PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayers for those in nursing home or assisted living

Judy Jordan — Jamie Shaddon — Charla Wedel
Thelma Chand — Tom Javorsky — Cheryle Harms
Dianna Jeffries

Prayers for healing or for comfort in difficult circumstances

Leon Evans — Judy McAtee — Quincy Matlock
Helen Jones — Carole Hatcher — Eric Shephard
Mae Anderson — Debbie Gaylon — Matt Baker
Patricia Littke — Sha (Engel) Carpenter — Jeannie Engel
Family of Dwight Webb — David Klein
Family of Judd Walpole — Family of George Chapman

First United Methodist Church Staff

Ministers	The baptized members of the church
Rev.	Diana Steiner: djpruitt87@gmail.com
Church Secretary	Kim Snider: clintonfumc580@gmail.com
Music Director	Shirley Clayton
Hand Bells Director	Nancy Rodolph
Pianist	Carla Cruson

OFFICE HOURS
M-TH 9:00 am - 5:00 pm (Closed Fridays)

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

12/1 Shane Aneshansley
12/1 Aaron Hunter
12/4 Fred Atha
12/4 Rick Weedon
12/6 Sherre Shephard
12/6 Kalvin Lively
12/12 Lisa Wandrie
12/13 Mike McClendon
12/14 Yvonne Carpenter
12/19 Miranda Evans
12/21 Gerald Kelley
12/22 Kevin Wolters
12/31 John Steiner

Note: If your name is not on the birthday list, please contact the church office at 323-3179, to have your birthday added to our list. Thank You, Kim Snider

New Time - Every Sunday
10:00 AM WORSHIP SERVICE FACEBOOK LIVE & WEBSITE LIVE
(Clinton First United Methodist Church on Facebook)
(www.clintonfumc.church)
11:00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL (all ages)

Church Office: 580-323-3179
Rev. Diana Steiner cell number: 405-596-1702
Rev. Diana Steiner Email: djpruitt87@gmail.com

New Website: www.clintonfumc.church
The next deadline for Sower articles is Tuesday December 15, 2026

THE SOWER (The Sower PE #508902O)
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FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
1001 FRISCO CLINTON, OKLAHOMA 73601
(580) 323-3179 FAX (580) 323-2437
E-MAIL: clintonfumc580@gmail.com

PERIODICALS
THE SOWER
PE 508920

THE SOWER

Tuesday **Monthly** **December 1, 2026**

The mission of our church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the World. Loving God; Loving Others; and Living Out Our Faith

Lighthouse Congregations are local churches in the Oklahoma Annual Conference that are willing to offer ministry to anyone whose church has closed or disaffiliated and who wish to remain a United Methodist.

Thanks to social media, we are more connected than ever. **We are a lot lonelier, too.** Social media does have its benefits. Like many things, social media can add value to our lives—in moderation. But it can also damage us if we consume too much. For example, according to a recent study, social media engagement increases, so does anxiety and depression. Rather than create belonging, this act of trading presence and eye contact for a screen can feed narcissism, gossip, comparison, low self-esteem, and isolation. Promising to cure our loneliness, they rarely deliver. Instead, they add to our loneliness.

No doubt, Mary and Joseph had difficult lives. They were most likely isolated and alone. They were forced to flee to a foreign land, away from their families and friends, and live among people they didn't know and who had customs very different from their own.

But we don't have to flee to another country to feel isolated. We are *all* much afraid. I'm pretty sure Mary and Joseph were. We *all* feel more insecure than confident, more weak than strong, more unlovable than lovely, more irredeemable than redeemed. But they chose to respond in faith rather than fear – they chose to believe that God loved them, even though they had doubts. And that is the gift of Christmas for all of us. Into the harshness and loneliness of our lives, Jesus came so we wouldn't be alone, ever again. He brings us hope in our hopelessness, peace in the chaos of our lives, joy even where and when despair looms large, and above all love.

God's message was and always will be this – YOU ARE NOT ALONE . . . and YOU ARE ALWAYS LOVED. That was the purpose of his coming. To show us in no uncertain terms the depth of his love. His name says it all – Emmanuel – God is with us. And God chose to be with us for one and only one reason – He loves us. In all our messiness, in all our struggles, in all our _____ (you fill in the blank).

The story of Christmas is the greatest love story ever told. Truly it is what each of us need more than any gift under a tree. Our hearts long to know we are loved, we long to belong. That's just what the gift of Jesus is about and what we are to be about as a church – not a place where folks gather who have it all together, but rather a place where we come to experience the love and grace that heal our broken places and put us back together.

Without a doubt, I know that the gift of God's grace and love is available for all who are willing to receive it, and I pray that is what you get for Christmas this year.

Blessings, Diana







- **Sunday, Dec. 6:** *2nd Sunday of Advent "Peace"*
  Communion & Alms Giving
  10:00 am Worship Service
  11:00 am Sunday School
- **Sunday, Dec. 13:** *3rd Sunday of Advent "Joy"*
  Christmas Cantata - Meal after worship
  Collect "Holiday Meal - Non-Perishables" for Opportunities
  10:00 am Worship Service
- **Sunday, Dec. 20:** *4th Sunday of Advent "Love"*
  10:00 am Worship Service
  11:00 am Sunday School
- **Thursday, Dec. 24:** *Christmas Eve Candlelight Service*
  Office Closed - Holiday
  5:00 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
- **Sunday Dec. 27**: *Coins for Missions*
  10:00 am Worship Service
  11:00 am Sunday School
- **Thursday Dec. 31:** Office Closed - Holiday
- **Friday Jan. 1:** Office Closed - New Years Day

Wednesday
Practice Schedule
Handbells 5:30 pm
Choir 6:30 pm
****
Sunday Practice
Choir 9:30 am



COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- **Clinton Methodist Men's Mtg**: Tuesday Dec. 8 at 7:00 am FH
- **Clinton Methodist Women**: Monday Dec.14 at 9:30 am Trip
- **Finance Committee Mtg:** Tuesday Dec.15 at 5:30 pm
- **Trustee Committee Mtg**: Monday January18 at 6:00 pm

Watch our Worship Services anytime, anywhere!
You can watch our services on our Facebook Page: **Clinton First United Methodist Church**.
Or, you can now watch our services on our Website: **clintonfumc.church**.

Share Our Facebook Services: you never know who you might reach with the good news of Jesus!



FOR ONLINE DONATIONS PLEASE GO TO OUR NEW WEBSITE:
clintonfumc.church
Click on the "donate" button



Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
Thursday
12-24-26
5:00 pm

METHODIST MEN

CLINTON METHODIST MEN'S MEETING & BREAKFAST
Tuesday - December 8, 2026 - 7:00 am
Fellowship Hall
Contacts: **Joe Chittum - (580) 331-7261**
Jimmy Evans - (580) 331-8640
** (Now meeting the 2nd Tuesday of every month.) **



Christmas Cantata

Join us Sunday
December 13, 2026
10:00 am

Meal to follow in the Fellowship Hall





Steve Brown & Mike McClendon



"Missions"
Joe & Eileen Chittum helped collect " Spaghetti Sauce & Treats" on November 8, 2026 for Opportunities, Inc.
Carla Cruson then delivered these items to Opportunities, Inc.
Thank You!



December 13, 2026
"Holiday Meal
Non-Perishables"

Methodist Women

Dear Ladies of the Church,

Clinton Methodist Women met on Monday, November 10. It was decided we will donate $500 to each of our missions: Backpack Program, Winter Feed Program, Mission House, and H.O.S.T. Ministries.

We also discussed our trip to Chickasha on Monday, December 14. We will leave the church parking lot at 9:30 a.m. and return that evening sometime. If anyone is interested in going, please contact Diana McClendon at 817-919-4599. We have a driver ready to take us all in one vehicle. It will be an enjoyable outing for one day. Please plan to attend.

Yours in Christ,
Diana McClendon
President ... 817-919-4599





2026
Annual Women's Guild Salad Supper
Cornerstone Church
Attending (L-R)
Sally Sappington
Vicki Donley
Susan Riggers
Nancy Rodolph

TIME to CHANGE

NEW TIME - EVERY SUNDAY
10:00 AM WORSHIP
11:00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL



Free Medical Clinic Schedule

Thursday Dec. 10 - No Clinic
Thursday Dec. 24 - No Clinic
Thursday Jan. 14 @ 4:00 pm
Thursday Jan. 28 @ 4:00 pm











Christmas Cantata

Dear Church family,

The choir continues to work on the Christmas Cantata. It will be Sunday morning, December 13 at 10 o'clock with lunch following. We will have extra practices as needed. We will figure that out as we go along.

We will be having our annual Christmas dinner at my house in December. Date to be determined.

We will also be Christmas caroling this year in Clinton and Weatherford. So we will be talking about who we can go Carol to and where and when. We might even want to have our dinner after we Carol. We will discuss that.

God bless all,
Shirley Clayton Music Director
(580) 214-0457

HANDBELL CHOIR

Our Handbell Choir will continue Wednesday practice at 5:30 pm. No practice on Wednesday December 25, 2026

Blessings, Nancy Rodolph
Bell Choir Director (580) 445-7192







A huge thank you to all those who helped decorate the Sanctuary for Christmas!
Nancy Rodolph, Worship Committee





