecost



Zacchaeus in the Sycamore Awaiting the Passage of Jesus by James Tissot, 1886-1896

.....
*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

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#loveyourneighbor

How to Share Your Faith with Others



Good morning and welcome to First United Methodist Church of Belmont! Today we continue our #loveyourneighbor series, considering the power of relationship. In today's Gospel, long before Jesus speaks of repentance or salvation, he sits down at Zacchaeus's table. Before he calls for change, he offers connection. In this time of worship, may we hear Christ's invitation not just to speak the good news, but to live it—by building trust, sharing meals, and making space at the table for transformation. Whose table are you being called to sit at today?

PRAISE AND PRAYER

*OPENING SONG

"Rest On Us"

CCLI Song # 7126736

*PRAYER

The Rev. Kristen Surratt

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOMENTS WITH CHILDREN

Jennifer Martin

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

*GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 19:1-10

Ella Beaty

SERMON

The Rev. George Ragsdale

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

"Pour Me Out"

CCLI Song # 7118246

Make me a vessel of Your peace
Where there is war let fighting cease
All that divides us come reconcile us
Make me a vessel of Your peace
Make me a vessel of Your love
Where there is hatred break it up
All creeds and colors bind us together
Make me a vessel of Your love

Pour me out
Wherever I am wherever I go
Make me a vessel of Your hope
Where dreams are dead come wake them up
A new horizon I feel it rising
Make me a vessel of Your hope
Like a rushing river let mercy flow
Through my heart to my world

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

GOING FORTH AS WITNESSES TO THE WORLD

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

*BENEDICTION

**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!

Today's Bulletin Cover features Zacchaeus in the Sycamore Awaiting the Passage of Jesus by James Tissot, a French painter who, after a successful career in fashionable society portraiture, experienced a religious conversion and devoted the latter part of his life to illustrating biblical scenes with vivid narrative power and archaeological precision. This watercolor, painted in the late 19th century as part of his Life of Christ series, captures the moment of longing and anticipation as Zacchaeus climbs above the crowd to catch a glimpse of Jesus. Tissot's attention to historical detail—drawn from his travels to the Holy Land—lends the scene an earthy realism, while the composition lifts our eyes upward echoing Zacchaeus's desire to see and be seen.

Welcome, Kristen Surratt! We welcome the Reverend Kristen Surratt as our liturgist this morning. Kristen is an ordained Deacon in Full Connection in our Western North Carolina Annual Conference. A former member of our staff, she and her family are very active in the life of our congregation. We welcome her as she leads worship this morning and give thanks for her ministry and friendship.

August 13  **7-10 AM**

The Resurrection Cup coffee truck will be in the FUMC Belmont parking lot on August 13. Buy a treat, watch the South Point Senior Parade, and celebrate the first day of school.



Have you always wanted to learn how to sing?

On Wednesday, August 20 from 7 -8:30 pm.

Professor Craig Allen will be leading a **Vocal Workshop**. A singer, dancer, actor, director, and choreographer, Craig has been described as an exemplary soloist (Kansas City Star) with a brilliant nimble voice (KC Metropolis). He is on the music faculty at Winthrop University in Rock Hill, SC. When he is not teaching, he is an active performer, recently seen in Carmen with Opera Carolina and Next to Normal at Theatre Charlotte. Contact Ellen at ellen@fumcbelmont.org for more information.

GATHERINGS FOR ADULTS

Sunday School

Disciple: Bible Project videos and class questions to start conversations about what we believe as Methodists and how we respond to people who think differently.

Route 66: *"What's God Up To: Bible Stories Through New Eyes."* by A.J. Levine

Salt & Light Fellowship: A place to have real conversations and build relationships.

Wanderers: *"Twelve Extraordinary Women"* by John MacArthur



Reading Women – a book group for women who like to read and discuss a wide variety of topics that make us think and enlarge our world! We begin the year on Monday, September 15 at 7 pm on Zoom with ***Happy Land*** by Dolen Perkins-Valdez. We will then meet on Zoom the second Tuesday of each month in October through May. For more information, contact Ellen at ellen@fumcbelmont.org

OPPORTUNITIES TO GIVE AND SERVE

Nominate Someone for the Congregational Care Ministry. If you know someone who is empathetic, a good listener, and is committed to serving our community, nominate them to be one of our Congregational Care Ministers. Forms are located at the information desk and online at fumcbelmont.org/signup. Find more information on ministry at fumcbelmont.org/care-compassion.

Looking for a place to serve? Come be a part of the UsherTeam that provides welcome for all who enter our doors. What does it involve?

- Welcome and distribute bulletins
- Coordinate offering collection
- Provide assistance/guidance and answer questions
- Commit to at least one month each calendar year

Contact Ellen at ellen@fumcbelmont.org for more information!

Do you enjoy technology? Then you should join our A/V Team who ensures that our audio and visual content runs smoothly at each service. What does it involve?

- Full training on cameras/projectors, soundboard and livestreaming
- Monitoring PowerPoint presentation
- Commit to one Sunday each month

Contact Ellen at ellen@fumcbelmont.org for more information!

Like to engage with people? You would be a perfect fit for our Hospitality Ministry of Greeters and Information Center Hosts. What does it involve?

Greeters offer a friendly face and welcome to those arriving for worship.

- Help guests with questions and directions
- Commit to at least one Sunday a month

Information Center Hosts greet guests at the Information Center for 10 minutes prior to and 10 minutes after the worship service

- Make sure first-time visitors receive a welcome bag
- Help guests with questions and directions
- Commit to at least one Sunday a month

Contact Ellen at ellen@fumcbelmont.org for more information!

GATHERINGS FOR YOUTH

August 24 - 10:00-10:45 Youth Parent Meeting-All parents are invited to gather in Carpenter Hall to meet with our Youth Director, Quanna McAlister. She will share important information about yearly plans, youth & parent expectations, and goals she has in place for our youth.

August 24 - 5:30-7:30 All rising 6th graders and up are invited to our Youth Kickoff Party on August 24 in our church's backyard playground. We will enjoy a GIANT waterslide, games, and a cookout dinner. Note: youth parents need to complete the new Emergency Contact Information form prior to the event. Find the link in Quanna's weekly emails or on our website.

September 7 - 10:00-10:45 Confirmation Parent Meeting-All parents involved in Confirmation are invited to Carpenter Hall.

September 19-21 Youth Fall Retreat at Mt. Shepherd-All rising sixth through twelfth graders are invited to gather with other United Methodist Churches in our district for a fun-filled weekend with lots of recreation, fellowship, worship, and small group sessions. You are welcome to sign up today online. Please sign up and pay today.



GATHERINGS FOR CHILDREN



WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, August 10

	Rally Day
8:30 a.m.	Worship
9:15 a.m.	Fellowship Breakfast
10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
11:00 a.m.	Worship

Monday, August 11

10:00 a.m.	Staff Meeting
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Tuesday, August 12

Wednesday, August 13

7:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
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Thursday, August 14

11:45 a.m.	Community Cafe'
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Friday, August 15

Saturday, August 16

Sunday, August 17

8:30 a.m.	Worship
9:15 a.m.	Fellowship Breakfast
10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
11:00 a.m.	Worship
4:30 p.m.	Holy Helpers Bash

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Brian Holland (Adrian and Trevis Lunsford)

Diane and Paul Kitchens, Dawn Finn's aunt and uncle
Janet Matijkiw (Judy Kelty)

George Bray (Teri and Claude Wilson)

The family of Doretha Cousart, Pastor Reginald

Coffey's grandmother, who passed away

Dawn Siebert & Scott McKenzie, friends of Elizabeth
Boney

The family of Mary Gillespie, Adam Tipton's grand-
mother, who passed away

Family and friends of Colby Smith, who passed away

Annette Biddle, Chip Stansell's mom

Kaleb Singleton (Cindy Griffin)

Alex Underhill, Cindy Griffin's nephew

Katy McCombs, Melinda Gibson's daughter

Ginger Feimster

Murphy Clark and family

For our ZOE communities in Rwanda, especially:

Olive 16, head of household, and siblings

Fanny 13, and Amose 8

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

*Prayers remain on this list for 4 weeks. If your loved
one needs continued prayers, please resubmit a
new request.*

Dahlia Grove



Welcome
Back

Our **COMMUNITY CAFE**
supports women who are in recovery from human
trafficking, addiction and abuse.
Drop in for lunch every Thursday - 11:45am to 1:15pm



SIGN UP TO DONATE BLOOD DRIVE

Sunday, September 14 | 10 - 2

**ALL DONORS WILL RECEIVE A \$20 EGIFT
CARD, FREE T-SHIRT AND WELLNESS CHECK**



Ways to Give at FUMC Belmont

Online – Visit fumcbelmont.org/online-giving to give securely anytime.

By Mail – Send your gift to the church address listed on the front of this bulletin.

In Person – Drop your gift in the secure Drop Box outside the church office, available 7 days a week.

OUR STAFF

Carole Bertino | Administrative Assistant | carole@fumcbelmont.org

Doreen Collins | Director of Adult Discipleship | doreen@fumcbelmont.org

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George Ragsdale | Senior Pastor | george@fumcbelmont.org

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