

FIRST UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH OF BELMONT



SERVICE OF WORSHIP

August 23, 2026 – 8:30 a.m.
The Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost
Children's Sabbath

For the Lord is GOOD; his mercy is
EVERLASTING; and his TRUTH endureth
TO ALL GENERATIONS.

Psalm 100:5



www.scripturemelodies.com

.....
*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

Today we are participating in the multi-faith observance of Children's Sabbath.

What unites us is our belief that God calls us to protect children, especially the most economically disadvantaged and vulnerable, and the conviction that our faith calls us to live out God's justice and compassion. Jesus said, *"Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs."* Matthew 19:14

PRAISE AND PRAYER

*OPENING SONG

This is the Day

CCLI Song # 7195146

*PRAYER

Rowen Wright

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jennifer Martin

MOMENTS WITH CHILDREN

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Psalms 100

Luke Dayton

SERMON

The Rev. Camille Roddy

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

By Our Love

CCLI Song # 5489329

Brothers let us come together
Walking in the Spirit
There's much to be done
We will come reaching
Out from our comforts
And they will know us by our love

The time is now, Come church arise
Love with His hands
See with His eyes
Bind it around you
Let it never leave you
And they will know us by our love

Sisters we were made for kindness
We can pierce the darkness
As He shines through us
We will come reaching
With a song of healing
And they will know us by our love

Children you are hope for justice
Stand firm in the Truth now
Set your hearts above
You will be reaching
Long after we're gone
And they will know you by your love

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

GOING FORTH AS WITNESSES TO THE WORLD

*BENEDICTION

*CLOSING SONG

God of Justice

CCLI Song # 4447128

** Those who are able please stand.*

Serving in worship today:

Greeter: Jones Smith

Usher: Elias Williams

Opening Prayer: Rowen Wright

Acolyte: Emma Latchana

Scripture Reader: Luke Dayton

Communion Servers:

Shepherd Dayton (with dad, Ryan) and

Adalyn Latchana (with mom, Jessica)

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!

Today we welcome Rev. Camille Roddy a Deacon in the Western North Carolina Conference. She serves as the Coordinator of the WNCC Congregations 4 Children and Duke Summer Literacy Program. We are grateful for her ministry and for her time with us today.

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.

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.



Potluck Dinner & MISSIONS NIGHT

September 27 | 5:30–7:30



ALL AGES
ARE NEEDED
TO
ASSEMBLE

- *Dinner at 5:30 and stay to serve
- *Help make 400 sandwiches for the day center at Roof Above
- *72 flood buckets
- *Write cards of thanks to those in the military

Sign up to bring a dish @ fumcbelmont.org/events or find Quanna to sign up in person



RICE N BEANS
 FEEDING THE BODY, RESTORING THE SOUL
 RICE N BEANS.ORG

...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.

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




GATHERINGS FOR CHILDREN

First Kids and their families are invited to sign up for a time slot on *September 20* for our **Fishes and Loaves Family Service Project**. We will be preparing freezer meals for families hosting foster children. Details and signup at www.fumcbelmont.org/kids.

Crossroads (4th-5th graders) will meet on *September 13* from 5:30-7:30 for recreation, supper, and more faith conversations.

We have fantastic **Sunday School** classes available for all First Kids. Birth–2-year-olds meet in room 405, Preschool (3-4 year olds) meet in room 400, Kindergarten and 1st grade meet in room 401, 2nd and 3rd grade meet in room 408, and 4th and 5th grade meet in room 139. Email jennifer@fumcbelmont.org for more information.

Alleluia Choir
 Practice Wednesdays @ 5:30
 4 years old - 5th grade
 Email ellen@fumcbelmont.org to join

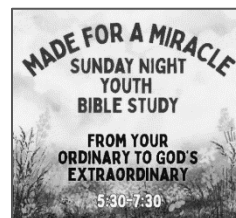


GATHERINGS FOR YOUTH

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. Our high school youth will meet in the Carpenter Hall classroom; middle school youth will meet in the Youth House. All youth are welcome.

Sunday Night Youth– Our Sunday Night Youth meets tonight from 5:30-7:30. Each Sunday we gather 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. All 6th graders and up are invited to come!

MADE FOR A MIRACLE
 SUNDAY NIGHT
 YOUTH
 BIBLE STUDY
 FROM YOUR
 ORDINARY TO GOD'S
 EXTRAORDINARY
 5:30-7:30



GATHERINGS FOR ADULTS

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Marriage Class (taking the place of Disciple): Utilizing the book, "The Seven Principles for Making Marriage Work." Drawing on decades of research, internationally known psychologist John Gottman offers practical tools to help couples deepen friendship, manage conflict, and build a stronger, more lasting marriage. Meets in room 503, off of the Old Fellowship Hall.

Route 66: On September 6th, will begin a new study *Perfectly Flawed: How God Transforms Our Weakness into Strengths* by Lisa Toney, focusing on the apostle Peter's passions and imperfections and how this flawed disciple lives out his calling to lead people to Christ. 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.

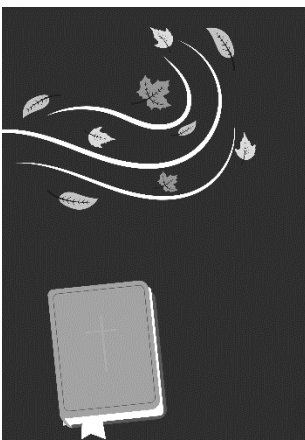
Wanderers: are currently studying the book *Yes, Lord, I Have Sinned; but I Have Several Excellent Excuses*, by James Moore. It challenges readers to recognize when we make excuses and to grow beyond them. Meets in room 502, off of the Old Fellowship Hall.



RUTH CIRCLE
Monday, August 24
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.



SQUARE TWO
All ladies are invited
September 10 - 7 pm
At FUMCB
Make this fun
cork pumpkin
For more info
Contact Pam Stowe 704-678-4685
Bring a
hot glue gun!



Fall Men's Meetings
Friday September 4
and October 2
6:30 am - Youth House
CONTACT TONY WILSON
FOR MORE INFORMATION:
KINGSMNTONY@YAHOO.COM



WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, August 23/Children's Sabbath

8:30 a.m. Worship

9:15 a.m. Breakfast

10:00 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Worship

5:30 p.m. Youth Group

Monday, August 24

6:00 p.m. Ruth Circle @ Jia's Asian Fusion

6:30 p.m. Justice & Equity Ministry Meeting

Tuesday, August 25

Wednesday, August 26

5:30 p.m. Alleluia Choir

Thursday, August 27

Friday, August 28

Saturday, August 29

Sunday, August 30

8:30 a.m. Worship

9:15 a.m. Breakfast

10:00 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Worship

4:00 p.m. Churchwide Bowling

PRAYER REQUESTS

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

Jack Acheson (Chris' brother)

Mary Rutledge's mother, Alberta

Jim Griffin

Jimmy Turner's family upon his passing (Cindy Griffin's brother)

Alex Underhill (Cindy and Jim's nephew)

Betty Kupneski (Matt Gillespie's grandmother)

Amanda Owens and her family: Derek, Bentley, Haley, and Hunter

Sarah DesJardins (Teri and Claude Wilson's friend)

Teri and Claude Wilson's friend, R

Ginger Feimster

Murphy Clark and family

For the Zoe communities in Rwanda, especially Vincent (20) head of household, and siblings Solange (14), and Kevin (3)

Submit prayer requests to:

prayers@fumcbelmont.org

Prayers remain on this list for 4 weeks.

For continued prayers, please submit a new request.

REJOICE IN THE LORD, ALWAYS

THE LETTER TO THE

Philippians

New Series Begins September 13

AGAIN I WILL SAY, REJOICE



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

OUR STAFF

Doreen Collins | Director of Adult Discipleship | doreen@fumcbelmont.org
Jennifer Martin | Director of Children's Ministry | jennifer@fumcbelmont.org
Quanna McAlister | Director of Youth Ministry | quanna@fumcbelmont.org
Boyce O'Tuel | Director of the Child Development Center | boyce@fumcbelmont.org
Marsha Patton | Interim Administrative Assistant | marsha@fumcbelmont.org
George Ragsdale | Senior Pastor | george@fumcbelmont.org
Ellen Robison | Minister of Worship and the Arts | ellen@fumcbelmont.org
Vanessa Shrauder | Interim Business Administrator | vanessa@fumcbelmont.org