

An Order for the Christian Worship of God
January 21, 2018
Enter to Worship, Depart to Serve

3rd Sunday after the Epiphany

Liturgical Color: Green

Welcome and Announcements

The Prelude

*Call to Worship

Leader: We have seen your star, O God, shining brightly over us
and all the peoples of the earth.

People: Teach us to trust your Light and your Guidance.

Leader: Lead us, O God to the stable of your Love, Joy, Peace and Hope.

**People: And teach us how to offer You acceptable gifts of Worship,
Service and Sacrifice.**

ALL: Amen.

*Processional Hymn

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

UMH #400

*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.)

Commissioning of our new Stephen Ministers*

Listen, Lord

UMH #677

Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

The Anthem

“Simple Gifts”

The Chancel Choir

*Hymn of Preparation

“We Three Kings” (verse 1 & 3)

UMH #254

*New Testament Scripture

John 4: 14-26

#925

*Psalter

Psalms 134 with Response

UMH #850

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

*Offertory Prayer

*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.

*Gospel Lesson

Matthew 2: 1-2, 10-11

#835

Sermon

“The Magi's gift of Frankincense”

Rev. Tommy Wilkes

*Hymn of Commitment

“Joy to the World”

UMH #246

*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.

***Commissioning of our new Stephen Ministers**

We thank you, Lord, for our new Stephen Ministers, who have completed their 50 hours of training and who are ready to be commissioned to serve our community in your name. Before long they will be assigned care receivers. We ask you to strengthen their hearts and be with them as they begin this important work of caring for others. Grant them courage and wisdom, Lord, and give them gentle hands and discerning ears so that they may bring your care to those who are hurting or going through challenging times. In Christ Jesus, we pray. Amen.

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The flowers on the altar today are placed to the Glory of God  
and in honor of Windy Bartee's birthday  
and in appreciation of her service to church and community.  
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Thank you for your faithfulness in giving to Christ's Church as we end this year of Ministry!
Peace to you ~ Rev. Thomas Wilkes

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
Cathy Allen, BIG/Tweens Coordinator—Cathy.Allen@clover.k12.sc.us
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 – kite_tracie@hotmail.com
Hope Long, Nursery
Windy Barteel, Lay Leader
Ray Reavis, David Edwards, Bob Grindle, Conference Lay Members

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Wednesday Night Dinner, January 24<sup>th</sup>

Menu: Taco Soup, Cornbread & Desserts Sponsored by United Methodist Women

Name \_\_\_\_\_ No. \_\_\_\_\_

**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:** Sherry Adams, Ron Eaddy, Anne Adams, Marshall Caldwell, Carolyn Grigg, Sandy Chapman, Wayne Leroy, Rhett Hurst, Mitch Barr, Fred Byers, Josie Skinnell, Dave Blanton, Rolfe Sukkert, Dave Jones.

**Notes of Sympathy:** Christian sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Mrs. Margaret Pendleton. Christian sympathy is extended to Hope Millward and family in the death of her step-daughter-in-law and the mother of Jeffrey and Christopher Yewcic.

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

**Confirmation 2018:** Confirmation is a wonderful time where young people (sixth grade and above) are able to ask questions about the faith and learn the basic doctrines and teachings of the Church and Scripture. At the end of this experience, young people will be offered a Confirmation Retreat to Lake Junaluska, NC and a time to confirm their Baptism before the congregation. The first Confirmation class starts today. Please contact Rev. Tommy Wilkes with any questions, [twilkes@cloverfumc.org](mailto:twilkes@cloverfumc.org).

**Dear Church Family,**

Thank you for all the gifts and encouragement during the Christmas season this year. We feel so blessed to be a part of such a wonderful church. *The Kings*

**LUNCH AT CAPTAIN STEVE'S, EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO JOIN US!** The Forever Young & Friends' annual lunch at Captain Steve's will be on Thursday, January 25<sup>th</sup>. If you plan to ride or travel with the bus, we will leave the church at 11:00. We plan to be at Captain Steve's about 11:30. If you plan to meet us there the address is 1975 US-21, Fort Mill, SC. A sign-up sheet is on the "sign-up table". If enough people want to go, we will reserve a private room. If possible, wear a FUMC or green shirt. Our shirts have proven to be a wonderful witness in the past.

**Church family needs ~ opportunities for you to serve:**

As Christians, we are pretty clear that Jesus loves the little children! First UMC knows that ministry to the littlest ones among us through Godly Play Sunday school, nursery and children's programs is vitally important to our calling as disciples of Jesus Christ. **On Sunday mornings during 11:00 service**, we joyfully provide "children's church" for about 30-45 minutes while parents take that special time to concentrate on listening to the message (after children's time at the altar.). All children are ALWAYS welcome to STAY in the service, but if parents prefer, they may also like to go to "children's church". Therefore, we must always have two Safe Sanctuary approved volunteers to serve in children's church. *Lately, we have a growing need for a few more faithful volunteers* to fill this important area of ministry, just one Sunday a month. Will you please consider serving in this way? **Call Jon Valentine @ 704-860-4236** or the **church office 803-222-3496** to add your name to our volunteer list. We will contact you with an assigned Sunday and answer any questions you may have! Thank you for showing your commitment to the children among us (and their families!).

Rev Meg Wilkes

**BIG** children are starting a project that requires empty tissue boxes. Please bring any empty boxes to church for the children to us. Thank you.

### Youth, Children and Tweens

**Youth: Jr High MYF ~ 6:00pm Sr High MYF ~ 7:00pm**

#### **Our Wednesday night programs:**

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

Revolution, January 26-28, 2018

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](mailto:jvalentine@cloverfumc.org)

**Youth Council** will meet immediately after 11:00 worship service today.

**Marriage Encounter is hosting another weekend in Charlotte!** Just in time for Valentine's Day, February 9-11 at the Wingate Tryon. A Marriage Encounter is an all-inclusive weekend to rekindle your romance, restore communication and renew your commitment. The focus is on communication between a husband and wife. These marriage seminars are an opportunity to spend time away from the distractions and tensions of everyday life, concentrating on each other as a couple. This unique approach is aimed at revitalizing Christian Marriage. Rediscover the spark that was there on your wedding day! Rediscover the best friend you had when you were first married! Contact Geoff or Francine Dubiski for more info or go to [www.encounter.org](http://www.encounter.org) where all the information for the event is located and registration is available.

#### **Coming Soon! Annual Wild Game Supper – Friday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>.**

Meal served from 5:45 – 6:30pm. Reservations are required! Sign-up sheets located downstairs. The meal is free – generous donations are greatly appreciated. All proceeds will be used to help those in the Clover / York County area with food needs. More menu details to come next week. Make plans to attend by signing up now!

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

**The Newsletter deadline** is January 25<sup>th</sup>. Please put your item in the church newsletter mailbox or you can email it to [Ann.Shearer@clover.k12.sc.us](mailto:Ann.Shearer@clover.k12.sc.us).

**We are scheduling a time of “Best Practices of Sanctuary & Church Safety”.** A speaker from the York County Sheriff's Department will speak THIS AFTERNOON at 4:00 in the Missions and Fellowship Center. Members of the church and others from the community / area churches are welcome to come and hear “best practices” on keeping our Sanctuaries Safe and Secure Locations at all times for Worship and Ministry. Contact Tom Meyer for more information, 803-627-3213.

**2018 Flower Calendar:** Friends please check the flower calendar while you are at church today and through the week, or call the church office to inquire about open dates. We have several Sundays to fill. The beautiful altar flowers are a part of our shared worship experience and it takes many people contributing to this effort to adorn the sanctuary each Sunday. Thank you for your generosity and attention.

#### **2018 Festival of Tables**

United Methodist Women will host the fifth annual “Festival of Tables” ladies luncheon on Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018. You can reserve a table for \$ 5.00 and decorate in your chosen theme, using your tableware and decorations. Guest tickets are \$ 8.00 each. Last year over one hundred women attended to preview the decorated tables and enjoy a delicious lunch. To reserve a table or if you want further information contact Linda Abernathy (222-7591) or Grace White (222-7528). Please plan to join us!

#### **Optimist International Oratorical Contest**

This contest is divided into three levels of competition. Club level receives a medallion, Zone level is a plaque and District level is a plaque and \$2500.00. This contest is open to any student under the age of 18 as of October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018. District winners must provide a copy of birth certificate or passport with the District's entry documentation. Participants must write on the official topic “Where Are My Roots of Optimism.” Oratorical must be no less than 4 minutes and no more than 5 minutes. The Club contest will be held April 14<sup>th</sup>, at the Clover Optimist Club building, 1500 Tom Joye Rod, Clover. You should bring a copy of your birth certificate, speech and application with you. Arrive a little early so paperwork can be checked. Applications can be picked up from Mrs. Hester. Any questions, call Josie Skinnell at 803-684-2008 or email [sknnll@aol.com](mailto:sknnll@aol.com).