

The Prelude

The Chiming of the Hour

The Call to Worship

The Welcome and Announcements

Stewardship Moment

“Blessed Assurance”

-Berry

Flave Rogers

*The Hymn UMH 139

*The Invocation

Pastor:

People:

Pastor:

People:

All:

“Praise To The Lord, The Almighty” (vs. 1-3)

Gracious God, You have created us in Your image and called us to belong wholly to You. As we gather in worship, remind us whose we are and whose likeness we are called to reflect.

Lord, open our hearts to Your presence and shape our lives to reflect Your love, grace and truth.

In a world that competes for our loyalty and devotion, teach us to give You more than our words, our gifts, or our outward obedience. Help us offer You our very selves.

Claim our hearts, renew our minds, and guide our steps, that everything we are and everything we do may bring glory to Your name.

Holy God, we bear Your image, we belong to You, and we offer ourselves in joyful worship. Make us faithful reflections of Jesus Christ, in whose holy name we pray. **Amen.**

The Anthem

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

*Hymn Response

“Seek Ye First”

Jonathan Michael Rogers, Jr.

TFWS 2249

Chancel Choir

UMH 33-39

“God Claims You”

*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

The Offering

“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.”

Offertory

*Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

*Offertory Prayer

“I Worship You”

-Berry

The Offering

Offertory

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“I Worship You”

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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

Minister:

People:

Matthew 22:15-22

The Word of God for the people of God

Thanks be to God. Amen

see insert

The Sermon

Prayer of Christian Discipleship

*The Hymn UMH 170

*The Benediction

*The Choral Response and Recessional

“Whose Image?”

“How I Love Jesus”

Pastor Scott Gilmer

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

“To God Be the Glory”

-Doane

*indicates worshippers are invited to stand if able

OUR JOYS AND PRAYER CONCERNS October 15, 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: Wade Shores, Ralph Miller, David Douglas, Kenneth Lovelace & family, Jane (Alan) Robinson, Chuck Payseur, the Lott Family (friends of Elizabeth Gover Preston), John Gossett, Jane Turpin, Ted Bartee, Pat Bono, 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.

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 – kite_tracie@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: Deuteronomy 34: 1-12; Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17; I Thessalonians 2: 1-8; Matthew 22: 3-46.

Words of Wisdom: “Coins bear the image of earthly rulers, but we bear the image of the living God. Jesus reminds us that while the world may claim our resources, responsibilities, and attention, our hearts and lives belong to God. True discipleship begins when we recognize whose image we carry and allow that sacred identity to shape everything we say, do, and give. We belong to God—may our lives reflect the One whose image we bear!”

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 Seven: Elijah and John the Baptist-Prophetic Courage in Difficult Times.** This week's lesson explores courage, confrontation, exhaustion, wilderness, prophetic vocation and the cost of speaking truth. Bring your Bible, your questions, and your curiosity as we discover Scripture together. **Everyone is welcome!**

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.

Blood Drive: It's that time. We will be having our Blood Drive on Friday, October 23, 12:30 to 5:30pm in the missions and fellowship center. Make your appointment today immediately after church. A table will be set up outside Shirley's office.

Optimist International Essay Contest

Participants must write on the official topic “Finding My Voice in a World Full of Noise.” Forms and more information may be found in the Billy Gallien Youth Room.

Welcome: We welcome Dy-ann Sturgis, our guest pianist, to our worship service this morning. Thank you for sharing your talent with us this morning.

Attendance	Church School	Morning Worship	Youth
10/11/2026	21	69	
Annual Operating Budget	\$ 484,517		
	Operating/Local*	Designated Fds.	Total
Weekly Giving (10/15/26)	\$ 10,791.82	\$ 3,520.	\$ 14,311.82
Needed Weekly Giving	\$ 9,318		
Financial Summary Year-to-Date 10/02/26			
	Operating/Local*	Designated Fds.	Total
Giving	\$370,061	\$73,442	\$443,503
Expenses	\$348,484	\$66,721	\$415,205
Net	\$21,577	\$6,721	\$ 28,298
Capital Reserve Fund	\$ 1,380		

**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 21
Menu: Spaghetti, Salad, Bread & Dessert

Hosted by UMM

Name _____ # _____

Notes on Missions

Thank you to everyone who faithfully supports the Food Project! This important mission gives us a practical way to meet the needs that are all around.

Matthew 25: 40 “Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me”

This week’s suggested donations- canned fruit, canned vegetables, canned soup & apple juice.

Nothing But Nurture:

There is a lot going on this Fall! Mark your calendar for the following dates!

- October 22nd – Let’s Do Lunch at 12:00 noon.
We are meeting for lunch at Blacks Peaches. Then we will head over to Windy Hill for Apple Cider Doughnuts, Apple Cider and Apple Picking.
- October 24th – Fall Festival 5:00pm – 7:00pm
Join us for a wonderful evening of food, fellowship and fun! This event is for our whole church family!
New this year -Two Door Prizes! 2 tickets to “The Southern Christmas Show”,and One Car Pass to “Christmas at the Speedway”
- November 12th – the Nurture Luncheon at 11:00am
The Annual Nurture Luncheon will celebrate God’ Great Blessing in our lives! The menu includes chicken and stuffing casserole, veggies, cranberry sauce, rolls and pumpkin pie. After lunch we will stroll down memory lane with a Good Old Fashioned Hymn Sing!
- December 17th – Let’s Do Lunch at 12 Noon. Location TBD
- December 24th – Cookies and Apple Cider after the Christmas Eve Service.
Join us for a sweet treat as we celebrate the sweetest gift of all! Bring your favorite Christmas cookies to share!

September 27-October 3, 2026 Fall Yard Sale Report

Yard Sale Week was a great time of missions, fellowship, and learning. Thank you so much to all of you that prayed, donated, shopped, picked up, delivered, arranged items, fixed food, put out signs, made all the people who came feel welcome, and any of the other many things that make the Yard Sale a success. Many things were given to worthy causes, people in need, Church needs and missions during the sale. As of October 12, the Yard Sale made \$ 9,130.19. There is still a few outstanding expenses and a little money to come in.

Matthew 22: 15-22

15 Then went the Pharisees, and took counsel how they might entangle him in his talk.

16 And they sent out unto him their disciples with the Herodians, saying, Master, we know that thou art true, and teachest the way of God in truth, neither carest thou for any man: for thou regardest not the person of men.

17 Tell us therefore, What thinkest thou? Is it lawful to give tribute unto Caesar, or not?

18 But Jesus perceived their wickedness, and said, Why tempt ye me, ye hypocrites?

19 Shew me the tribute money. And they brought unto him a penny.

20 And he saith unto them, Whose is this image and superscription?

21 They say unto him, Caesar's. Then saith he unto them, Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's.

22 When they had heard these words, they marvelled, and left him, and went their way.

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