

**WATCH BRIDGEPORT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH ONLINE**  
The service is streamed live at 10:45 AM, on Sundays, and is archived online for later viewing as well. Share this with persons you know who are out of town or unable to attend our Worship Service in person. **Visit the Church Website at** [www.bridgeportumc.org](http://www.bridgeportumc.org) and click “Watch Online”.

**REVIVE RECOVERY** meets each Wednesday at 6:30 PM at our Johnson Avenue Campus.

**NEW BIBLE STUDY — THE BOOK OF ACTS:** Join us for our Bible study on the Book of Acts on Thursday’s, at 7:00 PM in the Intermediate Chapel (Sanctuary Overflow area). We’ll explore how the early church was formed, challenged, and sent into the world—and what this Spirit-led story means for the church today. Whether you are new to Bible study or looking to go deeper, you are welcome.

**SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY TODAY!** Bridgeport United Methodist Men will host Souper Bowl Sunday on February 8 following the 10:45 AM Worship Service in the Fellowship Hall. Come and vote and see which team raises the most donations and wins the Souper Bowl! All donations will benefit Open Heart Ministries in Clarksburg.

**ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE**  
Join us on February 18 at 7:00 PM for our Ash Wednesday Service.

**PANCAKE & SAUSAGE BREAKFAST**  
Sunday, February 15 from 9:30-10:30 AM (During the Sunday School hour). Start your Sunday with warm pancakes, good coffee, and great company. Everyone is invited to this relaxed, come-as-you-are breakfast for the whole church. Enjoy food and fellowship and learn about meaningful, life-giving ways to grow in faith during the Lenten season at BUMC. No pressure—just a simple meal and a gentle invitation to begin the season together. Sponsored by the Faith, Family, and Friends Sunday School Class.

**CONFIRMATION CLASSES** begin Sunday, February 22, meeting weekly from 4:30–5:30 pm in the Youth Room. Confirmation invites students to explore faith, ask questions, and grow in their understanding of what it means to follow Jesus as part of the church. Confirmation will be celebrated on Sunday, April 19. Students in sixth grade and older who have not yet been confirmed are invited to join us on this journey. To participate or learn more, contact the

**Weekly Devotional Reading**

Sunday: Matthew 14:13-23  
Monday: Psalm 121:1-8  
Tuesday: Jeremiah 29:11-13  
Wednesday: James 5:13-16  
Thursday: Psalm 61:2-5  
Friday: Isaiah 38:9-20  
Saturday: Psalm 139:7-18

**Breath Prayer This Week**

God, Creator of all, we praise you for making us who we are. Help us to grow confidently into who you have made us to be. Use us today and help us represent you in all we do. Amen.

Church Office at [info@bridgeportumc.org](mailto:info@bridgeportumc.org) or 304.842.6284 by February 18.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES AND BIBLE STUDIES**

Adult Sunday School Classes:  
Bread of Life SS/Library/9:30AM  
Faith, Family, Friends/Parlor/9:30 AM  
Youth SS/Education Building/9:30 AM  
Young Explorers SS/ages 3-5th grade/Primary Chapel/9:30 AM  
Nursery Care/Infant-2 year old/Nursery/9:30 AM  
Children’s Church Ages 5 thru 5<sup>th</sup> grade/10:45 AM/Children’s Church room, back of Sanctuary

Lectionary Bible Study/Thursdays/ Library/10:00 AM  
Bible Study/Sanctuary overflow/ Thursdays/7:00 PM  
L.I.F.E. Bible Study/Johnson Ave. Campus/Tuesdays/ 7:30 PM

**AVAILABLE SERVICES—ASK AN USHER FOR ASSISTANCE**

**6:15 PM SATURDAY EVENINGS, infants through age 5,** Nursery, hallway by back Chapel  
**8:30 Service Childcare - infants-5 years,** Nursery, hallway by back Chapel  
**10:45 Service Childcare - infants-2 years,** Nursery, hallway by back Chapel  
**10:45 Service Childcare for 2, 3 & 4 yr. olds,** Educ. Bldg. - 1st room on right  
**10:45 Children’s Church - ages 5-5<sup>th</sup> grade,** Children’s Church Room  
**Large Print Hymnals** at main entrance to the Sanctuary  
**Prayer Cards** to indicate special concerns are located in the pew racks  
**Membership Directories** are available in the Church Office.

**SATURDAY EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE**

**February 7, 2026 6:15 PM**

BRINGING IN THE LIGHT  
GATHERING MUSIC Tom Price  
\*HYMNS *O God Beyond All Praising* FWS 2009  
\*INVOCATION  
\*THE LORD’S PRAYER  
MINISTRY STEWARDSHIP AND OPPORTUNITIES  
~ Use the e-giving tab on the website, mail in your donation, or place it in the baskets at the entryways.  
~ Please visit our website, [bridgeportumc.org](http://bridgeportumc.org) for regular updates.  
WORD IN MUSIC  
\*SCRIPTURE LESSON *Psalms 138*  
**SEEING GOD CLEARLY: AN EPIPHANY SERIES IN THE PSALMS**  
MESSAGE *In the Midst of Trouble* Rev. Dr. Matthew Paugh  
\*HYMN OF RESPONSE *My Life Flows On* FWS 2212  
PASTORAL PRAYER  
\*CLOSING HYMN *It Is Well with My Soul* UMH 377  
\*TAKING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD  
\*SENDING FORTH AND POSTLUDE  
Child Care is available for infants – 5 years old in the Nursery in the back hallway by the Chapel  
\*Indicates standing as able.

**SUNDAY WORSHIP @ JOHNSON AVENUE**

**February 8, 2026 9:45 AM**

Gathering to Praise  
\*Prayer of Invocation and Invitation  
\*Scripture Choruses and Songs Jim Harris  
Growing in the Word  
\*Scripture *Psalms 138*  
**SEEING GOD CLEARLY: AN EPIPHANY SERIES IN THE PSALMS**  
Message *In the Midst of Trouble* Rev. Dr. Matthew Paugh  
Glorifying God Through Communion and Response  
Holy Communion  
(This sacrament or “Holy Covenant” is a way of visibly remembering God’s Sacrificial Love given in Christ Jesus and receiving his grace anew.)  
Going Forth to Share and Serve  
Ministry Stewardship and Opportunities  
\*Closing Song  
\*Benediction and Sending Forth  
\*Indicates standing as able.

TITHES & OFFERINGS



SIMPLY  
SCAN THE  
QR CODE  
TO GIVE

FIRST TIME USERS, **SIGN UP**  
FOR AN ACCOUNT OR  
GIVE ANONYMOUSLY.  
ESTABLISHED USERS **LOGIN.**  
THOUGHTFULLY **GIVE.**

*Bridgeport United Methodist Church*

February 8, 2026 † 8:30 AM & 10:45 AM

THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

*The Lord will fulfill  
His purpose for me*  
**Psalms 138**

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). This is our primary work. Please join us as we strengthen ourselves for the task in worship, prayer, and study and then go forth to serve in Matthew 25 Ministries.

**WORSHIP CELEBRATION**

PRELUDES *Prayer/Prelude* Michael Larkin  
*Nearer My God to Thee* arr. by Mark Hayes  
*Jesus Loves Me* (10:45 AM) William Bradbury  
As we gather, we are mindful of our Maplewood Worship Service.  
Today’s leader is Sarita Robinson.

BRINGING IN THE LIGHT AND THE WORD  
INTROIT (10:45 AM) *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty* Hal H. Hopson  
text by Joachim Neander and Catherine Winkworth  
Lyrics – UMH 139

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (Based on Psalms 138)  
Reader: Come and worship, all you who love and serve our God!  
**ALL: God surrounds us with unfailing love and answers us when we call.**  
Reader: God cares for the humble and lowly, and never abandons those in need.

**ALL: This is our God, worthy of worship and praise!**

\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION  
Reader: Faithful God, we come into your presence with thanksgiving, deeply grateful for the unfailing love and faithfulness you have shown toward us, your people. When we call out to you, you answer. When we are exhausted, you give us strength to go on. When we find ourselves in trouble, you are there, standing beside us.  
And so we come before you in gratitude and praise, offering you the worship of our hearts and our lives. Open our eyes to see and know you here among us. Open our ears to recognize your voice. And then send us out from this place to live and work in the world as your faithful disciples.

**ALL: In the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

\*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**


*blessed*

*gratitude*



\*HYMN OF WORSHIP *With Grateful Heart My Thanks I Bring* (Psalm 138)

1. With grateful heart my thanks I bring,  
before the great your praise I sing;  
I worship in your holy place  
and praise you for your truth and grace;  
for truth and grace together shine  
in your most holy word divine,  
in your most holy word divine.



2. I cried to you, and you did save;  
your word of grace new courage gave;  
the kings of earth shall thank you, Lord,  
for they have heard your wondrous word;  
yea, they shall come with songs of praise,  
for great and glorious are your ways,  
for great and glorious are your ways.

Words: Psalter, 1912, alt. Music: William B. Bradbury;  
Tune: SOLID ROCK

3. O Lord, enthroned in glory bright,  
you reign alone in heav'nly height;  
the proud in vain your favor seek  
but you have mercy for the meek;  
through trouble though my pathway be,  
you will revive and strengthen me,  
you will revive and strengthen me.

4. You will stretch forth your mighty arm  
to save me when my foes alarm;  
the work you have for me begun  
shall by your grace be fully done;  
your love forever will endure:  
your mercy, Lord, is ever sure,  
your mercy, Lord, is ever sure.

WORD IN MUSIC (8:30 AM) *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty* Hal H. Hopson;  
text by Joachim Neander and Catherine Winkworth; Lyrics – UMH 139

WORD IN MUSIC (10:45 AM) *My God Is with Me* Mark Patterson  
*God Cares for You* Ann Laurence  
(10:45 Children K-5th Grade only may leave for Children’s Church.  
Younger children see back of bulletin for locations of nurseries.)

\*SCRIPTURE LESSON *Psalms 138*

I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart;  
before the gods I sing your praise;  
I bow down toward your holy temple  
and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness,  
for you have exalted your name and your word above everything.  
On the day I called, you answered me;  
you increased my strength of soul.

All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord,  
for they have heard the words of your mouth.  
They shall sing of the ways of the Lord,  
for great is the glory of the Lord.  
For though the Lord is high, he regards the lowly,  
but the haughty he perceives from far away.

Though I walk in the midst of trouble,  
you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies;  
you stretch out your hand,  
and your right hand delivers me.  
The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me;  
your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever.  
Do not forsake the work of your hands.

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

\*HYMN OF PRAISE *Glorify Thy Name* FWS 2016

MESSAGE **SEEING GOD CLEARLY: AN EPIPHANY SERIES IN THE PSALMS**  
*In the Midst of Trouble* Rev. Dr. Matthew Paugh

\*HYMN OF RESPONSE *Stand By Me* UMH 512

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND DECLARATION OF PARDON

Reader: Faithful God, you have surrounded us with steadfast love, yet we confess that we often live as though we are alone.  
**ALL: We trust our fear more than your promises. We cling to what is familiar rather than to what is faithful. We doubt your purposes when the way grows narrow, and we forget that you are near. Forgive us, Lord, and restore our trust in your unfailing love.**

(*Silent prayer*)

Reader: Hear the good news: “Though we walk in the midst of trouble, the Lord preserves our lives. The Lord will fulfill God’s purpose for us. God’s steadfast love endures forever.”  
**ALL: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and held fast. Thanks be to God!**

MINISTRY STEWARDSHIP AND OPPORTUNITIES

~ Please fill out a prayer card if desired and place it in an offering basket.  
~ Use the e-giving tab on the website, mail in your donation, or place it in the baskets at the entryways.  
~ Please visit our website, [bridgeportumc.org](http://bridgeportumc.org) to check for regular updates.

\*DOXOLOGY *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* UMH 95  
*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen*

MOMENTS OF GUIDED PRAYER

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Reader: Gracious God, we give you thanks with our whole hearts. We thank you for your steadfast love that never lets us go and for your faithfulness that remains firm when everything else feels uncertain.  
Before all the “gods” of this world – the powers that promise much and deliver little – we declare our gratitude to you alone, for you are the true source of life, hope, and healing.  
We thank you that when we cry out, you answer. When our strength is spent, you renew our souls. When the way feels narrow and the days feel heavy, you stretch out your hand and preserve our lives. Though you are high and holy, you regard the lowly. Though your glory fills heaven and earth, you see each one of us, and you care.

We thank you for every sign of your mercy: for prayers answered and for prayers still unfolding, for doors opened and for strength given to wait, for joys that lift our spirits and for sorrows through which you walk beside us.  
We give thanks not only for what you have done, but for who you are: a God whose purposes will not fail, whose love endures forever, and whose hands will not abandon the work you have begun.

**ALL: Receive our gratitude, O Lord, not only in words, but in lives shaped by trust, hope, and faithful obedience; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

\*SENDING HYMN *How Firm a Foundation* UMH 529

\*TAKING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

\*SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE *Through It All* arr. by John F. Wilson

\*Indicates standing as able.

**Ministering in the Service:** Tom Price – liturgist; Brett Miller – pianist;  
Sarita Robinson - associate pastor; Chancel Choir; Cherub Choir (10:45 AM);  
Jubilate Singers (10:45 AM); Children’s Handbell Choir (10:45 AM)

**Christian Sympathy** to Joe Hickman on the death of his grandmother,  
Joyce Mathena.

Brett Zwolensky and family on the death of his father, Edward Zwolensky.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK (February 8– February 15)

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 SS (Pre K3-5th)	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
11:45 AM	Seraphim Singers	Fellowship Hall
11:45 AM	Souper Bowl Luncheon	Fellowship Hall
5:00 PM	Cherub Choir will not meet	Primary Chapel
5:00 PM	Jubilate Singers will not meet	Children’s Church Room
5:30 PM	Children’s Handbells will not meet	Children’s Church Room
6:00 PM	Adult Handbell Choir Rehearsal	Balcony
6:00–7:00 PM	Mid/Sr. High Youth will not meet	Education Building

MONDAY

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

TUESDAY

10:00 AM	Staff Meeting will not meet	Fowler Heritage Room
7:30 PM	L.I.F.E.	Johnson Ave. Campus

WEDNESDAY

6:30 PM	Revive Recovery	Johnson Ave. Campus
7:00 PM	Chancel Choir	Fellowship Hall

THURSDAY

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

FRIDAY

7:00 AM	AA Morning Meditation	Johnson Ave. Campus
9:00 AM	Sister’s Bible Study	Fowler Heritage Room

SATURDAY

6:15 PM	Saturday Evening Service	Sanctuary
---------	--------------------------	-----------

SUNDAY, February 15

8:30 AM	Worship Service	Sanctuary
9:30 AM	Sunday School	
9:30-10:30 AM	Lenten Breakfast	Fellowship Hall
9:45 AM	Worship @ Johnson Ave.	Johnson Ave. Campus
9:45 AM	Maplewood Worship Service	Maplewood
10:45 AM	Worship Service	Sanctuary
11:45 AM	Seraphim Singers will not meet	Fellowship Hall
5:00 PM	Cherub Choir	Primary Chapel
5:00 PM	Jubilate Singers	Children’s Church Room
5:30 PM	Children’s Handbells	Children’s Church Room
6:00 PM	Adult Handbell Choir Rehearsal	Balcony
6:00-7:00 PM	Mid/Sr. High Youth	Education Building

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, Tom Price, Accompanists † Russ Francis, Treasurer  
Kim Kapp, Jennifer Walker, Administrative Staff † Polly Steele, Director of Preschool  
Becky Thornton, Director of Joyful Noise Afterschool Program  
Dan & Katherine Hughes, Seraphim Directors † Katherine Hughes, Jubilate Director  
Jennifer Lawson, Cherub Choir Director  
Dorothy Prunty, Denny Owens, Cathy Hamilton, Michael Moran, Facilities