

An Order for the Christian Worship of God
November 26, 2017
Enter to Worship, Depart to Serve

Last Sunday after Pentecost

Liturgical Color: White

Pre Service "Give Me Jesus" Elizabeth Payton

Welcome and Announcements

The Prelude "Now Think we all our God" arr. Pephel

*Call to Worship

Leader: Welcome this day to a time of rest.

People: We come, bearing burdens and cares.

Leader: We place your lives in the loving hands of God.

People: May God heal our spirits and strengthen us.

Leader: Trust in God who is always with you.

People: Lord, this day we come to you in faith and trust for your healing mercies; Hold us and Help us carry the load. AMEN

"Cares Chorus" FWS #2215

*Processional Hymn "What a Friend We have in Jesus" UMH #526

*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.)

Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Scripture Reading I Peter 5:5-9a #1058
 Psalm 2:1-2a # 465

The Anthem "With Grateful Heart" *The Chancel Choir*

*Hymn of Preparation "Love Lifted Me" WS #3101

Prayer of Confession

Patient Lord, you know how easy it is for us to whine and complain bitterly about all those things in our lives that are difficult.

We focus on them as though they were the only things that ever happened to us, forgetting the many blessings that you have given to us and the opportunities you give us to serve you.

We feel alienated--you call us beloved. We feel lost--you seek us. We feel broken and battered--your love is a healing balm.

Forgive us when we forget those things. Help us to always look to you for our healing and to return thanks to you by praise and serving others in your name. For we offer this prayer of confession of our failures and gratitude for your blessings. AMEN.

Words of Assurance

Turn again to the Lord, for you are beloved of God and have been given many blessings. Rejoice in God's love for you and be Thankful. **Amen**

Offertory Prayer The Giving of Tithes & Offerings
 Offertory "Give Thanks" arr. Burger
 *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

*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.**"

*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 Luke 11:46 #904
 Matthew 11:28-30 #845

Sermon "Carrying the Weight of the World" Rev. Tommy Wilkes

*Hymn of Commitment "Precious Lord" UMH #474

*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

*indicates worshippers are invited to stand, if able

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 of God and in memory  
 of Laura Lemmon and Pat Vanhook  
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2017 Financial Update

Needed to meet General Fund Budget as of 10/31/17 \$ 547,386
Actual General Fund Spending as of 10/31/17 \$ 479,207
Received for General Fund as of 10/31/17 \$ 480,452

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
Nannette Carnes, Organist

Tracie Kite, Sexton – kitefracie@hotmail.com
Hope Long, Nursery

Windy Barte, Lay Leader
Ray Reavis, David Edwards, Bob Grindle, Conference Lay Members

Wonderful Wednesday Meal, November 29

Menu: Hearty Beef and Vegetable Soup, Cornbread & Desserts
Sponsored by: Missions Committee

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: Fred Byers, Dave Blanton, Sandy Chapman, Barb Millay, Jim Heckle, Josie Skinnell, Dolly Killian, Larry Beamguard, Tammy Bailes, Tom Dann, Rhet Hurst, Domingo Jesus Roges, Margaret Pendleton, Eloise Mallen, Rolfe Sukkert.

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.

Coat Give Away at the Food Project: Please donate gently used or new coats, heavy sweatshirts/sweaters, hats and gloves to be given away at the Food Project in November and December. A tub will be located at the Food Project table starting November 5th. Thank you for your support, Esther Circle and Forever Young & Friends.

Marriage Date Night – McAdenville "Christmas Town USA" on Saturday, December 2nd at 4:30pm. Come out with your sweetie and get into the Christmas Spirit! We will meet at the church and carpool over to McAdenville, park and walk through to enjoy the Christmas lights at a leisurely pace. After that we will warm up and enjoy some delicious dinner at Brixx in Gastonia. Childcare will be available at the church. Please RSVP to the Dubiskis at smileanddial@earthlink.net or 518-281-2274 by November 29th.

Forever Young & Friends: You are invited to celebrate the season with the Forever Young & Friends at their Christmas Lunch on **Thursday, December 14, 2017 at 12:00 noon** in the church's Mission & Fellowship Center. The meat will be provided, but please bring a side or dessert to share. Our Love Offering will be a donation or canned good for the Food Project. Tommy will have a short devotion. Cheri & Bob will lead us in singing some favorite Christmas Carols. We hope you are able to join us for great food and fellowship. **RSVP** by signing the list located on the "sign up" table (hall table where the Wednesday night sign-up sheet is).

Forever Young Trip to Holidays at the Gardens at Daniel Stowe Botanical Gardens: If you are interested in the Forever Young & Friends trip to Holidays at the Gardens on December 5, 2017. The \$11.00 for a group ticket is **due by Monday, November 27, 2017**. (Group sales tickets are \$10.95 + tax about \$11.60. FY&F will pay the difference.) **Names will be added to the list as payment is received.** Payments can be made at the church office, in an envelope in the collection plate or church debit machine. Please make checks out to FUMC – Forever Young and put DSBG in the "FOR" blank on the check.

Administrative Council Meeting: Called Administrative Council Meeting at 9:45 December 3rd in Sanctuary.

Join us next week, December 3rd for our First Sunday of Advent. Following the 11am service, we will hold a brief **dedication of the Meditation Prayer Chapel** in the All Saints Park.

Youth, Children and Tweens

Youth: No MYF tonight.

OUR CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM practices have begun. It is going to be a wonderful time of song and storytelling! BE SURE TO BE HERE FOR PRACTICE at 6:30pm Wednesday.

Our Wednesday night programs:

BIG (children) and Tweens at 6:30pm
Youth Fellowship at 6:30.

Revolution sign-ups are now open - Price - \$135. Contact Jon for payment plan setup.

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

The Food Project Ministry: Next week's 1st Sunday donations are spaghetti and spaghetti sauce. Thank you for your continued support.

Poinsettias ~ 2017

United Methodist Women (UMW) will be decorating our church for the upcoming Advent Season. Members will again have the opportunity to purchase a poinsettia in honor or memory of a loved one. They will decorate our church on three Sundays, December 10th, December 17th and Christmas Eve, December 24th. The cost is \$ 13.00 each. Twenty five poinsettias will be purchased and any amount collected over the cost of 25 plants will be donated to the UMW General Fund for missions. A list of the donated poinsettias will be in the bulletin on Sunday, December 17th. Orders will be taken through Monday, December 4th. After the service on Christmas Eve, plants can be taken home. Thank you for your support.

NAME: _____

IN HONOR OF: _____

IN MEMORY OF: _____

Christmas Program with the Choir and Children, December 13th at 7pm.

Advent Bible Study: Beginning Wednesday, November 29th, Wednesday, Dec. 6th, Tuesday, Dec. 12th and Tuesday, Dec. 19th at 6:30pm in the Steve Camp Classroom. Our Advent Bible Study will be Matt Rawle's The Redemption of Scrooge.

**“God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.”[a]
Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.**

Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith

I Peter 5:5-9a

Jesus replied, “And you experts in the law, woe to you, because you load people down with burdens they can hardly carry, and you yourselves will not lift one finger to help them.

Luke 11:46

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.

Matthew 11:28