

An Order for the Christian Worship of God
September 17, 2017
Enter to Worship, Depart to Serve

15th Sunday after Pentecost **Liturgical Color: Green**

Pre Service "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"
 Welcome and Announcements

The Prelude "Prelude in Classic Style" -Johnson

*Call to Worship
 Leader: Welcome to you, the weak and the strong.
People: Christ Jesus welcomes us here.
 Leader: Welcome to you, sinners and saints.
People: God's grace embraces us all.
 Leader: Welcome to you, forgiven and forgiving.
People: The Spirit binds us in unity and love.
ALL: God of love and grace, bind us together this day. Even as you have welcomed us, so may we welcome one another. Speak to our hearts, that we may hear your words and heed your call to live as a community of acceptance and love.

*Processional Hymn "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms" UMH# 133

*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 the Lord's Prayer

*Hymn of Preparation "He Is Lord" (x2) UMH# 177

*Scripture Matthew 18: 21-35 # 852

*Affirmation of Faith A Modern Affirmation UMH # 885

*Gloria Patri ***"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."***

The Anthem "He Never Failed Me Yet" *The Chancel Choir*
Soloists: Robin Wallace, Dave Edwards, Tina Cargill (11:00)

Offertory Prayer The Giving of Tithes & Offerings
 Offertory "Break Thou the Bread of Life" -L. Larson
 *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

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 Romans 14: 1-12 #988

The Sermon "Strong Opinions and the Judgement Seat of God" Rev. Tommy Wilkes

*Hymn of Commitment "Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me" UMH# 361

*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 "Praise the Almighty" -Broughton

*indicates worshippers are invited to stand, if able.

Newcomers and Guests: You are welcome today at 12:15pm to join us for our First Connect in the Missions and Fellowship Center for subs, chips and drink and conversation. Rev. Tommy Wilkes

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 Lew Cato, given by his family.

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2017 Financial Update

Needed to meet General Fund Budget as of 8/31/17 \$ 434,509
Actual General Fund Spending as of 8/31/17 \$ 389,563
Received for General Fund as of 8/31/17 \$ 390,381

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.

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

Reverend Meg Wilkes, Associate Minister – mwilkes@cloverfumc.org

Reverend J. Richard Gibson, Pastor Emeritus

Jon Valentine, Director of Children & Youth Ministries – jvalentine@cloverfumc.org

Cheri King, Director of Music Ministries – cking@cloverfumc.org

Christine Payseur, Church Business / Technical Coordinator – cpayseur@cloverfumc.org

Shirley M. Davis, Administrative Assistant / Financial Secretary – sdavis@cloverfumc.org

Natasha Bilousova, Pianist

Tracie Kite, Sexton – kitetracie@hotmail.com

Hope Long, Nursery

Windy Bartee, Lay Leader

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

Wonderful Wednesday Meal, September 20.

Menu: Shepherd's Pie, Salad & Dessert, sponsored by New Beginnings Sunday School Class

NAME _____ No. _____

OUR JOYS AND PRAYER CONCERNS

Contact pastors or Shirley Davis @ 222-3496 or sdavis@cloverfumc.org to add to joy and prayer concerns:

Recent Concerns: Barb Millay, Sandy Robinson, Sandy Chapman, Margaret Pendleton, Mama Cat Cockman, Tom Wilkes, Jr., Carolyn Grigg, Ken Moses, Rhett Hurst, Mike Bono, Marshall Caldwell, Janet Maslankowski, Alan Abernathy, Eloise Mallen, Rolfe Sukkert, Doris Shepard (Barb Millay's mother), Jimmy Dixon, Glenn Adams, Dave Stanton, Jr., Dolly & Joe Killian, Randy Flora, Dave Jones, Naurice Smith.

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

Today: Newcomers, join us for First Connect. Join us today right after church in the Missions and Fellowship Center for subs, sides and drink and an informal time of getting to know you and sharing a little about the church's Mission and Ministry. The Pastors and staff would love to get to know you better.

Ministry Planning Day, September 24, right after church

All members are welcome to join the following committees as they plan for these areas of ministry at First UMC for 2018:

Safe Sanctuary Missions Children / Youth
Worship, Music & Worship Arts Outreach Evangelism
and a Discussion about Storage Possibilities at FUMC

The Administrative Council members will meet following our First Block of Planning

If you are not part of one of the above committees or the council but will be attending and would like to eat lunch, please call the church office to reserve your sub sandwich meal. 803-222-3496

Congratulations are in order for Brandon and Georgie Lazarus. We have been in touch and hear they are expecting their first child next Spring!

Fall Yard Sale Week, October 1-7, 2017 Our Annual Fall Yard Sale week is October 1-7 this year, so start cleaning out all your unwanted treasures to donate. All profits go to help a need at the church. We will sell at the Wednesday Morning Prayer Breakfast and the Wednesday Night Dinner as well as Friday (8:00am—6:00pm) and Saturday (9:00am—Noon). Church members are welcome to make purchases throughout the week. Please bring your donations to the church Sunday, October 1st—Thursday, October 5th. Thank you.

Hot Dog Lunch Friday, October 6th at the church. Forever Young will have a hotdog lunch fundraiser on Friday, October 6th, from 11:00am until we are sold out. Combo of hotdog, chips and drink is \$3.00. Hotdogs - \$1.50. Serving homemade chili and slaw. Please plan to join us.

Help Needed to Advertise the Fall Yard Sale, October 6 & 7: Please tell people you know. Also please take one of the YARD SALE FLIERS telling about the yard sale to hang in your place of business's breakroom, teacher workroom, hair dresser, gym, Y, nail salon and/or anywhere else that will let you post announcements. LOCATION OF FLIERS: On the sign-up table (near the dinner sign-up sheet) in the hall. If you need more copies, please let us know. Thank you, Forever Young & Friends.

Youth, Children and Tweens

Youth Fellowship: TODAY York Cluster Event at Camp Cherokee, 2:00—7:00

We are excited to kick off our Wednesday night programs.

BIG (children) and Tweens at 6:30pm

Youth Fellowship at 6:30.

Be sure to check out the table in front of the Youth Room for all our upcoming event sign-up sheets!

5th Quarter on September 22nd

Scarowinds on September 29th

Escape Room Tournament September through January

Be on the lookout for emails, posters, and Instagram posts for full details.

If you haven't already, text 1clovermyf to 95577 for text reminders!!

Contact Jon Valentine for information about youth ministries at FUMC, jvalentine@cloverfumc.org

York/Clover Cluster Youth Day: Camp Cherokee Sunday, September 17, 2:00pm – 7:00pm

(1299 Camp Cherokee Rod, Kings Mountain State Park) Music, Worship, Food and Games!

Everything is Free! Come and bring a friend of two!!

Our Genesis worship service has begun again! Remember, the Genesis service is a bi-weekly, creative and “contemporary” worship experience meeting the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. Our next Genesis service is Sunday, September, 24th, at 10:50am after Sunday School!

New rehearsals for the Genesis Praise Team will begin Sunday, October 1st, at 5:30pm. Contact Rev. Meg Wilkes to become involved in leading the music for this service. 803-622-1315

York/Clover United Methodist Cluster: You are cordially invited to join the York/Clover UM Cluster for a Senior Dinner on September 23rd, 4:00pm—6:00pm, at Mount Vernon UMC, 2160 Smithford Rd., Hickory Grove, SC. Food, Music, Prizes and Fellowship. **RSVP** to Renee Gallien by September 18th.

Forever Young & Friends Fall Trip to Roan Mountain

On **Tuesday, September 19th**, we will travel to Kirkie and Dick Gibson's home on Roan Mountain.

The bus will **leave the church promptly at 9:00am**. If you signed up to ride the bus, be at the church by 8:45am.

Plan for the Day: **1st stop**—Apple Hill Orchard Cider Mill; **2nd stop**—lunch/brunch at Cracker Barrel in Morganton; **3rd stop**—dessert, visiting and enjoying the mountains at the Gibson's home.

Next Popcorn and a Movie ~ “A Man Called Ove”

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21ST (please note the change in day of the week and time). Bus

leaves at 1:00pm from the church. A grumpy yet loveable man finds his solitary world turned on its head when a boisterous young family moves in next door. **Meet Ove.** He's a curmudgeon, the kind of man who points at people he dislikes as if they were burglars caught outside his bedroom window. He has staunch principles, strict routines, and a short fuse. But behind the cranky exterior there is a story and a sadness. So when one November morning a chatty young couples with two chatty young daughters move in next door and accidentally flatten Ove's mailbox, it is the lead-in to a comical and heartwarming tale of unkempt cats, unexpected friendship...All of which will change one cranky old man and a local residents' association to their very foundations. Join us for **this sacred time of reflecting theologically** around themes of growing older in God's grace. Sign up in the lobby.

Countdown to EXTRAVAGANZA: October 7.... 27 days to go! Please continue to pray for a successful event. Tickets for the turkey dinner are available in the church office and from Johnny Adams (222-9921). Remember that we need sellers as well as buyers to get them out the way Lacy did. And don't forget to work on your homemade items to donate to the Country Store. We need yard sale donations, too; so please take time now to go through your sellable things and donate anything you don't need. There are sign-up sheets in the lobby—please survey your “talents” and plan to give some of your time to help. ALL assistance is appreciated, and to God be the glory!

Thank you:

What a loving church family we have! Thank you all so much for the calls, cards, prayers and good wishes sent my way during my recent illness. I appreciate each one more that you can know. God is so good. Thanks again. *Teresa Glass*

We deeply appreciate the cards, calls, visits, food and prayers during this time of loss. Your love and support have helped in many ways and we are thankful for you all.

Jim Camp & Lynn, Susan & Janet

From Our Nurture Committee

Fall Nurture Bags are placed in the lobby hallway until Sunday, October 22nd. The congregation is encouraged to drop in cards, notes and/or small gifts as desired.

The next Nurture Committee meeting will be held on Monday, September 25th, at 11:00 in the Steve Camp classroom.

This year's Nurture Luncheon is scheduled for Tuesday, November 14th at 11:00am in the Missions and Fellowship Center. This year's date was pushed back just a bit later than usual due to some conflicts in scheduling. More information will be forthcoming.

Please contact Ashley Gordon at 704-576-6743 with any questions.

The Food Project Ministry: Next week's 4th Sunday donation is soup. Thank you for your continued support.

The Newsletter deadline is September 25th. Please put your item in the church newsletter mailbox or you can email it to Ann.Shearer@clover.k12.sc.us.

PLEASE NOTE: When returning items to the Missions & Fellowship Center's Storage Closet, please be careful not to block the shelving holding our paper supplies. Thank you.

It's BBQ Time!!!

The Clover High School Marching Band will be hosting our Fall BBQ! Here at First UMC

Friday, September 22nd, 11:00am—7:00pm

Saturday, September 23rd, 11:00am—1:00pm

BBQ Plates are \$ 9.00 and include BBQ, beans, slaw, chips and a roll.

Place your order now!

For tickets email dlbono16@gmail.com