

We Welcome All of Our First Responders this Morning!
Thank you for all you do for our Community!

To Honor and Provide Our Support for
all local First Responders

**Fire Department
Law Enforcement
Rescue Squad**

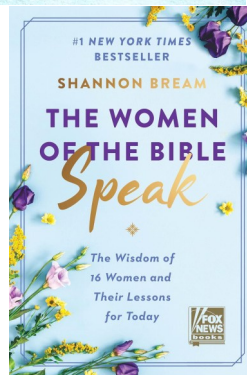


We are not alone for God is with us.



**Join Us for
Soup & You
Wednesday
September 16
12 Noon
in the Fellowship Hall**

Any Women interested in a
Women's Bible Study
There is an interest sign up sheet in the breezeway. Please sign up and note your time preference.
The Bible study is planned to begin in October.
The chosen study is **"The Women of the Bible Speak: the Wisdom of 16 Women and Their Lessons for Today" by Shannon Bream.**



BUMC Financial Snapshot Month End

Year to Date Month End	General & Designated Fund Income	General & Designated Fund Expenses	Difference
8-31-26	\$262,628	\$354,948	(\$92,320)

The large expense driver for August was the elevator repair downpayment. We have been hit with several large maintenance bills this year. Thank you for your continued support!

It's **Operation Christmas Child** Time Again!
BUMC will begin collecting items for Operation Christmas Child boxes this month. Since it's back to school time, there are loads of good deals on school supplies right now, so we'll start again with collecting school supplies. While you're shopping for your students, please consider buying some extra of these supplies so we may include them in our Christmas boxes.



We're collecting: **pencils, black ink pens, rulers, small note pads, markers, colored pencils, square erasers, glue sticks, stickers, small scissors, post it notes.** A collection area will be set up in the breezeway. The shopping cart is available for your donations. Larger amounts can be put under the table.

We are planning activities to help us raise the money for shipping - more info coming soon!
As always, we thank you for your help with this important mission project!



Join us for Children's Church every Sunday!
Children's Church is worship & Christian education for kids during part of the worship service. It is led by our amazing leaders Gracen & Rea. Children may attend worship through the Children's Message & then go to Children's Church on the first floor with our leaders. ~OR~ Children are always welcome to stay in the sanctuary with their family.

Contact Gracen
Email: gracenkelley123@gmail.com
Call or Text: 804-867-6143

We welcome prayer requests

Please share your prayer request with us on the Prayer Request Card found in your pew. Place the card in the offering plate.

Prayer Chain

If you would like to be one of our prayer chain partners, please contact the church office at 540-828-0890.

Bridgewater UMC Church Staff

540-828-0890 office@bridgewaterumc.com

Senior Pastor	Rich Bensinger SeniorPastor@BridgewaterUMC.com
Admin Assistant	Robin Siegel AdminAsst@BridgewaterUMC.com
Bookkeeper	Drew Davis Bookkeeper@BridgewaterUMC.com
Children's Ministries	Gracen Kelley gracenkelley123@gmail.com
Custodian	Edward Stoops ejstoops@aol.com
Director of Music	Wyatt Smith MusicDirector@BridgewaterUMC.com
Choir Director	James Kiser ChoirDirector@BridgewaterUMC.com
Handbell Choir Dir	Ramona Evans ramonaevans1@gmail.com
Organist	Drew Davis davisas248@gmail.com
Children's Church & Nursery	Gracen Kelley, Reanna Ahnen, Malachi Benjamin

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 10 AM - 3 PM (Closed Friday)

Welcome to
Bridgewater
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



219 N. Main Street Bridgewater, VA 22812
540-828-0890 www.bridgewaterumc.com

September 13, 2026



Greetings from the congregation of Bridgewater UMC! We are certainly blessed to have you worship with us. We pray that you will feel welcomed and loved. Do you need assistance today? Please speak with any of our worship leaders or ushers. If you have questions during the week about the church, please call Pastor Rich Bensinger at 703-402-0287.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

September 13, 2026

UMH = United Methodist Hymnal (Red)

TFWS = The Faith We Sing (Black)

W&S = Worship & Song (Green)

* = Please stand in body or spirit

Ringing the Bell

Announcements

*Candle Lighting “Glory Be to the Father” (Gloria Patri) UMH 70

Prelude “Prelude in F”
E. Thayer

*Call to Worship

*Opening Hymn UMH 577
“God of Grace and God of Glory”

*Opening Prayer

Children’s Message

Anthem “Operator”
Arr. K. Shaw
Laura Mancari, soloist

Recognition of First Responders

Readings Luke 10:25-37
John 15:12-13

Sermon “Running Toward the Need”

Offertory “How Great Thou Art”
S. K. Hine

*Doxology UMH 95

Prayers of the People

The Lord’s Prayer

*Closing Hymn UMH 110
“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

*Closing Prayer/Benediction

Postlude “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”
R. Lau

In Our Prayers

Joys and Answered Prayers

Madelyn and Nolan Gilkeson and Martha Canada medaled in the Bridgewater Race to the Bottom
Thank you, God, for the love of Jesus, for our church, our families, and our friends
We give thanks for God's grace and mercy

Current Prayer Concerns

We give thanks for all of those who serve as first responders, caring for our community, and we pray for their safety and protection.

Bettye Newman Kim Miller
Alison Cochicki Greg Smith
Michelle

Ongoing Prayer Needs of our Congregation

Grace Fishback Barbara Kiracofe Sandra Stroud
Betty Foley Dorothy Lion Nancy Thomas
Dorice Graham Shirley Creekbaum Marcia & Gary
Rodney Hildebrand Mitzi Puffenbarger Tyeryar
Deidra Hill Joanne Simpkins Donald & Ginger
Judy Hulvey Bonnie & Tom Snook Usry
Doris Waters

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayers...

—For those affected by the floods in Nepal and around the world, and the earthquakes in Columbia, Indonesia, Japan and Venezuela, and the fires around the world, and for those helping
—For those affected by disease outbreaks—Ebola, measles, and Cyclosporiasis
—For protection for all Houses of Worship of all faiths
—For peace in our lives, our families, with our neighbors, and throughout the world
—For peace in Iran, Mid-East, Ukraine, Gaza, Venezuela, Cuba, and around the world
—For our nation to step back from greed, injustice, fear, hatred
—For our government leaders to act with wisdom and love
—For protection for our government officials, & for our President
—For your will, not our will, to be done
—For those who cannot read
—For those who are struggling with financial problems
—Help us be servants to each other, our neighbors, & world
—Help us become better people & Christians; and grow in faith
—That our families will become closer to God; for clarity in seeing God's will
—For Bridgewater and other college students , and students of all grades, - for a good start to the semester
—For safe travels for our families
—For strength, health, & healing for those who are sick
—For victims of abuse of all kinds, and for their abusers to change and learn
—For comfort for those dealing with illness, loss, those awaiting surgery, & having treatments
—For those dealing with mental illness and addiction and those who care for them
—For families in crisis or struggling with estrangement
—That this day be good and tomorrow better

Serving Us in Worship

	TODAY, Sept. 13 (2nd Sun)	NEXT SUNDAY, Sept. 20 (3rd Sun)
Greeters	Bonnie & Tom Snook/Eileen Phillips	Gloria & Rodney Hildebrand
Ushers	Sara & Bill Walton	Higgs Family
Reader	Jim Tongue	Gloria Hildebrand
Audio-Visual	Marc Craun	Mark Kipps
Acolytes	Taylor Family	Nolan Gilkeson
Sanctuary Servers	Sara & Bill Walton	Laura & Tony Mancari
Bus Driver	Dick Harper	Chuck Rexrode

OUR CALENDAR

TODAY	First Responders Sunday 9 AM Sunday School for all ages 10 AM Worship Service
MON	6:30 PM Bridgewater Ruritan Club (Fellowship Hall) 7 PM Pastor Rich’s Men’s Bible Study (Library) 7 PM UWF Faith Circle (Members’ Homes)
TUE	10 AM Prayer Team (Library) 6:30 PM Joint Church Council & Finance Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
WED	12 PM Soup & You (Fellowship Hall) 6 PM Handbell Practice (Mt. Solon Commons) 7 PM Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
NEXT SUNDAY	9 AM Sunday School for all ages 10 AM Worship Service 11:15 AM Staff Meeting (Fellowship Hall) 5 PM Faith Bible Sunday School Class Picnic (Wildwood Park)

Please send Robin announcements for the Bulletin/Slides/E-Blast by Wednesday to adminasst@bridgewaterumc.com.

Attendance and Stewardship for last Sunday

Attendance: 83 Sunday School: 39 Total Giving: \$14,303

We welcome you, and as an act of hospitality, we offer several ways for you to participate in giving. Please find the most comfortable way for you.
♦Offering Plate is passed during Sunday Worship Services
♦Drop off or mail a check to the church at BUMC, 219 North Main St., Bridgewater VA 22812
♦Online Giving at BUMC Web Page www.BridgewaterUMC.com/give
♦App for Giving @ Tithely.com Download the app, find BUMC, and give!
♦Secure, locked communication box outside at Green Street entrance in which you can leave papers for the church

