



Landrum Methodist Church

October 2024

The Lamplighter

The Lord is my light and my salvation.

Greetings in Christ!

I am honored to step into the role of your new pastor. My heart is filled with gratitude for this opportunity to serve and walk alongside you in faith.

As we embark on this new chapter, my desire is for our church to continue to be a beacon of hope, love, and service in our community. I envision a place where everyone feels welcome, valued, and empowered to grow in their faith and share God's love with others.

In the coming months, I look forward to getting to know each of you personally. I am eager to hear your stories, learn about your passions, and understand how we can work together to make a positive impact.

Thank you for welcoming me and my family into your church family. Let us move forward with faith, hope, and love, trusting in God's plan for our church.

Blessings,

Rev. Steven D Martinez



No Pumpkin Patch this year

Due to the devastation from Helene, we will not be able to operate our Pumpkin Patch this year. The pumpkin sale has been a recognized tradition of the church for many years Asheville is where we obtained the pumpkins, and we are aware of the destruction to that area. The collected donations from the sale were used to fund the School Backpack Mission.



(DRAFT) Administrative Council Meeting September 8, 2024

Members Present: Rita Plumley, Martha Castro, Glenn and Carla Downey, Cheryl Barto,

Wanda Manson, Jaime Wofford, Joy Gardner, Nancy Boatwright, Ted Andrus, Debby Croft, George Ashmore, Bonnie Inman, and Jody McPherson

Guests: Nicole Bengard, Tommy Gardner

Glenn welcomed everyone to the meeting and opened with a story/devotion. George Ashmore moved to approve the August minutes and Nancy Boatwright seconded the motion and it passed. There was discussion about the fact that the minutes in the monthly Lamplighter are not necessarily the "officially approved" minutes because of the timing of the newsletter and the Ad Council meeting. They will now be submitted to The Lamplighter as tentative minutes pending the approval of the council. All members of the Ad Council will receive a copy of the draft of the minutes.

Glenn opened with a discussion on the need for a church secretary. Ted Andrus moved we go forward with interviewing and hiring a part time secretary through the SPRC committee and Jody McPherson seconded. The motion passed.

The following members gave their reports:

Joy Gardner: The problem with people talking during the Prelude continues. There was some discussion and it was suggested the liturgist speaks before the Prelude and announces it's time for us to "Prepare our hearts and minds for the service."

Debby Croft: She would love more help with the cards.

Ted Andrus: He is going to get in touch with Matt Yon for Charge Conference information. Once he finds out when it is, we can begin work on nominations, etc. We also need to complete the switchover from LUMC to UMC on our social media and Gmail. Nancy Boatwright and Jaime Wofford are going to work on that. The church work day is October 5 and the focus will be on cleaning up the cellar and working on the grounds. The overflow parking lot has some issues that will be addressed.

Cheryl Barto: Next week's Munch and Mingle will be a welcome celebration for the Martinez family. Silver Spirits is Sept. 11. The flower chart has some open dates and we need to think about if we want to participate in the Landrum Halloween stroll.

Jody McPherson: Backpacks for 48 students start next month and we will do it for a total of 5 months. The Pumpkin Patch will open Oct. 5 and it will continue to be donations only.

George Ashmore: The parsonage closing was on Friday, Sept. 6. All disaffiliation debts have been paid and the church netted around \$99,000.

Glenn closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Martha Castro

Trunk or Treat



Mark your calendars for Saturday, **October 26**, as we join in the Halloween fun in downtown Landrum! We are asking for candy to hand out on that date. Please place your donations in the container in the Narthex! If you are interested in handing out candy from the trunk of your car that evening, please let me know as the organizers are encouraging that as well. Dressing in costume isn't a must but certainly encouraged as well as decorating your car trunk if you are participating as an individual!! This is such a fun evening for goblins of all sizes! We were told by last year's promoters that roughly 2,000 children came through! Thank you for helping!

Cheryl 864-457-5021 (answer machine available)

Silver Spirits



We plan to have a 'Friendsgiving' luncheon on November 13. There will be a signup sheet on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall for those attending, to select a dish to bring and share with all. This will be a wonderful time of fellowship and thanksgiving for our seniors.

You really missed a fun event if you weren't at our September Silver Spirits luncheon! Our 'Back to School Bash' was a real success, with sharing stories and singing along with Ted Andrus on guitar. A huge 'thank you' to Ted and to all our spirits in attendance!! Trudy & Cheryl

Altar Guild

Thank you to all who help keep flowers on our altar! The flower chart is located in the Narthex with a few open dates for anyone interested in signing up for a Sunday to provide flowers. If Debby or I can be of assistance, please reach out. We do look forward to working with Pastor Steve in the coming months as we prepare for the Advent season. Debby & Cheryl

Munch & Mingle

As always, a huge 'thank you' to all who have provided or will be providing refreshments on the first and third Sundays following church service! It is always a delight to see and smell the delicious goodies provided by all. We definitely know that all enjoy spending time chatting and reconnecting on those Sundays, as well as enjoying the delectable treats served! As we've said before, you don't have to be an expert cook or baker to join in this mission - our crowd prefers those around the tables rather than what is on them! Grab a buddy or two and pick a Sunday! Juice, coffee, and paper products are always provided!



A Pumpkin Parable

When I previously taught Children's Church, I often used parables. I shared the many parables Jesus told so we could understand His teachings better. This one is about a farmer and a pumpkin.

A farmer lives out in the country where he has a pumpkin patch. Pumpkins are really special. They start out as small oval seeds that grow into big, orange pumpkins. The farmer plants the seeds, waters, and cares for the pumpkin vines and patiently waits as they grow. By October there are big, orange pumpkins in his patch! Some are tall and lean, some are short and round, and some have bumps and lumps. But they are all pumpkins, and all were planted and cared for by the farmer.

One day the farmer chose a pumpkin for a special project. He brought it in from the field and washed it off. You must be careful with pumpkins; they're tough on the outside, but if you drop them, they break into pieces!

The farmer took a large knife and cut a hole in the top of the pumpkin. Inside there is yucky, slimy pulp. That has to go! He cleans it all out and throws it away - never to be seen again. This is similar to how God takes and cleanses us from all our sin.

After that he gives the pumpkin a new face! He cuts two triangles for eyes, a square for a nose, and a big, wide smile! The carving of the eyes, nose, and SMILING face, represents how God makes us a new creation.

Then he does something really special. He puts a small white candle down inside the pumpkin and lights the wick. Christ comes into our lives as a light and can shine through us into a dark world.

How that pumpkin glows! As people pass by, they see the smiling pumpkin and smile back. They know that once again the farmer has taken a simple pumpkin and changed it into a glorious sight!

Just like us, all the pumpkins were different. But there was something the same about every one of them - that yucky, slimy pulp on the inside! The yucky, slimy pulp is like the sin that's in us. God has made a way that all our sin can be forgiven and washed away.

After cleaning out that pumpkin, the farmer gave the pumpkin a new face! The Bible says God can make us a new creation too. 2 Corinthians says: "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!"

Then came the special part. The light was placed inside that pumpkin, and it glowed for all to see!

2 Corinthians says: "For God, who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ."

And Matthew 5:16 says: "In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven."

Through Christ we can get a new face and let His light shine through us so we can become like that pumpkin and be a glorious sight for others to see the love of Jesus!

When you see a carved pumpkin now remember the light of Christ how we as Christians should be letting His light shine through our lives.



Our congregation prays for all in need of special prayer or have medical concerns. We pray for our church, Pastor, Outreach, Missions, community, and our nation. We express our heartfelt sympathy to those who have had loved ones pass away.

Please inform the church office of any names that need to be added or removed from the prayer list.

We pray for all victims of the Hurricane nationwide.

Pray for those who are suffering and sustain those who are continually working to rescue and rebuild. (Lineman, Road workers, first responders)

Pray for the victims of this disaster who were spared that the Lord provides comfort and that He would take care of those who have lost friends and loved ones. Bless those who are doing everything they can to help these people and also make sure that things run smoothly in repairing this great Western Carolinas community.

Betsy Buree – Jody's neighbor
Harriet & Phil Goodrich
Harriet & Phil's daughter
Susie Coghill Son
Kevin Dalton
Nancy Reed
Tom & Joy Gardner
Lisa Wofford
Pastor Steve & family
John and Joyce Himmel
Carla Downey's Coworker
Gary Lehman – Barto's neighbor

Our sympathies to:

The Castro family for the loss of Jon's mother Edie Castro.

Friends and family of Rebecca Davis (Jody McPherson friend)

Friends and family of Chris Owens (former church member)

Friends and family of Derril Pitts

Help replenish our Food Pantry

Due to increased demand our pantry shelf items are depleting, Therefore, the Missions team announces an ongoing project to stock The food pantry. Each month we will be focusing on several food items. In **October** we are asking for donations of **boxed macaroni & cheese, Chicken noodle soup, and canned ravioli.**

Receptacles will be placed in the narthex for your items on Sunday Morning. Food also can be left on the porch of the office. If leaving it On the office porch, please contact Jody at 828-506-3379 or Cheryl at 864-541-1574, and they will pick it up from there. If you would prefer to help monetarily designate it Missions Food Pantry.



Help us to keep our friends and neighbors fed! Matthew 25:40

Music Notes



The Trustees have approved the purchase of 120 new hymnals – “Our Great Redeemer’s Praise”, a hymnal for all God’s People. This hymnal is the suggested hymnal for use in Global Methodist Churches. It is the first major Wesleyan hymnal published in thirty years and it contains 675 hymns, including a rich treasury of hymns by Charles and John Wesley. The hymnals will be blue in color.

If you would like to purchase a hymnal “in honor of” and/or “in memory of” someone, please fill out the information below and place your order form(s) in the offering plate. Bookplates declaring the hymnal dedicated to the Glory of God and to the Landrum Methodist Church will be added to the inside of the hymnals including the name of the person or persons you wish to honor/memorialize and given by you. The cost of each hymnal is \$30.00.

Thank you!

PLEASE PRINT

Hymnal Purchased BY: _____

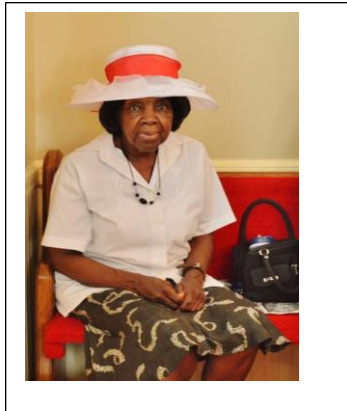
Hymnal Purchased IN MEMORY OF: _____

OR

Hymnal Purchased IN HONOR OF: _____

PURCHASE AMOUNT ATTACHED TO ORDER FORM: _____

(Please make your check payable to Landrum Methodist Church and indicate for “hymnals”)



Photos: Paul Forster



October Celebrations

BIRTHDAYS

- 02 Joyce Himmel
- 03 Michael Clark
- 03 Rusty Van Voorhis
- 04 Bill Robinson
- 09 Jack Bengard
- 10 Phil Odom
- 14 Harvey Spiegel
- 17 Bonnie Inman
- 18 Rebecca Castro
James Wofford
Taylor Carruth
- 24 Raley Castro
- 27 Phil Goodrich
- 28 Caleb Morgan
- 31 Savanna Fore

Anniversaries

- 01 Gary & Karen Lambert
- 08 John (JJ) & Taylor Carruth
- 20 Danny & Sarah Morgan



Spread the Word

We are hiring!!!!

We are looking to add to our LMC family with a part-time administrative position. We anticipate a 20 hour weekly commitment - 9:00am-1:00pm Monday-Friday. Position will require proficiency in Microsoft Office Suite, strong organizational and communication skills and a positive attitude!

Highlights of duties include:

Being a "face" to LMC in our office - answering phones, greeting visitors and managing our office

Communications! Prepare weekly church bulletin and coordinate church emails and announcements.

Keeping accurate records of church activities, reports and database of congregation information

A full job description can be found in the Announcement section on the website.

Church Contact Information

Web Site: www.landrummc.net

e-mail: landrummethodist@gmail.com

Church Office phone 864-457-3984

Pastor Martinez's email: smartinez@gmcofsc.org

June Rhymer
810 Rutherford St
Landrum SC 29656

Joe Brown
109 Edgewood Ave.
Landrum SC 29356

Maxine Finch
102 Corella Court
Moore SC 29369

Home Bound
and
Shut ins

Mike McAllister
(Peggy's husband)
White Oak

Betty Zeuloff
(Mary Hager's Mother)
Sunny Brooks Assisted Living
Hendersonville NC 28739

Mrs. Wofford
(Jaime's Grandmother)

Mary Williamson