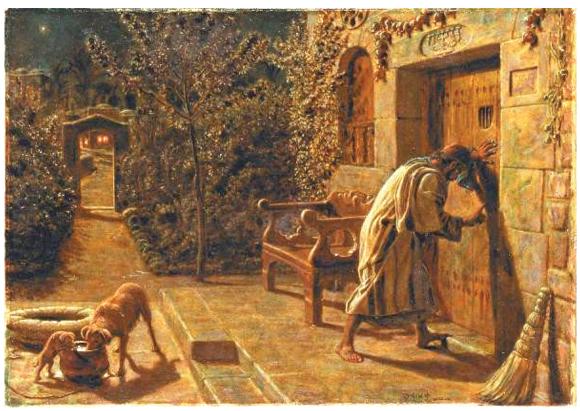


July 27, 2025 – 11:00 a.m. The Seventh Sunday After Pentecost



The Importunate Neighbor by William Holman Hunt (1827-1910)

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

Welcome to First United Methodist Church! We're so glad you are here! As we gather in the presence of God, may the Holy Spirit open our hearts and minds in this time of worship to hear and receive all that God needs and wants to say to us today. We are pleased to welcome the Reverend Josh Beaty as our guest preacher. Josh is an ordained Elder in the United Methodist Church and an active participant in the life of First UMC, along with his family. We are grateful for his presence and leadership in worship today.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAISE AND PRAYER

PRELUDE "Andante Amabile" Alexander Hyinsky

*CALL TO WORSHIP Jennifer Martin

Joy comes to those who hope in God.

For the Lord is a keeper of promises.

Our God is a God of healing and help!

The Lord will reign forever,

Our God will keep faith with all generations

Let us praise the Lord both now and forevermore!

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN NO. 140

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, hear our prayer: For the mending of our hearts, torn apart by our unkindness; For the healing of our souls, wasting away from the despair around us; For the forgiveness we seek for the sin we have allowed to persist; For the reconciliation of the world, whose division condemns us; We pray for the courage to admit our fault, the strength to amend our actions, and the hope that your grace awaits us. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

*WORDS OF ASSURANCE

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God. Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI No. 70

MOMENTS WITH CHILDREN

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

*GOSPEL LESSON Luke 11:1-13 The Rev. Mark Andrews

SERMON The Rev. Josh Beaty

SILENT REFLECTION

RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH No. 881

The Apostles' Creed

INVITATION TO PRAYER

"O Lord, Hear My Prayer"

Taize

Oh Lord, hear my prayer, Oh Lord, hear my prayer.
When I call, answer me.
Oh Lord, hear my prayer, Oh Lord, hear my prayer.
Come and listen to me.

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

After each petition we enter into the prayer together with these words: Lord, in your mercy. **hear our prayer.**

GIVING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory "Joy in the Morning"

Natalie Sleeth

There'll be joy in the morning on that day, for the daylight will dawn when the darkness is gone, there'll be joy in the morning on that day.

There'll be peace and contentment evermore, ev'ry heart, ev'ry voice on that day will rejoice, there'll be peace and contentment evermore.

There'll be love and forgiveness ev'rywhere, and the way of the Lord will that day be restored, there'll be love and forgiveness ev'rywhere.

THANKSGIVING

*ACT OF PRAISE

"Doxology"

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God above ye heavenly hosts! Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Alleluia, Alleluia! Alleluia!

GOING FORTH AS WITNESSES TO THE WORLD

*BENEDICTION

*RECESSIONAL HYMN NO. 178 "Hope of the World"

*POSTLUDE "Ceremonial Rondeau" Henry Purcell

*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 William Holman Hunt (1827 –1910) who was an English painter and one of the founders of the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood. His paintings were notable for their great attention to detail, vivid color, and elaborate symbolism. The painting on the cover of the bulletin is "The Importunate Neighbor", depicting the beginning of the parable found in Luke 11. The interaction between the figures suggests themes of intrusion and social boundaries. This painting serves as a mirror to Victorian society, where propriety and social etiquette were paramount. The tension depicted invites viewers to ponder the unspoken rules governing neighborly interactions and Jesus' call for bold, persistent prayer.

GATHERINGS FOR ADULTS

Sunday School

Disciple: Bible Project videos and class questions to start converstions 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 Religious" 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 -

August 24 - 10:00-10:45 Youth Parent Meeting 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 & 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 on August 24 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 7 - 10:00-10:45 Confirmation Parent Meeting All parents involved in Confirmation are invited to Carpenter Hall.

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.



OPPORTUNITIES TO GIVE AND SERVE





- WEEKLY CALENDAR

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

Monday, July 28

10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting

Tuesday, July 29

1:00 p.m. Small Group on the Psalms

Wednesday, July 30

Thursday, July 31

Friday, August 1

6:30 a.m. Men's Meeting

Saturday, August 2

Sunday, August 3

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

Dawn Siebert & Scott McKenzie, friends of Elizabeth Boney

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

Murphy Clark and family

For our ZOE communities in Rwanda, especially: Jeannette 20, head of household, and siblings Claude 17. Flia 14. and Samuel 1

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.

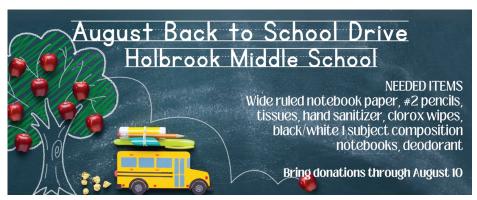




TOP 20 REOUESTS

Rice Jelly Crackers Mac & Pop tarts Cheese Grits Pasta Pasta Sauce Oatmeal Dried Beans Peanut Corn Muffin Butter Instant Mix Potatoes Cookies Soup Canned: Meat, Fruit Tomatoes, Vegetables and Pasta





OUR STAFF

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