



**Thought for the Month**

Everyone is a genius. But if you judge a fish on its ability to climb a tree, it will live its whole life believing that it is stupid...

Albert Einstein

- December 2015 -						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b> Christmas Choir Rehearsals @ 6:00 p.m.	<b>2</b> Noon Day Bible Study @ 12:00 p.m. Christmas Choir Rehearsals @ 6:00 p.m. Prayer Ministry @ 6:15 p.m.	<b>3</b> Zumba @ 5:30 p.m. Bible Study @ 6:00 p.m.	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Boy Scout Mtg. @ 10:00 a.m. Open Door Golden Agers Luncheon @ 11:00 a.m.-3:00
<b>6</b> Health screenings Children's Church @ 10:00 a.m.	<b>7</b> Trustees Mtg. @ 6:30 p.m. Worship Mtg. @ 6:30 p.m.	<b>8</b> Outreach Mtg. @ 6:00 p.m. Christmas Choir Rehearsals @ 6:00 p.m.	<b>9</b> Noon Day Bible Study @ 12:00 p.m. Christmas Choir Rehearsals @ 6:00 p.m. Prayer Ministry @ 6:15 p.m.	<b>10</b> Zumba @ 5:30 p.m. Bible Study @ 6:00 p.m. Christmas Choir Rehearsals @ 6:00 p.m.	<b>11</b> Food Box Deadline	<b>12</b> UMM Mtg. @ 8:30 a.m.
<b>13</b> Christmas Cantata @ 6:00 p.m. Ushers Meeting after worship service	<b>14</b> Married Couples @ 6:20 p.m.	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Activities Same as December 2 <sup>nd</sup> (No Christmas Rehearsals)	<b>17</b> Zumba @ 5:30 p.m. Bible Study @ 6:00 p.m. Food Box Pick Up	<b>18</b> Newsletter Deadline	<b>19</b> Boy Scout Mtg. @ 10:00 a.m. Children's Christmas Celebration @ 11:00-2:00
<b>20</b> Health screenings Children's Christmas Program @ 8:30 a.m.	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Noon Day Bible Study @ 12:00 p.m. Prayer Ministry @ 6:15 p.m.	<b>24</b> Admin Office Closed for Christmas Day Observance	<b>25</b> Admin Office Closed for Christmas Observance	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Activities Same as December 23 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>31</b>		
<b>Trustees on Call for December</b> <b>West Dryden</b> <b>(706) 888-0381</b> <b>James Jones</b> <b>(706) 332-9698</b>						

Expense Summary January through October 2015	
1300 - Trustees	43.07%
1200 - Salaries & related expenses	40.28
1130 - Appointments	3.28
1500 - Administrative	2.60
2000 - REACH_501c3	2.39
3300 - Nurture	1.96
6560 - Payroll Expenses	1.38
3500 - Witness	1.04
8300 - Travel & meetings expenses	0.74
8500 - Misc expenses	0.68
Other	2.58
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$504,890.47</b>

MORTGAGE PLEDGES	Amount
5 Year Goal	\$1,000,000.00
1 Year Goal	\$200,000.00
Pledged	\$483,570.00
Contributed	\$82,808.50
<b>Total Pymts.</b>	<b>\$52,000.00</b>



Welcome Visitors...The *Road*UMC is the place to be!

The mission of The Road UMC is to become a community of believers committed to helping all people to personally know Jesus Christ by delivering a biblically based teaching and preaching of the gospel to those saved and seeking Christ and thereby developing disciples, families and communities through the power of the Holy Spirit. If you are new to our community and looking for a church home or desire to explore your spirituality, please consider us.

*At The ROAD*, we are engaged in the L4 experience:

**Loving** God with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength and loving neighbor as thyself.

**Living** a life that is Christ-centered and biblically oriented.

**Learning** to be a disciple of Jesus Christ as we live counter to the culture following wholeheartedly after God in a broken world.

**Leading** others to experience God; being light in darkness and salt in a decaying environment.

If you would like to enter into fellowship with *The ROAD UMC*...

- Come during the Invitation to Discipleship
- See our pastor or a member after church
- Call the church office and schedule an appointment to speak with the pastor
- Email us at [stmarysrd@theroadumc.org](mailto:stmarysrd@theroadumc.org)
- See one of our ushers after the worship service

This is the working church!  
The lazy church is down the street!



James R. King, Jr., Resident Bishop      Rev. Dr. Buddy Cooper, D.S.  
Cynthia Williams, Lay Leader      Willie Belfield, Associate Lay Leader

The SMRUMC Staff

Shea Ellis, Receptionist  
Jacqueline McCall, Administrative Assistant  
Jacquelyn Ekins, Director of Music  
Debra Alexander, Youth Musician  
[stmarysrd@theroadumc.org](mailto:stmarysrd@theroadumc.org)  
F/B: The ROAD UMC

Pastor's Information

Email: [PastorK@theroadumc.org](mailto:PastorK@theroadumc.org)  
Telephone Number: (706) 221-7643

**ST. MARY'S ROAD  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

"A Christ-centered church,  
where we are,  
loving, living, learning and leading in the kingdom of God"

3993 St. Mary's Road  
Columbus, Georgia 31907  
Office: (706) 689-8707      Fax: (706) 687-6944  
[www.TheRoadUMC.org](http://www.TheRoadUMC.org)

*Sunday, November 29, 2015 / 10:00 a.m.*

*Rev. Dr. L.K. Pendleton, Pastor*



"But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation. God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light."

United Methodist Student Day

THE GATHERING  
(Time of Prayer and Meditation)

Lighting of the Candles Acolytes

\*Song of Praise "Lord, You've Been So Good To Me" Choir/Congregation

\*The Call To Worship

Leader: We must study to show ourselves approved so that we will not be embarrassed and will know the truth.

People: We come today, asking God to empower us to embrace learning and appreciate the truth.

Leader: God's word is a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our paths.

People: Let us open our minds to receive God's word, prepare our hearts to embrace God's Spirit and ready ourselves to practice God's ways.

Morning Prayer Unison

Gracious God, help us to be better students of your word. Teach us your ways. Your son Jesus is the light of the world. Darkness will never overcome that light. May we courageously shine our lights for Christ in contrast to the darkness of this world. Help us to show others the way to truth and illuminate their hearts by sharing our knowledge and our faith. Amen.

Response "God Has Smiled On Me" Congregation

Lighting of the Advent Candle William Winder/Eddie McAdams

Scripture Reading Luke 21:25-36 Payne Jackson

The Ministry of Music Unity Choir

The Message Courtney Lamar

Invitation to Discipleship

The Presentation of Tithes, Commitments & Offerings

Parish Notices/Welcome & Recognition of Visitors Yvonne Hart

Benediction

LISTENING TO THE SERMON

Listen to the message from God's Word and use this sheet to write down your personal notes. Reflect over them during the week and let God's truths take root in your heart and produce fruit in your life.

Blank lines for writing notes.

"Be doers of the Word, and not hearers only." James 1:22

Words About Our Speaker

Mrs. Courtney Lamar



Courtney N. S. Lamar is a native of Columbus Georgia. She holds a Bachelor's of Science in Broadcast Communications, and a Master's of Science in Clinical Mental Health. She is a certified Coach, specializing in Leadership Coaching and Health and Wellness Coaching.

She has extensive professional experience working as a Trainer, counselor and Coach in the states of Georgia, South Carolina, California, Alaska and Alabama. She currently, works as a School Mental Health Coordinator, Project AWARE, for the Muscogee County School District.

She and her husband, Anthony have been married for 15 years. Together, they have two beautiful children, Jeremiah (9) and Joya (4). She is a faithful member of St. Mary's Road United Methodist Church where she currently serves as co-Chair of the Children's Ministry. One of Courtney's favorite scriptures is Romans 12:2. This scripture is a reminder that true transformation can only come from God.

UNITED METHODIST STUDENT DAY

We celebrate United Methodist Student Day today. There are young people - who might not have had the resources to attend a school of their choice, or, for some, any school at all - who've been sent by you into the world God loves because of your giving to United Methodist Student Day. Giving generously supports these students as they prepare for a life that unites faith with knowledge. Envelopes have been provided in our bulletin today for your convenience if you desire to support this cause.

A Message from the Finance Ministry

Dear Congregation: We would like to thank you for reinforcing your commitment to our church through your tithing, sacrificial offering and pledges. Two months ago, we made an appeal to you and asked you to give in addition to your regular support, to help bring financial resolution to our conference apportionment of \$46,870.00. To date, we have paid \$32,467.00. There remains a balance of \$14,403.00. We are confident that with your continued assistance we will resolve this assessment by the end of December. We encourage you to continue worshiping God through faithfully giving your:

- Tithes and Offering
Support the mortgage pledge
Paying \$225.00 assessment towards the apportionment.

We are grateful for all that you do!
Your Finance Ministry

The Faith of Finance

Three theological principles that direct our path around finance.

ONE: WE ARE FIRST AND FOREMOST

A TITHING COMMUNITY. Deuteronomy 14:22-23, NRSV

TWO: WE WORSHIP A LIVING LORD WHO DEFINES VALUE AND ETHICS, NOT MONEY. 1 Timothy 6:6-10, NRSV

THREE: WE DO NOT OPERATE LIKE A BUSINESS, BUT AS THE COUNTER-CULTURAL COMMUNITY OF CHRIST. Mark 4:18-20, NRSV

News in the Pews

Note: When you enter the sanctuary for worship, please be mindful that worshippers use this time to pray. Therefore, we ask that you limit your talking during this time.

LAST CHANCE for Church Directory Pictures: The ABSOLUTE LAST DATE for Church Directory Pictures will be Sunday, December 6, 2015 immediately following worship service. There are a few ministry groups that did not take picture. If this is you, please prepare to take your picture on this day. A schedule will be in place to accommodate everyone. Contact the church office to schedule.

60 Acts of Kindness: As part of your Acts of Kindness, consider giving an hour a month to our Food Pantry. We need you! Please contact Mrs. Janice Ramsey at (706) 326-2269 or Ms. Sheila Woodbury at (706) 536-8508 today!

Christmas Decorations Needed: The church is in need of Christmas decorations. See Mrs. Lavinia Perser or Dr. Georgina Asante for details.

Our Annual Poinsettia Drive is in progress! Purchase a Poinsettia in Honor/Memory of your loved one(s). Poinsettias are \$10.00 each and will beautify our Sanctuary during the Christmas season. Contact Mrs. Doris Upshaw, Rose McRae or an Altar Guild Member.

Christmas Cantata Rehearsals: Rehearsals are underway for our Christmas musical. Interested persons should contact Sister Jackie Ekins for more information.

The Sunday School Christmas Program will be held on Sunday, December 20, 2015 at 8:30 a.m. Contact your Sunday School Teacher, or stop by the Sunday School Office for speeches and readings. Contact Mrs. Rose McRae for further information. We will have rehearsal on Saturday, December 19, 2015 at 11:00 a.m., followed by our Happy Birthday, Jesus Christmas Luncheon Celebration!

Ushers Meeting: If you are desirous of being/or are already an usher, there will be an informal ushers team meeting, December 13, 2015, immediately following worship service. Contact Mr. Donald Stinson at (706) 683-0370 or Mrs. Andrea Taiste at (706) 562-0040 for more information.

Please remember to silence cell phones and personal communication devices during our morning worship. Thank you!

Facebook logo and text: Find us on facebook. Like us on Facebook at The Road UMC! Visit our Website @ www.theroadumc.org

Lectionary Readings, Week of November 29, 2015

Jeremiah 33:14-16 Psalm 25:1-10
1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 Luke 21:25-36

Prayer Warrior On-Call for the Month of December

Ms. Patricia Willis (706) 573-6113

Prayer Concerns

Joyce Copeland 4111 Montclair Drive, Columbus, GA (07) (706) 326-9371
Mary Russell 1207 Rowell Street, Columbus, GA (07) (706) 687-0986
Jerry Thomas 29 Holt Court, Dothan, AL 36301 (334) 405-0200
Emily Walker 6830 River Road, Rm #216, Columbus, GA (04) (706) 569-0760

Christ in our Homes, Christ in our Church, Christ in our Community, Christ in Us!

Call the church office to notify the staff of any known Prayer Request or, you may enter your Prayer Request on our website, www.theroadumc.org.