As we come to the close of John 6 in our worship service, I thought it would be nice to show United Methodist ideas around Holy Communion. Below is an article from 2019 entitled What do I need to know about communion in the UMC? This is from umc.org, and no author is listed. I will add that since this article was written Deacons now have the authority to preside over Holy Communion.

Theology and Beliefs

Do United Methodists believe the bread and wine become the body and blood of Christ?

In the Great Thanksgiving, we ask the Holy Spirit to be poured on us and on the gifts of bread and wine we offer. We ask for the Spirit's outpouring to make the bread and wine be for us the body and blood of Christ so we, who receive them, may be for the world the body of Christ redeemed by his blood. We believe God answers this prayer "Yes," and the Spirit does all these things. Christ is really present here, and Christ's presence really changes us.

Practices

Why do many United Methodists use grape juice instead of wine?

Predecessor bodies of The United Methodist Church were deeply involved in the Temperance Movement. Grape juice was originally invented by Thomas Welch, a Methodist, so Methodists and others would not need to use wine for communion. Today, United Methodists still commend, but do not require, abstinence, and may continue to use grape juice in communion out of pastoral concern for people who may have problems with alcohol.

Does the bread at Holy Communion need to be unleavened?

Either leavened (in witness to the resurrection) or unleavened (in witness to the cleansing power of the Holy Spirit) may be used.

If I cannot eat wheat, may I still receive communion?

Yes. United Methodist congregations are expected to provide alternatives for persons with celiac disease and other allergies. Even if they do not, the ancient Christian doctrine of concomitance means that a physical ability to receive in either kind (bread or cup, or even both!) does not alter the benefits of the sacrament when you present yourself to receive it.

When should the bread be broken?

As we note in the ritual in our hymnal, the bread is broken after the conclusion of the Great Thanksgiving, typically right after the Lord's Prayer. We do not break the bread to remember the words or re-enact the actions of Jesus. We break the bread because after we have completed our prayer of Thanksgiving and the Spirit has been poured out upon it and upon us, now we are ready to start giving it to others. What the pastor does in the "breaking" is to start the whole process of breaking that enables all present to receive.

Do I have to kneel to receive?

No. How you receive is up to you. Most congregations will offer several ways you may receive. You may stand and receive in a line, or you may kneel at a rail near the Lord's Table, or if you are unable to come forward, someone may bring you the blessed elements where you sit.

How may I receive?

The key word is that you receive rather than take the elements. They are given to you by servers. When you receive the bread, you may want to hold your hands out, with your left hand cupping and supporting your right hand. The server will say something to you about the bread as it is given to you. Before you eat it or hold it to proceed to the cup, you may say "Amen" or "Thanks be to God." When the cup is offered to you, the server will say some words to you about the cup. You may respond "Amen" or "Thanks be to God" and then either dip the bread into the cup (but not your fingers!) or drink from the cup. Most United Methodists tend to dip into the cup rather than drink from it.

Who May Receive?

As we say in our Invitation to the Table, "Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin, and seek to be at peace with one another." If you can say you do or have done these three things, you are welcome to receive.

Continued on reverse

The Copperhill Courier

First United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 538
Copperhill, TN 37317

September 2024

Non-profit
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Copperhill, TN
Permit #40

Address changes requested

September 22, 11 a.m.

Bring your favorite dish and join us for a potluck lunch following our worship service. Our new District Superintendent, The Reverend Mickey Rainwater, will be our guest preacher.

From the Pastor's Desk, continued

Additionally, all baptized Christians, of any age (including infants) and any Christian denomination are welcome to the Lord's table. It is Christ's table. He welcomes all who are baptized in his name, and so do we.

We affirm the historic Christian precedent that people are normally baptized prior to receiving communion. Yet, as our invitation notes, baptism is not required. If you come and are not yet baptized, we will encourage you toward baptism at your earliest convenience.

Who May Preside?

In The United Methodist Church, a clergyperson presides at the Lord's table. Usually, this is the appointed pastor of that local church. Ordained elders in The United Methodist Church are authorized to preside in any of our churches or anywhere communion may be celebrated. Bishops may at times authorize a deacon to preside in the context of their place of service. More often, however, deacons assist the presider rather than preside. We also authorize some clergy in denominations with whom we are in full communion according to the terms of our full communion agreements when they are visiting in our churches. Laypersons are not authorized to preside but may assist an authorized presider.

Pastor Buddy

Weekly Events

Sunday School: Sundays at 10 a.m.
Son Seekers meet in the Parlor.

Worship: Sundays at 11 a.m.

Life Group Meeting: Sundays at 6 p.m.
This is an exploration of the early Methodist class meetings. All are invited.

Community Meal: Mondays from 4-5:30 p.m. All are invited. "To Go" only meals available.

Choir Practice: 6:00 p.m.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays

9 Tim Nicholson
10 Becky Wilson
16 Juline Mixon
17 Melissa Brock
21 Ramona Cook
24 Kathy Thompson
25 Louise Arp
27 Janice Burger, Diane Pellington, Adam Turner
28 Joe Dusombre

Anniversaries

19 Charles and Evelyn Stemmann 54th

Your birthday or anniversary not listed? Please contact the church office at 423-496-4931 or firstumc@etcmail.com.

Welcome New Member

We welcome Ann Record to our fellowship! Ann joined FUMC on Sunday, August 11.

Phone Number Change

Marti Lane and Donna Ratzlaff have a new phone number: 828-516-9932. Please correct your church directory.

United Women in Faith News

The United Women in Faith continue their Bible Study on Wednesday, September 4 and 11, at 10 a.m. The topic of the Bible Study is "Becoming Heart Sisters." It is a Bible Study on authentic friendships by Natalie Chambers Snapp.

The UWF will have a potluck luncheon (11 a.m.) after the last Bible Study on September 11. All ladies are invited to attend.

Cookies and punch are needed for the "Are You Awake?" program on September 12. If you can help with this, please contact Flora Grindstaff and bring your donations to the potluck on September 11 or to the church office before noon on September 12.

We have new 2024 UWF Reading Program books in the church library. All members of the church are welcome to check out books. Contact Flora Grindstaff for more information.

The UWF will have a Garden Party and Plant Swap on October 2, 11 a.m. Watch your bulletin and newsletter for more details.

United Women in Faith

September Events

The office will be closed on September 2.

The **Nominations Committee** will meet on Tuesday, September 3, at 5 p.m. A joint meeting between the **S/PPR** and **Trustees** will be held on September 3 at 6 p.m.

The **UWF** will have a potluck luncheon (11 a.m.) after the last 10 a.m. Bible Study on Wednesday, September 11.

Willowbend Farms and Tennessee Department of Health is presenting "Are You Awake?"- a public event to help educate the community on the reality of human trafficking in Polk County. It will be held in Legacy Hall on Thursday, September 12, from 4 to 7 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend. The United Women in Faith will be providing cookies and punch.

Our 135th Annual Homecoming will be celebrated on Sunday, September 22, at 11 a.m.
Bring your favorite dish and join us for a potluck lunch following our worship service. Our new District Superintendent, The Reverend Mickey Rainwater, will be our guest preacher.

The **Hiwassee District Conference** is scheduled for Sunday, September 22, at Ooltewah United Methodist Church, 6131 Relocation Way, Ooltewah, TN. District Conference at 2:30 p.m. ; Worship at 3:30 p.m.

The **Church Council** will meet on Tuesday, September 24, at 6:30 p.m.

The **Fifth Sunday Offering** for Holston Home for Children will be received on September 29.

Looking ahead to October

The UWF will have a Garden Party and Plant Swap as their October Meeting on Wednesday, October 2, at 11 a.m. UWF Sunday will be held on October 13.

Come join us for good food and fellowship on Wednesday, October 23, at 6 p.m. Bring your favorite dish to our Potluck Supper.

Planning ahead: **Operation Christmas Child** shoeboxes and suggestion lists will be available in the Narthex in October. The back to school/fall sales will offer some bargains that can be included in your box! Filled shoeboxes will be due back on Sunday, Nov. 10. ***You can make a difference in a child's life!***

Online Worship Opportunities

You may access Sermon by Phone at 423-226-6437 to hear the current service, plus several previous ones. Check out the page titled **Sunday Worship Highlights** on our website,
fumc-copperhill.org.

As each becomes available, we'll also post the link on our Facebook page @ **First United Methodist Church-Copperhill**
Please like and share so others see our posts!
Audio of our services will be available online and Sermon by Phone by Monday afternoon.

Church Website: fumc-copperhill.org.

If you have an idea of something to add (or update), please email it to firstumc@etcmail.com or call 423-496-4931.

The website is especially important to persons visiting the area AND for local folks who find they need help.

We Remember Our Promise

To participate in our church's ministries by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness…

	Worship	Sunday School	General Fund
June 23	42	7	$1,696.10
July 30	41	7	$2,787.54
July 7	40	7	$4,415.00
July 14	38	7	$5,869.77
July 21	39	7	$3,116.10
July 28	35	7	$1,440.00
August 4	41	7	$3,556.50
August 11	44	7	$3,935.77
August 18	42	9	$2,379.00
Average:	**40**	**7**	**$3,243.98**

Weekly Budget Requirement:	**$3,859.85**
Budget Requirement (YTD):	**$131,234.50**
Actual Budget Received (YTD):	**$108,593.70**

Additional giving:

Pastor's Benevolence Fund:	$195.55
Local Mission Fund:	$195.00
Community Meal (by Buck Bald Brewing customers):	$220.00
Holston Home for Children Fifth Sunday Offering:	$445.00
Scholarship Fund:	$570.00

Members in Service to FUMC

Ushers: Elaine Morgan, Ron Singleton

Audio/Visual Technicians: Marti Lane, Randy Loudermilk, Ann Rymer, Jeff Walker

Did you know you can Donate Online?

Scan this QR code to link directly to the church's website to donate. You can also donate securely online on the church webpage: fumc-copperhill.org.

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

First United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 538 • 146 Scenic Drive
Copperhill, TN 37317

Email: firstumc@etcmail.com

Visit us on the web at www.fumc-copperhill.org

Like us on Facebook:
First United Methodist Church-Copperhill

Office Hours: 9 a. m.—3 p. m. Monday, Thursday & Friday

Church Office: 423-496-4931
Parsonage: 423-761-6999
Pastor's Cell: 423-429-3820

Sermon by phone: 423-226-6437

Gilbert "Buddy" Butler, Pastor
Heidi Rule, Secretary
Matt Scoggins, Accompanist
Christine Dowlin, Custodian

The mission of the United Methodist Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

In Loving Memory…

Lynn Ellen Clamon Lee
December 11, 1939—August 13, 2024

In Memory / In Honor Giving

General Fund in memory of:

Anna L. Panter	By: Cathryn McCarter
Shirley Sheffer	By: Vicky Norwood

Scholarship Fund in memory of:

Brady Singleton	By: Ron and Neila Pace

Missions Fund in honor of:

Lawn Care Crew	By: Barb Bender

Address Change

Denny and Juline Mixon's new address is: 2302 Maplecrest Drive, Nashville, TN 37214. Phone numbers are the same.

Our Prayer Concerns

Our Congregation: *The family of Lynn Lee, Ariana Morris, Louise Arp, Donna Ratzlaff, Janice Burger, Alex Loudermilk, Sheppie Dunn, Lily Loudermilk, Garry Day, Bonnie McDonald, Heather Turner, Erica Turner Putnam, Glenda Simonds, Abby Gamble, Elaine Crowe, Lisa Loudermilk, Cathy Turner, Ron and Shirley Singleton, Ron Pace, Maria Ruark, Juline and Denny Mixon, Kathy and Jerry Panchyshyn, Elaine Minor, Barb Bender

Homebound/Assisted Living: ^Travis Goss (Life Care), ^Tom Reed, ^T.J. Thompson (Pruitt Health), ^Jennifer Clamon (Sonshine Manor)

Others in our prayers: *Jim Smith, *Terry Williams, *Mike Birchmore, Norma Bean, Josephine Bittner, Jim Epperson (having chemotherapy), Wilma Sexton (surgery), Roy Goss (friend of Pamela Gamble), Don Loudermilk (brother-in-law of Loretta), Caitlynn (three year old in Florida with brain tumors), Bud Butler (father of Buddy), Gretchen and Cassandra (family of Dura Montgomery), Connie Harper Malton, Barb Bender's daughter Jody, Brenda Hamby (cancer), Ben Key, Charlotte Sisson, the Springer family, ~Susan Butler and family, Stephen Lebo (brother of April), Barbara Collins, Janis Martin, Monica Ledford, Tamsy and Charlene (friends of Dura), Weldon Self, Jr., Nichole (niece of Buddy), Ed and Jerrie Sue Massengale, Hannah Geren, first responders, armed forces members, the people of Ukraine, the people of Israel and Gaza, victims of natural disasters worldwide

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

Please contact the church office to add someone to our Prayer Concerns list.

Memorial Bricks

Bricks may be ordered to memorialize or honor a friend or loved one. Profits from this sale will be used for many local mission projects. Each brick costs $50.00 and entitles you to your choice of three lines of engraving with up to 20 characters per line. Please use the worksheet below to send in your brick order. Please note that spaces and periods each count as a character, only one character can appear in each box, and a box must be left empty between words.

Your Name: _____

Address:_____

Phone #: _____

Bricks Ordered: _____ Total enclosed: _____

Mail to: First United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 538, Copperhill, TN 37317