

# Welcome!

## Here's what's happening in our community



### July Communion offering will support Benevolence Fund

Your Communion offering today will support the Benevolence Fund as a witness of God's love to our siblings in Christ who are homeless or who struggle to meet their basic financial needs. We partner with Community Care Fellowship to refer people for bus passes, immediate essential services such as laundry, showers, hot meals, temporary housing, and other services. Individualized counseling and support and transformational programs to empower our community and break the cycle of poverty will also be offered.

You can leave your gift at the Communion rail or in the offering plate (marked Benevolence Fund), or give online at <https://onrealm.org/BelmontUMC/-/form/give/Benevolence>.

### ENCORE Sunday

**Sunday, August 3, at 8:10am and 10:30am in the chapel and sanctuary**

On Sunday, August 3, join us at 8:10am and 10:30am for ENCORE Sunday at Belmont UMC! Members of the ENCORE Ministry Committee, several of our ENCORE Faith Companions, and other older adults will lead the service, with Rev. Ed Batsel preaching.

We'll celebrate Holy Communion and include the *Blessing of the Backpacks* as part of the service. Make plans now to be part of this joyful morning!

### *Blessing of the Backpacks: A celebration for all ages*

**Sunday, August 3, at 10:30am in the sanctuary**

On Sunday, August 3, during the 10:30am worship service, children (from babies - 6th grade) are invited to participate in *Blessing of the Backpacks* (and diaper bags)! We'll pray for a safe and wonderful school year, and each child will receive a special tag for their backpack or diaper bag.

Because we believe that learning is a lifelong journey, we're excited to offer this event in collaboration with ENCORE Sunday.

Children and parents are welcome to wear or carry their backpack or diaper bag to Communion, where they will receive a special blessing.

### Save the date for the *Back to Belmont Bash!*

**Sunday, August 10, immediately after worship in the Community Center and parking lot**

Make plans to join us for the *Back to Belmont Bash* on Sunday, August 10, immediately after worship! This all-ages event will feature indoor and outdoor games, great fellowship, and a delicious lunch.

Lunch will be provided by Whitt's Barbecue. Menu: choice of pulled pork or turkey on a bun, macaroni and cheese, baked beans, coleslaw, fruit cobbler, iced tea, and lemonade. Go to [belmontumc.org/back-to-belmont](http://belmontumc.org/back-to-belmont) to make your reservation *no later than Sunday, August 3*; \$5 per person.

Don't miss this opportunity to reconnect and have fun with your Belmont UMC family!

## This week at Belmont UMC

### WEDNESDAY, JULY 9

10:00am Lectio Divina, Zoom  
6:00pm Gentle yoga, Zoom

### THURSDAY, JULY 10

8:00am Centering prayer, Zoom

### SATURDAY, JULY 12

10:00am O.N.E./Barnes awards program, Community Center

### SUNDAY, JULY 13

8:10am Worship with Communion, chapel/Facebook live

9:00am Adult Sunday school, various rooms

9:15am Young adult Sunday school, 303

9:15am Children's summer Sunday school, 213 and 217

10:30am Worship, sanctuary/  
Facebook live

*Belmonters for Inclusion will not meet this month*



RECONCILING MINISTRIES NETWORK

Belmont UMC is a member of the Reconciling Ministries Network.



# Save the date!

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 23-  
FRIDAY, JULY 25**  
Youth Mission Stay

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 3**  
8:10am and 10:30am  
ENCORE Sunday,  
chapel and sanctuary  
10:30am *Blessing of the Backpacks*,  
sanctuary

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 10**  
11:30am *Back to Belmont Bash*,  
Community Center and parking lot

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13**  
5:00pm Wednesday Night at Belmont  
resumes, Community Center

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 24**  
11:30am Administrative Board,  
Parker Hall

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1**  
*Church closed for Labor Day holiday*

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28**  
9:15am Kindergarten Prayer Friends  
pancake breakfast,  
Community Center

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17 - SUNDAY,  
OCTOBER 19**  
All-Church Retreat at Beersheba  
Springs Assembly

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13**  
5:00pm Feast of Lights,  
sanctuary

## Contact us

615-383-0832 /  
contactus@belmontumc.org  
belmontumc.org

## Follow us on social media



## Encore's Home Help Ministry is making a big impact!

Need a hand with home repairs? Belmont UMC's Encore Home Help Ministry is here to help with small household projects, and the impact has been big:

*I'm so grateful for the Encore Home Help Ministry! They recently helped me with a couple of projects, and their skill and kindness really impressed me. I only wish I had called them sooner!* - Mary Crichton

*We thought we needed a new front door lock, but ENCORE Home Help saved the day! Jim Robinson came, made a few careful adjustments, and had it working perfectly in minutes—no new lock needed. We're so grateful for this valuable service!* - Jim and Starr Strickland

*I'm grateful for the diligence Bart used in assembling my printer stand. He also fixed a door hinge!* - Nancy Holland

Skilled, kind, and ready to serve - this team is making a real difference in our church community. Want to learn more or request help? Go to [belmontumc.org/home-help](http://belmontumc.org/home-help).

## Administrative Board will meet in August

**Sunday, August 24, at 11:30am in Parker Hall**

Curious about what happens at Administrative Board meetings? All are welcome to attend! Mark your calendar for Sunday, August 24, at 11:30am in Parker Hall; a Zoom option will also be available. Stay tuned for lunch reservation details.

## Book drive for Eakin Elementary School

**August 2025**

On Sunday, August 3, the same day as our *Blessing of the Backpacks*, Belmont UMC will kick off a book drive in support of Eakin Elementary School's *Volume of Reading* initiative. We'll be collecting books throughout the month of August.

For a list of requested titles, visit [belmontumc.org/book-drive](http://belmontumc.org/book-drive). Eakin is grateful for our ongoing support and says our donations will make a meaningful difference in the lives of many students.

Let's help stock their shelves with high-quality instructional books!

## New members

We're thrilled to welcome Courtney and Mike Worden to the Belmont UMC family! The Wordens joined on June 29, 2025.

## Joys and concerns

Congratulations to Mary Kate and Bob Eckhardt on the arrival of their son, Lochlan Avery Eckhardt! Lochlan was born on Saturday, June 28. We celebrate this joyful news with their family!

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*We are a community of Christ-followers growing in love of God and neighbor.*

*We believe every person is of sacred worth and created in God's image. We commit to Jesus' example of inclusive love, care, and intentional hospitality with persons of every race, ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, faith story, physical or mental ability, economic status, or political perspective. We respect our diversity of opinion and expressions of faith. Therefore, as God loves us, so let us love and serve in the name of Christ.*

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