

Our Christian Worship of God  
August 30, 2026  
Enter to Worship, Depart to Serve

14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost Liturgical Color: Green

The Prelude “Adagio” -Franck  
The Chiming of the Hour  
The Call to Worship “All Creatures of Our God and King” (verse 5) congregational

The Welcome and Announcements  
\*The Hymn UMH 383 “This Is A Day of New Beginnings”

\*The Invocation  
Pastor: God calls to us from holy ground inviting us to turn aside from our hurried paths and notice where God is already present.  
  
People: We come ready to listen, to wonder, and to hear what God may be saying to us today..  
  
Pastor: The God who called Moses by name still calls ordinary people into lives of courage, compassion, and faithful service.  
  
People: Open our hearts, O God. Quiet the noise within us so that we may recognize your voice and follow where you lead.  
  
All: Here at First Clover UMC, we turn aside to listen. Holy God, meet us in this place, speak to us through Your Word, and send us forth ready to answer, “Here I am.” Amen.

The Anthem “God’s Peace” Chancel Choir

\*The Affirmation of Christian Faith The Apostles’ Creed  
I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic\* church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. \*universal

\*The 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 Offering  
Offertory “Fugue d minor” J. S. Bach  
\*Presentation of Tithes and Offerings  
“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  
\*Offertory Prayer

They Hymn UMH 413 “A Charge To Keep I Have”

The Pastoral Prayer and Lord’s Prayer  
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen

\*The Scripture Lesson Exodus 3: 1-15 see insert  
Minister: The Word of God for the people of God  
People: Thanks be to God. Amen

The Sermon “Turning Aside to Listen” Pastor Scott Gilmer  
Prayer of Christian Discipleship

\*The Hymn UMH 593 “Here I Am, Lord”  
\*The Benediction  
\*The Choral Response and Recessional  
May the road rise to meet you; May the wind blow at your back.  
May the sunshine 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

\*The Chiming of the Trinity  
\*The Postlude “Prelude G Major” J. S. Bach

\*indicates worshippers are invited to stand if able

### **OUR JOYS AND PRAYER CONCERNS August 28, 2026**

**Note:** please contact Shirley Davis in the church office to add to the joys and prayer concerns. 222-3496 or [sdavis@cloverfumc.com](mailto:sdavis@cloverfumc.com).

**Recent Concerns:** Melva Jones, Chuck Payseur, John Gossett, Jane Turpin, Ted Bartee, Wade Shores, Gloria Baysinger, Jackie Brown, Pat Bono, Sandy King, Judy Hench & family, Renee Gallien, Mary Jean Dowling, Our Homebound Angels.

**Military:** Major Virginia Stanton, USMC; Petty Officer Second Class William Shearer; Petty Officer Andrew Beaty; Lt. Col. Leeann Hidle Chavers, Air Force; Lieutenant Colonel Thad Wilson; Lt. Col. Nicholas S. Hare; Lt. Col. Blair Preston.

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**The AEDs, with an alarm system,** are located downstairs near the nursery and outside the sanctuary. A list of those who are CPR trained is also included in the boxes.

Reverend Scott Gilmer, Senior Pastor – [ssgilmer@bellsouth.net](mailto:ssgilmer@bellsouth.net)

Reverend J. Richard Gibson, Pastor Emeritus

Cheri King, Director of Music Ministries – [cking@cloverfumc.com](mailto:cking@cloverfumc.com)

Jay Oden, Organist – [jay.oden@gmail.com](mailto:jay.oden@gmail.com)

Christine Payseur, Church Business / Technical Coordinator – [cpayseur@cloverfumc.com](mailto:cpayseur@cloverfumc.com)

Shirley M. Davis, Admin. Asst. / Financial Sec. – [sdavis@cloverfumc.com](mailto:sdavis@cloverfumc.com)

Tracie Kite, Sexton – [kitetracie@hotmail.com](mailto:kitetracie@hotmail.com)

Hope Long, Nursery

Anna Livingston – Lay Leader

Renee Gallien, Jason King, Judy Falls

Lay Members to Annual Conference

**Reverend Scott Gilmer's telephone number is 864-554-8676. Feel free to call if you have need of him.**

**Invitation to New Worshipers:** 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 our Pastor. We are thankful to have new worshippers. Welcome to the First UMC family.

**Worship Bulletin Submission Reminder:** To help us prepare our weekly worship bulletin with care and accuracy, please submit all announcements and bulletin information to Shirley by **Thursday at Noon** each week. Thank you for your cooperation and for helping us communicate effectively as we worship and serve together.

**Weekly Scripture Readings:** Exodus 12: 1-14; Psalm 149; Romans 13: 8-14; Matthew 18: 15-20

**Words of Wisdom:** “Sometimes the holiest thing we can do is turn aside from the noise, the hurry, and the familiar long enough to notice where God is already speaking. Like Moses before the burning bush, we may discover that sacred ground is closer than we think—and that God has been calling our name all along.”

**Bible Study:** Our weekly **Bible Study resumes Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, at 11:00AM in the Steve Camp Classroom.** This fall, we will begin a ten-week study, “**Old Testament Lives, New Testament Echoes,**” exploring how Old Testament people and stories help us better understand the New Testament. The guiding question each week would be: “**What does this Old Testament life help us see more clearly in the New Testament?**”. **Our first lesson will focus on Abraham and Paul—Faith That Trusts the Promise focusing on the scriptures of** Genesis 12: 1-9; 15:1-6; Romans 4: 1-25; Galatians 3:6-14. Bring your Bible, your questions, and your curiosity as we discover Scripture together. **Everyone is welcome!**

**Attention all men of the church!** You (& sons if an appropriate age) are invited to a half day shotgun clay pigeon tournament retreat being hosted at the residence of Rob Hegler (2660 Moton Road, Clover, SC 29710) on Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup>, from 3:30pm till dark. Guns as needed are provided and we welcome non-shooters as well to come join everyone for BBQ supper, a campfire and fellowship discussion. Please bring 2-3 boxes of shells plus any you wish to share with non-owners. This is a great time to bring a friend or colleague with whom you may have wanted to share the joy and experience of church outside the sanctuary. Please call, text or email Alan Livingston to reserve a spot as soon as possible! 803-322-0730 or [alan.livingston@attt.net](mailto:alan.livingston@attt.net).

**On September 16<sup>th</sup>,** we will have Potluck for the Wonderful Wednesday meal. Please plan to bring your favorite side dish to share with everyone The FUMC Staff will be providing the meat, tea and dessert.

| Attendance                                | Church School    | Morning Worship | Youth     |
|-------------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| 8/23/2026                                 | 28               | 71              |           |
|                                           |                  |                 |           |
| Annual Operating Budget                   | \$ 484,517       |                 |           |
|                                           | Operating/Local* | Designated Fds. | Total     |
| Weekly Giving (08/28/26)                  | \$4,162          | \$ 489          | \$4,651   |
| Needed Weekly Giving                      | \$9,318          |                 |           |
|                                           |                  |                 |           |
| Financial Summary<br>Year-to-Date 8/28/26 |                  |                 |           |
|                                           | Operating/Local* | Designated Fds. | Total     |
| Giving                                    | \$307,467        | \$57,432        | \$364,899 |
| Expenses                                  | \$287,136        | \$62,169        | \$349,305 |
| Net                                       | \$20,331         | -\$ 4,737       | \$ 15,594 |

*\*Local Operating funds are only used for local Clover FUMC Church Operations*

**If you want your offering to go to the new Local Operating Fund, please be sure to mark your check clearly.**

**Stewardship ~ Ways to Give**

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

**Giving On-Line:** Giving to FUMC is available online through our website: [www.firstumcclover.org](http://www.firstumcclover.org) **Thanks for your support of the mission and ministry of FUMC. If you decide to give electronically, please feel free to drop an “Electronic Giver” card in the offering plate on Sundays as an act of worship.**

Wonderful Wednesday Meal, September 2

hosted by Children’s Council for VBS

Menu: Saucy Meatballs, rice, green beans, bread and dessert

Name\_\_\_\_\_#\_\_\_\_\_

**Can You Help?** We have a Scout troop that meets at our church on Mondays during the school year. We are in need of someone that would be willing to sit at the church from 6:30 – 7:30 on the Mondays that the Scouts are meeting. If you are interested in doing this, please let Christine Payseur know. ([cpayseur@cloverfumc.com](mailto:cpayseur@cloverfumc.com) or 980-253-6084.

**DONATIONS NEEDED FOR BLESSING BAGS TOO HELP THE HOMELESS & OTHERS**  
Blessing Bags are given to people who come to our church for help. The Bags are individual size items that do not need to be refrigerated, heated or a can opener. Items are packed in 2-gallon Ziplock bags. A sample Blessing Bag is on display near the men’s bathroom. Money donations are welcome to buy needed items. Just write Blessing Bags on your check or envelope. Thank you!

- List of items needed at this time.
- 2-gallon Ziplock bags
  - 16 oz. bottled water
  - Pop Tarts
  - Granola or fruit bars
  - Juice boxes or bottled
  - Beanie Weenee with pop top cans
  - Meat pouches or pop top cans--tuna, chicken, salmon, etc.
  - Hard candy (no chocolate at this time)

**Notes on Missions**  
Matthew 25:40 “Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.” These powerful words of Jesus give us a living model to live by. The Food Project provides an opportunity to put those words into action. Thank you for your continued support!

This week’s suggested donations: toilet paper or juice.

**Nothing But Nurture:**

\*Please continue to pray for our Homebound Angels

## Exodus 3: 1-15

<sup>3</sup> Now Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father in law, the priest of Midian: and he led the flock to the backside of the desert, and came to the mountain of God, even to Horeb.

<sup>2</sup> And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed.

<sup>3</sup> And Moses said, I will now turn aside, and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt.

<sup>4</sup> And when the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called unto him out of the midst of the bush, and said, Moses, Moses. And he said, Here am I.

<sup>5</sup> And he said, Draw not nigh hither: put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground.

<sup>6</sup> Moreover he said, I am the God of thy father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. And Moses hid his face; for he was afraid to look upon God.

<sup>7</sup> And the LORD said, I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows;

<sup>8</sup> And I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey; unto the place of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites.

<sup>9</sup> Now therefore, behold, the cry of the children of Israel is come unto me: and I have also seen the oppression wherewith the Egyptians oppress them.

<sup>10</sup> Come now therefore, and I will send thee unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth my people the children of Israel out of Egypt.

<sup>11</sup> And Moses said unto God, Who am I, that I should go unto Pharaoh, and that I should bring forth the children of Israel out of Egypt?

<sup>12</sup> And he said, Certainly I will be with thee; and this shall be a token unto thee, that I have sent thee: When thou hast brought forth the people out of Egypt, ye shall serve God upon this mountain.

<sup>13</sup> And Moses said unto God, Behold, when I come unto the children of Israel, and shall say unto them, The God of your fathers hath sent me unto you; and they shall say to me, What is his name? what shall I say unto them?

<sup>14</sup> And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you.

<sup>15</sup> And God said moreover unto Moses, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, the LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, hath sent me unto you: this is my name for ever, and this is my memorial unto all generations.