

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF BELMONT



SERVICE OF WORSHIP

May 25, 2025 – 11:00 a.m.

The Sixth Sunday of Easter



Making All Things New by James B. Janknegt, 2005

.....
*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 morning we continue our series exploring the Book of Revelation, turning to one of its most incredible, hopeful promises in Chapter 21: God is making all things new! It does not happen all at once, but continually, faithfully, and relentlessly God is working. In a world of sorrow and uncertainty, God dwells with us, wipes away tears, and can be trusted. What if the promise of new creation could shape how we live with hope and courage today?

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAISE AND PRAYER

PRELUDE

"Nocturne"

John Field

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Doreen Collins

In a world of endings and uncertainty, we look for what is trustworthy and true.

God is making all things new!

When sorrow lingers and hope feels far off—

God is still with us.

The One who began a good work is not yet finished.

We worship the faithful God who brings life out of death, and hope from despair.

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN NO. 89

"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of grace and new creation, we confess that we grow weary in the waiting.

We look around and see what is broken, and forget your promise to redeem. We give more weight to the voices of fear than to your trustworthy Word. Forgive us. Open our eyes to the work you are doing even now, and help us to live as people of resurrection hope. In the name of Christ, who is alive, 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

Jennifer Martin

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Revelation 21:1-6

Marsha Harris

SERMON

The Rev. George Ragsdale

SILENT REFLECTION

RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH No. 880

The Nicene Creed

INVITATION TO PRAYER

***Lord, hear us when we pray;
in every troubled day we seek your face.
Your name be glorified, your greatness magnified;
matchless your works abide, O Lord our God!***

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

"The Holy City"

Stephen Adams

Sally Bashant, Catherine Ragsdale, duet

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! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

*THE LORD'S PRAYER (Hymnal No. 895)

GOING FORTH AS WITNESSES TO THE WORLD

*BENEDICTION

*RECESSIONAL HYMN NO. *"God of Futures Yet Unfolding"*

**God of futures yet unfolding, Ever making all things new:
Grant us pathways in our wand'ring, Light when darkness dims our view.
Open doors when dread defeats us. Set discourage captives free.
God of futures yet unfolding, Help our blinded eyes to see.
God of futures yet unfolding, Help our blinded eyes to see.**

**God of ev'ry fresh creation, Tend us with a gard'ner's hand.
On Your people pour Your Spirit, Water on a thirsty land:
Till we spring like grassy meadows, Poplar trees by flowing streams.
God of ev'ry fresh creation, Reawaken Eden's dreams.
God of ev'ry fresh creation, Reawaken Eden's dreams.**

**God of resurrection splendor, Burn away the haze of fear.
Clean our hearts to face tomorrow Bright with hope's unfolding cheer.
Through the future's vast unfolding, In each new creation's breath,
God of resurrection splendor, Shine in triumph over death!
God of resurrection splendor, Shine in triumph over death!**

*POSTLUDE

"Battle Hymn of the Republic"

arr. Various

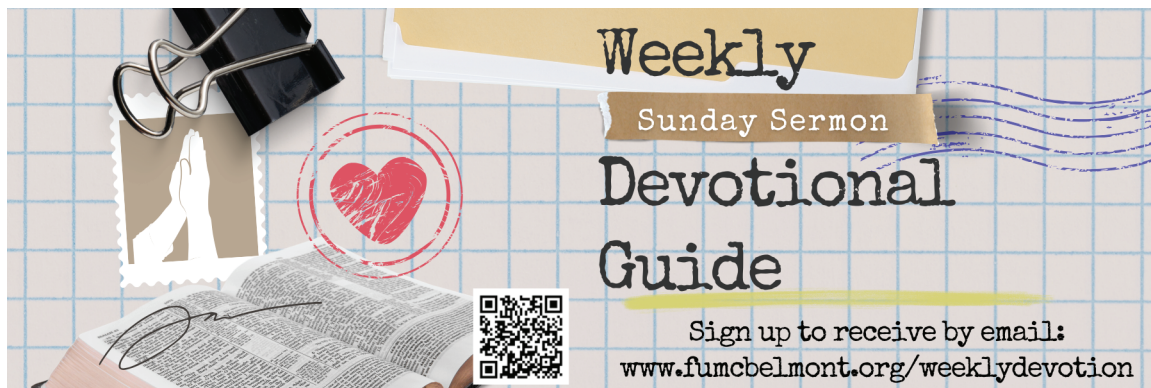
**Those who are able please stand.*

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 James B. Janknegt's vibrant painting *Making All Things New*, inspired by Revelation 21:1–6. In this artwork, the risen Christ stands triumphantly over the pit of death, under the blessing hand of God, sweeping up the things of earth into a whirlpool of color. Birds, balls, and bicycles; musical instruments and charcoal grills; plants and houses, pets and people—all are on their way to the New Jerusalem. This visual echoes the promise in Revelation: "Behold, I am making all things new." It is not a distant hope, but an active, ongoing transformation. Even now, God is at work renewing creation. God's presence is trustworthy and true. To learn more, visit www.bcartfarm.com.

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.



CHURCH 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: Studying "*Simon Peter*" by Adam Hamilton.

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

Wanderers: Studying "*The Lord's Prayer*" by Adam Hamilton.

Summer Study on the Psalms How to relate to God through your doubt, fears and anger. Coincides with George's Sermon series. Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m., June 17 through July 29 (no class the week of July 1st). Possible evening study if enough interest. Sign up at: fumcbelmont.org/signup

CHURCH GATHERINGS FOR YOUTH

Summer Youth Meet Ups:

June 12 - All youth are invited to a fun afternoon kayaking or paddleboarding at the Whitewater Center. This trip is for rising 7th through 12th graders. We will leave church at noon and return by 4:30. Sign up and pay by June 5.

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.

Email Quanna at quanna@fumcbelmont.org for more details or to sign up for our summer events.

CHURCH 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.

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 for more details and to register.

OPPORTUNITIES TO GIVE AND SERVE

We are making SOUP on May 27th at 2pm. If you would like to help our **Soup for the Soul** cooking team, reach out to Debbie Thames or go to fumcbelmont.org/signup



A banner for a BBQ Buffet event. It features two images of BBQ sandwiches on the left and right. The text in the center reads: "BBQ Buffet", "Join us for our last Community Cafe for the season. The women at Dahlia Grove will be preparing a buffet and serving you lunch as a way to thank you for your support of them." On the bottom left, a yellow box says "May 29 11:30-1:15". On the bottom right, a yellow oval contains the "Dahlia Grove" logo.

Our next **Stock the BCO Sunday** is June 8th. Please drop off your non perishable food donations in the narthex for our missions team to deliver them to the BCO.

Twice a month we are committed to feeding the families in residence at **Catherine's House**. We need meals dropped off on June 9th and June 23rd so the mothers are relieved from cooking and can eat before attending a required weekly training. If you can prepare a simple meal or donate a gift card to a restaurant please visit our sign up page, fumcbelmont.org/signup.



Father's Day June 15th

Honor that special man or person in your life with a donation to support our global missionaries. Michelle Kunce is serving in Brazil in a ministry providing safe afterschool care for children. Eric Kalumba is a church planter in Madagascar.

Forms are in the narthex, or use the QR code provided.



WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, May 25

8:30 a.m. Worship
9:15 a.m. Fellowship Breakfast
10:00 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship
4:00 p.m. The Walking Club

Monday, May 26

Memorial Day
Church Office Closed

Tuesday, May 27

2:00 p.m. Soup for the Soul

Wednesday, May 28

7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, May 29

11:45 a.m. Community Cafe'

Friday, May 30

Saturday, May 31

Sunday, June 1

8:30 a.m. Worship
9:15 a.m. Fellowship Breakfast
10:00 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship
2:00 p.m. Churchwide Picnic

**Don't Miss
the Picnic
IN THE PARK**

RSVP:

fumcbelmont.org/signup

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

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

Rita Wilson's brother

Jamie Washam

Judy Harris

Brayden (Becky Fortenberry's grandson)

Teresa (Dottie Moore's friend)

Ginger Feimster

The families of 4 co-workers that lost their lives
and three others who are currently in the
hospital (Jordan Miller)

Luna and Mike McCormick upon the death of
Luna's daughter (Matthew Henry)

Gage Brown (Leigh Nance)

Marshall Stowe (Sally Bashant & Wes Stowe's
brother)

Erin Carver, Renee and Tim Painter's daughter

Murphy Clark and family

*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.*



LET'S PICNIC TOGETHER!

SUNDAY, JUNE 1ST FROM 2-6 PM

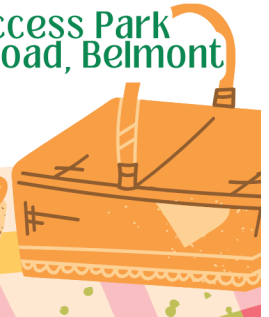
Get to know your church family from different worship services.

RSVP: [FUMCBELMONT.ORG/SIGNUP](https://fumbelmont.org/signup)

Join us for games, playground, boat rides, swimming and more!
Kids are encouraged to bring sand toys. (Please note, there are no lifeguards.)

The church will provide sub sandwiches. Bring a side, drinks, or dessert to share.

South Point Access Park
175 Boat Launch Road, Belmont



My EAGLE eye spots
amazing VBS volunteers

Email lbrookins18@gmail.com today to volunteer.

OUR STAFF

Carole Bertino | Administrative Assistant | carole@fumbelmont.org

Doreen Collins | Director of Adult Discipleship | doreen@fumbelmont.org

Heather Gaskins | Director of the Child Development Center | heather@fumbelmont.org

Jennifer Martin | Director of Children's Ministry | jennifer@fumbelmont.org

Quanna McAlister | Director of Youth Ministries | quanna@fumbelmont.org

George Ragsdale | Senior Pastor | george@fumbelmont.org

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