

An Order for the Christian Worship of God  
July 9, 2017  
Enter to Worship, Depart to Serve

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Liturgical Color: Red

Welcome and Announcements

The Prelude

\*Call to Worship

Leader: Come! Let us worship and praise God.

**People: The Lord is our shepherd, our guardian and our guide.**

Leader: Celebrate the many ways in which God cares for our lives.

**People: Green pastures and silent still waters beckon us and comfort us.**

Leader: Even though difficulties happen in our lives, still God is with us.

**People: Even when it seems that the world has nothing to offer but suffering and pain, God surrounds us with God's love and bounty.**

Leader: Surely God's mercy accompanies us on our journey.

**People: And we will dwell in God's house forever. AMEN.**

\*A Time of Singing and Celebration

\*Passing of the Peace

Time with the Children

*(All children under 12 years are invited to the front. Afterwards, during second service only, children ages 3 thru kindergarten are invited to children's church and will be escorted to room #113. Parents may pick them up there after the service.)*

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Sacrament of Holy Baptism (11:00)

Ellie Lucille Smith

Special Music

The Giving of Tithes & Offerings

Offertory

\*The Doxology **"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"** *UMH # 95*

\*Hymn of Preparation

"O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee"

\*Gospel Reading

John 10: 1-15

#933

Prayer of Illumination (in unison)

**Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of Your Holy Spirit, that, as the Scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what You say to us this day. Amen.**

Scripture

Psalms 23: 1-3

#476

Sermon

"Green Acres"

Rev. Wilkes

\*Hymn of Commitment

"I Come to the Garden Alone"

UMH # 314

\*Benediction

\*The Recessional

"Irish Blessing"

May the road rise to meet you; May the wind blow at your back;  
May the sun shine warmly on your face; May the rain fall softly on your field.  
And until we meet again, until we meet again,  
May God hold you in the palm of His hand. Amen

\*Chiming of the Trinity

\*Postlude

**Invitation to Newcomers: Those desiring to unite with our congregation through Baptism, Profession of Faith or Transfer of Membership are encouraged to signify this on the attendance pad, on a visitor card and/or contact one of our Pastors. We are thankful to have newcomers.**

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The flowers are placed on the altar today to the Glory to God and  
in loving memory of Jean Alsobrooks, given by her family.  
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### **OUR JOYS AND PRAYER CONCERNS**

Contact pastors or Shirley Davis @ 222-3496 or [sdavis@cloverfumc.org](mailto:sdavis@cloverfumc.org) to add to joy and prayer concerns:  
**Recent Concerns:** Rhett Hurst, Mike Bono, Starr Wray, Marshall Caldwell, Fred Strong, Ann Stewart, Ruth Wilson, Janet Maslankowski, Rev. Tom Wilkes, Alan Abernathy, The Shirfinski Family, Estelle Camp, Sandy Chapman, Betsy Mullis (Starr's sister), Eloise Mallen, Rolfe Sukkert, Margaret Pendleton, Doris Shepard (Barb Millay's mother), Jimmy Dixon, Glenn Adams, Dave Stanton, Jr., Dolly & Joe Killian, Randy Flora, Dave Jones, Naurice Smith.

**Notes of Sympathy:** Christian sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Mr. Lacy Robinson.

Christian sympathy is extended to Chip Jones and family in the death of his uncle, Mr. Morgan Jones.

**Military:** Lt. Col. Nicholas S. Hare, Senior Chief Martin Johnson, Major Blair Preston, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Rion Cartin, LCPL Chris Propst, M.Gy. Sgt. Terry Kenneth Lowman, Jr.

**Baptism:** At the 11:00 worship service Ellie Lucille Smith, daughter of Jeremy and Alex Smith, will be baptized. We will anoint Ellie by making the mark of the cross on her forehead, signifying that the Holy Spirit seals her as Christ's own forever. Ellie will receive her light from the Paschal or Christ Candle to remember her Baptism and be thankful that Christ, the true light, has given her as a light to the world. The third gift to Ellie will be a baptismal stole to show that through baptism in Christ, Ellis is changed and has become a new creation clothed in the garment of Christ.

### **JULY is "CAMP MEETING" MONTH at First UMC!**

Our choir will be taking a seasonal rest during the hot month of July. And YOU are all invited to come to church *dressed cool and casually* throughout the whole month. We will enjoy special music, including some good old "hymn sings" as we reflect on the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm, remembering and refreshing our thirsty spirits with the good news that The Lord *is* Our Shepherd...leading us beside still waters and restoring our souls. JOIN US FOR CHURCH ALL OF JULY and invite friends and family!

### **Forever Young & Friends:**

#### **Flatrock Playhouse Trip on July 13 ~ DIXIE SWIM CLUB**

15 people are on this trip, so everyone that wants to can ride the bus. Plan to be at the church by 9:15 so we can leave by 9:30. Reservations are at A Day in the Country for lunch and we will be ordering off the menu. We need to be at the playhouse and find our seats by 1:30. The play starts at 2:00. There are refreshments to purchase on site.

**The Forever Young & Friends** will be traveling to **Hamricks & the Gaffney outlets** on Tuesday, July 25<sup>th</sup>. We plan to leave the church at 8:00 and will shop until we drop (may be back in Clover around 3:00 or so). We plan to eat lunch at Clocks Restaurant in Gaffney. Look for a sign-up sheet on the "sign up" table.

**Popcorn & a Movie** for July is postponed until August 22<sup>nd</sup> due to a conflict.

**Flowers for the Sanctuary:** There are three upcoming dates available for flowers in the sanctuary. They are July 23, July 30 and August 6. If you could provide flowers on one of these Sundays, please call the church office or sign up on the flower calendar downstairs near the elevator.

## Youth, Children and Tweens

**VBS: Today we begin our journey through Rome at this year's VBS! The UMM are providing Hot Dogs for dinner tonight and then it's time for fun and fellowship. Dinner and registration are at 5:30, VBS starts at 6:00 and ends at 8:00pm. Come join us for a week of fun.**

Contact Jon Valentine for information about youth ministries at FUMC, [jvalentine@cloverfumc.org](mailto:jvalentine@cloverfumc.org)

### **UMW Reading Program**

Those who are participating in the Reading Program should have their information to Grace White or Louise Jackson by August 6<sup>th</sup>.

### **Marriage Date Night – Thursday, July 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm**

Come out with your sweetie and enjoy an evening stroll through Daniel Stowe Botanical Gardens when the warm light of the setting sun illuminates thousands of buds and blooms. We will meet at the entrance building to Daniel Stowe at 7:00pm. The cost is \$ 12.95 for adults, \$ 11.95 for seniors and free for garden members. Childcare will be available at no cost at the church. Please RSVP to Geoff and Francine at 518-281-2274 or [smileanddial@earthlink.net](mailto:smileanddial@earthlink.net)

**First UMC shirts worn by the staff.** We would like to put in an order for as many in the church family who would like to have your own to wear this summer and for some years to come. These are attractive, light denim, collared shirts with cream stitching for the logo. The shirts come in ladies and men's sizes in S, M, L, XL and plus sizes up to 4X, true to fit. These quality shirts are only \$ 20.00 (a little extra for plus size) and feel super comfortable. Spread the word about First UMC and order your shirt this week by calling the church office. Shirley will take your name, size and payment. Please make checks payable to FUMC.

### **Thank you**

Dear Friends at First UMC,

Thanks so much for your support of the Winthrop Wesley Foundation this semester! Your generosity allowed us to continue our ministry of transform young lives and making disciples of Jesus on campus. Thank you again for being a vital part of what we do!

Blessings and Peace,

*Ricky Howell*

*Winthrop Wesley*

### **Salkehatchie**

If you haven't sign up yet there are still a few camps open so you need to register as soon as possible at <http://www.salkehatchie.org>. and indicate the church will send in payment. The cost of the trip is \$230 but the church will cover half the cost (\$115) for each camper, youth or adult. The check will need to be given to Shirley in the church office and written out to FUMC Clover for \$ 115 with the camp name you will be attending. For more information contact Tommy at [twilkes@cloverfumc.org](mailto:twilkes@cloverfumc.org)

**The Food Project Ministry:** Next week's 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday donation is breakfast items: Thank you for your continued support.

## Financial Stewardship

Please continue to remember the church in your giving as we continue this year of ministry together. Most of you give through the Sunday morning offerings but below are some other ways to give if you so choose.

**Electronic Debit Giving:** The card reader is now available in the lobby. Touch any key to begin and then follow the posted directions. **Be sure to leave a receipt with your name printed on it in the locked black receptacle.** This is the only way your offering can be posted to your contribution records. A second receipt is also offered for your personal convenience.



**Also takes Discover, American Express & Apple Pay.**

**Direct Draft Giving is now available for free:** We are now offering the opportunity for automatic draft from your bank to our bank, Clover Community Bank. Please pick up and/or hand in your authorization for Direct Draft form from Shirley in the office, or put in the offering plate. This method has proven to be an effective and timely way to regularly give to the church. "I am an electronic giver" cards are in the pews for your use if you choose to use this method of giving.

**Giving On-Line:** Giving to FUMC is now available online through our website: [www.cloverfumc.org](http://www.cloverfumc.org).

**Thanks for your support of the mission and ministry of FUMC.**

**If you decide to give electronically or through Direct Draft, please feel free to drop an "Electronic Giver" card in the offering plate on Sundays as an act of worship.**

Reverend Tommy Wilkes, Senior Pastor – [twilkes@cloverfumc.org](mailto:twilkes@cloverfumc.org)

Reverend Meg Wilkes, Associate Minister – [mwilkes@cloverfumc.org](mailto:mwilkes@cloverfumc.org)

Reverend J. Richard Gibson, Pastor Emeritus

Jon Valentine, Director of Children & Youth Ministries – [jvalentine@cloverfumc.org](mailto:jvalentine@cloverfumc.org)

Cheri King, Director of Music Ministries – [cking@cloverfumc.org](mailto:cking@cloverfumc.org)

Christine Payseur, Church Business / Technical Coordinator – [cpayseur@cloverfumc.org](mailto:cpayseur@cloverfumc.org)

Shirley M. Davis, Administrative Assistant / Financial Secretary – [sdavis@cloverfumc.org](mailto:sdavis@cloverfumc.org)

Natasha Bilousova, Pianist

Tracie Kite, Sexton – [kitetracie@hotmail.com](mailto:kitetracie@hotmail.com)

Hope Long, Nursery

Windy Barte, Lay Leader

Ray Reavis, David Edwards, Bob Grindle, Conference Lay Members