

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF BELMONT



SERVICE OF WORSHIP

October 12, 2025 – 11:00 a.m.

The Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost



Jesus and the One Leper Who Returned to Give Thanks by William Brassey Hole

.....
***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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Welcome to worship at First United Methodist Church of Belmont! We are glad you are here! Today, we continue our OUTGROW sermon series, exploring how our prayers can help us deepen our relationship with God. In today's Gospel, ten people are healed, but only one — a Samaritan, an outsider — turns back to give thanks. The story reminds us that gratitude is not simply a feeling but a way of living—thankfulness made visible in our words, our worship, and our actions. As you prepare to worship today, consider: what does it sound like to give thanks?

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MUSIC

"Blessing"
Bellissimo Handbell Choir

Michael Helman

PRAISE AND PRAYER

PRELUDE

"Shall We Gather at the River"

arr. Sondra Tucker

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Quanna McAlister

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,

God's steadfast love endures forever.

Let the redeemed of the Lord say so,

All whom the Lord has redeemed from trouble.

Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love,

For his wonderful works to humankind.

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN NO. 92

"For the Beauty of the Earth"

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, every breath we take is a gift from you, every step of the journey is sustained by your hand. Forgive us when we take your blessings for granted or forget to return in gratitude. Today, open our eyes to your mercies all around us, and open our lips to declare our thanks. Teach us to live with grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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

*GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 17:11-19

Diane Kimmel

SERMON

The Rev. George Ragsdale

SILENT REFLECTION

RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH No. 881

The Apostles' Creed

INVITATION TO PRAYER

"Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying"

Ken Medema

***Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
Send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.***

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

"Now Thank We All Our God"

arr. Marianne Forman

Now thank we all our God
with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done,
in whom this world rejoices;
who from our mothers' arms

has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.
O may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us,
to keep us in his grace,
and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills

in this world in the next.
All praise and thanks to God
the Father now be given,
the Son and Spirit blest,
who reign in highest heaven
the one eternal God,
whom heaven and earth adore;
for thus it was, is now,
and shall be evermore.

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. 122

"God of the Sparrow God of the Whale"

*POSTLUDE

"Passacaglia"

George F. Handel

**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 *Jesus and the One Leper Who Returned to Give Thanks* by William Brassey Hole (1846–1917), an English-born, Edinburgh-based painter, etcher, and illustrator who became a member of the Royal Scottish Academy. Celebrated in Scotland for his vast mural friezes, Hole also turned late in life to biblical subjects, traveling to Palestine to render the Gospels with greater authenticity. This image comes from his eighty-piece series *The Life of Jesus of Nazareth*, where naturalistic colors, strong lines, and carefully observed setting bring Luke's story to life and focus our attention on the lone figure who turns back in gratitude.

Our 2025 Stewardship and Generosity Campaign is also called OUTGROW. As we explore the prayers and habits God calls us to release in order to grow in faith, we also consider how we might outgrow fear, pride, or hesitation in order to grow into a deeper relationship with God through our generosity. Each step of giving is a step of trust, rooted not in abundance but in the God who provides. Campaign packets are available in the narthex at the information center. Information is also available online at fumcbelmont.org/outgrow. **Commitment Sunday is October 19**, when we will offer our 2026 Commitments to FUMC as an act of worship.

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.

GATHERINGS FOR ADULTS

Sunday School

Disciple: If you are wondering what we teach the youth in confirmation classes visit the Disciple class. They will talk about essential lessons of the Christian faith and Methodism.

Route 66: *"Faithful and Inclusive"* by Robert Fuquay

Salt & Light Fellowship: A place to have real conversations and build relationships.

Wanderers: *"The Bible Jesus Read"* by Phillip Yancy



RUTH CIRCLE
Oct 13 at 1:00

Join us at the home of Elizabeth Maynard (1066 Assembly St.) for a night of fellowship. Bring an appetizer or dessert to share.

RSVP to Elizabeth
704-607-2223

The poster features illustrations of pumpkins, a stack of blankets, a mug, and a candle.



All adults 60+ are welcome!

Join the Primitimers for a trip to Bush and Vine Orchard in York SC

Friday October 17th -
10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Transportation provided Lunch in York
(your only cost is lunch)

RSVP to Doreen:
doreen@fumcbelmont.org

The poster features illustrations of autumn leaves.



Trunk or Treat
Sunday, October 26 from 5:30-7pm
Invite your friends & neighbors.

Join us on the field for 20 trunks, free hot dog supper, youth-led games, & more!

If you are willing to host a trunk, visit www.fumcbelmont.org/signup.

The poster features illustrations of a ghost and a smiling jack-o'-lantern.

GATHERINGS FOR CHILDREN

Crossroads meets October 19 from 5:30-7:30 in the Old Fellowship Hall. All 4th and 5th graders are invited to join us for games, supper, and a lesson on priorities.

First Kids and their families are invited to our Prayer Pet Adoption Event on Wednesday, October 22 from 6:00-7:30. Read more and sign up at www.funbelmont.org/kids.

GATHERINGS FOR YOUTH

Connect October 12 Tonight will be a little more fun and lively because the SENIORS of the church are joining us for the evening. We will play games, enjoy supper, and hold a small group Bible study with with some of our most precious members of our church. Youth will not want to miss this evening!

Lunch Outing on October 19 All youth are invited to go out to lunch after church at Culver's in Belmont. We will leave campus around 12:10 and arrive back around 2:00. Please bring money for lunch and dessert. Also, bring 5 non perishable canned goods as your ticket to this event. We will donate all goods to the BCO in Belmont. Sign up online today.

Winter Retreat Signups All youth are invited to our Winter Retreat on January 23-25 at Lake Junaluska. The worship theme that weekend is "Unshakable Faith," and we will enjoy an afternoon snow tubing adventure too. Sign up by this Wednesday online. Email Quanna with any questions.

OPPORTUNITIES TO GIVE AND SERVE

Serve as an Offering

Teller Looking for an easy but important way to serve? Offering Tellers work in teams to count the Sunday offering after the 11:00 service, helping us be good stewards of the gifts God provides. Training will be offered on October 12 following the 11:00 service. To learn more or sign up, contact Russell Tindall at rbtindall@gmail.com.



Sunday, October 26, 2025

TIME: during Sunday breakfast and Sunday School

TICKETS ARE FREE ALL AGES WELCOME NURSERY AVAILABLE

GET READY! BID NOW IN THE NARTHEX

Silent auction baskets will be in the narthex for
3 consecutive weeks prior to the auction

Bidding on silent auction baskets will be final on October 19 at 12:30 PM

Winners of the silent auction will be announced at the Breakfast Event October 26

Live Auction Items will be auctioned at breakfast October 26th



3 nights - 2 Bedrooms - Myrtle Beach Waterfront Condo
3 nights - 4 Bedrooms - HYCO Lake House
7 nights - 3 Bedrooms - Foley Beach - Lake View
Outdoor Entertainment Set
Blackstone Flattop Accessories



**HELP
NEEDED!**

Want to volunteer?

email Kristen Surratt
kristensurratt@gmail.com

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, October 12

- 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 (Intergenerational Youth Night)

Monday, October 13

- 1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting
- 6:30 p.m. Service & Missions Mtg.
- 7:00 p.m. Ruth Circle

Tuesday, October 14

- 6:30 p.m. Lay Leadership Team Mtg.

Wednesday, October 15

- 5:30 p.m. Alleluia Choir Rehearsal
- 6:00 p.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal
- 6:30 p.m. Small Group - Jesus and the Disinherited
- 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, October 16

- 11:00 a.m. Small Group - Jesus and the Disinherited
- 11:45 a.m. Community Cafe'

Friday, October 17

- 10:00 a.m. Primetimers Lunch & Orchard Trip

Saturday, October 18

Sunday, October 19

- 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. Youth Lunch
- 5:30 p.m. Crossroads (4th/5th Grade)

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

The family of Marie Widenhouse, who passed away
The family of Anne Tria, who passed away
The family of Elizabeth Bunce upon her passing
The family and friends of Justin Frady upon his passing
Alan and Pam Smith and family, after the passing of their grandson Evan
The friends and family of Colby Smith
Ginger Feimster
Marshall Stowe, brother of Sally Bashant and Wes Stowe
Murphy Clark and family
For our ZOE communities in Rwanda, especially:
Jesca 20, head of household, and siblings,
Sandrine 18, and Jeannine 16

*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.

k Ways to Give at FUMC Belmont k

Online – Visit fumcbelmont.org/online-giving to give securely anytime.

By Mail – Send your gift to the church address listed on the front of this bulletin.

In Person – Drop your gift in the secure Drop Box outside the church office, available 7 days a week.

PRIMETIMERS EVENT TONIGHT!

5:30-7:30
in
Carpenter Hall

Youth-Full Night



Supper, Bingo, & intergenerational
small group Bible study

All "seniors" and
youth are invited
to Connect



FUMC FELLOWSHIP

Pizza Dinner!

WEDNESDAY, NOV 05 | 5:30 PM | CARPENTER HALL

FREE | PIZZA, SALAD, DESSERT

Join us
before
Missions
Night

MISSIONS NIGHT

Nov 5 | 6:30 pm

ALL AGES ARE NEEDED TO SERVE

Cards for our
military
Sandwiches for our
Unhoused Neighbors
Flood
Buckets



OUR STAFF

Carole Bertino | Administrative Assistant | carole@fumcbelmont.org
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