

FIRST UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH OF BELMONT



SERVICE OF WORSHIP

October 11, 2026 – 8:30 a.m.
The Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost



The Wedding Dance, by Pieter Bruegel the Elder (1566)

.....
***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***

REJOICE IN THE LORD, ALWAYS

THE LETTER TO THE
Philippians

AGAIN I WILL SAY, REJOICE

Welcome to First United Methodist Church of Belmont! We're so glad you're here today! As we gather for worship, many of us come with a deep awareness of life's problems: things that are wrong, uncertain, or unfinished. They can crowd our attention until we lose sight of the grace and goodness already surrounding us. Today, as we conclude our journey through Philippians, we hear Paul's invitation to rejoice, to pray, and to set our minds on whatever is true and worthy of praise. What might change if we received joy not as an escape from life, but as God's gift in the midst of it?

PRAISE AND PRAYER

MUSIC

Alleluia, Allelu
Alleluia Choir

Susan Naylor Calloway

*OPENING SONG

This is the Day

CCLI Song # 7195146

*PRAYER

Quanna McAlister

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOMENTS WITH CHILDREN

Jennifer Martin

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Philippians 4:1-9

Abbey Smith

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

I've Got Joy

CCLI Song # 7196687

I've got joy in the struggle
I've got peace in the storm
I've got strength in the battle
I don't fear anymore

I'm a child of heaven and my hope is secure
I've got joy, 'cause I've got Jesus

He gave me beauty for ashes
Turned my life around
He broke my chains
And now I dance on solid ground
For all He's done to save me,
I will raise my voice
I've got Jesus, so, I've got joy

He bore all of my burdens
Yeah, my debt has been paid
Then He said to my dry bones
Rise up out of that grave

He has all of my worship, all the honor and praise
I've got joy, 'cause I've got Jesus

Joy like a river running through my soul
Joy all around me everywhere I go
Even in the desert still it overflows
Joy never-ending, 'cause He called my name
Every breath I breathe
A testament of amazing grace
Oh, hallelujah, everything has changed

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

GOING FORTH AS WITNESSES TO THE WORLD

*BENEDICTION

*CLOSING SONG

Rejoice

CCLI Song # 7232227

** 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 Pieter Bruegel the Elder's *The Wedding Dance* (1566), a lively scene of villagers dancing, stomping, and celebrating beneath the trees. Throughout Scripture, the joy of a wedding feast becomes a picture of God's kingdom: Jesus begins his ministry by turning water into wine at Cana, and his coming kingdom is described as a great feast where all are invited. Bruegel was among the first great painters to make ordinary peasants the subject of serious art. His early biographer claimed that Bruegel disguised himself to attend country weddings so he could observe them firsthand. The result is a painting full of ordinary people caught up in extraordinary joy, a glimpse of the feast for which we were made.

OPPORTUNITIES TO GIVE AND SERVE

Ways to Give at FUMC Belmont:

Online – visit 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.

Please donate candy and/or small toys to be used as prizes for the youth-led games at our Community Fall Festival on October 25. There is a bin in the narthex for donations.

Wanted: open-hearted, dedicated new folks to help our missions team as we plan our auction on 2/28

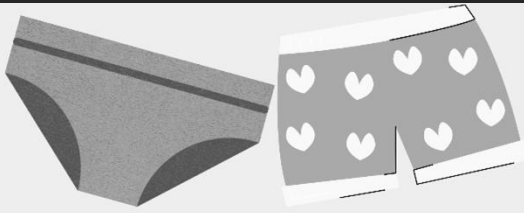
Contact Quanna or Kristen Surratt for more information

zoeempowers

Reading the Children

DROP YOUR DRAWERS

October 4- November 1



Underwear drive for Rice and Beans

We are collecting new briefs for Rice and Beans Ministry. The need is for sizes 5, 6, or 7 women's briefs and all sizes of sports/wireless bras. Men prefer M, L, or XL boxer briefs.

GATHERINGS FOR CHILDREN

Crossroads, 4th and 5th graders, will meet **TODAY** from 5:30-7:30. We will play games, eat supper, and learn our next practice to be like Jesus. Join us!

Alleluia Choir rehearsal is Wednesday from 5:30-6:00.

Pick out your costume and plan to join us on October 25 for our **Community Fall Festival** at Reid Park from 4:00-6:30.

GATHERINGS FOR YOUTH

Youth-ful Event is **TONIGHT!** – All youth are invited from 5:30-7:30 for a special Sunday Night Youth with our Primetimers. Get excited about games, fellowship, and dinner.

Youth Sunday School –

Today: We will share God's peace by writing letters to our homebound members. Please join us!

Beginning next week, join us to discuss Faithful Civic Engagement and what God calls us to do and be in our communities.



Youth
Winter Retreat
at Lake Junaluska
February 12-14
#Nofilter

Worship Leadership
Pickleball Tourney
Bible study Fellowship

Winter Retreat – Youth are invited to go on our annual retreat at Lake Junaluska on February 12-14. Our guest speaker that weekend is Michael Beck, pastor, professor, author, and thought leader. He leads three churches in Florida and is known to cultivate communities of love and grace. Sign Up online or through Quanna's weekly emails.

GATHERINGS FOR ADULTS

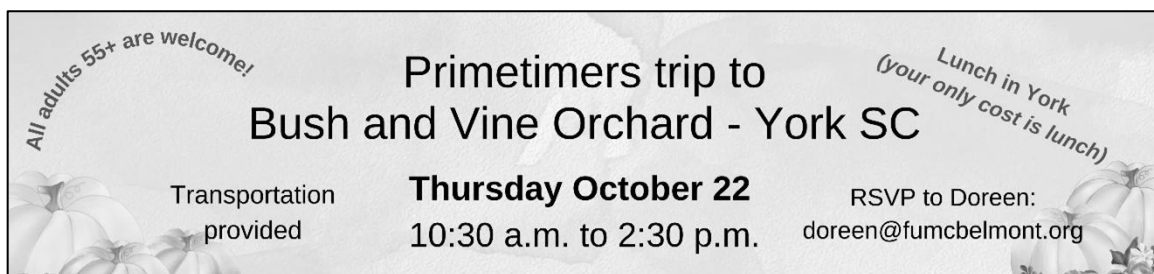
SUNDAY SCHOOL OPTIONS

Marriage Class: 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: Is studying *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: Beginning October 18th, they will begin a study based on the book *Jesus Revealed* by the Rev. Matt Rawle. Discover Jesus' character through the "I Am" statements in John's gospel. Meets in room 502, off of the Old Fellowship Hall.



All adults 55+ are welcome!

**Primetimers trip to
Bush and Vine Orchard - York SC**

Thursday October 22
10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Transportation
provided

Lunch in York
(your only cost is lunch)

RSVP to Doreen:
doreen@fumcbelmont.org



Men's Meetings
November 6th and December 4th

6:30 a.m. - Youth House

**All men are welcome. Come for a light
breakfast, short study, and fellowship.**

Led by Ryan Dayton and Tony Wilson.
Contact Tony for more information:
kingsmntntony@yahoo.com

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, October 11

8:30 a.m. Worship
9:15 a.m. Breakfast
10:00 a.m. Pastries with the Pastor
10:00 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship
3:30 p.m. CDC Board Meeting
5:30 p.m. Crossroads
5:30 p.m. Youth-ful Night

Monday, October 12

6:00 p.m. Safe Sanctuary Team Meeting
6:30 p.m. Small Group: Marriage Class
6:30 p.m. Service & Missions Meeting

Tuesday, October 13

6:30 p.m. Small Group: Disciple

Wednesday, October 14

5:30 p.m. Alleluia Choir
6:00 p.m. Handbell Choir
6:30 p.m. Small Group: Beloved Community
6:30 p.m. Small Group: Men's Engage
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

Thursday, October 15

11:00 a.m. Small Group: The Shape of Living

Friday, October 16

Saturday, October 17

Sunday, October 18

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

PRAYER REQUESTS

David Lange

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

Mary Deal's family upon her passing (Linda England's sister)

Owen McConnell's family upon his passing (Jamie Washam's brother-in-law)

Mark Moore's 84-year-old cousin

Ginger Feimster

Murphy Clark and family

For the Zoe communities in Rwanda, especially Gaspard (19) head of household, and siblings Emmanuel (12) and Vedaste (10)

Submit prayer requests to:

prayers@fumcbelmont.org

Prayers remain on this list for 4 weeks.

For continued prayers, please submit a new request.

Feed the HOUSE



**Help the families in residence at
Catherine's House
by dropping off a simple meal
on**

Oct. 26, Nov. 9, Nov. 23

www.fumcbelmont.org/signup



PASTRIES WITH THE PASTOR

Newcomers & Guests! Join Pastor George and members of our staff and congregation for casual conversation and fellowship! All are welcome!

TODAY | 10:00 AM | CARPENTER HALL



Minute to Win it games

Youth-Ful Night

TONIGHT!

5:30 - 7:30

Carpenter Hall

All Primetimers (55+) and Youth are invited to Youth Group

Bingo and Dinner!

B I N G O		
6	26	36
2	23	39
12	25	



We need your help for our Community

FALL FESTIVAL

On **October 25** we will partner with Hood Memorial AME Zion Church to provide a Fall Festival in Reid Park.

Sign up today to host a trunk, serve food, welcome visitors and more!

OUR STAFF

Doreen Collins | Director of Adult Discipleship | doreen@fumcbelmont.org
 Rebekah Huffstetler | Business Administrator | rebekah@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 | Administrative Assistant | marsha@fumcbelmont.org
 George Ragsdale | Senior Pastor | george@fumcbelmont.org
 Ellen Robison | Minister of Worship and the Arts | ellen@fumcbelmont.org