Wesley's Three Simple Rules for Voting

By Rev. Magarey DeVega

We are now a few days from the general election, and along with encouraging you to practice your civic duty to vote, I offer you some words of wisdom from John Wesley.

In October 1774, John Wesley was preaching in some small English towns near Bristol, where a contentious election for Parliament was underway. The chief candidates were Edmund Burke and Henry Cruger, who differed in their political ideologies, their positions on the American colonies, and their support from religious groups.

In his journal, Wesley called it "[one of the most] exciting elections Bristol has ever had."

Sound at all familiar?

In the days leading up to the election, while in the town of Pill, he met with members of the local Methodist society, and offered this important guidance:

October 6, 1774. I met those of our society who had votes in the ensuing election, and advised them (1) to vote, without fee or reward, for the person they judged most worthy; (2) to speak no evil of the person they voted against; and (3) to take care their spirits were not sharpened against those that voted on the other side. [1]

That is such good advice. Vote for who you think is most worthy. Don't speak evil of the other candidate. Show no animosity to those who voted differently.

246 years later, John Wesley's advice is as helpful now as it was then. Regardless of how ugly and mean-spirited this or any election season becomes, we can model the kind of decency and civility that we expect of those who lead us.

Our own Florida Bishop Ken Carter also has wise words for us to consider, in his recent email to United Methodists in this Conference:

"We see each other as neighbors and not as political enemies. We are increasingly aware of the polarizing intent of social media platforms for economic gain, inciting fear, anxiety and violence. We are also aware of the danger of misinformation … We are disciples of one Lord, Jesus Christ and citizens of one nation, the United States of America."

Pastor Buddy

We will be receiving the **United Methodist Student Day Offering** on Sunday, November 24. Your generous gift supports our students. When you give, you help provide for over 70 scholarships available for United Methodist students to further their education and enrich the life of the Church.

Your gift nurtures faith and knowledge.

The Copperhill Courier

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

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Address changes requested

UMCOR has been supplying Florida and are out of flood buckets. Churches have been supplying directly to NC and TN. It will take a long time to replenish the stockpile which had been built up over many years of donations.

UMCOR Cleaning Kits (Flood Buckets) needed: Value: $75.00 per kit

Cleaning Kit Materials

• One five-gallon round bucket with lid (14.35" h x 12.19" w x 12.19" d): No screw lids. May be used, but must be free from all residual product. • Advertisement on the outside acceptable.

• One 32–64 oz. bottle liquid laundry detergent • One 16–40 oz. bottle liquid concentrate household cleaner -No spray cleaners • One 16–34 oz. bottle liquid dish soap • One 4–8 oz. pump spray air freshener • One 6–14 oz. pump spray insect repellant (pack of 10–20 wipes also acceptable): Pump spray bottles must have protective covers. • One scrub brush: with or without handle • 18 re-usable cleaning wipes: NO terrycloth, microfiber, or paper towels - Remove from packaging. • Five scouring pads: NO stainless steel or pads with soap in them - Remove from packaging. • 36–50 clothespins • One 50–100 ft. clothesline (cotton or plastic line) • 24 roll of heavy-duty trash bags (33–45-gallon sizes) - Remove from packaging. • Five N95 particulate respirator dust masks (1–3 mm thickness): NO surgical masks • Two pairs kitchen gloves: durable for multiple uses - remove from packaging. • One pair work gloves : cotton with leather palm or all leather

Assembly Directions • Place all liquid items on the bottom of the bucket. • Place remaining items in the bucket fitting them around and between the liquid items. • Scouring pads and trash bags can be separated to fit all items in the bucket. • Clothespins may also be placed in a small re-sealable bag. • Secure the lid on the filled bucket. Important Notes • All items must be new except for the bucket and lid. • All cleaning agents must be in liquid form. No powders are accepted.

- If items have been omitted, label bucket. Please indicate which items are missing. • Sponges have been removed from the list of supplies due to the challenge of locating the non cellulose sponges that prevent mildew. Non-cellulose sponges will be added to each bucket upon arrival at the affiliate warehouse. • Do not include any personal notes, money, or additional materials in the kits. • Contents of kits or the containers of kits should not be imprinted with cartoon characters, advertisements, religious, patriotic, military or camouflage symbols.
- Instructions for Packing and Shipping Kits • Packed buckets cannot exceed 70 pounds.
- For the most up to date and accurate Relief Supply Kit List, go to https://umcmission.org/umcor-relief-supplies/.

First UMC will be assembling flood buckets over the next several weeks. We will break the supply list into several sections so no one will be responsible for filling a whole bucket. If anyone has empty buckets with lids that are acceptable, please bring them to the church as soon as possible. A $3 donation for each kit is needed—this will pay for the sponge for each kit and shipping. First UMC will send a check for the total number of kits.

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: Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays

5 Leland Rymer
17 Angela Mitchell
24 Dellon Ash
25 Mary Mills
28 Freda Abbott
30 Garry Day

No November anniversaries

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

United Women in Faith News

UWF will meet on Wednesday, November 6, at 11 a.m. for a potluck lunch and program. Lonney McDonald will share slides of her trip out west.

UWF will meet on Wednesday, December 4, at 11 a.m. for a potluck lunch and a Christmas Ornament Exchange. Please bring your favorite dish and a wrapped Christmas ornament.

UWF Reading Program books are available in the church library. All members of the church are welcome to check out books.

Contact Flora Grindstaff for more information.

United Women in Faith

Items needed for food boxes

Please donate nonperishable food items in the Narthex box - **canned meat, tuna, flour, sugar, stove top stuffing mix, peanut butter, jelly, rice, soup, chili, macaroni and cheese, shelf stable milk, cereal, oatmeal, canned vegetables.** ***Thanks to all who contribute—the families are always grateful.***

Brasstown Ringers

The Brasstown Ringers Handbell Choir are scheduled to perform on Saturday, December 7, at Mine City Baptist Church. Check your bulletin for details.

St. Luke's Church Events

Christmas Bazaar—Saturday, December 7—baked goods, jams and jellies, arts and crafts, etc., will be available. Watch for details in next newsletter and bulletins.

Christmas by Candlelight Annual Christmas Concert—Sunday, December 22, at 5 p.m.

November Events

Daylight Saving Time ends at **2 a.m. on Sunday, November 3.** Remember to set your clocks back 1 hour on Saturday night.

UWF will meet on Wednesday, November 6, at 11 a.m.

Our **Annual Charge Conference** will be held on Thursday, November 7, at 6 p.m.

Operation Christmas Child filled shoeboxes and $10 for shipping (cash or check made out to FUMC—we will send one payment for the shipping) are due back on Sunday, Nov. 10. (Regular shoeboxes can be used instead of the printed ones.)

All news and calendar items for the combined December/ January *Copperhill Courier* newsletter are due in the church office by Friday, November 15.

The **United Methodist Student Day Offering** will be received on Sunday, November 24.

We will decorate First UMC for Advent on Sunday, November 24. Everyone is invited to stay after worship and help make our church beautiful.

The **Church Council** will meet on Tuesday, Nov. 26 at 6:30 p.m.

The Church Office will be closed on Thursday, November 28, for Thanksgiving.

Looking Ahead to December

First Sunday in Advent is December 1.

The **SPR Committee** will meet on Tuesday, December 3, at 6 p.m.

UWF will meet on Wednesday, December 4, at 11 a.m. for a potluck lunch and a Christmas Ornament Exchange. Please bring your favorite dish and a wrapped Christmas ornament. All ladies are invited to attend.

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
September 29	35	7	$3,061.00
October 6	42	7	$4,196.00
October 13	44	6	$5,390.77
October 20	42	7	$2,523.10
Average:	**41**	**7**	**$3,792.72**

Weekly Budget Requirement:	**$3,859.85**
Budget Requirement (YTD):	**$165,973.15**
Actual Budget Received (YTD):	**$140,260.54**

Additional giving:

Pastor's Benevolence Fund:	$302.00
Local Mission Fund:	$10.00
Holston Home for Children 5th Sunday Offering:	$250.00
UMCOR Hurricane Relief:	$2,430.00
UMCOR Flood Relief:	$500.00

Members in Service to FUMC

Ushers: Bill Simonds, Adam Turner

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…

Reverend John William Mills Jr.

December 9, 1930—October 9, 2024

In Memory / In Honor Giving

General Fund in memory of: John Mills
By: Barb Bender, Garry and Linda Day, David and Joy Turner, Charles and Evelyn Stemmann, Maria Ruark

General Fund in memory of:

Carl and Anna Panter	By: Cathryn McCarter
Jimmy Hendrix's son	By: Barb Bender
Bill and Peggy McKown	By: Garry and Linda Day

Our Prayer Concerns

Our Congregation: *Marilyn Day, *the family of John Mills, *Jimmy Hendrix and family after the unexpected death of his son, *Sally Patterson, *Mary Mills, Maria Ruark, Ariana Morris, Louise Arp, Donna Ratzlaff, Janice Burger, Alex Loudermilk, Sheppie Dunn, Lily Loudermilk, Garry Day, Heather Turner, Erica Turner Putnam, Glenda Simonds, Elaine Crowe, Lisa Loudermilk, Ron and Shirley Singleton, Ron and Neila Pace, Juline and Denny Mixon, Kathy (having surgery) and Jerry Panchyshyn, Elaine Minor, Barb Bender

Assisted Living: Tom Reed, T.J. Thompson (Pruitt Health), Cathy Turner (Pruitt Health), Jennifer Clamon (Sonshine Manor)

Others in our prayers: *Margaret (sister of Dura), *the family of Leonard Murray (uncle of Garry Day), *Renee Roberts, *Christine Chambers, *the family of Judy Jones, *hurricane victims, Regan (auto accident), Jerry Williams (Shirley's husband), Shelly Matthews Allen (chemo), +Mackenzie Ray (auto accident), Abby Gamble, Dennis Wray, Mary Davis (friend of Shirley Starling), Joey, Jim Smith, Jim Epperson (at home), Wilma Sexton, Don Loudermilk, Caitlynn (three year old with brain tumors), Bud Butler (father of Buddy), Connie Harper Malton, Barb Bender's daughter Jody, Brenda Hamby (cancer), Ben Key, Charlotte Sisson, ~Susan Butler and family, Stephen Lebo (brother of April), ^Barbara Collins, Janis Martin, Monica Ledford, 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

Prayers from the Prayer Box: Rachel, Emily, Steve and Jacob Miller, I pray for a pet dog! 2 if possible, Josephine Bittner, Roy Goss

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

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

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