**The Fruit of the Spirit**

The Christian life is a battle of our sinful human desires against the new nature given to us by Christ. As fallen human beings we still desire sinful things; however, as Christ followers we have the Holy Spirit’s presence in us to produce His fruit of righteousness in our lives; and we have the Holy Spirit’s power available to us to conquer the desires of our sinful nature. We will never be completely successful in always demonstrating the Fruit of the Holy Spirit. However, as we grow in our faith and walk daily under His guidance, He will progressively produce more and more of His fruit in our lives. When we surrender our lives completely to the Holy Spirit, He will work through us to produces life-giving Godly characteristics—the fruit of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Join us for this summer message series as we discover how to cultivate the Fruit of the Spirit in our daily lives.

**Please join us for in-person worship or Worship On-Line**

**WWW.BETHLEHEMFIRSTUMC.ORG**

**9:30 AM Contemporary Worship | 11:00 AM Traditional Worship**

Love • Joy • Peace • Patience • Kindness • Goodness

faithfulness • Gentleness • Self-control

**Sunday, July 25, 2021 @ 10:30 AM | Ninth Sunday After Pentecost**

*(In-Person & Online)*

“The Fruit of the Spirit is Self-Control” Galatians 5:16-25

While self-control might be listed last among the fruit of the spirit, it is certainly not least. In reality, it is one of the most important qualities for a Christian to possess. Self-control helps us resist temptation and avoid conforming to the things of this world. It guides our thoughts, actions, and words; and it correlates with how we demonstrate the other eight virtues listed as the fruit of the Spirit. For example, patience requires self-control. Proverbs 14:29 says, “Anyone who is patient has great understanding. But anyone who gets angry quickly shows how foolish they are.” Our sinful nature leads us to give into our temper, but we’re called to rise above this and show patience. Self-control can apply to all the other virtues listed in the fruit of the Spirit in the same way it is applied to patience. Self-control allows us to keep our focus on God while avoiding the temptation of our human nature. Many temptations can be strong, but our spiritual self-control can be stronger with the help of the Holy Spirit. With God’s help, we can conquer our temptations and learn to produce the fruit of self-control.
**NOMINATIONS FOR 2022 LAY LEADERSHIP**

In August, your Lay Leadership Team will begin the process of compiling nominations for our 2022 Leadership. If you are a member or a regular attendee there is a place for you to serve. Whether your interest lies more in Worship, Invite, Nurture, Grow, or Serve - we need you. If you claim BFUMC as your church family, then we want you to be involved in making this a vibrant church for making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

If you or someone you know would be interested in serving on our Leadership Team in 2022, please email us at info@bethlehemfirstumc.com, or speak to one of our pastors.

Booklets, listing qualifications, spiritual gifts, and experience/skills helpful for each team, are available in the Commons Area, Narthex, and Vestibules. If you would like an electronic version sent to you, please contact karen.whitehead@bethlehemfirstumc.com.

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**COFFEE WITH PASTORS**

Are you interested in learning more about our church membership? Coffee With the Pastor is scheduled for Sunday, July 25, at 5:00 p.m. Anyone interested in exploring membership to BFUMC is welcome to come and tour the church, hear about BFUMC and to ask questions, and get to know our pastor.

If you would like to attend, please contact Karen in the church office, 770-867-3727 ext. 11, karen.whitehead@bethlehemfirstumc.com.

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**BFUMC FINAL BEACH DAY**

Families are invited to gather at 11:00 a.m., every Tuesday in July (weather permitting) at Fort Yargo beach. Bring a lunch and stay awhile for fellowship and fun in the sun, sand, and water. trish.johnson@bethlehemfirstumc.com.

Tuesday, July 27th is our final Beach Day this season - so come out and enjoy!!!!

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**BLOOD DRIVE**

The American Red Cross will be in our Fellowship Hall on Monday, July 26, 2:30 - 7:00 p.m. Please schedule an appointment by installing the Blood Donor app, visiting redcrossblood.org and search: beth1umc, calling 1-800-Red-Cross.

To show appreciation, all donors will receive a $10 Amazon e-gift card.
Sunday School Has Resumed
Looking to grow in your faith? Get reconnected to a Sunday School class. For more information, contact Pastor Megan at megan.gomez@bethlehemfirstumc.com.

Sunday Morning Groups
- **Friendship Class** - 9:30 am. Room 123
  Singles and couples welcome. This is a lecture-style teaching class based on the *Wesley Bible Curriculum*.
- **Just Say Jesus** - 10:45-11:30 am. 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!
- **Shared Journey** - 9:30 am. Room 12
  A group of men and women that aim to grow in their faith together through Bible study, Christian fellowship, and sharing life’s experiences.
- **Wesley Class** - 9:30 am. Room 101
  This group meets on the first and third Sundays. Senior adults are welcome in this curriculum-based class!

Lay Servant On-Line Class
REGISTER TODAY! Take a look at our latest Lay Servant Ministry (LSM) zoom class offering, $42.00 per class and a 10 hour commitment. Saturdays July 31-Aug. 28 from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Anyone is eligible! [https://www.ngumc.org/courseschedules](https://www.ngumc.org/courseschedules). Registration deadline is July 30th. Bible Study Facilitators: David Knauft & Amanda Padovano.

**BETHLEHEM FIRST UMC LIBRARY**
Did you know we have a library?
Did you know we have 200 new books on the shelves?
Check out our library any day the church is open, Monday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Friday 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., and Sunday 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
How to Check Out Books
Simply write your name on the check out card and leave it in the box on the desk.
More new books to come, so start reading...

**HANDBELLS**
Sunday, August 15th
3-4pm | 4-5pm
2nd grade-adult
*Christmas Concert December 5th at 7pm*
Contact Jenny Smith jandjsmith102@gmail.com

**COMING THIS FALL...**
Beginning
August 8th
5-7pm

**Sunday Nights**
@BFUMC
Something for EVERYONE:
- Kids Choir
- Child Care
- Rooted Youth
- Adult Grow Groups
NEW
Sermon Series for August
9:30 am | 11:00 am
In-Person & On-Line

Grow Groups available to help you dive deeper!

- 9:30 a.m. | 5:00 p.m.
  To sign up for a Grow Group, contact Pastor Megan, 706-499-2209, megan.gomez@bethlehemfirstumc.com

- Book required.
  Order through Amazon or any bookstore. (Participants Guide not needed).
BFUMC FAMILY PROMISE WEEK | August 15 - 22

Since we are still in the pandemic, the Athens Family Promise affiliate is continuing to host their guests at a static site: Milledge Avenue Baptist Church (1690 S. Milledge Avenue, Athens 30605). Even though the guests are not coming to our church August 15 - 22, your help is still needed to volunteer at the static site in order to ensure that the guests are safe and have the support they need.

- There are many shifts to choose from but the largest need is for overnight hosts and dinner hosts to drop off dinner each night August 15-22. Here is the link to sign up for volunteer opportunities: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090f4ca5aa29a4fe3-fpainterfaith. You will note in the introductory section there is a link to the new online training videos for new volunteers. Please view this video if you have not attended the official Family Promise training. Once you sign-up for a shift, we will send you more details closer to your time to serve.

- Here is a link to a YouTube video showing the facilities for the static site: https://youtu.be/lkPws5kbcE. Hopefully it will answer most of your questions about the facility and the set-up there.

If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact me. Thanks in advance for being the hands and feet of Christ during this crucial time!

Brent Bohanan, Family Promise Coordinator | 770-826-4638 | brentsbohanan@windstream.net
PRAYER CONCERNS

SUNDAY, JULY 18, 2021

Agnew, Belinda—recovering from knee replacement
Arriaga, Olivia—facing surgery
Baggett, June—home, on IV
Black, Colin
Boyd, Billy
Carr, Stephen—health issues, new job adjustments, family relationships
Chiomento, Staci—prayers for Aunt Sandy. Uncle Al died unexpectedly and she is missing him.
Christy—strength through divorce
Cooksey, Olivia (Anissa Sullivan’s granddaughter)
Dillard, Tonya
Doster, Mark—recovering from surgery
Eramo, Frank—Prayers for walk with Christ, discipline to be in His word daily, and a friend’s salvation
Ferro, Joey—recovery from shoulder surgery
Carr, Stephen—health
Fleming, Keith & Family
Gannon, Carissa
Gower, Hazel—heart (sister of Grace Hughes)
Gower, Mike—nephew of Grace Hughes
Holder Family
King, Mitch
Knowles, Jason—complete healing
Kulp, Caroline—recovery from knee surgery
Lantz, Clyde—medical issues (Marlene Kilburn’s nephew)
Leary, Jim—hernia surgery 7/18 (Anissa Sullivan’s father)
Luenzmann, Bettie
Mullen, Lenny—surgery to replace 4 heart valves
Nash, Krise, Dana & Jackie
Pelletier, Jamie
Pruett, Virginia—recovering from knee replacement
Smith, Tom—cancer spreading—in a lot of pain (Laura Vosburgh’s brother-in-law)
Turpin, Jessica—anxiety
Turpin, Kathleen—unspoken prayer request
Wagner, Family of Butch
Whitehead, Karen—recovering
White, Faye—Parkinson’s disease
Whittington, John & Rhonda—daughter Christy, going through divorce

ONGOING REQUESTS

Alcorn, Shirley—breast cancer
Allen, Tyler
Beaty, Charlotte & Chris
Cavnor, Scott
Cox, Billy
Dawson, Ed & Family—cancer (Marlene Kilburn’s brother)
Dean, Jamie—breast cancer
Flahn Family
Flanigan, Michael—hospital/rehab
Helmers, Lois—severe back pain
Layfield, Bill & Carol
Madox, Addie
Massey Family—health issues
Page, Alana
Ramos, Aldo—leukemia (son-in-law of Dolores Eckel’s daughter)
Roark, Shirla—congestive heart failure and COPD (Paula Reagin’s sister)
Robbins, Molly—working on Dude Ranch in Colorado during summer break from college (Laura Vosburgh’s granddaughter)
Robertson, Mary
Valentine, April
Wagner, Carol & Butch
Williams, Cecil—health issues

SYMPATHIES

Nell Bell on the death of her brother, William “Billy” Malcom, who passed away on Tuesday, July 20, 2021.
Johnny Doster on the death of his sister, Brenda Harbin, who passed away on Thursday, July 22, 2021.

To receive prayer updates and notices for e-prayers through The Inn, www.bethlehemfirstumc.org.
For assistance, contact Karen Whitehead 770-867-3727, karen.whitehead@bethlehemfirstumc.com.
A PRAYER FOR MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS AND FIRST RESPONDERS ON THE FRONT LINES OF FIGHTING THE CORONAVIRUS

Almighty God, millions of lives around the world are being touched by coronavirus. We pray for those who are sick and those who have lost loved ones. In this moment we pray especially for our medical professionals and first responders. Strengthen their tired bodies. Protect them and their families. Guide their administrators and government and private leaders to make and provide the medical supplies they desperately need. Fill them with your hope and your peace that passes all understanding. Wrap them in your arms and guide their hands so that they know they do not fight this virus alone, but that you are with them. Thank you for the sacrifices that so many of them are already making. Please bless them, guard them, and guide them. Amen.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY ON THE FRONT LINES

Dwight Austin--Doctor in Winder
Angie Bagwell--X-Ray Tech at Egleston
Tilly Benson--RN at Children’s Healthcare Atlanta
Juliana (Jill) Cash—Sterile Processing Dept. Tech & CNA for NEGA Medical Center-Barrow
Barry Chandler--Sheriff Dept.
Jennifer Christenberry--CRNA in Athens and Greensboro
Andy Dean--Nurse at Eastside Snellville
Joseph Doolittle--Police Officer
Andrea Ferrante--Nurse at Northeast Georgia Braselton Cath Lab
Kim Furlow--Pharmacist at Piedmont Henry in Stockbridge
Ben Harbin--RN at Piedmont-Athens ICU
Beth Hinch--Pediatric Physical Therapist
Tim Hines--Sheriff Dept.
Nick Jacobs--Police Officer
Richard Jacobs--Doctor - Piedmont Walton Hospital
Phyllis Landers--Nurse making house calls for United Healthcare
Raleigh Strickland Maxey--Nurse Practitioner
Nick Moore--EMT
Lisa Niedling--Nurse at Park Place
Becca Smith--Occupational Therapist - St. Mary’s Hospital
Kyndall Sparks--CNA at NEGA Medical Center Gainesville
Andrea Tyler--Nurse

FRIENDS ON THE FRONT LINES

Haley Harrison--Director of Physician Operations
Janes Harrison -- Game Warden, Dept. of Natural Resources
Ann Marie Johnson--Nurse
Our HomeBound

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

Shirley Alcorn, Spouse: Tom .......... 678-227-2914
147 Thorn Brook Rd.
Bethlehem, GA 30620

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

Boyd, Evelyn & JP .......................... 770-867-9551
16 Joseph St., PO Box 65
Bethlehem, GA 30620

Chaffin, Patty ............................... 912-754-2402
133 Brookstone Way
Rincon, GA 31326

Collins, Sally ............................... 706-283-5429
Northridge Health & Rehab
70 Medical Center Dr., Rm 103
Commerce, GA 30529

Haralson, Evelyn ............................ 770-466-0550
3874 Grady Smith Rd.
Loganville, GA 30052

Harrison, Carolyn ........................... 678-963-5198
Gateway Gardens
138 Gateway Lane
Bethlehem, GA 30620

Kelley, Betty ................................. 770-867-2251
422 Aberdeen Way
Winder, GA 30680

Laske, Larry, Spouse: Nancye ........... 678-471-6535
1382 Biedermier Rd.
Winder, GA 30680

McCauslan, John & Harriet .............. 678-520-5692
755 Epps Bridge Pkwy., Apt. 221
Athens, GA 30606

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

Pruett, Leeon .................................. 678-425-4029
Mulberry Grove
343 Price St.
Statham, GA 30666

Robertson, Mary ............................. 404-822-9632
2895 Pebble Brook Dr.
Buford, GA 30518

Rogers, Carolyn ............................. 770-361-4737
3680 Apalachicoo Ridge
Monroe, GA 30656

Scott, Eva .................................... 770-601-2879
1356 Cambridge Ct.
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

Williams, Cecil, Spouse: Judy .......... 678-346-0619
605 Sleeping Meadow Lane
Bethlehem, GA 30620

Our Homebound

- Send a Card
- Make a Phone Call
- Visit
- Join the BFUMC Neighborhood Caregivers Ministry - email Amanda Padovano, msamandaleighp@gmail.com
- Pray
OUR CLERGY

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

Rev. Beth Dickinson, Associate Pastor
770.867.3727, ext. 22, 404.483.8760 cell
beth.dickinson@bethlehemfirstumc.com

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

Our Staff

Office Phone # ............................. 770.867.3727

Accounting Manager, Belinda Agnew ..................... ext. 19
belinda.agnew@bethlehemfirstumc.com

Audio/Video, Dale Madden ....................... 678.994.7855 cell
dale.madden@bethlehemfirstumc.com

Children Ministries Director, Trish Johnson ............ ext. 22
trish.johnson@bethlehemfirstumc.com

Custodian, Jerad Poff .......................... 770-527-9925 cell
jerad.poff@bethlehemfirstumc.com

Executive Assistant, Karen Whitehead .................. ext. 11
karen.whitehead@bethlehemfirstumc.com

Fitness/Rec Director, Anissa Sullivan .................... ext. 15
anissa.sullivan@bethlehemfirstumc.com

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

Student Ministry Director, Matt Brown ................. ext. 25
matt.brown@bethlehemfirstumc.com

Church Office Hours

Monday thru Thursday ~ 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Friday ~ 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Contemporary Worship Leader
Jerad Poff | 770-527-9925 cell
jerad.poff@bethlehemfirstumc.com

Interim Chancel Choir Director
William Collins | 229-319-8975 cell
wmeicsr@gmail.com

Pianist, Katrina Wilson | 404.732.7308 cell