

The Glovier Messenger

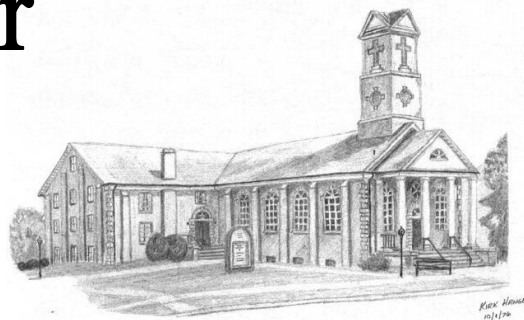
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From the Desk of Pastor Bill

Three Simple Rules

John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist movement, had Three Simple Rules that he lived by: *Do no harm, Do good, Stay in love with God.* Sounds pretty simple, right? It should be simple, but unless you have tried to live by these three rules, as Jesus said in the Sermon on the Mount, “Do not judge, so that you may not be judged.” (Matthew 7:1)

First, “Do no harm.” For the most part, I think most of us try to live like that. It’s sort of a reverse or negative version of the Golden Rule (*Treat people in the same way that you want them to treat you* – Luke 6:31). We try to live by this rule but what happens when someone else doesn’t live by that rule and harms us either purposely or by accident. What should we do?

That brings us to Mr. Wesley’s second rule: “Do good!” As Christians we know what that means. We know how to do good. We know how to feed the hungry and help the poor. We know how to open doors to the stranger. We know how to heal and help and teach and preach and feed and lead. But, for the most part, we fail in the one area that Christians should be most noted for, and that’s forgiveness. This is the one area we always seem to fall the shortest in our Christian walk. In the Lord’s

Prayer we pray, “forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.” We ask God to forgive us, but do we really mean it when we pray for us to forgive others who have harmed us? We continue to harbor hard feelings toward each other. And the sad truth is we do it to family. We do it to friends and at work. And worst of all we do it in the church. When John Wesley wrote “Do no harm,” I am pretty sure he was talking about others, but it could also apply to us. Because every time we hold a grudge, every time we fail to forgive, we harm ourselves. And every time we fail to forgive in the life of the church, we not only harm ourselves, but we wound and harm the body of Christ. I believe that the most ‘good’ we can do in the world, in the church, and in our own spiritual lives is to forgive. It’s also the hardest thing we have to do in the world, in the church and in our own spiritual lives. There is nothing in the world which is harder than forgiving those who have harmed us in one way or another. I pray that those who I have harmed in some way, will forgive me. Nor is there any attitude and action which is more important for the world to see modeled in and through both us and the church, than the attitude of forgiveness. How will they know how to forgive if they’ve never seen it modeled in us?

Mr. Wesley said, “Do no harm. Do Good.” I think the best ‘good’ we can do is simply to begin living



the life of forgiveness we've been forgiven to live. When we do, it helps us fulfill the third rule: "Stay in love with God." The best way to "Stay in love with God" is to be obedient like a loving child. Being obedient means reaching out to those who have "harmed" us and forgiving them. Most people are seeking forgiveness and want to know they can be forgiven.

I don't know if the Ziggy cartoon series is intended to be theological, but one cartoon I really liked is when Ziggy is watching TV and the announcer says, "In a surprising development today, good triumphed over evil." The good news is that through the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross, good did triumph over evil once and for all. Evil just hasn't given up. St. Paul said, *Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.* (Romans 9:21) You and I are called to be ambassadors for Christ. And we do that not only with the witness of our voices, but we do it with the witness of our actions. How we treat one another in the church tells others how they can expect to be treated. That's why John Wesley gave us Three Simple Rules: *Do no harm. Do good. Stay in love with God.* Show the world you are in love with God. Let them see that love through the harm you and I don't do, through the good we do through forgiveness.



AT HOME MEMBER FOR JUNE

Becky Miller
2389 Jefferson Highway
Waynesboro, Va 22980
540-942-5330

Becky would love to hear from you. Send her a card, text or give her a call. We appreciate our at home members as they support us each Sunday with their prayers and love.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

1st - Kimberly Kestner
1st - Becky Miller
4th - Linda Roberson
6th - Bobby Dunn
9th - Janet Knott
12th - Andrea Plummer
16th - Doris Sipe
18th - Sandra Eccard
19th - Keith Fields
23rd - Sonny Easton
26th - Fran Davis

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

8th - David & Sheila McCallister
19th - Emmitt & Sandra Eccard
24th - Larry & Bonnie Johnson
26th - Freddy & Jean Iseli
29th - Jeff & Andrea Plummer
29th - Roger & Anita Pullin



John & Jan Bottemiller	Becky Miller
Pauline & Tobi Broyles	Steve Davis
Jean Pittman	

Announcements and Upcoming Events

The next **Plummers Bible Study** will be held on Tuesday, June 17 at 4:00pm. Come and enjoy learning more about the Bible. Bring your own supper to enjoy after the study.

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH UPDATE

The United Women in Faith met on May 13, 2025. The main events that were discussed were the upcoming Panera Bread fundraiser and our Ham Sandwich fundraiser. Both of these have been completed.



For the Ham Sandwich fundraiser we made a little over \$500. We raised \$157.46 from the Panera Bread fundraiser including donations. Thank you to everyone who supported one or both of these fundraisers.

The program was presented by Ellen Ross who took us from Genesis to Revelation and showed us the many names that our Lord is referred to in scripture. Our eyes were really opened with this presentation. The United Women in Faith will not be meeting in June, July and August. Have a safe and enjoyable summer.



The United Methodist Men will meet again Thursday, September 4th at 6:00pm. We thank everyone for your support. Best wishes for a nice and wonderful summer!

**ANNUAL CONFERENCE
JUNE 11-14, 2025
BERGLUND CENTER,
ROANOKE**



Annual Conference Theme:

"Movement of the Heart"

The focus is on how God transforms us and how God molds and shapes us and allows us to be agents of change in and around our community.

WEBPAGE with Agenda

Keep informed at the Annual Conference webpage: <https://vaumc.org/ac2025/>

VOLUNTEER

We need YOU to make Annual Conference a success! Sign up to volunteer online.

**2025 BABY BOTTLE GRAND TOTAL
for Comfort Care Women's Health is
\$177,356.03**

8307 Baby bottles were distributed

196 churches + organizations participated

They send heartfelt thanks to us. We are speaking up for those who cannot speak for themselves – Proverbs 31:8.



**God's
Riches
At
Christ's
Expense**