

7th Sunday after Pentecost
July 16, 2023

PRELUDE/GATHERING
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Charles Ferguson
Buddy Butler

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES: THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST IN OUR MIDST
CALL TO WORSHIP

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND PARDON, 890

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen. *All pray in silence.* Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

OPENING PRAYER

*HYMN OF PRAISE, 176

Majesty, Worship His Majesty

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH, 886 The World Methodist Social Affirmation

We believe in God, creator of the world and of all people; and in Jesus Christ, incarnate among us, who died and rose again; and in the Holy Spirit, present with us to guide, strengthen, and comfort. **We believe; God, help our unbelief.** We rejoice in every sign of God's Kingdom; in the upholding of human dignity and community; in every expression of love, justice and reconciliation; in each act of self-giving on behalf of others; in the abundance of God's gifts entrusted to us that all may have enough; in all responsible use of the earth's resources. **Glory be to God on high; and on earth, be peace.** We confess our sin, individual and collective, by silence or action: through the violation of human dignity based on race, class, age, sex, nation, or faith; through the exploitation of people because of greed and indifference through the misuse of power in personal, communal, national, and international life; through the search for security by those military and economic forces that threaten human existence; through the abuse of technology which endangers the earth and all life upon it. **Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.** We commit ourselves individually and as a community to the way of Christ: to take up the cross; to seek abundant life for all humanity; to struggle for peace with justice and freedom; to risk ourselves in faith, hope, and love, praying that God's kingdom may come. **Thy kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER, 895

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 STORY, 575

Onward, Christian Soldiers

Dura Montgomery

WORSHIP OF GOD WITH OUR GIFTS AND TITHES

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY, 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.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Genesis 25:19-34

Marti Lane

PSALTER, 756

Psalms 25

April Butler

SECOND READING

Romans 8:1-11

Donna Ratzlaff

*GOSPEL READING

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

*GLORIA PATRI, 70 Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

SERMON

"Who Are You in Christ"

Buddy Butler

*HYMN OF INVITATION, 354

I Surrender All

*SENDING FORTH

*FOLLOWING CHRIST INTO THE WORLD, TAKING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO OUR COMMUNITY

*POSTLUDE

*Congregation standing, as able



United
Women
in Faith

During July, the UWF are collecting paper towels, toilet paper, outdoor games, MP3 Players (without screens) and gift cards from hair and nail salons for Open Arms for Children in Fannin County. Next potluck meeting: Wednesday, August 2, at 5 p.m.

The **Missions Committee** will meet in the Older Elementary Classroom at 6 pm on Wednesday, July 19 to discuss upcoming rummage sale (August 4 & 5, 9 a.m. –2 p.m. – see bulletin insert for details) and our involvement with Copper Basin Elementary's Snack Pack Program.

Do you use size p312 hearing aid batteries? We have some available FREE in the church office.

The **Church Council** will meet on Tuesday, July 25, at 6:30 p.m.

We will receive the Fifth Sunday Offering for **Holston Home for Children** on July 30.

If you can help a grandmother who will be taking care of a newborn baby boy—donations of diapers, baby supplies, a car seat, etc., are desperately needed. Contact Elaine Minor at 561-795-0313 for info.

The Community Meal is held on Mondays, 4 to 5:30 p.m. 166 free "to go" meals were served last week. If you would like to help, contact Community Meal volunteers at 423-241-2282.

Join the **Son Seekers** for *Getting Involved with God*, a study recommended by Pastor Buddy which offers some very helpful ways to rediscover the Old Testament. Author Ellen F. Davis: "This is a book about getting, and staying, involved with God—what it takes, what it costs, what it looks and feels like, why anyone would want to do it, anyway." Come and see what she means, and why it matters so much to New Testament people such as ourselves. We meet a 10 a.m. in the church parlor—all welcome.

Scan here to give: when you scan this image with a smartphone's QR decoder, it will connect you to the mobile version of the FUMCC web page—a quick and easy way to access it. You can also donate securely online at fumcc-copperhill.org.

Our Vanco giving page can also be accessed at: <https://secure.myvanco.com/YJXP/home>



Church Leadership
Pastor Gilbert "Buddy" Butler
Secretary Heidi Rule
Custodian Christine Dowlin

Sunday Servants
Ushers Bill Simonds, Adam Turner
Sound Techs Randy Loudermilk, Ann Rymer
Webmaster Marti Lane

Our Prayer Concerns

Our Congregation: Sally Patterson (recovering after surgery), Ed Massengale, Cathryn McCarter, Jeane Kalchik, Bill Simonds, Glenda Simonds, Louise Arp, Barb Bender

Homebound/Assisted Living: ^Shirley Sheffer (recovering from back surgery) new address is: 10914 Kingston Pike, Apt. 108, Knoxville, TN 37934, ^Elaine Crowe

Others in our prayers: *Lester Ruark (in hospital—father of Evelyn Stemmann), *Stewart Haslam (rare cancer), Peggy McGee (cancer patient), ^Don Loudermilk (brother in law of Loretta), Major Andy Lai (stationed in Taiwan, son-in-law of the Callihans), +Lee Womac (Copperhill Postmaster—motorcycle accident), McKinley Majors (requested by Tonya Callihan), Ann Record (multiple broken bones after car accident - good friend of Dura Montgomery), Emily Martin Bryant (niece of Joy Turner), Earthquake victims in Syria/Turkey, Kimberly Curcio (friend of Neila Pace), Bee Hicks, Junior Gwynn, ^Tom Reed, Kerry and Cindy Hicks, Hannah Geren, first responders, armed forces members, the people of Ukraine

*new to concerns +Hospital or Rehab ^Assisted Living/Nursing Home ~ Hospice

If you would like to add someone to the Prayer Concerns, please call the church office.

Birthdays
 21 Donna Ratzlaff 22 Janice Brooks

Anniversaries
 17 Ron and Shirley Singleton 30th

If your birthday or anniversary has not appeared in our listings please call the church office.

Upper Rooms for July—August and some Daily Guidepost books are available in the Narthex.

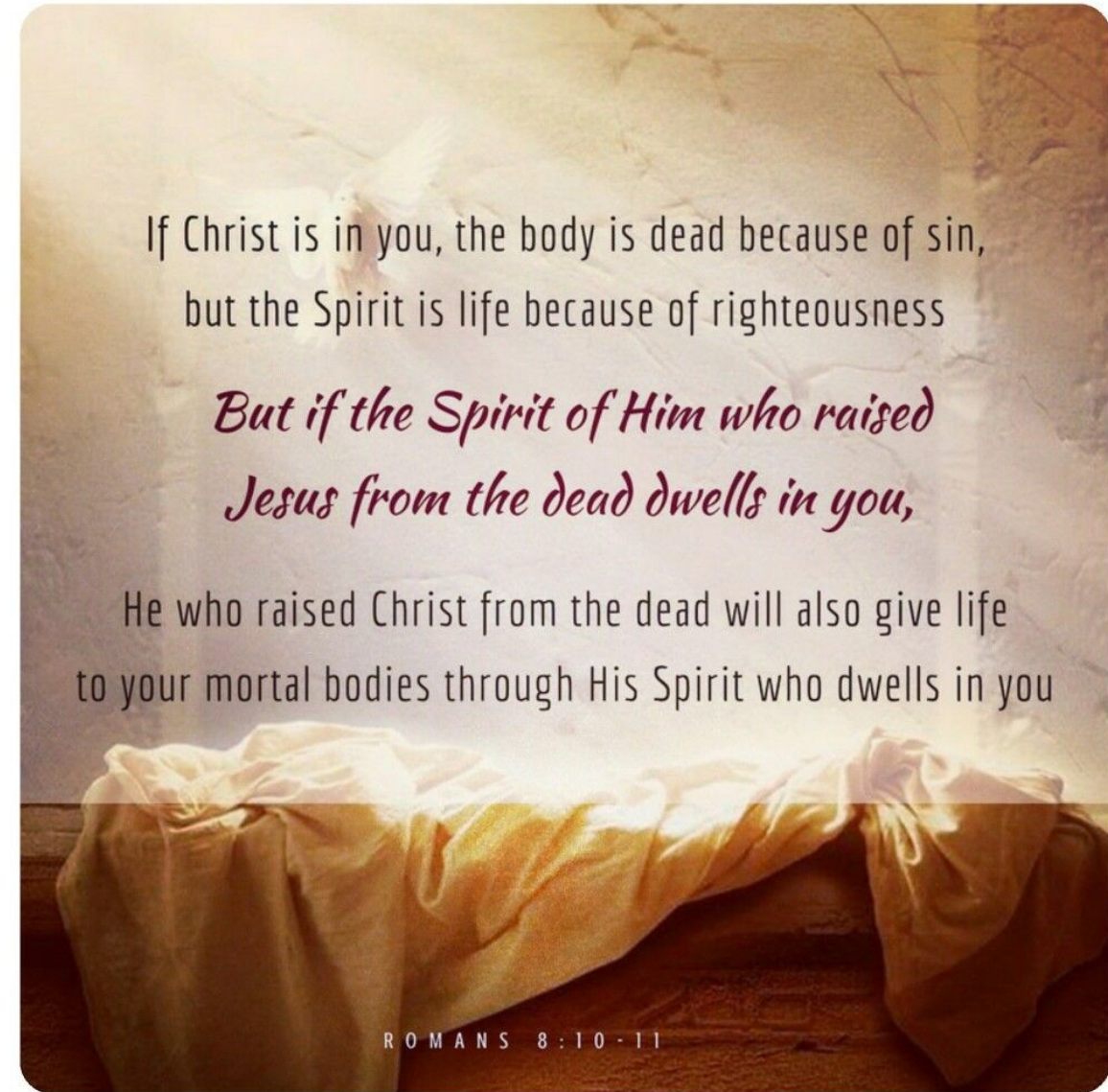
Please donate nonperishable food items in the Narthex box - **canned meat, tuna, jelly, breakfast cereal, oatmeal, spaghetti, spaghetti sauce, rice, soup, chili, canned vegetables**, etc. (We have enough peanut butter and macaroni and cheese.) *Thanks to all who contribute - recipients are grateful.*



My daughter is starting a pollinator garden if anyone is willing to share any little butterfly bush seedlings, or any other flowering perennial plants. Thanks! She also has a limited supply of fresh eggs, \$3.00 dozen or 2 dozen for \$5.00. Contact Heidi Rule at 706-455-7941.

Calendar	Today	Monday	Wednesday
	10:00 am Sunday School	4-5:30 pm Community Meal "To Go"	6:00 pm Missions Committee Meeting
	11:00 am Worship		No Choir Practice in July
	6:00 pm Life Group Meeting		

Church: 423-496-4931 ♦ Parsonage: 423-761-6999 ♦ Pastor's Cell: 423-429-3820
 Email: firstumc@etcmail.com ♦ Website: fumc-copperhill.org
 Facebook: First United Methodist Church-Copperhill
 Secretary's Office Hours: Monday, Thursday and Friday, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.



Everyone Welcome!