



*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.facebook.com/LRUMC)
<https://www.leeroadumc.com/>

Dear Church Family,

What does Jesus look like? We all have our mental images of the Saviour. Many of these images probably come from our childhood memories, perhaps of children's bibles and Sunday School lessons. There is a "standard portrait" of Jesus in many churches. As a history teacher, I want to point out that we have no photographs of Jesus. First Century Judean males would have most likely had long hair and facial hair (moustache and beard). Let me point out that Jesus would not have been a fashion model with "perfect" hair and attractive features. According to the prophecy about the Messiah in Isaiah 53:2-4:

*He was always close to the Lord. He grew up like a young plant, like a root growing in dry ground. There was **nothing special or impressive about the way he looked, nothing we could see that would cause us to like him.** People made fun of him, and even his friends left him. He was a man who suffered a lot of pain and sickness. We treated him like someone of no importance, like someone people will not even look at but turn away from in disgust. The fact is, it was our suffering he took on himself; he bore our pain. But we thought that God was punishing him, that God was beating him for something he did.*

Now don't get me wrong: oh how beautiful our Savior is! But His "beauty" is not in earthly terms. The beauty of Jesus is in Who He Is and the marvelous things that He has done for us (and continues to do). That radiance is eternal and glorious indeed.

In my benediction yesterday, I told you that I look forward to one day seeing my Savior face-to-face, but until then, let us "see Jesus" in each other. UMH Hymn 192, "There's A Spirit in the Air," shows us the moments when Jesus can truly be seen: "When believers break the bread, when a hungry child is fed" (verse 3) and When a stranger's not alone, where the homeless find a home" (verse 5). I will close with the refrain of an old Baptist hymn I love by B.B. McKinney: "Let others see Jesus in you, Let others see Jesus in you; Keep telling the story, be faithful and true, Let others see Jesus in you."

In Christ,
Pastor Rusty

ESTATE SALE

Furnishings

Our Board of Trustees are holding an Estate Furnishings Sale at our church parsonage at 104 S. Orchard Drive on Saturday, November 15 from 8 AM—10 AM for church members and 10 AM—2 PM open to the community. All furnishings must be cleared out by November 18 to prepare for renting the parsonage. Furnishings available include:

- ♦ multiple bed room sets
- ♦ night stands
- ♦ upholstered chairs
- ♦ chests of drawers
- ♦ lamps
- ♦ wall pictures
- ♦ wall mirrors
- ♦ couches
- ♦ end tables
- ♦ dinette set
- ♦ rugs
- ♦ miscellaneous accent pieces.



Although SC UMC Conference statistics show that our attendance at Lee Road is among the top third of all churches in SC, it is clearly recognized that we need to grow our attendance. Our Church Council has established a special purpose Task Force to take a comprehensive look at all of our church activities from the lens of growth. This is expected to be a long term, multi-initiative which will look hard at what changes are needed to grow our attendance.

The first order of business for the Task Force will be seek feedback from our membership on a proposal to combine our traditional and contemporary services into a single blended service. We are seeking your feedback on 1) should we consolidate services yes or no, and 2) if so, what time should the service start and what do we want our blended service to look like to be attractive and meaningful for us and visitors.

No decisions have been made, or will be made, until we have the opportunity to get your feedback. This will be done by hosting multiple “focus group” sessions facilitated by members of our Task Force. A session will be held in the Bridge at 10:30 AM on November 16 and in the Social Hall on at 12 PM for members of the traditional service.

Please give prayerful consideration to this impactful proposal and plan to attend one of these sessions.



Congregations that approach financial stewardship from a biblical perspective do not view the money Christians give to their church merely as a way to pay its bills. Rather, such congregations see financial contributions as a way to help people grow spiritually in their relationship with God by supporting their church's mission and ministry with a percentage of their incomes.

Our congregation's finance committee has selected the *Consecration Sunday Stewardship Program* as a way to teach the biblical and spiritual principles of generous giving in our stewardship education emphasis this year.

Consecration Sunday is based on the biblical philosophy of the need of the giver to give for his or her own spiritual development, rather than on the need of the church to receive. Instead of treating people like members of a social club who should pay dues, we will treat people like followers of Jesus Christ who want to give unselfishly as an act of discipleship. *Consecration Sunday* encourages people toward proportionate and systematic giving in response to the question, "What percentage of my income is God calling me to give?"

During morning worship on Consecration Sunday, we are asking our attendees and members to make their financial commitments to our church's missionary, benevolent, and educational ministries in this community and around the world.

Every attendee and member who completes an *Estimate of Giving Card* does so voluntarily by attending morning worship on Consecration Sunday. We urge people to attend who feel strongly opposed to completing a card. The procedure is done in such a way that no one feels personal embarrassment if he or she chooses not to fill out a card.

We will do no home solicitation to ask people to complete cards. During morning worship our guest leader will conduct a brief period of instruction and inspiration, climaxed by members making their commitments as a confidential act of worship.

We will encourage participation in Consecration Sunday events through the Consecration Sunday team and governing board members. Since we will make no follow-up visits to ask people to complete their cards, we will make every effort to inform, inspire, and commit everyone to attend Consecration Sunday worship.

Thanks in advance for your enthusiastic participation in Consecration Sunday events.

Governing Board Chairperson,
Jimmy Gaddy

FALL 2025 Wednesday Kids Programming 5-6 PM

WED. DATE	ACTIVITY	COORDINATORS	SAFE SANCTUARY PERSON	BIBLE LESSON
11/19	Angel Craft and Pine Cone Craft	Debbie Gantt	Sandy Davis	Jesus & Judas Iscariot
12/3	Christmas Pageant Rehearsal	Pilar and Felicity Turner	Chris & Gerri Trabookis	Pageant Rehearsal
12/10	Christmas Pageant Rehearsal ** pizza/drink provided	Pilar and Felicity Turner, Laurie Fite	Chris & Gerri Trabookis	Pageant Rehearsal

12/17 — 6 PM pizza dinner and 6:30 Christmas Pageant Performance in the Sanctuary

**NOV.
19**

Menu: Ham, Broccoli & Rice Casserole

Wonderful
WEDNESDAY

🍴 **Dinner starts at 6:00 p.m., and program at 6:45 p.m.** The best part? For just **\$7 per adult**, you'll enjoy a hearty meal and a night full of fun, fellowship, and inspiration. **First-time visitors and children eat FREE!** It's a deal you won't find anywhere else!

**Thank you to Sandy Davis, Trace Silvers & Rick Stanford
for installing lights to shine on our beautiful mural at night!**



Tuesday, November 25, 2025

@ LCOS at 6:30 PM with meal to follow.

2600 Wade Hampton Blvd. (Across from Denny's)

*Thanksgiving
Service*

Church Growth



Lee Road United Methodist Church
Growth, Branding, & Congregational Strategy Report
Prepared for: Lee Road UMC – Taylors, South Carolina
Prepared by: Chelsey Brilliant

[Church Growth | Lee Road United Methodist](#)

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Prospective *Members* Classes

Are you new to Lee Road United Methodist Church? Interested in becoming part of our church family? (We are a friendly bunch after all!) Have you been with us “for a while now”, and would like to explore the option of formally becoming a member? Do you have questions about our local church, missions, our denominational beliefs, UMC news, etc., that you would like to get answers to in a small friendly group setting? Well, we have a proposal for you.

Join us for our fall cycle of prospective new member classes! It is absolutely not necessary to take this class to become a member, but we believe that this class is very helpful to help folks make the decision that is right for themselves as led by the Holy Spirit. The classes are designed to be 45-60 minutes in length. Light snacks and refreshments will be provided. Kids are welcome to stay and learn, or play board games, etc. The dates and topics are as follows:

December 7 “Get Committed” Class — Pastor’s Office at 9:30 AM

At the conclusion of these classes, the Pastor will discuss if people would like to formally join the church in membership during morning worship on Sunday, December 14, 2025 (Third Sunday of Advent = “Joy Sunday” / Gaudete Sunday). This step is not a requirement, but rather an option for those who feel they are ready. Any further questions, please contact Pastor Rusty.

Please RSVP the Pastor if you plan to attend the class. Thank you. My email is revrustyg@gmail.com and you may also text me at my cellphone 864-214-5815.



Christmas Flower Fund

The congregation is invited to make contributions to the "Christmas Flower Fund" which will be used to purchase poinsettias. If you would like to contribute to this fund, please make your checks payable to Lee Road UMC and designate the checks for the "Christmas Flower Fund." Please include any requests for memorials or dedications with your contribution. A memorial/dedication list will be published in the church bulletin on Sunday, December 14th. Individual poinsettia plants will be available for **\$15.00** each.

of Poinsettias _____

Your Name: _____

In Honor/Memory of: _____



Mark Your Calendar



**Combined Sundays in December 2025
(Communion Sundays + Special Sundays)**

**Advent 2 / Consecration Sunday
December 7 (Sanctuary at 11 AM)**

**Advent 3 / Communion Sunday / Membership Sunday
December 14 (Bridge at 9:30 AM)**

**Christmas Eve Service
Wednesday, December 24 (Bridge at 6:00 PM)**

Young at Heart photos from Tuesday, November 11, 2025



Lee Road UMC Annual Christmas Pageant

2025

Directors: Pastor, Pilar Turner, Laurie Fite, Chelsea Brilliandt

13 Roles Needed: Mary, Joseph, 4 Shepherds, 4 angels (Archangel Gabriel + three others), 3 Wise Men. We can “scale down” the number of angels and shepherds if we need to.

2 Required Rehearsals*

- ⇒ **Rehearsal 1: Wednesday, 12/3 at 5:00 PM in sanctuary
(Wonderful Wednesday kids meal available in social hall)**
- ⇒ **Rehearsal 2: Wednesday, 12/10 at 5:00 PM in sanctuary
(practice and then have pizza and drink for pageant people in social hall)**
- ⇒ **Actual Pageant Performance* Wednesday, 12/17 at 6:45 PM in sanctuary
(6 PM pizza and drink in the social hall for entire church)**

***Involves commitment of adults and kids to make this the priority for these 3 dates and times.**

Nature and Creator

By: Piper June Brilliantdt

The lakes at ease
And the flowers dancing in the
breeze,
The branches are strong,
And the birds sing a sweet song.

The bees buzzing,
And the rivers' water rushing,
This is where we come alive,
And where we are happy to thrive.

God made this beautiful place,
And saved us all by grace.





Upcoming Events

Thursday, November 13, 2025

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

Friday, November 14, 2025

Saturday, November 15, 2025

8:00—10:00 a.m. Estate Sale (LR members only)

10:00—2:00 p.m. Estate Sale (LR + community)

9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m. Quilting Guild Class

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

Sunday, November 16, 2025

(Jimmy Gaddy is preaching)

9:30 a.m.—10:30 a.m. Sunday School

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

10:30 a.m. Coffee & Refreshments (Bridge) and
Focus Group meeting

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

12:00 p.m. Focus Group meeting (Social Hall)

Monday, November 17, 2025

Tuesday, November 18, 2025

6:30 p.m. Church Council Meeting (Conf. room)

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

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

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. Wonderful Wednesday Meal (S.H.)

6:45 p.m. Bible Study (S.H.)

Thursday, November 20, 2025

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

Friday, November 21, 2025

Saturday, November 22, 2025

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

Sunday, November 23, 2025

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)



Church Staff

Pastor, Rev. Rusty Godfrey

(864) 214-5815 / revrustyg@gmail.com

Pastor Emeritus, Rev. Jim Gilliam

Administrative Assistant, Mitzi Heaton

Office (864)244-6427 office@leeroadumc.com

Financial Secretary, Carol Hyde

finance@leeroadumc.com

Adelaide Kiser, Contemporary Worship Coord.

Organist, Mary Berry

Media Specialist, Chaunce Youngblood

Custodian, Gene Turner



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

Special Prayer Requests

Nancy Johnson
Joan Davis
Geno Cope
Jimmy Gaddy
Jim Crain
Linda Black
Max & Susan Cromer
Mary Jo Gay
Mel Casby

**I CAN SMELL
AUTUMN DANCING
IN THE BREEZE
THE SWEET CHILL OF
PUMPKIN
AND CRISP
SUN BURNT LEAVES**

Residential Care

Linda Black, Bob & Ellen Elson,
Jim Crain, Annette Hunter,
Natalie Smith, Gene Johnson &
Sadie Murphy

At Home

Ann Huntley (with daughter)

Extended Family

Mother of: Tammy Brown

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

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, Mike
Martin, Trace Silvers



November 9, 2025

Contemporary Service — 48
Traditional Service—47

2025 Tithes & Offerings
Thank you for giving toward
the budget. Your faithfulness
is much appreciated.

11/02/25	\$4,074.00
11/09/25	\$12,330.00
11/16/25	\$
11/23/25	\$
11/30/25	\$
Total	\$16,404.00

Prefer to pay your tithe online?



 **SCAN ME**