

An Order for the Christian Worship of God
February 4, 2018
Enter to Worship, Depart to Serve

5th Sunday after the Epiphany

Liturgical Color: Green

Welcome and Announcements

The Prelude "The Gift of Love" -arr. Hopson

*Call to Worship

Leader: How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!

**People: My soul longs, indeed it faints for the courts of the Lord;
my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God.**

Leader: Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself,
where she may lay her young, at your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.

People: Happy are those who live in your house, ever singing your praise.

Leader: For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather
be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than live in the tents of wickedness.

**People: For the Lord God is a sun and shield; he bestows favor and honor.
No good thing does the Lord withhold from those who walk uprightly.**

ALL: O Lord of hosts, happy is everyone who trust in you.

*Processional Hymn "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" UMH #140

*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

*Gospel Lesson Luke 2: 22-40 # 889

*Hymn of Preparation "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms" UMH # 133

Offertory The Giving of Tithes & Offerings
"The Gift" -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

*Offertory Prayer

The Giving Tree ~ A Guided Meditation
"The Apple Tree" Soloists: Dave Edwards, Jim Gover
"The Giving Tree" ~ A musical narrative
Flute: Jason King Piano: Nannette Carnes

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 Lesson Hebrews 2: 14-18 # 1045

Sermon "Jesus" Rev. Meg Wilkes

Sacrament of Holy Communion

*Benediction

*The Recessional "Hymn of Promise" verses 1 & 3 UMH # 707

*Chiming of the Trinity

*Postlude "To God Be The Glory" -arr. Burger

*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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Flowers are placed on the altar today to the Glory of God.  
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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 – 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 – kite_tracie@hotmail.com
Hope Long, Nursery
Windy Barteel, Lay Leader
Ray Reavis, Bob Grindle, Renee Gallien, Conference Lay Members

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Wednesday Night Dinner, February 7

Menu: Ham, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Corn & Desserts      Sponsored by Higher Education

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

**Note of Sympathy:** Christian sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Ron Eaddy.

**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.



Looking ahead.....

During Lent this year, we will enjoy many beautiful services of worship to acknowledge the gift and sacrifice of our Lord Jesus Christ. Today as a segue into the Lenten season, our Youth Praise Team will perform a metaphorical dramatization of the popular children's book, *The Giving Tree*, with Rev. Meg bringing a message. Let us worship God with all of our hearts and minds and souls and strength, as we remember the depth of sacrificial love that Jesus has for each and every one of us. Come and experience *The Giving Tree*.

**The Rebekah Circle** will meet on Tuesday, February 6<sup>th</sup>, rather than our regular date, at 7:00pm with Linda Abernathy.

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

**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.) We must always have two Safe Sanctuary approved volunteers to serve here. *We need 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 become a volunteer. Thank you for showing your commitment to the children among us (and their families!)  
Rev Meg Wilkes

**Valentine's Day Bags for our Nurture friends** are placed on the table in the usual spot in the church hallway and are ready and available to receive any donations of cards and/or small gifts from the congregation. Thank you.

**Coat & Warm Clothing Give Away a Big Success!** Thank you so much for your donations of coats, gloves, hats, and other warm clothing that were given out at the Food Project. A lot of people were helped because of your generous giving.

*Esther Circle & Forever Young & Friends*

### Youth, Children and Tweens

**Youth: Combined Youth Meeting today at 5:00pm.**

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

**Tweens ~ TODAY, Lunch and Mission Field Trip** to Long Shot Farms (Kennel & K-9 Rehabilitation Training Center.) Meet in the Mission & Fellowship Center after 11:00 service for lunch and fellowship. We will leave church at 1:30 and return to church by 3:30. Bring a friend!!

**BIG & Tweens** will be visiting shut-ins for an early Valentine's Day on Wednesday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, during our regular time (6:30-7:30).

**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 for text reminders!!**

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

### **Forever Young & Friends ~ Trip to Flat Rock Play House on Tuesday, June 19<sup>th</sup>.**

To reserve good seats and make lunch reservations, tickets need to be purchased early for this trip.

**PLAY** - "The Love List" – a comedy about two men who make of list of what they wanted in a perfect mate, but when she shows up they decide they need to revise their list.

**DATE** – Tuesday, June 19 for an afternoon performance.

**COST** - \$29 plus your lunch (The tickets are priced at \$39 but Forever Young & Friends will cover \$10 of the ticket cost.)

**Make checks out to FUMC Forever Young.** On the for/memo line, write Flat Rock play. Turn checks into the church office or put them in an envelope in the offering plate.

**DUE** – Before or on February 22, 2018.

**LIST** – Names will be added to the list when payment is received.

### **Forever Young & Friends Meeting on February 22<sup>nd</sup>**

The Forever Young & Friends will meet on February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10:30 in room 104. We will have a covered dish lunch after the meeting. Please bring a side or dessert to share. After lunch we will fix and deliver take-out meals to folks that can't come to the lunch.

**Thank you** to our church family for the visits by our pastors and the children of our church to my Aunt Margaret Pendleton during her stay at my home and during our bereavement of her loss. The meal was wonderful and the cards were so uplifting for us. Our love to all. Sincerely,

*Judy Falls & Family*

**The Food Project Ministry:** Next week's 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday donations are breakfast items: cereal, grits, pancake mix & syrup or oatmeal. Thank you for your continued support.

**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.

### **United Methodist Men Valentine's Banquet**

On Saturday February 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30, the United Methodist Men will sponsor our annual Valentine's Dinner. All church members and guests are encouraged to make plans to attend this fun event which features great food catered by Jackson's Kitchen, great music provided by Tommy and Meg Wilkes, and as always "special entertainment". Tickets for the event are \$12.50 for individuals and \$25.00 for couples. Tickets can be purchased from any UMM members. As is our custom, ALL singles ladies in our church will be our guests for the evening. We sincerely hope that each of you can attend and we look forward to seeing you on the 17<sup>th</sup>. Sam Cain, UMM President

### **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 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](mailto:sknnll@aol.com).

**Flowers:** Friends, the flowers in our altar area adorn the sanctuary with beauty and color each Sunday as an offering to the Lord and a treasure to our worship experience. Please consider joining in this act of worship. Our flower chart **in the lobby next to the bulletin board** needs to be updated for 2018! **Please check the dates and sign up during the months of 2018 for a special occasion, or in memory/honor of someone you care about.** This is a collective effort! Enjoy the privilege of being a part of it. Thank you. Rev. Meg