



December 20, 2017

# Clemmons

## UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

ACTS... All Care to Share



Christmas  
EVE

### Christmas Eve Communion & Candlelight Services Sunday, December 24

4:00 p.m. Family Friendly/Praise Service  
(this service will use glow sticks instead of candles)

6:00 p.m. & 8:00 p.m. Traditional Service

We will also have an 11:00 a.m. Traditional Service  
and Sunday School classes will not meet.

Nursery available at 11:00 a.m., 4:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m. services.

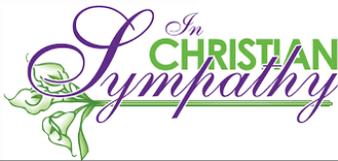
Our Christmas Eve offering will be donated to the Clemmons Food Pantry.

*In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." Luke 2:8-12*

## Living the Fullness of Christ



December 24	<i>Down to Earth: "Lifestyle"</i> (only one morning worship at 11:00 a.m.)	Dr. J. Matthew Burton, Jr. Matthew 1:24
December 31	<i>Down to Earth: "Obedience"</i>	Rev. Clark Chilton Philippians 2:12-13
January 7	<i>Searching</i>	Dr. J. Matthew Burton, Jr. Matthew 2:1-12
January 14	<i>The View from the Whale's Belly</i>	Rev. Don Carlton Jonah 2



We extend our Christian sympathy to the family of Kevin Barefoot upon the death of this grandmother.

### Angel Tree Update

I want to thank the congregation so much for all of their gifts and their time donated to this outreach project! We had great help in addressing Angels and wrapping gifts and Bibles. The children in Sunday school helped colored the Angels; several helped buy extra presents for those that did not get picked and others bought the extra bikes and gift cards we needed. Sunday, December 10 looked like Santa's workshop in the New Fellowship Hall with our members helping organize and take gifts to the client's cars! The clients were grateful, excited and moved to tears! This a perfect example of what Christmas is all about! I am so proud to be a part of such a wonderful church. Thank you all to everyone that bought a gift, prayed for these children and their families or helped out somewhere along the process! Mission accomplished!

*Merry Christmas and God Bless! Sandy Zoubek*



The Women's and Men's Glee Groups of UNC will be giving a concert here on Wednesday, **January 3** at 7:00 p.m. Forty-eight singers will present a program of traditional classical repertoire as well as lighter music including folk songs, spirituals and traditional Carolina songs. These auditioned groups are under the direction of Dr. Sue T. Klausmeyer and Dr. Daniel Huff. Our covenant partner, Emma Miller, is a senior at UNC and a member of the women's glee group. **If you can help by providing housing for two of these students on Wednesday night after their concert please contact Carol Covington at [covingtonc@clemonsumc.org](mailto:covingtonc@clemonsumc.org).**

## Living the Fullness of Christ

Covenant Partners and Friends of Clemmons United Methodist Church, please note this important financial update through December 2, 2017. Usually by this time of the year we are beginning to catch up, but that doesn't seem to be happening this year. Help us end the year well by catching up your financial giving or by adding a little extra before December 31. Thanks for all you do to support the mission and ministry of Clemmons United Methodist Church.

### Budget Update through December 2, 2017

Budget (11 months or 48 Sundays through 12/2)	\$1,025,204
Operating Fund contributions through 12/2	\$897,456
	- \$127,748
Budget spent through 12/2	\$946,232
Cash Deficit	- \$48,776

## From the Center of Disciples, Equipping for Lay Ministry & Outreach

### **Book Review of *Mere Christianity* by C.S. Lewis**

Available in the Food for Thought Resource Center

***Mere Christianity*** is a combination of three pamphlets \*: “The Case for Christianity” (1942), “Christian Behavior” (1943), and “Beyond Personality” (1944) by C.S. Lewis (Oxford professor and scholar) which were presented in a series of BBC radio talks. The reader must be mindful that as Lewis was writing the series, the BLITZ and other air raids were taking place over England and Europe.

Anglican Lewis’ style and forthright thought explain fundamental Christian teachings for both the standard, basically educated and for the intellectuals of his generation and time. The reader must meditate on the complex and enormous battle between good and evil during the era. Lewis consistently claims that to understand Christianity, one must understand the moral law, which is the underlying foundation of the universe. “Unless one grasps the dismay which comes from humanity’s failure to keep the moral law, one cannot understand the coming of Christ and His work....The death and resurrection of Christ is introduced as the only way in which our inadequate human attempts to redeem humanity’s sins could be made adequate in God’s eyes.”

Lewis expounds on the idea that Christianity mandates that you LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF. Christians must apply this attitude to others and calls this one of the GREAT SECRETS: “when one acts as if he loves others, he will presently come to love them.” The continuing appeal of MERE CHRISTIANITY definitely rests on the luminosity of the Gospel message itself. Lewis directs his audiences toward viewing Christianity not as abstract teaching but as something which can be seen, experienced and enjoyed as the most beautiful of all enlightening realities. The reader will be scratching their head at times and even rereading passages by this profound, but direct academic author. But the reader will be joyful in the experience resulting from careful reading and examination of *Mere Christianity*!

\*These pamphlets were adapted (1952) to form the book ***Mere Christianity***.

— Review by Judy Chappell

## Living the Fullness of Christ

### CUMC Outreach Ministries Update

If you feel God is calling you to start or connect with an ongoing mission within the community or world, please contact Gloria Hughes and let's have a conversation soon! In the meantime, I ask that you keep the following missions in prayer:

**Jamaica Building Team** will be gone February 1 through February 15 for their mission with the Jamaican people. If you would like to know more or feel God calling you to participate in this mission in some way, contact Tom Miller at [tmiller4160@gmail.com](mailto:tmiller4160@gmail.com).

**Grief Share** is a ministry for people within the surrounding communities who are making their way through grief. We are grateful for our folks who have answered the call to lead these weekly sessions and ask that you keep all participants and leaders in your prayers. The next session begins Monday, January 8. If you would like to know more about this ministry, contact Nancy Bellamy at [jin62@bellsouth.net](mailto:jin62@bellsouth.net).

**Hurricane disaster relief.** Your generosity is making a difference in the lives of those left homeless or affected by the most recent hurricane disaster. Our Clemmons UMC congregation collected \$10,573.40 for UMCOR and our Sunday Discipleship classes prepared 20 disaster relief buckets delivered by the Family Journey's class. Your generous spirits are making a difference!

**ZOE** has provided a report of the 928 heads of household now in their third year of the ZOE program. The heads of households have gone through a total transformation thanks to the ZOE empowerment model. The training, material support and spiritual nourishment have helped them become balanced, well-rounded individuals who positively impact their families and communities. If you would like to take a look at the detailed report, there is a copy outside the Discipleship office. Your contributions are making a difference.

If you have a desire to know more about following Jesus, New Covenant Partnership with Clemmons UMC, outreach ministries or any other ministry, please contact Gloria Hughes at [hughesg@clemmonsumc.org](mailto:hughesg@clemmonsumc.org).



Our January 24th meeting at 11:30 a.m. will be a MORAVIAN STAR workshop. Ken Manuel will teach us how to make Moravian stars using a special tool he has invented, and each person will keep the tool along with the star. This star is much easier to make than any I have tried before. The fee for the workshop is \$15 per person. We will have a catered lunch by Midgi and the cost is \$8.00.

There is a sign up sheet on the table in the Commons Area. I hope you'll come and get an early jump on your Christmas decorations for December 2018. You can take the tool and knowledge you gained with you to make enough stars to fill your Christmas tree!

If anyone has 100% cotton, unbleached muslin or low-loft batting, our Quilt Ministry could put it to good use. We want to thank Patricia Dance for her continued gift of her fleece scraps. We are so grateful for these because the veterans, battered women and their children that have received these blankets will keep warm this winter.

*Barbara Turner*

## Living the Fullness of Christ

### Giving to Clemmons UMC Using Your IRA Distribution Can Save Taxes

For many people, an important financial task looms amid December holiday celebrations: taking required withdrawals from retirement accounts by the end of the year. If you are at least 70-1/2, you must take the required minimum distributions each year from your individual retirement accounts and 401(k)s.

The [requirement applies](#) to most types of I.R.A.s, including traditional, Simple (Savings Incentive Match Plan for Employees) and S.E.P. (Simplified Employee Pension) accounts. Roth I.R.A.s are an exception. They have no required minimum distribution because they are funded with after-tax money. If you don't need the money right away for living expenses, you can invest it in a taxable account or you can donate it to charity. As long as the money — up to \$100,000 — goes directly to the charitable organization, you'll avoid paying income taxes on it (although you can't claim a tax deduction for the gift). Direct your gift to the *Clemmons UMC Endowment Fund* to assure this church ministry continues into its 4<sup>th</sup> century of service. As always, speak to your financial advisor before making any decisions about your IRA and distributions.

### Gifting Stock at Year End

**Gifting Stock At Year-End** As we approach year-end, if you wish to gift stock to Clemmons UMC Endowment Fund, you can contact the United Methodist Foundation of Western North Carolina; a service provided at no cost. Now is the time to initiate that transaction to ensure it is completed by December 31. If you would like more information on this service, please call Sonji Farrell at 888-450-1956 and she can answer questions and/or assist you with that transaction.

### Your 2018 Pledge

As of December 10, we have received 135 pledge cards for the 2018 budget, totaling \$531,477. If you haven't made your pledge for 2018, please help us plan for next year by turning in your card to the church office or placing it into the offering plate on Sunday morning. Feel free to use the one below or fill out a 2018 pledge online to <http://www.clemmonsumc.org/give>.



**Clemmons**  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

PLEASE PRINT  
Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_

#### ESTIMATE OF GIVING

- I pledge \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (weekly / monthly / annually) (circle one) to CUMC for the annual operating budget for 2018.
- I pledge \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (weekly / monthly / annually) (circle one) to CUMC for the Many Gifts Growing Spirit campaign for 2018.
- Send me information so I can make direct payment of my pledges from my bank account.

My Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Scan QR code with your smartphone  
to create direct payment of your pledges.





## Clemmons United Methodist Children's Ministries

Where all children are welcomed to: Come...Grow...Learn.

During part of the months of December and January, our kindergarten through fifth grade children will be experiencing a special Advent Study, just like the adults! This group meets in the Old Fellowship Hall, directly below the Worship Center/Sanctuary. Please join us!

- **December 24: NO SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES @ 9:45 or 11:00**
- **December 31: FIFTH SUNDAY FAMILY WORSHIP @ 9:45. 11:00 LEGO + only.**
- **January 7: Jesus came down to earth to show us how to *BE GRATEFUL***

During the 9:45 session, our preschool children will be experiencing the traditional Advent stories leading up to the birth of Jesus. We will have childcare all Sundays for our infant through preschool-aged children.

### **Christmas Eve Childcare Help Needed for 6:00 p.m. Service**

On Christmas Eve, we are in need of two or three adults to serve in our childcare room for the 6:00 p.m. service. Our 11:00 and 4:00 services are covered. Your time of service would be from 5:15-7:15ish. Please consider giving of yourself this Christmas season as we welcome visitors into our church. Contact Kathy Giff at [giffk@clemmonsumc.org](mailto:giffk@clemmonsumc.org).



### **Sisters in Christ**

The Sisters in Christ are a wonderful group of women who meet weekly for fellowship, service projects and Bible study. We will begin a new year on Wednesday, **January 3** at 9:30 a.m. in the New Fellowship Hall. After spending some time getting to know each other, we will assemble backpack snack bags for children at Easton Elementary School, our longtime project. On January 10, we will begin a six-week study, "God's Answers to Life's Difficult Questions." We live in a world where we all have to deal with stress, failure, crisis, loneliness and change. Drawing from examples of different biblical characters who faced the same issues, author and pastor Rick Warren offers practical insights you can understand and apply to your struggles. Call Linda Morgan 336-416-6814 to register or with any questions.

## Living the Fullness of Christ

### Calendar of Events

Sun, Dec 24	11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship 4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service 6:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service 8:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service	Mon, Jan 1	Holiday – Church Office Closed
Mon, Dec 25	Holiday – Church Office Closed	Tue, Jan 2	9:00 a.m. Quilting Group
Tue, Dec 26	Holiday – Church Office Closed	Wed, Jan 3	9:30 a.m. Sisters in Christ Bible Study 7:00 p.m. UNC Glee Groups Concert 7:00 p.m. PALS Meeting
Wed, Dec 27	5:00 p.m. Praise Band Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. PALS Meeting	Thur, Jan 4	10:00 a.m. Prayer Group 7:00 p.m. C3
Thur, Dec 28	7:00 p.m. C3 Conversation	Sun, Jan 7	7:15 a.m. Methodist Men Breakfast & Program <b>8:30 &amp; 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship</b> <b>9:45 a.m. Praise Worship Service</b> 9:45 & 11:00 a.m. Sunday School 5:00 p.m. Confirmation Family Covenant 6:00 p.m. Confirmation Potluck Dinner
Sun, Dec 31	<b>8:30 &amp; 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship</b> <b>9:45 a.m. Praise Worship Service</b> 9:45 & 11:00 a.m. Sunday School		



#### Celebrating Birthdays December 24 — December 30

Barbara Samuelson, Chris Hammond, Linda Morgan, Todd Ferguson, Becky Gibbs, Billye Jo Furches, Jamey Hammond, Emily Calloway, Pam Davis, Eunice Davis, Susan Curl, C.J. Johnson, Meredith Bryson, Jake Prince, Terry Tilley, Blanche Gallo, Justin Tucker, Carly Endean, Alison Brake, Carraway Chilton, Martha Warren, Winston Matney, Harper Kennedy and Emmeline White

#### Celebrating Birthdays December 31 — January 6

Keith Bobbitt, Scott Fulton, Lisa Sigmon, Melissa Harper, Kristen Esposito, Chad Felton, Lauren Kranis, Ana Reutinger, Carolyn Brown, Donna Fulton, Deidre Davis, Elizabeth Hartsell, Kinsley James, Julia Pruitt, Beth Sawyer, Tim Convery, Diane Olsen, Matt Reece, Andrea Bray, Katie Manning, Jeff Davis, Christina Foster, Emilee Jones, John Collins, Kathy Dotson, Karen Nealeans, Jeff Jones, Drew Dosek, Hollis Boardman, Tom Paterson, Zoe Ohar, Ethan Maine, Glenda McCuiston, Karen Butchart, Tim Bohon, Karen Owen, Jessica Rodgers and MacKenzie Hostetter



Altar Flowers

The 2018 Flower Calendar has arrived and now is the time to sign up for your special Sunday. If you would like to place altar flowers in memory or in honor of someone, please contact the church office at 336-766-6375. The flowers cost \$35.

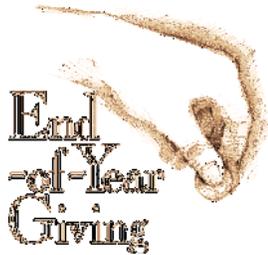


# Clemmons

## UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

ACTS... All Care to Share

The deadline for all articles to be submitted for the next ACTS is **one week prior** to printing. Please bring your articles by the Hunter House or submit your articles to [office@clemmonsumc.org](mailto:office@clemmonsumc.org). If you would like to begin receiving the newsletter, please send an email to [office@clemmonsumc.org](mailto:office@clemmonsumc.org) with "ACTS" in the subject line. In the body of the email indicate how you would like to receive "ACTS" by writing "email only", "postal mail only" or "both e-mail and postal mail." Remember that receiving email copies saves the church postage money and helps us all be better stewards of the resources God provides.



If you would like to make an end of the year contribution, you may drop your check in the offering plate or through the back door mail slot of the church office by **Sunday, December 31**. All 2017 contributions being sent through the U.S. mail must be postmarked by **Saturday, December 30** to receive credit for 2017. For more information about end-of-the-year giving, please contact Scott Seagle at 336-998-3668 or the church office at 336-766-6375 ext. 122.

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Fax 336 766-0652  
Website [www.clemmonsumc.org](http://www.clemmonsumc.org)

**Church Staff**

Ext 123	Matthew Burton	Pastoral Leadership
Ext 124	Paula Northrup	Pastoral Care
Ext 122	Waynette Adamczak	Church Administration
Ext 142	Kathy Giff	Children's Ministries
Ext 135	Tammy Clapp	Preschool Ministry
Ext 142	Kathy Giff	After School Ministry
Ext 126	Clark Chilton	Clemmons ONE & Young Adults
Ext 125	Tori Patterson	Student Ministries Assistant
Ext 141	Barbara Turner	Older Adult Ministries
Ext 145	Gloria Hughes	Discipleship, Equipping, Missions
Ext 129	Carol Covington	Music Ministries
	Lee Covington	Organist
	David Mooneyham	Campus Care