



December 1, 2021

# Clemmons

## UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

ACTS... All Care to Share

### *Sunday, December 12: Breakfast & Christmas Cantata*

#### *9:30 a.m. Church-wide Christmas Potluck Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall*

In lieu of traditional Sunday School, we will have a church-wide Christmas Potluck breakfast in the Fellowship Hall before our joint Christmas Cantata at 11 o'clock. Please bring breakfast items to share. If you're interested, you may sign-up your food offering on our website to ensure a diverse table of food options ([link](#))

#### *11 o'clock Christmas Cantata in the Sanctuary*

Our church family will join together in one worship service for a Christmas Cantata performed by our Festival Choir composed of members from our traditional choirs and praise team. See page 3 for more details.

*Note: this will be the only service on December 12. There will be no Sunday School that morning, but nursery and preschool care will be provided from 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon.*



*Friday, December 24*

### *Christmas Eve Communion & Worship Services*

#### *4 p.m. Family-Friendly Worship Service in the Sanctuary*

*This service will use glow sticks instead of candles.*

#### *8 p.m. Traditional Candlelight Worship Service in the Sanctuary*

*Glow sticks will be available for children.*

*In order for our childcare staff to enjoy the Christmas services with their families, we will not offer a nursery. All children are welcome at the worship services.*

## Living the Fullness of Christ



<b>Dec. 5</b> communion	<b>"Fire and Soap"</b>	Rev. John Fitzgerald Malachi 3:1-4
<b>Dec. 12</b>	<b>Christmas Cantata</b> There will be only one service this day at 11 o'clock	Festival Choir
<b>Dec. 19</b>	<b>"Joseph's Story"</b>	Rev. John Fitzgerald Matthew 1:18-24
<b>Dec. 26</b>	<b>"In the Beginning"</b> There will be only one service this day at 11 o'clock	David Lee John 1:1-5
<b>Jan. 2</b> communion	<b>"Wise Men"</b>	Rev. John Fitzgerald Matthew 2:1-12



### We extend our Christian sympathy to the following upon the death of a loved one:

- Don McIntyre upon the death of his sister, Janice Edrington, on November 11, 2021.
- Al Burchett upon the death of his brother, Randy Burchett, on November 13, 2021.
- Lori Schamay upon the death of her sister, Lisa Saunders, on November 17, 2021.
- The family of Eva Michael "Mickey" Cruse upon her death on November 18, 2021.
- Vivian Mahathey upon the death of her husband, Mike Mahathey, on November 22, 2021.

### Thank You Notes

A big thank you to Barbara Turner and her talented team of Quilting Ladies! The Worship Committee is grateful for The Quilters and their great talents. The small offering pads in our offering plates were old and worn. These ladies removed the old fabric and covered the pads in a beautiful rich velvet. Thank you, Quilters, for this gift and for a substantial savings to our worship budget. You are greatly appreciated!

— The Worship Committee

The Scouts and Pack 731 wish to thank CUMC for all the kindness and help with our Celebration of Life for Susan Fleming. Thanks especially to Kathy Giff, David Mooneyham, Joni Hanna, Mark Batten, Amy Griffin, and Doug and Brenda Sidney. We appreciate your support throughout the year.

— All Scouts from 731

## Christmas Cantata Sunday, December 12 at 11 o'clock

*Arise, Shine; For Thy Light Has Come! (Isaiah 60:1)*

Without a doubt, autumn has always been my favorite season. I grew up in the mountains of northeastern Pennsylvania, where picking apples, raking leaves, and chopping firewood served as physical reminders that winter was fast approaching. Darkness advanced earlier and earlier with each passing evening as the rich kaleidoscope of the autumn landscape gave way to an earthly solemnity of walnut-brown, ash-grey, and coal-black.

The four seasons vividly showcase the circle of life. As such, it isn't surprising that the early church organized its liturgical calendar alongside the changes of the equinox. As nature demonstrates the reality of birth, death, and new life, the church points us to the Gospel and its message of redemptive, eternal life in Christ.

As winter approaches, so does the cold and the dark, leaving us longing for warmth and light—both physically and spiritually. It is during this Advent time that we are drawn to the manger, where we glimpse the Christ-child and behold His great light shining in the darkness. Here, the prophet Isaiah commands us to respond: to Rise and Shine—to reflect the light of hope born in the manger.



CHRISTMAS  
CANTATA

This year's Christmas "Cantata" will take on the shape of a traditional *Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols*. The story highlights the fall of humanity, the promise of the Messiah, and the birth of Jesus through nine short Biblical lessons, interspersed with carols, choral anthems, and praise songs.

The music will follow the story of Christmas and showcase works that powerfully portray the triumph of light over darkness, as cold gives way to warmth, told from Genesis to the Gospels. Musical works will include Norwegian composer **Kim André Arnesen's *His Light in Us***, British composer **Alan Bullard's *The Truth Sent from Above***, German composer **Michael Praetorius' *Es ist ein Ros entsprungen***, and American composer **André Thomas' *African Noel***. The choral offerings will be interspersed with congregational carols along with praise and worship music from our Connect Praise Team.

Each piece will give us all the chance to respond to the manger—a chance to prepare our hearts for the coming of Christmas; a chance to arise and shine, for our Light has come!

—Bryon Grohman, Director of Music and Worship Arts  
[grohmanB@clemmonsumc.org](mailto:grohmanB@clemmonsumc.org) / 812-340-1353

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**INVITATION:** The Festival Choir has been hard at work learning music for December 12. While we only have a few more rehearsals, singers with previous choral experience are welcome to join us Wednesday at 7 p.m. for rehearsal. If you are interested, please contact Bryon Grohman.

## CUMC Children's Ministry Updates

**Angel Tree Thank You:** Thank you to everyone who adopted an angel this year to support our CUMC Angel Tree. We are happy to report that all 11 families were adopted and gifts were provided. Because of your generosity, these families will be able to share in the joy of Christmas morning together.

**A Christmas Update With CUMC Kids:** The Fall, Advent & Christmas seasons are always busy ones in the life of Children's Ministries. But what fun we have had together. Our biggest fall event was our Fall Festival & Trunk or Treat Fundraiser. With the help of many hands and donated candy by the church, we were able to host close to 100 families and raise over \$1,000 for the Children's and Preschool ministries. Thank you for your generosity! Also, for our final quarterly service project of 2021, the children donated and served a baked potato and salad bar to our youth group. It was a fun time for all involved. In Sunday School the younger elementary children spent a six-week unit on "families of the Bible", while our older elementary children finished their unit on the 10 Commandments.



As we enter into Advent and Christmas we will be focusing our time on the coming of Jesus. Families signed up to receive at home Advent bags where they will participate in family advent devotions and activities together. The Children's Ministry is also partnering with the Clemmons:One youth group to stuff and deliver stockings to residents at Ivy of Clemmons. In Sunday School we will be learning all about Advent and the Christmas story.

Thank you for all of the ways that you continuously give to and serve the children of CUMC. Without volunteers and donations we would not be able to do all of the amazing things that we are able to offer. The youngest generation of the church is learning from each of the generations before them. I am so glad that they have so many great role models to look up to!

—Pastor Sara Smith, Children and Family Minister ([smithS@clemmonsumc.org](mailto:smithS@clemmonsumc.org))



## Stephen Ministry Training

Are you interested in becoming a Stephen Minister? If so, consider attending our Stephen Ministry training that begins weekly on Monday, January 10, from 6–8:30 p.m. and runs through the end of May. For more information or to sign up for this training, please contact Rev. Sara Smith at [smithS@clemmonsumc.org](mailto:smithS@clemmonsumc.org).

## Support Groups

CUMC offers several support groups for our church family as well as those in the community:

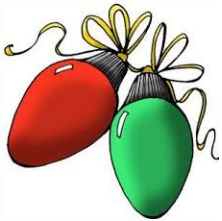
- **PAL (Parents of Addicted Loved Ones)** | Wednesdays 7–8:30 p.m. | Room A-203
- **GriefShare** | Mondays, January 10–April 4 | 6:30–8:30 p.m. | Room A-205
- **DivorceCare** | Wednesdays, January 5–April 13 | 7–8:30 p.m. | Room A-210

More details are on our [church website](#) under Community Outreach. Please share with others.

## Living the Fullness of Christ

### [C:O] Clemmons:One Youth

**CODA Performance and Service Project:** CODA, our Clemmons:One Drama & Arts group, will perform a drama production titled "A Christmas to Believe In" on Sunday, December 5 at 2:30 in the Sanctuary. We invite the CUMC Kids, our preschool families, and church-wide family to enjoy the play. Afterwards, all are invited to join in decorating and filling stockings that will be delivered to Ivy of Clemmons Assisted Living Home. If able to help in providing stocking stuffers such as slipper socks with grippers, individually wrapped snacks, chapstick, and more, you can drop off your donations to the bin inside the Ministry Center doors before December 5.



**Clemmons:One Christmas Spectacular:** Come and enjoy a night with family and friends while walking through our Clemmons:One Christmas Spectacular from **Friday, December 10 through Sunday, December 12 from 6-8 p.m.** Our prayer trail will be transformed into a winter wonderland of lights; there will be an opportunity to write a letter to Santa; take pictures and visit with Santa, Olaf, Kristoff, and Elsa; visit our Christmas goodie shoppe; and finish the night by remembering the reason for the season with our live nativity. Our Christmas Light Spectacular is a fundraiser to support our youth mission trip to Honduras this upcoming Summer.

**Donations needed for Christmas Light Spectacular:** Do you have any decorations that you no longer need (either indoor or outdoor) such as Christmas trees, lights, blow-up decorations, yard decorations, and wreaths? We would love to make a new home for them! Also, do you have a generator that we can borrow to help power our Christmas lights? Or, would you be interested in baking any Christmas goodies OR Christmas crafts that can be sold at our Christmas goodie shoppe? If the answer to any of the above was YES, please contact me. Thank you for helping to make this Christmas Light Spectacular a wonderful mission opportunity for our Clemmons and Lewisville community!

—Amanda Batten, Minister of Youth and their Families ([battenA@clemmonsumc.org](mailto:battenA@clemmonsumc.org) / 919-389-6387)

### College-Age/Young Adult Ministry

We invite our college-age/young adults (18-29ish) to a three-week study and coffee on December 5, December 19, and January 2. Please join us at the Connect contemporary service at 9:45 and then hop over to Starbucks for fellowship and a study on Ebenezer Scrooge and redemption at 11 a.m. If you have any questions, please contact Amanda Batten at [battena@clemmonsumc.org](mailto:battena@clemmonsumc.org).

### Sisters in Christ



Sisters in Christ is a women's Bible study group that meets from 10 a.m.-12 noon on Wednesday in the Fellowship Hall. In addition to learning more about God's word through teachings of various Christian authors, we also have many service projects that we do for our church and our community. On January 5, we will begin a four-week study, "Before Amen." Max Lucado reveals his own struggles with prayer and how it is not an art for a chosen few, but a simple tool everyone has been given to have a personal conversation with God that brings peace and rest. For more information or to preorder a study guide, please contact Linda Morgan at [morgancrna@gmail.com](mailto:morgancrna@gmail.com) or 336-416-6814.



## Living the Fullness of Christ

### Calendar of Events

Sun, Dec 5	7:30 a.m. Methodist Men Breakfast & Program 12:15 p.m. Cantata Rehearsal & Luncheon 2:30 p.m. Clemmons:ONE Drama & Arts	Fri, Dec 17	4:00 p.m. Crusaders & Upper Room Christmas Social
Mon, Dec 6	7:00 p.m. GriefShare	Tues, Dec 21	9:30 a.m. Quilting Group 7:00 p.m. Pastor John's Bible Study
Tues, Dec 7	9:30 a.m. Quilting 7:00 p.m. Pastor John's Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Joy Service & Fellowship Mtg	Wed, Dec 22	7:00 p.m. PAL Meeting 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
Wed, Dec 8	10:00 a.m. Sisters in Christ 7:00 p.m. PAL Meeting 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	Fri, Dec 24	4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 8:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
Fri, Dec 10	5:30 p.m. Parent's Night Out 6:00 p.m. Clemmons:ONE Lightshow	Sun, Dec 26	11:00 a.m. Worship Service
Sat, Dec 11	9:00 a.m. Cantata Rehearsal 6:00 p.m. Clemmons:ONE Lightshow	Mon, Dec 27	Holiday – Church Office Closed
Sun, Dec 12	9:30 a.m. All Church Breakfast 11:00 a.m. Cantata 6:00 p.m. Clemmons:ONE Lightshow	Tues, Dec 28	9:30 a.m. Quilting
Tues, Dec 14	9:30 a.m. Quilting 6:30 p.m. Service of Comfort & Hope 7:00 p.m. Pastor John's Bible Study	Wed, Dec 29	7:00 p.m. PAL Meeting
Wed, Dec 15	10:00 a.m. Sisters in Christ 7:00 p.m. PAL Meeting 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Connect Rehearsal	Sun, Jan 2	7:30 a.m. Methodist Men Breakfast & Program
		Mon, Jan 3	Holiday – Church Office Closed
		<b>Sunday Service Times</b> 8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Service 9:45 a.m. Connect Worship Service 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service	
		Clemmons:One Youth Events: <a href="http://www.clemmonsone.org">www.clemmonsone.org</a> .	

**Seeking Ushers for All Worship Services:** The last few months as we have reunited in worship and grown in attendance have been such a joy. We are looking to grow our usher teams. As more folks join our team, we can easily share our ushering duties. It is such a great way to serve our church and to get to know our church family better. If you are interested in our Connect Service, their supportive services are planned within their team. Please contact either Amanda Batten at [battenA@clemmonsumc.org](mailto:battenA@clemmonsumc.org) or Parks Engstrom at [engstrom.parks@gmail.com](mailto:engstrom.parks@gmail.com). If you'd like to join our traditional usher team, please contact Ellen Ringer ([jimringer@yadtel.net](mailto:jimringer@yadtel.net)) for our 8:30 service or Drew Mayse ([drewmayse@yahoo.com](mailto:drewmayse@yahoo.com)) for our 11 o'clock service. You may also call the church office at 336-766-6375 to sign up.

**Furniture Ministry in need of a new Organizer:** Our Furniture Ministry Organizer Terry Jeanes is moving in early 2022 and will not be able to organize and facilitate furniture donation pick-ups and donation deliveries to those in need. If you are interested in learning more about being the CUMC Furniture Ministry Organizer and helping those in our community, please contact Terry Jeanes at [terryj7@earthlink.net](mailto:terryj7@earthlink.net).

**End of Year Contributions:** If you would like to make an end-of-the-year contribution to the church, you may drop your check through the back door mail slot of the church office by **Friday, December 31**. All 2021 contributions sent though the U.S. mail must be postmarked by December 31 to receive credit for 2021. For more information about end-of-the-year giving, please contact Scott Seagle at 336-287-2876 or Waynette Adamczak at 336-766-6375 ext. 122.

## Knocking on Heaven's Door

### Contemplative Ways of Opening to the Holy

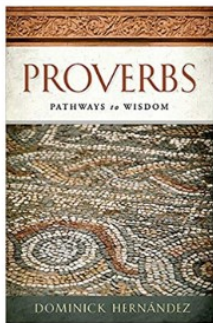
Connecting with God is one of the most important aspects of our relationship with Him; however, it is also one of the hardest on which to stay focused and disciplined. There are many ways of deepening our relationship with God. Come learn some simple ways of creating space for God's grace as you nurture the process of inner-transformation. These teaching/worship sessions are designed to inform, engage, and inspire what some of the great mystics and spiritual writers call *contemplation*. We'll be learning and experimenting with...

Simple prayer . . . Scripture . . . The Examen . . . Holy Listening . . . and many others.

Knocking on Heaven's Door begins January 2022 and will meet the third Sunday of each month at 9:30 a.m. in the Parlor. Each session stands alone, so come as you are able and bring a friend.

## Proverbs: Pathways to Wisdom

### A four-week study of Proverbs via Zoom



The book of Proverbs is a book written for people like us—parents, children, friends, and coworkers. It's a collection of biblical sayings and wisdom that are intended to help us with practical matters in our lives. Inside we encounter the wise and the foolish, and instructions for the journey to find the wisdom that comes from God alone. *Proverbs: Pathways to Wisdom*, by Dominick Samuel Hernández, explores the context, language, and interpretation of the book of Proverbs. Each chapter covers well-known verses and examines prevalent themes throughout the book. From the fear of the Lord to the Woman of Valor in Proverbs 31, Hernández explores an array of verses and reveals literary and historical details that supply profound insight into familiar passages.

This study will meet Thursdays (4:30–6:30 p.m.) from January 8 through February 10, 2022 and will be facilitated by Dave Lee via Zoom. Please contact Dave at [davidmlee2006@aol.com](mailto:davidmlee2006@aol.com) if you have any questions or to sign up. *Proverbs: Pathways to Wisdom* may be purchased from Amazon ([link](#)).

## Clemmons United Methodist Church 2021 Financial Update

### Year-to-date results through November 27, 2021

Total Contributions and Other Receipts	1,090,773.42
Total Ministry Expenses and Disbursements	(1,150,804.76)
Decrease in Financial Position for 2021	(60,031.34)
Bank Balance (operating and special funds)	338,291.79

Note: The results presented above include only items that have cleared the bank as of the date indicated for operating and special fund related accounts. These results



# Clemmons

## UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

ACTS... All Care to Share

The next newsletter will be sent out Jan.12 and the deadline for articles to be submitted is Monday, Jan. 3. Please bring your articles by the Hunter House or email them to [griffinA@clemmonsumc.org](mailto:griffinA@clemmonsumc.org). If you would like to receive the newsletter, please email [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 email and postal mail." Remember that receiving email copies saves the church postage and helps us all be better stewards of the resources that God provides.

**Young at Heart:** If you're interested in starting Young at Heart on January 24, please contact Barbara Turner at [bturner1@triad.rr.com](mailto:bturner1@triad.rr.com) or 336-408-0522.



The staff of Clemmons United Methodist Church wishes you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and healthy New Year!

### CLEMMONS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Post Office Box 829, Clemmons, NC 27012

Church Office	336 766-6375
Preschool	336 766-9593
After School	336 766-0289
Website	<a href="http://www.clemmonsumc.org">www.clemmonsumc.org</a>

#### **Church Staff**

Pastoral Leadership	<a href="#">John Fitzgerald</a>	Ext 123
Discipleship, Equipping, Missions	<a href="#">Kathy Giff</a>	Ext 145
Preschool & Afterschool Ministries	<a href="#">Tammy Clapp</a>	Ext 135
Children & Family Minister	<a href="#">Sara Smith</a>	Ext 141
Youth Ministries	<a href="#">Amanda Batten</a>	Ext 126
Older Adult Ministries	<a href="#">Barbara Turner</a>	336-766-5972
Music Director	<a href="#">Bryon Grohman</a>	Ext. 129
Praise Leader	<a href="#">Karen Stutzman</a>	
Organist	<a href="#">Joni Hanna</a>	
Office Manager	<a href="#">Waynette Adamczak</a>	Ext 122
Office Assistance	<a href="#">Amy Griffin</a>	Ext 121
Technology Associate	<a href="#">Mark Batten</a>	
Facilities Manager	<a href="#">David Mooneyham</a>	