

WATCH BRIDGEPORT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH ONLINE
The service is streamed live at 10:45 AM on Sundays and archived online for later viewing. **Visit our website at** www.bridgeportumc.org and click “Watch Online”.

REVIVE RECOVERY -- Everyone is welcome! Join us each Wednesday evening for **dinner at 6:00 PM** and **worship at 6:30 PM** as we gather for fellowship, hope, and healing. Would you or your group be willing to provide a meal? A sign-up sheet is available in the narthex. Thank you for extending the hospitality of Christ!

BENEDUM OPEN GOLF SCRAMBLE
Join us **Sunday afternoon at 3:30 PM** at **Bel Meadow Golf Club**. Whether you are playing, volunteering, or cheering on those who are, thank you for supporting the ministry of the United Methodist Men. Proceeds from the scramble provide opportunities for our young people to grow in faith, serve others, and build lasting friendships.

FLOOD RELIEF COLLECTION
Thank you for your generous support of our flood relief efforts. Because of your donations, the immediate need for cleaning supplies has been met. In partnership with Upshur Parish House, we are continuing to collect:
Personal hygiene items (shampoo, body wash, deodorant, combs and brushes, feminine hygiene products, and other personal care items)
New men’s underwear and socks (all sizes)
Donations may be placed in the collection area in the narthex. To support flood relief financially, designate your gift **"WV Flood Relief"** on the memo line or giving envelope, or in the “Other” section of online giving.

THE MONVALLEY DISTRICT PICNIC will be held here at Bridgeport UMC in the Fellowship Hall on **Sunday, August 16, at 1:30 PM**. If you plan to attend, RSVP to Sarah at sestep@wvumc.org by Monday, August 10.

THANK YOU for supporting Nigerian widows by attending the June mission presentation and contributing to the Coins of Caring offering. Together, we raised \$2,361 to support widows affected by violence and displacement. These gifts will provide food for 170 widows and start-up assistance for 30 additional widows, helping them care for their families and build self-sufficiency.

Weekly Devotional Reading

Sunday: Psalm 31:1-5, 7-13
Monday: Lamentations 3:19-26
Tuesday: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20
Wednesday: Matthew 28:16-20
Thursday: Acts 22:12-16
Friday: Luke 23:44-49
Saturday: Exodus 20:8-17, 20-21

Breath Prayer This Week
Jesus, our Lord, help us to obey your instruction to love and serve one another as you love us. Amen.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES AND BIBLE STUDIES
Sundays at 9:30 AM
Adult Classes
Bread of Life—Library
Faith, Family, & Friends—Parlor
Youth & Children
Youth Sunday School—Educ. Building
Young Explorers (ages 3 through Grade 5)—Primary Chapel
Nursery Care (infants through age 2)—Nursery
Children’s Church
Grades K-5—10:45
Children’s Church room
Weekly Bible Studies
Lectionary Bible Study—Thursday, 10:00 AM, Library
Bible Study—Thursday, 7:00 PM, Sanctuary overflow
L.I.F.E. Bible Study—Tuesday, 7:30 PM, Johnson Ave.

CHILDCARE & OTHER ASSISTANCE—ASK AN USHER
SATURDAY, 6:15 PM—infants through age 5, Nursery, hallway by back Chapel
SUNDAY, 8:30—infants through age 5, Nursery, hallway by back Chapel
SUNDAY, 10:45—infants through age 2, Nursery, hallway by back Chapel
SUNDAY, 10:45—ages 3-4, Education Building—1st room on right
SUNDAY, 10:45—grades K-5, Children’s Church Room
Large Print Hymnals are available at the Sanctuary entrance.
Prayer Cards are located in the pew racks.
Membership Directories are available in the Church Office.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS
Monday-Thursday, 9:00 AM-3:00 PM
Friday, Closed

SATURDAY EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE

August 8, 20266:15 PM

BRINGING IN THE LIGHT

GATHERING MUSICMax Garner, pianist

*OPENING HYMN*O How He Loves You and Me*FWS 2108

*INVOCATION

*THE LORD’S PRAYER

LIVING THE MISSION

- Visit our website at bridgeportumc.org for ministry updates, events, and opportunities to connect.
- Prayer cards are available and may be placed in an offering basket.
- You may give online, mail your donation to the church, or place your offering in a basket at the entryway.

THE WORD IN MUSIC

*SCRIPTURE LESSON*Romans 8:31-39*

MESSAGE

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT: YOU WERE MADE FOR THIS (ROMANS 8)
*Nothing. No One. Ever.*Rev. Dr. Matthew Paugh

*HYMN OF RESPONSE*O How I Love Jesus*UMH 170

PASTORAL PRAYER

*SENDING HYMN*Jesus Loves Me*UMH 191

*TAKING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

*SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE

Childcare is available for infants through age 5 in the Nursery in the back hallway by the Chapel.

*Indicates standing as able.

SUNDAY WORSHIP @ JOHNSON AVENUE

August 9, 20269:45 AM

Gathering to Praise

*Prayer of Invocation and Invitation

*Scripture Choruses and SongsJim Harris

Growing in the Word

*Scripture

Message*Romans 8:31-39*

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT: YOU WERE MADE FOR THIS (ROMANS 8)
*Nothing. No One. Ever.*Rev. Dr. Matthew Paugh

Glorifying God Through Communion and Response

Holy Communion
(In Holy Communion, we remember God’s sacrificial love revealed in Jesus Christ and receive God’s grace anew.)

Going Forth to Share and Serve

Living the Mission

*Closing Song

*Benediction and Sending Forth

*Indicates standing as able.

Bridgeport United Methodist Church

August 9, 2026† 8:30 AM & 10:45 AM

THE ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Nothing. No One. Ever.

WORSHIP CELEBRATION

WE ARE COMMITTED TO THE VISION OF “MATTHEW 25”
We are a community of faith focused on being in ministry with and for the least, the last, the lonely, and the left out. Jesus said, “When you do it to the least of these, you do it unto me” (Matthew 25:40). Through worship, prayer, and study, God strengthens us to go forth and serve in Matthew 25 Ministries.

PRELUDE
As we gather, we remember those worshiping at our Maplewood Worship Service.
Today’s leader is Jack Merinar.

BRINGING IN THE LIGHT AND THE WORD

*CALL TO WORSHIP
Reader: What can come between us and God’s steadfast love?
ALL: Nothing, absolutely nothing!
Reader: Can trouble or rejection, hard times or hunger?
ALL: Nothing, absolutely nothing!
Reader: Can homelessness or injury, persecution or threats?
ALL: Nothing, absolutely nothing!
Reader: Can danger or poverty, loneliness or grief?
ALL: Nothing, absolutely nothing!
Reader: Can past mistakes, present struggles, failure, or even death?
ALL: Nothing, absolutely nothing!
Reader: So what can come between us and God’s amazing love?
ALL: Nothing, absolutely nothing!
Reader: So what will we do?
ALL: We will worship the God whose love will never let us go!

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION

*THE LORD’S PRAYER
**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

*HYMN OF WORSHIP*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*UMH 384

SCRIPTURE LESSON **Romans 8:31-39**

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son but gave him up for all of us, how will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ who died, or rather, who was raised, who is also at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will affliction or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword? As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than victorious through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Reader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.
ALL: Thanks be to God.

*HYMN OF PREPARATION **The Love of God**

**1. The love of God is greater far
than tongue or pen can ever tell;
it goes beyond the highest star,
and reaches to the lowest hell.
The wand’ring child is reconciled
by God’s beloved Son.
The aching soul again made whole,
and priceless pardon won.**

**Refrain: O love of God, how rich and pure!
How measureless and strong!
It shall forevermore endure—
the saints’ and angels’ song.**

**2. When ancient time shall pass away,
and human thrones and kingdoms fall;
when those who here refuse to pray
on rocks and hills and mountains call;
God’s love so sure shall still endure,
all measureless and strong;
grace will resound the whole earth round—
the saints’ and angels’ song. [Refrain]**

**3. Could we with ink the ocean fill,
and were the skies of parchment made;
were ev’ry stalk on earth a quill,
and ev’ryone a scribe by trade;
to write the love of God above
would drain the ocean dry;
nor could the scroll contain the whole,
though stretched from sky to sky. [Refrain]**

At 10:45, children in grades K–5 are invited to Children’s Church during the Hymn of Preparation.

Nursery care and classroom locations are listed in the bulletin announcements.

MESSAGE **LIFE IN THE SPIRIT: YOU WERE MADE FOR THIS (ROMANS 8)**
Nothing. No One. Ever. Rev. Dr. Matthew Paugh

*HYMN OF RESPONSE **Jesus Loves Me** UMH 191

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH **Romans 8:35, 37-39** UMH 887

Pastor: Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation or distress, or persecution or famine, or nakedness or peril or sword?

People: No! In all things we are more than conquerors through the One who loved us. We are sure that neither death nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Thanks be to God! Amen.

LIVING THE MISSION

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*DOXOLOGY **Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow** UMH 94

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

MOMENTS OF GUIDED PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE **Lord, in Thy Mercy** Felix Mendelssohn

Original text by Martin Luther;
English version by John Rutter

**Lord, in thy mercy grant us peace
Throughout all generations;
Thou art alone our sword and shield,
Lord who dost guide the nations.
Defend us, O God, we pray thee.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Reader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
ALL: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Reader: Faithful and loving God, we give you thanks because you are always for us. Before we sought you, you sought us. In Jesus Christ, you did not withhold your own Son, but gave him for the life of the world.

We thank you that your love is stronger than our fears, greater than our failures, deeper than our sorrow, and more enduring than death itself.

When life is filled with groaning, you remain with us. When words fail us, your Spirit intercedes for us. When we are weary, Christ prays for us. Nothing in all creation can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord.

ALL: Receive our praise, our worship, and our lives as an offering of thanksgiving. Fill us with hope, strengthen us by your Spirit, and send us in to the world to bear witness to your steadfast love. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*SENDING HYMN **O How I Love Jesus** UMH 170

*TAKING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

*SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE

*Indicates standing as able.

Ministering in the Service: Brent Kimble – liturgist; Brett Miller – organist/pianist; Katherine Hughes, Ben Hughes, and Dr. Dan Hughes – vocalists; Rev. Sarita Robinson – Associate Pastor

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK (August 9 – August 16)

SUNDAY

8:30 AM	Worship Service	Sanctuary
9:30 AM	Bread of Life Sunday School	Library
9:30 AM	Faith, Family, Friends SS	Parlor
9:30 AM	Young Explorers Sunday School	Primary Chapel
9:30 AM	Youth Sunday School	Education Building
9:45 AM	Worship @ Johnson Ave.	Johnson Ave. Campus
9:45 AM	Maplewood Worship Service	Maplewood
10:45 AM	Worship Service	Sanctuary
3:30 PM	Benedum Open Golf Scramble	Bel Meadow Golf Club

MONDAY

7:00 AM	AA Morning Meditation	Johnson Ave. Campus
9:00 AM	PreventiCare	Nursery

TUESDAY

10:00 AM	Staff Meeting	Fowler Heritage Room
5:30 PM	Maplewood Ministry Team Dinner	Fellowship Hall
6:00 PM	United Methodist Men’s Meeting	Pastor’s Conf. Room
7:00 PM	Children’s Ministry Team Meeting	Fowler Heritage Room
7:30 PM	L.I.F.E.	Johnson Ave. Campus

WEDNESDAY

6:00 PM	Revive Recovery Dinner	Johnson Ave. Campus
6:30 PM	Revive Recovery Worship Service	Johnson Ave. Campus

THURSDAY

7:00 AM	Men’s Prayer and Coffee	Johnson Ave. Campus
9:00 AM	PreventiCare	Nursery
10:00 AM	Lectionary Bible Study	Library
6:00 PM	Sweet Hour of Prayer	Johnson Ave. Campus
7:00 PM	Bible Study	Sanctuary Overflow

FRIDAY (Office Closed)

7:00 AM	AA Morning Meditation	Johnson Ave. Campus
3:30-6:30 PM	Joyful Noise Open House	Education Building

SATURDAY

6:15 PM	Saturday Evening Service	Sanctuary
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SUNDAY, August 16

8:30 AM	Worship Service	Sanctuary
9:30 AM	Bread of Life Sunday School	Library
9:30 AM	Faith, Family, Friends SS	Parlor
9:30 AM	Youth Sunday School	Education Building
9:30 AM	Young Explorers SS (Pre K3-5th)	Primary Chapel
9:45 AM	Worship @ Johnson Ave.	Johnson Ave. Campus
9:45 AM	Maplewood Worship Service	Maplewood
10:45 AM	Worship Service	Sanctuary
1:30 PM	MonValley District Picnic	Fellowship Hall



BRIDGEPORT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Dr. Matthew Paugh, Senior Pastor † Rev. Sarita Robinson, Associate Pastor

Rev. George Bramble, Pastoral Care † Rev. Jim Lang, Education

Dr. Dan Hughes, Director of Chancel Choir † Brett Miller, Organist

Jim Harris and Tom Price, Accompanists † Russ Francis, Treasurer

Kim Kapp and Birdie Lipscomb, Administrative Staff † Polly Steele, Director of Preschool

Becky Thornton, Director of Joyful Noise Afterschool Program

Dan and Katherine Hughes, Seraphim Directors † Katherine Hughes, Jubilate Director

Jennifer Lawson, Cherub Choir Director

Dorothy Prunty, Cathy Hamilton, and Michael Moran, Facilities

