

An Order for the Christian Worship of God  
Baptism of Our Lord Sunday  
January 8, 2023  
Enter to Worship, Depart to Serve

First Sunday after Epiphany

Liturgical Color: white

### WE GATHER

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

“Down to the River / Shall We Gather”

Rev. Alex Stevenson

Nanette Carnes

\*Call to Worship

Leader: The heavens open. The Spirit descends.

**People: Jesus emerges from the water.**

Leader: And a voice echoes through the blue expanse.

**People: "You are my child, the Beloved, with you I am well-pleased."**

Leader: Jesus is named. Claimed.

**People: We come to the water. We remember we are named. Claimed.**

Leader: Can it be so? What a thing to be named. Claimed.

**People: Let us worship the one who names and claims us still.**

\*Processional Hymn

“When Jesus Came to Jordan”

UMH # 252

\*Passing of the Peace

Leader: Peace be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

*(Greet one another with the peace of Christ)*

Children’s Time

Cathy Allen

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord’s Prayer

Rev. Lynn Shore-Hollis

**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.**

Anthem

“Waters of Grace”

Chancel Choir

The Giving of Tithes & Offerings

Offertory

“Wings of a Dove”

Nannette Carnes

\*The Doxology **“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

\*Affirmation of Faith:

“A Modern Affirmation”

Leader: Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is the one true church, apostolic and universal, whose holy faith let us now declare:

**People: We believe in God the Father, infinite in wisdom, power, and love, whose mercy is over all his works, and whose will is ever directed to his children’s good.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Son of man, the gift of the Father's unfailing grace, the ground of our hope, and the promise of our deliverance from sin and death.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit as the divine presence in our lives, whereby we are kept in perpetual remembrance of the truth of Christ, and find strength and help in time of need. We believe that this faith should manifest itself in the service of love as set forth in the example of our blessed Lord, to the end that the kingdom of God may come upon the earth. Amen.**

\*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.”** UMH# 70

### WE HEAR GOD’S WORD AND RESPOND

Prayer of Illumination (in unison)

**Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of Your Holy Spirit, that, as the Scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what You say to us this day. Amen**

First Lesson

Acts 10:34-43

New Testament p. 121

<sup>38</sup>how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.

\*Gospel

Matthew 3:13-17

New Testament p. 3

<sup>26</sup>And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him.

Message

“The Anointed One”

Rev. Alex Stevenson

Congregational Reaffirmation of the Baptismal Covenant

UMH # 50

\*Hymn of Commitment:

“The Summons”

FWS # 2130

### WE GO OUT INTO THE WORLD

\*Benediction

Leader: At First Clover we are ...

**People: Going joyfully with Jesus, making and nurturing disciples!**

\*The 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**

\*Chiming of the Trinity

\*Postlude

“Where He Leads Me”

Nannette Carnes

\*-indicates worshippers are invited to stand, if able

### BAPTISM OF OUR LORD SUNDAY

Today is the day on the Christian Calendar when the Church remembers the baptism of Jesus. This Sunday is the first in a series of Sundays between Christmas and Lent which focus on the way that God is revealed. It is called the season of Epiphany. An epiphany is a revelation of God. God was revealed to Moses in a burning bush. God was revealed to Elijah as a still small voice. And Jesus was revealed as the Son of God at his baptism and transfiguration. Look for God to be revealed to you in this season.

### **OUR JOYS AND PRAYER CONCERNS, January 6, 2022**

NOTE: please contact Shirley Davis in the church office to **add to or remove** from the joys and prayer concerns. 222-3496 or [sdavis@cloverfumc.com](mailto:sdavis@cloverfumc.com).

**Recent Concerns:** Margaret Bowman, Larry Hollis, Perry Brown, Windy Bartee's friend, Elizabeth Atkins, Marshall Caldwell, Family of Myra McKinley, Judy Miller's friend Terra, Dick Schriefer, Wyatt Richman, Amy Muse-Christine's best friend, Ruth Wallace, Angela Eaddy, Randy Flora, Morris Robinson, Rhonda Payne, Jerry Killian, Kay Killian, Lee Killian, Shirley Nuckolls, Angie Hopkins' brother Tom; Margaret Anne Palmer (5 yr. old – kidney cancer), Joyce Jenkins, Mel Smith, Ken Lowman, Kara Ingle, Billy Swittenberg, Millie Brackett, Jeff Hice (Fred Baker's nephew), Sherrie Hartsoe, Logan Rice Creech, Denise Bono, Tommy Kale, Mama Cat Cockman, Sara Neil, Wade Shores, Kim Eleazer, Lyman Holland (Susan Killian's cousin), Sheri Sannella (friend of Kim Killian), Kathie Nogosky's nephew Mark Richman, Tommy Crawford, Jr., Carl Mauney, Jr., Danny Brackett, Melody Reese (Killian niece), Paul & Sandy Skinnell.

**Military:** Lt. Col. Leeann Hidle Chavers, Air Force; LCpl. Hannah Burton, US Marines; Major Thad Wilson; Lt. Col. Nicholas S. Hare; Lt. Col. Blair Preston; Company B 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion 118<sup>th</sup> Regiment Army National Guard; 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne; Marine 29<sup>th</sup> Expeditionary Force.

Reverend Alex Stevenson, Senior Pastor – [alex@cloverfumc.com](mailto:alex@cloverfumc.com)

Lynn Shore-Hollis, Associate Pastor – [lshorehollis@cloverfumc.com](mailto:lshorehollis@cloverfumc.com)

Reverend J. Richard Gibson, Pastor Emeritus

Cheri King, Director of Music Ministries – [cking@cloverfumc.com](mailto:cking@cloverfumc.com)

Dr. Nannette Carnes, Organist – [jncar61@gmail.com](mailto:jncar61@gmail.com)

Cathy Allen, BIG/Tweens Coordinator – [cmallen217@gmail.com](mailto:cmallen217@gmail.com)

Christine Payseur, Church Business / Technical Coordinator – [cpayseur@cloverfumc.com](mailto:cpayseur@cloverfumc.com)

Shirley M. Davis, Admin. Asst. / Financial Sec. – [sdavis@cloverfumc.com](mailto:sdavis@cloverfumc.com)

Tracie Kite, Sexton – [kite\\_tracie@hotmail.com](mailto:kite_tracie@hotmail.com)

Hope Long, Nursery

Dennis Cameron – Lay Leader

Jim Gover, Sue Gover, Bob Grindle, Ann Grindle

Lay Members to Annual Conference

### **Financial update**

Actual General Fund Spending as of 12/31/2022 \$ 578,759

Received for General Fund as of 12/31/2022 \$ 543,211

2022 Apportionments paid through December

Weekly Giving to Budget ~ January 1 ~ January 6 \$ 8,118.09

### **Last Sunday's Sunday School Attendance**

**Last Sunday's Worship Attendance** 93

**Invitation to Newcomers:** 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 one of our Pastors. We are thankful to have newcomers.

**Important!** If you discover that you have COVID-19 in the next 5 days, notify the church immediately so that we can notify those who might have been exposed at this service. Also if you would like to receive a notice in the case of someone attending who tests positive please be sure to sign the blue fellowship pad on each pew so that we have a record that you were here on this Sunday and where you were sitting.

**COVID Response:** COVID levels are "medium" in York County. In areas with COVID Community Level of "medium" it is recommended that those who are immunocompromised or at high risk for severe disease consult with their physicians on masking and other precautions. To offer safe worship opportunities for all, we will continue to provide socially distanced seating options in the Sanctuary, and the Facebook livestreaming of services. For everyone's protection please stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines and boosters.

**Sunday Morning Schedule:** The Church Council has decided to continue the schedule we started this summer for the time being. Worship will be in the Sanctuary at 10:00 am and Sunday School at 8:45 am. This will continue until further notice.

**Bible Study of Daniel:** The Tuesday Morning Bible Study will begin a study of the book of Daniel in the new year. The book of Daniel is a mixed bag. It contains familiar stories like Daniel and the lion den and the three lads and the fiery furnace. It also contains Revelation like images and apocalyptic passages. Come join us on Tuesdays at 11:00am in the Steve Camp Classroom beginning January 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Confirmation Class:** We will begin a Confirmation Class in January for young people in grades 6-8. Confirmation is a wonderful opportunity for young Christians to learn what it means to be a follower of Jesus Christ and to be a part of the church. If you have a 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grader who is ready to make a public profession of faith in Christ and join the church, or if you have some questions about Confirmation, please see Rev. Alex Stevenson. Tentatively we begin mid to late January and meet until May 2023.

**UMW General Meeting:** Our first General Meeting of 2023 will be today after worship service at 11:15. We will have a light lunch as well.

**Human Relations Sunday, January 15<sup>th</sup>:** Human Relation Sunday is the Sunday before Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Your gifts to **Human Relations Day** provide avenues to restored relationships through ministries like Youth Offender Rehabilitation, Community Developers, self-improvement programs, and United Methodist Voluntary Services community advocacy programs. We will receive a special offering on Human Relations Days. To find out more about the programs supported by the Human Relations Sunday offerings go to: <https://www.umc.org/en/content/human-relations-day-faq>.

**The Forever Young & Friends** will meet on Thursday, **January 26, 2023 at 10:00 in room 104.** After the meeting we will have a barbecue lunch in the Fellowship Hall.

**The 2023 Flower Calendar** is now in place on the bulletin board near the door into the Mission & 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 or you may call the church office.

**Get Connected....To Each Other!** On a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend You Can Make Your Good Marriage GREAT! Marriage Encounter is 44 hours where married couples can get away from jobs, kids, chores, in-laws, and technology to focus only on each other. If you'd like greater depth, growth, and enrichment in your relationship, you'll love the difference a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend can make! Join millions of couples worldwide who have learned how to keep their marriage vibrant and alive. The next weekend will be held January 27-29th at The Wingate in Charlotte, NC. You can find more information and register at [encounter.org](http://encounter.org) or contact Geoff and Francine at 518-281-2274 or [neumcarolina@gmail.com](mailto:neumcarolina@gmail.com)



**Starting Back Wednesday, Jan. 11th**

**Believers in God - (BIG)**

**(PK-2<sup>nd</sup> grade & Tweens (3-5<sup>th</sup> graders)**

**New Year's Minute to Win It Games and Gym time & Games**

**6:30-7:30 pm**



**Communion Servers:** We are needing some volunteers to serve communion. If you are willing to do this a few times during the year, please contact Ann Grindle. Her email address is [anngrin54@yahoo.com](mailto:anngrin54@yahoo.com). You can call or text her at 980-329-2984 or her home number is 803-831-2118.

**BEACH TRIP MAY 8 – 11, 2023** Planned by Forever Young & Friends however anyone is invited to enjoy the fun. Invite family members or friends to join you.

Information sheets with more details are on the “sign-up” table near the elevator.

**TRIP INCLUDES**

Staying at the Dayton House Resort, Myrtle Beach

3 Nights in an Oceanfront Efficiency Unit

3 Breakfasts & 3 Dinners – Texas Roadhouse, Chesapeake, Original Benjamins

Murrells Inlet Eco Tour Boat Excursion

**COST PER PERSON:**

\$276 – Double    \$437 – Single    3 & 4 people rates available upon request

**PAYMENT** –Make check out to FUMC – FY&F. In the Memo line write FY&F Beach Trip. Please turn payments in to the church office or in an envelope in the offering plate, or mail to FUMC Beach Trip, PO Box 225, Clover, SC 29710

**FRIST PAYMENT per person**

**\$150.00 due before or on Tuesday, February 28, 2023**

Names will be added to the list for a room when the first payment is received.

**FINAL PAYMENT per person due on or before March 30, 2023.**

Double \$126.00

Single \$287.00

**Optimist International Oratorical Contest**

This contest is open to any student under the age of 19 as of October 1, 2023.

Participants must write on the official topic “Discovering the Optimism Within Me”.

The speech must be no less than 4 minutes and no more than 5 minutes.

Three levels of competition. Club level receives a medallion; Zone level receives a plaque and District level receives a plaque and \$2500.00 for first place, \$1500.00 for second place and \$1,000.00 for third place. There is a chance to win up to \$ 22,500.00 at the World Championships level.

Mail application and copy of speech to P. O. Box 199, Clover by March 13, 2023.

Any questions or for more information, call Ashby Skinnell @ 803-684-2009 or email [sknll@aol.com](mailto:sknll@aol.com).