

22nd Sunday after Pentecost
October 29, 2023

PRELUDE/GATHERING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES: THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST IN OUR MIDST

CALL TO WORSHIP

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND PARDON, 892

Our heavenly Father, who by thy love hast made us, and through thy love hast kept us, and in thy love wouldst make us perfect: We humbly confess that we have not loved thee with all our heart and soul and mind and strength, and that we have not loved one another as Christ hath loved us. Thy life is within our souls, but our selfishness hath hindered thee. We have not lived by faith. We have resisted thy Spirit. We have neglected thine inspirations. Forgive what we have been; help us to amend what we are; and in thy Spirit direct what we shall be; that thou mayest come into the full glory of thy creation, in us and in all the people; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. All pray in silence. The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. If any one sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the expiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world. **Thanks be to God.**

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

OPENING PRAYER

*HYMN OF PRAISE, 110

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH, 885

A Modern Affirmation

Pastor: Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is the one true church, apostolic and universal, whose holy faith let us now declare. *Pastor and People:* **We believe in God the Father, infinite in wisdom, power, and love, whose mercy is over all his works, and whose will is ever directed to his children's good. We believe in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Son of man, the gift of the Father's unending grace, the ground of our hope, and the promise of our deliverance from sin and death. We believe in the Holy Spirit as the divine presence in our lives, whereby we are kept in perpetual remembrance of the truth of Christ, and find strength and help in time of need. We believe that this faith should manifest itself in the service of love as set forth in the example of our blessed Lord, to the end that the kingdom of God may come upon the earth. 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

CHOIR ANTHEM

On Faith Alone (Sola Fide)

By Robert Johnson, Al Denson, Karla Pierre and Scott Pierre, Arranged by Tom Fettke; Orchestrated by Bruce Greer

WORSHIP OF GOD WITH OUR GIFTS AND TITHES

OFFERTORY

Matt Scoggins

*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

Deuteronomy 34:1-12

Dura Montgomery

PSALTER, 809

Psalms 90

April Butler

SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

Joy Turner

*GOSPEL READING

Matthew 22:34-46

*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.**

Matt Scoggins
Buddy Butler

SERMON

"A Vision of Church"

Buddy Butler

*HYMN OF INVITATION, 451

Be Thou My Vision

*SENDING FORTH

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

*POSTLUDE

Matt Scoggins

*Congregation standing, as able

Our United Women in Faith will meet on Wednesday, November 1, at 11:30 a.m. This is the first day of Native American Heritage Month, so our program will be on UMC and UMF missions with Native Americans. We will have soup and sandwiches for lunch. We would like to invite all the women to join us. On Saturday, November 4, the Hiwassee District UWF Annual Meeting will be at Keith Memorial UMC in Athens, TN. Light breakfast items are offered before the meeting and afterward we can go out to lunch. If you would like to attend, please call Flora Grindstaff at 706-632-5979.



United Women in Faith



Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes and gift suggestions lists are available in the Narthex. Filled shoe boxes, along with \$10.00 each for shipping, are due back at First UMC on Sunday, November 12. An anonymous donor has offered to pay shipping costs for any boxes where it has not been paid to encourage more boxes being filled. Samaritan's Purse hopes to ship 11 million Christmas shoeboxes all around the world this year. Pick up your box today!

The **Community Meal** is held on Mondays, 4 to 5:30 p.m. 223 free "to go" meals were served last week. If you would like to help, contact volunteers at 423-241-2282.

Today we will receive our **Fifth Sunday Offering** for Holston Home for Children.

Thanks to everyone who donated food for our Thanksgiving Mission Project. Thanksgiving bags will be assembled on Sunday, November 12, following worship. Anyone who would like to help fill bags is invited. Completed bags will be distributed to local recipients on Tuesday, November 14.

We would like to thank everyone who donated candy for the Halloween Safe Zone.

Tri-State Community Band will present a free Halloween Concert **today at 3 p.m.** at the FCHS Performing Arts Center. The concert will feature music of Berlioz, Verdi, Mussorgsky, Malcolm Arnold, Danny Elfman, and Michael Jackson. Children in costume welcome! Treats for all.



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.

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 Shirley Starling, Charlie Stemmann
 Joy Turner
Sound Techs Randy Loudermilk, Ann Rymer
Webmaster Marti Lane

Prayer Concerns

Our Congregation: *Maria Ruark, Randy Loudermilk, Donna Ratzlaff, Juline Mixon, Billie Ash (temporary address: c/o Laura Ash, 1600 North Oak Street, Unit 825, Arlington, VA 22209), Kathy Panchyshyn, Elaine Minor, Jerry Panchyshyn, Tonya Callihan (knee surgery), +T.J. Thompson (recovering from knee surgery), Sally Patterson, Ed Massengale, Cathryn McCarter, Jeane Kalchik, Louise Arp, Barb Bender, Elaine Crowe

Homebound/Assisted Living: ^Shirley Sheffer (cancer diagnosis)

Others in our prayers: Noah West (student of Chloe Cook), the people of Israel, the Stamey family, Ron Keeler (uncle of Ron Wray), Barbara Keppler (covid), Deanna Sharell (covid), Melvin Wilcox, JoAnn Whitlow, stroke (niece of Loretta Loudermilk), Brenda Turner, surgery (sister in law of Joy Turner), Norma Bean, Richard Wagner (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), Emily Martin Bryant (niece of Joy Turner), Kimberly Curcio (friend of Neila Pace), ^Tom Reed, Kerry and Cindy Hicks, Hannah Geren, first responders, armed forces members, the people of Ukraine, victims of natural disasters worldwide

**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

29 Blake Callihan, Beth Geren

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

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

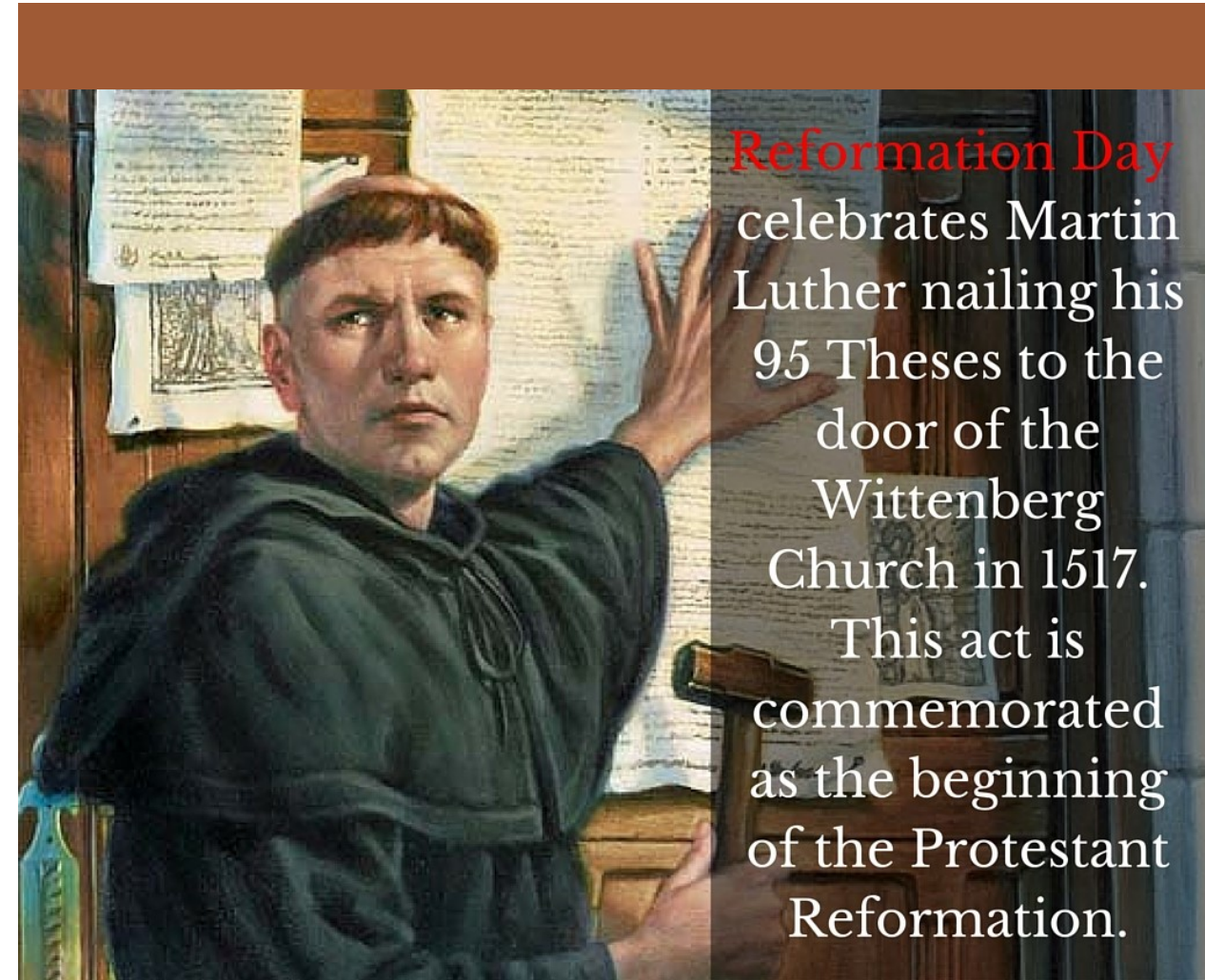


The Church Office will close at 2 p.m. on Thursday, November 2.

Calendar

Today	Monday	Wednesday
10:00 am Sunday School	4-5:30 pm Community Meal "To Go"	11:30 am UWF Lunch Meeting
11:00 am Worship		6:00 pm Choir Practice
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!