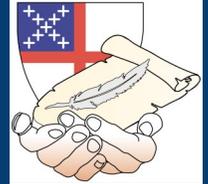


# Open Minds + Loving Hearts + Giving Hands

April—May 2026



## Clement Times

Located at  
3600 Harper Road  
Clemmons, NC  
336-766-4323

Mailing address:  
PO Box 1547  
Clemmons, NC  
27012

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Facebook!

### Holy Week, Overnight Vigil, & Easter Sunday

Holy week is the busiest & most important time in the church and it will take a small army to fill all of the Lay Ministry duties as well as volunteers to sit vigil during the overnight vigil (*The Watch*). We are using SignUp Genius for all of our volunteer opportunities during this busy time. Links are available on our website and QR codes are posted on the bulletin boards located in the narthex and parish hall. If you need any help signing up, please reach out to Linda during office hours. Thank you in advance for your help. It will take everyone's participation.

### Holy Week & Easter Schedule

#### Thursday, April 2

##### Maundy Thursday begins at 7:30 p.m.

Our observance begins on Maundy Thursday at 7:30 p.m. with a service of Holy Eucharist, where we celebrate the night of the Last Supper and the beginning of what we now call the Eucharist. But the festive spirit ends in the silence of the stripping of the altar and the darkness of the church. We are left with the invitation to share in The Watch, to sit vigil with the Body of Christ.

Once again, we will hold **The Watch** through the night, requesting that parishioners sign up for a 1-hour shift at some point during the evening, night, or morning. Come and "wait an hour" with Jesus, as he implored his disciples to do when he was suffering in the Garden on the night before his death. (We asked that at least 2 people sign-up per shift.) *\*Note: Mother Jamie will stay at the church throughout the night.* The Watch will conclude with the Prayer Book liturgy for Good Friday, which will be at noon.

#### Friday, April 3

##### Good Friday service @ 12 noon

**Sunday, April 5—Easter Sunday** *\*Please bring fresh, cut flowers (store-bought or from your garden) for the flowering of the cross.*

**Rite II Holy Eucharist with music at  
8:00 am & 10:00 am**

### Highlights

Easter Flower  
donations

Financial  
Update

Local Charity  
Spotlight

Junior Warden  
Update

### Donation for Easter Flowers

A sign up sheet has been posted in the narthex for those that wish to donate towards Easter flowers. Deadline is **Sunday, March 29**(Palm Sunday). *Please print and use as many lines as needed.* Place your donation in the envelope provided.

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### Church Office Hours

The office will be closed on **Monday, April 6 and Tuesday, April 7.**

*We wish everyone a very holy and happy Easter season.*

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### Financial Update

#### Overview

I am pleased to share an update regarding our financial situation. We have recently transitioned to a new accounting firm that specializes in managing finances for local churches. This agency currently manages the books for 28 churches, ensuring focused expertise on church finances. I sincerely apologize to anyone who may have experienced difficulties due to our previous agency.

#### 2026 Budget

Our budget for 2026 is strong, thanks to all those who were able to make pledges. However, we still rely on unpledged donations, which I estimate based on last year's numbers. The budget includes funds to continue improvements within our Church. For 2026, we have budgeted revenue of \$245,037, representing our proposed spending for the year. Additionally, our investment accounts with Charles Schwab are performing well.

#### January Financials

Currently, I only have actual data for January. During this month, our spending was slightly above budget—by less than \$5,000. This variance is simply due to timing, as some charges are incurred at the beginning of the year while our budget is allocated evenly across months.

#### Request for Full Financials

If you would like to review the full financial statements, please feel free to contact me.

#### Contact Information

Nicky Tesh

Treasurer

[treasurer3600@gmail.com](mailto:treasurer3600@gmail.com)

How did Joseph make his coffee? Hebrew-ed it.

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### Seeking Graduation Announcements

If you have a child, grandchild, or other close family member that is graduating high school or college this spring/summer we'd love to share the good news! Please email Linda the name of your graduate, school where he/she is graduating from, future plans (college, career/job), etc. So it can be included in the June/July/August newsletter. Deadline is Sunday, May 24th.

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### SAVE THE DATE!

**Friday, June 5th @ 6:30 p.m.**

Spring is in the air and that means our annual night out at the ballpark with the Winston-Salem Dash is right around the corner. So, mark your calendars and plan to join in on the fun at the ballpark to watch the Dash play the Hub City Spartanburgers. Look for a sign-up sheet in May.



### Junior Warden Update

- **Calling All Mowers!** It is that time of year again, growing season is here, and we need help keeping the church grounds mowed, trimmed, and tidy. A sign-up sheet for volunteers to mow & trim our church grounds has been posted on a bulletin board downstairs until the bulletin board for the narthex is rehung. If you are new and would like to help, please contact Bob or Terri Smith.
- **Big Spring Clean!** We have scheduled our spring clean / work day for the church grounds on Saturday, April 18th, 9 am—12 noon (*Rain date is Saturday, April 25, 9 am—12 noon*). Bring your yard tools, gloves, etc.
- **The lift** is fully installed and has passed all inspections and is now in use. The staff have been trained in how to operate it and the Kights, newly appointed coordinators of the ushers, are tasked with training the ushers. Due to the lift, we have lost what little storage space we had in the narthex. There are plans to create storage especially for donations for food donations for our local food pantries and for usher supplies. Until then, all food donations are **STILL NEEDED** and are being stored in the lower lobby. If you bring in food, but unable to take it downstairs, please ask an Usher to take it down for you.



#### And...

The upgrades continue! Mark Snow created a 'faux' stained glass window to match our light box, and the challenge of sourcing an affordable lift to get it to the cupola--along with the needed LED lighting--finally came to fruition. Be sure to look up when you arrive at church to behold the splendor! Thank you, Mark, Bob Smith, and everyone else who participated in this project!

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### Local Charity & Volunteer Spotlight

By Linda Turley & Judith Eby

Our Local Charity & Volunteer Spotlight is a featured write up on a local non-profit or charity and the members of St. Clement's who volunteer their time to help make it work. If you are a part of an organization that serves our community, please reach out to me; I would love to get it published in upcoming issues.

This month's spotlight is...

**Project Buddy Bears of NC, Inc**  
**PO Box 24562 Winston-Salem, NC 27114**

**Members of St. Clement's who volunteer:** Judith Eby & Gail Crowe

**Purpose:** Project Buddy Bear offers comfort to children in crisis by providing one-of-a-kind heirloom quality handmade bears. We hope that, in a time of need, these will comfort and reduce anxiety and distress. Police and sheriffs have told us that they also help build trust between law enforcement personnel and victims



This project started in 2018 when a fabric artist, Pat Taylor, tragically lost her son. Working through her grief, she sat at her sewing machine and made 15 teddy bears. Connecting with the police department's community liaison officer, she donated the bears for officers dealing with crisis situations. When the officers deal with domestic abuse, house fires, accidents, or other situations where children (and sometimes adults) are traumatized, they could offer the comfort of a unique handmade bear. Through publicity on Facebook, a booth at the Piedmont Craft fair, and word of mouth, Pat started gathering donations and a group of volunteers. With enough donations to cover the cost of batting and stuffing, along with fabric donations from local fabric artists and quilters, this has continued to grow to over 25 members. Over the years we have donated over 3,000 bears

Continued on page 4...

## **Buddy Bears** continued...

primarily to local First Responders including local police and fire departments, EMS, sheriffs, family services and social services, the Children's Law Center, other non-profits such as Safe on 7<sup>th</sup>, Eliza's Helping Hand, and a Bed and a Book, along with others.

**Typical Day:** The group meets every Thursday morning from 9:30 to 11:30 at Southfork Recreation Center. We are a diverse group of women (and one man) which has developed into a very cohesive and supportive group. Some sew bears on their sewing machine, others stuff sewn bears and a separate group handsewn the backs shut. We also have a few members who prepare the 20 parts which make up a bear for others to sew together and some help in other ways: organizing fabric or cutting batting into pattern pieces.

*Judith: I take my sewing machine and materials for whatever bear I am working on and sit with other sewers just about every week unless something else comes up. We each work on our own bears while socializing, laughing, supporting each other and sharing sewing related and other issues.*

**Current Challenges:** The founder, Pat Taylor, is currently struggling with health issues and has stepped down as Executive Director and divided her responsibilities amongst members willing to take a role. So, this is a time of transition. Our success with a few duties that Pat Taylor did solely such as fundraising (including presentations and writing grants) will be tested in the coming year.

**Biggest needs:** While we volunteer our time and the fabric is donated, we must purchase Warm & Natural Cotton Quilting Batting, Fairfield Poly Fiber-fil and pre-printed fabric labels sewn on each bear. We gladly accept cash/check donations of any size which can be given to Judith or Gail or mailed to our PO Box address. We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit charity. Donations of any quantity of the batting or Fiber-fil listed above, quilting cotton fabric, sewing needles and thread, or gift cards for Amazon or Walmart are also helpful.

Anyone wishing to volunteer can just turn up on Thursday morning or, if you wish, talk to Judith or Gail and at least one of us will introduce you and be sure you get settled in.

## **Have questions?:**

Check the Project Buddy Bears NC Facebook page for videos, pictures and more information. Feel free to contact Judith Eby or Gail Crowe with questions or comments. On Sundays, we generally attend the early service but one or both of us often stays for formation.

## **Why do I volunteer?**

*Gail: I believe in the cause. It helps children cope in a very difficult time. I volunteer for several reasons: 1. I love to sew and have lots of fabric especially kid friendly fabric and bright colors. 2. I can make bears at home at my leisure. 3. The group of ladies that meet on Thursdays, are fun, have a good time and are helpful. This cause and group bring me joy.*

*Judith: Working together as a group with a common goal, providing some comfort to a person in a traumatic situation, is a worthwhile goal while doing something we enjoy.*

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## **Help! Are You Being Called to Serve?**

We still need more volunteers to serve in the various Lay Ministries. Lay Ministers are an integral part of every church service. Due to illness and aging, numerous members have had to take a step back and it is time for others to come forward. Please, prayerfully consider serving. If you are interested or have questions, please reach out to Mother Jamie, Deacon Mark, or Linda Turley. Thank you for your consideration.