

FIRST UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH OF BELMONT



SERVICE OF WORSHIP

February 1, 2026 – 10:00 a.m.  
ONLINE



*The Paralytic of Capernaum is Lowered from the Roof, 6th century Mosaic*

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***United in the Spirit, First United Methodist Church of Belmont exists  
to be more like Jesus Christ for our community and beyond***  
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**THE REVEREND GEORGE RAGSDALE, SENIOR PASTOR**  
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**[www.fumcbelmont.org](http://www.fumcbelmont.org)**



Rediscovering the thoughtful, loving,  
healing way of Jesus.

*Welcome to worship at First United Methodist Church! Today we gather virtually due to inclement weather. However, we are united together wherever we are in the power of the Holy Spirit. This morning, we continue our Restoring Faith series, considering why many have turned their backs on faith—and asking whether the problem is not faith itself, but the way it has been practiced. By God's grace, can we reimagine faith and offer something hopeful and healing to others? Too often, faith has been portrayed as a tool for gaining strength and power; yet the prophets of Israel and the life of Jesus call us to a faith shaped by humility, mercy, and shared life together.*

## PRAISE AND PRAYER

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*"Verset in C"*

Leon Boellmann

OPENING PRAYER

Jennifer Martin

ANTHEM

*"Offertory"*

John Ness Beck

With what shall I come before the Lord,  
and bow myself before God on high?  
Shall I come before Him with burnt offerings,  
Shall I come before Him with yearling calves?  
Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams,  
with ten thousand rivers of oil?  
Shall I give Him my firstborn for my transgressions,  
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?

He has shown you, O man;  
He has shown you what is good.  
And what does the Lord require of you  
but to do justly and to love kindness,  
and to walk humbly with your God?

MOMENTS WITH CHILDREN

## PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Micah 6:1-8

Quanna McAlister

\*GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 2:1-12

SERMON

The Rev. George Ragsdale

SILENT REFLECTION

## RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

OFFERING

### ***Ways to Give at FUMC Belmont***

Online – Visit [www.fumcbelmont.org/online-giving](http://www.fumcbelmont.org/online-giving) to give securely anytime.

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

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

## GOING FORTH AS WITNESSES TO THE WORLD

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*"Verset in Am"*

Leon Boellmann

**Today's Bulletin Cover** features a 6th-century mosaic from the Church of Sant'Apollinare Nuovo in Ravenna, Italy depicting *The Paralytic of Capharnaum Lowered from the Roof*. Created from thousands of shimmering pieces of glass, stone, marble and gold leaf. These mosaics functioned as visual theology, teaching the Gospel in light and form to the early church. The careful composition draws attention to Christ while highlighting the coordinated action of the friends, reminding us that healing in the Christian tradition is communal, patient, and rooted in humble trust.

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## OPPORTUNITIES TO GIVE AND SERVE

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Are you available to help those in our community who may need a ride to a doctor's appointment or pick up groceries? There are those who cannot drive any more or after treatment at the doctor's office. If this is a ministry you are interested in, please contact Doreen Collins for more information:  
[doreen@fumcbelmont.org](mailto:doreen@fumcbelmont.org)

Please save **empty paper towel tubes and brown packing paper** that comes in Amazon boxes for our children's ministry.

The Youth will lead our entire congregation in a three-week **clothing drive** in support of Holbrook Middle School, home of the Lions! We are looking for these gently used or new items:

- \* Neutral hoodies (no team brands)
- \* Boys' sweatpants and jeans
- \* Any gently used shirts/pants that you no longer wear
- \* Girls' leggings and jeans
- \* Long-sleeved T-shirts

Please begin bringing them to church and place them in the box in the narthex. Contact Ann Marie Rogers or Quanna for more information.

Attention all! The **annual pine needle sale** is March 6 and 7. Please support the youth of our church by purchasing your high-quality needles today. Order by February 27 to guarantee your quantity and delivery. Pay online with Vanco, by check, or cash. Please find Quanna or Jon Boney if you have any questions. We are also looking for volunteers to help us on the weekend of the sale. Please consider donating your time by driving or delivering. We need all available hands! Go online Go online to [www.fumcbelmont.org/signup](http://www.fumcbelmont.org/signup) and find a time that fits your schedule.

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## GATHERINGS FOR CHILDREN

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Our **Starry Night** kids' night of fun (and parent's date night) is Friday, February 6, from 5:30-8:00. Don't miss this fun opportunity for kids to stargaze, make crafts, eat supper, and learn about God's love! Sign up at [www.fumcbelmont.org/kids](http://www.fumcbelmont.org/kids).

First Kids small groups, **40 Day Challenge**, begin on Wednesday, February 25 from 6:30-7:30. All ages are invited to join us for this fantastic Lent study. Register today at [www.fumcbelmont.org/signup](http://www.fumcbelmont.org/signup).

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## GATHERINGS FOR YOUTH

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**February 8 - Youth Sunday** – Youth will lead both services on this Sunday. Please join us as the youth lead and celebrate the light of Christ. Our youth group will collect noisy change and dollars that fold in support of our Weekend Backpack Program.



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## GATHERINGS FOR ADULTS

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### Sunday School

**Disciple:** The Disciple class uses the Bible and The Bible Project videos as well as class questions to start conversations about what we believe as Methodists.

**Route 66 :** Will study how the book "Knowing Who We Are" by Lacey C. Warner. This study invites y you to a richer understanding of Wesleyan Christianity so you can have a clear sense of I identity with the United Methodist Church.

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

**Wanderers:** Study: "The Heart of the Psalms" by Rev. James C. Howell. Examine six psalms and why they connect with us so deeply and give us words to pray when words are hard to find.





Music from  
Phantom of the Opera  
Wicked  
Little Mermaid and more!

## "Hearts in Harmony"

Dinner and Entertainment  
(Alleluia Choir, Chancel Choir  
Handbell Choir, Solos, Duets)

**All You Need is Love**  
(and a free dinner)!

Fun for the Whole Family!

Sign up to let us know you're coming!  
[www.fumcbelmont.org/signup](http://www.fumcbelmont.org/signup)



## Civil Rights Learning Experience

February 28th  
9am-4pm

\$65 per person

- Round-trip bus transportation
- Guided museum tour
- Lunch with facilitated reflection



Sign up by February 11<sup>th</sup>  
[www.fumcbelmont.org/civilrights](http://www.fumcbelmont.org/civilrights)

Contact Doreen with  
any questions.

## WEEKLY CALENDAR

## PRAYER REQUESTS

Sunday, February 1

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. Lay Leadership Retreat  
5:30 p.m. Connect  
5:30 p.m. Crossroads

Monday, February 2

1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting  
6:30 p.m. Service and Missions  
Committee

Tuesday, February 3

Wednesday, February 4

5:30 p.m. Alleluia Choir  
6:00 p.m. Handbell Choir  
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

Thursday, February 5

11:45 a.m. Community Café  
11:45 a.m. Square Two Luncheon

Friday, February 6

5:30 p.m. Kids' Starry Night

Saturday, February 7

Sunday, February 8

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

Rhonda Czerniawsky, Quanna McAlister's mom.  
Alex Underhill (Cindy Griffin's nephew)  
Catherine and Chad Mashburn upon the birth of  
their son, Benjamin Ryker  
Chris Ward (Cindy Jenkins' brother)  
Connie Atkin's family upon the passing of her  
brother Richard Rhyne  
Brigid McCarthy (Dawn Finn's sister)  
John Kelly (Shawn Kelly's father)  
Patty and Taylor Hayward  
Harold Byrum  
Peg Pinkerton  
Christi McKenzie (Doreen Collins friend)  
Jim Booker (Dottie Moore's brother)  
Keith Moore and family upon the passing of his  
mother, Joann  
Julie Shinsel (Teri Wilson's friend)  
Ginger Feimster  
Murphy Clark and family  
For our Zoe communities in Rwanda, especially:  
Francois 19 head of household, and siblings  
Clarisse 15 and Emmanuel 6

***You can submit prayer requests to***  
[prayers@fumcbelmont.org](mailto:prayers@fumcbelmont.org)

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

A photograph of several green palm fronds, some pointing towards the top left and others towards the top right, framing the text.

# Transfiguration Sunday

RETURN YOUR PALM BRANCHES  
ON FEBRUARY 15 at 8:30 or 11:00

A photograph of a cross shape made of dark ash on a light-colored surface.

## ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP

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FEBRUARY 18  
11:00AM AND 6:30PM

### OUR STAFF

Doreen Eager | Director of Adult Discipleship | [doreen@fumcbelmont.org](mailto:doreen@fumcbelmont.org)  
Jennifer Martin | Director of Children's Ministry | [jennifer@fumcbelmont.org](mailto:jennifer@fumcbelmont.org)  
Quanna McAlister | Director of Youth Ministry | [quanna@fumcbelmont.org](mailto:quanna@fumcbelmont.org)  
Boyce O'Tuel | Director of the Child Development Center | [boyce@fumcbelmont.org](mailto:boyce@fumcbelmont.org)  
George Ragsdale | Senior Pastor | [george@fumcbelmont.org](mailto:george@fumcbelmont.org)  
Ellen Robison | Minister of Worship and the Arts | [ellen@fumcbelmont.org](mailto:ellen@fumcbelmont.org)  
Vanessa Shrauder | Administrative Assistant | [vanessa@fumcbelmont.org](mailto:vanessa@fumcbelmont.org)  
Mark Sutton | Business Administrator | [mark@fumcbelmont.org](mailto:mark@fumcbelmont.org)