

FIRST UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH OF BELMONT



SERVICE OF WORSHIP

August 9, 2026 – 8:30 a.m.
The Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost



Joseph Telling His Dreams, by Rembrandt, 1633

.....
***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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www.fumcbelmont.org



Good morning and welcome to First United Methodist Church of Belmont! We're so glad that you are here! Today we continue our journey through the Book of Genesis, the first book of the Bible, with the story of Joseph, a young man blessed with his father's favor, a special coat, and dreams of future greatness. But Joseph treats these gifts as his possessions, stirring the envy and anger of his brothers. His story invites us to trust the slow work of grace as we learn to receive God's gifts with humility and use them faithfully.

PRAISE AND PRAYER

*OPENING SONG

This is Our God

CCLI Song # 7211413

*PRAYER

Doreen Collins

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOMENTS WITH CHILDREN

Jennifer Martin

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28

The Rev. Kristen Surratt

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

Garments

CCLI Song # 7102442

When I saw my ashes
Well, You saw Your dream
When I saw an orphan
You were my family
When I saw my frailty
Well, You saw Your might
When I saw my blindness
For You were the light

Well, I saw the water
But You saw the wine
And I saw dead branches
But You were the vine
And I saw my weakness
But You saw Your blood
And I saw my failure
But You were enough

And You give me garments of praise
Fullness of joy,
Unending mercy
New ev'ry morning
Garments of praise
Fullness of joy
Unending mercy
New ev'ry morning

And I was lost
'til You called me out by name, Father
I was down
'til you picked me up again
I was wrong
'til Your love it made me right
I was dead
'til You sang me back to life

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

GOING FORTH AS WITNESSES TO THE WORLD

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

*BENEDICTION

*CLOSING SONG

Raise a Hallelujah

CCLI Song # 7119315

** Those who are able please stand.*

WELCOME

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. 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!

Weekly Devotional Guides offer daily Scripture readings, reflections, and questions for contemplation and discussion. Each guide follows the theme and content of Sunday's sermon and includes a prayer for the week. Copies of the guides, along with transcripts of today's sermon, are available at the Information Center. You may also sign up to receive the guides by email, along with other church updates, at www.fumcbelmont.org/emails.

Today's Bulletin Cover features *Joseph Telling His Dreams*, painted by the Dutch artist Rembrandt van Rijn in 1633. Created as a study for a larger print that was never completed, the work has the loose, unfinished quality of an idea still taking shape. In the verses just before today's reading, Joseph tells his family of dreams in which they appear to bow before him, dreams he seems to understand as promises of his future power. When his brothers later see him approaching, they sneer, "Here comes this dreamer," and begin plotting against him. Rembrandt captures a tense family encounter and a young life whose meaning has not yet fully come into view.

OPPORTUNITIES TO GIVE AND SERVE

Ways to Give at FUMC Belmont:

Online – visit www.fumcbelmont.org/online-giving.

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

In-person – drop your gift in the offering plate
or the church office drop box.



...serving a vulnerable population
each Tuesday evening in Gastonia.
To volunteer or learn more, go to
fumcbelmont.org/events or
reach out to Michael and Denise
Martin or Quanna today.

Feed the HOUSE



Help the families in residence at
Catherine's House
by dropping off
a simple meal on
Aug. 10th, Sept. 14th, or Sept. 28th

www.fumcbelmont.org/signup

Check out the
August Newsletter for
more ways to give & serve!

GATHERINGS FOR CHILDREN

Blessing of the Backpacks is TODAY during both services. Place your school or work back along the prayer rail before worship.

Bible Sunday, when our new 3rd graders receive their Bibles from the church, is August 16 during both worship services.

Rally Day, the kick-off to our new Sunday School year, is next Sunday, August 16 at 9:30 in Carpenter Hall. Join us as children move up to their new classes and we all celebrate and recommit to a new Sunday School year!



Children's Sabbath is August 23, and *we are looking for First Kids to serve* during both worship services (greeters, ushers, Scripture readers, communion servers, etc.). Please email jennifer@fumcbelmont.org to participate.

GATHERINGS FOR YOUTH

Youth Sunday School– *How do you read the Bible, and why are there so many different versions?* That's what we're discussing for the next few weeks. Get excited about August 16, when we split into two classes. Our high school youth will meet in the Carpenter Hall classroom; middle school youth will meet in the Youth House.

Youth Parent Meeting—All parents of youth are invited to meet with Quanna today in Carpenter Hall at 10:00. She will share important information about yearly plans, youth & parent expectations, and goals she has in place for our youth.



Youth Kickoff Party—All youth are invited tonight from 5:30 to 7:30 for the kickoff celebration for FUMCB youth ministry. We will enjoy a 20-foot Wave Dual Lane Waterslide, a hotdog cookout, and ice cream for dessert. Please complete the Emergency Parent Contact Form prior to the event.

Sunday Night Youth— Our regular Sunday Night Youth will kick back in gear on Sunday, August 16. We meet every Sunday evening from 5:30-7:30 for games, dinner, fellowship, and Bible study. Throughout the fall season, we will engage in a Bible study and small group devotion called, "Made for a Miracle: From Your Ordinary to God's Extraordinary." Youth will talk about God's miracles AND our call to be part of the miraculous work of God's kingdom.

GATHERINGS FOR ADULTS

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Disciple: Will examine the red-letter words of Jesus in the Bible. There will be facilitated questions to start conversations about what we believe as Methodists and how we respond to people who think differently. No topic is off of the table, and each Sunday may look and feel different, that is part of the fun! Meets in room 502, off of the Old Fellowship Hall.

Route 66: Is studying Matt Rawle's book "Jesus Revealed," and discussing the I AM statements in the book of John. Meets in room 304.

Salt & Light Fellowship: Begins with reviewing the Scripture for the week and looks at how God has moved in each person's life, the joys and sorrows. Meets in the Narthex meeting room, in back of the information desk.

Wanderers: Is discussing Douglas Wingeier's book "Troublesome Bible Passages." Come and join in on the interesting conversations around difficult Bible passages, like why do we have to suffer and forgiving those who have hurt us. Meets in room 503, off of the Old Fellowship Hall.

SENIOR CONFERENCE AT LAKE JUNALUSKA

FESTIVAL OF WISDOM AND GRACE

EXPLORE HOW TO FLOURISH AS YOU AGE AND HOW TO NAVIGATE TRANSITIONS, LIVE INTO YOUR TALENTS AND PASSIONS.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER IS JAMES A. HARNISH
WORSHIP LEADER IS BISHOP JANE MIDDLETON

August 17-20, 2026

Go to lakejunaluska.com and upcoming programs or scan QR code



RUTH CIRCLE

Monday, August 21

We'll deliver supper to Catherine's House and then meet up for dinner at Jia's Asian Fusion.

Sign up at fumcbelmont.org/signup or email jennifer@fumcbelmont.org for more info.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, August 9/Blessing of the Backpacks

8:30 a.m. Worship

9:15 a.m. Breakfast

10:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Youth Parents Meeting

11:00 a.m. Worship

5:30 p.m. Youth Kickoff

Monday, August 10

6:30 p.m. Service & Missions Meeting

Tuesday, August 11

12:00 p.m. Congregational Care Min. Meeting

Wednesday, August 12

7 - 10 a.m. Resurrection Cup Coffee Truck

6:00 p.m. Handbell Choir

7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

Thursday, August 13

Friday, August 14

Saturday, August 15

Sunday, August 16/Bible Sunday

8:30 a.m. Worship

9:15 a.m. Breakfast

9:30 a.m. Rally Day!

10:00 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Worship

5:30 p.m. Crossroads Kickoff

5:30 p.m. Youth Group

PRAYER REQUESTS

Patty and Taylor Hayward

Teri and Claude Wilson's friend

Everett Prunty and his family

Darlene Smith's husband, Earl

Nicole Stanforth's grandmother, BB

Ronnie and Judy Fann (Cassie Fann's parents)

Bill Ritz (Patty Hayward's father)

Deborah Brooks

Carla Bradmon (Larry and Angela Bradmon's daughter)

Jeff Farris (Alice Farris' brother-in-law)

Anita Greene's family upon her passing (Pam Stowe's mother)

Jason Austin (Mark and Dottie Moore's son-in-law)

Keith Yarborough (Mark and Dottie's friend)

Lee Allen (Director of S.O.C.K.S. and Preston Taylor's friend)

Alice Farris' sister Janet

Ginger Feimster

Murphy Clark and family

For the Zoe communities in Rwanda, especially

Maritha (20) head of household, and siblings

Jean De Dieu (14) and Vianney (5)

***Submit prayer requests to:
prayers@fumcbelmont.org.***

***Prayers remain on this list for 4 weeks.
For continued prayers, please
resubmit a new request.***

Rally Day!

Join us in Carpenter
Hall on Sunday
August 16 at 9:30 as
we kick off a new
Sunday School year!

CHURCH BOWLING PARTY

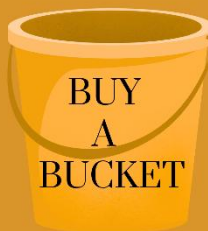
TEXTILE LANES

AUGUST 30 | 4-6:30 PM
ALL AGES INVITED!

Join us for bowling, fellowship, and dinner.
RSVP www.fumcbelmont.org/signup



HELP FLOOD VICTIMS



Consider donating \$75
to help us achieve our
goal to make 72
buckets this year on

MISSIONS NIGHT |
Sept 27th @ 5:30



Donations can be
made by check or
www.fumcbelmont.org/floodbuckets

OUR STAFF

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