



From Shirley C. Michael
Many thanks to all for your prayers, cards and contributions made in Memory of Ray. Your kind expressions of sympathy and friendship will remain in our memories. Thank you for your thoughtfulness. Blessings to all.

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. We are planning activities to help us raise the money for shipping - more info coming soon!



Pastor Rich's ongoing Men's Bible Study
The study meets on Monday evenings at 7 PM
He is holding the study in the Library
It is also available by Zoom
Please see Pastor Rich for more information

The **Nurture Committee** will have the first **Soup and You** on **September 16th**, so mark your calendars now.



BUMC Financial Snapshot Month End

Year to Date Month End	General & Designated Fund Income	General & Designated Fund Expenses	Difference
7-31-26	\$234,032	\$314,035	(\$80,003)

The large expense driver for July was the roof repair payment of \$36,357. As you may remember, we had generous donations towards this project reserved on the Balance sheet. Thank you for your continued support!



Youth Group Announcements



Dear Bridgewater UMC Youth Families,
We are getting ready for an exciting year ahead as we journey through our annual theme: **Psalms - Learning to Worship, Pray, Trust, and Serve!**

To make this year as engaging and accessible as possible, **we need your input to set our official calendar.** We want to ensure our event dates work best for you so we've created a fill-in-the-blank draft schedule for parents to review and help finalize. Please take a few moments to look over the proposed events and let us know which dates fit your family's schedule best:

PLEASE Scan QR Code in the E-Blast and FILL OUT BY 9/2/26

Don't forget! Every Sunday
Zoom Prayer @ 6:45 PM, & Youth Check in @ 7 PM
Blessings, Jomo (240) 328-5847 dumbumyouth@gmail.com



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
Youth Ministries	Jomo Johnson dumbumyouth@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

August 30, 2026

R O M A N S 1 2 : 1 0 , N I V

*Be devoted
to one another
in love.
Honor
one another
above yourselves.*



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

August 30, 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 “Sacred Silence”
T. Booth, J. Pixler, & G. Pappelis
Joey Capuano, piano

*Call to Worship

*Opening Hymn UMH 384
“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

*Opening Prayer

Children’s Message

Reading Romans 12:9-21 (CEB)

Sermon “When Love Gets Real”

Offertory “There Is a Time”
C. Courtney
Joan Kenney, soloist

*Doxology UMH 95

Prayers of the People

The Lord’s Prayer

*Closing Hymn UMH 557
“Blest Be the Tie That Binds”

*Closing Prayer/Benediction

Postlude “The Soul Speaks of Wonder”
G. Walker
Wyatt Smith, trumpet

In Our Prayers

Joys and Answered Prayers

Carolyn Van Dyck's procedure went well.
Pam Abbot, Judy Tongue's sister, is doing well
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

Shay Suter Jane Wright’s mother
Alex Little Jim & Judy Tongue

Ongoing Prayer Needs of our Congregation

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

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

—For those affected by the earthquakes in Columbia, 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
—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, Aug 30 (5th Sun)	NEXT SUNDAY, Sep. 6 (1st Sun)
Greeters	Ruth Peters	B.J. Jenkins & Bettye Newman
Ushers	Paul & Johna McFarland	Ed Craun & Marc Craun
Reader	Joey Capuano	Christy/Mark Kipps
Audio-Visual	Scott Ridder	Tony Mancari
Acolytes	Nolan Gilkeson	David Kipps
Sanctuary Servers	Laura & Tony Mancari	Don Gilkeson & Sue Rexrode
Bus Driver	Dwight Campbell	Fontaine Canada

OUR CALENDAR

TODAY	9 AM Sunday School for all ages 10 AM Worship Service 6:45 PM Prayer for Youth 7 PM Youth Check-in
MON	6:30 PM Bridgewater Ruritans (Fellowship Hall) 7 PM Pastor Rich’s Men’s Bible Study (Library)
TUE	10 AM Prayer Team (Library) 6:30 PM Valley R. C. Flying Club (New Beginnings)
WED	10 AM Nurture Committee (Library) 6 PM Handbell Practice (Mt. Solon Commons) 7 PM Chior Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
NEXT SUNDAY	9 AM Sunday School for all ages 10 AM Worship Service 6:45 PM Prayer for Youth 7 PM Youth Check-in

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

Attendance and Stewardship for last Sunday

Attendance: 109 Sunday School: 34 Total Giving: \$3,647

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

