November 2025 December 2025 January 2026



"Lement'I'mes Open Minds + Loving Hearts + Giving Hands

Sunday Service 10:00, Rite II

Located at 3600 Harper Road Clemmons, NC

Mailing address: PO Box 1547 Clemmons, NC 27012 336-766-4323

stclementsepiscopal.com



Our Lady of Salem Women's Shelter Opportunity Sunday, November 23

By Deacon Mark Davidson

The Our Lady of Salem Women's Shelter at St. Timothy's Episcopal Church (2575 Parkway Dr. Winston-Salem, NC 27103) typically operates from December 1st through March 1st each year. However, this year the decision was made to open on November 15th, to provide a couple of additional weeks of service. St. Clement's helped with dinners at the shelter last year and those who participated found it a very worthwhile ministry. So, St. Clement's will again be providing help with meals this shelter season. We will provide our first evening meal at the shelter on Sunday, November 23rd from 6:30 pm until 8:00 p.m. The menu will be ham, potatoes (of various kinds), a vegetable (of various kinds), dessert, dinner rolls, and drinks. We will also need to provide paper plates and cups, napkins, and disposable utensils. A sign-up sheet will be posted in the narthex for those who would like to provide food and those who would like to go to the shelter to serve the meal and spend time with the guests. Unfortunately, we are only able to bring a maximum of five people to serve the meal. So, if you would like to participate in either capacity, please sign up! Any questions about this ministry opportunity should be directed to Deacon Mark.

Home Advent Wreath Kits Available Sunday, November 30th

We invite anyone interested in creating their own Advent wreath to partake of our Advent wreath making kit to assemble your own wreath at home!

Available on Sunday, November 30th, the First Sunday of Advent.

- 9:00am, after the first service,
- 9:45am after Formation and
- 11:00am after the second service.

The Advent wreath making kit includes:

- Florist foam (either on a charger plate or inside an aluminum circular pan)
- Candles (4 for Advent and the Christ candle for Christmas Eve/Day)
- Advent pamphlet with readings and prayers
- If desired, ribbon may be added to the kit.

Take the kit home; completely saturate the florist foam first; then use extra greenery from Christmas trees, outside plants, decorations, faux foliage-whatever you would like to create your personal wreath. The possibilities are endless. Add the candles, water frequently and carefully (check for leaks). Your wreath is ready!



"And now we thank you, our God, and praise your glorious name." -1 Chronicles 29:13



Financial Update

Submitted by Nicky Tesh

Overview of Financial Reporting

This year, our financial documents reflect actual dollar amounts only through year-to-date July 2025. Typically, I would provide actuals through September, but this change results from our transition to a new Financial Agency in August. The agency, which came highly recommended by the Diocese, replaces the previous one we worked with for over a decade. As our team adjusts to the new system, there is an understandable learning curve. I assure you that everything remains under control and our financial standing for the year is clear. The reporting process simply requires additional refinement.

Major Financial Developments

Overall, the year has been excellent financially. We are especially grateful for several anonymous members who generously donated to cover most costs of the Lift project and provided funding for a walkway, which will create a cement path to our Memorial Gardens.

In July, we gained financial investment control of The Common Trust Fund from the Diocese. While the fund's purpose remains unchanged and restricted, we are renaming the account to the Vision Fund. With investment control now managed by the Financial Committee, our approach to investment will be more targeted and strategic. Additionally, we have established a new account called Business Improvements to better recognize our ongoing efforts to enhance our Church, rather than simply maintain it.

Financial Performance Against Budget

The July financials are strong and favorable compared to the 2025 Budget. By July, our target is to have reached 58% of our budget.

- Revenues: Total revenues stand at \$151,203 year-to-date, which is 12 points favorable to budget.
- Pledges: Year-to-date pledges amount to \$122,227, exceeding the budget by 8 points. This may be influenced by timing, as not all pledges are received monthly even though our budget assumes monthly contributions.
- Unpledged Donations: These are performing exceptionally well, already reaching 120% of the budget.

Expenses for the year-to-date total \$119,215, which is favorable to the budget by 3 points. While some individual accounts are currently unfavorable, most groups remain on target. There are two specific expenses—one in office supplies and one in property—that need to be reclassified to temporary restricted funds. Once these reclassifications are completed, those accounts will return to a favorable status.

Summary and Outlook

This Treasurer's Report highlights a successful year marked by strong financial performance and generous donations that have supported major initiatives, including the Lift and the walkway to the Memorial Gardens. Control of The Common Trust Fund has transitioned to the Financial Committee, now renamed the Vision Fund, and a new Business Improvements account has been created. Year-to-date revenues and pledges are ahead of budget expectations, and overall expenses remain favorable with only minor adjustments needed. Barring any unforeseen circumstances, I am confident that our financial position will remain strong for the rest of the year.



Love Thy Neighbor

Do you have an elderly neighbor or one who is homebound? Please check in on them. Perhaps they need a ride to church or if you are going to the store, you can pick up a couple of items for them. Another idea is to simply call them daily to make sure they are okay and that they know someone cares. It could make all the difference!

Let's Say Thank You!

Many, many, many thanks to our outgoing Vestry members, Senior Warden, April Chapel, Junior Warden, Bob Smith, and member Chuck Bohrer. There has been a lot of projects, some very big and some minor, that have been accomplished or are in progress, Please take a moment to say thank you to those who gave us their time and talent these past three years!

Introducing Your 2026 Vestry

Sharon Lyall, Laurie Ryan, Sid Chadwick, Nicky Tesh, Jim Studley, Mark Snow, Mary Holton, Terri Smith, & Amy Selby. Clerk of the Vestry: Shirleen Gilbert

A Storehouse Christmas

Thanksgiving marks the beginning of the Christmas season for many folks, excluding retailers. But here at St. Clements, we throw the liturgical calendar out the window and begin the season by participating in the Storehouse for Jesus Christmas Program. This year we will be

sponsoring 15 children and 4 seniors in need in Davie County, providing 4 gifts for each. Soon you will be able to sign up for a gift for a child or senior on SignUp Genius (watch for an announcement that the link is ready to use), purchase the gift, and return to St. Clement's tagged with the client ID. We make every effort to keep the gifts affordable and easy to find, but if you have difficulty, please contact Lisa Frye and Linda Turley for an alternate gift. If you have difficulty with the SignUp Genius or are tech challenged, have no fear, just let us know and we will get you signed up! All gifts should be returned to St. Clement's no later than 11 a.m. November 30th (hard deadline!). Eager volunteer "elves" will be needed to sort, check the gift list twice, and bag gifts after the late service on the 1st. Lisa will be delivering the bagged and labeled gifts to Storehouse. St. Clement's members and friends have always been generous and joyful in giving. So....Let the season of giving begin.....celebrating the greatest gift of all.....the gift of Jesus Christ.

You can find Lisa's contact information in our online directory or contact Linda in the office @ 336-766-4323 / stclements3600@gmail.com during office hours

A CROP Walk Thank You

Thanks to your generosity, we exceeded our goal of \$1750 and set a <u>new record of \$2140</u>--including \$440 in cash on the day of the walk!! Yay!!

Our team of walkers this year included your clergy, as well as Jerry and Pat Kight, Carole and Don Witte, and John Mueller.

Need a Gift Idea?

The Carolina Scrollers of WS are continuing their annual tradition of offering hundreds of Christmas ornaments crafted by its members. All materials, hundreds of hours to craft and prepare for sale were donated by the members in which Don Patterson (husband of Burnie) is one of them. All sales of these beautiful ornaments are 100% donated to the Second Harvest Food Bank of NC. The final sales total for last year was \$7,042. This provided 41,616 meals through Second Harvest Food Bank. For the 12 years that the Scrollers have been selling their ornaments, they have sold enough ornaments to purchase 291,208 meals through the Food Bank.

At the Hickory woodworking show in Hickory on October 17-18, the Scroller's had an outstanding start to this season's program with earnings of \$2,970.

Ornaments are offered for sale at the Klingspor's Woodworking Shop at 532 Hanes Mall Blvd WS (in the Pavilion Shopping Center For most of us, it's where Chucky Cheese, Big Daddy's Burger Bar, and King's Crab Shack can be found.)

Sales are conducted during normal business hours

now through Dec. 31st. Sales are cash or check only as the money goes directly to Second Harvest Food Bank. Be sure to check them out on Facebook.







CHRISTMAS SERVICE

Christmas Eve Festival Eucharist 5:00 pm Music begins 30 minutes prior.

Christmas Tree Angels

Once again, Gail Crowe will be placing angels on the Christmas tree in the Nave. These angels will have a tag attached with the name of any church member who has died in the past 12 months. There will also be angels on the tree that have a blank tag. Please feel free to add a name to those angels, if you have a family member who died in the last 12 months. The angels are to be taken home by the family at the end of the year.

As in years past, handmade Chrismons ornaments have also been placed on the tree. These ornaments were made by our former Knitters Group, some who are no longer with us, so these handmade ornaments are very special.

Chrismons are Christian symbols that date back to the First Century. These symbols have served as a visual representation of spiritual truths. They have also been a means of teaching great doctrines and events of the Bible. It is our hope that these Chrismons will not be just a Christmas decoration but be a statement of faith, emphasizing the true meaning of this holy season. The Chrismons are saved and used each year (please do not remove them from the tree).

Church Office Hours

The church office will be closed the following dates:

• Wednesday & Thursday, November 26 & 27

And in observance of Christmas and New Years:

- Thursday, December 25
- Monday, December 29-Thursday, January 1 The office will reopen on Monday, January 5.

Please call Mother Jamie on her cell in the event of a pastoral emergency.

Donations for Christmas Flowers Deadline: Sunday, December 21st

A sign-up sheet will be posted on the clipboard in the narthex in December for those who want to make donations towards Christmas decorations for the church. Please put the name of the person you wish to honor and designate whether it is for a memorial or thanksgiving. There will be an envelope attached for your check or money. Please make checks payable to St Clement's and note "Christmas flowers" in the memo section. All donations must be received by Sunday, December 22nd so that honorees can be listed in the Christmas bulletin. PLEASE PRINT. Some names are not common or are spelled differently and I want to be sure to get it right. Also, use one line per honoree.

"Greening and Grazing" Sunday, December 21st at 11:00 am

On December 21st we will have "Greening and Grazing" after the 10:00 service – to explain, we will be decorating the church for Christmas. Please bring a finger food to share. All ages are encouraged to participate.

NOTE: help will be needed on Sunday, January 4 to "de-green" the nave (aka... take everything down.)

Attention, Lay Ministers!

The Lay Ministry schedule request deadline for the first quarter of 2026 (January, February, March) is Wednesday, December 10th. If there are any dates that you are unable to serve, please advise the office in order to avoid any scheduling conflicts.

As a reminder, there will be a sign-up sheet posted in December to serve at the Christmas Eve service.

Faith without works?..... James 2:17

Please prayerfully consider serving / volunteering within our parish, whether it is as a Lay Minister or in other areas or committees.

There is an immediate need for more Lay Ministers. 8 am: Lectors, Chalice, Acolyte 10 am: Acolytes, Ushers, Chalicists

To find other ways to become involved, watch for announcements asking for volunteers to help with yard work, cleaning days, outreach, & committees, etc.

You're Invited! Men's Meeting-Saturday Mornings at St. Clement's

Join us every Saturday morning at 10:00am at St. Clement's for a time of fellowship, faith and encouragement. Our Men's meeting is a relaxed and welcoming space where we share, learn, and support one another in our spiritual journeys.

Whether you're a long-time member or visiting for the first time, you're invited to come connect and grow with us! Coffee and conversation are always on the agenda!

Bo and Bob's Bridge Night First Tuesdays at 7 p.m. in the Parish Hall

Bo Edwards and Bob Smith have convened Bridge players—experienced and new—to gather in the parish hall on the first Tuesday evening of the month. The first gathering took place on November 4 and was well received! Come play, learn, and plan future gatherings (like adding a daytime alternative, if there is interest). Everyone and all levels are welcome!

Are you a crafter?

We invite all crafters to bring your craft project and join our newly formed group, "A Stitch in Time" for conversation while working on your craft. We are meeting every Wednesday at 9:30 am in the parish hall. Contact Gail Crowe for more information.

Let's Take A Moment......

By Sid Chadwick

Recently I watched a documentary on PBS re. our country's internal political strife – in the early 70's. Most of the footage was of riots in New York City, in the Wall Street area – between students and faculty at Columbia U. and Hard-Hat Blue-Collar construction workers from Manhattan, carrying high the American flag, which the students were desecrating. (I had almost no memory of the scope of these NYC riots, and chaos, which were spin-offs against the Vietnam War)

Participants from *each side* numbered in the *multiple-6 figures*. Nixon was President. And the NYPD was accused of siding with the Hard-Hats, as they selected who they would arrest, and whose fight they would and would not break-up.

Parallels with today's national events - were impossible to miss. But the message I thought through included that our Democracy and collective religious values - have deeper roots than we are usually consciously aware.

My subsequent reflections took me to a sense of deep gratitude, that: (1) the goodness and unselfish service to America's communities - runs deep (e.g., our military, law enforcement, medical and clerical staffs), (2) that the news coverage tends to show us reports and events, designed to stir our emotions, which is often and only a thin slice of our total American reality, and (3) the compass and stability of our sense of values, though often battered and tested- bring our sense of who we really are working to become, and what's decent - and right - back-up - and in focus.

Most of us – and those whom we care about - are carrying levels of stress – that we don't show, didn't expect, and aren't used to carrying. Everyone I know at our parish, and in our Cursillo community – is stretched. That makes our Reunion Group sessions on Saturday mornings - that much more needed, and valuable...!

Over the last two weeks I surprisingly received 4 Get-Well cards – from friends – and Cursillistas. <u>Each card</u> was a surprise, had a personal, hand-written note to me, plus their signature. <u>Each card</u> brightened my day - and still brightens my day – when I think of their thoughtfulness, and generosity to me.

Is there someone, really several someones - who need - a thoughtful card - from you? Isn't that part of what we do - for our Fourth Day....?

Des Colores



Give a warm welcome to some new faces...

- Karen & Keith Castillon who have transferred from St. James' in Leesburg, VA
- David & Marca Naples who are local Lewisville residents and are now attending St. Clement's.

We are so glad you joined our church family!

2026 Altar Flowers

The sign-up sheet has been posted on the white board in the narthex for 2026. For anyone who has never provide flowers for the altar before, there is an explanation next to the sign up sheet. Remember that the flowers need to be in place prior to the 8 a.m. service. A loaner key is available to be checked out if needed. Contact the office if you have any questions.

Church bulletin board

The following appeared in church bulletins or were announced at church services.

The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water.' The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus.'

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

Don't let worry kill you off – let the Church help.

Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again', giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

The Rector will preach his farewell message, after which the choir will sing 'Break Forth Into Joy'.

Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

Potluck supper Sunday at 5pm - prayer and medication to follow.

fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.

At the evening service tonight, the

The church will host an evening of

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice.

The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.

This evening at 7pm there will be hymn singing in the park across from the Church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.

Low Self-Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7pm. Please use the back door.

The Associate Minister unveiled the church's new tithing campaign slogan last Sunday: 'I Upped My Pledge – Up Yours.'

This being Easter Sunday, we will ask Mrs Lewis to come forward and lay an egg on the altar.

Compiled by Max Bowen

CALENDAR of EVENTS

Sunday Services

Rite II Quiet Eucharist @ 8 am

Coffee & Conversation

Formation

Rite II with music @ 10 am

Men's Breakfast

Meets the first Wednesday, 8 am @ Pete's

Bridge Group

Meets the first Tuesday @ 7 pm in the parish hall

Stitch in Time Crafters Group

Meets every Wednesday @ 9:30 in the parish hall

Women's Group

Meets every Thursday in the parish hall, 10:30 am

Al-Anon meetings

Meets every Friday in the parish hall, 12-1 pm

Men's Zoom Group

Meets every Saturday morning via zoom, 8-10 am

Men's Meeting

Meets every Saturday morning @ 10 in the parish hall

- Tuesday, November 11

 Veterans' Day—office closed
- Sunday, November 17
 Supply priest, Rev. Earnest Graham,
 Canon Missioner
- Sunday, November 23

Women's shelter meal, 6:30-8 pm @ St. Tim's

• Wednesday, Nov. 26 & Thursday, Nov. 27 Office closed • Sunday, November 30

Advent Wreath kits available

DEADLINE: Storehouse Gifts

• Sunday, December 7-December 21

Lay Ministers—sign up for Christmas Eve

• Wednesday, December 10

1Q 2026 Lay Ministry schedules requests due

Sunday, December 21

DEADLINE: Christmas flower donations

Greening & Grazing, after the service

Wednesday, December 24

Christmas Eve Services @ 5 pm

Music begins 30 prior

- Thursday, December 25- Thursday, January 1 Holiday Hours—office closed
- Sunday, January 4

De-greening of the church, after the late service

• Monday, January 5

Church office reopens

Monday, January 19

MLK, Jr. Day - office closed

• Tuesday, January 20

DEADLINE: February/March newsletter articles

May your Chrístmas be fílled wíth peace and joy.

