God and the Pandemic | Sundays @ 7:15 pm
Beginning Today, Pastor Megan will lead this 6 week on-line group. The book, "God and the Pandemic: A Christian Reflection on the Coronavirus and It's Aftermath" addresses important questions many of us have wondered during this time: is God punishing us (or someone) with the pandemic? Why is this happening? What should we think about God during this time? How can we recover from this? Join us as we engage with this book and each other and find spiritual guidance for these turbulent times. If you are interested, please contact Pastor Megan, 706-499-2209, after this service.

Blood Drive | Monday, February 22 | 2:30 pm - 7:00 pm
Bethlehem First UMC will host a blood drive in the Fellowship Hall on tomorrow, Monday, February 22nd. Please schedule an appointment at www.linktr.ee/bfumc, or on the American Red Cross Blood Donor App, or by calling 1-800-RED-CROSS.

Lenten Lunch Lifts | Wednesdays | 12:00 pm
Join us each week during Lent at 12:00, noon, for a mid-week devotional. Find the Lenten Lunch Lifts on our Facebook page and YouTube, which are linked on linktree, www.linktr.ee/bfumc.

Candy Donations Now Being Accepted
We need candy, non-melting, wrapped, for our spring Fling Egg Hunts. Donation bins will be located in the Stars Café and the Narthex.

We all wrestle with doubt from time to time in our lives, but is that really a bad thing? In Mark 9:14-29 a desperate father brings his son to Jesus’ disciples filled with faith, trusting that they can heal him; but when they fail, he begins to doubt. When he finally encounters Jesus he acknowledges his doubts, “I believe; help my unbelief!” It is a commonly held belief that doubt is the opposite of faith, but that’s not entirely true. In order to doubt we first must believe. Doubt can actually be a catalyst to our faith, doubt can drive us to a deeper, richer faith. The truth is uncertainty and doubt are a certain part of life, and when we embrace the uncertainty and doubts in life we can actually be transformed. Faith is not the absence of doubt but the embracing of it and ultimately the transformation of it into a deeper conviction. The tension between belief and unbelief, faith and doubt, certainty and uncertainty in life is not a bad thing. Struggling with our doubts, wrestling with our uncertainties can ultimately lead to a deeper and stronger faith that will enable us to develop a confident assurance in the certainty of God’s loving presence in our lives.

February 21, 2021 | 9:30 Worship

UnCertainTy
of FAITH (Mark 9:14-29)

We all wrestle with doubt from time to time in our lives, but is that really a bad thing? In Mark 9:14-29 a desperate father brings his son to Jesus’ disciples filled with faith, trusting that they can heal him; but when they fail, he begins to doubt. When he finally encounters Jesus he acknowledges his doubts, “I believe; help my unbelief!” It is a commonly held belief that doubt is the opposite of faith, but that’s not entirely true. In order to doubt we first must believe. Doubt can actually be a catalyst to our faith, doubt can drive us to a deeper, richer faith. The truth is uncertainty and doubt are a certain part of life, and when we embrace the uncertainty and doubts in life we can actually be transformed. Faith is not the absence of doubt but the embracing of it and ultimately the transformation of it into a deeper conviction. The tension between belief and unbelief, faith and doubt, certainty and uncertainty in life is not a bad thing. Struggling with our doubts, wrestling with our uncertainties can ultimately lead to a deeper and stronger faith that will enable us to develop a confident assurance in the certainty of God’s loving presence in our lives.

Worship | Invite | Nurture | Grow | Serve
Making Disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

709 Christmas Avenue, Bethlehem, GA 30620
770-867-3727 | info@bethlehemfirstumc.com
www.bethlehemfirstumc.org
Welcome!  Thank you for joining us this week as we worship together in-person and online. We are glad that you are with us and hope that you find the service engaging and encouraging as we navigate this strange time together. If you have any prayer requests to share with the church, please email us (info@bethlehemfirstumc.com). Our staff is available by phone anytime. We hope you are blessed by your time with us this week.

Our Clergy
Rev. Frank Bernat, Senior Pastor
770.867.3727, ext. 23, 770.362.7998 cell
frank.bernat@bethlehemfirstumc.com

Rev. Megan Gomez, Associate Pastor of Discipleship & Spiritual Formation
770.867.3727, ext. 20, 706-499-2209 cell
megan.gomez@bethlehemfirstumc.com

To Learn More About Bethlehem First UMC
bethlehemfirstumc.org  |  770.867.3727
info@bethlehemfirstumc.com

9:30 CONTEMPORARY SERVICE
IN THE WORSHIP CENTER

We Praise God
Open Up The Heavens  |  Living Hope  |  Because He Lives

We Welcome One Another
Welcome/Greeting  |  Jerad Poff
Announcement Video  |  Trish Johnson
Offering  |  Rev. Frank Bernat
Pastoral Prayer  |  Rev. Megan Gomez

We Listen to the Word of God
Scripture Focus  |  Mark 9:14-29
Message  |  “The Uncertainty of Faith”  |  Rev. Bernat

We Depart to Serve God
Worthy Of Your Name
Blessing and Benediction

We Are a Praying Church
During this time of distancing, we need to continue to pray for one another. Please email your prayer requests to info@bethlehemfirstumc.com and the weekly PrayerNet will be emailed out on Monday.