

THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

Today



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8:00 am Blood Drive –8a-1p (FH)
9:30 am Contemporary Worship Service (WC)
11:00 am Traditional Worship Service (Sanctuary)
12:15 pm Kidz Choir (119)
12:30 pm Mini Me Handbell Choir (114)
3:00 pm Handbell Practice (114)
4:00 pm Handbell Practice (114)
4:30 pm The Chosen Season 2 (124)
5:00 pm Band of Brothers (123)
5:00 pm Disciple 1 Fast Track (128)
5:00 pm Kidz Club (Chapel)
5:00 pm Youth Sunday Nights (130)

Mon., 9/16

6:30 pm MAD (Making a Difference) (124)
6:30 pm Praying for Your Adult Children (123)
6:30 pm School Mentor Training (WC)

Tues., 9/17

9:15 am Connect & Coffee for Prek Parents (121)
1:00 pm United Methodist Women (128)
3:30 pm Prayer Group (121)
6:00 pm Disciple 2 Fast Track (124)
6:30 pm Handbell Practice (114)
7:00 pm Young Adults-the Chosen Season 2 (130)

Wed., 9/18

9:00 am Crochet (128)
6:30 pm Choir Practice (119)
6:30 pm Crochet (128)

Thurs., 9/19

6:00 pm UMW Evening Group (128)
6:30 pm The Chosen Season 2 (130)

Sat., 9/21

9:00 am Hiking Group
Sandy Creek Nature Center, Athens

SCHOOL MENTOR TRAINING | MONDAY, SEPT. 16 | 6:30 PM

Come and learn more about volunteering in our schools and making a difference in a student's life. This is an information session to learn about becoming a Barrow County School System (BCSS) Mentor. Our students need positive and encouraging adult role models. For more information contact Barbie Kulp at barbara.kulp@barrow.k12.ga.us.

Complete listing of this week's Grow Groups and Events are printed 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.

September 15, 2024 | 11:00 Traditional Worship
17th Sunday after Pentecost



James closes his book stressing the importance of prayer. Whether we're suffering, cheerful, or sick, James reminds us prayer is the essential lifeline that connects us to God. James asks, *"Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray."* This reveals that prayer is not a last resort but a first response to the trials we face. When our hearts are heavy, God invites us to bring our burdens to Him where we can find comfort and strength. James also encourages us to *"sing songs of praise"* when we're happy. Joy and celebrating are not meant to be kept to ourselves but shared with God and others. When we acknowledge God as the source of our blessings, our joy becomes a testimony to His goodness. James stresses the healing power of prayer. We're called to care for the sick, not only through physical means, but through the spiritual act of prayer. Anointing with oil and offering prayers of faith are signs of our trust in God's power to heal. James reminds us that all healing is ultimately in God's hands. Finally, James emphasizes the communal aspect of prayer. Confessing our sins to one another and praying for each other builds unity. We're reminded we're not alone in our struggles; we're called to bear one another's burdens. Let's commit to being people of prayer – quick to bring our troubles and joys to God, faithful in lifting up one another, and confident in the power of prayer to effect change in our lives and in the world around us.

WORSHIP | INVITE | NURTURE | GROW | SERVE

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



BETHLEHEM
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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11:00 AM TRADITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICE
IN THE SANCTUARY

**please stand as you are able*

PRELUDE Katie Wilson

BRINGING IN THE LIGHT Tristyn & Ty Johnson

GREETING Rev. Megan Gomez

CALL TO WORSHIP Barb Mann

Come, all who are weary, all who are suffering,
all who are joyful.

**We come to seek the Lord, to lift our voices
in prayer and praise.**

Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray.
Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise.

**We gather as one body, to support one another,
to pray for each other, and to worship the God who
hears our cries.**

Let us draw near to God in faith,
for the prayer of a righteous person
is powerful and effective.

**We come to lift up our hearts to the Lord, who heals,
forgives, and restores.**

OPENING PRAYER Barb Mann

*OPENING HYMN UMH 126

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above (Vv.1,3,4)

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Rev. Frank Bernat
from the Book of James See Insert

*GLORIA PATRI UMH 70

*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. Gomez

*OFFERTORY HYMN UMH 452

My Faith Looks Up to Thee (Vv. 1,2)

GIVING OF OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS Rev. Bernat

OFFERTORY ANTHEM Chancel Choir

Back to the Church in the Wildwood

*DOXOLOGY UMH 95

***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

SCRIPTURE READING James 5:13-20 Barb Mann

MESSAGE "Praying About Your Problems" Rev. Bernat

*CLOSING HYMN UMH 526

What a Friend (v. 1)

*BENEDICTION Rev. Bernat

*POSTLUDE Katie Wilson

Prayer Requests

Email your requests to info@bethlehemfirstumc.com, and they will be emailed out Wednesdays in the weekly PrayerNet and included in The Happenings, which is available by print and emailed out each Friday. You may also contact the church office by phone at 770-867-3727.



Prayer Shawl

You are invited to come to the altar, before or after the worship service, touch the shawl for Alana Sparks and say a prayer that she will have peace and comfort through Jesus Christ. The prayer shawl is given by the Crochet Group at BFUMC.

