

**13th Sunday after Pentecost
August 27, 2023**

PRELUDE/GATHERING
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Buddy Butler

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

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND PARDON, 891

Almighty and most merciful God, we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against thy holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us. Spare thou those, O God, who confess their faults. Restore thou those who are penitent, according to thy promises declared in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful God, for his sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life; to the glory of thy holy name. Amen. All pray in silence. If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. **Thanks be to God.**

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

OPENING PRAYER

*HYMN OF PRAISE, 419

I Am Thine, O Lord

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH, 883 A Statement of Faith of the United Church of Canada

We are not alone, we live in God's world. We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the church: to celebrate God's presence, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God. 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, 545-546

The Church's One Foundation

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

Exodus 1:8-2:10

Dura Montgomery

PSALTER, 846

Psalm 124

April Butler

SECOND READING

Romans 12:1-8

Joy Turner

*GOSPEL READING

Matthew 16:13-20

*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

"Holy & Acceptable"

Buddy Butler

*HYMN OF INVITATION, 380 *There's Within My Heart a Melody*

*SENDING FORTH

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

*POSTLUDE

*Congregation standing, as able

A meeting of the **Missions Area Work Group** will be held on Wednesday, August 30, at 6 p.m. in the Older Elementary Classroom. Anyone interested is invited to attend.

We are collecting the following **School Supplies for Copper Basin Elementary**: eraser tops, pencils (Ticonderoga preferred), wide ruled loose leaf paper, hand sanitizer, facial tissue, disinfectant wipes, new backpacks (not oversized). Please, no mechanical pencils.

The **Nominations and Leadership Development Committee** will meet on Tuesday, September 5, at 6:30 p.m. Members are Elaine Morgan, Shirley Starling, Joy Turner, Evelyn Stemmann, Cathy Turner, Marti Lane, Lisa Loudermilk, Garry Day, Buddy Butler.



United
Women
in Faith

The UWF September Potluck Meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 6, at 5 p.m. . Bring your favorite dish and join us for good food and fellowship. The Appalachian String Strummers (Charles Ferguson is a member) will provide our entertainment.

The **Community Meal** is held on Mondays, 4 to 5:30 p.m. 142 free "to go" meals were served last week. If you would like to help, contact volunteers at 423-241-2282.

All are invited to a **Classical Organ Concert** on Sunday, September 3, at 3 p.m. at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 7 Ewing Street, Blue Ridge. Guest organist Andrew Atkinson is a celebrated organist and pianist and is a member of the American Guild of Organists. Free admission—retiring offering received.

St. Luke's Episcopal Church will hold their **Church Yard Sale** on September 8 and 9 from 9 a.m.- 2 p.m.

District Day with the Bishop: On Tuesday, September 19, 2023, Bishop Debra Wallace-Padgett will be with us in the Hiwassee District. At 7:00 pm Bishop Wallace-Padgett will lead us in worship at Keith Memorial, 600 W Madison Ave, Athens, TN.

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 [fumc-copperhill.org](https://secure.myvanco.com/YJXP/home).

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 Smokey Brooks, Shirley Russell
Sound Techs Randy Loudermilk, Ann Rymer
Webmaster Marti Lane

Our Prayer Concerns

Our Congregation: *Ann Rymer (heart cath), the family of Lester Ruark (father of Evelyn Stemmann), T.J. Thompson (recovering from knee surgery), 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), ^Elaine Crowe

Others in our prayers: *Richard Wagner (in Piedmont—heart surgery), Tiffany Deaver, Stewart Haslam (rare cancer), ^Don Loudermilk (brother in law of Loretta), Major Andy Lai (stationed in Taiwan, son-in-law of Rick and Tonya Callihan), +Lee Womac (Copperhill Postmaster—motorcycle accident), McKinley Majors (requested by Tonya Callihan), Ann Record (recovering from car accident), 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

28 Charles Ferguson

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

Upper Rooms for September-October are available in the Narthex today.

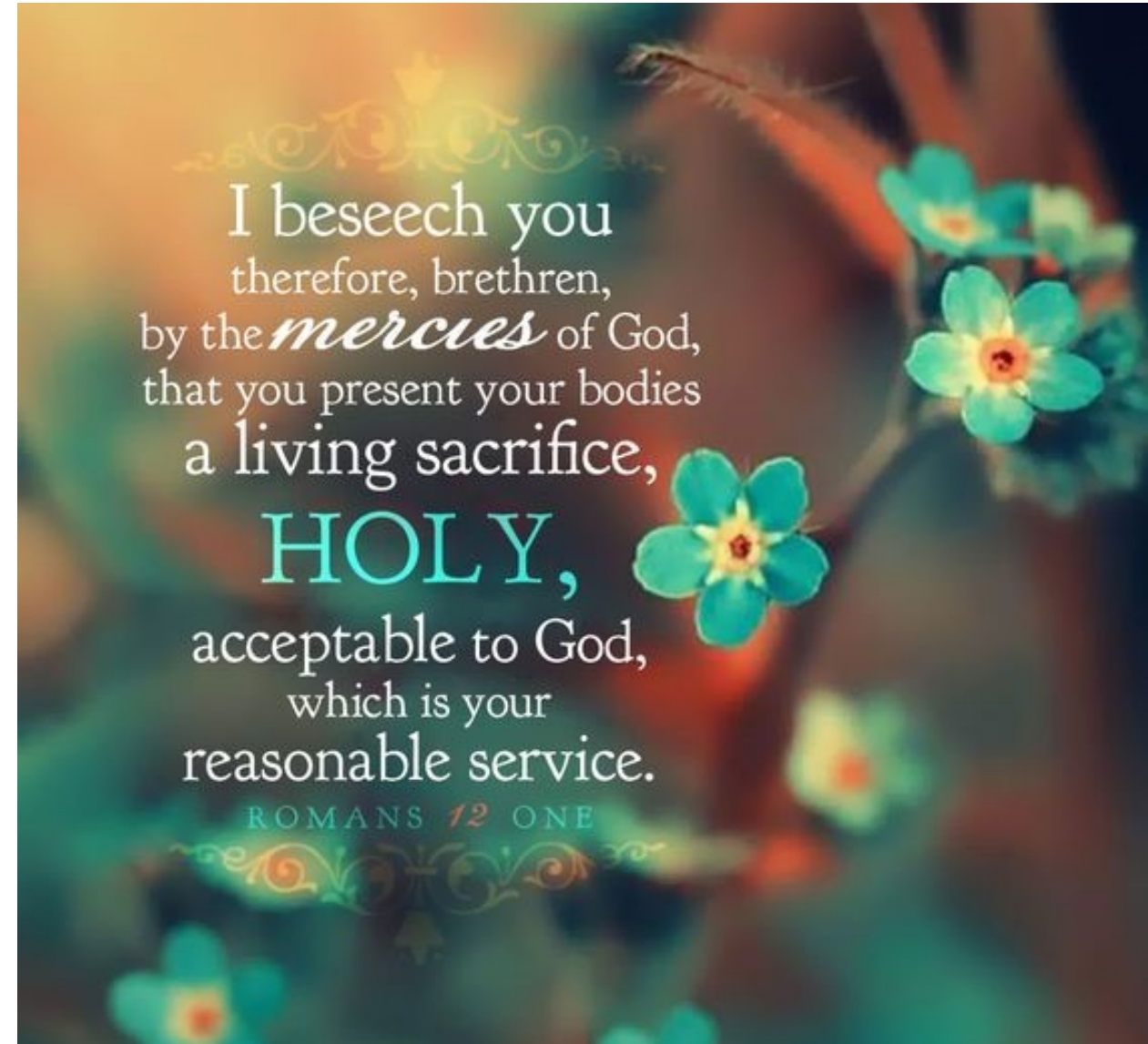
Please donate nonperishable food items in the Narthex box - **canned meat, tuna, jelly, breakfast cereal, oatmeal, spaghetti, spaghetti sauce, rice, soup, chili**, etc. (We have enough peanut butter, canned vegetables, and macaroni and cheese.) *Thanks to all who contribute - recipients are grateful.*



My daughter is starting a pollinator garden if you have any butterfly bush seedlings, or other flowering perennial plants to share. Thanks! She has a limited supply of fresh eggs, \$3 dozen or 2 for \$5. Contact Heidi at 706-455-7941.

Calendar	Today		Monday
	10:00 am	Sunday School	4-5:30 pm Community Meal "To Go"
	11:00 am	Worship	Wednesday
	6:00 pm	Life Group Meeting	6:00 pm Missions Committee (Older Elementary)
			No Choir Practice—resumes next Wednesday at 7 pm

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!