

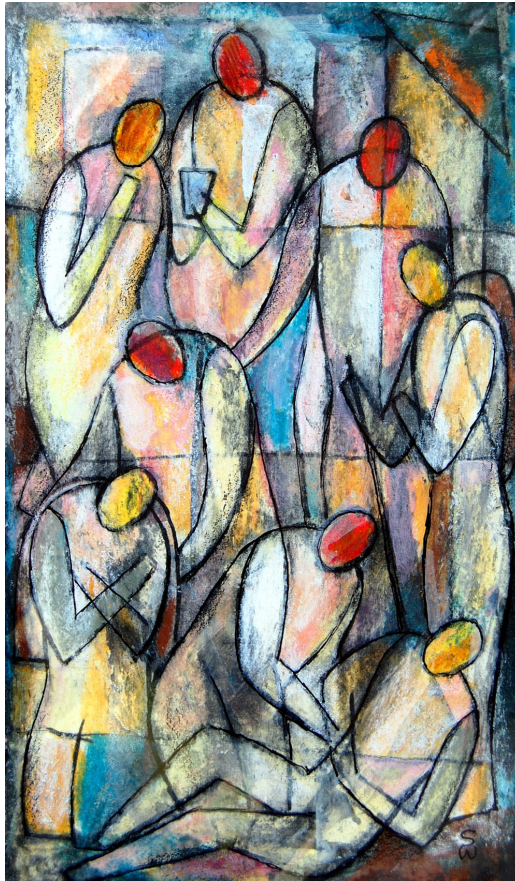
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF BELMONT



SERVICE OF WORSHIP

October 27, 2024 – 8:30 a.m.

The Twenty-Third Sunday After Pentecost



For the Least of These by Soichi Watanabe, 2004

.....
*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

Good morning and welcome to First United Methodist Church of Belmont. Today we are celebrating Children's Sabbath, a time to reflect on God's gift of children, and ways congregations and individuals can renew their commitment to care for, protect and advocate for all children. The Children's Defense Fund founded Children's Sabbath in 1991, as an ecumenical celebration to bring together people of all faiths to address the needs of children. Children's Sabbath allows us the opportunity to take a fresh look each year at the needs of children in the neighborhoods where we worship, work, and live and around the world; and then discover ways to address or meet those needs as people of God.

PRAISE AND PRAYER

*OPENING SONG

"This is the Day"

CCLI Song # 7195146

*PRAYER

Jennifer Martin

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOMENTS WITH CHILDREN

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

*GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 25:31-40

Abbey Smith and Ella Beaty

MESSAGE

Susanna Kavanaugh, Executive Director and co-founder
of The Least of These Carolinas

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

"I've Witnessed It"

CCLI Song # 7213282

When I was lost and all alone
Your presence was where I found home
You were there and You're here right now
In every high and every low
You never left me without hope
You were good and You're good right now
I've witnessed Your faithfulness
I've seen You breathe life within
So I'll pour out my praise again
You're worthy God You're worthy of all of it
Your promises never fail
I've got stories I'll live to tell
So I'll pour out my praise again
You're worthy God You're worthy of all of it
You left the throne and chose the cross
Laid down Your life to rescue us
The Savior then the Savior now
But even death was not the end
You conquered hell so I could live

Resurrecting then resurrecting now
You're good and I've witnessed it
You're strong and I've witnessed it
You're constant I've witnessed it
And I'm confident I'll see it again and again
You love and I've witnessed it
You heal and I've witnessed it
You save and I've witnessed it
And I'm confident I'll see it again and again
To the broken I've witnessed it
To the hurting I've witnessed it
To the lost I will witness it
And I'll tell them this
I'll tell them what I've witnessed
To my family I've witnessed it
To my city I've witnessed it
To the nations I've witnessed it
And I'll tell them this
I'll tell them what I've witnessed

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

GOING FORTH AS WITNESSES TO THE WORLD

*BENEDICTION

*CLOSING SONG

"Send Me Out"

CCLI Song # 5621778

**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!

Welcome to Susanna Kavanaugh, the Executive Director and co-founder of The Least of These Carolinas. She has a heart for children and is a great advocate for their needs. Susanna and her husband, Sean, became involved in orphan ministry in 2009 when they became foster parents. They have fostered long term placements and have grown their family by adoption through foster care. She and Sean live in Gastonia with their three daughters and one grown son who is married. Susanna has a desire to help the children of her community and help restore hope in their broken lives. Her prayer is that these children and their families would feel the love of Christ through this ministry.

Pastor George is away this morning on a previously scheduled vacation to celebrate his anniversary. He will return to the parish tomorrow.

Today's Bulletin Cover A resident of Koshigaya City, Saitama, Japan, Soichi Watanabe graduated in 1982 from the Ochanomizu Art School in Tokyo. He teaches at a private art school that he started in 1982. Soichi was drawn to God as an undergraduate student during a home Bible study when he encountered Mark 8:35: "Whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me and for the gospel will save it." Watanabe writes, *"In retrospect I realize that [my works] are my own humble responses to God's calling in my life. ... The images are often given to me through the words of God, at worship services on Sundays, and during my daily devotions. I have the earnest hope that I will go on painting to praise the Lord."*

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.



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. 30: Pulled pork, baked beans, coleslaw,
chicken nuggets, and dessert.**

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

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>



First Friday Men's Meeting

**NOVEMBER 1ST - 6:30 AM
AT THE YOUTH HOUSE**

Men of the church are invited to a time of fellowship, devotion, and discussion over breakfast. All are welcome. RSVP helps us plan for food.

<https://is.gd/MR5Raw>

Contact Brandon Martin with questions.




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



FLOOD BUCKET PREP

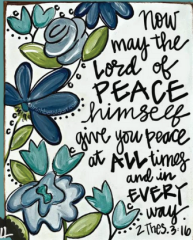
Come help roll trash bags and count out Handiwipes from our bulk supply in preparation for flood buckets.

Nov. 7th 10:30-12

then stay for lunch at the Community Cafe



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



YOUTH

★★★★★

SUNDAY NIGHT



NOV. 10TH DURING CONNECT

GROG!



5:30-7:30

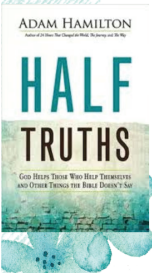
GAME NIGHT

All Youth Are Welcome

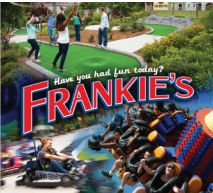


Engage
Sunday
School
in
Youth
House

Nov. 3,
10, 17 &
24



PLEASE JOIN
US FOR A
*Christmas
Youth Party*



DECEMBER 8TH
12:30-5:00

Reserve Your
Spot and pay by
December 3rd

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 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

Monday, October 28

10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting

Tuesday, October 29

Wednesday, October 30

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. Small Groups
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, October 31

11:45 a.m. Community Cafe'

Friday, November 1

6:30 a.m. Men's Meeting

Saturday, November 2

Sunday, November 3

8:30 a.m. Worship
9:15 a.m. Fellowship Breakfast
10:00 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship
5:50 p.m. Connect
5:30 p.m. Crossroads



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



PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Daniel Durham's father David, and David's wife Judy and the entire family

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)

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:



You're Invited to a Community Fall Festival

TODAY AT REID PARK

4:00-6:30



**JOIN US FOR TRUNK OR TREAT, FOOD, GAMES,
CRAFTS AND MORE!**



Sponsored by Hood Memorial AME Zion and First UMC Belmont

November 3 at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

All Saints' Sunday

We will remember all those in our church who have died in the past year
and joined the Church Triumphant.

A Service of Unity and Peace

Wednesday, November 6 | Sanctuary | 6:30 p.m.



OUR STAFF

Carole Bertino | Administrative Assistant | carole@fumcbelmont.org

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

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

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

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

George Ragsdale | Senior Pastor | george@fumcbelmont.org

Ellen Robison | Minister of Worship and the Arts | ellen@fumcbelmont.org

Mark Sutton | Business Administrator | mark@fumcbelmont.org