This coming week in the life of the church

Today 11/22
9am Worship
10:15am Sunday School
1:30pm EV Thanksgiving luncheon
Monday 11/23
5:30pm Cub Scouts
5:30pm Ambassador Meeting
5:30pm Trustee Meeting
Tuesday 11/24
7pm Boy Scouts
Wednesday 11/25
9am Psalm Sisters Bible Study
Thursday 11/26
Happy Thanksgiving
Church Office Closed
Friday 11/27
Church Office Closed

Giving Our Tithes and Offerings to God~

All that we have comes from God; we are caretakers of what belongs to Him. As an act of faith, we return a portion of God's provision for the growing and continuation of His work. There is an offering plate as you enter for tithes and offerings, you can send them through our website, or they may be mailed to the church office.

Belvidere First
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
LOVIN' JESUS LOVIN' YOU

November 22, 2026



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Find us on the web fumcbelvidere.org
After hours, emergency contact number for Pastor Jim Bell 847-764-6563

Order of Worship for November 22, 2026

Prelude (song/s)

Welcome

***Opening Songs of Praise**: "Come, Now is the Time to Worship"
"We Fall Down"

***Responsive Reading:** Psalm 85 UMH #806

Liturgist: Missy Ingersoll

One: Lord, you showed favor to your land; you restored the fortunes of Jacob.

Many: You forgave the iniquity of your people; you pardoned all their sin.

One: You withdrew all your wrath; you turned from your hot anger.

Many: Restore us again, O God of your salvation, and put away your indignation toward us!

One: Will you be angry with us forever? Will you prolong your anger to all generations? Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you?

Many: Show us your steadfast love, O Lord, and grant us your salvation.

One: Let me hear what God will speak, for the Lord will speak peace to his people, to his faithful, to those who turn to the Lord in their hearts.

Many: Surely salvation is at hand for those who fear the Lord, that glory may dwell in our land.

One: Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other.

Many: Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky.

One: The Lord will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.

Many: Righteousness will go before the Lord, and make God's footsteps a way.

***Scriptures:** Isaiah 40: 1-11
Matthew 3: 1-3

Discipleship Time:

Prayer Song: "Give Thanks"

Pastoral Prayer:

Lord's Prayer (in unison)

Message: Pastor Jim Bell

***Doxology** (UMH #95)

***Prayer of dedication**

God, your goodness has provided us with the very things we offer back to you. Your faithfulness has sustained us through good and bad, up and down. Your protection has guarded us from evil and disaster. Along the way we have come to trust you and cheerfully return to you a portion of your blessing.

Receive our gifts as signs of our gratitude and trust. Use them and us to prepare the way for more people to experience your goodness and come to trust you in all things, in Jesus' name. Amen.

***Closing Song of Praise:** "Hope of All Hearts"

***Benediction**

***= Stand as able**

****Headsets to assist with hearing during the service are available from any usher****

Altar flowers given by Lawana & Shelia in memory of parents, Paul and Delores Felton

Where do the quotes go? _____

How did we prepare the way of the Lord back then?

_____

_____

_____

Isaiah used that image to represent _____

We were in despair because _____

The Good News was that _____

What can we do to help that happen?

_____

_____

Our model is _____

We don't do the _____

We may help someone _____

Christmas is a great time for _____

Who are you telling? _____

Isaiah 40:1-11

40 Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. **2** Speak tenderly to
Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her hard service has been
completed, that her sin has been paid for, that she has received from
the Lord's hand double for all her sins.
3 A voice of one calling: "In the wilderness prepare the way for the
Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.
4 Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low;
the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain. **5** And
the glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all people will see it
together. For the mouth of the Lord has spoken."
6 A voice says, "Cry out."
And I said, "What shall I cry?"
"All people are like grass, and all their faithfulness is like the flowers
of the field. **7** The grass withers and the flowers fall,
because the breath of the Lord blows on them. Surely the people are
grass. **8** The grass withers and the flowers fall,
but the word of our God endures forever."
9 You who bring good news to Zion, go up on a high mountain. You
who bring good news to Jerusalem, lift up your voice with a shout, lift
it up, do not be afraid; say to the towns of Judah, "Here is your God!"
10 See, the Sovereign Lord comes with power, and he rules with a
mighty arm. See, his reward is with him, and his recompense
accompanies him. **11** He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the
lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads
those that have young.

Matthew 3:1-3

3 In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the wilderness of
Judea **2** and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."
3 This is he who was spoken of through the prophet Isaiah: "A voice of
one calling in the wilderness,
'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.'"