

Our Christian Worship of God
October 4, 2026
Enter to Worship, Depart to Serve

19th Sunday after Pentecost Liturgical Color: Green

The Prelude	“Deck Thyself, My Soul With Gladness”	-Brahms
The Chiming of the Hour		
The Call to Worship	“Day by Day”	
The Welcome and Announcements		
Stewardship Moment		Jim Gover
The Children’s Moments	“One Table, Many Gifts”	

*The Hymn UMH 545 “The Church’s One Foundation”

*The Invocation

Pastor: The earth is the Lord’s, and all that is in it: we come remembering that everything we have belongs first to God.

People: We come with grateful hearts, ready to worship the One who has entrusted us with gifts, responsibilities, and grace.

Pastor: Christ calls us to be faithful workers in God’s vineyard, bearing fruit that reflects justice, mercy, love and obedience.

People: Shape us into faithful stewards who honor the Owner of the vineyard and serve with humble hearts.

All: Come, Lord of the vineyard. Renew us, guide us, and make our lives fruitful for your kingdom. Amen.

The Anthem	“Draw the Circle Wide”	Chancel Choir
	Soloists: Suzanne & Tom Robinson	

*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	“Our Father Who Art in Heaven”	-J.S. Bach
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*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

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 Matthew 21: 33-46 see insert

Minister:	The Word of God for the people of God
People:	Thanks be to God. Amen

The Sermon “The Vineyard is God’s” Pastor Scott Gilmer

Prayer of Christian Discipleship

The Sacrament of Holy Communion UMH 12-15

*The Hymn UMH 399 “Take My Life, And Let It Be”

*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	“Toccata in E minor”	-Pachelbel
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*indicates worshippers are invited to stand if able.

The flowers in the church this morning are given to the glory of God in celebration of Pastor Scott’s 50th birthday and in loving memory of his beloved paternal grandfather, Jack Otto Golightly, Sr., on what would have been his 99th birthday. They are lovingly given by Pastor Scott’s parents, Ron and Kay Gilmer, with gratitude for the blessings of family, cherished memories, and God’s faithfulness through the generations.

OUR JOYS AND PRAYER CONCERNS October 2, 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: Jane (Alan) Robinson, Ralph Miller, The Lott Family (friends of Elizabeth Gover Preston), Chuck Payseur, John Gossett, Jane Turpin, Ted Bartee, Wade Shores, Jackie Brown, Pat Bono, Sandy King, Judy Hench & family, Renee Gallien, Mary Jean Dowling, Our Homebound Angels.

Note of sympathy: Christian sympathy is extended to Bob and Charlotte Dowd in the death of Bob's sister Donna.

A child is born: A rosebud is placed on the altar today in honor of Blakeleigh Emersyn Bell, born on September 13, 2026, daughter of Nate Bell and Lindsey Rushing. Proud grandparents are Brandy & Steve Bell and Linda & David Rushing. Proud great-grandparents are Cathy Bell and Penny Holcombe.

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 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.

Weekly Scripture Readings: Exodus 32: 1-14; Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23; Philippians 4: 1-9; Matthew 22: 1-14.

Words of Wisdom: “The vineyard is God’s—and so are the gifts, opportunities, and responsibilities placed in our hands. Faithfulness begins when we remember that we are not owners, but stewards called to bear fruit for God’s kingdom.”

Charge Conference will be TODAY at 2:30pm in the Sanctuary.

Bible Study: Our weekly **Bible Study meets 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?**”. **Lesson Five's topic is Samuel and John the Baptist-Hearing and Speaking God's Word.** The scripture is: 1 Samuel 3: 1-21, Luke 1: 5-25, 57-80 and John 1: 19-34. The theme is: Both are dedicated to God, emerge during spiritually significant transitions, hear God's call and prepare God's people for what comes next. Bring your Bible, your questions, and your curiosity as we discover Scripture together. **Everyone is welcome!**

All Saints Memorial Brick: If you would like to purchase a brick to be placed in the All Saints Memorial Park for a loved one, please contact the church office before October 1st. The cost of the brick is \$ 75.00.

The Nurture Committee's Card Ministry is wanting to stay in touch with our college students this year, whether they are away at school or commuting from home. Please call the church office with their names, addresses and phone numbers (we may even send an occasional text!) or you can text them to Hope Long at 803-810-2672. Thanks!

Thank you: Ladies of the church, thank you for the bag of essential paper goods dropped off at the house following Tommy's passing. We also thank you for the delicious meal you provided for our family following his service! You all are blessings to church members and the community. With love and gratefulness, **Becky & Family**

Attendance	Church School	Morning Worship	Youth
9/27/2026	26	84	
Annual Operating Budget	\$ 484,517		
	Operating/Local*	Designated Fds.	Total
Weekly Giving (9/30/26)	\$ 5,134	\$ 230	\$ 5,364
Needed Weekly Giving	\$ 9,318		
Financial Summary Year-to-Date 10/02/26			
	Operating/Local*	Designated Fds.	Total
Giving	\$351,663	\$61,644	\$413,307
Expenses	\$328,602	\$65,998	\$394,600
Net	\$23,061	-\$ 4,354	\$ 18,707

**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 or scan the QR**



Code.

Wonderful Wednesday, October 7

Menu: Chicken Pot Pie, Slaw, Cranberry sauce, Rolls & Dessert

Hosted by Hospitality

Name _____ # _____

Nothing but Nurture

Fall Festival: October 24th, 2026, from 5:00pm to 7:00pm.

This is an event for our WHOLE church family! From the tall to the small! So mark your calendar and get ready for an evening of Fun Fall Festivals!

Please continue to pray for our church family members on the Nurture List

Notes on Missions

Thank you to everyone who faithfully supports the Food Project. As the weather starts to turn cooler (hopefully soon) we remember our neighbors in need Thank you for partnering with us in a very real way to meet that need!

This week’s suggested donations: spaghetti, spaghetti sauce, macaroni & cheese, canned meat.

Men’s Second Annual Event: Saturday the men of the church enjoyed a fellowship including a shotgun contest; fantastic BBQ with all of the usual condiments and fantastic banana pudding. After our meal, Alan Livingston led our group in a spiritual time. We all enjoyed this as we sat around a campfire. It was supposed to end at 6:30 but we didn’t break up until almost 8:00. The Lord was with us for sure. A big thanks to Rob Hegler for the use of his home. We had 11 men and hope the next one will bring more men in.

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 **Wednesday at Noon** each week. Thank you for your cooperation and for helping us communicate effectively as we worship and serve together.

Matthew 21: 33-46

³³ Hear another parable: There was a certain householder, which planted a vineyard, and hedged it round about, and digged a winepress in it, and built a tower, and let it out to husbandmen, and went into a far country:

³⁴ And when the time of the fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the husbandmen, that they might receive the fruits of it.

³⁵ And the husbandmen took his servants, and beat one, and killed another, and stoned another.

³⁶ Again, he sent other servants more than the first: and they did unto them likewise.

³⁷ But last of all he sent unto them his son, saying, They will reverence my son.

³⁸ But when the husbandmen saw the son, they said among themselves, This is the heir; come, let us kill him, and let us seize on his inheritance.

³⁹ And they caught him, and cast him out of the vineyard, and slew him.

⁴⁰ When the lord therefore of the vineyard cometh, what will he do unto those husbandmen?

⁴¹ They say unto him, He will miserably destroy those wicked men, and will let out his vineyard unto other husbandmen, which shall render him the fruits in their seasons.

⁴² Jesus saith unto them, Did ye never read in the scriptures, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner: this is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes?

⁴³ Therefore say I unto you, The kingdom of God shall be taken from you, and given to a nation bringings forth the fruits thereof.

⁴⁴ And whosoever shall fall on this stone shall be broken: but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder.

⁴⁵ And when the chief priests and Pharisees had heard his parables, they perceived that he spake of them.

⁴⁶ But when they sought to lay hands on him, they feared the multitude, because they took him for a prophet.