

# FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF BELMONT



## SERVICE OF WORSHIP

June 22, 2025 – 8:30 a.m.

The Second Sunday After Pentecost



*Praise the Lord with Gladness by Larry Poncho Brown, 2006*

.....  
***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](http://www.fumcbelmont.org)**



*Good morning, and welcome to First United Methodist Church of Belmont! This morning we begin our summer worship series, journeying through the Psalms. The Psalms provide us with a kind of "spiritual playlist" for every season of life. They give voice to our praise and our pain, our questions and our trust, offering language for the full range of human experience. Today we turn to Psalm 100, a psalm of thanksgiving that calls us back to our true purpose: we were created to worship God. The Psalmist reminds us that joy is not found at the end of the journey, but in belonging to the God who made us all along the way. As we enter this time of worship, take a moment to ask yourself: What joy is God inviting me to remember today? Wherever you are on the road, may you find yourself at home here in God's presence as we worship!*

## PRAISE AND PRAYER

|                           |                                 |                     |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| *OPENING SONG             | <i>"A Thousand Hallelujahs"</i> | CCLI Song # 7190270 |
| *PRAYER                   |                                 | Quanna McAlister    |
| WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS |                                 |                     |
| MOMENTS WITH CHILDREN     |                                 | Jennifer Martin     |

## PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

|                      |           |                          |
|----------------------|-----------|--------------------------|
| OLD TESTAMENT LESSON | Psalm 100 | Cheryl Sutton            |
| 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

*"Psalm 100" (Enter In)*

CCLI Song # 7099052

Shout joyfully to the Lord all the earth  
Come worshiping before the throne of God  
For the Lord He is good  
And His Love endures (forever)  
So we enter in into His gates  
Bringing words of praise  
And off'rings of thanksgiving  
So we enter in to bless His name  
Lifting holy hands in honor of our King  
So heavenly to walk into Your courts  
Jesus is the One that we adore

Your majesty we bow before You Lord  
Omnipotent amazing  
Our God will reign forever  
Magnificent breathtaking  
(Our God will reign forever)  
So we enter in into His gates  
Bringing words of praise  
And off'rings of thanksgiving  
So we enter in to bless His name  
Lifting holy hands in honor of our King

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

## GOING FORTH AS WITNESSES TO THE WORLD

\*BENEDICTION

\*CLOSING SONG

*"Every Step"*

*\*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 *Praise the Lord with Gladness* by Larry Poncho Brown, originally commissioned by Epworth United Methodist Chapel in Baltimore to mark their 50th anniversary. Inspired by Psalm 100, the piece invites us into joyful worship and thanksgiving. With its rhythm, movement, and vibrant unity, Poncho's art blends realism and mysticism to reflect themes of family, spirituality, and belonging—echoing the psalm's call to come before God with singing and gladness. A native of Baltimore, Larry Poncho Brown is a nationally recognized artist whose work has appeared in galleries, magazines, television, and film. Known for his dynamic style and commitment to uplifting African American culture, Poncho's art celebrates unity, soul, and the sacred beauty of everyday life. You can learn more at [www.larryponchobrown.net](http://www.larryponchobrown.net).

**Prayer after each worship service is available** in the prayer room off of the Narthex. Our Congregational Care Ministers and retired clergy are available to pray with you.

**Welcome, New Members!** This morning we are blessed to welcome new members into our church family. Joining today by Transfer of Membership from Risen Christ Lutheran Church in Plymouth, Michigan are Joe and Sue Hotz. If you would like more information about joining our church family, please call or email Pastor George (704-249-0645 or [george@fumcbelmont.org](mailto:george@fumcbelmont.org)) or speak with him after the service today.

**Congratulations, Kristen Surratt!** We join in celebrating the Reverend Kristen Surratt who was ordained a Deacon in Full Connection last night at the Western North Carolina Annual Conference in Lake Junaluska, North Carolina. Kristen is a former member of our staff and she and her family are very active in the life of our congregation. Congratulations, Kristen! We give thanks for you and your friendship and ministry among us!



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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. Starts today.

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

**Wanderers:** *"Christianity and World Religions"* by Adam Hamilton. Starts June 29.

**Summer Study on the Psalms** Learn how to relate to God through your doubt, fears and anger. Coincides with George's sermon series. Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m., Now through July 29 (no class the week of July 1st).

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## GATHERINGS FOR YOUTH

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**July 1 - Summer Night Youth Hangout** - All youth are invited to a night of fellowship and fun at the Youth House. This event is for rising 7th through 12th graders. We will enjoy pizza, ice cream, Gaga Pit, and board games. Let's spend time together.

**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. Recreation will include the zip line, ropes course, climbing tower, and much more. You are welcome to sign up today online. *Please sign up and pay by Friday, August 1st.*

**FUMC's Confirmation Class** is beginning in the fall! All rising seventh, eighth, and ninth grade youth are invited to join the 2025-2026 class. We will begin with an opening retreat at the church on the weekend of October 24th and 25th. Youth in Confirmation will meet during Sunday School twice a month with their teachers, Leigh Nance, Michael Nance, and Kristie Marr. Confirmation Sunday is Sunday, May 17. If you would like to hear more information about our Confirmation process, please email Quanna at [Quanna@fumcbelmont.org](mailto:Quanna@fumcbelmont.org) or George at [George@fumcbelmont.org](mailto:George@fumcbelmont.org).

Email Quanna at [quanna@fumcbelmont.org](mailto:quanna@fumcbelmont.org) for more details or to sign up for our youth events.

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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.

**Vacation Bible School is July 13-17**, and we invite all 4-year-olds through completed 5th grade to join us for our *True North* adventure! VBS is 5:30-8:00 and includes supper each night. Visit [www.fumcbelmont.org/vbs](http://www.fumcbelmont.org/vbs) for more details and to register.

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## OPPORTUNITIES TO GIVE AND SERVE

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# BCO



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

July 6<sup>th</sup>

### TOP 20 REQUESTS

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

# SOUP FOR THE SOUL



Know a neighbor who is sick or in need of comfort? Take them a quart of Chicken Noodle Soup made by our Soup for the Soul cooking team. The soup is in our freezer ready to bring comfort to someone in need of care.

To learn more contact Debbie Thames at [dhthames@gmail.com](mailto:dhthames@gmail.com)

## WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, June 22

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

Monday, June 23

10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting  
6:30 p.m. Service and Missions Team Mtg

Tuesday, June 24

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

Wednesday, June 25

Thursday, June 26

Friday, June 27

Saturday, June 28

Sunday, June 29

8:30 a.m. Worship  
9:15 a.m. Fellowship Breakfast  
10:00 a.m. Sunday School  
11:00 a.m. Worship  
12:00 p.m. Board of Trustees Mtg  
3:00 p.m. Racial Healing Movie Event

## REMEMBER IN PRAYER

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

Anne Hinkle's sister, Paula

Ginger Feimster

Erin Carver, Renee and Tim Painter's daughter

Frances Wilson, Denise Andrews' mother

John and Susan, Jim Griffin's brother and sister in-law

Nicole Stanforth's family after the passing of her  
grandmother, Sue Ananda

Jennifer Stiver, Elizabeth Boney's friend

Anne Haxton, Dottie Moore's mother

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.*

**WE**

**NEED**

**YOUR**

**HELP**

# THURSDAY, JUNE 26

We need a team to meet at Queen of Apostles Church at 7:00 pm  
to load and deliver VBS decorations to Carpenter Hall.

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

**FUMC Belmont**  
**Sunday, June 29<sup>th</sup>**  
**3-5pm**

VOTED IN.  
TERRORIZED OUT.

**AMERICAN COUP**  
**WILMINGTON 1898**

Join us  
for film viewing  
& discussion.  
Refreshments &  
childcare provided.

Discover the  
little-known story  
of a deadly insurrection  
to overthrow the multiracial  
government of Wilmington, NC in 1898

**Weekly**  
**Sunday Sermon**  
**Devotional**  
**Guide**

Sign up to receive by email:  
[www.fumcbelmont.org/weeklydevotion](http://www.fumcbelmont.org/weeklydevotion)

## OUR STAFF

Carole Bertino | Administrative Assistant | [carole@fumcbelmont.org](mailto:carole@fumcbelmont.org)  
Doreen Collins | Director of Adult Discipleship | [doreen@fumcbelmont.org](mailto:doreen@fumcbelmont.org)  
Heather Gaskins | Director of the Child Development Center | [heather@fumcbelmont.org](mailto:heather@fumcbelmont.org)  
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