



*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 Congregation,

I'm reenlisting. That's right: I've signed up for another year. At what you say. Reading the Bible through in one year. I completed my goal last year with the *NIV One Year Chronological Bible*. This year, I am reading *The Narrated Bible* by F. LaGard Smith. Each daily portion contains little narrations/commentaries written by Smith that elucidate the background and "big picture" of the text.

Here's what I have discovered about reading the Bible through in a year:

- A. Don't get mad at yourself if you get behind. Just get caught up. The Devil will say something like, "See there, you've screwed up the goal. Might as well just give it up. Don't you have other things to do?" The answer to this is simple, "Get behind me, Satan."
- B. No matter how many times you have read the Bible, even a most familiar passage, you can discover something completely new if you approach the text with reverence and an eagerness for the Spirit to open the Word for you.
- C. The goal for the Christian should never be "to read it through in X amount of time" but rather "to read it as long as God gives me on this Earth."
- D. The Bible is a library with many different types of books (histories/genealogies, prophetic works, poetry/wisdom, law, epistles, gospels, etc.). It's okay to admit that you like certain categories of books more than others, but don't dismiss any of the 66 books – even the ones that are highly repetitive in nature ("and so-and-so begat so-and-so"). That said, there's a lot of lists of "begatting" in certain books (from Genesis up to Luke).
- E. If you've never tried to read a chronological bible before, pick one up and read it. It makes so much sense in that things are placed in the order that events occurred (to the extent that these things are known or discoverable). This gives you the "grand sweep" of biblical history of over 2,500 years.
- F. Thank God that you live in a free land where you can own and read God's Word.

May God bless your studies of His Word in 2026. It's not how much you read that counts. It's how much you open your hearts to what the Lord wants you to learn.

Blessings,
Pastor Rusty

Hello people of Lee Road! Many of you know me as the Worship Director of The Bridge service. But as of this new year, I have acquired the title of Youth Director as well! Growing up in a Presbyterian Church, I have always been very heavily involved in youth groups. I have also, throughout my adult life, always been working with children in some capacity: nannying, teaching etc. I am happy to take this new role in leading the youth of Lee Road in hopes of growing in number and faith. I have many fun and exciting things planned for whatever youth want to be involved! Please contact me if you have any questions, want to get involved, or know someone who might! Thank you!



Lee Road Youth!
Join us for

ICE ON MAIN

Monday, Jan 19th @ 2pm | All ages are welcome!
RSVP by Sunday Jan 18th
Text 864.631.9252



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 vegetable beef stew, a grilled cheese sandwich, dessert, 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!

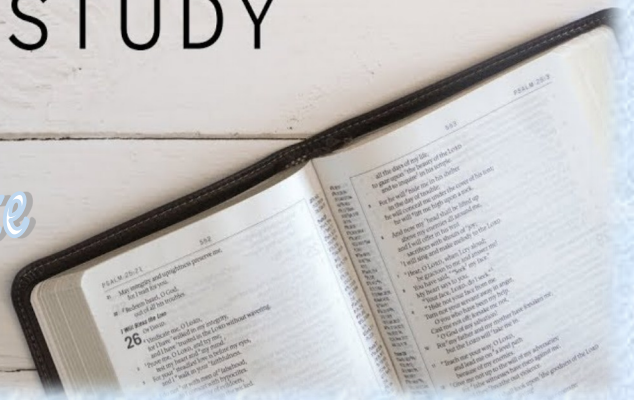


Mid Week

BIBLE STUDY

Methodism

Teacher: Laurie Fite



2026 Wednesday Kids Programming 5PM - 6PM

WED. DATE	ACTIVITY	COORD.	SAFE SANCTUARY PERSON	BIBLE LESSON TEACHER
1/14	Bookmark Craft	Chelsey Brilliantt	Bob & Carlie Stevens	Pastor
1/21	Learning Song for Bridge Performance on 2/1	Adelaide Kiser	Bob & Carlie Stevens	Pastor
1/28	Learning Song for Bridge Performance on 2/1	Adelaide Kiser	Bob & Carlie Stevens	Pastor
2/4	Valentine Craft	Debbie Gantt	Nona Walser	Pastor
2/11	Valentine Cards	Ann Shaver	Nona Walser	Pastor
2/25	Cooking Class	Joyce McKenzie	Nona Walser	Pastor
3/4	Last Supper Play Practice	Pastor	Chris & Gerri Trabookis	Pastor
3/11	Last Supper Play Practice	Pastor	Chris & Gerri Trabookis	Pastor
3/18	Last Supper Play Practice	Pastor	Chris & Gerri Trabookis	Pastor
3/25	Last Supper Play Practice	Pastor	Chris & Gerri Trabookis	Pastor
4/15	"Junior Trustees Month": Safety / First Aid	Geno Cope	Sandy Davis	Pastor
4/22	"Junior Trustees Month": Cleaning the Sanctuary	Gene Turner	Sandy Davis	Pastor
4/29	"Junior Trustees Month": Cleaning the Bridge	Gene Turner	Sandy Davis	Pastor
5/6	VBS Planning Session with the Kids	Pastor and All volunteers	Sandy Davis	Pastor

2026 Combined Sundays

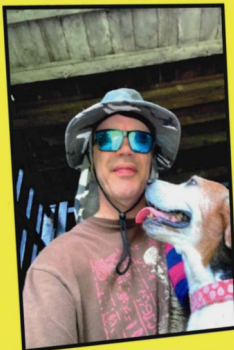
DAY	DATE	LOCATION	TIME	NOTES
Sunday	01-04	Sanctuary	11:00 AM	Communion
Sunday	02-01	Bridge	9:30 AM	Communion
Wednesday	02-18	Sanctuary	6:30 PM	Ash Wednesday
Sunday	03-01	Bridge	9:30 AM	Communion
Thursday	04-02	Sanctuary	6:30 PM	Maundy Thursday
Friday	04-03	Bridge	12:00 PM	Good Friday
Sunday	04-05	Sanctuary	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

SIX BEAGLES!



\$10

STORY AND ILLUSTRATIONS BY:
RUSTY GODFREY



ABOUT RUSTY GODFREY

Pastor Rusty Godfrey is a licensed local pastor with the South Carolina Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. He is a native of Greenville, SC, and a retired high school social studies educator. He and his wife Melanee have owned six beagles in their marriage of over thirty years, and they have loved every one of them!

Get all books for \$40. Books are available at the church office. Make checks payable to "Lee Road UMC" and put "book sale" on the memo line. All profits go to the Indonesian Charis School.



COLOR AND LEARN ANIMALS FROM THE WORLD

\$10

GARY DODSON

GARY DODSON

\$20

THE BIXBYS' ALTAR OF FREEDOM



Rusty Godfrey

THE BIXBYS'

ALTAR OF FREEDOM

What would a Union Mother do in order to survive the Civil War having lost all her sons?
What would a Union prisoner of war do to survive a hellhole prison camp, escape, and reinvent himself?

GARY DODSON

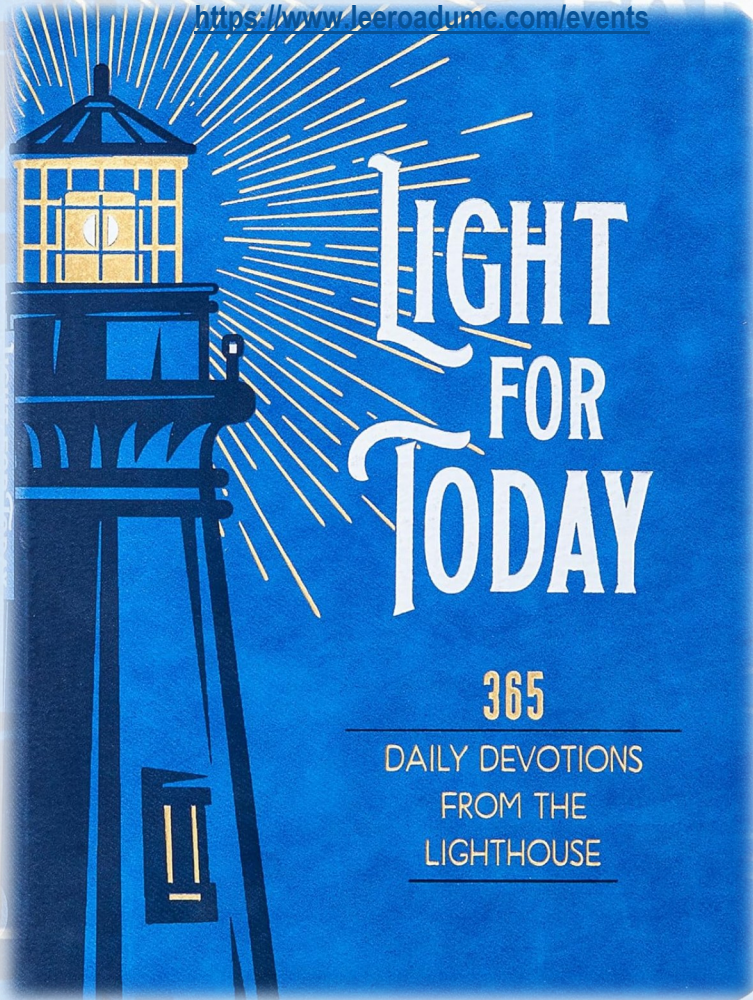


Gary Dodson is the proud father of 5 children, 7 grandchildren, and 10 great-grandchildren (and soon to be great-grandchildren, and 10 great-grandchildren). A native of Greenville, South Carolina, he spent much time in the American Southwest and in the State of Florida in his working career. He retired from working at the age of 87. His favorite animal is the dog, especially the golden retriever. His hobbies include fishing, writing, and watching old movies. The author has a very strong faith in the Creator God who made all living creatures on this planet.

2026 Devotional - January 18 at 4pm (Pastor will send email zoom invitation)

A PERFECT devotional for us as a Lighthouse Congregation. Amazon has them for \$9.64. Used copies are available for around \$5. There are a few copies left in the church office for those who want to do this but are not computer savvy. Readings will be each day in 2026, and every Sunday, we hold a Zoom meeting from our homes (with a same-time “group zoom” meeting at church) where we share something from the devotional that moved us, inspired us, and gave us something to think about. I love the theme of Christ as the Light of the World. I hope you will join us. Please send me a message if you’d like to take the journey with us with *Light for Today!* Pastor Rusty

<https://www.leeroadumc.com/events>





dear Lee Road United Methodist Church

**thank
you**

We sincerely thank you for your support—
through your financial help and your prayers.
We are truly grateful for your care, generosity,
and continued encouragement.

Have a blessed Christmas 2025 & a Victorious New Year 2026
God bless you all abundantly



with love,
charis institute solo



Upcoming Events

Thursday, January 15, 2026

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

Friday, January 16, 2026

Saturday, January 17, 2026

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

Sunday, January 18, 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 (*Light for Today*)

Monday, January 19, 2026—Office Closed

MLK, Jr. Day

Tuesday, January 20, 2026

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

Wednesday, January 21, 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. Wonderful Wednesday Meal (S.H.)

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

Thursday, January 22, 2026

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

Friday, January 23, 2026

Saturday, January 24, 2026

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

Sunday, January 25, 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 (*Light for Today*)

“...I have a dream that one day every valley shall be exalted, every hill and mountain shall be made low, the rough places will be made plain, and the crooked places will be made straight, and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together. This is our hope. This is the faith that I go back to the South with. With this faith we will be able to hew out of the mountain of despair a stone of hope. With this faith we will be able to transform the jangling discords of our nation into a beautiful symphony of brotherhood. With this faith we will be able to work together, to pray together, to struggle together, to go to jail together, to stand up for freedom together, knowing that we will be free one day. This will be the day when all of God's children will be able to sing with a new meaning, 'My country, 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing. Land where my fathers died, land of the pilgrim's pride, from every mountainside, let freedom ring.'...” - Martin Luther King, Jr.

Church Staff

Pastor, Rev. Rusty Godfrey

(864) 214-5815 / revrusty@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, Chance Youngblood

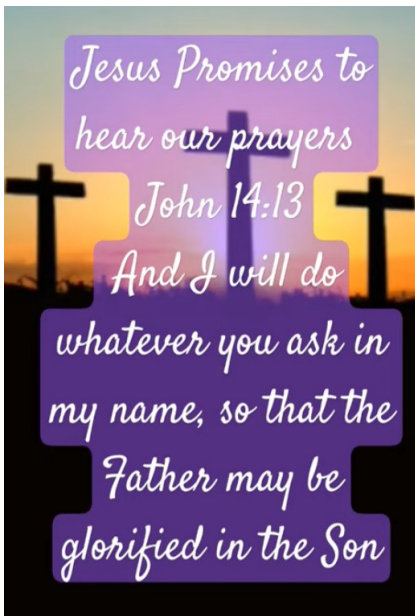
Custodian, Gene Turner



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

Special Prayer Requests

Ann Huntley (Hospice)
Rev. Jim & Carolyn Gilliam
Gail Bachman
Don Sandor
Harry & Betty Johansen
Steve Frantz
Gene & Nancy Johnson
Joan Davis
Max & Susan Cromer
Mary Jo Gay (Hospice)
Mel Casby



Residential Care

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

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



January 11, 2026

Contemporary Service—28
Traditional Service—46

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

January 4	\$5,027.00
January 11	\$4,363.50
January 18	\$
January 25	\$
Total	\$9,390.50

Prefer to pay your tithe online?

