SERVICE OF WORSHIP
The Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost – September 10, 2017 – 11:00 a.m.

The Tree of Life by Gustav Klimt

United in the Spirit, First United Methodist Church of Belmont exists to be more like Jesus Christ for our community and beyond

REV. GEORGE RAGSDALE, PASTOR
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P: 704-825-2106 // F: 704-825-2176
www.fumcbelmont.org
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAISE AND PRAYER

PRELUDE

"I Love To Tell The Story"

*CALL TO WORSHIP - from Psalm 122

I was glad when they said unto me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord!"

Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.

Jerusalem – built as a city that is bound firmly together.

To it the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord,

As was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the Lord.

For there the thrones of judgment were set up, the thrones of the house of David.

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you.

Peace be within your walls, and security within your towers."

For the sake of my relatives and friends I will say, "Peace be within you."

For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good.

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 731

"Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken"

*OPENING PRAYER

O Lord, we long for the day when our feet will stand within the gates of the New Jerusalem. Until then, as we journey toward home, guide and protect your Church. Bind us in unity, clothe us in truth, and keep us in peace. We pray in the strong name of Jesus the Christ. Amen.

PROCLAMATION OF GOD’S WORD

CHORAL ANTHEM

"I Am Bound for the Kingdom"

Sing the wondrous love of Jesus, sing His mercy and His grace;

In the mansions bright and blessed He'll prepare for us a place.

I am bound for the kingdom, will you go to glory with me?

Hallelujah, praise the Lord!

While we walk the pilgrim pathway clouds will over spread the sky,

But when traveling days are over, not a shadow, not a sigh.

I am bound for the kingdom, will you go to glory with me?

Hallelujah, praise the Lord!

Let us then be true and faithful, trusting, serving every day.

Just one glimpse of Him in glory will the toils of life repay.

I am bound for the kingdom, will you go to glory with me?

Hallelujah, praise the Lord!
Onward to the prize before us! Soon His beauty we'll behold;
Soon the pearly gates will open, we shall tread the streets of gold.
I am bound for the kingdom, will you go to glory with me?
Hallelujah, praise the Lord!

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON (Pg. 259) Revelation 21-22 (selected verses) Sally/Catherine Bashant
This is the Word of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSE TO GOD’S WORD

HYMN OF REFLECTION No. 433 “All Who Love and Serve Your City”

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 “Face To Face” Tullar

*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!

*Prayer of Dedication
The Lord’s Prayer (Hymnal Pg. 895)

GOING FORTH AS WITNESSES TO THE WORLD

*BENEDICTION

*HYMN OF COMMITMENT No. 670 “Go Forth for God”

*POSTLUDE “Welcome Happy Morning” Young

*Those who are able please stand.
**WELCOME!** We’re glad you chose to worship with us this morning. We invite you to check out the opportunities we have for children, youth and adults of all ages and stages of life. We offer ministries and a community of faith that will help challenge and encourage you as together we seek to grow as faithful followers of Jesus Christ, serving God and our neighbor in all that we do.

**WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS:** This morning we are blessed to welcome new members into our church family. Joining today at our 8:30 service are Reid and Suzanne Washam by Transfer of Church Membership from Pleasant Grove United Methodist Church in Charlotte, NC. If you would like more information about joining our church family, please call or email Pastor George (704-249-0645 or george@fumcbelmont.org) or speak with him after the service today.

**NEW WORSHIP TRADITIONS:** This morning, we continue a new tradition in our service as our fourth and fifth graders serve as Bible bearers each week. The Bible Bearer reminds us that we are a “people of the Book,” and that we’ve come to worship to hear a word from God, revealed to us through the pages of Scripture. We also welcome our high school students who will be serving as crucifers, in addition to our confirmands who are serving as acolytes.

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**PRIMETIMERS GATHERING:** Calling all of our Primetimers! Join us at Reflection Point at 11:30 a.m. on September 14th for a cookout and boat rides on Lake Wylie. Email Kristen@fumcbelmont.org to let us know you will be joining and to help us plan for lunch.

**POTATO DROP:** On September 30th we will partner with other area Methodist Churches for a Potato Drop from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Join us for a morning of fellowship with our community while serving those in need. Visit www.fumcbelmont.org/missions/activities to volunteer and for more information.

**VISITORS:** Stop by our welcome table in the narthex as you leave today to receive a small gift and more information about our church. We would love to know more about you, so please sign the attendance pad as it is passed down your pew and share your contact information so that we can be in touch with you.
SMALL-GROUP OPPORTUNITIES BEGINNING SOON!

**Evicted Book Study**

Quanna McAlister and Kim Ingram will be leading a three-week conversation around the book *Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City*. The Pulitzer Prize winning book provides a ground-level view of one of the most urgent issues facing America today, the housing crisis for those in poverty. Email Kristen Surratt to register and receive a free copy of the book. The group will meet on Sunday evenings September 10, 17 and 24 from 4:30-6:00 p.m. The group will discuss part one of the book on September 10.

**Disciple Bible Study**

Pastor George will be facilitating a small-group Bible study on Monday evenings from 6:30-8:30 p.m. The Disciple Bible Study guides participants through approximately 70% of the Bible over 30 weeks through personal study and group conversation. If you would like to participate or want more information, email Pastor George. Study manuals are available for purchase for $34.

*Note- The class start date is **October 2nd.**

**3 Simple Rules Study**

As we consider the Three General Rules from John Wesley in our upcoming sermon series, small-groups are forming to read and discuss how these rules call us to mutual respect, unity and a deeper relationship with God.

A women's study group will meet on Thursdays from 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm, **beginning September 14.**
Ashley Falls and Carrie Jones are facilitating a group on Tuesdays from 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm, **beginning October 3rd.**
Kristen Surratt is facilitating a group on Wednesday evenings from 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm, **beginning October 4th.**

For books and to register for any of these groups, email Kristen Surratt.
YOUTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

YOUTH HANDBELLS — Begins tonight at 5:00

YOUTH CHOIR — Begins tonight at 5:30

CONNECT — Begins tonight!
6:00 p.m. Youth dinner
6:30 p.m. Youth recreation
7:00 p.m. Parent information session
7:30 p.m. Worship

5TH QUARTER — Friday night after the football game between Stuart Cramer and Southpoint. We will have a bonfire with refreshments and the fixings for s’mores from 9:30 - 11:00 p.m.

USHERS: Greg Andrews, Tommy Redmond
GREETERS: Ellen Adams, Elizabeth Boney, Kara Deal, Elizabeth Maynard
ALTAR: Worship Committee
CRUCIFER: Will Durham
BIBLE BEARER: Madison Pruden
ACOLYTE: Summer VanGastle
TELLERS: Sam Pennington, Melinda Russell, Stuart Bondurant

CLEANING BUCKETS AND HEALTH KITS: In response to Hurricane Harvey, our church will pack cleaning buckets and health kits to help with disaster relief efforts on September 13 at 7:00 p.m. in Carpenter Hall. In the narthex, there is a board of supplies needed to complete these kits. Please sign out your items on the clipboard provided and return them to the church no later than September 11th. Email Kristen@fumcbelmont.org with questions. If you would like to make a financial contribution to the United Methodist Committee on Relief, mark the donation “Disaster Response".
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<th>Sunday, September 10</th>
<th>Wednesday, September 13</th>
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<td>8:30 a.m. Worship</td>
<td>5:30 p.m. Meet in the Middle</td>
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<td>9:15 a.m. Church Breakfast</td>
<td>6:00 p.m. Adult Bell Choir</td>
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<td>9:45 a.m. Sunday School</td>
<td>7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal</td>
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<td>10:00 a.m. Godly Play Parent</td>
<td>7:00 p.m. Youth Bible Study</td>
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<td>Orientation</td>
<td>7:00 p.m. Disaster Relief Packing</td>
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<td>11:00 a.m. Worship</td>
<td>7:30 p.m. Children's Council</td>
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<td>4:00 p.m. Knitting Group</td>
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<td>4:30 p.m. <em>Evicted</em> Book Study</td>
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<td>6:00 p.m. CONNECT - Youth</td>
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<td>Information Session</td>
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<td>7:30 p.m. CONNECT - Youth and Parent Worship</td>
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<td>Monday, September 11</td>
<td>Thursday, September 14</td>
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<td>6:30 p.m. Service and Missions Committee Meeting</td>
<td>11:30 p.m. Primetimers Luncheon at Reflection Point</td>
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<td>Tuesday, September 12</td>
<td>Friday, September 15</td>
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<td>2:45 p.m. Take Two</td>
<td>3:00 p.m. Women's Retreat</td>
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<td>9:00 p.m. 5th Quarter</td>
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<td>Sunday, September 17</td>
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Please Remember in Prayer

- Debbie Ballard (mother of Chelsea & Josh Elmore)
- Cheryl Fleming
- Bobbie Jones (mother of Crystal Cooper)
- Alan Austin and Family (Jessica Durham)
- Mike Harrison
- Bette Armstrong
- Maggie Moore
- Young Missionary Cohort 2017-2019 (Lily Sloan)
- James Reis and Ella Reis
- Pam Eckert, friend of Nicole Stanforth's
- The family of Sharon Armeen upon her death (sister in-law of Joe and Valerie Armeen)
- Anne Haxton (Dottie Moore)
- Steve and Susie Matulis
- Hurricane Harvey Victims
- Max Lawing (uncle of Leigh Nance)
- Julie Evanega's four sisters and her father in-law living on the coast of South Florida
- The Shrauder and Ferrer families request prayers for the safety of all people, especially their family and friends residing in Puerto Rico, the Caribbean and Florida

If you have an emergency or have a confidential prayer request, please contact George at the church office (704-825-2106) or his cell (704-249-0645). The names above will remain on the prayer list for one month unless otherwise notified.

Our Staff

Rev. George Ragsdale ~ Pastor
Kristen Surratt ~ Director of Discipleship Ministries
Renee Painter ~ Director of Music
Janice Pennington ~ Business Manager
Margie Ligon ~ Director of Youth Ministry
Linda Smith ~ CDC Director
Carole Bertino ~ Administrative Assistant