

This week at Belmont UMC

SUNDAY, MARCH 28

8:15am Worship service with Communion, Facebook live
9:30am Children's Sunday school, Zoom
10:30am Worship service, Facebook live
2:00pm Children's Palm Sunday gathering, CC
5:15pm United Methodist Youth, Zoom

TUESDAY, MARCH 30

9:00am Regathering Team, Zoom
5:30pm Flow yoga, Zoom
6:30pm Belmont LGBTQIA group, Zoom

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31

10:00am Lectio Divina, Zoom
5:00pm Encore Lent series, Zoom
5:00pm Sanctuary Choir ensembles, choir room/sanctuary
6:00pm Gentle yoga, Zoom
6:00pm Youth discussion, Zoom
6:30pm Children's choirs, Zoom
8:30pm Parent/caregiver hangout, Zoom

THURSDAY, APRIL 1

8:00am Women's Centering Prayer, Zoom
1:00pm Celebration Ringers, 226
6:00pm Maundy Thursday Love Feast, Zoom

FRIDAY, APRIL 2

10:00am Parent and Child Music, Zoom
12:00pm Good Friday worship, Facebook live
Church closes at noon

SATURDAY, APRIL 3

7:00pm Holy Saturday vigil @ the Colletts'

SUNDAY, APRIL 4

6:00am Easter sunrise Communion service, courtyard
8:15am Worship service with Communion, Facebook live
9:30am Children's Sunday school, Zoom
10:30am Worship service, Facebook live

MONDAY, APRIL 5

Church offices closed

Walking the Stations of the Cross

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You may walk the stations from 7:00am to 7:00pm. Please practice social distancing.

Upcoming worship services

Easter Sunday
April 4, 2021

Paul Purdue preaching, 8:15am and 10:30am worship services.

8:15am - Facebook live
10:30am - Facebook live

April 4 - The Risen Christ Is Always a Step Ahead of Us (Mark 16:1-8)

Through the Wilderness Lenten journey week 6



This week's Lenten journey themes are *Kin-dom, Kin-ship, Power-with.* (Mark 11:1-11) Go to belmontumc.org/lent to learn more.

New member

Belmont UMC welcomes new member Liza Ramage who transferred her membership to Belmont UMC on March 21, 2021.



Belmont United Methodist Church NEWS for March 28, 2021

Joys and concerns

Memorials

JIM FOLK

Donors:

Kathy Anderson

Joyce & Jerome Del Pino

Reserve your spot for in-person worship on April 11

On Sunday, April 11, we will open the sanctuary for limited in-person worship at the 10:30am service. Reservations are required and can be made online at belmontumc.org/in-person-worship.

Due to spacing considerations, worshipers wanting to sing will be seated on the main floor level. Those who prefer not to sing have the option of sitting in the balcony.

Once your spot is reserved, plan to arrive by 10:15am and shepherds will be available to help get you seated. While in the building, please follow our Covid protocols (wear a mask at all times, maintain social distancing, etc.)

ALL are welcome here.

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.



Easter sermon series: Resurrection Stories

Easter's resurrection story is not a one and done historical fact - we each have a resurrection story. Sunday mornings, April 4 - May 9, join us at 8:15am and 10:30am for our Easter sermon series, *Resur-*

rection Stories. We will explore how resurrection changes our hearts and lives as well as hear stories of God's power working in us. Go to belmontumc.org/resurrection-stories to learn more.

Walking the Stations of the Cross Sharing Space with Christ

by Mary Beth Franklyn

On Ash Wednesday 2020, the first non-travel case of COVID was confirmed in the United States. As Lent continued, our world began to shift and soon it shuttered. As we have experienced this collective liminal pace during the past year, we have also experienced together unprecedented grief and suffering, witnessed a shifting democracy, and have been challenged to be accountable to systemic racism and respond to our neighbors now in poverty.

In the journey to the cross,

Christ models for us how to embrace and breathe in the place between.

As we approach Holy Week, we invite you to walk the Stations of the Cross at Belmont UMC. The stations are depicted through photographic artistic expression and may be viewed by walking the perimeter of the Community Center. Station 1 begins on the side of the building facing Hillsboro Road and continues around the building ending with Station 14.

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Easter sunrise Communion service

In celebration of Easter, we invite you to join us for an outdoor sunrise Communion service at 6:00am on Easter Sunday, April 4, in the green space between the Community Center and main building. Spaces are limited and reservations are required. Sign up online at belmontumc.org/sunrise-communion-service.

Please bring your own chair and follow Covid protocols (wear a mask and maintain social distancing).

Maundy Thursday Love Feast and Water Blessing service

All are invited to join us on Thursday, April 1, from 6:00-7:00pm on Zoom for our Maundy Thursday Love Feast and Water Blessing service. The service will center around a meal and a water blessing, not only because Jesus gathered with his disciples to share a meal and wash their feet on this night so many years ago, but also because food and water connect us to each other and to creation. We'll have some liturgy and a hymn, an abbreviated Great Thanksgiving with time to eat and talk together, and then we will end our service with a blessing of water. Plan to have dinner or a snack with you for our shared meal if you'd like and please also have a bowl or cup of water and a cloth or towel near you for the water blessing at the end of the service.

For questions or Zoom access information, contact Pastor Kate (kate@belmontumc.org) or Pastor Darren (darren@belmontumc.org).

Youth plant sale begins April 11

The first day of spring 2021 has come and gone, and now we all turn our attention to our yards, decks, and patios, and making them more beautiful. Belmont UMC's youth will sell bedding plants, large geraniums, and gorgeous hanging baskets Sunday, April 11—Sunday, April 25. Plants will be available for pick up on Saturday, May 1, with drive up delivery following all safety protocols. We appreciate Reid Batsel of Fast's Greenery for supplying our plants once again.

So, wander around your gardens and see where you might use a splash of color. Think of gifting a hanging basket to a friend or neighbor. Proceeds will enable the youth to serve our local community this summer in a week of service. An order form and plant descriptions will be available soon at belmontumc.org.

Shepherds needed

One of the beloved Biblical images is the good shepherd, who helps folks find their way. As we begin the process of returning to in-person worship, we need shepherds to help us usher and guide the congregation. If you are healthy, ready to return, willing to learn, able to model, and prepared to teach others our best practices, please contact Angie Slade (angie@belmontumc.org).

For more information about guidelines for returning to in-person worship, go to belmontumc.org/a-safer-return.

A Battle for the Soul of Belmont

On Wednesdays April 7, 14, and 21, Belmont UMC's Advocacy Ministry Team will sponsor a church-wide conversation on *A Battle for the Soul of Belmont*. This three-part Wednesday night series will be on Zoom at 6:00pm.

Our portico on Acklen Avenue proclaims that we are a Methodist Episcopal Church South. What does that say about us? On April 7, Michael Stephens will explain the history of the Methodist Episcopal Church South. On April 14, John Collett will review Belmont UMC's own history on race relations, and on April 21, Jim Robinson will ask, "Where do you think Belmont should go from here?"

These discussions are limited to persons affiliated with Belmont UMC. Stay tuned for Zoom access information.