

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF BELMONT



SERVICE OF WORSHIP

November 10, 2024 – 11:00 a.m.

The Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost



Loaves and Fishes Mosaic, Church of the Multiplication, Tabgha, Israel

.....
***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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The Book of Revelation tells us that heaven will be filled with the unceasing song of "Alleluia!", an eternal celebration of praise around the throne of God. What might it look like to be able to sing alleluia all day long, every day of your life? What if life itself was meant to be one long alleluia? An "alleluia" filled life of uncommon gratitude recognizes and even expects God to be at work in every circumstance of life, filling our hearts with gratitude and mouths with songs of praise.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAISE AND PRAYER

PRELUDE

"Azmon"

arr. Charles Callahan

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless God's holy name!

Alleluia! With hearts full of praise, we bless the Lord who works in every circumstance of our lives.

God forgives all our iniquities and heals all our diseases.

Alleluia! God is our healer, bringing restoration and new life.

God redeems our lives from the pit and crowns us with steadfast love and mercy.

Alleluia! With grateful hearts, we see God's love in every moment.

From everlasting to everlasting, the Lord's work is in all things.

Alleluia! With all creation, we sing praises to God's holy name!

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN NO. 57

"O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Heavenly Father, You have called us to a great hope and purpose. You have invited us to cling to You in every season. However, we allow distractions to drag us away from Your presence. Instead of turning to You, we indulge our worries, frustrations, and disappointments. Forgive us when we seek shelter in our own comfort and control. Teach us again to trust You, O God, our protector. Bring us out of our distress, O God, our deliverer. Grant us the grace to build our lives in gratitude on the firm foundation of our Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ. 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

PSALTER NO. 824

Psalms 103:1-18

Liz Gray

*GOSPEL LESSON

John 6:1-14

This is the Word of God for the People of God. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

The Rev. George Ragsdale

SILENT REFLECTION

RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH No. 881

The Apostles' Creed

INVITATION TO PRAYER

**"Alleluia, Alleluia!
give thanks to the Risen Lord.
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Give praise to his name. (repeat)**

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

"He Never Failed Me Yet"

Robert Ray

I will sing of God's mercy
Every day, every hour
He gives me power.
I will sing and give thanks to Thee
For all the dangers, toils and snares
That He has brought me out.
He is my God and I'll serve Him
No matter what the test
Trust and never doubt
Jesus will surely bring you out
He never failed me yet
I know God is able to deliver
In times of storm

And I know that He'll keep you safe
From all earthly harm.
One day when my weary soul is at rest
I'm going home to be forever blessed
He gives me power.
Didn't my God deliver
Moses from King Pharaoh?
And didn't He cool the fiery furnace
For Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego?
When I think of what my God can do
He delivered Daniel
I know He will deliver you.

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. 60

"I'll Praise My Maker While I've Breath"

*POSTLUDE

"Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!"

arr. Arthur H. Messiter

**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 the *Loaves and Fishes* mosaic in Tabgha, Israel. Located in the Church of the Multiplication, it is a key example of early Byzantine Christian art, capturing the story from today's Gospel Lesson with striking simplicity and symbolism. Crafted in the 5th century, the mosaic uses earthy tones and minimalistic forms to depict two fish flanking a basket with four loaves, inviting contemplation of Jesus's miracle in feeding the multitude. The absence of a fifth loaf, a detail thought to signify the Eucharistic bread at the altar above, reflects the mosaic's spiritual depth and connection to the worshipping community's celebration of Holy Communion. Restored in the 1980s, the original mosaic measured 5,300 square feet. It was first discovered in the nineteenth century.

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

Ruth Circle's Truth Be Told Art Party is TODAY! Sunday, Nov. 10 from 2-4:30 pm in Carpenter Hall.



**Meet
in the
Middle**

Please sign up to help serve
or clean up at
fumcbelmont.org/meetmiddle

Midweek Fellowship Meals
Wednesday - 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

**Nov. 13: Chicken alfredo, green salad,
zucchini and squash, chicken nuggets
and dessert.**

Meals cost FUMC \$10 per adult, \$5 for children. We ask those who join us to contribute what they can.

Dahlia Grove Community Cafe' Every Thursday from 11:45 to 1:15pm. Dining at the cafe provides financial support and training for women recovering from human trafficking, domestic violence and drug addiction.

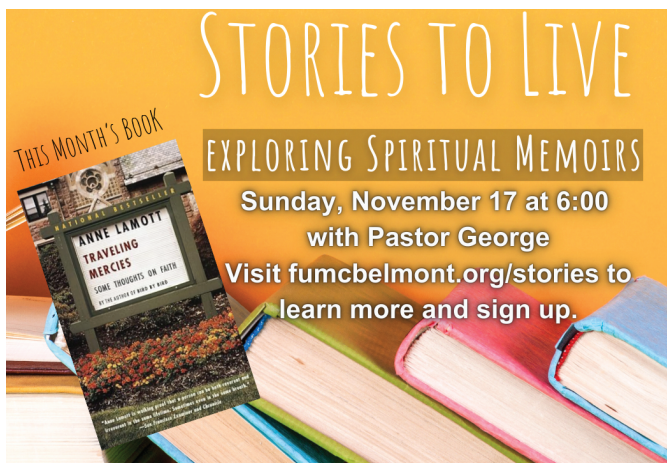


**Square 2
Get-together**

Mission for the month of November is sending our college students a little treat. Bring a Chick Fil-A or Starbucks \$10 gift card.

Thursday | November 14th | 11:45 am
Meet in Carpenter Hall for lunch at the Community Cafe. Support the Dahlia Grove Ministry.

Contact Pam Stowe for questions:
wstowe5612@yahoo.com



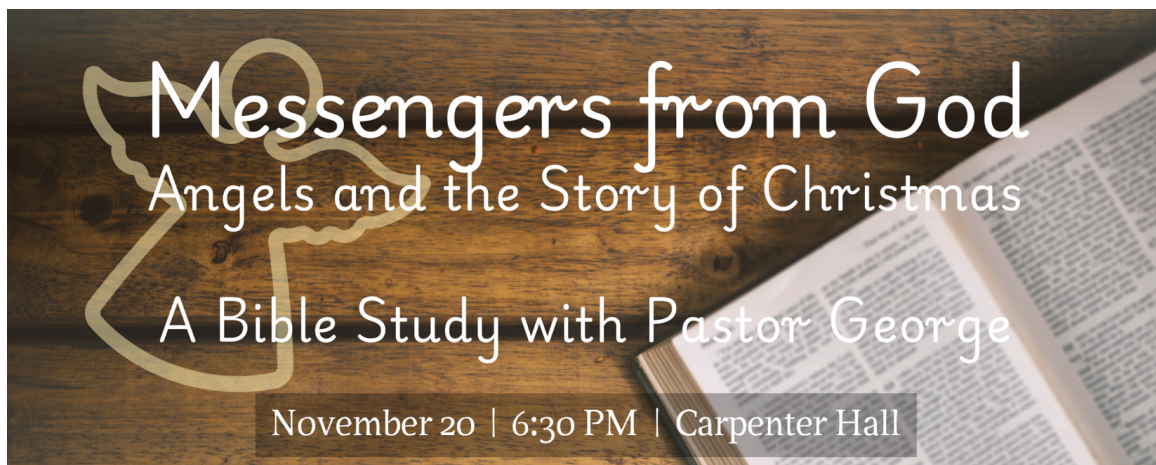
STORIES TO LIVE

EXPLORING SPIRITUAL MEMOIRS

Sunday, November 17 at 6:00
with Pastor George

Visit fumcbelmont.org/stories to learn more and sign up.

Your help is needed to make our Christmas dinner special. If you are able to help serve or clean up on December 15th from 5-7:30 p.m. please contact Doreen doreen@fumcbelmont.com



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 in our freezer is ready to bring comfort to someone in need of care. To learn more, contact Debbie Thames dhthames@gmail.com

YOUTH

Engage Sunday School Studying *Half Truths* by Adam Hamilton
Join us in the Youth House.

Sunday Night Game Night during Connect (tonight). 5:30-7:30 p.m.





BEDTIME BUNDLES

First Kids are collecting cozy pajamas, warm socks and new Bibles for Least of These Carolinas to support children in foster care.



Bring donations to the Advent Workshop on Nov 24.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, November 10

- 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. Ruth Circle Painting Party
- 5:30 p.m. Connect

Monday, November 11

- 10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 6:30 p.m. Service & Missions Mtg.

Tuesday, November 12

- 12:00 p.m. Congregational Care Minister Mtg.
- 7:00 p.m. Finance Meeting

Wednesday, November 13

- 5:15 p.m. Holy Eucharist in the Narthex Prayer Room
- 5:30 p.m. Meet in the Middle

- 5:30 p.m. Alleluia Choir
- 6:00 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal
- 6:30 p.m. Missions Night
- 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, November 14

- 11:00 a.m. Children's Ministry Meet Up
- 11:45 a.m. Community Cafe'
- 12:00 p.m. Square Two Gathering

Friday, November 15

Saturday, November 16

Sunday, November 17

- 8:30 a.m. Worship
- 9:15 a.m. Fellowship Breakfast
- 10:00 a.m. Sunday School
- 11:00 a.m. Worship
- 5:30 p.m. Connect
- 5:30 p.m. Crossroads
- 6:00 p.m. Stories to Live By

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Graham Baakko (Teri Wilson)

Kenneth Harris' father, Larry

The family of David Durham, Daniel Durham's father, who passed away

Carolyn Beall

The family of Trudi Kinney, who has died

Anne Haxton, Dottie Moore's mother

Erin Carver, Renee and Tim Painter's daughter

Murphy Clark and family

You can submit prayer requests to prayers@fumcbelmont.org or by clicking this QR code:





MISSIONS NIGHT

Nov 13 | 6:30

HELP FROM
ALL AGES
ARE NEEDED

*500 SANDWICHES and

*200 LUNCHES for the unhoused

*72 FLOOD BUCKETS

* CARDS for active military personnel



ADVENT WORKSHOP
SUNDAY, NOV 24 | 4:00-6:00
REGISTER AT
WWW.FUMCBELMONT.ORG/KIDS

RICE N BEANS
FEEDING THE BODY, RESTORING THE SOUL
RICEANDBEANS.ORG

To learn more, check out the website or
reach out to Denise or Michael Martin.

Rice and Beans serves dinner to a vulnerable population every week in Gastonia and need gently used cold weather clothing for men and women. They need hoodies, coats, sweatshirts, hats, gloves and socks.

Donations will be collected in the narthex through November.

OUR STAFF

Carole Bertino | Administrative Assistant | carole@fumcbelmont.org
Doreen Collins | Director of Adult Discipleship | doreen@fumcbelmont.org
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