



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.”

LENTEN MESSAGE SERIES: ENCOUNTERS WITH JESUS

As we journey through the season of Lent, a time of reflection and renewal, we will explore the life-changing encounters people had with Jesus. Each week, we will examine how Christ met individuals in their unique circumstance – whether in doubt, despair, or longing – and transformed their lives with His truth, grace, and power. From Nicodemus seeking answers in the night to the woman caught in adultery in need of forgiveness and redemption, these stories reveal how Jesus meets us where we are and calls us to a deeper faith and purpose. Through these encounters, we are reminded that the same Jesus who changed their lives is still at work today, offering transformation and new life to all who seek Him. Let us open our hearts to the possibilities of what He can do in us this Lenten season.



- March 9, 2025 Jesus and Satan
- March 16, 2025 Jesus and the Disciples
- March 23, 2025 Jesus and the Woman with the Issue of Blood
- March 30, 2025 *Family Worship* – Jesus and Nicodemus
- April 6, 2025 Jesus and the Woman Caught in Adultery
- April 13, 2025 *Palm Sunday* – Jesus and the Crowd
- April 20, 2025 *Easter* – Jesus and Mary

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

SUNDAY, MARCH 30, 2025 | FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

“Jesus and Nicodemus” | John 3:1-21

In John 3, Jesus’ late-night conversation with Nicodemus reveals the profound mystery and necessity of spiritual rebirth. Though Nicodemus was a respected religious leader, he struggled to understand the life-changing truth Jesus offers: “*You must be born again.*” This passage challenges us to move beyond mere religious knowledge and embrace a living relationship with Christ through the Holy Spirit. As we explore Jesus’ words about being born of water and the Spirit, and the depth of God’s love in John 3:16, we are reminded that salvation is not about what we do, but about what God has done for us in Christ. This encounter invites us to examine our hearts and respond in faith to the transformative power of God’s grace.

EVENTS / ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY, MARCH 30		
9:30 am	Contemporary Worship Svc.	WC
9:30 am	Sunday School: Kids, Youth, Adults	
10:45 am	Just Say Jesus Sunday School	125
11:00 am	Traditional Worship Svc.	Sanct
11:00 am	KidMin Sunday School	Chapel
11:00 am	Youth Sunday School	130
11:00 am	Ghana Methodist Worship	WC
4:30 pm	Mini Me Handbell Choir	119
5:00 pm	Band of Brothers	123
5:00 pm	KidMin Sunday Nights	Chapel
5:00 pm	Youth Sunday Nights	130
MONDAY, MARCH 31		
4:00 pm	Book Art	128
6:30 pm	MAD Life Group	124
TUESDAY APRIL 1		
3:30 pm	Prayer Group	121
6:30 pm	Finance Mtg.	127
7:00 pm	Trustees	128
7:00 pm	Young Adults	130
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2		
9:00 am	Crochet	128
6:30 pm	Choir Practice	119
6:30 pm	Crochet	128
THURSDAY, APRIL 3		
6:30 pm	The Chosen-Season 4	130

We need
Candy
for our Easter
Eggstravaganza

Bring donations to **blue**
Missions Wall in Stars Cafe by
Sunday, April 13th

Eggstravaganza
Saturday, April 19th | 1 - 3 pm

**APRIL UMW COLLECTION
COME ALIVE MINISTRIES**

**Bring donations to the Stars Cafe. Thank you!*

- Baby Wash/Shampoo
- Baby Lotion
- Baby WIPES!!!
- Diapers Size 4, 5 & 6
- New sleepers & onesies for baby boys and girls sizes 0-3 mo. & 3-6 mo.
- Socks for Moms
- Postage Stamps



CAM
Pregnancy
Care
Center

During the month of April, our United Methodist Women are sponsoring a collection for Come Alive Ministries (CAM), a Pregnancy Care Center that offers help and hope to women facing an unplanned pregnancy. Please help support this vital ministry, right here in Winder, by donating items for babies and moms.

HOLY WEEK 2025

Holy Week commemorates the seven days leading up to Easter.

- April 13 **Palm Sunday** - Jesus enters Jerusalem on a donkey, and is greeted with palm branches and shouts of “Messiah.” It is a Christian holiday that marks the beginning of Holy Week, the week leading up to Easter. Join us for the waving of palms and Confirmation for 3 of our young people. 9:30 & 11:00 am worship services.
- April 14 **Holy Monday** - Jesus returns to Jerusalem, cleanses the temple, and curses a fig tree.
- April 15 **Holy Tuesday** - Jesus teaches in the temple and debates with religious leaders.
- April 16 **Holy Wednesday** - Judas betrays Jesus to the authorities for 30 pieces of silver. Pastor Frank will be the guest speaker at 12:00 pm. During Holy Week, Winder First UMC is again hosting their annual Lenten Lunch Lift Monday through Friday. There will be a short service with a guest clergy each day, followed by a light lunch. On this Holy Wednesday, Pastor Frank will be the guest speaker at 12:00 pm.
- April 17 **Maundy Thursday** - Commemorates Jesus' Last Supper and washing of the disciples' feet. It's a day of reflection and a call to action to serve others.
5:30 pm Fellowship Meal
6:30 pm Maundy Thursday Service
- April 18 **Good Friday** - Jesus is sentenced to death, crucified, and dies on the cross. This is a solemn day of mourning and reflection for Christians. 6:30 pm service in the Sanctuary.
- April 19 **Holy Saturday** —Jesus’ body is believed to have lain in the tomb. **Eggstravanga** - 1:00 - 3:00 pm: Decorate a wooden egg with paint sticks, Lord’s Prayer bracelet, egg painting, cross cookie decorating, rice bins with eggs, and more!
- April 20 **Easter Sunday** - Worship with us:
7:00 am Sunrise Service
9:00 am Contemporary Worship Service
11:00 am Traditional Worship Service

Prayer Stations

This Holy Week everyone is invited to take time for prayer at our Holy Week Prayer Stations as we journey with Jesus to the cross. These prayer stations are interactive and invite us to make the significance of Jesus' last week on earth real in our lives today. Come pray by yourself, or invite a friend or group to pray through the stations together! Stations will be set up in the Fellowship Hall and available for prayer during regular church hours beginning Palm Sunday, April 13th through Easter Sunday, April 20th. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Megan at megan.gomez@bethlehemfirstumc.com.

Church Hours

Monday through Thursday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Friday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Sunday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm; 5:00 - 8:00 pm





BFUMC 2nd Annual

Ladies SPRING TEA

An evening of dinner and fellowship

May 3rd 6:30pm
Doors Open at 6:00pm

TICKETS ON SALE
MARCH 30TH - APRIL 13TH
\$25 LADIES & \$8 GIRLS
12 AND UNDER

FAITH THAT WORKS

MISSIONS

**MISSION TRIP TO AUGUSTA
FOR HURRICANE RELIEF
JUNE 22ND - 28TH**

**SHOWING LOVE,
SHARING HOPE,
BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS**

We're headed to Augusta for a mission trip to assist with ongoing hurricane relief, and we'd love for you to be part of the team! This is a hands-on opportunity to serve families in need and make a real impact. We need volunteers to help with painting, sheetrock work, flooring, and cooks to support our team with meals.

No experience needed - just a willing heart and a desire to show the love of Christ, share the hope of His promises, as we build relationships with those in need. Let's join together this summer to bring hope and healing to those still recovering from the storm.

Trip cost: \$175 per person (covers lodging, meals, travel, and supplies).

Sign up on linktr.ee/bfumc (August Mission Trip)




Holy Week

AT WINDER FUMC

**SERVICES START DAILY AT 12:00PM IN THE
WINDER FUMC SANCTUARY**

**SOUP, SANDWICHES & DESSERT AT 12:30PM
DAILY IN FELLOWSHIP HALL!**

Mon 4/14	GEOFF MURPHY <i>PASTOR, WINDER FUMC</i>
Tue 4/15	SCOTT DAKIN, <i>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE MINISTRY VILLAGE</i>
WED 4/16	FRANK BERNAT <i>PASTOR, BETHLEHEM FUMC</i>
THU 4/17	CHAD MANTOOTH <i>PASTOR, WINDER FIRST BAPTIST</i>
*Maundy Thursday 7pm Evening Service	CHRIS STRICKLAND <i>PASTOR, WINDER FUMC</i>
Good Friday FRI 4/18	ALFRED HAZEL <i>BELOVED RETIRED PASTOR OF OUR COMMUNITY</i>

ALL ARE WELCOME!

PRAYER CONCERNS

Sunday, March 23, 2025

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

Karen Whitehead 770-867-3727,

karen.whitehead@bethlehemfirstumc.com.

Note: Names in Bold added or updated this week

Bailey, Shannon – *Praise! Home from hospital; prayers for long recovery ahead (Jane Orendorff)*

Baker, Tim – *pancreatic cancer; starting new chemo (John Murphy)*

Benton, Rachel – *medical issues testing*

Brown, Billy – *(Tim Garrett)*

Cole – *started chemo for breast cancer (daughter of Jane Buchanan)*

Deal, Billy – *cancer; not doing well (Anna Ross)*

Elliott, Doc – *(Pete Black)*

Gomez, Elias – *progress*

Grant, Stu – *Praise! Able to get wound vac & gained some weight; pray for continued healing*

Greenleaf, Lily Kate – *16-year-old girl with brain lesions, in ICU (Jean Stroud)*

Gullion, Lisa – *Eustachian tube surgery on 4/16*

Hall, Jackie Bonnemer – *skin graft surgery on 5/6 (Lynn Smith)*

Hitchcock, Shannon – *(Nick Jacobs)*

Huff, Molly – *(Pete Black)*

Hughes, Grace – *upcoming move on 3/28*

Ivey, James – *inpatient rehab after leg fracture with complication (Brenda Partee's brother-in-law)*

Johnson, Dave

Kwon, Jeremy & Christine – *(Pete & Letty Black)*

Lupita – *(Letty Black)*

Mann, Barb – *upcoming surgery on 4/3 for spinal fusion*

Mercer, Susan – *released from hospital, complications from RSV; more tests needed*

Minish, Rebecca – *bronchitis & hearing to be restored; job situation*

Orendorff, Al – *Pray for increased relief from back pain; had an epidural on 3/21*

Parker, Tracy – *(Pete Black)*

Plourde, Hazel – *respiratory illness*

Plourde, Paul – *blood cancer; pray for side effects to be manageable*

Radford, April – *recovering from breast cancer surgery and reconstruction (daughter of Greg & Mary Hawkins)*

Roberts, Linda – *prayers for sister and daughter who both have major health issues which are life threatening*

Sauls, Tommy – *pancreatic cancer (Pete & Letty Black)*

Schickling, Robert – *heart attack, pending open heart surgery (Shirley Griffing's nephew)*

Smith, Jenny – *upcoming knee replacement surgery 4/3*

Skelton, Jo – *(Judy Smith's aunt)*

Stringer, Carolyn – *on dialysis (Grace Hughes)*

Turpin, Kathleen – *prayers for a new job*

Wall, Teresa – *open heart surgery 3/17 (Charleen Carey)*

Warren, Brandon – *(Nick Jacobs)*

Wells, Bill – *lung damage; CT revealed blood clot in lung (Beth Dickinson's uncle)*

White, Earlene – *Praise! Finally feeling better*

Ongoing Requests

Alcorn, Shirley – *cancer*

Allen, Tyler

Bagwell, Ken – *treatment for pancreatic cancer; pray for pain management, successful treatment, healing*

Bell, Charles – *Hodgkin's lymphoma; began chemotherapy on 3/10; recent fall*

Bernat, Betty – *dementia*

Boyd, Evelyn

Brown, Mildred – *failing health; on hospice (Lynn Smith's mother)*

Dean, Jamie – *breast cancer*

Dickinson, Beth – *prayer for continued healing & stamina; upcoming doctor appointment on 4/10*

Dillard, Tonya – *ongoing treatments & infusions*

Fleeman, Johnny & Brenda

Freeman, Jeffery – *colon cancer (Pastor Frank's cousin)*

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

Lockerbie, Diane – *Praise! GI issues under control enough to attend a retreat (Beth Dickinson's mother)*

Massey Family – *health issues*

Mixon, Tommy – *chemo treatments, beginning palliative care (Tracey Reed's stepfather)*

Monk, John – *pray for successful chemo treatments & complications to be resolved*

Odum, Jimmy – *chemo treatments for returned cancer*

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

Pugh, Matt – *pray for successful treatment of cancer (nephew of Lamar & Ruth Pugh)*

Our Church Sympathy to:

Bonnie Deal on the passing of her mother, Bernice Jackson, on March 11th. Memorial Service will be Sunday, March 30 at 2:00 pm at First Christian Church of Atlanta, 4532 Lavista Rd, Tucker.

Lois Helmers passed away on Tuesday, March 25, 2025.

Final arrangements have not yet been made.

Rev. Kevin Lobello whose 9-year-old grandson, Kevin, passed away from brain cancer

Special Requests

Craft Fair to be safe, successful, and welcoming

Season of Lent to draw people to Jesus Christ as Savior & Lord

Our HomeBound

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

Bell, Charles Spouse: Lynne 770-262-9000
429 Aberdeen Way, Winder, GA 30680

Boyd, Evelyn 770-867-9551
The Oaks at Braselton
5373 Thompson Mill Rd., Room 606
Hoschton, GA 30548-4037

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

Partee, Mary Nell, Spouse: John..... 770-867-9784
217 Carl Bethlehem Rd.
Bethlehem, GA 30620

Smith, Connie..... 770-867-4171
622 Old Smith Cemetery Rd.
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:

- **Beth Dickinson** - *upcoming doctor appt. 4/10*
2560 Clubhouse Lane, Statham, GA 30666
- **Barb Mann** - *upcoming surgery 4/3*
1520 Dillard Heights Dr., Bethlehem, GA 30620
- **Jenny Smith** - *upcoming surgery 4/3*
1649 Union Grove Church Rd.
Auburn, GA 30011



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
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, Will Lowndes..... ext. 104
will.lowndes@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 HAMBURGER & TUNA HELPER CEREAL PEANUT BUTTER CANNED MEAT</p>		<p>DONATIONS NEEDED</p> <p>TUNA OR CHICKEN MEAT IN POUCHES SOUP OR STEW (PULL-TOPS ONLY) JUICE BOXES</p>
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