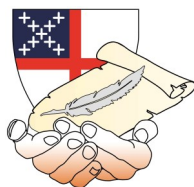


November 2024
December 2024
January 2025



Clement Times

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



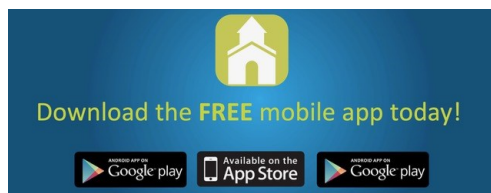
We now have Instant Church Directory!

Attendees of the Annual Parish Meeting received an introduction to our new digital directory, but in case you missed it, here is the gist:

- Active members can access our directory either through the website (instantchurchdirectory.com) or by downloading the free app.
- Your login email must match the email that's listed in the directory. (The same email address I use for the weekly e-blast.)
- I've pillaged some photos from Facebook, but you can upload your own—or email/text one to me, and I'll do it for you.
- Everyone can update their own information as needed. (This generates an email for “admin approval,” but this delay ensures heightened monitoring and security.)
- This directory will only be seen by other password-protected members. However, if you wish for additional privacy, you can opt to designate information private.
- Note that this platform allows for easy access to group lists, as well as birthdays and anniversaries!
- People can be searched by first or last name. Match those faces with names!
- And on the app, simply tap on an email address or phone number to email, text, or call!
- And a hard copy can be generated and printed any time, if desired.

Once we get the hang of this platform, I think we will all enjoy the ease by which we can be in touch with each other—and make more plans to do stuff!

Cheers,
Mother Jamie+



Don't miss these upcoming Special Music Services By John Farmer

Sunday, November 10th - Harpist Julie Miller Money joins us playing the music of Bach, Faure and Haendel.

Sunday, November 24th - Cellist Karl Rennovik, who played for our Summer Season of Soloists, will join us again.

Sunday, December 8th - Advent Lessons and Carols service, with musicians from within our parish.

Christmas Eve 5 pm service - Peter Shanahan and his flute will be part of this service. He is a graduate of UNCSA, performs with the Winston-Salem, Greensboro and Charleston Symphonies and heads the W-S Flute Academy.

Christmas Eve 9 pm service - Guitarist Emmett Edwards, who played for our candlelight service last year, will be with us again.

Financial Update

Submitted by Nicky Tesh

*At what time of day was Adam born?
A little before Eve.*

Our financial documents are through September 2024. A couple of things to keep in mind is that 75% of the year has passed so that should be the benchmark as you look at a particular account. In addition, the budget has been created as one annual number – not by the month so an account could be over or under, simply due to timing. In 2025, the goal is to make a quarterly budget.

Financially, we are having a great year! We were thrilled to have a very generous, anonymous member, who donated a significant gift of funding for our beautiful piano, the Prayer Books and Hymnals, funding for our Outreach Programs and additional items not yet spent the \$\$ were deposited in October so they won't show up on the financial reports.

Revenues are \$171,585 or 86% of budget, which is favorable. Year to date, pledges are tracking right on budget at 75% (Remember this is 2024). Unpledged donations are doing very well!

Expenses are \$152,821 or 77% of budget, which is slightly unfavorable to budget. Recognize that when we look at revenues to expenses, we are still \$18,764 favorable.

While several expense groupings are unfavorable to budget, the biggest drivers to this are the piano, prayer books and hymnals. As I mentioned earlier, the revenue won't be reflected until October. Barring something unexpected I feel comfortable that we are in good shape for the balance of the year.

Introducing Your 2025 Vestry

April Chapel, Bob Smith, Chuck Bohrer
Laurie Ryan, Sharon Lyall, Sid Chadwick

Vestry Elect: Nicky Tesh, Jim Studley, & Mark Snow

And the vestry needs a clerk! In the past, the role of clerk was handled within the vestry, but the need has arisen to cast a wider net. Duties primarily involve attending the monthly vestry meetings and taking the minutes. Please let Mother Jamie+ know if you are interested.

Diocesan information regarding Hurricane Helene

By Deacon Mark

In the wake of the devastating damage sustained by the Diocese of Western North Carolina from hurricane Helene, our Diocesan Bishops and communications staff have been working to provide timely information and guidance to churches within our diocese. Daily emails and text messages were sent during and after the storm to access any immediate needs from churches within our diocese, and following the storm a special zoom meeting was held to answer questions and provide updated information concerning affected areas. A dedicated webpage has been created and is being updated weekly by communications staff. This webpage can be found at <https://www.episdionc.org/blog/ways-to-help-with-hurricane-helene-relief-efforts/> and includes important information concerning how best to support our sister diocese with financial and material donations, as well as how to partner with relief organizations already working on the ground in affected areas. Recently, a "work in partnership" link has been added to the webpage that links directly to the western NC diocesan webpage and gives current information concerning the status of churches in the western diocese and how best to support them.

Additionally, one of our own parish members, Steve Franke, has been working weekly with Samaritan's Purse in Yancey County and has a wealth of knowledge regarding how to sign up and deploy for clean-up operations. So, anyone seeking information concerning support and recovery efforts in the western diocese is encouraged to visit the Episcopal Diocese of NC informational page by using the above link, and to reach out to Steve Franke when you see him at church (also please see Steve's article concerning Hurricane Helene recovery included in this edition of the newsletter).

Let's Say Thank You!

Many, many, many thanks to Jeannette Reid, Rector's Warden and Pat Kight who are rotating off as Vestry members at the end of the year. And a thank you to Gerry Jove, who during her tenor, served as our Junior Warden and then oversaw our flower beds. Please take a moment to say thank you to those who gave us their time and talent these past three years!

Disaster Relief Western North Carolina

By Steve Franke

Mother Jamie asked me to comment on some of my recent experiences related to the Hurricane Helene disaster relief efforts in Western North Carolina. On October 18, 19, 24, and 25, I was blessed to work with Samaritan's Purse, helping with their disaster relief missions in Mitchell and Yancey Counties. Based on my experience, I have signed up to work additional days with them in the coming weeks.

I'm a hands-on person and felt called to work in this area. I conducted much research in order to find the most appropriate way for me to serve. My way is not for everyone, as I was ready and willing to get down and dirty, literally. My research took me to Samaritan's Purse's website (spvolunteer.org) where I registered to assist them in their missions in western North Carolina. Their missions involve all types of work, not just the getting-dirty tasks.

My words cannot adequately express the unimaginable level of devastation in parts of these counties and elsewhere: rivers reaching massive flood levels with water flowing at unbelievable speeds and obliterating almost everything in its path; flood waters spreading outward across the land to inundate thousands of acres and homes; huge debris fields left behind everywhere the receded flood waters had reached; unimaginable mudslides sweeping away everything in its path including human lives; and trees crashing down on homes. Imagine for a moment all the personal items in your home and on your property that flood waters of 6, 10, 15 feet, and more, could/would touch. Now picture having to clear all those items out of your house and off your property: contaminated food, refrigerators, washer/dryers, upholstered furniture, keepsakes, standing water (what all is in the contaminated water – fuel, sewage, etc.), drywall, mud, fish, downed trees, you name it. How large would your trash pile be? What's the cost to replace the items? How many of us “wise” people would've purchased flood insurance, if available, if we lived in the mountains of North Carolina. I submit, not many. How do you mentally and emotionally deal with the lost lives and irreplaceable personal items?

Having been there multiple days, I still can't get my head wrapped around the power and destruction of this storm, and more importantly, the hopelessness and despair many of those impacted must be feeling. On the 25th, I worked with many others helping a family clean out their previously flooded house – lots of those to work on. This household lost four family members and they've only found two of the four so far: one 1 ½ miles downstream; the other nine miles downstream. Heartbreaking, heart wrenching don't come close to capturing the level of hopelessness or despair in many of these families.

I've been inspired by God's presence and love at work in some of the worst of times for these families, and that most of the people I met are impressively hopeful and resilient. I witnessed hope beating back some of the folks' lingering hopelessness and despair as soon as we volunteers from all over the country set foot on their property to help them remove their contaminated belongings, all things heavy or light. We carted those things to the curb, creating massive trash piles for ultimate pick-up and delivery to a landfill. God's love brought us all together to help others which was/is an incredible sight to see and experience.

There is much work to do now and in the future. This experience reminds me that one of the greatest things we can do for others is to be present; to be in the moment with those who are struggling; to listen, commiserate, share a handshake, a hug, tears, and/or a few encouraging and understanding words. I encourage you to find your way to be present. If we are present, God will show us the way!

Father of creation,

We pray that each one of us will hear and take to heart the cry of the Earth and of victims of natural disasters and climatic change, and that all will undertake to personally care for the world in which we live. –Amen.

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. **December 1st (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.

Lisa's contact: 336-409-6049
lisa.frye2014@gmail.com

Linda: 336-766-4323 / stclements3600@gmail.com
during office hours

Church Office Hours

The church office will be closed the following dates:

- Wednesday & Thursday, November 23 & 24

And in observance of Christmas and New Years, that fall mid-week this year, making scheduling a challenge therefore, office visits will be by appointment only.

- Monday & Tuesday, Dec. 23 & 24—limited hours
- Wednesday & Thursday, Dec. 25 & 26—closed
- Monday & Tuesday, Dec. 30 & 31—limited hours
- Wednesday, January 1—closed
- Monday, January 20—closed

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

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**. On average, the Scrollers donated over \$5,000 to SHFBNC! Ornaments are offered for sale at the Klingspor's Woodworking Shop at 532 Hanes Mall Blvd WS (in the Pavilion Shopping Center). Sales are conducted during normal business hours starting November 1st until 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.



Home Advent Wreath Kits Available Sunday, December 1st

We are doing things a little differently this year. 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, December 1st**, the First Sunday of Advent, in the **Narthex**:

- 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!



CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Christmas Eve Festival Eucharist

5:00 pm & 9:00 pm

Music to begin 30 minutes prior to each service.

Parking Reminder

For those needing to park on level ground near the door on Sundays, additional handicap parking is available on the right side of the drive. A feasibility study is being done to ascertain options for making our facilities more accessible, but in the meantime, we hope this step makes attending church more comfortable.



Donations for Christmas Flowers Deadline: Sunday, December 22nd

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 22nd at 11:00 am

On December 22nd 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 5 to "de-green" the nave (aka... take everything down.)

Attention, Lay Ministers!

The Lay Ministry schedule request deadline for the **first quarter** of 2025 (January, February, March) is Wednesday, December 11th. 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 services.

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

10 am: Acolytes, Ushers, Chalcists

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

With Appreciation

By John Farmer

As we reach the end of the 2024 church year, I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the Vestry and to all parishioners at St. Clement's for your unwavering support. This year, we were blessed to acquire a beautiful new piano, which has already enriched our worship services and gatherings, and to host the inspiring Summer Series of Soloists, both made possible by the generosity of a few wonderful anonymous donors. Your continued commitment to the music ministry makes these gifts possible, and I am deeply appreciative. Looking forward to 2025, which will mark my seventh year as your Director of Music, I am filled with gratitude for the privilege of sharing this journey with all of you. Thank you for the ongoing encouragement and kindness shown by so many in our parish community, your support truly sustains our music ministry.



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

2025 Altar Flowers

The sign-up sheet has been posted on the white board in the narthex for 2025. 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.

2024 Winston-Salem Crop Hunger Walk Success!
On Sunday, October 20th, members of St. Clement's joined over 500 people across Forsyth County to walk to end hunger in our community and around the world. Almost 50 teams walked this year to support the work of Church World Service, Crisis Control Ministry, and Sunnyside Ministry. 75% of the total funds is going to Church World Service (CWS). CWS is using CROP Hunger Walk funds to respond to the domestic devastation of Hurricane Helene. St. Clement's team raised \$1,631 with support from the parish, family, & friends! Way to go and thank you!

Volunteering in WNC By Linda Turley

After spending the day volunteering with Samaritan's Purse, helping to clean up the inside of a home, remove debris and mud, and rebuild a small foot bridge over a stream that had turned into a raging river, I decided the homeowner's dog, Black Jack, needed some TLC. We walked and greeted the small army of orange-shirted volunteers of SP. ❤️



Bishop Sam is Coming! Sunday, February 23rd.



December Get Together?
Looking for a volunteer to host a Saturday evening social gathering, aka a Costco Night, on December 14th? As usual, this would be open to everyone in the parish and guests would bring an appetizer/finger food to share. If you are willing and able, please email the church office.

CALENDAR of EVENTS

Sunday Services

Rite II Quiet Eucharist @ 8 am
Formation

Rite II with music @ 10 am

Men's Group

Meets every Saturday morning via zoom, 8-10 am

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

Shepherd's Center Drawing / Art Class

Meets every Tuesday in the parish hall, 9:30 am

- Sunday, November 10
Guest musician, Harpist Julie Money
- Monday, November 11
Veterans' Day—office closed
- Sunday, November 17
Supply priest, Franklin Graham
- Sunday, November 24
Guest musician, Cellist Karl Ronnevik
- Wednesday, Nov. 27 & Thursday, Nov. 24
Office closed

- Sunday, December 1
DEADLINE: Storehouse Gifts
- Sunday, December 8-December 22
Lay Ministers—sign up for Christmas Eve
- Wednesday, December 11
1Q 2025 Lay Ministry schedules requests due
- Sunday, December 22
DEADLINE: Christmas flower donations
Greening & Grazing, after the service
- Tuesday, December 24
Christmas Eve Services, 5 pm & 9 pm
Special music to begin 30 minutes prior each Service. See info on page 1.
- Monday, December 23-December 31
Limited office hours, see info on page 4
- Sunday, January 5
De-greening of the church, after the late service
- Monday, January 20
Church Office closed



*May your Christmas
be filled with
peace and joy.*