

The rose on the altar this morning is in honor of **Nora Katherine Towson** born October 4th. Her parents are Mike & Anna Kern Towson; Grandparents are Chuck & Dawn Kern; Great-grandmother is Garnet Suiter



Remember **Cider, S'mores, & More** is this evening at **6 PM** on the Front Lawn! In case of the expected rain the event will be held inside. Dwight Layman will do a BRC pickup at 5:45 for those wanting to come this event. Cider, S'mores and Something Human Band directed by Wyatt Smith!

The **Worship Committee** is meeting this Tuesday, the 13th at 6 PM in the library.

Lunch & Conversation is this Wednesday at the Bridgewater Retirement Community in the Blue Ridge Room from noon until 1:30. If you are available, please come and share some fellowship with our people at BRC.



The **UWF Salad Supper** is next Monday, October 19 at 6:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. All Women are welcome!

Soup & You is back! Join us Wednesday, October 21 at noon in the Fellowship Hall.



Keep up with all the goings on by reading the e-Blast!



Calling all Singers! The **Bridgewater UMC Choir** will soon be starting work on this year's **Christmas Cantata, "All Is Well"**. All are welcome! Never sang in a choir before? – no problem! Don't read music? – no problem! If you love to sing to the Lord, please join us!

The Cantata is scheduled for December 13th. Rehearsals are Wednesdays @ 7pm beginning October 7th. Questions? Contact James @ lyricbaritonejames@gmail.com



Chordially Yours of the Shenandoah Valley, a 50-member professional choir led by Artistic Director Scott Zane Smith, presents its holiday concert, "The Pure Imagination of Christmas," December 19-20 at Lindale Mennonite Church in Linville. Performances begin at 3 p.m. both days. This one-hour concert features an inspiring collection that captures the spirit—and magic—of the holiday season. Make plans to attend and bring your family and friends. For more information, find us on Facebook at @Chordially Yours of the Shenandoah Valley.

Important note: dumbumyouth@gmail.com is no longer valid.

It's **Operation Christmas Child** Time Again!

BUMC is collecting items for Operation Christmas Child boxes.

We are now collecting hygiene items. We need **toothbrushes, toothbrush holders, washcloths, and boys' and girls' socks**. We are no longer collecting bars of soap or soap boxes.



We also still need some school supplies: **35 boxes of colored pencils, 54 pairs of scissors, 58 rulers, 36 pencil sharpeners, and 33 sheets of stickers**.

A collection area is set up in the breezeway. The shopping cart is available for your donations. Larger amounts can be put under the table.

We appreciate everyone's support for this important service project.!

Johna McFarland, OCC Coordinator



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

October 11, 2026

**Then Peter and John
laid their hands on them
and they received
the Holy Spirit**

Acts 8:17



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

October 11, 2026

UMH = United Methodist Hymnal (Red)

TFWS = The Faith We Sing (Black)

W&S = Worship & Song (Green)

* = *Please stand in body or spirit*

Ringling the Bell

Announcements

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

Prelude “Breathe on Me, Breath of God”
J. Barr

* Call to Worship

***Opening Hymn** UMH 539
“O Spirit of the Living God”

*Opening Prayer

Children’s Message

Anthem “Order My Steps”
Arr. J. Schrader

Reading Acts 8:14-25

Sermon “The Gift Money Can’t Buy”
Rev. Rich Bensinger

***Sermon Hymn** UMH 393
“Spirit of the Living God”

Offertory “Divinium Mysterium”
M. McCabe

***Doxology** UMH 95

Prayers of the People

The Lord’s Prayer

***Closing Hymn** UMH 537
“Filled With the Spirit’s Power”

*Closing Prayer/Benediction

Postlude “Now Thank We All Our God”
J. C. Kellner

In Our Prayers

Joys and Answered Prayers

Nora Katherine Towson was born on 10/4 to Anna and Mike Towson. Chuck and Dawn Kern are the grandparents, Garnett Suiter the great grandmother!

Thank you, God, for all your creatures, great and small

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

Prayers of Sympathy for the Family of

Bonney Mays of Stanley VA

Current Prayer Concerns

Sandy Burke	Dayton UMC
Beth Miller	Annette and Sonny Tongue
Jerry Long	Edwards UMC
Alison Cichocki	Beverly Smith
Michelle Evans	Suzanne Woroniak Kennedy
Donna	Robert Mills
Lucia Gajda	Dwanna Oldson and her family
Bettye Newman	Crystal Curry
Dennis Huffer	Jeff Waggy
Pastor Rich Bensinger	Sharon Griffeth
BUMC Children and Youth	

Ongoing Prayer Needs of our Congregation

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

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

— For peace, justice and wisdom in our nation and in the world
— For peace to come in Iran, the Mid-East, Ukraine, Gaza, Venezuela, Cuba and around the world
— For our leaders to be filled with the Holy Spirit and for your will to be done
— For the people of our nation to turn to God and pray for guidance
— For those affected by natural disasters around the world and for those helping them
—To bring forth ideas for your kingdom, like the Blessings Box
—To bring forth hearts, minds and hands to implement them
— For people who need love, compassion, hope and forgiveness to find God's love through our actions
—For Bridgewater UMC to continue growing
—For our new members and all of us to grow in faith
—For foster parents and children in foster care
—For healing for the sick and calm for the anxious
—For peace and balance with work, family, and all of life
—For comfort, peace, and strength for all who are grieving loved ones

Serving Us in Worship

	TODAY, Oct. 11 (2nd Sun)	NEXT SUNDAY, Oct. 18 (3rd Sun)
Greeters	Paul & Johna McFarland	Jim & Judy Tongue
Ushers	Taylor Family	Don & Jason Gilkeson
Reader	Ed Craun	Shadrach Baako-Amponsah
Audio-Visual	Marc Craun	Mark Kipps
Acolytes	Taylor Family	Nolan Gilkeson
Sanctuary Servers	Chuck & Sue Rexrode	Kathi Hemmis
Bus Driver	Fontaine Canada	Dwight Campbell

OUR CALENDAR

TODAY 9 AM Sunday School for all ages
10 AM Worship Service
6 PM Cider, S’mores, & More (Church Front Lawn)

MON Robin Out of Office
7 PM Pastor Rich’s Men’s Bible Study (Library)
7 PM UWF Faith Circle (Member’s Homes)

TUE Robin Out of Office
10 AM Prayer Team (Library)
6 PM Worship Committee Meeting (Library)

WED 10 AM Women’s Bible Study (New Beginnings)
12 PM Lunch & Conversation (BRC Blue Ridge Room)
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

Please Note that Pastor Rich will be on vacation from Tue, the 13th through Thu, the 22nd, however he will be available if needed.

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

Attendance and Stewardship for last Sunday

Attendance: 95 Sunday School: 27 Total Giving: \$6,448

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



- For victims of abuse of all kinds, and for their abusers to change and learn
- For comfort for those dealing with illness, loss, awaiting surgery, and undergoing treatments
- For those dealing with mental illness and addiction and those who care for them
- For families in crisis or struggling with estrangement
- For safe travels for our families and friends, for health and safety during their trips
- That this day be good and tomorrow better (Galen Dellinger)