

Our Christian Worship of God
January 25, 2026
Enter to Worship, Depart to Serve

3rd Sunday after Epiphany Liturgical Color: Green

The Prelude	“In God My Faithful God”	-Hanff
The Chiming of the Hour		
The Call to Worship	“O For A Thousand Tongues to Sing”	

The Welcome and Announcements
*The Hymn UMH 344 “Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore”

*The Invocation
Leader: Along the edges of our ordinary days, Jesus still walks—calling out across the waters of our lives.

People: We arrive with full hands and guarded hearts, carrying what we fear to lose and what we do not yet know how to release.

Leader: He calls disciples from their nets and names, from what they know into what they cannot yet see.

People: We confess our hesitation, O God—the weight of what we clutch, the comfort of what we keep.

ALL: Calling Christ, empty our pockets. Unburden us of fear, pride, and self-reliance. Free our hands to follow, our hearts to trust, our lives to be shaped by your Kingdom—where nothing is held back, and everything is given in love. Amen.

The Anthem	“Shine On Us”	Chancel Choir
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*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	“Lord, I Want to Be a Christian”	-Bish
*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”	UMH # 95
*Offertory Prayer		

The Hymn TFWS 2175	“Together We Serve”
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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	Matthew 4: 12-23	see insert
Minister:	The Word of God for the people of God	
People:	Thanks be to God. Amen	

The Sermon	“No Pockets In The Kingdom”	Rev. Scott Gilmer
Prayer of Christian Discipleship		

*The Hymn UMH 354 “I Surrender All”
*The Benediction
*The Choral Response and Recessional
**May the road rise to meet you; May the wind blow at your back.
May the sun shine 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	“Psalm 19”	-Marcello

*-indicates worshippers are invited to stand if able.

OUR JOYS AND PRAYER CONCERNS January 23, 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: Albert Wyatt, Steve Pryor, Kathy Collins, Mel Smith, Becky Pendleton, Sandy King, Bobbie Jackson, Judy Hench & family, Jeff Ammons, Valerie Larsen, Renee Gallien, Jane Turpin, Marie Millen, Our Homebound Angels.

Military: Captain Virginia Stanton, USMC; Petty Officer 3rd 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: Micah 6: 1-8; Psalm 15; 1 Corinthians 1: 18-31; Matthew 5: 1-12

Words of Wisdom: "In the kingdom of God, we are not called to carry what weighs us down, but to follow the One who sets us free. Jesus calls ordinary people to leave what is familiar, to trust without guarantees, and to walk lightly into a life shaped by grace and purpose. There are no pockets in the kingdom—only open hands, willing hearts, and lives ready to be transformed."

Help Save Lives: Our February **One Blood** donation is scheduled for Friday, February 6th in the Missions and Fellowship Center from 1:00pm to 6:00pm. All donors will receive: \$ 20 eGift Card, Long-sleeved T-shirt and Wellness Checkup including blood pressure, pulse, temperature, iron count and cholesterol screening. Make your appointment today by visiting: **oneblood.org/donate-now** and then use **sponsor code 42679**.

For more information, contact Sherry Gibbs 910-269-7729

Music Ministry:

If you are interested in singing in the choir or ringing with our handbell choir, please contact Cheri King. cking@cloverfumc.com.

The Esther Circle and Forever Young & Friends want to thank you for all the coats, blankets and other warm items you donated to the Coat Project. Many people of all ages are warmer this winter because of your generous donations.



VALENTINE'S DAY LUNCH

Celebrate Valentine Day with the Forever Young & Friends on

Thursday, FEBRUARY 12, 2026 at 12:00

in the Mission & Fellowship Center.

The meat will be provided.

Please bring a side dish or dessert to share.

There will be a place for donations and/or food for the

Blessing Bags and the Food Project.

Everyone is invited!

SPRC would like to thank Forever Young and Friends, as well as the congregation, for the generous Christmas donations for our staff. SPRC also is very appreciative of the monetary gifts given to show our love for our pastor.

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This Week			
Budget Receipts	\$ 10,478.00	Week	3
Other	\$ 140.00	% of Budget received.....	.8
Total Budget for 2026.....	\$ 484,517	Church School Attendance	35
Amount needed weekly.....	\$ 9,318	Morning Worship Attendance	84
		Youth.....	
1/1/26 Bank Balance	\$ 57,736.22		
Total giving to date	\$ 35,373.50		
Total spending to date	\$ 35,457.37		
Current Bank Balance	\$ 57,652.35		

1/23/26 Local Operating Balance \$ 20,595.35

2025 Apportionments have been paid in full.

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.

Wednesday, January 28 hosted by Nurture Committee
Menu: Nachos & Desserts

NAME _____ # _____

Notes on Missons: THANK YOU to everyone who continues to make this ministry possible with your thoughtful donations!

This week’s suggested donations – peanut butter, dried beans, crackers
(These are suggestions. ALL donations are appreciated!)

Nothing But Nurture

Gathering Hour – Please join us for a time of fellowship before the meal on Wednesdays. We will “gather” from 4:30pm to 5:30pm and then enjoy dinner at 5:30pm.

Homebound Angels – Please continue to pray for our Homebound Angels and Friends of Nurture! Our Nurture Bags will be on the table in March with an Easter Theme!

“GAME ON: FELLOWSHIP EDITION!”

- **“GAME ON FELLOWSHIP EDITION” – This is a NEW Fellowship Opportunity!**
Come visit with your church family members and engage in some fun activities! (Drinks and light snacks will be provided.)
- It will be held once a month, on a Tuesday, at 3:00pm in the MFC.
- Mark your calendars for the following dates:
February 17th, March 17th, April 28th and May 19th.
- Here are some of the activities you can look forward to:
Bingo, Chair Yoga, Karaoke, Bible Themed Pictionary, Rummy Cube, Cornhole, “What’s on my Back” Game, Taboo-Bible edition, Chair Volleyball with Beach Balls, Puzzles, Games, Name That Tune, and Conversation Started Cards.
- No sign up required. Just show up ready to have a great time!!!
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Everyone is invited!

The 2026 Flower Calendar is now in place on the bulletin board near the door to the Missions & Fellowship Center. If you would like to provide flowers, please place your name beside the date(s) you would like to reserve.

Matthew 4: 12-23

Jesus Begins His Galilean Ministry

¹² Now when Jesus heard that John had been put in prison, He departed to Galilee. ¹³ And leaving Nazareth, He came and dwelt in Capernaum, which is by the sea, in the regions of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴ that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying:

¹⁵ “The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
By the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan,
Galilee of the Gentiles:

¹⁶ The people who sat in darkness have seen a great light,
And upon those who sat in the region and shadow of death
Light has dawned.”

¹⁷ From that time Jesus began to preach and to say, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven ^[a]is at hand.”

Four Fishermen Called as Disciples

¹⁸ And Jesus, walking by the Sea of Galilee, saw two brothers, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. ¹⁹ Then He said to them, “Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰ They immediately left *their* nets and followed Him.

²¹ Going on from there, He saw two other brothers, James *the son* of Zebedee, and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets. He called them, ²² and immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed Him.

Jesus Heals a Great Multitude

²³ And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease among the people.