



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.”

TRANSFORMED

Would you like to become all that God intended for you to be? To live a full and abundant life? You can! But not with your own willpower or desire. If you're like most people – every New Year – you've tried to make positive changes and then give up or slide back into old destructive patterns and habits. Here's the good news, with God's help you can make and maintain positive changes in every area of your life. Join us for our new message series **Transformed** and learn how unlocking the promises in God's Word and following His instructions for living will **transform your life**.

God's presence in our lives **transforms us completely**, touching every aspect of who we are and how we live. In this series we'll explore God's promises and plans for every area of our lives!



- January 12, 2025 Transformational Goals
- January 19, 2025 Drawing Close to God Transforms Us
- January 26, 2025 Transformed from Stressed to Blessed
- February 2, 2025 Transforming Our Minds
- February 9, 2025 Transforming Our Emotions
- February 16, 2025 Transforming Our Relationships
- February 23, 2025 Transforming Our View of Money
- March 2, 2025 Living a Transformed Life

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

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, 2025 | BAPTISM OF THE LORD
“Transformational Goals”

Psalm 119:97-104; 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5 New Century Version (NCV)

Today we're kicking off our new message series, **Transformed**. Our theme verse for this series is found in Romans 12:2, “*Do not conform to the pattern of this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is – his good, pleasing, and perfect will.*” This verse highlights the power of God to transform our lives. Paul calls us not to be shaped by the values and behaviors of the world but to surrender to God's renewing work. Transformation begins inwardly, through our minds and hearts, as we allow God's Word and Spirit to guide us. Through this renewal, we gain clarity to discern God's will – His perfect and life-giving plan for us. It is a reminder that true life-change does not come from our effort alone but through the power of God at work within us. When we yield to Him, we experience a transformation that shapes us into the image of Christ, enabling us to live lives that honor and glorify Him.

EVENTS / ACTIVITIES

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11		
7:00 am	Wiseman 5k	
SUNDAY, JANUARY 12		
9:30 am	Contemporary Worship Svc.	WC
9:30 am	Kids Sunday School	Chapel
9:30 am	Shared Journey Sunday School	128
9:30 am	Wesley Sunday School	101
9:30 am	Youth Sunday School	130
10:45 am	Just Say Jesus Sunday School	125
11:00 am	Kids Sunday School	Chapel
11:00 am	Traditional Worship Svc.	Sanct
11:00 am	Youth Sunday School	130
12:00 pm	Hand & Foot Card Playing	128
12:15 pm	Grow 1 Meeting	FH
5:00 pm	Band of Brothers	123
5:00 pm	Kid's Sunday Nights	Chapel
5:00 pm	Youth Nights	130
MONDAY, JANUARY 13		
10:00 am	Wisteria	121
4:00 pm	Book Art	128
5:15 pm	Safe Sanctuary Training	127
6:30 pm	MAD Life Group	124
TUESDAY, JANUARY 14		
3:30 pm	Prayer Group	121
6:00 pm	Disciple 2 Fast Track	124
6:30 pm	Serve Team	128
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15		
9:00 am	Crochet	128
9:15 am	Connect & Coffee –Pre-k parents	121
6:30 pm	Choir Practice	119
6:30 pm	Crochet	128
THURSDAY, JANUARY 16		
5:30 pm	UMW Evening Group	128
SATURDAY, JANUARY 18		
6:30 pm	Sanctity of Life Concert	WC

WISEMAN 5K & FUN RUN January 11, 2025

For Current Weather Updates:
Search Facebook: **FUNDRACERS**



Check-In 7am | 5K 8am | Fun Run 9am

Walk-Up Registration Welcome!

Contact Anissa Sullivan to become a sponsor!

CAM Pregnancy Care Center Sanctity of Human Life Concert

Saturday, January 18, 2025

6:30 pm

Bethlehem First UMC

in the Worship Center



*Please come and join
us for a wonderful night of music!
Our participants include
church choirs, local groups, and solo artists.*

*No Cost to Attend
There will be a Love Offering for
CAM Pregnancy Care Center*



IT'S GROW GROUP TIME!

“Grow Groups” are what we call our Bible studies, interest groups, and life groups that help us grow in our faith and learn to live more like Jesus! We have groups that meet every day of the week except Friday, and at different times of the day. Descriptions of all groups are listed below. Group members will need to purchase their group’s book, where applicable. Scholarships for books are available. If you are interested in leading a group, have questions about the groups, or need a scholarship, please contact Pastor Megan at megan.gomez@bethlehemfirstumc.com.

Sunday School Groups

9:30 Sunday School Classes

- Shared Journey— Sundays at 9:30 AM in Room 128 A & B.
 - A group of men and women that aim to grow in their faith together through Bible study, Christian fellowship, and sharing life’s experiences. The class selects their current book study together.
- Wesley Class— Sundays at 9:30 AM in Room 101.
 - A place for senior adults to connect and study the Bible together. All senior adults are welcome in this curriculum- based class!

10:45 Sunday School

- Just Say Jesus— Sundays at 10:45 AM in Room 125.
 - A diverse group across multiple stages of life. Lessons are always Biblically centered and taught with humor, interesting historical perspectives, and life applications. There is also plenty of lively discussion!

Sunday Afternoon and Evening Groups

- Band of Brothers: A Men’s Group—Begins January 12th at 5:00 PM in Room 123.
 - Men of all ages are invited to join us as we study John MacArthur’s book, *2 Samuel: David’s Heart Revealed*. We’ll take a close look at the life of David—Israel’s greatest king, a man after God’s own heart, but also a man of many failings. We will see how David depended on God’s grace for forgiveness—the same grace that is available to us today.
- The Chosen, Season 3—Begins January 12th at 5:00 PM. Room 124.
 - Join us in watching Season 3 of The Chosen, the series that will change the way you view Jesus and the disciples! Each session we will watch one episode and discuss how it applies to our lives, as well as read scripture to compare and contrast the Biblical account with what we see on the screen. An online option for this class is available—please contact Pastor Megan directly if you are interested in joining online. No book purchase required. For more information contact Pastor Megan at megan.gomez@bethlehemfirstumc.com.
- Disciple 1 Fast Track—Established group. Check back in August for when our next Disciple group will form!
- Kidz Club—Begins January 12th at 5:00 PM. Meets in the Chapel and Kidz Hall.
 - Calling all kids Kindergarten-5th grade! Join us for creative crafts, skits, games and more as we grow in our faith with lots of fun and laughter! No need to sign up. Drop-off begins at 4:50PM. For more information contact Amber Wigley at amber.wigley@bethlehemfirstumc.com.

- Mini Me Handbell Choir—Begins January 12th from 12:30-1:00 PM in Room 114.
 - Calling parents, grandparents, and kids aged 4-7 years old! Are you interested in having fun together and learning more about handbells? Join us for this group on Sundays after the 11:00 service with Mrs. Andrea!
- The Next Episode—Begins January 19th from 5:00-7:00 PM in the Johnsen's home.
 - Have an empty nest and looking for godly fellowship, support, and wanting to grow closer to God in this next phase of life? Join this group of folks aged 50+ on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month from 5:00-7:00 pm! Sean and Lori Johnsen are leading this group in their home (located 5 minutes from the church) and would love to have you join them! Space is limited in this group, so sign up today!
- Rooted Youth—Begins January 12th at 5:00 PM in the Youth Room off the Gym.
 - Looking for a welcoming place to belong? Look no further. Join us for Bible study, games, plus fun events and retreats. No sign up needed, just show up. For more information contact Matt Brown at matt.brown@bethlehemfirstumc.com.

Weekday and Weeknight Groups

Monday groups

- Book Art Group—An on-going group that meets Mondays from 4:00 PM- 7:00 PM in Room 128.
 - Interested in learning a new art form? Everyone is welcome to join this group to learn how to cut and fold book pages to make one-of-a-kind art! Classes are \$10 each and all supplies are provided.
- MAD (Making a Difference) Life Group—Begins January (date TBA) at 6:30 PM in Room 124.
 - A supportive group that seeks to do life together in the best Wesleyan small group tradition. All adults are welcome.

Tuesday groups

- Disciple 2 Fast Track— Established group. Check back in August for when our next Disciple group will form!
- Prayer Group— Tuesdays at 3:30 PM in the Family Room, located just off the Stars Café.
 - A wonderful group that seeks to be Spirit-led as they pray for our church, our community, and our world. This group is ongoing and all are welcome to join in on a one-time, sometimes, or weekly basis!
- Young Adults— Begins January 7th at 7:00 PM in the Youth Room.
 - Singles and couples aged 18-35 are welcome to join this Jesus-seeking group as they ask questions, dive into the Word, and have fun while doing it. This winter we are studying Philippians! Contact Matt Brown for more information at matt.brown@bethlehemfirstumc.com.

Wednesday Groups

- AM Crochet Group-- Wednesdays at 9:00 AM in Room 128 A & B.
 - Join a caring group of women as they make hand crafted items for mission and ministry. All experience levels, including beginners wanting to learn crochet, are welcome. This group is ongoing, and people are welcome to join in at any time!
- Connect and Coffee—Begins January 15th at 9:15 AM in the family room.
 - Interested in a casual group where you can meet other moms and find friendship and support? Join us Tuesday mornings for coffee and a devotional to help you get through the day! For more information, contact Amber Wigley at amber.wigley@bethlehemfirstumc.com.

- PM Crochet Group—Wednesdays at 6:30 PM in Room 128 A & B beginning date TBA.
 - Join a supportive group of women as they make hand crafted items for mission and ministry. All experience levels are welcome.

Thursday Group

- The Chosen, Season 4—Begins February 20th at 6:30 PM in the Youth Room.
 - Join us in watching Season 4 of The Chosen, the series that will change the way you view Jesus and the disciples! Each session we will watch one episode and discuss how it applies to our lives, as well as read scripture to compare and contrast the Biblical account with what we see on the screen. No book purchase required. For more information contact Pastor Frank at frank.bernat@bethlehemfirstumc.com.

Miscellaneous Groups (these groups meet monthly or on their own unique schedule)

- Chancel Choir—Join the choir and lift praises to the Lord on Wednesdays at 6:30 PM in the choir room and Sunday mornings at 10:30 am!
- Created to Create—interested in learning more about acrylic paint pouring in a low-stress, fun, supportive environment? Let Pastor Megan know you are interested at megan.gomez@bethlehemfirstumc.com! Days and times vary, so join the email list for more info!
- Disc Golf— 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! If you don't have discs, don't worry we have plenty to share to get you started. Games are scheduled for one Saturday each month at various locations within a 45-minute drive from BFUMC. Contact Lee Wigley at wigley8184@yahoo.com for more information, the 2025 schedule, and an invite to Facebook Group if interested!
- Hand and Foot Card Playing—Join this group for food and card games every 2nd and 4th Sunday following the 11:00 service in Room 128 A.
- Handbell Choir—Meets in Room 114. See description for times.
 - Join the handbell choir and ring praises to the Lord! Ringers will be divided into groups by age and ability. Groups meet Sundays 3:00-4:00 pm, 4:00-5:00 pm, and Tuesday 6:30-7:30 pm. Begins January 26th. Contact Jenny Smith with questions at jandjsmith1102@gmail.com.
- Hiking Group—Newcomers and experienced hikers welcome to join in this group, which offers monthly hikes with a devotional. Contact Amber Wigley for more information at amber.wigley@bethlehemfirstumc.com.
- In the Middle—In your 30s-40s and looking for a cool group to hang out with? We'd love for you to join us! For more information contact Josh Ellis at clemsontiger2003@gmail.com.
- Travel Club—Looking for trips both local and further afield? Join the travel club! Different trips offered every month. Contact Wanda Doster for more information at wjdoster@windstream.net.
- United Methodist Women AM—3rd Tuesday of every month at 1:00 PM in Room 128 A & B.
 - A service and mission-oriented group for women. All women welcome!
- United Methodist Women PM—3rd Thursday of every month at 6:00 PM in Room 128 A & B.
 - It's UMW for working women! All ladies welcome to join us for service and missions!
- Wisteria—2nd Monday of each month—meeting locations and times vary based on activities.
 - Wisteria is a friendship group of women, a place to thrive, be loved, encouraged, and celebrated while having fun and laughter along the way. We have conversation, activities, outings and always prayer. If you have been a widow for a day or years, you are welcome. Come as you are! Contact Jean Stroud if you are interested at stroud.jmd@gmail.com.



GOT MAIL?

Don't forget to check the boxes!!!

There are 2 baskets of cards on the Reception Counter in the Stars Café that have not yet been picked up. **Cards need to be picked up by Wednesday, January 15, 2025.**

BFUMC is not responsible for any unclaimed cards.



HEALTH & BEAUTY EXPO

January 25, 2025

9:00am-2:00pm

Come check out all our vendors, yummy food samples, health screenings and MORE!

SCAN THE QR CODE TO FOLLOW OUR FACEBOOK PAGE AND KEEP UP WITH ALL THE DETAILS!

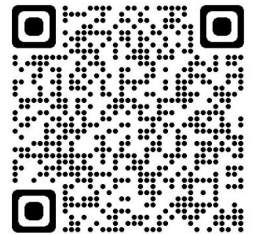


MOMMY & ME



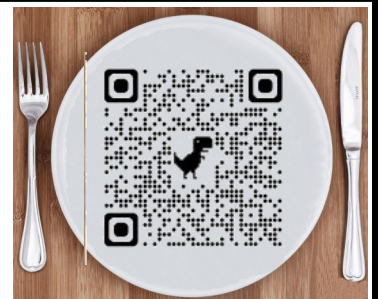
Starts 1/6/25 (0-2 yrs) 9:30-10am FREE! *\$5 suggested donation Must register weekly through the link on linktr.ee/bfumc

Everything BFUMC can be found on our app:



[WWW.LINKTR.EE/BFUMC](https://www.linktr.ee/bfumc)

Our Rooted Youth Group is looking for people, groups, and/or families, provide dinner before our Sunday evening activities. If you can't cook but want to help monetarily, please message Matt at 770-771-85323, or matt.brown@bethlehemfirstumc.com. We eat around 5pm. We have 25-30 students including adult leaders. Please leave in the comments what dish you are making/bringing. If you can provide dessert and drinks, please share that as well. Don't worry about drinks, utensils and napkins!



PRAYER CONCERNS

Sunday, December 29, 2024

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

Almond, Mac – *cancer (Leigh Strickland)*
 Bagwell, Ken – *first treatment for pancreatic cancer was on 12/31; pray for pain management, successful treatment, healing*
 Beaver, Marty – *post op complications (Ruth Pugh)*
 Bernat, Pastor Frank – *healing from hernia surgery*
Blanchard, Nick & Sharik – *baby Rylee, born 12/30, has been in NICU. Mom Sharik diagnosed with flu and unable to hold Rylee. Pray for healing and love*
Bohanan, Kristian – *started new teaching position, stomach virus*
 Brooks, Joe – *recovering from hip surgery*
 Callahan, Martha – *recovering at home from disc fusion in neck*
 Carless, Tami – *answers regarding heart & lung issues; Praise! Dizziness & heart are improving*
 Carpenter, Kari – *in Minnesota taking care of her mom following the death of her father (Lynn Smith)*
Chealey, Margaret – *job search (Elaine Robbins)*
Christopher – *motorcycle accident (Courtney Hammack)*
 Davis, John – *hospice (Jean Stroud's cousin)*
 Dickinson, Beth – *recovering from surgery; cold weather increases pain level*
Duffield, Jane – *persistent nose bleed; testing scheduled (Ann Teaster)*
 Elhammali, Mousa – *Praise! Good recovery from surgery to repair broken femur (Jane Orendorff)*
Fowler, Nancy – *pray for direction for new year*
 Hall, Jackie Bonnemer – *cancer (Lynn Smith)*
 Hitchcock, Shannon – *(Nick Jacobs)*
 Hughes, Grace – *pray I am able to keep my water level around 139-138*
 Lee, Dawn – *severe bronchitis, had to be hospitalized 1/4, Praise! Breathing treatments helping*
 Lockerbie, Diane – *answers, healing, resolution of long-standing GI problems (Beth Dickinson's mother)*
 McErlean, Jim – *cancer (Ruth Berger)*
Meredith, Karen – *knee surgery this month (Courtney Hammack's mother)*
 Moon, Terry – *abdominal surgery (Linda Smith's mother)*
 Neff, Nora – *acute colitis attack. Praise! Recovering well*
 Orendorff, Al – *Praise! Heart has stayed in normal rhythm*
Redford, April – *(Greg & Mary Hawkins' daughter)*

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

Karen Whitehead 770-867-3727,

karen.whitehead@bethlehemfirstumc.com.

Reynolds, Jess – *surgery on foot 12/16; Praise! Able to be back at work (Amber Wigley's sister-in-law)*

Robinson, Debbie – *high blood pressure (Jessica Smith's mother)*

Saunders, Herb – *recovering from fall and fractures in hip*
 Skelton, Jo – *2nd surgery on same eye 12/31 (Judy Smith's aunt)*

Smith, Judy – *migraines; prayers for answers & relief*

Stringer, Carolyn – *pray that the kidney dialysis might give her strength (Grace Hughes)*

Standridge, Steve – *moved from Shepherd to new medical facility on 12/19; (Clara Allen's brother-in-law)*

Wilson, Amy – *pray for post-surgical fever to cease & for healing*

Wilson, Jaxon – *Pre-K boy with mass on brain; 3rd round of chemo (Brenda Pryor)*

Ongoing Requests

Alcorn, Shirley – *cancer*

Allen, Tyler

Bell, Charles – *eye & hearing issues*

Bernat, Betty – *dementia*

Boyd, Evelyn & JP

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

Dean, Jamie – *breast cancer*

Dillard, Tonya – *ongoing treatments & infusions*

Fleeman, Johnny & Brenda

Helmers, Lois – *back issues*

Jonse, Mary & Tom – *(Monica Mirkes' parents)*

Loomis, Diane – *at home physical therapy*

Massey Family – *health issues*

Mixon, Tommy – *Vets Home in Milledgeville; diagnosed with lung cancer (Tracey Reed's stepfather)*

Odum, Jane – *congestive heart failure*

Odum, Jimmy – *chemo treatments for returned cancer*

Partee, John & Mary Nell – *congestive heart failure*

Other

Students, teachers, and staff back to school

BFUMC visioning work sessions

Spiritual Care Support Ministries – (workplace of Courtney Hammack)

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 & JP**770-867-9551
16 Joseph St.
Bethlehem, GA 30620
- Chaffin, Patty**912-754-2402
133 Brookstone Way
Rincon, GA 31326
- Ellis, Marilyn**..... 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
- 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

BFUMC CARE MINISTRY

Did you know BFUMC has a Care Ministry? It falls under the Nurture Wing. We target those in our congregation who are sick, homebound, and facing challenges. Our goal is to reach out in various ways to those who might need a kind word or a sign of support.

One way to show kindness is through mail. A note, a kind word of encouragement, thinking of you, or a note of sympathy or support, can mean so much to someone going through an illness or a difficult time in their life. If you want to send a note, here are a few suggestions:

- **Ken Bagwell** - *pancreas/ liver-upcoming tests and treatment plan*
110 Carterdale Ct., Bethlehem, GA 30620
- **Sophie Logan** - *death of family members*
1445 Dillard Heights Dr., Bethlehem, GA 30620
- **Amy Wilson** - *recovery from surgery*
153 Mayweather Dr., Bethlehem, GA 30620



Karen Whitehead, Care Ministry Coordinator
404-245-0443
Karen.Whitehead@bethlehemfirstumc.com

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 Manager (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

Scan Here



linktr.ee/bfumc

 	<p>DONATIONS NEEDED</p> <p>OATMEAL & GRITS</p> <p>HAMBURGER & TUNA HELPER</p> <p>CEREAL</p> <p>PEANUT BUTTER</p> <p>CANNED MEAT</p>		<p>DONATIONS NEEDED</p> <p>TUNA OR CHICKEN MEAT IN POUCHES</p> <p>SOUP OR STEW (PULL-TOPS ONLY)</p> <p>JUICE BOXES</p>
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