

Our Christian Worship of God  
April 19, 2026  
Enter to Worship, Depart to Serve

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter

Liturgical Color: White

The Prelude "When Morning Gilds the Skies" -Barnby  
The Chiming of the Hour  
The Call to Worship "Christ Risen"

The Welcome and Announcements

\*The Hymn UMH 318 "Christ Is Alive"

\*The Invocation

Leader: Risen Christ, walk with us on the road of life, even when we do not recognize You.

**People: Stay with us, Lord, and open our eyes to Your presence among us.**

Leader: When our hearts grow weary, and our hope feels distant, speak Your truth into our lives.

**People: Set our hearts on fire with Your Word and Your love.**

Leader: At First Clover United Methodist Church, gather us at Your table of grace and revelation.

**People: Break the bread of life among us, that we may see You clearly and follow You faithfully.**

**All: With open eyes and burning hearts, we worship You , risen Lord. Amen.**

The Anthem "Because He Lives" Chancel Choir

\*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 "Lift High the Cross" -Lopez

\*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 Hymn UMH 521 "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me"

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 Luke 24: 13-35 see insert

Minister: The Word of God for the people of God

**People: Thanks be to God. Amen**

The Sermon "Opened Eyes and Burning Hearts" Rev. Scott Gilmer

Prayer of Christian Discipleship

\*The Hymn UMH 430 "O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee"

\*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 "Prelude in F Major" -J.S. Bach

\*indicates worshippers are invited to stand if able

## **OUR JOYS AND PRAYER CONCERNS April 16, 2026**

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

**Recent Concerns:** Jackie Brown, Josh Hastings, Crystal Lane, Howard Turner (Tracie's uncle), Tommy Crawford, Family of Susie Blanton (friend of Carolyn Caldwell), Pat Bono, Melva Jones, Denise Bono, Judy Bailes, Sandy King, Judy Hench & family, Renee Gallien, Jane Turpin, Marie Millen, Our Homebound Angels.

**Note of Sympathy:** Christian sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Kathy Skinnell Collins.

**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.

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**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](mailto:ssgilmer@bellsouth.net)

Reverend J. Richard Gibson, Pastor Emeritus

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

Jay Oden, Organist – [jay.oden@gmail.com](mailto:jay.oden@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

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:** Acts 2: 42-47; Psalm 23: 1 Peter 2: 19-25; John 10: 1-10.

**Words of Wisdom:** "There are moments in life when we walk familiar roads with heavy hearts, unable to see clearly what God is doing right beside us. Like the disciples on the road to Emmaus in the Gospel of Luke 24: 13-35, we can be so caught up in our confusion, disappointment, or uncertainty that we miss Christ's presence walking with us. Yet, in His grace, Jesus does not abandon us to our blindness—He meet us in the journey, speaks into our lives, and reveals Himself in ways that open our eyes and set our hearts ablaze once more. Today, may we trust that Christ is nearer than we realize. And may our eyes be opened to His presence, and our hearts burn again with hope, purpose, and resurrection joy."

**Vacation Bible School:** This year VBS will be held on June 14-17, theme: Rome...Paul and the Underground Church. The Children's Council members are requesting daily prayers, asking God to prepare the hearts of church members, workers, and children who will attend. Thank you.

**There will not be a Bible Study this Tuesday.**

**Tutoring Program:** Our tutoring program is in dire NEED of two mentors for the next 5 weeks on Wednesdays, 2:15 TO 4:00PM. Due to unseen circumstances some of our current mentors have had to step away. We would like to have one mentor per student (second and third grade). No special training is necessary, just love and patience. And since we meet as a group in the Missions & Fellowship Center, the safe sanctuary requirement is waived at this time. Fo more information, contact Sherry Gibbs 910-269-7729

**Thank you:**

The Skinnell family wishes to extend our gratitude for the phone calls, messages, flowers, food and outpouring of love throughout Kathy's battle with cancer. Kathy was very appreciative of every card she received. She knew she was loved by her church family, and she loved each and everyone of you.

Thank you for your support during this difficult time.

Ashby, Ray, Jen, Corrie and Debbie



**This Week**

Budget Receipts .....	\$ 6,580.00	Week .....	16
Other .....	\$ 758.00	% of Budget receive ...	32
Total Budget for 2026...	\$ 484,517	Church School .....	
Amount needed weekly...	\$ 9,318	Morning Worship.....	87
		Youth.....	

1/1/26 Bank Balance	\$ 57,059.69
Total giving to date	\$ 168,436.99
Total spending to date	<u>\$ 148,875.28</u>
Current Bank Balance	\$ 76,621.40

4/16/26 Local Operating Balance \$ 37,848.32

**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](http://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.**

Wonderful Wednesday Meal, April 22 hosted by FUMC Staff  
Menu: Pork Loin, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Bread & Dessert

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**Nothing But Nurture**

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- **Homebound Angels and Friends** - Please keep our Homebound Angels and Friends in your prayers.
- **Let’s Do Lunch** will resume on April 30<sup>th</sup> after the Forever Young and Friends meeting. We will eat at Courtney’s. We meet at Courtney’s at 12:00 noon. Grab your fork, and mark your calendar!

God calls all of us to offer each other Christian hospitality and to be there to nurture one another. You can do this in simple ways—with a phone call, a text, or a card to let someone know that you are thinking about them, and you are there for them! This will not only bless the person that you reach out to, but it will bless you as well! So, ask yourself—“Who can I be a blessing to today?”

**Notes on Missions**

Help us fill the grocery cart to show our love to those in need! This week’s suggested donations: canned fruit, canned vegetables, canned soup. Also, juice is always needed. (These are just suggestions. All donations are appreciated!)

**Mother’s Day Carnations:**

A special flower arrangement will be placed on the altar on Mother’s Day. You may place a red carnation in honor of, or a white carnation in memory of, your loved ones for \$ 3.00 each. Any additional money collected beyond the cost of the carnations will go to our Food Project. To purchase a flower(s), place this form, with payment attached, in the offering plate or return to the church office not later than May 1<sup>st</sup>.

Your name \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

## Luke 24: 13-35

<sup>13</sup> And, behold, two of them went that same day to a village called Emmaus, which was from Jerusalem about threescore furlongs.

<sup>14</sup> And they talked together of all these things which had happened.

<sup>15</sup> And it came to pass, that, while they communed together and reasoned, Jesus himself drew near, and went with them.

<sup>16</sup> But their eyes were holden that they should not know him.

<sup>17</sup> And he said unto them, What manner of communications are these that ye have one to another, as ye walk, and are sad?

<sup>18</sup> And the one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answering said unto him, Art thou only a stranger in Jerusalem, and hast not known the things which are come to pass there in these days?

<sup>19</sup> And he said unto them, What things? And they said unto him, Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, which was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people:

<sup>20</sup> And how the chief priests and our rulers delivered him to be condemned to death, and have crucified him.

<sup>21</sup> But we trusted that it had been he which should have redeemed Israel: and beside all this, to day is the third day since these things were done.

<sup>22</sup> Yea, and certain women also of our company made us astonished, which were early at the sepulchre;

<sup>23</sup> And when they found not his body, they came, saying, that they had also seen a vision of angels, which said that he was alive.

<sup>24</sup> And certain of them which were with us went to the sepulchre, and found it even so as the women had said: but him they saw not.

<sup>25</sup> Then he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken:

<sup>26</sup> Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory?

<sup>27</sup> And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself.

<sup>28</sup> And they drew nigh unto the village, whither they went: and he made as though he would have gone further.

<sup>29</sup> But they constrained him, saying, Abide with us: for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent. And he went in to tarry with them.

<sup>30</sup> And it came to pass, as he sat at meat with them, he took bread, and blessed it, and brake, and gave to them.

<sup>31</sup> And their eyes were opened, and they knew him; and he vanished out of their sight.

<sup>32</sup> And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures?

<sup>33</sup> And they rose up the same hour, and returned to Jerusalem, and found the eleven gathered together, and them that were with them,

<sup>34</sup> Saying, The Lord is risen indeed, and hath appeared to Simon.

<sup>35</sup> And they told what things were done in the way, and how he was known of them in breaking of bread.

