

# FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF BELMONT



## SERVICE OF WORSHIP

July 13, 2025 – 8:30 a.m.

The Fifth Sunday After Pentecost



*The Good Shepherd, fresco painting, c. 250 CE*

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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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*Good morning and welcome to First United Methodist Church of Belmont! This summer, we're exploring the Book of Psalms, the "Prayerbook of the Bible," giving voice to every human emotion and experience and offering it to God. Today we turn to the familiar and comforting words of Psalm 23, reminding us of God's unwavering presence in every season of life. In the deepest valley, the Psalmist proclaims, God walks beside us to sustain us with gentle care. But the Psalm promises God's goodness does even more! It does not wait passively for us but actively seeks us out, even in the darkest of places. We worship today remembering that we are never alone. The presence and love of the Good Shepherd surround us wherever we go.*

## **PRAISE AND PRAYER**

\*OPENING SONG *"Raise a Hallelujah"* CCLI Song # 7119315

\*PRAYER Doreen Collins

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOMENTS WITH CHILDREN Jennifer Martin

## **PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD**

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Psalm 23

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

*"Honey in the Rock"*

CCLI Song # 7191257

There's honey in the rock Water in the stone  
Manna on the ground No matter where I go  
I don't need to worry Now that I know  
Everything I need You've got There's honey in the rock  
Praying for a miracle Thirsty for the Living Well  
Only You can satisfy Sweetness at the mercy seat  
Now I've tasted it's not hard to see Only You can satisfy  
Freedom where the Spirit is Bounty in the wilderness  
You will always satisfy  
I keep looking I keep finding  
You keep giving Keep providing  
I have all that I need You are all that I need  
I keep praying You keep moving  
I keep praising You keep proving  
I have all that I need You are all that I need  
Purpose in Your plan Power in the blood  
Healing in Your hands Started flowing when You said it is done  
Jesus who You are is enough  
There's honey in the rock  
Oh how sweet How sweet it is to trust in You Jesus

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

# GOING FORTH AS WITNESSES TO THE WORLD

COMMISSIONING OF 2025 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL TEAM

\*BENEDICTION

\*CLOSING SONG

*"The Goodness of God"*

CCLI Song # 7117726

*\*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 a 3rd-century fresco from the Catacombs of Priscilla in Rome, an underground burial place where early Christians expressed their faith and hope. This ancient image, painted on the ceiling of a family tomb room (cubiculum), depicts a shepherd in a white tunic with purple stripes—ordinary clothing marked by royal color, symbolizing both humanity and divine authority. The shepherd carries a rescued sheep and extends an open, welcoming hand, while nearby sheep and doves with olive branches evoke peace and community. Echoing Psalm 23, this scene suggests a guiding presence who seeks, carries, and sustains us even in life's darkest valleys.

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## GATHERINGS FOR ADULTS

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### 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:** *"God is Closer than You Think"* by John Ortberg.

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

**Wanderers:** *"Christianity and World Religions"* by Adam Hamilton. Starts today.

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## GATHERINGS FOR CHILDREN

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**Summer Bible Bingo** packets are ready for pick up on the children's shelf in the Narthex. Kids are encouraged to use the Bingo cards to spend time in the Bible every day over the summer. Bring your card back each week to earn a prize.

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## GATHERINGS FOR YOUTH

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**August 24 - 10:00-10:45** - All youth 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 and 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 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 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 by Friday, August 1st.

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### WEEKLY CALENDAR

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Sunday, July 13  
8:30 a.m. Worship  
9:15 a.m. Fellowship Breakfast  
10:00 a.m. Sunday School  
11:00 a.m. Worship  
5:30 p.m. VBS  
Monday, July 14  
10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting  
5:30 p.m. VBS  
6:30 p.m. Service & Missions Mtg  
Tuesday, July 15  
1:00 p.m. Small Group on the Psalms  
5:30 p.m. VBS  
Wednesday, July 16  
5:30 p.m. VBS  
Thursday, July 17  
5:30 p.m. VBS  
Deadline for Newsletter Articles  
Friday, July 18  
Saturday, July 19  
Sunday, July 20  
8:30 a.m. Worship  
9:15 a.m. Fellowship Breakfast  
10:00 a.m. Sunday School  
11:00 a.m. Worship

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### REMEMBER IN PRAYER

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Alex Underhill, Cindy Griffin's nephew  
Katy McCombs, Melinda Gibson's daughter  
The family of Erin Carver, Tim and Renee Painter's daughter, who passed away  
Ginger Feimster  
Angela Bradmon's friend, Linda Spencer  
Tina Price and the Price Family  
The Cox Family  
Susan Burnette  
Jacob Scoggins, Mary Rutledge's nephew  
The family of Beverly Karr, who passed away  
Judy Harris  
The family of Bill Fogerty, Lisa Millspaw's father who has passed away  
Murphy Clark and family

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

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



# THERE IS STILL TIME TO HELP!

- VBS set up in the Sanctuary on TODAY at noon
- VBS clean up on Thursday, July 17 at 7:30 pm

**EMAIL [JENNIFER@FUMCBELMONT.ORG](mailto:JENNIFER@FUMCBELMONT.ORG)**



## LOST & FOUND

If you've misplaced an item, please check our lost and found at the information desk in the narthex. Items will be donated on July 14 if not claimed.



Sign up to drop off sandwiches in increments of 20 servings to help meet our quota of 400. Use the QR code or go to [www.fumcbelmont.org/signup](http://www.fumcbelmont.org/signup)

## SANDWICH DROP July 21st | 5-7pm

Prepare sandwiches at home  
& drop them off in  
Carpenter Hall for  
A Roof Above



## OUR STAFF

Carole Bertino | Administrative Assistant | [carole@fumcbelmont.org](mailto:carole@fumcbelmont.org)  
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