

An Order for the Christian Worship of God
February 25, 2018
Enter to Worship, Depart to Serve

2nd Sunday in Lent

Liturgical Color: Purple

Welcome and Announcements

The Prelude "Sinfonia to Cantata No. 106"
"God's Time is the Best" -J.S. Bach

*Call to Worship

Leader: Today we step up a little higher on our Lenten Journey.

People: We are moving from contemplation to action.

Leader: Are you ready to take the next step?

People: Yes, we are ready. The cross is before us.

Leader: Come, walk together on this journey to the Cross.

People: Lord, prepare our hearts and our spirits for this next step. AMEN.

*Processional Hymn "Lord of the Dance" UMH # 261

*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

The Anthem "Be Thou My Vision" *The Chancel Choir*
Soloist: Robin Wallace

*Hymn of Preparation "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus" FWS # 2129

*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."**

Old Testament Reading Genesis 17: 1-7, 15-16 # 12

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 Reading Mark 8: 31-38 # 875

Sermon "Becoming a Disciple of Christ" Rev. Tommy Wilkes

*Hymn of Commitment "Take Up Thy Cross" UMH # 415

*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 Rededication 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.

Flowers are placed on the altar today to the Glory of God
and in loving memory of Frank Richie,
given by Beverly Wood and Suzanne Thompson and their families.

Stewardship ~ Ways to Give

Regular Tithes and Offerings through the **Sunday Morning Offering.**

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.

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- 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 – cmallen217@gmail.com
 - 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 – kitetracie@hotmail.com
 - Hope Long, Nursery
 - Windy Bartee, Lay Leader
 - Ray Reavis, Bob Grindle, Renee Gallien, Conference Lay Members
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Wonderful Wednesday Dinner, February 28

Menu: White Chicken Chili, Bread, Salad & Desserts

Sponsored by New Beginnings 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: Brad Robinson, Tina Clark (Betty Robinson & Margie McCarter's niece), Dave Edwards, Betsy Durant (Windy Bartee's friend), Wanita Bartee (Ted Bartee's sister-in-law), Hugh Robinson, Fred Byers, Tommy Crawford, Anne Adams, Marshall Caldwell, Carolyn Grigg, Sandy Chapman, Wayne Leroy, Rhett Hurst, Josie Skinnell, Dave Blanton, Rolfe Sukkert, Dave Jones.

Note of Sympathy: Christian sympathy is extended to Gloria Baysinger and family in the death of her mother, Mrs. Wilma Maherg of Ladson, SC.

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



Friends, would any of you like to join our nurture team in caring for those 16 to 20 members among us who are home bound? We have a wonderful group of people already connecting with our nurture folks, but we have a need for a few more willing servants to occasionally make calls and visits. Every now and then we also have nurture folks who would like a ride to church. Please consider whether this is a way you could serve God and neighbor in your Christian life. Someone needs you! Contact Rev. Meg Wilkes to be included. mwilkes@cloverfumc.org or 222-3496 ext.17

The Ark & Creation Museum Trip Information

Dates for the trip are June 18-20, 2018. D&S Travels will be handling this tour. **You will need to call D&S Travel (704-864-0348) to register, make payments and ask questions.** Please tell D&S you are with FUMC Clover, SC. There were 30 spaces left on this tour when I spoke with them. It would not be just our group on the charter bus. The information and sign-up sheet are on the "sign-up" table.

SCRIPTURE READERS! As we begin all of our committee meetings for 2018 we are excited about this new year in ministry together. Recently the Worship Committee met and decided we would like to invite some of our younger and newer congregation members to join us in the rotations for Scripture reading during worship! If you enjoy reading aloud and would like to serve God and church in this way, give Rev. Meg a call. 803-622-1315. We are inviting all young adults and youth, as well as all other ages, to participate.

Lyft ~ Lifting Ministry Higher Event will be here at First UMC on March 3rd from 9:00am – 2:30pm. **We need participants and would love to have you. Please let the church office know by tomorrow 4:00pm. (This would be free for the ministry track).** Register through the church office or through Eventbrite. Details are on the bulletin board to the left of the elevator. Breakout sessions include Media and Worship Communication, Communicating Faith in the 21st Century, Web Ministry and Music Workshops. Thanks to Charlotte, helpers and the Forever Young for helping on this day!

Youth, Children and Tweens

Youth: Jr. High ~ 6:00 Sr. High ~ 7:00

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

Our Wednesday night programs: BIG (children) and Tweens at 6:30pm / Youth Fellowship at 6:30.

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

If you haven't already, text [1clovermyf](tel:1clovermyf) to [95577](tel:95577) for text reminders!!

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

ASBURY HILLS

Friends, it is time to think about SUMMER CAMP! Registration is up and running! Please see the Asbury Hills brochures provided for you in the church lobby and talk with Rev. Meg Wilkes about participating in this awesome Spiritual Life Adventure in the beautiful foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains! Asbury Hills is a United Methodist Camp and Retreat Center dedicated to spiritual growth, faith formation and FUN for church groups, families, youth and children! Go creek hiking, zip lining, canoeing, try your hand at archery or high ropes, swim, take the Leap of Faith or enjoy the Giant Swing, and slide down Wet Willie - then chill by the campfire, or the lakeside. Every night you will celebrate with praise and worship with an awesome band, and before it's all over, you will have met friends for life. All camp counselors are college students, specially trained and prepared for this summer of mission and leadership. Pastor Tommy was a Camp Counselor at Asbury Hills when we met! <3

PARENTS:

Please seriously consider making this happen for your kids. The church covers some of the cost (The Wonderful Wed dinner on May 2 will go toward raising funds, youth and children's ministry assists, and generous church members contribute as well.) There are sponsorships available directly through Asbury Hills for those who need financial assistance. We have sent several children/youth from First UMC since I have been on staff here, and I would love to see even more have this opportunity. There are 9 camp weeks to choose from for ages 2nd grade - 12th. This year's theme is DEFY FEAR! Call me to talk about Asbury Hills Summer Camp. Rev. Meg Wilkes 803-622-1315

2018 Festival of Tables

United Methodist Women will host the fifth annual "Festival of Tables" ladies luncheon on Saturday, May 19th, 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!

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

COMING SOON! *YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP*

If you are between the ages of 18-29 you will want to mark your calendar for Sunday, March 11th. This will be the date for the first gathering of our brand new Young Adult group. We will meet during the Sunday School hour, 9:45-10:45. However, this will not be a traditional Sunday School class, this is a time for fellowship and spiritual support.

Many of you know me from my years as a volunteer with our youth group. Now I feel led to implement a young adult ministry. I am excited to be one of the facilitators for this group along with Meg Wilkes and several other adults who wish to serve and support this age group.

We will meet in the Missions & Fellowship Center and welcome **ALL** young adults, not just members of FUMC. Please pray for the success of this ministry and for it to produce fruit in the lives of our young adults. Thank you! *Jeannette Stabler*

FOREVER YOUNG & FRIENDS TRIP TO SPRINGTIME BY THE SEA

Ed Kilbourne Presents – Senior Adult Vacation Bible School: "Teach Me Simple Things"

Place: Epworth By The Sea, St. Simons Island, Georgia

Dates: May 21-24, 2018

Price: \$380.37 per adult staying 2 adults to a room, \$495.00 per adult staying 1 adult to a room.

First payment of \$200.00 due on or before March 5, 2018

Second payment of \$180.37 is due on or before April 10, 2018

Forever Young & Friends will pay \$20 per person for the trolley tour of St. Simons Island.

The Color Me Happy Painting class will cost \$35 extra.

Make checks out to FUMC Forever Young. On the for/memo line, write Epworth trip.

Checks to the church office or in the offering plate in an envelope.

Included in price: 3 nights lodging, 9 meals, all scheduled activities, tax and State of Georgia Motel Fee.

List: Names will be added to the list when first payment is received.

More Information and Registration forms are on the "sign-up" table. You do NOT have to fill out the whole registration form since we are paying with a group check. Just fill in your name, roommate, and whether you want a double or single room. Also check if you are paying extra for the Color Me Happy Painting Class. Epworth By The Sea's cancellation policy is on the registration form.

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 1st, 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 14th, 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 check. Applications can be picked up from the High School, Clover or Oakridge Middle School, Ninth Grade Academy or from Jon Valentine. Any questions, call Josie Skinnell at 803-684-2008 or email sknnll@aol.com.

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

Some more ways to live out your Christian life through First UMC!



1) **Join a Prayer Vigil group** to keep our community, prospective members, and particularly the young among us in your prayers regularly!!!

Rev. Meg will provide you with regular updates of immediate concerns and hopes and any particular situations that need special attention. For example, right now we are about to become neighbors with 40 families across the street. We can begin a holy example of Christian outreach simply through prayer for those "unknown" families. God knows them. We have also had several families visiting with our church lately, many with children - maybe you are one of them! - one way we can faithfully serve and love these new friends is simply by lifting them in prayer. Talk to Meg if you are interested in this *intentional* prayer ministry. I am thinking of other prayer ideas, too! Would love your input! Rev. Meg Wilkes 803-622-1315 mwilkes@cloverfumc.org



2) **Become a Safe Sanctuary Bus Person** to go out on Sunday mornings before Godly Play and Church and gather up children to bring them to Jesus on Sunday mornings!!! Some children may want to be here, but their parents /grandparents can't bring them. Talk with Rev. Meg if you are interested in participating in such a ministry. We will work together to see how to make this outreach ministry happen. Rev. Meg Wilkes 803-622-1315 mwilkes@cloverfumc.org

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