Our Christian Worship of God
August 23, 2026
Enter to Worship, Depart to Serve

13th Sunday after Pentecost Liturgical Color: Green

The Prelude "Christ is My Life's Salvation" -Walther
The Chiming of the Hour
The Call to Worship "All Creatures of Our God and King" (verse 4) congregational

The Welcome and Announcements
*The Hymn UMH 557 "Blest Be The Tie That Binds"

*The Invocation

Pastor: Gracious God, You have gathered us as one body in Christ, calling each of us by name and blessing each of us with gifts to be used for Your glory.

People: We come to worship with grateful hearts, ready to offer ourselves to You. Teach us to recognize the gifts You have placed within one another and within us.

Pastor: Holy Spirit, renew our minds and shape our lives so that we may serve with humility, generosity, compassion, faithfulness, and joy. Remind us that no gift is too small and no person is unimportant in the work of Your kingdom.

People: Make First Clover UMC a church where every person is valued, every gift is welcomed, and every willing heart finds a place to serve.

All: Loving God, we offer ourselves to You as a living sacrifice. Unite us as the Body of Christ, strengthen us for faithful service, and use our different gifts for one holy purpose: to share the love, grace and hope of Jesus Christ with our church, our community and our world. May our worship honor You and our lives proclaim that every gift matters. Amen.

The Anthem "Upon This Rock" 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 "I L:ove to Tell the Story" -Fischer
*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 114 "Many Gifts, One Spirit"
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 Romans 12: 1-8 see insert
Minister: The Word of God for the people of God
People: Thanks be to God. Amen

The Sermon "Every Gift Matters" Pastor Scott Gilmer
Prayer of Christian Discipleship
*The Hymn UMH 558 "We Are The Church"
*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 d minor" -J.S. Bach

*indicates worshippers are invited to stand if able

OUR JOYS AND PRAYER CONCERNS August 20, 2026

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

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

Note of Sympathy: Christian sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Tommy Crawford.

Christian sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Marian Smith.

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.

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
Reverend J. Richard Gibson, Pastor Emeritus
Cheri King, Director of Music Ministries – cking@cloverfumc.com
Jay Oden, Organist – jay.oden@gmail.com
Christine Payseur, Church Business / Technical Coordinator – cpayseur@cloverfumc.com
Shirley M. Davis, Admin. Asst. / Financial Sec. – sdavis@cloverfumc.com
Tracie Kite, Sexton – 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 Worshippers: 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 3: 1-15; Psalm 105: 1-6, 23-26; Romans 12: 9-21; Matthew 16: 21-28

Words of Wisdom: At **First Clover UMC,** every person has a place, every life has a purpose, and every gift matters. When we faithfully offer what God has given us, Christ takes our different gifts and weaves them together into one beautiful ministry of grace, love, and hope.

Forever Young & Friends will meet on Thursday, August 27 at 10:30 in room 104. After the meeting (about 12:00 noon) we will have a "picnic" lunch in the Missions & Fellowship Center. (No need to bring anything.)

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: peanut butter, dried beans, crackers and apple juice.

Nothing But Nurture:

*Let's Do Lunch: Join us for a Picnic Lunch on August 27th after the Forever Young & Friends meeting in the Missions & Fellowship Center.

*Please continue to pray for our Homebound Angels

Let's Do Lunch & Forever Young & Friends will get together on Thursday, August 27 at 12:00 noon for a "picnic" lunch (no need to bring anything) in the Missions & Fellowship Center.

Attendance	Church School	Morning Worship	Youth
8/2/2026	30	86	
Annual Operating Budget	**$ 484,517**		
	Operating/Local*	**Designated Fds.**	**Total**
Weekly Giving (08/21/26)	$6,853	$ 195	$7,048
Needed Weekly Giving	$9,318		
Financial Summary Year-to-Date 8/14/26			
	Operating/Local*	**Designated Fds.**	**Total**
Giving	$303,280	$56,943	$360,223
Expenses	$282,521	$60,802	$343,323
Net	*$20,759*	*-$ 3,859*	$ 16,900

**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 **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, August 26 hosted by Forever Young & Friends

Menu: Pork Loin, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Slaw, Bread & Desserts

Name_____#____

The Nominating Committee (Mike Bono, Don Robinson, Judy Miller, Kathy Hayes, Bob Grindle, Sandy Robinson, Margie McCarter and Anna Livingston) will meet on Tuesday, August 25th, at 6:00 in the Steve Camp classroom. Please make every effort to attend. Thank you.

Men of the FUMC…..save the date: More details to follow, but all men of the church (father / son as well) are invited to a half-day shotgun tournament retreat (location in Clover TBD) on Saturday, September 26th. Guns provided as needed and non-shooters welcome to join for the food, fellowship, campfire and discussion to follow. For RSVP, please call or text Alan Livingston 803-322-0730.

Romans 3: 1-8

1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

3 For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.

4 For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office:

5 So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another.

6 Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith;

7 Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching;

8 Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness.