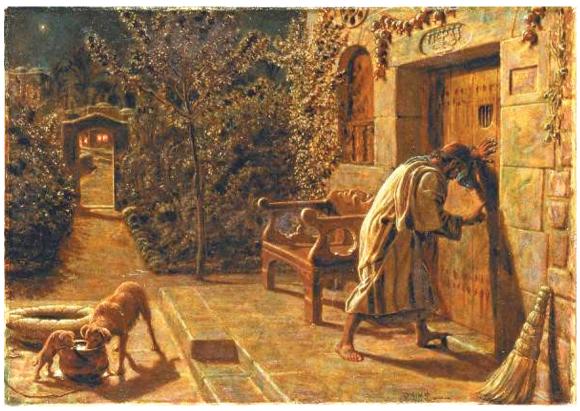


July 27, 2025 – 8:30 a.m. The Seventh Sunday After Pentecost



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.

#### PRAISE AND PRAYER

\*OPENING SONG "Promises" CCLI Song # 7149439

\*PRAYER Jennifer Martin

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOMENTS WITH CHILDREN

## PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

\*GOSPEL LESSON Luke 11:1-13 Katie Fangman

SERMON The Rev. Josh Beaty

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

"Generous Giver"

Arms open wide upon a cross
You don't withhold your love from us
You love no matter what the cost
Jesus we see you
You are the generous giver
Your mercy overflows
Your blessing is a river
On and on and on it goes
You are an endless fountain
You're filling up my life
My heart must sing your praises
Jesus you be glorified.
On and on, on and on

All of the worlds your hands have made
A billion lights stretched out in space
These are just echoes of your grace
Jesus we see you
Jesus you meet us in our pain
With love that never turns away
Your mercies are new every day
Jesus we see you
You're so much better,
You're so much kinder
Than anything we think You are
You love is deeper, Your love is higher
Open our eyes to see you God

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

#### GOING FORTH AS WITNESSES TO THE WORLD

\*BENEDICTION

\*CLOSING SONG "Sing Wherever I Go" CCLI Song # 7138601

\*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.







Collecting
non-perishable
food to
help those
without
adequate food
resources

August 3rd

# TOP 20 REQUESTS

Rice Crackers Jelly Mac & Cheese Pop tarts Grits Pasta Oatmeal Pasta Sauce Dried Beans Peanut Corn Muffin Butter Mix Instant Cookies Potatoes Soup

Canned: Meat, Fruit Tomatoes, Vegetables and Pasta



### - 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, Elia 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.





## **OUR STAFF**

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