

This week at Belmont UMC

TUESDAY, MAY 15
10:00 a.m. UMW Anna Circle, Iris Room

WEDNESDAY, MAY 16
2:30 p.m. *Ministry with the Forgotten*, 124
5:15 p.m. Midweek at Belmont meal, Community Center
Make meal reservations by 9:00 a. m. Monday
6:00 p.m. Hospital Visitation Team, 201
6:00 p.m. Yoga, Parker Hall

THURSDAY, MAY 17
8:00 a.m. Women's Centering Prayer Group, 124
7:00 p.m. *Way Forward* presentation, Community Center

SUNDAY, MAY 20
11:30 a.m. Children's Ministry Team, 124

Have you registered for WEB Music Camp yet?

Register online at westendumc.org/musiccamp. WEB (West End Belmont) Music Camp will take place this summer, July 9—13, from 9 a.m.—12 noon, Monday through Friday, with a shared worship experience on Sunday, July 15, at Belmont UMC during the 10:30am worship service. This year's theme is "Rhythms of Worship." Music camp is open to all children ages 4 through 6th grade. Campers will meet daily at Belmont UMC to experience singing, hand bells, drumming, crafts, movement, a "tween group," and snacks. It will be an active and fun week exploring worship through music!

Where in the world is John Wesley?

This summer, join us for an *all ages* Sunday school extravaganza! Each Sunday in June and July we will explore another part of our great wide world through song, story, and craft. Over the summer we will follow in the path of John Wesley and see how the light of our faith shines in countries and nations far away, as well as in our own back yard. Pack your suitcase! Grab your map! Our next journey is about to begin!

MIDWEEK Belmont UMC Nourishment for the mind & spirit
Menu for May
16: *Adults and youth:* Pork loin with lemon cream, mixed greens salad, roasted broccoli with chili flakes and lemon, and chocolate cream pie. *Vegetarian option:* Goat cheese and Israeli cous cous stuffed bell peppers. *Children:* Pulled pork paninis.

Have you been *Sent*?

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though mission trips immediately come to mind, these events may have been something else: volunteering at Luke 14:12, attending a retreat, mentoring at Brighter Days, visiting the sick, or attending a Bible study. We often discover that being "sent" has more impact on our lives than the lives of others. We want to invite you to share your story of being *Sent* with others in our community. Can you describe a time when you felt you were *Sent*? How did being *Sent* change your life? What did it mean to you? How did our faith community at Belmont help prepare you to be *Sent*? Our hope is that we have our own stories to share with each other on our web site and in our newsletter as we reflect on the stories of the apostles who were sent to spread the Gospel. Please take time to write your reflection on being *Sent* and email it to Angie Slade at aslade@belmontumc.org.

Joys and Concerns

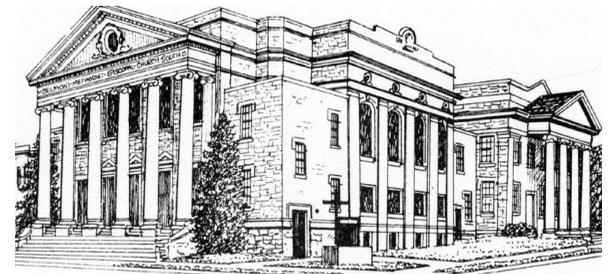
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Memorials
BETTY PLANT
Donors:
Mary Ruth & Myron Mains
Marie Nowell

Belmont United Methodist Church

News

May 13, 2018



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.

Joys and Concerns

Christian sympathy is extended to Jane, Mike, Mary, and Frank DuBose in the death of Jane's mother, Mary Finchum.

Edna McWilliams in the death of her sister, Cecilia Spritzer.

Memorials
LUKE DUNN
MARY HALL
LINDA GRAVES
ELEANOR ROBERTS

Donor:
Marie Nowell

HAZEL ADCOCK
Donors:
Mary Ruth & Myron Mains

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Connect with us online!

Belmont UMC is on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. You'll see photos and videos there that you won't see anywhere else. On Facebook, find us at Belmont UMC.Nashville, and on Twitter and Instagram, find us at Belmont UMC.

Way Forward Commission member to speak at Belmont UMC

Since 1972, the United Methodist Church has struggled with the recognition and inclusion of LGBT persons in the life of the church. Many predict this contentious struggle will lead to a schism in the denomination. In 2016, General Conference asked the Council of Bishops to create a plan to resolve this seemingly unresolvable debate. The Council responded by creating the *Way Forward* Commission to propose solutions that will be presented at a special General Conference in 2019.

Since then, commission

members have been studying, praying, and discerning the best options for making the UMC a truly inclusive church. The commission is now finishing its work and sending its final report to the Council of Bishops. Dave Nuckols, a layperson from Minnesota and member of the commission, will speak in our Community Center on Thursday, May 17, at 7:00pm. Since Tennessee has no members on the commission, this will be a rare opportunity to hear from a *Way Forward* commission member and learn about its proposal.

Did you know . . .

that almost half of the children who attend Eakin Elementary live in poverty? For many, their school lunch is the only food they will receive that day. Once school is out for the summer, many will go hungry. Please donate needed items so that we

may stock up these families with food for the summer. Food items needed are: Easy Mac, spaghetti noodles, breakfast cereal, granola bars and fruit cups (no glass, please). A donation box is available in the Iris Room entrance area.

A note from Pastor Paul: Pentecost Sunday news

On Pentecost Sunday, May 20, we will celebrate the rich diversity of Christian expression and stand with our neighbors as we share in a trilingual worship experience with Ebenezer United Methodist and our Golden Triangle Fellowship during the 10:30 a.m. worship service. We will sing, pray, read scripture, and take Communion together, but our unified worship itself will provide the day's message/sermon. Come let us lift up one voice through three hymnals Karen, Spanish, and English. If there are moments that feel a bit strange, perhaps the strangeness will help us learn to better love the stranger. At 9:15 a.m., in Parker Hall, members of Ebenezer UMC will share stories of their immigration to our city. I assure you that you will be moved as you hear these young dreamers share their journey.

A few weeks ago, I attended the ESL writer's showcase. Belmont UMC has opened its doors in Christian hospitality for over 48 years to people from all over the world, and I was deeply moved by the words of one of the writers. Here's what one student said about our church:

"I was realizing that this was a special place. A place where we learn much more than how to speak English. A place where our color, our race, our religion, our political opinions, our situation in the country does not matter . . . I've never been in a place with people so different from me that I felt so welcomed, so respected and so dear. Everyone involved with this project is a volunteer. They could be doing anything else in their lives, but chose to be donating their time to teach foreigners. In a world so troubled, where more and more people only think of themselves, seeing so many people working for each other's sake makes me excited. So, from this class I take with me much more than teachings about English, I take great friends who for many times were my family here. I carry the hope that there are still incredible people willing to give themselves for others. I am certain that it is possible for extremely different people to live peacefully for a greater good. And I leave my sincere thanks to everyone who was part of this beautiful journey."

May this always be true of us!

Notary service available

Belmont UMC has a notary on staff. If you need a document notarized, contact Angie Slade (aslade@belmontumc.org or 615-383-0832, ext. 23). This service is free of charge.

Upcoming Worship Services

Pentecost Sunday

May 20, 2018

Paul Purdue preaching 8:15 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. worship services.

8:15 a.m. - Communion in the chapel

9:15 a.m. - Sunday school

10:30 a.m. - Communion in the sanctuary with Golden Triangle and Ebenezer UMC.

Scripture lessons: Acts 2:1-17, 21

Sunday school classes collecting the offering for May: Simplicity, Covenant, Seekers

Open Door Singers choir tour

Do you have friends or family in or near Ohio or Canada? If so, please invite them to join our Open Door Singers at one of their "on the road" venues:

June 3 at 10:30 a.m. - worship at Indianola Presbyterian Church, 1970 Waldeck Ave, Columbus, Ohio.

June 5 at 6:00 p.m. - concert at BME Christ Church St. James, 1828 Eglinton Avenue West, Toronto, Ontario.

June 6 at 7:00 p.m. - concert at First-St. Andrew's United Church, 350 Queens Avenue, London, Ontario.

June 7 at 2:00 p.m. - concert at Ohio Living Swan Creek, 916 Cresthaven Lane, Toledo, Ohio.

Finally, on June 8, be sure to join us in Belmont UMC's sanctuary at 5:30 p.m. for the Open Door Singers homecoming concert.

Upcoming holiday closing

The church and its offices will be closed on Monday, May 28, in observance of the Memorial Day holiday.

Say it with flowers!

Have you ever wondered how the beautiful flowers appear in the chancel area every Sunday? Belmont UMC has a long tradition of having flowers arranged by the dedicated members of the Altar Guild. This ministry adds much to set the stage for a meaningful worship experience. Please consider taking part in worship preparation by sponsoring the flowers.

The cost for both arrangements is \$80. You can designate the flowers as a memorial to a loved one or an honorarium for someone special in your life. We currently have openings for several summer Sundays. To choose your Sunday, contact Susan Bradford (615-708-6504).

Knoxville Gay Men's Chorus to perform at Belmont UMC

On Saturday, June 2, the Knoxville Gay Men's Chorus (KGMC) will perform in the Community Center at 7:30 p.m. KGMC's mission is to promote acceptance and inclusion for all people in Tennessee and the nation. There is no admission fee, but donations are appreciated. Profits will be donated to local LGBTQ organizations. This event is being sponsored by Belmonsters for Inclusion, and all are welcome to attend.

Have you been *Sent*?

During June and July, we will be exploring how Paul and the Apostles were *Sent* throughout the Roman world to spread the Gospel after Pentecost. Many of us have felt a time when we were *Sent*, although often we may not have realized it until afterwards. Perhaps, like Jonah, we initially resisted but later discovered the journey to be significant to us. Al-

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Sent summer sermon series



This summer, join us on a spiritual journey through Acts as we ponder how God sends us into the world today. On Sunday mornings in June and July, at 8:15am and 10:30am, *Sent* will take us to Antioch, Philippi, Athens, Corinth, Ephesus, Rome and more. It is a story of diversity, innovation, community, strategic plans, Godly dreams, jail time, female pastors, clergy couples, pagan temples, risks, and a shipwreck! Here is our weekly travelogue:

June 3 - (Acts 13:1-6) *Sent*: the church sets sail from Antioch; a diverse church in Antioch commissions Paul and Barnabas.

June 10 - (Acts 14:8-16, 21-28, 15:36, & 20:28) Planting churches in Lystra, Iconium, Attalia; Paul and Barnabas lead a cross cultural church team.

June 17 - (Acts 16:5-16) Lydia leads a church in Philippi; Paul follows a vision of a Macedonian man, but instead encounters Lydia who will lead a house church in Philippi.

June 24 - (Acts 16: 19-40) Singing hymns inside a Philippian jail cell.

July 1 - (Acts 17:16-34) Preaching next to Athenian idols.

July 8 - (Acts 18:1-5, 18:18-19, 18:26, 21:9 & Romans 16:3-5) Priscilla and Aquila: clergy plant churches in Corinth, Syria, Ephesus, and Rome.

July 15 - (Acts 20:20-24, 20:36-21:6, and 21:13-14) Friends from Ephesus and Caesarea fear for Paul's risky mission.

July 22 - (Acts 21:27-22:25) It helps to know another language; Paul makes a defense in two languages in Jerusalem.

July 29 - (Acts 27-28:7) Shipwrecked and snakebitten in Malta.