



THE HAPPENINGS

SEPTEMBER 13 - 19, 2024

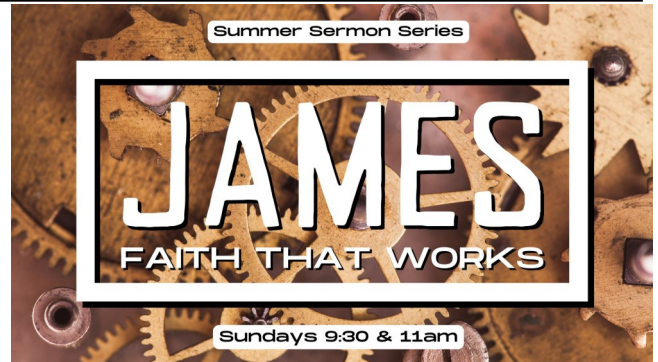
BETHLEHEM
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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.”

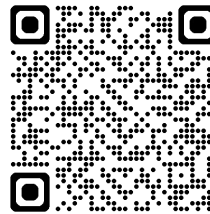
JAMES: FAITH THAT WORKS!

JUNE 2 – SEPTEMBER 15

Join us this summer for an insightful journey through the Book of James in our summer message series: “James: Faith that Works!” The Epistle of James was written by James, the half-brother of Jesus, and leader of the church in Jerusalem. It is a letter that emphasizes practical Christian living, focusing on themes like faith, wisdom, patience, and the relationship between faith and works. James encourages believers to live out their faith through good deeds and righteous living, warning against hypocrisy and favoritism. James is known for its direct and practical advice on topics like taming the tongue, caring for the needy, and persevering through trials. In this series we will discover practical wisdom for everyday life and learn how to apply timeless truths to navigate life’s challenges today. Don’t miss out on this opportunity to deepen your understanding of Scripture and strengthen your walk with Christ. Invite your friends to join us every Sunday as we delve into the profound teachings of James!



SCAN HERE FOR ARCHIVED MESSAGES



PLEASE JOIN US FOR WORSHIP | IN-PERSON OR ONLINE ON SUNDAY
MORNINGS AT 9:30 AM & 11 AM

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2024 | 17TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

“Praying About Your Problems” | James 5:13-20

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.

EVENTS / ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15		
8:00 am	Blood Drive (8a-1p)	FH
9:30 am	Contemporary Worship	WC
11:00 am	Traditional Worship	Sanct
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 Men's Group	123
5:00 pm	Disciple 1 Fast Track	128
5:00 pm	Kidz Club	Chapel
5:00 pm	Youth Sunday Nights	130
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 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
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17		
9:15 am	Connect & Coffee (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 2	130
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18		
9:00 am	Crochet Group	128
6:30 pm	Choir Practice	119
6:30 pm	Crochet Group	128
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19		
6:00 pm	UMW Evening Group	128
6:30 pm	The Chosen Season 2	130
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21		
9:00 am	Hiking - Sandy Creek - Athens	

VISIT THE BLOODMOBILE



Sunday, September 15th
8am - 1pm
Walk-ins Welcome

BLOOD DRIVE

On Sunday, September 15, please sign in with Jeff Kennedy in the Fellowship Hall where you will wait your turn. Advance appointment times will be honored first. Must be 16 years or older, weigh 110 lbs, and show your photo ID. Donors will receive a \$20 e-gift card 2-3 business days after donation.

SCHOOL MENTOR TRAINING

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 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.

Scan for more information
 & to access the
 BCSS Mentor Website



For more information:

Email Barbie Kulp at
 Barbara.kulp@barrow.k12.ga.us

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR UPCOMING EVENTS

HIKING GROUP | SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21 | 9:00 AM
Join us in September for our first hike of the season at:

Sandy Creek Nature Center
205 Old Commerce Road. Athens, GA 30607



Sandy Creek features 225 acres of woodlands and wetlands with over 4 miles of trails. Newcomers and experienced hikers welcome to walk.

BFUMC Disc Golf

DISC GOLF | SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 | 10:00 AM

Join us in September for our first disc golf of the season at:



Little Mulberry Park
3800 Hog Mountain Rd, Dacula, GA 30019

Want to build relationships with others and share a devotion with a round of disc golf? Join this fun group and play a round! This is for beginners and seasoned players! Don't have discs? Don't worry. We have plenty to share.



CATCH UP - SIGN UP - GET CONNECTED - GET INVOLVED THROUGH [LINKTR.EE/BFUMC](https://linktr.ee/bfumc)
EARN YOUR WINGS: **W**ORSHIP / **I**NVITE / **N**URTURE / **G**ROW / **S**ERVE

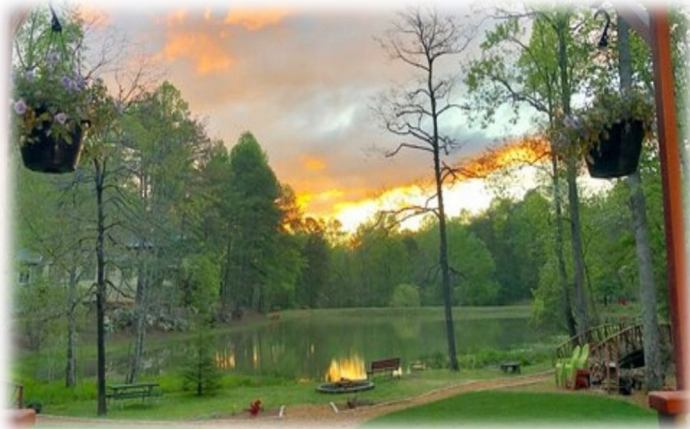
WOMEN'S RETREAT | FEBRUARY 21 -23, 2025

CHRISTWALK IN THE VALLEY | CLARKSVILLE, GA

Christwalk in the Valley is a 55 acre Christian Retreat nestled in the mountains of North Georgia near Tallulah Gorge State Park. "The Valley" has a 40 year legacy, founded by two missionary ladies, Bonnie Hanson and Alline Marshall.

During your stay at Christwalk in the Valley, we trust you will be reminded of the Retreat's Promise:

- *Identity—know who you are in Christ...2 Corinthians 5:21*
- *Transformation—be restored to His image...Romans 12:2*
- *Shine—Go share His redeeming love...Matthew 5:16*



\$150 (\$50 **due by September 29th**)
Includes Lodging, T-shirt, & Devotional
(food responsibilities will be shared)

Cash, Check, or Online
for Online Payment: linktr.ee/bfumc
(Give Online, then search Women's Retreat)

Register now
Limited to 32 women 18+



Register & Pay Online

PRAYER CONCERNS

Sunday, September 8, 2024

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

Karen Whitehead 770-867-3727,

karen.whitehead@bethlehemfirstumc.com.

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

Banks, Theodosia – *prayers for daughter and my family members, and travel mercies as I go to Italy this month*

Cash, Jan – *severe respiratory illness (Jill Cash's aunt)*

Connerly, Coach – *Praise! Good progress in recovery; still at Park Place*

Dickinson, Beth – *Surgery scheduled for 10/23 in Boston; pray for many details to work out*

Eanes, Jeanne – *recovery & rehab from knee replacement surgery*

Ellington, Linda – *fell and broke pelvis in 2 places (Linda Smith's grandmother)*

Fisher, Jerry – *liver cancer and has fallen. In hospital waiting to go to rehab (Jennifer Palmisano's uncle)*

Flanigan, Joyce – *long hospital stay (Jill Cash's aunt)*

Fumea, Ray – *cancer (Judy Smith)*

Gaunce, Judy – *Praise! Progress in recovery from lung cancer surgery; no further treatment needed*

Handley, Jaime – *in hospital with brain bleed (Andrea Tyler)*

Haynes, Lou – *heart issues, put in a stent added to 20-year-old pacemaker (Diana Gregerson)*

Hopkins, Jennifer – *Successful lung cancer surgery; prayers for recovery (Grayson Jones' great aunt)*

Howard, Carolyn – *fell and broke wrist*

Howard, Morgan – *AT&T craft workers on strike. Morgan 8pm to 8am until this gets resolved*

Jennifer – *pancreatic & kidney cancer (Nora Neff's cousin)*

Jones, Lainie – *prepare to remove spot on shoulder that is benign (Tess Schultz)*

Jordan, Ginny – *Surgery date delayed to 10/3 for cervical spine issues*

Maddox, Family of LaVerne – *(Pete & Letty Black)*

Maxey, Raleigh – *kidney stone*

Miller, Howard – *Diagnosed with pancreatitis & gallstones; future surgery (Dawn Lee's father)*

Mirkes, Monica – *continued health and safety for parents*

Norton, Barbara – *(Amy Hilley)*

Ortega, Daniel – *Gwinnett police officer facing more surgery due to an on-duty car wreck earlier this year (Tracey Reed)*

Shaw, Terry & Pam – *our brother-in law, Mike, begins radiation treatment 9/3. Pray for healing and no side effects*

Slawinski, Jennifer – *(Andrea Tyler)*

Smith, Jr. – *(Linda Smith)*

Smith, Linda – *new job opportunity*

Sparks, Alana – *recovering from GI surgery*

Whitehead, Beth – *in hospital at Piedmont-Athens; congestive heart failure*

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 – *ongoing treatments & infusions*

Fleeman, Brenda – *back at Winder Health Care*

Furlow, William – *deployed in Middle East (son of Kim Furlow)*

Helmets, Lois – *spinal injections on Sept. 10th*

Kelly, Betty

Lockerbie, Diane – *praise, doing better (Beth Dickinson's mother)*

Loomis, Diane – *at home physical therapy*

Massey Family – *health issues*

Mixon, Tommy – *Vets home in Milledgeville; numerous health concerns and depressed (Tracey Reed's stepfather)*

Odum, Jane – *congestive heart failure*

Odum, Jimmy

Partee, John – *congestive heart failure*

Partee, Mary Nell

Special Requests

- Apalachee High School
- Barrow County School System
- First Responders
- Students and Teachers
- Upcoming Blood Drive
- Kids Retreat at Camp Glisson



Gamboe, Jean 678-481-2355
 1050 Sutherland Dr.
 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

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

Our HomeBound

Abbett, Terry & Suda.....770-307-0883
 709 Westbury Dr.
 Bethlehem, GA 30620

Alcorn, Shirley Spouse: Tom678-227-2914
 147 Thorn Brook Rd.
 Bethlehem, GA 30620

Boyd, Evelyn & JP770-867-9551
 16 Joseph St.
 Bethlehem, GA 30620

Chaffin, Patty912-754-2402
 133 Brookstone Way
 Rincon, GA 31326

Dillard, Tonya678-622-2396
 44 Livingston Ct.
 Winder, GA 30680

Ellis, Marilyn..... jse3801@gmail.com
 Great Oaks Senior Living
 920 GA-138 NW
 Monroe, GA 30655

Fleeman, Brenda & Johnny678-863-1765
 Winder Healthcare
 263 E. May Street



OUR CLERGY

Rev. Frank Bernat, *Senior Pastor*
770.867.3727, ext. 105
frank.bernat@bethlehemfirstumc.com

Rev. Beth Dickinson, *Associate Pastor*
770.867.3727, ext. 106
beth.dickinson@bethlehemfirstumc.com

Rev. Megan Gomez, *Associate Pastor of
Discipleship & Spiritual Formation*
770.867.3727, ext. 107
megan.gomez@bethlehemfirstumc.com



Choir Director, Haley Cox Mitchell
770.867.3727, ext. 110
haley.mitchell@bethlehemfirstumc.com

Pianist, Katrina Wilson
pbp4katie@gmail.com

Sound Technician, Jaron Hardy
jaron.hardy@bethlehemfirstumc.com

Worship Leader, Tim Darden
tim.darden@bethlehemfirstumc.com

OUR STAFF

Office Phone # 770.867.3727

Accounts Manage (Temporary), Belinda Agnew ext. 104
belinda.agnew@bethlehemfirstumc.com

Children Ministries Director, Amber Wigley ext. 110
amber.wigley@bethlehemfirstumc.com

Communications Director, Trish Johnson ext. 108
trish.johnson@bethlehemfirstumc.com

Custodian, Anissa Sullivan ext. 109
anissa.sullivan@bethlehemfirstumc.com

Executive Assistant, Karen Whitehead ext. 102
karen.whitehead@bethlehemfirstumc.com

Facilities Manager, Amber Wigley ext. 110
amber.wigley@bethlehemfirstumc.com

Fitness & Rec Director, Anissa Sullivan ext. 109
anissa.sullivan@bethlehemfirstumc.com

Preschool Director, Lizzy Sheffield 770.867.3724
lizzy.sheffield@bethlehemfirstumc.com

Student & Young Adult Ministries,
Director, Matt Brown ext. 103
matt.brown@bethlehemfirstumc.com

709 Christmas Avenue | Bethlehem, GA 30620
770-867-3727
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

YOU CAN FIND
BFUMC HAPPENINGS & EVENTS
ON WWW.LINKTR.EE/BFUMC

AUGUST FOOD COLLECTION

For the month of August we are accepting donations for the House of Bread Food Pantry as well as the Little Free Food Pantry. Donations may be brought during this month to the Blue Missions Wall in the Stars Café.



Juice Boxes

Canned Vegetables