

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

CLOVER, SC

THE FIRST EDITION

www.firstumcclover.com

October 2026



Mission:

We, the congregation,
in humble and selfless
service to God, will
go forth joyfully,
empowered and
enabled by the Holy
Spirit, to seek out,
welcome, accept, and
nurture persons to
become faithful and
effective disciples for
Jesus Christ.



Pastor's Note

October is always an important month in the life of the church, and this year is certainly no exception. We begin with our annual Charge Conference on Sunday, October 4, at 2:30 PM in the Sanctuary. Our District Superintendent, the Reverend Dr. Anthony Hodges, will be with us as we conduct the church's important business, celebrate the ministry of First Clover UMC, and look ahead to the work God is calling us to do. I hope you will make plans to attend, support your church, and celebrate the many ways we have been planting seeds of possibility and creating and nurturing fruitful ministry together.

October is also Stewardship Month at First Clover UMC. I know that when many people hear the word stewardship, the first thought that comes to mind is, "Here we go—they are asking for money again!" And yes, stewardship certainly includes our financial giving. The ministries of the church depend upon the faithful generosity of God's people. But Christian stewardship is about far more than what we place in the offering plate. Stewardship is about offering our whole lives to God.

As United Methodists, we promise to support the church through our **prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness**. These vows provide a beautiful picture of what faithful stewardship really means. We offer our **prayers** when we regularly lift up our church, its leaders, its ministries, our community, and one another before God. We offer our **presence** when we faithfully gather for worship, Bible study, fellowship, and ministry, recognizing that the church is stronger when we show up for one another.

We offer our **gifts** when we faithfully share the financial resources and other blessings God has entrusted to us so Christ's work may continue. We offer our **service** when we give our time, talents, energy, and abilities to meet needs, serve our neighbors, and strengthen the church's ministries. And we offer our **witness** when

the way we live, speak, love, forgive, welcome, and serve points others toward Jesus Christ.

That is stewardship. It is not simply about what we give; it is about who we are becoming as disciples of Jesus Christ and how faithfully we are using everything God has placed in our hands.

I hope we will keep these vows before us throughout October as we prayerfully consider our commitment for the coming year. On Sunday, October 25, during the Morning Worship Service, we will bring our financial pledges and our renewed commitment to our United Methodist vows of prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness to the altar. My prayer is that this will be more than a moment of filling out a card. May it be a genuine act of worship and a renewed offering of ourselves to God.

I remain deeply grateful for the privilege of serving as your pastor and for the ministry we share together at First Clover UMC. I see so many signs of faithfulness, generosity, compassion, growth, and renewed hope among us. Thank you for the countless ways you pray, serve, give, encourage, welcome, and bear witness to Christ's love.

May we keep up the good work, continue planting seeds of possibility, and remain faithful in all that God has entrusted to us. And above all, may everything we do be done for the glory of God!

God Bless,

Pastor Scott

HOT DOG LUNCH

FRIDAY OCT 2– 10:30 am until gone

Hot Dog Combo (hot dog, chips, drink) \$7.00

Individually – Hot dog - \$4.00, Drink - \$1.50, Chips - \$1.50

In the First United Methodist Church Missions & Fellowship Center.

Proceeds go to missions, FUMC needs, & other projects.



Esther Circle

Esther Circle will meet Monday, October 12, 2026 in room 104 at 10:00.

LORDY, LORDY... PASTOR SCOTT IS 50!

Come Celebrate the BIG 5-0!

It's official! Pastor Scott is turning **50**, and we simply cannot let a milestone like this pass quietly! After all, **you only turn 50 once**—and we intend to make sure he remembers it!

Please join us for a **50th Birthday Celebration** for Pastor Scott on **Tuesday, October 6th, at Noon** in the **Missions and Fellowship Room**.

We'll enjoy a **delicious meal** together, plenty of fellowship and laughter, and of course, **cake and ice cream!**

Come help us celebrate Pastor Scott, remind him that **50 is the new 40**, and give thanks for this special milestone in his life.



Tuesday, October 6



Noon



Missions and Fellowship Room

**Come hungry. Come ready to laugh.
Come ready to celebrate!**

And Pastor Scott... don't worry.
We promise not to count all 50 candles! 😊

Hope to see you there!!!! ❤️

Same
Great
Pastor
❤️

Just
A Little
Wiser!
❤️

Still
Making
a Big
Difference!
❤️

50
Years
of God's
Goodness!
❤️

More
Blessings
Ahead!
❤️

Good
People
Good Food
Great
God
❤️

Cake,
Ice Cream,
Fellowship
& Fun!
❤️

50
and Still
Shining for
His Glory!
❤️

FAITHFUL
SERVANT
ENCOURAGING
LEADER
FRIEND TO MANY
A BLESSING
ALWAYS
❤️

Stewardship Month

October is Stewardship Month. "Estimate of Giving" cards will be mailed on October 5th. Church members who do not receive their cards should notify the church office.

Nothing But Nurture

We have some exciting opportunities for congregational nurture coming up in the next few months! So, mark your calendar for the following dates:

- Let's Do Lunch- October 22nd at 12:00 noon at Black's Peaches (We will meet after the FYF meeting)
- Fall Festival - October 24 from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm. This is a Whole Church Event with games, Bingo, a Cake walk, and a Hot Dog Supper and more!
- November 12- Nurture Luncheon at 11:00 am. Everyone in the church is welcome!
- January 31st- Potluck Lunch after church

October Wonderful Wednesday Dinners

October 7 – No meal, Fall Break

October 14 – Ham, mashed potatoes, marinated carrots, green beans, dessert

October 21 - Spaghetti, salad bar, bread, dessert

October 28 – chicken pot pie, veggies, slaw, bread, desserts



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.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
124 BETHEL STREET
CLOVER, SC 29710



Yard Sale September 27 – October 3, 2026

Wednesday, Sept 30 at Men's Prayer Breakfast
& Wednesday Night Dinner

FRIDAY, October 2 8:00am – 6:00pm

HOT DOG LUNCH - Friday 10:30-until sold out

All Beef Hot dog combo (hot dog, chips, & drink) \$7.00

Individually - Hot Dogs \$4.00, Drinks \$1.50 & Chips \$1.50

COUNTRY STORE - BAKED GOODS & MORE

SATURDAY, October 3 8:00am – 11:00pm

Drop off Donations at the church Sunday Sept 27 through
Thursday Oct 1.

Room in the building & other places for earlier donations.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS AND SUPPORT!!

Evangelism

Blood Drive: Blood Drive - First Clover will be hosting another One Blood Drive on Friday, October 23, 12:30 to 5:30 p.m. If you would like to make an appointment contact Sherry Gibbs 910-269-7729.



First Responders Appreciation Sunday: October 25th First Clover will be honoring Clover's first responders during the morning service. If you know a first responder, invite them and spread the word throughout our community to show our appreciation.

Children's Ministry: Just a reminder, Sunday, October 18 our children will be helping with the morning service.

Godly Play Schedule

Nov 1	NO GODLY PLAY	COMMUNION	
Nov 8	The Story of Samuel	Eddie Sherwood	Courtney Hastings
Nov 15	The Story of David	Ann Grindle	Courtney Rogers
Nov 22	The Story of the Psalms	Anna Livingston	Kelly Nellums
Nov 29	Advent 1: The Prophets (Hope)	Hope Long	Jan Meyer

A Minute for 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 loving model to live by. The Food Project provides an opportunity to put those words into action. THANK YOU

for faithfully supporting this wonderful mission each month. It makes a huge difference in our community.

By helping those in need and serving others, we are living out Matthew 25:40. We do more than give out a grocery bag once a month....

We give out LOVE

We give out COMPASSION

We give out HOPE



Acolyte training

Saturday, October 3rd at 10 am there will be acolyte training in the library. Break for lunch provided at 11:30 a.m.

Parents of acolytes should attend if possible.

Afternoon session will start around 12:15 for robe fitting, practice in the sanctuary, and general information.

Adults are encouraged to come for training at least the afternoon session.

Please call Judy Miller 803-322-8385 for more information.

DONATIONS NEEDED FOR BLESSING BAGS TO HELP THE HOMELESS & OTHERS.

Blessing Bags are given to people who come to our church for help. The Bags 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 Wienies with pop top cans

Meat pouches or pop top cans--tuna, chicken, salmon, etc.

Hard candy (no chocolate at this time)

**Join Us on October 24th
from 5:00pm to 7:00pm
for**

FUMC CLOVER'S



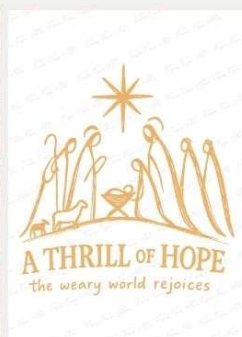
THIS IS A CHURCH WIDE EVENT
FOR ALL AGES!

THERE WILL BE:

GAMES, A HOT DOG SUPPER, POPCORN, A CAKE
WALK, BINGO, MUSICAL CHAIRS, WITCHES HAT TOSS,
AND MORE!!!

YOU ARE INVITED TO:

Join Us in Song!



You are warmly invited to come sing with our Christmas Choir! Join us for a morning of new and beloved carols, special string trio music, narration, and the spirit of the season. Whether you are a seasoned singer or just love to hum along, all are welcome. Come raise your voice and celebrate the miracle of Christmas with us!

LOVE TO SING? COME SING WITH US THIS CHRISTMAS!
LET US FILL THE SEASON WITH HARMONY, JOY, AND THE
TRUE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS. WE HOPE TO SEE YOU
THERE!

A THRILL OF HOPE - A CHRISTMAS
MUSICAL PRESENTATION

Sunday, December 13th
Clover FUMC



For more information
contact Cheri King:
cking@cloverfumc.com

From the Loft



Choir gathering with music by
'60 Something' A fun time of
music and fellowship! Check out
the video



Youth Calendar October

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5 No School	6 No School	7 No School/No Youth	8 No School	9 No School	10
11	12 No School	13	14 Youth Group 5:30-7pm	15	16	17
18	19	20	21 Youth Group 5:30-7pm	22	23	24
25	26	27	28 Youth Group 5:30-7pm	29	30	31

Altar Flowers

The 2026 Flower Calendar is now in place on the bulletin board near the door to the Missions & Fellowship Center. This is a lovely way to remember or honor your loved one, or a special day, and is also a beautiful addition to our worship experience. If you would like to provide flowers, please place your name beside the date(s) you would like to reserve.

Trustee Update

During the month of September we had the following repairs/service to our church.

3rd Qtr Commercial Service HVAC \$2,307.99

Johnson Controls - reset fire alarm system and inspected duct detectors after alarm went off. No visible signs of damage. \$1,238.91

Nursery Schedule October 2026

Enclosed is the nursery schedule for the upcoming fall months. I know that sometimes your Sunday might not work in your schedule, so if you can just try to swap with someone, or let me know, we will get it covered. ***Also, beginning the first of June we will have a new procedure. If no little ones are in the nursery by 10:00 or soon afterwards, the caregivers can go up to the sanctuary to be able to be part of the worship service. If the usher who is manning to cameras in the church office lets someone in who needs a nursery worker, they will have a list of the current caregivers and their phone numbers. They will text that you are needed downstairs. If you will just sit near the back so there will be as little disturbance to the service as possible. And as always, thank you all for your willingness to care for our babies. I continue to pray that we will soon have some little ones to fill up our nursery!

8:45 Sunday School

10/04	Christine Payseur
	Hope Long
10/11	Hope Long
10/18	Charlotte Dowd
	Hope Long
10/25	Sarah Dover
	Hope Long

10:00 Service

Bob Gibbs
Hope Long
Chris Wilson
Courtney Rogers
Sarah Dover
Lindee Dover (803/627-0379)
Tommy Burton (803/230-8593)
Kelly Nellums (910/880-1758)



A New Way to Donate to Clover FUMC

You can use this QR Code for giving donations to the church, as well as whatever method you are presently using.



First United Methodist Church

124 Bethel Street

Clover, SC 29710

(803) 222-3496

www.firstumcclover.org



FUMC Staff

Reverend Scott Gilmer, Senior Pastor

Reverend J. Richard Gibson, Pastor Emeritus

Cheri King, Director of Music Ministries – cking@cloverfumc.com

Jay Oden, Organist & Pianist – jay.oden@gmail.com

Christine Payseur, Church Business / Technical Coordinator – cpayseur@cloverfumc.com

Shirley M. Davis, Administrative Assistant / Financial Secretary – sdavis@cloverfumc.com

Tracie Kite, Sexton – kite_tracie@hotmail.com

Hope Long, Nursery Care Worker / Coordinator

Newsletter – suzr74@att.net

Anna Livingston, Lay Leader

Renee Gallien, Jason King, Judy Falls, Conference Lay Members

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
Forever young yard sale - MFC				6:30pm - Pack Leadership - Steve		10am - Acolyte Training - Library
2:30pm - Charge Conference -		Cathy Bell - MFC/Kitchen 11am - Bible Study - Steve Camp	6:30am - Men's Prayer Breakfast 5:30pm - Dinner 6pm - Youth - Gallien Room 6:30pm - Choir Rehearsal	11am - Nurture Committee - Steve 7pm - Nurture Committee 7pm - SPRC - Steve Camp		
	10am - Esther Circle - 104	11am - Bible Study - Steve Camp	6:30am - Men's Prayer Breakfast 2:15pm - Tutor/Mentor Program 5:30pm - Dinner 6pm - Youth - Gallien Room 6:30pm - Choir Rehearsal		Food Distribution Preparation @	7:30am - Food Distribution
5pm - UMM - MFC 6pm - Trustees - Steve Camp	6:30pm - Scouts	11am - Bible Study - Steve Camp 4pm - Rebekah Circle - Church	6:30am - Men's Prayer Breakfast 2:15pm - Tutor/Mentor Program 5:30pm - Dinner 6pm - Youth - Gallien Room 6:30pm - Choir Rehearsal	10:30am - Forever Young Monthly	12pm - Blood Drive	9am - Choir - Sanctuary, MFC and 5pm - Fall Festival
7pm - Admin Council -Steve Camp		11am - Bible Study - Steve Camp	6:30am - Men's Prayer Breakfast 2:15pm - Tutor/Mentor Program 5:30pm - Dinner 6pm - Youth - Gallien Room 6:30pm - Choir Rehearsal			

October Birthdays and Anniversaries

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Caleigh Dover	2 William Shearer David Shearer Anniversaries: Tom & Janice Meyer	3 Brandy Bell
4	5 Julian Cargill	6 Tyler Green Scott Gilmer	7 Hannah Gordon Anniversary: William & Linda Stewart	8 Rylan Farris Marisa Stewart	9 Jeremy Childers	10 Kelly Hughes
11 Corrie Lovell Charlee Salter Jessica Taylor	12 Joseph Miller Meredith McDaniel Anniversary: Mitch & Ashley Barr	13 Maddie Bono	14 Anniversary: Jonathan & Rita Beanguard	15	16 Jim Heckle Isaac Vess Anniversaries: Bob & Ann Grindle Don & Sandy Robinson	17 Renee Gallien
18 Brandon Bartee Anniversaries: Susan & Joseph Miller	19	20 Katie Ford	21	22 Sandra Brandon Amanda Moss Madeline Keller	23	24 Ann Shearer
25 Banks Payne Janice Meyer	26 Wyatt McDaniel	27 Anthony Carricato Heather Carricato	28	29 Todd Hughes	30	31 Doug Baysinger