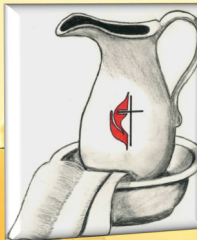




A note from the pastor



Lee Road United Methodist Church
1377 East Lee Road, Taylors, SC 29687
Church Office (864) 244-6427
LRUMC Facebook
LRUMC Website

Dear Congregation,

Last week marked some solemn milestones. Twenty-five years since 9/11. One year since the assassination of Charlie Kirk (9/10). Three weeks since the loss of Dolly (8/25), and three weeks since the loss of our beloved Laurie Fite (8/28) whose service is this week (9/17). All of this loss can seem so overwhelming. It is a reminder of how precious and fragile life can be. At any moment in time, an unexpected event can confront us. The events of 9/11 proved that America was not invulnerable from attacks. For an earlier generation of Americans, Pearl Harbor proved that. The murder of Kirk is a sign of the boiling hot epidemic of online hatred that is gripping our country on both ends of the political spectrum (former Minnesota Democratic House Speaker Melissa Hortman and her husband were shot in their homes in 2025). And finally, for our precious sister in Christ, we knew she was sick, but the rapid course of her illness shocked us. Although we miss her deeply, we are so thankful that our merciful and loving God took her home.

I know many people have indicated to me that they are feeling depressed recently. I admit that in 2026 I have felt it myself. Depression is a real thing. It runs in my family. To all you who feel this way, let me make a few humble adorations:

- † Discuss this with God in prayer. Lay your troubles before the throne of grace.
- † Discuss this with your family doctor.
- † Do not cut off social interactions. Avail yourself of opportunities to spend time with friends and family who lift your spirits.
- † If possible, get outdoors. Take a little stroll. Sunlight is good (just be sure to wear sunscreen).
- † Listen to some good music (different genres are fine as long as the music is redeeming of the human spirit).

“Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you.” (1 Peter 5:7)

**In Christ,
Rusty**

Calling All Men

Rethinking Men's Ministry:

BRING THEM JESUS



All Lee Road United Methodist Men are invited to join us for a morning of fellowship on Sunday, September 20, 2026, at 8:00 a.m. We will gather in the Social Hall to discuss our exciting upcoming fall and winter activities. Coffee and biscuits will be served. Please plan to attend if possible—we look forward to seeing you there! Gary Dodson

You see, his faith and his actions worked together. His actions made his faith complete. JAMES 2:22 NLT

Lee Road UMC's

CHARGE

CONFERENCE

MONDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2026 AT 6:00 PM

**(DUE TO THIS MEETING, WE WILL RESCHEDULE THE HR AND
CAMPUS TEAM MEETINGS TO THE PRIOR MONDAY, OCTOBER 5.)**

JOIN US FOR OUR

Midweek Service

**Wednesday, September 23
at 6 PM**

A new weekly 30 minute
midweek service in the sanctuary
(hymn, homily, and prayer)

Followed by our
**Wonderful Wednesday
Meal**
at 6:30 PM

Menu

- ♥ Tuscan chicken over pasta
- ♥ Vegetable
- ♥ Dessert

\$7 per person



Children and First-Time Visitors
Eat Free!

Welcome to Side by Side Respite ministry at John Knox Presbyterian!

We are a volunteer driven community outreach ministry whose aim is to provide a respite (a rest/break/relief) to individuals living with memory loss and their caregivers. We believe that everyone needs a respite.

Caregivers and their loved ones need a break from the same routine, a break from the house, a break from each other. Side by Side Respite is a safe place for that break.

What does that look like?

Caregivers are able to bring their loved ones to John Knox Presbyterian Church and leave them in the hands of trained volunteers who will be with them throughout the day to guide them through enriching activities and ensure their safety at all times. While here, the lines between Participant and Volunteer are blurred and everyone is simply here as a Friend and Neighbor. During the day, individuals and volunteers will participate in a variety of activities such as: fellowship, physical exercise, mental exercises, creative writing, service projects, arts & crafts, games, music, and lunch. There is also a regular opportunity to participate in worship. (**Note: This is a social model of care. No medications can be passed and no medical personnel are on staff.) Caregivers have the opportunity to use this time for personal replenishment in whatever form serves the moment. For some, that looks like a well-deserved nap! For others, it may look like personal doctor appointments, lunch with friends, errands, or finishing up odds and ends around the house. Stay tuned for information about the opportunity to participate in a monthly support group.

Who can come?

If you are considering a loved one and have questions, please reach out for a discussion with our Director, Laura Reichen! Participants should be able to function in a group setting, feed themselves, and complete toileting tasks without physical assist. It is requested that you reserve a spot a week in advance for planning purposes.

When will this happen?

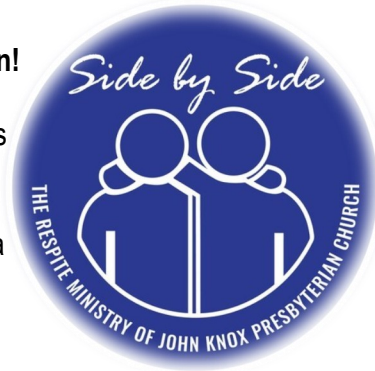
Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 - 1:45

Where will this be?

John Knox Presbyterian Church, Fellowship Hall
35 Shannon Dr., Greenville, SC 29615

How much does it cost?

\$40 per day



**Come join us on Monday, September 21,
from 9am-1pm for volunteer training at John Knox
for our Side by Side Respite ministry for individuals
living with memory loss and their caregivers!
Please let Laura know if you plan to attend!
(lreichen@johnknoxpres.org or 864-244-0453)**



There will be a puzzle swap at the Greer branch of the public library on Saturday, September 19 from 3 PM to 4 PM. They will accept puzzles to swap from September 14 through September 18. The Greer branch is at 505 Pennsylvania Ave. across the street from the Post Office.

For each puzzle you donate you will receive a coupon which you can use to buy a puzzle on September 19. We are going to submit about 50 puzzles on September 14. We will keep our supply of coupons in the church office. If you don't have puzzles you want to swap, **you can pick up coupons in the office to use on Saturday.**

Strategy: Be early on the 19th. Swappers get first choice at 3:00 PM. Those without coupons will be allowed in at 3:30. It's all free.

SAFE SANCTUARY TRAINING



FOR ALL CHURCH VOLUNTEERS



WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7



7:00 PM



LOCATION: IN THE CHURCH SANCTUARY



**Together, ensuring safe, loving, and
nurturing spaces for children, youth, and
vulnerable adults.**



Thursday, September 17, 2026

11:30 a.m.—12:45 p.m. Receiving of Friends

1:00 p.m. Celebration of Life (Sanctuary)

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

Friday, September 18, 2026

Saturday, September 19, 2026

Pastor on Cruise thru 9/24

8:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous

Sunday, September 20, 2026

8:00 a.m. UMM Breakfast Meeting

9:00 a.m.—10:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary)
(Wayne Wingate preaching)

Monday, September 21, 2026

Tuesday, September 22, 2026

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

Wednesday, September 23, 2026

8:30 a.m. Men's Sharing Group (S.H.)

9:45 a.m.—10:45 a.m. Choir Rehearsal

6:00 p.m. Midweek Service (Sanctuary)

6:30 p.m. Wonderful Wednesday Meal (S.H.)

Thursday, September 24, 2026

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

Friday, September 25, 2026

Saturday, September 26, 2026

8:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous

Sunday, September 27, 2026

9:00 a.m.—10:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary)



Laurie Fite

10/26/1950 – 8/28/2026

Thursday, September 17, 2026

11:30 AM—12:45 PM: Receiving of Friends (Sanctuary)

1:00 PM: Service (Sanctuary)

Church Staff

†**Pastor:** Rev. Rusty Godfrey

Phone: (864) 214-5815

Email: revrustygg@gmail.com

†**Pastor Emeritus:** Rev. Jim Gilliam

†**Administrative Assistant:** Mitzi Heaton

Office Phone: (864) 244-6427

Email: office@leeroadumc.com

†**Financial Secretary:** Carol Hyde

Email: finance@leeroadumc.com

†**Music Director,** Mckelvie Wilder

†**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

Robert Whitfield
Jimmie Shaver
Gene Hutson
Virginia Crowell
Kevin Clardy
Steve McGahee
Jimmy Gaddy
Beth Kohlhepp
Marie Watt
Vicky Williams
Cindy Jones
Geno Cope
Ann Huntley
Rev. Jim & Carolyn Gilliam
Harry & Betty Johansen
Gene & Nancy Johnson
Max & Susan Cromer
Mary Jo Gay



God Answers
Prayers

Residential Care

Linda Black, Bob Elson, Jim
Crain, Annette Hunter, Natalie
Smith, Gene & Nancy Johnson,
Sadie Murphy, Max & Susan
Cromer, Catherine Hamill, Jim &
Carolyn Gilliam, Maxie Wood,
Brenda Sharp

At Home

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

Sister of: Robert Whitfield

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

Niece of: Gene Turner, Richard &
Stephanie Hamilton

Grandson of: Gary Dodson

Granddaughter of: Rick & Lisa
Stanford

Cousin of: Gene Turner

Family of: Don Sandor, Patsy
Kleman

Friends of:

Sandy & Joan Davis, Debbie
Gantt, Jane Pingley, Elizabeth
Lowrey, Gail Bachman, Alida
Weber, Trace Silvers, Susan
Ford, Pastor Rusty Godfrey

ATTENDANCE

Sunday, September 13, 2026

Worship Service—63

2026 Tithes & Offerings

Thank you for giving toward
the budget. Your faithfulness
is much appreciated.

September 6	\$6,265.00
September 13	\$4,615.00
September 20	\$
September 27	\$
Total	\$10,880.00

Prefer to pay your tithe online?



SCAN ME