



**BETHLEHEM**  
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Our Mission: Bethlehem First is a community of believers devoted to showing Christ's love, sharing the hope found in Him, and building relationships that transform lives; we do this by worshiping passionately, inviting joyfully, nurturing faithfully, growing intentionally, and serving wholeheartedly.

### 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 Adulterous Woman
- 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, APRIL 13, 2025 | PALM SUNDAY**  
“Jesus and the Crowd” | John 12:12-19 (NLT)



On Palm Sunday, the crowds welcomed Jesus with shouts of “*Hosanna*,” expecting Him to be a conquering king who would overthrow Rome, but within days, their cheers turned to cries of “*Crucify Him!*” when He did not meet their expectations. Their praise was based on what they wanted from Jesus, not on who He truly was. Like them, we can be tempted to follow Jesus only when He aligns with our desires, but true faith means trusting Him even when His plan looks different from ours. As we enter Holy Week, may we commit to worshiping Jesus not just in moments of joy and celebration, but also in times of challenge and sacrifice, knowing He is the King who came to save us in ways far greater than we could imagine.

## EVENTS / ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY, APRIL 13 PALM SUNDAY		
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	Ghana Methodist Worship	WC
12:00 pm	Hand & Foot Card Playing	128
4:30 pm	Mini Me Handbell Chori	119
5:00 pm	Band of Brothers	123
5:00 pm	Disciple 1 Fast Tractk	128
5:00 pm	Youth Sunday Nights	130
MONDAY, APRIL 14		
10:00 am	Wisteria	121
4:00 pm	Book Art	128
6:30 pm	MAD Life Group	124
TUESDAY APRIL 15		
1:00 pm	UMW	128
3:30 pm	Prayer Group	121
7:00 pm	Young Adults	130
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16		
9:00 am	Crochet	128
12:00 pm	<b>Lenten Lunch with Pastor Frank at Winder First UMC</b>	
6:30 pm	Choir Practice	119
THURSDAY, APRIL 17 MAUNDY THURSDAY		
6:30 pm	Maundy Thursday Svc.	FH
FRIDAY, APRIL 18 GOOD FRIDAY		
6:30 pm	Good Friday Svc.	Sanct

## Holy Week Events

### Prayer Stations

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. Office Hours Monday through Thursday 9am-4pm, Friday 9am-1pm.

**Sunday, April 13 - Palm Sunday** - Join us for the waving of palms and Confirmation for 4 of our young people, at our 9:30 & 11:00 am worship services.

### Wednesday, April 16

Pastor Frank will be the guest speaker at Winder First UMC's annual Holy Week Lenten Lunch Lift. A short service will be held at 12:00 pm, followed by a light lunch.

### Thursday, April 17 - Maundy Thursday

**6:30 pm Maundy Thursday Service, in the Fellowship Hall**

### Friday, April 17 - Good Friday

**6:30 pm Good Friday Service, in the Sanctuary.**

### Saturday, April 18—Eggstravaganza

Families are invited for this annual event from 1:00 - 3:00 pm. There is something for everyone! Kids ages 12 and under will especially enjoy the egg hunt. Volunteers are still needed (see page 3 for more details).

### Sunday, April 20 - Easter Sunday

7:00 am Sunrise Service on Front Lawn

9:00 am Contemporary Worship Service

# 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!**



Please join us on Tuesday, April 15, at 7:00 pm, for a wedding shower to celebrate Bekah Bernat and Preston Heck! It will be held in the Fellowship Hall. We look forward to seeing you there to celebrate and show love to this amazing couple. You can find their wedding registry at this link: <https://www.theknot.com/us/bekah-bernat-and-preston-heck-may-2025-43a9e9be-a3ec-45e2-a2bb-0bd121db0322/registry>.

Please join us for a wedding shower to celebrate:

*Bekah and Preston*

April 15th | 7pm  
BFUMC | Fellowship Hall

Registry for the lovely couple can be found here:



## CAM Pregnancy Care Center

*Come Alive Ministries*

We are so thankful for our new building, all the donations we receive, and your prayers & support. We praise God for all the clients who chose life! We are thankful for your partnership and support.

Please come and see our new facility!

## OPEN HOUSE!

*Come join us for lunch  
and a tour of our new building!*

**Wednesday, April 23**

**11am-1pm**

**46 S. Broad St., Suite A  
Winder**

## BELLA'S BABY SHOWER FOR LEIA

Bring all the Wipes, Diapers, and Swipes!

April 27th | During youth Sunday school at 9:30am

Please consider bringing diapers sizes 3 and up, wipes, and gift cards(swipes)

The youth are hosting a baby shower for Bella on Sunday, April 27. Many of us have met baby Leia and she's so adorable! We want to have a time together to love on them, give them support through gifts, prayer, and love. Thank you for taking a moment to love on their little family! They are looking for diapers sizes 3 and up, wipes, and gift cards for more baby things. Please drop off the gifts in the youth room or with Matt Brown. If you have any questions, please contact Matt at [matt.brown@bethlehemfirstumc.com](mailto:matt.brown@bethlehemfirstumc.com).

## UPL\*RD

4TH-8TH GRADE VOLLEYBALL

Registration opens April 4th  
Practices Start July 21st

**\$65 til May 16th**  
Sign up on [linktr.ee/bfumc](https://linktr.ee/bfumc)

## PICKLEBALL THURSDAYS

APRIL 24TH - JUNE 5TH

GYM 6 PM - 8 PM  
(5:30 PM TUTORIAL)

**\$15 - FULL SEASON \$5 - DROP-IN**

PAY ONLINE THROUGH [LINKTR.EE/BFUMC](https://linktr.ee/bfumc)  
(PICKLEBALL THURSDAYS)

**ALL AGES &  
SKILL LEVELS  
WELCOMED!**



**GRADUATE SUNDAY IS MAY 18TH!**

If you are graduating from high school or college in 2025, 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: <https://bethlehemfirstumc.org/2025-bfumc-high-school-and-college-graduates/> or email Matt Brown **no later than May 14th**. If you have any questions, please contact Matt at [matt.brown@bethlehemfirstumc.com](mailto:matt.brown@bethlehemfirstumc.com), 770-867-3727 x 25.



## 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



# Prayer Stations

Prayer Times:

Palm Sunday: 9:00 am-6:30 pm

Monday-Thursday: 9:00 am-4:00 pm

Good Friday: 9:00 am- 1:00 pm and 5:00 pm-6:30 pm

Easter Sunday: 9:00 am-12:30 pm

*in the Fellowship Hall*







BFUMC 2nd Annual

# Ladies SPRING TEA

*An evening of dinner and fellowship*

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**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, demo, yardwork, 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.

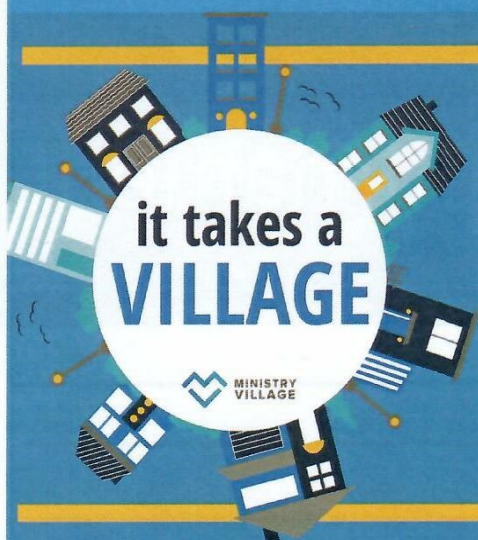
Trip cost: \$175 per person  
(covers lodging, meals, travel, and supplies).

Sign up on [linktr.ee/bfume](https://linktr.ee/bfume)  
(Augusta Mission Trip)





MINISTRY VILLAGE PRESENTS



# IT TAKES A VILLAGE GOLF TOURNAMENT

28 APRIL 2025

Registration at 8:00 AM  
Shotgun at 9:00 AM

**Providence Golf Club**

656 Providence Club Drive  
Monroe, GA 30656



\$500 per team/\$125 per player

**Mulligan Package: \$20**

(includes 2 mulligans and 5 raffle tickets)

**Great raffle prizes! Tickets: 2/\$5 - 5/\$10**

Breakfast courtesy of Dairy Queen Winder

Lunch courtesy of Chick-Fil-A Winder/Bethlehem



Scan the QR Code or Register at [barrowministrvillage.org](http://barrowministrvillage.org)



# PRAYER CONCERNS

as of Sunday, April 6, 2025

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

Karen Whitehead 770-867-3727,

[karen.whitehead@bethlehemfirstumc.com](mailto:karen.whitehead@bethlehemfirstumc.com).

Note: Names in Bold added or updated this week

Bailey, Shannon – *Prayers for long recovery ahead from  
GI surgery (Jane Orendorff)*

**Banks, Theo** – *pray for my brother who is in Braselton  
Hospital. Pray for my daughter, unspoken needs*

Benton, Rachel – *medical issues testing*

**Brown, Sharon** – *in ICU on ventilator (Matt Brown's  
mother)*

**Butler, Braydon** – *bad motorcycle wreck (Megan)*

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

Elliott, Doc – *(Pete Black)*

**Foushee, Ken** – *heart surgery*

**Furrow, Warren** – *loss of mother*

**Fowler, Nancy** – *recovering from heart valve surgery*

**Gegen, Mike** – *arthroscopic surgery on 4/22 for  
scarring in right knee*

Grant, Stu – *Praise! Recovering at home! Pray for  
continued healing*

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

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

**Hawkins, Greg** – *a-fib at Athens Piedmont, cardio  
version on 4/9*

Hitchcock, Shannon – *(Nick Jacobs)*

**Howard, Rachel** – *finishing student teaching and  
graduating May 8 from Georgia State*

Hughes, Grace – *Pray for a smooth transition to new  
living space*

Johnson, Dave

Mann, Barb – *Praise! surgery went well for spinal fusion*

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

Minish, Rebecca – *full restoration of hearing; job  
situation*

**Norris, Frances** – *shoulder and ear burned (Judy  
Smith)*

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*

**Rombs, Ronnie**

**Ross, Anna**

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

**Sirleaf, Miatta** – *pray for my brother and the entire world*

Smith, Jenny – *Praise! knee replacement surgery went well*

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

Warren, Brandon – *(Nick Jacobs)*

**White, Earlene** – *narrowed aorta*

**Whitehead, Karen** – *carpal tunnel surgery on 4/25*

## 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-chemotherapy; recovery from  
prostate surgery*

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 and safety (Monica Mirkes'  
parents)*

Lockerbie, Diane – *Recovery from long-term GI issues; overall  
health & strength (Beth Dickinson's mother)*

Massey Family – *health issues*

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

Monk, John – *pray for complication with chemotherapy, infection,  
back pain*

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)*

## Special Requests

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



## Our HomeBound

**Abbott, 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](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

**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:

- **Lisa Guillion** - *upcoming surgery*  
523 Greenvally Dr., Winder, GA 30680
- **Greg Hawkins** - *cardio version*  
330 Arbor Rd., SW, Monroe, GA 30656
- **John Monk** - *cancer treatment*  
4082 Greenleffe Dr., Statham, GA 30666



Karen Whitehead, Care Ministry Coordinator  
404-245-0443  
[Karen.Whitehead@bethlehemfirstumc.com](mailto:Karen.Whitehead@bethlehemfirstumc.com)

## 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  
[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, Will Lowndes..... ext. 104  
[will.lowndes@bethlehemfirstumc.com](mailto:will.lowndes@bethlehemfirstumc.com)

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

Communications Director, 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 Ministries,  
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



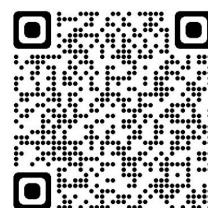
**BETHLEHEM**  
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

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

Showing Love, Sharing Hope, Building Relationships

Scan Here



**DONATIONS NEEDED**  
**OATMEAL & GRITS**  
**HAMBURGER &**  
**TUNA HELPER**  
**CEREAL**  
**PEANUT BUTTER**  
**CANNED MEAT**



**DONATIONS NEEDED**  
**TUNA OR CHICKEN**  
**MEAT IN POUCHES**  
**SOUP OR STEW**  
**(PULL-TOPS ONLY)**  
**JUICE BOXES**