

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF BELMONT



SERVICE OF WORSHIP

October 20, 2024 – 8:30 a.m.

The Twenty-Second Sunday After Pentecost



The Blue Dress by Judith Mason, South Africa, 1998

.....
***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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www.fumcbelmont.org



Good morning and welcome to First United Methodist Church of Belmont. Over the past two months, in the midst of much upheaval, we have been reading and studying Paul's Letter to the Ephesians, a bold proclamation of the peace Jesus Christ brings to individuals, communities, nations and the world. Today, we conclude by turning to Paul's final admonitions in Chapter 6 to "put on the full armor of God." At first glance they seem violet, at odds with the peaceful message of the rest of the letter. But on closer look we realize, the armor Paul mentions invites us to join Christ in a life that runs counter to the culture, proclaiming peace in all that we do.

PRAISE AND PRAYER

*OPENING SONG	<i>"House of the Lord"</i>	CCLI Song # 7168995
*PRAYER		Doreen Collins
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS		
MOMENTS WITH CHILDREN		Jennifer Martin

PROCLAMATION OF GOD’S WORD

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON	Ephesians 6:10-20	Josh Beaty
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

"Bless God"

CCLI Song # 7206380

Blessed are those who run to Him
Who place their hope and confidence in Jesus
He won't forsake them
Blessed are those who seek His face
Who bend their knee and fix their gaze on Jesus
They won't be shaken
Come on and praise the Lord with me
Sing if you love His name
Come on and lift your voice with me
He's worthy of all our praise
Blessed are those who walk with Him
Whose hearts are set on pilgrimage with Jesus
They'll see His glory
Blessed are those who die to live
Whose joy it is to give it all for Jesus
And for Him only
Oh Jesus all for Your glory

Come on and bring your offering
Sing if you've known His grace
Come on and lift up your holy hands
He's worthy of all our praise
Bless God in the sanctuary
Bless God in the fields of plenty
Bless God in the darkest valley
Every chance I get I bless Your name
Bless God when my hands are empty
Bless God with a praise that costs me
Bless God when nobody's watching
Every chance I get I bless Your name
Bless God when the weapon's forming
Bless God when the walls are falling
Bless God 'cause He goes before me
Every chance I get I bless Your name
Bless God for He holds the vict'ry

Bless God for He's always with me
Bless God for He's always worthy
Every chance I get I bless Your name

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

GOING FORTH AS WITNESSES TO THE WORLD

*BENEDICTION

*CLOSING SONG

"Christ Be Magnified"

CCLI Song # 7139866

**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 work of South African artist Judith Mason. Her "blue dress" fashioned from plastic grocery bags, was created in response to hearing the story of Phila Ndwandwe, an anti-apartheid activist who was kidnapped and later executed by the South African security police. While in captivity, she is reported to have fashioned undergarments from blue plastic bags to maintain dignity. Written on the dress Mason crafted is a letter to Phila: "Sister, a plastic bag may not be the whole armour of God, but you were wrestling with flesh and blood, and against powers, against the rulers of darkness, against spiritual wickedness in sordid places. Your weapons were your silence and a piece of rubbish. Finding that bag and wearing it until you were disinterred is such a frugal, common-sensical, house-wifely thing to do, an ordinary act... Memorials to your courage are everywhere; they blow about in the streets and drift on the tide and cling to thorn bushes. This dress is made from some of them..."

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.

A Supply Sabbath



Our bishop and receiving churches distributing supplies have asked for a pause with supply donations. They need to distribute the goods they have in storage and evaluate their need. The best way to help is to donate funds so they can purchase the uncommon items that typically are not donated. The conference will update us when they have supplies they need. To contribute to the relief efforts you can use this link or the QR code.

<https://bit.ly/WNCCHurricaneReliefDonations>



Blessing of the Animals

TODAY at 5:00pm
Outdoor Pavilion

Bring your pets to be blessed; to remember those pets who have died, and to celebrate the gift God has given us in all God's Creatures, especially those who are our companions.



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

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

**Oct. 23 meal: Pasta and meatballs,
green salad, chicken nuggets, and dessert.**

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



Will not be open Thursday, October 24. They will return next week.

HOST A TRUNK AT OUR COMMUNITY FALL FESTIVAL

WWW.FUMCBELMONT.ORG/FALLFESTIVAL



OCTOBER 27
4:00-6:30
REID PARK

**Please donate candy
and/or small prizes
for our Community
Fall Festival
youth-led
games.**



VOLUNTEER AT OUR
COMMUNITY FALL FESTIVAL
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH HOOD
MEMORIAL AME ZION CHURCH

WWW.FUMCBELMONT.ORG/FALLFESTIVAL



OCTOBER 27
4:00-6:30
REID PARK

JOIN THE LADIES OF SQUARE TWO

TRUNK OR TREAT WITH
HOOD MEMORIAL AME CHURCH
(COWGIRL THEME - JEANS/BOOTS)
REID PARK - OCTOBER 27
OUT TO DINNER AFTERWARDS

All ladies
welcome! RSVP ALICE FARRIS:
AWFARRIS@ME.COM

November 3

All Saints Sunday

Give rest, O Christ, where sorrow and pain are no more...

On All Saints' Sunday we will remember all those in our church who have died in the past year and joined the Church Triumphant. We will welcome family members and friends of church members who have died, and recognize all those we love but see no longer. Plan now to join us, at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m., for this very powerful day in the life of our church.

BCO

Drop off

by

Nov 3

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



TOP 20

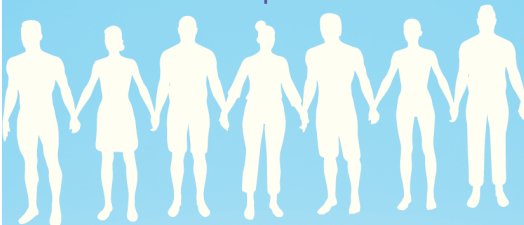
Rice
Jelly
Pop tarts
Grits
Oatmeal
Soup
Peanut Butter
Instant Potatoes
Crackers
Mac & Cheese
Pasta
Pasta Sauce
Dried Beans
Corn Muffin
Mix
Cookies
Canned: Meat
Tomatoes
Vegetables
Pasta
Fruit

ELECTION DAY PRAYER AND QUIET MEDITATION

Tuesday, November 5
Sanctuary Open from 9:00 - 4:00

A Service of Unity and Peace

Wednesday, November 6
in the Sanctuary
6:30 p.m.



Ruth Circle's Truth Be Told Art Party has been rescheduled and YOU are invited!



Sunday, Nov 10
2:00-4:30
Carpenter Hall
\$30/ RSVP to
Jennifer Martin



MISSIONS NIGHT Nov 13 | 6:30

HELP FROM ALL AGES ARE
NEEDED TO ASSEMBLE

*500 total
SANDWICHES

*200 Bagged LUNCHES
for the unhoused

*72 FLOOD BUCKETS

* CARDS to military
in active duty



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



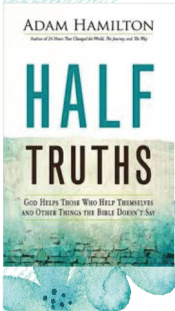
YOUTH



Nov. 3,
10, 17 &
24.



Engage Sunday School in Youth House





Sandwich Building Mission

TODAY

Youth will prepare 100 lunches
for Roof Above in Charlotte
during Connect
5:30 to 7:30

**Please be in prayer for those
experiencing homelessness in our
community.**

FIRST KIDS

BIBLE ART *Creating With God* - Wednesday nights from 6:30 to 7:30 pm for 3 year olds through 5th grade.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, October 20

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

5:30 p.m. Alleluia Choir
6:00 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal
6:30 p.m. Small Groups
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, October 24

Friday, October 25

Saturday, October 26

Monday, October 21

10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting

Tuesday, October 22

2:00 p.m. Soup for the Soul

Wednesday, October 23

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

Sunday, October 27

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. Fall Festival with Hood
Memorial Zion Church
at Reid Park

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Anne Haxton, Dottie Moore's mother

Joann Leathers (John Butler)

Roy Norwood, Jane Herstine's friend

The Ragsdale Family

Maggie Moore

The Giang family after the passing of Sam Giang, Mike's father

Arthur Ligon

The family of Luc Albee upon her passing (Adrian Lunsford's cousin)

Cordell Shirlen (Teri Wilson)

Brian Nixon (Teri Wilson)

Jim and Cindy Griffin

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:



Dear FUMC Family,



A fire at the Parsonage has caused significant damage to the home of Pastor George and his family. Not only have they been displaced from their home, they will have many unexpected expenses as a result of the fire.

If you would like to contribute to a Love Offering for the Ragsdale family to help them through this difficult time, you can make your donation directly to FUMC Belmont and just note "Love Offering" on the memo line.



Community FALL FESTIVAL



We are taking a beloved tradition (Trunk or Treat), partnering with friends and making something new, and we need your help! On **October 27** from **4:00-6:30**, FUMC Belmont and Hood Memorial AME Zion will provide a **Community Fall Festival** at **Reid Park**. We will have trunk or treat, games, hot dog supper, and more. This is an exciting way for us to live into our mission, and we have jobs for everyone. Please use the link below to sign up.

www.fumcbelmont.org/fallfestival



OUR STAFF

Carole Bertino | Administrative Assistant | carole@fumcbelmont.org
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