

## THIS WEEK AT BFUMC

- Today** 3:00 p.m. Handbell Practice (119)  
The N.T. You Never Knew (124)  
4:00 p.m. F.A.M. Mtg. (FH)  
Handbell Practice (119)  
5:00 p.m. Band of Brothers Men's Group (offsite)  
BFUMC 101 (127)  
Faith Over Fear (128)  
Kidz Club (Chapel)  
Rooted Youth Night (130)
- Monday** 4:00 p.m. Book Art (128)
- Tuesday** 1:00 p.m. United Women in Faith (128)  
6:00 p.m. Disciple 1 (127)  
6:30 p.m. Handbell Practice (119)  
Prayer Group (121)  
7:00 p.m. Young Adults (130)
- Wednesday** 9:00 a.m. Crochet Group (128)  
6:00 p.m. Honeysuckle Drive (123)  
6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir (119)  
Crochet Group (128)  
Transformation: A Life Group (124)
- Thursday** 9:00 a.m. Ladies Bible Study (124)  
6:00 p.m. BASA Choral Concert (Sanctuary)  
Faith Over Fear (128)
- Saturday** 10:00 a.m. Disc Golf—Little Mulberry Park, Dacula



[linktr.ee/bfumc](https://linktr.ee/bfumc)

## RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE | SEPT. 25 | 2:30 - 7:00 PM

To make an appointment, call 1-800-773-2767. We need volunteers to help with registration/canteen setup & observation. **Volunteer slots are available from 2:00-4:00 p.m. and 6:00-7:30 p.m. If you can't give blood yourself, this is a great way to give back!**

## KENYA MISSION TRIP | JUNE 2024

We are planning a return trip to do some necessary repairs/maintenance on the Mountain Park facility, visit classrooms, read to younger students, help serve lunch, interact with the staff, and participate in recreational activities with the children. If you would like to be part of the 2024 team, come learn more about our trip on **Wednesday, September 27 at 6:30 p.m.** For more information contact Pastor Frank, [frank.bernat@bethlehemfirstumc.com](mailto:frank.bernat@bethlehemfirstumc.com).

Complete details are printed each week in The Bethlehem Happenings. Copies are available in the Stars Café, Narthex, and side Vestibules. The Happenings is also emailed church-wide on Friday of each week. To receive this email, please contact the church office at [info@bethlehemfirstumc.com](mailto:info@bethlehemfirstumc.com).

September 17, 2023 | 11:00 Traditional Worship  
16th Sunday after Pentecost



*"I pray that your love will overflow more and more, and that you will keep on growing in knowledge and understanding. For I want you to understand what really matters, so that you may live pure and blameless lives until the day of Christ's return." – Philippians 1:9-10*

As Christians, we are called to continuously grow in our faith. Every day we should seek to know God more and love Him deeper. Little by little, day by day, we learn to hear God's voice clearer, trust God more, and grow in Christ's love and grace. Intentional spiritual growth fortifies our faith and deepens our understanding of God and His will for our lives. But just as a toddler doesn't go to bed one night as a child and wake up the next morning as an adult, a strong faith doesn't happen overnight. It takes time, intentionality, and devotion on our part. Spiritual growth and faith development are a lifelong process. Unfortunately, many Christians never grow beyond the first step of accepting Christ as their Savior. Today we will tackle the myths that we often believe about our spiritual growth and how it really happens in our lives. And we'll talk about some daily habits you can begin to help you make a commitment to grow in your faith throughout the year.

WORSHIP | INVITE | NURTURE | GROW | SERVE

*Making Disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.*



**BETHEHEM**  
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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11:00 TRADITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICE

IN THE SANCTUARY

*\*please stand as you are able*

PRELUDE Katie Wilson  
BRINGING IN THE LIGHT Ty & Trinity Johnson  
GREETING Rev. Megan Gomez  
CALL TO WORSHIP Lynn & Addison Smith

Christ is calling you as disciples.

**Lord Jesus, let us follow You faithfully.**

You will be challenged to grow  
in your faithfulness and devotion.

**Lord Jesus, help us to grow in Your likeness.**

You will be led into fields of mission and service.

**Lord Jesus, where You lead us, we will go.**

You will be sent into the world to share the Good News.

**Lord Jesus, equip us**

**through the power of Your Holy Spirit.**

Listen for Christ's call to you.

**We are ready to serve the Lord. Amen.**

OPENING PRAYER Lynn Smith

\*OPENING HYMN *He Leadeth Me* (Vv 1, 3) UMH 128

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: The Apostles' Creed Rev. Bernat

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried, the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

\*GLORIA PATRI UMH 71

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen. Amen.*

PASTORAL PRAYER /THE LORD'S PRAYER Rev. Beth Dickinson

\*OFFERTORY HYMN UMH 395

*Take Time to Be Holy* (Vv. 1,3)

\*GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS Rev. Bernat

OFFERTORY *Dakota Hymn* Chancel Choir

Cheri Schreibman , flute

Becca Smith, violin

\*DOXOLOGY

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

At this time, children are dismissed for Kidz Church

VIDEO

SCRIPTURE READING Lynn Smith

Philippians 1:3-11 (NLT)

MESSAGE "Growing People Change" Rev. Bernat

\*CLOSING HYMN *Wonderful Words of Life* (Vv. 1, 3) UMH 600

\*BENEDICTION Rev. Bernat

\*POSTLUDE Katie Wilson

WE ARE A PRAYING CHURCH— Please email your prayer requests to [info@bethlehemfirstumc.com](mailto:info@bethlehemfirstumc.com) and they will be emailed out Monday in the weekly PrayerNet. You may also contact the church office, 770-867-3727.

