



Our Mission: “To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world by making *Worship* a priority, extending an intentional *Invitation*, *Nurturing* Godly friendships, committing to *Grow* spiritually, and making a difference by *Serving* others.”

### ESSENTIAL BELIEFS - SERIES ON UNITED METHODIST BELIEFS

John Wesley, along with many other Christian leaders, is quoted as saying, “*In essentials unity; in non-essentials liberty; in all things charity.*” While there is great wisdom in this quote, it does compel us to ask the question, “Which of our Christian beliefs are essential?” There are essential beliefs for the Church universal, and there are essential beliefs for United Methodists. The bible itself reveals what is important and essential to our faith. These essentials include the inspiration of Scripture, the incarnation and deity of Christ,



salvation by God’s grace through Jesus Christ alone, justification by faith, sacramentalism, the physical resurrection of Christ and His return, the Holy Trinity. These are the “essentials” we should understand and believe as followers of Jesus Christ. In this new series we will unpack these essential beliefs and discover how we can live into them in a practical way as United Methodists.

- April 7 What We Believe About Plain Truth for Plain People
- April 14 What We Believe About the Problem of Sin
- April 21 What We Believe About the Beliefs and Behavior
- April 28 What We Believe About Transforming Grace
- May 5 What We Believe About Communion
- May 12 What We Believe About Baptism
- May 19 What We Believe About Christian Perfection
- May 26 What We Believe About the Church (Combined Service)

**Please Join Us for Worship**  
**In-Person or On-Line**  
**9:30 AM & 11:00 AM**

### SUNDAY, APRIL 28, 2024 | 5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

“What We Believe About Transforming Grace” | Ephesians 2:1-10 (NLT)

What we believe about God’s amazing and transforming grace is at the heart of United Methodism. We are a people of grace – constantly receiving grace that transforms our lives so that we look more and more like Jesus as we grow in our faith. We believe that God’s grace reaches out to us even before we know who God is in the form of prevenient grace. We believe that God’s grace works in our hearts to reveal our sins, so that we might offer our sins up to God and be forgiven. We believe that God’s grace is what reveals Jesus Christ to us and inspires us to accept Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior. The moment we receive Jesus into our hearts we are justified – and this is justifying grace at work. It is still grace but now the grace encourages us to receive Jesus and confess our sins. As we walk with Jesus, our faith grows and sanctifying grace works to make us more and more like Jesus. We love more, forgive more, serve and give more to the work of Christ in this world so that others might experience God’s grace for themselves. This week we look at grace at work in John Wesley’s conversion and the conversion of the apostle Paul. And we will have the opportunity to receive the grace of God into our hearts and lives once again.

## EVENTS / ACTIVITIES

### BFUMC Disc Golf



**Saturday, April 27**  
**10:00 a.m.**  
**Lenora Park**  
4515 Lenora Church Rd., Snellville  
[amber.wigley@bethlehemfirstumc.com](mailto:amber.wigley@bethlehemfirstumc.com)

### FINAL WEEK FOR THE CAM APRIL DONATIONS

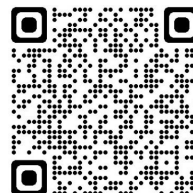
Our United Methodist Women support Come Alive Ministries. CAM is a pregnancy care center that offers help and hope to women facing an unplanned pregnancy in the Barrow County area. All of their services are free and confidential.

We are asking for your help during this month of April on donating any of the following items:

- Baby Lotion
- Baby Bottles
- Baby Washcloths
- Baby WIPES!!!
- Diaper Bags
- Copy Paper
- Diapers Sizes 5 & 6
- Diapers Sizes 5 & 6
- New sleepers & onesies (baby boys and girls) sizes 0-3 mo. & 3-6 mo.



Donations may be placed on the green table in the Stars Café. Thank You.



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

SATURDAY, APRIL 27		
10:00 am	Disc Golf - Lenora Park, Snellville	
SUNDAY, APRIL 28		
9:30 am	Contemporary Worship Svc.	WC
11:00 am	Traditional Worship Svc.	Sanct
12:30 pm	Mini Me Handbell Choir	114
1:00 pm	Band of Brothers	offsite
3:00 pm	Handbell Practice	114
4:00 pm	Handbell Practice	114
5:00 pm	Kidz Club	Chapel
	Rooted Youth Open Gym	130
	The Chosen	128
MONDAY, APRIL 29		
6:30 pm	MAD (Making a Difference)	124
TUESDAY, APRIL 30		
3:30 pm	Prayer Group	121
6:00 pm	Disciple 1	127
6:30 pm	Handbell Practice	114
	SPPRC	128
7:00 pm	Young Adults	130
WEDNESDAY, MAY 1		
9:00 am	Crochet	128
6:30 pm	Chancel Choir Practice	119
6:30 pm	Crochet	128
THURSDAY, MAY 2		
1:00 pm	The Journey	127
6:30 pm	The Chosen	WC
SATURDAY, MAY 4		
9:30 am	House of Bread Food Pantry	
SUNDAY, MAY 5		
6:00 pm	Handbell Concert	WC



### FOOD PANTRY NEEDS Donations Now Being Accepted

- CANNED FRUIT
- CANNED MEATS
- PEANUT BUTTER
- TUNA HELPER

CANNED MEATS  
(pop-tops only, please)



*Designated Donation Bins Located in the Stars Café at the Blue Missions Wall*

### GRADUATE SUNDAY IS MAY 19TH!

If you are graduating from high school or college in 2024, we would love to celebrate with you! We need the following information to help celebrate the great accomplishments of our graduates. Send full name, baby picture, current picture, where you are graduating from, and what your plans are for the immediate future. Please input the information here: [linktr.ee/bfumc](http://linktr.ee/bfumc) (2024 HS & College Grads) or email Matt Brown **no later than May 15th**.



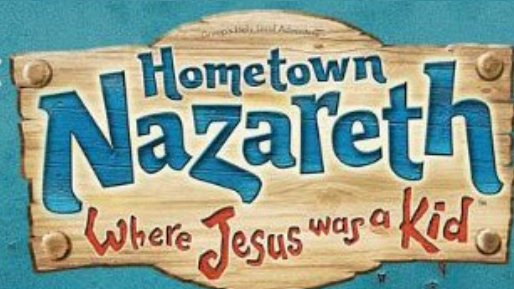
If you have any questions, please contact: Matt at [matt.brown@bethlehemfirstumc.com](mailto:matt.brown@bethlehemfirstumc.com), 770-867-3727.

## FIND YOUR PLACE RISING K-6TH GRADERS!

**June 24th-28th  
&/or July 8th-12th  
9am-2:30pm**

**\$125 per child per camp  
Must register and  
pay by June 1st!**

Sign up on [www.linktr.ee/bfumc](http://www.linktr.ee/bfumc)



# VBS at Bethlehem First UMC

June 10 - 13th  
6 - 8 pm

[Linktr.ee/bfumc](http://Linktr.ee/bfumc) (2024 VBS)





# Homes For Our Troops Invites You to Join Us!

**OUR MISSION:** To build and donate specially adapted custom homes nationwide for severely injured post-9/11 Veterans, to enable them to rebuild their lives.

## Army SSG Daniel Lister

On August 5, 2023, BFUMC held a Community Kick-Off and Welcomed the Lister family and announced the house in Winder that would be adapted for his injuries.

### VOLUNTEER DAY

Join us as we landscape SSG Lister's future home:

**SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2024**

(Rain or Shine, dress accordingly)

**CHECK-IN BEGINS AT 9:30 AM**

**LANDSCAPING FROM 10: AM - 12:00 PM**

Grab your garden gloves and roll up your sleeves as we beautify his future home. You will receive a HFOT T-shirt and lunch. RSVP below by Tuesday, April 30th.

### KEY CEREMONY

Join us as we present the keys to SSG Lister's new home:

**SATURDAY, MAY 18, 2024**

(Rain or Shine, dress accordingly)

**CHECK-IN BEGINS AT 9:30 AM**

**CEREMONY FROM 10: AM - 12:00 PM**

Ceremony will be followed by light refreshments and an opportunity to tour the home!



To RSVP for one or both of these events, please contact  
[Karen.Whitehead@bethlehemfirstumc.com](mailto:Karen.Whitehead@bethlehemfirstumc.com) | 770-867-3737 ext 102

# PRAYER CONCERNS

To receive prayer updates and notices  
for e-prayers, contact

Karen Whitehead 770-867-3727,  
[karen.whitehead@bethlehemfirstumc.com](mailto:karen.whitehead@bethlehemfirstumc.com).

SUNDAY, APRIL 21, 2024

Note: Names in **Bold** added this week

Alcorn, Tommy – *hospitalized at NEGA*

Anderson, Susan – *chemo treatments*

**Bagwell Family of Blake** – *(Ken Bagwell's uncle)*

Banks, Theodosia – *prayers for daughter to find her way back to the church*

Berger, Bruce – *Praise for new granddaughter Sarah D. Myles*

**Blackshear, Dena** – *son died 4/10 (John Murphy & Nancy Turpin's friend)*

Brown, Daly – *seizures (Nancy Turpin)*

Brown, Ken – *(Pete Black)*

Brown, Family of Traci – *lost battle with breast cancer*

**Dickinson, Beth** – *CT Myelogram on 5/3*

Dickinson, Bob – *Hospitalized at NEGA Gainesville (Keith Dickinson's father)*

Dunagan, Linda – *back problems*

Edwards, Mandy – *desperate and urgent need for a living kidney donor.*

Ellenberg, Christine – *3 years old having minor surgery with anesthesia on 3/11*

Ellington, Linda – *moving mercies*

Flahn, Alma – *travel & ministry at Village of Hope in Liberia*

Furlow, William – *recently deployed overseas with military (Kim Furlow's son)*

Glover, Steve – *overall health (Linda Smith)*

Gomez, Elias – *consult with GI surgeon on 4/25 re: feeding tube (son of Cris and Megan Gomez)*

**Grant, Stu** – *medical procedures this week*

**Harris, Linda** – *passed away 4/21 (Kara Deardorff's mother)*

Hayden, Ruth – *member of our fitness center (Andrea Tyler)*

Hitchcock, Shannon – *(Nick Jacobs)*

**Howard, Rachel** – *studies in Mexico May 10-19*

Jackie – *Praise! Custody issues over 3 year-old son (V) resolved (Janice Palmer)*

Johnson Family – *(Nick Jacobs)*

**Jones, Lainie & J.J.** – *travel mercies to Houston (Tess Schultz)*

Josephine – *9-year-old with cancer being treated at CHOA; Praise that prognosis has improved! (Marian Monk)*

Kenley Family – *(Nick Jacobs)*

**Landrum, Doug** – *cancer*

Loomis, Diane – *at home physical therapy*

Mayfield, Melissa – *overall health (Linda Smith)*

Mirkes, Monica – *prayers for Quentin and Connor*

Moon, Joan Pruett – *health issues*

Moon, Terry – *leg/hip pain (Linda Smith)*

Myles, Vinny – *head concussion*

**Paris, Family of Dinean** – *(Grace Hughes)*

Partee, Brenda & Johnny – *COVID*

Pugh, Ruth – *iron deficiency*

Reynolds, Jess – *severely diabetic; recent foot surgery (Amber Wigley's sister-in-law)*

Smith, Lynn – *home recovering from knee replacement surgery*

Still, Preston & Reba – *(Wanda Doster)*

Stringer, Carolyn – *dialysis (Grace Hughes)*

Suzy – *(Ruth Berger)*

**Watson, Nancy** – *recovering from shoulder surgery (Diana Gregerson's sister)*

Williams, Shawn – *heart attack (Amber Wigley)*

Wingate, Brenda – *recovering from heart attack/less stress (Linda Smith)*

## Ongoing Requests

Alcorn, Shirley – *cancer*

Allen, Tyler

Bell, Charles – *eye issues*

Bernat, Betty – *memory issues*

Boyd, Evelyn & JP – *at home with health issues*

Brown, Mildred – *(Lynn Smith's mother)*

Dean, Jamie – *breast cancer*

Dillard, Tonya

Fleeman, Brenda & Johnny – *Brenda back at Winder Health Care; complications with kidney stones*

Helmers, Lois – *severe back pain*

Massey Family – *health issues*

Odum, Jimmy

Partee, Mary Nell – *receiving iron infusions help strengthen legs*

## Special Requests

End war in Ukraine and Gaza

# Our HomeBound

*Please feel free to send them a card or note and let them know they are in your thoughts and prayers.*

**Abbett, Terry & Suda** ..... 770-307-0883

709 Westbury Dr.  
Bethlehem, GA 30620

**Alcorn, Shirley** Spouse: Tom..... 678-227-2914

147 Thorn Brook Rd.  
Bethlehem, GA 30620

**Boyd, Evelyn & JP**..... 770-867-9551

16 Joseph St.  
Bethlehem, GA 30620

**Chaffin, Patty** ..... 912-754-2402

133 Brookstone Way  
Rincon, GA 31326

**Dillard, Tonya** ..... 678-622-2396

44 Livingston Ct.  
Winder, GA 30680

**Ellis, Marilyn**.....[jse3801@gmail.com](mailto:jse3801@gmail.com)

Great Oaks Senior Living  
920 GA-138 NW  
Monroe, GA 30655

**Fleeman, Brenda & Johnny**..... 678-863-1765

Winder Healthcare  
263 E. May Street  
Winder, GA 30680

**Haralson, Evelyn**..... 770-466-0550

Riverside Healthcare  
5100 W. Street  
Covington, GA 30014

**Kelley, Betty** ..... 770-867-2251

422 Aberdeen Way  
Winder, GA 30680

**McCauslan, Harriet**.....678-520-5692

2750 Atlanta Hwy., Apt. 114  
Athens, GA 30606

**Morris, Bobbie** .....678-447-9670

774 Exchange Mill Place  
Dacula, GA 30019

**Odum, Jane**..... 770-867-2256

422 Aberdeen Way  
Winder, GA 30680

**Partee, Mary Nell, Spouse: John**..... 770-867-9784

217 Carl Bethlehem Rd.  
Bethlehem, GA 30620

**Thompson, Rachel** ..... 770-867-9518

107 Sunningdale Dr.  
Winder, GA 30680

**White, Earlene**.....404-990-1666

1050 Octavia Ct.  
Winder, GA 30680



## OUR CLERGY

Rev. Frank Bernat, *Senior Pastor*  
770.867.3727, ext. 105  
[frank.bernat@bethlehemfirstumc.com](mailto:frank.bernat@bethlehemfirstumc.com)

Rev. Beth Dickinson, *Associate Pastor*  
770.867.3727, ext. 106  
[beth.dickinson@bethlehemfirstumc.com](mailto:beth.dickinson@bethlehemfirstumc.com)

Rev. Megan Gomez, *Associate Pastor of  
Discipleship & Spiritual Formation*  
770.867.3727, ext. 107  
[megan.gomez@bethlehemfirstumc.com](mailto:megan.gomez@bethlehemfirstumc.com)



Choir Director, Haley Cox Mitchell  
770.867.3727, ext. 110  
[haley.mitchell@bethlehemfirstumc.com](mailto:haley.mitchell@bethlehemfirstumc.com)

Pianist, Katrina Wilson  
[pbp4katie@gmail.com](mailto:pbp4katie@gmail.com)

Sound Technician, Jaron Hardy  
[jaron.hardy@bethlehemfirstumc.com](mailto:jaron.hardy@bethlehemfirstumc.com)

Worship Leader, Tim Darden  
[tim.darden@bethlehemfirstumc.com](mailto:tim.darden@bethlehemfirstumc.com)

## OUR STAFF

Office Phone # ..... 770.867.3727

Accounts Manager, Jenn Slawinski..... ext. 104  
[jennifer.slawinski@bethlehemfirstumc.com](mailto:jennifer.slawinski@bethlehemfirstumc.com)

Children Ministries Director, Amber Wigley ..... ext. 110  
[amber.wigley@bethlehemfirstumc.com](mailto:amber.wigley@bethlehemfirstumc.com)

Communications Coordinator/Ministry Assistant  
Trish Johnson ..... ext. 108  
[trish.johnson@bethlehemfirstumc.com](mailto:trish.johnson@bethlehemfirstumc.com)

Custodian, Anissa Sullivan ..... ext. 109  
[anissa.sullivan@bethlehemfirstumc.com](mailto:anissa.sullivan@bethlehemfirstumc.com)

Executive Assistant, Karen Whitehead ..... ext. 102  
[karen.whitehead@bethlehemfirstumc.com](mailto:karen.whitehead@bethlehemfirstumc.com)

Facilities Manager, Amber Wigley ..... ext. 110  
[amber.wigley@bethlehemfirstumc.com](mailto:amber.wigley@bethlehemfirstumc.com)

Fitness/Rec Director, Anissa Sullivan..... ext. 109  
[anissa.sullivan@bethlehemfirstumc.com](mailto:anissa.sullivan@bethlehemfirstumc.com)

Preschool Director, Lizzy Sheffield..... 770.867.3724  
[lizzy.sheffield@bethlehemfirstumc.com](mailto:lizzy.sheffield@bethlehemfirstumc.com)

Student & Young Adult Ministry  
Director, Matt Brown..... ext. 103  
[matt.brown@bethlehemfirstumc.com](mailto:matt.brown@bethlehemfirstumc.com)

709 Christmas Avenue | Bethlehem, GA 30620  
770-867-3727  
[info@bethlehemfirstumc.com](mailto:info@bethlehemfirstumc.com)

### CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday thru Thursday ~ 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM  
Friday ~ 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

[WWW.BETHLEHEMFIRSTUMC.ORG](http://WWW.BETHLEHEMFIRSTUMC.ORG)



YOU CAN ALSO FIND  
BFUMC HAPPENINGS & EVENTS  
AT [WWW.LINKTR.EE/BFUMC](http://WWW.LINKTR.EE/BFUMC)

