

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF BELMONT



SERVICE OF WORSHIP

July 20, 2025 – 8:30 a.m.

The Sixth Sunday After Pentecost



Salvation Mountain by Leonard Knight, 1984-2011

.....
*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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Good morning and welcome to First United Methodist Church of Belmont! Today we conclude our summer journey through the Book of Psalms by turning to Psalm 121, the ultimate "Traveler's Psalm." In ancient Israel, pilgrims would sing this psalm as they made their way up to Jerusalem, facing steep hills and uncertain dangers along the road. It was a song of deep trust, affirming that true help comes not from the hills but from the Lord who made heaven and earth. As we worship today, we gather to lift our eyes, renew our trust, and find strength in the God who guards our going out and our coming in — now and always.

PRAISE AND PRAYER

MUSIC

"Deep River"
Luke Dayton, piano

Spiritual

*OPENING SONG

"Waymaker"

CCLI Song # 7115744

*PRAYER

The Rev. Kristen Surratt

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOMENTS WITH CHILDREN

Jennifer Martin

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Psalm 121

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

"He Will Keep You"

CCLI Song # 7190364

I lift my eyes and see

He will sustain you through this journey

I need not be afraid

From now and evermore

All my help comes from the Lord

The Lord will never sleep

Who the earth and sky has made

My steps He has ordained

He will keep you from all evils

For the One Who holds the night

Behind you and before

Is the Sovereign of my days

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

GOING FORTH AS WITNESSES TO THE WORLD

*BENEDICTION

*CLOSING SONG

"Won't Stop Now"

CCLI Song # 7111932

**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 *Salvation Mountain* by Leonard Knight. This vibrant, hand-painted hillside in the California desert was created by Leonard Knight over several decades as a joyful, lifelong expression of God's love. Covered in bright colors and simple messages like "God is Love," it invites all who see it to consider the journey of faith as one marked by trust, devotion, and wonder. Much like the psalmist lifting eyes to the hills, Knight's mountain points beyond itself — to a God who keeps watch over us and calls us ever onward. Recognized as a National Folk Art Site, *Salvation Mountain* stands as a testament to the power of persistent faith and creative witness in the most unexpected places.

GATHERINGS FOR ADULTS

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.

GATHERINGS FOR CHILDREN

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.

GATHERINGS FOR YOUTH

Youth Parent Meeting - August 24 - 10:00-10:45 All 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.

Confirmation Parent Meeting - September 7 - 10:00-10:45 All parents involved in Confirmation are invited to Carpenter Hall.

Youth Fall Retreat at Mt. Shepherd - September 19-21 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. Please sign up online and pay by Friday, August 1st.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

- 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
- Monday, July 21
 - 10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
- Tuesday, July 22
 - 1:00 p.m. Small Group on the Psalms
- Wednesday, July 23
- Thursday, July 24
- Friday, July 25
- Saturday, July 26
- Sunday, July 27
 - 8:30 a.m. Worship
 - 9:15 a.m. Fellowship Breakfast
 - 10:00 a.m. Sunday School
 - 11:00 a.m. Worship

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

- The family of Mary Gillespie, Adam Tipton's grandmother, who passed away
- Family and friends of Colby Smith, who passed away
- Annette Biddle, Chip Stansell's mom
- Kaleb Singleton, Cindy Griffin
- 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
- Murphy Clark and family
- For our ZOE communities in Rwanda, especially:
 - Mutesi, 16, head of household, and siblings
 - Josiane, 17 and Claudine, 9

You can submit prayer requests to
prayers@fumcbelmont.org

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



SANDWICH DROP TOMORROW| 5-7pm

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

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



OUR STAFF

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