



*A note  
from the pastor*

## REFLECTIONS



Lee Road United Methodist Church  
1377 East Lee Road, Taylors, SC 29687  
Church Office (864) 244-6427  
[LRUMC Facebook](#)  
<https://www.leeroadumc.com/>

Dear Congregation,

I was reading about my favorite American president, Abraham Lincoln, the other day. I came across this quote about Lincoln from his junior law partner (and later biographer) Willie Herndon: "Lincoln read less, and thought more, than any other man". I was kind of shocked. The romanticized image of Lincoln I had from the Carl Sandburg biography *Lincoln: The Prairie Years* is the young Lincoln borrowing books – any book – from fellow farmers and staying up at night and sneaking in some late-night reading by the fireplace. His father, Thomas Lincoln, was an illiterate farmer and self-taught cabinet maker who apparently had no use for books. He looked at “book-larnin” as a big waste of time when there was farm work to do. As Abraham grew, maybe he lost the appetite to read a wide variety of material in lieu of law books, etc. Herndon went on to say that although the adult Lincoln was not widely read, he loved to dig really deep on any particular reading matter that caught his attention.

Do you love to read? I do. Right now, I’m on book 5 of the Harry Potter series (having just started them at Christmas). For you Hogwarts fans, book 5 is *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix*. It might surprise you that your preacher is reading these books, but in another sense, it shouldn’t. I am very eclectic in my reading, and don’t expect Pastor Rusty to just read the Bible (although I try to read it daily) and certainly not theology books to the exclusion of other genres of non-fiction and fiction. Reading is pure escapism for me. Oh the delight of going into another world or stepping into another’s shoes through reading!

A recent study (2020) published by the National Institutes of Health is entitled “Reading activity prevents long-term decline in cognitive function in older people: evidence from a 14-year longitudinal study.” The participants included almost 2000 Taiwanese community-dwelling older persons aged 64 and above who were surveyed in 4 waves over a 14 year period of time. You can access the [online study here](#). I commend my Lee Road readers out here, whatever your age. I’m impressed. You are even taking the time to read the pastor’s article of the week. Keep up the good work. Join a book club. Indulge in the “luxury” of reading time. Turn off the TV (which Sandburg called “the idiot box”). Make it a point to read a variety of materials. And don’t forget to give God glory for the gift of cognition and the health of your body, mind, and soul.

Blessings,  
Rusty

MAR  
4

6PM

PUT THIS  
on YOUR  
CALENDAR!



# Chili Cook-off

**IS COMING TO WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY!**

**Make your best pot of chili and bring to share with others! The person bringing the "winning" chili will receive a prize! Condiments, beverage and dessert will be furnished. After feasting on chili, we will continue our "Methodist" study with Laurie Fite as leader.**

**The following week we will temporarily change "Wonderful Wednesdays" to "Lenten Prayer and Supper." On Wednesday, March 11, 18, and 25, we will practice guided Lenten prayer in our beautiful sanctuary from 6:00-6:30 pm, followed by supper in the social hall at 6:30 pm (and then dismiss to go home).**



The promise of *Spring*  
is in the *Air*

A wonderful program is planned that includes our very own Denise Wilson. She is a Master Gardener and will be giving us the “do's and don'ts” and “why's” of planting your herbs and spring flowers. There will be a fun game of Lee Road Trivia **BINGO** with prizes and a luncheon. All this at one event and for the bargain price of \$7 per person. Plan to join us at 11AM for this fun day of fellowship, food, and fun. The entree will be Chicken Divan. A call team member will contact you for your reservation.



# *Lend a Helping Hand* **Church** **WORK DAY**



**SAVE**  
THE DATE

**Saturday 21 March**

Please save the date for a morning of service and fellowship. We are looking for all men to assist with reducing the Trustee backlog of minor projects across our campus.

We will gather in the Social Hall at 8:00 AM for coffee, donuts, and work assignments. With many hands to help, we expect to be finished before noon.

SMALL PART

**BIG IMPACT**

**MANY HANDS  
MAKE LIGHT THE WORK**

# Jane Moore

liturgical dance performance  
Sunday, March 1, 2026



*Create  
in  
me*

*2026*

*Lenten  
Devotional*

[Click here to open devotional.](#)



# Holy WEEK

## **Palm Sunday, March 29 at 9:30 AM & 11 AM**

LRUMC will have 2 special services with a triumphant procession with palms into the worship spaces for morning worship.



## **Maundy Thursday, April 2 at 6:30 PM (Combined service @Sanctuary)**

Join us for a combined evening service with Holy Communion and foot washing in the sanctuary. We will also have a modified "drama" of each of the Twelve disciples and Jesus telling the story of the Last Supper.



## **Good Friday, April 3 at 12 Noon (Combined service @The Bridge)**

Join us for a solemn service with Stations of the Cross in The Bridge.



## **Easter Sunday, April 5**

7 AM: Brief Sunrise Service, then breakfast in social hall  
10:45 AM: Church Group Photo in Front of the Yard Cross  
11:00 AM: Combined Worship and Communion in Sanctuary



# 2026 Combined Sundays

DAY	DATE	LOCATION	TIME	NOTES
Thursday	04-02	Sanctuary	6:30 PM	Maundy Thursday
Friday	04-03	Bridge	12:00 PM	Good Friday
Sunday	04-05	Sanctuary	11:00 AM	Communion
Sunday	05-03	Sanctuary	11:00 AM	Communion
Sunday	06-07	Bridge	9:30 AM	Communion
Sunday	07-05	Sanctuary	11:00 AM	Communion
Sunday	08-02	Bridge	9:30 AM	Communion
Sunday	08-16	Sanctuary	11:00 AM	Homecoming
Sunday	09-06	Bridge	9:30 AM	Communion
Sunday	10-04	Sanctuary	11:00 AM	Communion / Consecration Sun.
Sunday	11-01	Bridge	9:30 AM	All Saints / Communion
Sunday	11-24	Sanctuary	6:30 PM	Thanksgiving
Sunday	12-06	Bridge	9:30 AM	Advent 2 / Communion
Thursday	12-24	Bridge	6:30 PM	Christmas Eve



# Instant Church Directory™

Your church directory  
on your  
mobile device.

time to  
**UPDATE**

**Instantly!**



If you do not have access to the Lee Road online directory and you would like to, please send an email to [office@leeroadumc.com](mailto:office@leeroadumc.com)! If you already have access, please take a moment to make sure all your information is correct and up to date!

Our Remind text group sends updates about important church information (closures due to weather, event reminders, death in church family, etc.). This is used VERY SPARINGLY for just the most important announcements. There will be no dialogue, conversation, or personal responses with this system. The advantages of Remind are many, and this allows me as your pastor to send something after hours and/or away from my office. To sign up for Lee Road notifications, follow the instructions to the right. If you need assistance, bring your smartphone on a Wednesday night or drop by the office. Thank you!

Send a text to

**81010**

Text this message

**@revgod**

# Lee Road UMC Committee Members for 2026

## LEADERSHIP TEAM

Rev. Rusty Godfrey, Pastor; Sandy Davis, Lay Leader;  
Jimmy Gaddy, Chairperson; Debbie Gantt; recording secretary; plus all Sub-Team officers below

## HUMAN RESOURCES SUB-TEAM

Marty Cook (Chairperson)  
Sidney Skardon  
Pat Youngblood  
Smitty Ervin

## CAMPUS SUB-TEAM

Trace Silvers (Chairperson)  
Greg Strong (Vice-Chairperson)  
Geno Cope (Safety Coordinator)  
Debbie Gantt (Safe Sanctuary)

## STEWARDS SUB-TEAM

Gene Turner (Chairperson)  
Steve Frantz  
Peggy Briggs  
Denise Wilson (Church Treasurer)

## WITNESS SUB-TEAM

Laurie Fite (Chairperson)  
Joan Davis  
Cindy Stewart  
Prudy Cook

## LEADERS BEYOND NEW ALTERNATIVE STRUCTURE

Lay Leader and Lay Delegate to Annual Conference: Sandy Davis  
UMM President: Gary Dodson  
Prayer Ministry Coordinator: Gail Bachman  
Bereavement Meals Coordinator: Karen Turner  
Young at Heart & Wonderful Wednesday Coordinator: Joyce McKenzie  
Homebound Communion Coordinator: Marcia Guffey  
Youth Director & Contemporary Music Coordinator: Adelaide Kiser  
Traditional Music Coordinator: Laurie Fite  
Sunday Pre-K / Nursery: LuAnn Kingsbury & Janet West



## Upcoming Events

### Thursday, March 5, 2026

6:00 p.m.—7:30 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous

### Friday, March 6, 2026

### Saturday, March 7, 2026

7:00 p.m.—8:30 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous

### Sunday, March 8, 2026—Daylight Savings

9:30 a.m.—10:30 a.m. Sunday School

9:30 a.m. Contemporary Service (Bridge)

10:30 a.m. Coffee & Refreshments (Bridge)

11:00 a.m. Traditional Service (Sanctuary)

4:00 p.m. Zoom Devotional (“Create In Me”)

### Monday, March 9, 2026

6:00 p.m. Leadership Team Meeting

### Tuesday, March 10, 2026

10:00 a.m. Young At Heart

6:30 p.m.—8:30 p.m. Gamblers Anonymous

### Wednesday, March 11, 2026

8:30 a.m. Men’s Sharing Group (S.H.)

9:45 p.m.—10:45 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

5:00 p.m. Kids Program (Bridge)

6:00 p.m. Lenten Prayer (Sanctuary)

6:30 p.m. Supper (S.H.)

### Thursday, March 12, 2026

6:00 p.m.—7:30 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous

### Friday, March 13, 2026

### Saturday, March 14, 2026

7:00 p.m.—8:30 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous

### Sunday, March 15, 2026

9:30 a.m.—10:30 a.m. Sunday School

9:30 a.m. Contemporary Service (Bridge)

10:30 a.m. Coffee & Refreshments (Bridge)

11:00 a.m. Traditional Service (Sanctuary)

4:00 p.m. Zoom Devotional (“Create In Me”)

Daylight Saving Time in 2026 will begin on Sunday, March 8 at 2:00 AM



It’s time to  
**Spring Ahead**



breakthecycle  
global

## Rapha House, Kenya Fund

We are starting a new 5-week Lenten mission supporting Rapha House in Mosbasa, Kenya. Rapha House is a mission of a non-for-profit organization called “Break the Cycle” Ministries. Please make checks payable to Lee Road UMC and write Kenya in the memo line.





To add to or delete from the list, please call the church office.

**Special Prayer Requests**

- Bill Callaghan, cousin of Alida Weber
- Linda Hand
- Geno Cope
- Ann Huntley
- Rev. Jim & Carolyn Gilliam
- Gail Bachman
- Don Sandor
- Harry & Betty Johansen
- Steve Frantz
- Gene & Nancy Johnson
- Max & Susan Cromer
- Mary Jo Gay

**Residential Care**

- Linda Black, Bob Elson, Jim Crain, Annette Hunter, Natalie Smith, Gene Johnson, Sadie Murphy, Max & Susan Cromer, Catherine Hamill

**At Home**

- Ann Huntley (Hospice)
- Mary Jo Gay (Hospice)
- Father of: Marc Turcotte, Karen Turner

**Brother of: Vicky Williams**

- Nephew of: Linda Black, Mckelvie Wilder, Sandy & Joan Davis**

- Niece of: Laurie Fite, Gene Turner, Richard & Stephanie Hamilton**

- Family of: Don Sandor, Patsy Kleman, Carol Hyde**

**Friends of:**

- Sandy & Joan Davis, Debbie Gantt, Jane Pingley, Elizabeth Lowrey, Gail Bachman, Wayne & Denise Dorr, Alida Weber, Trace Silvers



**March 1, 2026**

Combined Worship—76

2026 Tithes & Offerings  
Thank you for giving toward the budget. Your faithfulness is much appreciated.

March 1	\$4,213.50
March 8	
March 15	
March 22	
March 29	
Total	

**Prefer to pay your tithe online?**



SCAN ME

