

December 7, 2022



# Clemmons

## UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

ACTS... All Care to Share



**Saturday, December 24**

### **Christmas Eve Communion & Worship Services**

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

Pastor Sara will tell the Christmas Story, the Connect Praise Band will provide music, and we'll use glow sticks instead of candles while singing *Silent Night, Holy Night*. After worship, milk and cookies will be served on the front lawn. We invite and encourage families to wear their favorite Christmas pajamas!

#### ***6 p.m. Candlelight Worship Service ~ Sanctuary***

Pastor John will lead this traditional Christmas service with our Chancel Choir providing music. We'll "pass the light" with candles while singing *Silent Night, Holy Night*, though glow sticks will be available. Dress however you wish and come worship with us.

*The Christmas Eve offering will benefit our mission partner  
Watchmen of the Streets, a homeless outreach.*

**Sunday, December 25**

***One service at 11 o'clock ~ Sanctuary***

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*In order for our childcare staff and volunteers to enjoy the Christmas services with their families, we will not offer a nursery or Worship Care at either the Christmas Eve or Christmas Day services. All children are welcome at all worship services.*

## Sunday Preaching Schedule

<b>December 11</b>	8:30	“The Annunciation”	Rev. John Fitzgerald
	9:45	A Connect Christmas Special ~ Ministry Center	see page 3
	11:00	Christmas Cantata ~ Sanctuary	see page 4
<b>December 18</b>		“The Manger”	Rev. John Fitzgerald Luke 2:8-16
<b>December 25</b>		“Regeneration”	Rev. John Fitzgerald John 1:1-14
<b>January 1 communion</b>		“Epiphany”	Rev. John Fitzgerald Matthew 2:1-12



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

- Diane McGee and family upon the death of her brother, Stan Bingham, on October 27, 2022.
- Judy Wood and family upon the death of her husband, Howard Wood, on November 13, 2022.
- Keith Currie and family upon the death of his mother, Wilameta Currie, on November 20, 2022.
- Suzanne Hess and family upon the death of her mother, Johanne Powell, on December 4, 2022.
- Carol Pearson and family upon the death of her husband, Ray Pearson, on December 5, 2022.



**Congratulations** to Bethany and Matt Fields, and big sister Nora, upon the birth of Owen Stewart Fields on November 28. Proud grandparents are Stew and Sharon Harry.



**Christmas Cards have been added** to the other congregational care cards located in the Commons Area. Please take the time to write a note to someone you have not seen in a while! Your caring words and recognition that you have missed them may be just what they need during the holiday season. The cards and directory will be visible as you enter the Commons Area. Place addressed cards in the labeled basket for mailing.



**Thank You Note:** *Words cannot express how much we appreciate everyone's support through food, calls, cards, and especially your prayers! We are so blessed to have such a supportive and caring church family. We pray each of you will have a wonderful Christmas holiday! Much love to you all! – Robin and Doug Owen*



More details: [www.clemmonsumc.org](http://www.clemmonsumc.org)





**Dec. 11th Christmas Cantata: Magnificat by Taylor Scott Davis**

**11:00 am Traditional Service**

**Featuring CUMC Adult and Children's Choirs, Soloists, and Orchestra**

The Magnificat, Latin for "magnifies," is one of the earliest songs known to Christendom. The text of the canticle is taken from Luke 1:46-55. Luke relays the story of the expectant Mary's visit to her cousin Elizabeth, who is pregnant with John the Baptist. When Mary greets her cousin, Elizabeth's son jumps in her womb—a sign of John's future act of proclaiming the adult Jesus "the lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world."

Moreover, Elizabeth praises Mary for her faith, and Mary responds in song with what is now known as the Magnificat.

This year's cantata is a majestic setting of Mary's response to Elizabeth: "My soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior. For He has looked with favor on the lowliness of His servant..." Taylor Scott Davis composes a stirring setting of Mary's song, with stunning melodic lines and lush harmonies supported by full orchestration.

Make no mistake, this cantata isn't really about Mary. It's about Mary's faith and God's work in and through her because of that faith. Mary's song repeatedly points us to a God of power and mercy, who promised to set the world right through Christ. Indeed, God fulfills His promises to Abraham and Israel. We can marvel that He chooses an ordinary young woman whose faith—and offspring—will change the world.



The Stephen Ministers of CUMC  
invite those dealing with loss to attend our

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## SERVICE OF COMFORT & HOPE

**Tuesday, December 13, 2022**  
**6:30 p.m. in the CUMC Prayer Chapel**

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Dealing with the emotions of grief and loss can be difficult during the holidays. This special event is centered on keeping memories of your loved one alive and offering our support. It is our hope that you will find strength and comfort by attending this service.

*A time of fellowship and refreshments will follow the service.*



### 60+ Adult Ministry Thank You's

A very special THANK YOU to our 60+ Senior Adult Ministry led by Janie Hackney. Janie has organized our group and it is doing wonderful things to bring together our older adults. We are now serving our friends in our church and our community, but above all, we are serving our Lord through Janie's leadership. The Chicken Stew/Honor our Veterans luncheon was a wonderful example of how we are working together to help our older adults become more connected and able to participate in various activities. We learned a lot about the sacrifices that our CUMC soldiers made for us during very trying times. We are so grateful for their past service to our country and their present service to our church. Thank you to each person who participated either by bringing memorabilia or by standing and telling our group about their time in the service. We have so much respect and gratefulness for each of you. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts to each person on the 60+ committee and for those who attended our luncheon. It was informative, fun and interesting.

We thank Bryon Grohman, CUMC's Director of Music and Worship Arts, for his gift of music and telling us a little about the history of the songs we heard and sang. We loved hearing the fabulous voices of his Wake Forest University students who gave up their Saturday afternoon to entertain us. It was wonderful.

The entire 60+ team who worked in the kitchen preparing the lunch for our November 12<sup>th</sup> celebration worked like a well-oiled machine, but one person went over and above all of us – Joel Kimball. Joel repeatedly lifted those very heavy pots full of chicken stew. His shirt was soaking wet with sweat, and his muscles were sore for days! Joel, we couldn't have done this without you!! Thank you, thank you from the bottom of our hearts. You are our hero! — Barbara Turner, Senior Adults Ministries

## Confirmation 2023 Starts in Early January

Parents of sixth graders, please return your forms to the envelope labeled “CONFIRMATION” located outside of Amanda Batten’s office in the back left of the Ministry Center, or email Kathy Giff at [giffk@clemmonsumc.org](mailto:giffk@clemmonsumc.org). Please direct questions to either Kathy or Amanda. Thank you!

## The GAP Committee’s Fun New Offerings to Kick Off 2023



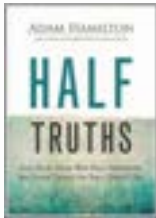
Join us for an eight-week study of *Find Your People* by Jennie Allen, available at most online bookstores ([link](#), [link](#)). The book study is open to women of all ages and will meet in Room A-203 on Tuesdays from 7-8 p.m., starting on January 10. We would love to have you join us. Please direct any questions to Suzanne Howard at [timandsuz@triad.rr.com](mailto:timandsuz@triad.rr.com).



Skip cooking dinner and connect with fellow church members for a meal out on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of every month, starting January 25. It will be a great opportunity to meet new people, socialize with old friends, and sample local restaurants.

## Half Truths: God Helps Those Who Help Themselves and Other Things the Bible Doesn’t Say

**A 5-week study of the book by Adam Hamilton  
Thursdays, January 12–February 12 from 4:30–6 p.m. via Zoom**



Join this book study where Adam Hamilton explores popular sayings that miss the point. They are simple phrases: “God helps those who help themselves,” “Love the sinner, hate the sin,” and others. They sound Christian – like something you might find in the Bible. We’ve all heard these words. Maybe we’ve said them. They capture some element of truth, yet they miss the point in important ways. Discover the whole truth by comparing common Christian clichés with the wisdom found in Scripture.

The Chapters in *Half Truths: God Helps Those Who Themselves and Other Things the Bible Doesn’t Say*: 1. Everything Happens for a Reason; 2. God Helps Those Who Help Themselves; 3. God Won’t Give You More Than You Can Handle; 4. God Said It, I Believe It, That Settles It; 5. Love the Sinner, Hate the Sin.

You may purchase *Half Truths* at several online bookstores including [Christianbook.com](http://Christianbook.com) ([link](#)) or [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com) ([link](#)). Note we are using the “regular” version, not the youth version.

This study will be facilitated by Dave Lee ([davidmlee2006@aol.com](mailto:davidmlee2006@aol.com)) and Gayle Lacey via Zoom. Contact Dave if you have questions. Dave will provide Zoom connect information to participants the week before we start.



## CUMC Children's Ministry Updates



### Angel Tree Reminder

The Angel Tree is up in the Commons Area! Please come by and choose an angel (or two) from the tree. Purchase the gift listed on your angel, wrap your gift, placing the paper angel tag on the outside of the gift. Return your wrapped gifts to the Angel Tree no later than the morning of Sunday, December 18, as angel families will be picking up the gifts that afternoon. Thank you for helping to spread Christmas joy to so many this holiday season.



### Family-Friendly Christmas Eve Service @ 4 p.m. Wear Pajamas!

You are invited to join us for our CUMC Family Christmas Eve Service at 4 p.m. on Saturday, December 24. There will be music from the Connect Praise Band, glow sticks for the children (and adults!), and Pastor Sara will tell the Christmas story before we have communion. Milk and cookies will be served on the front lawn after the service. This year we are inviting and encouraging families to wear their favorite Christmas pajamas. Invite a friend. We can't wait to see you there.



### Macaroni & Missions: Friday, January 6 @ 6 p.m.

Join us for our CUMC Kids' winter Seasonal Social that begins with a macaroni bar for dinner. Afterwards we will be led by SPARK in a fun community service project. The macaroni and drinks will be provided, but we need your help with toppings, sides, and dessert. Sign up to bring an item ([link](#)). Thank you so much!

– [Pastor Sara Smith](#), Children and Family Ministries

## Sisters in Christ



Sisters in Christ is a group of women who meet on Wednesday mornings at 10 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall for Bible study, fellowship, and participation in service projects. They are currently studying *The Lord's Prayer: The Meaning and Power of the Prayer Jesus Taught* by Adam Hamilton. We will conclude this study on December 14 with a staff appreciation lunch. For more information about Sisters in Christ, please contact Linda Morgan at [lmorgancrna@gmail.com](mailto:lmorgancrna@gmail.com) or 336-416-6814.

## Our Rectangular Tablecloths are Missing



There are no rectangular tablecloths in our closet at church. Many of these tablecloths were used during the Fall Bazaar and were taken home to be washed, but they have not found their way back. If you took tablecloths home to wash and forgot to return them, please return them to church. When you return your tablecloth, please let the office know so we can be sure it gets labeled and stored in the correct place. Thanks so much!

## Living the Fullness of Christ

### Calendar of Events

Sun, Dec 11	4:30 p.m. CPR Training	Wed, Dec 28	7:00 p.m. PAL Meeting
Tues, Dec 13	9:00 a.m. Quilting 6:30 p.m. Service of Comfort & Hope 7:00 p.m. John's Bible Study	Sun, Jan 1	11:00 a.m. Worship Service
Wed, Dec 14	10:00 a.m. Sisters in Christ Bible Study 7:00 p.m. PAL Meeting 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Divorce Care	Mon, Jan 2	Holiday – Office Closed
Thurs, Dec 15	7:00 p.m. Finance Committee Mtg	Tues, Jan 3	9:00 a.m. Quilting 7:00 p.m. John's Bible Study
Sun, Dec 18	9:30 a.m. Knocking on Heaven's Door	Wed, Jan 4	10:00 a.m. Sisters in Christ Bible Study 7:00 p.m. PAL Meeting 7:00 p.m. Connect Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Divorce Care
Tues, Dec 20	9:00 a.m. Quilting 7:00 p.m. John's Bible Study	Fri, Jan 6	6:00 p.m. Kid's Social
Wed, Dec 21	7:00 p.m. PAL Meeting 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	Sun, Jan 8	7:30 a.m. Methodist Men Breakfast & Program 5:00 p.m. Confirmation Family Covenant/Potluck
Sat, Dec 24	Christmas Eve Services: 4:00 p.m. Family Friendly service 6:00 p.m. Traditional service	<b>Sunday Service Times</b>	
Sun, Dec 25	11:00 a.m. Worship Service	8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Service ~ Sanctuary	
Mon, Dec 26	Holiday – Office Closed	9:45 a.m. Connect Worship Service ~ Ministry Center	
Tues, Dec 27	9:00 a.m. Quilting 7:00 p.m. John's Bible Study	9:45 a.m. Sunday School	
		10:00 a.m. Agape Deaf Ministry	
		11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service ~ Sanctuary	
		Clemmons:One Youth Events: <a href="http://www.clemmonsone.org">www.clemmonsone.org</a> .	

### Clemmons United Methodist Church 2022 Financial Update Year to date results through December 4, 2022

Total Contributions and Other Receipts	1,382,781.81
Total Ministry Expenses and Disbursements	(1,383,173.38)
Decrease in Financial Position for 2022	-391.57
Bank Balance	370,341.81

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 do not include the Clemmons UMC Endowment Investment Account.

**End-of-the-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 Dec. 31. All 2022 contributions sent though the U.S. mail must be postmarked by Dec. 31 to receive credit for 2022. 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.





# Clemmons

## UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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The next newsletter will be sent out Jan. 4 and the deadline for articles to be submitted is Monday, Dec. 26. 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.

**The staff of Clemmons United Methodist Church wishes you a**



**CLEMMONS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
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Give: online at [www.clemmonsumc.org/give](http://www.clemmonsumc.org/give) or text 73256 to ClemUMC