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*
- *See one of our greeters or ministers after the worship service*

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

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

“A Christ-Centered Church Where We Are, Loving, Living, Learning and Leading in the Kingdom of God”

**ANNUAL WOMEN’S DAY CELEBRATION**

Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others faithfully administering God’s grace in its various forms.

*1 Peter 4: 9-10*

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**"Welcomed by God, Welcoming All"**

3993 St. Mary’s Road
Columbus, Georgia 31907
706-689-8707– Church Office
www.theroadumc.org

Rev. Dr. L. K. Pendleton, Pastor
Message from The Road UMC’s United Methodist Women’s President
Georgette Martin

Dear Sisters,
I just want to let you know that the work you do for this ministry does not go unnoticed. You are a necessary piece to the puzzle. The United Methodist Women would not be an effective ministry in the community as well as the world without this unit. We are here serving, teaching, sharing and advocating for others all over the world. We are committed to spiritual growth, giving to mission, social injustice and living out our faith. I bow to you on this day and thank you for being such strong women of God. Our 2015 goals include Loving Luggage, Book Bags to Benchmark Family Services Foster Care, Open Door Golden Agers Christmas Luncheon, and the awarding of the Brandice Arlene Martin Scholarship to a high school senior who is a member of The Road UMC, and others as needed.

Message from The Road UMC’s United Methodist Women’s Vice President
Beverly Brown

We, United Methodist Women, are called to act lovingly toward the powerless. When we do this we are serving Jesus. Service and worship is meeting Jesus as we meet the needs of the hungry, the thirsty, the stranger, the naked, the sick, and the imprisoned, whether physically and emotionally. Jesus was closely identified with those on the margins of society and culture. Worship is to be in devotion to and toward a divine being of ultimate worth. As we celebrate United Methodist Women’s Day, let us continue focusing on serving others locally, nationally, and internationally because serving others is worship.

Tentative projects will focus on actively engaging our children and youth in Mission U via learning opportunities about life, religion, and culture for women, children, and youth in Latin America. Our unit’s efforts will include increasing youth and young adult membership and participation in United Methodist Women work as we demonstrate and encourage our youth and young adults to become women of power, strength, courage, and virtue.

Our 2015 United Methodist Women’s Officers
Georgette Martin, President
Beverly Brown, Vice-President
Mary Hosley, Secretary
Pamela Shaw-Grant, Treasurer

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**Vital Signs for March 2015**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Attendance</th>
<th>Offering</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1:</td>
<td>336</td>
<td>$15,697.08</td>
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<td>Week 2:</td>
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<td>Week 5:</td>
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**Trustees on Call for March 2015**

William Rolanl
(706) 687-4470

James Tanksley
(706) 561-6061

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**March 2015**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sun</th>
<th>Mon</th>
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<tr>
<td>B/P, Diabetes and Cholesterol screenings</td>
<td>Worship Mtg. @ 6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Bible Study @ 12:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Bible Study @ 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Zumba @ 5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Open Door Classic at Woodruff Park @ 7:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Women's Conference at Greater Study Grove Baptist Church @ 9:00 a.m.</td>
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<td>Children's Church @ 10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Vacation Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Children's Youth Choir @ 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Prayer Ministry @ 6:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Unity Choir @ 7:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Women's Day</td>
<td>Married Couples @ 6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Church Anniversary Ushers Meeting immediately after worship service</td>
<td>Bible Study @ 12:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Bible Study @ 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Zumba @ 5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Bible Study @ 6:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>B/P, Diabetes and Cholesterol screenings</td>
<td>Rock Ministry @ 11:30 a.m.</td>
<td>St. Patrick's Day</td>
<td>Bible Study @ 12:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Zumba @ 5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Newsletter Deadline</td>
<td>Food Box Deadline</td>
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<tr>
<td>Children's Church @ 10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Finance Mtg. @ 6:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Bible Study @ 12:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Bible Study @ 6:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Council Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Pro-Active Care Team Mtg. @ 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Bible Study @ 12:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Bible Study @ 5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Zumba @ 5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Food Box Pick Up</td>
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<tr>
<td>5th Sunday Family and Friends Day</td>
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About United Methodist Women

United Methodist Women is the largest denominational faith organization for women with approximately 800,000 members whose mission is fostering spiritual growth, developing leaders and advocating for justice.

Members raise up to $20 million each year for programs and projects related to women, children and youth in the United States and in more than 100 countries around the world.

United Methodist Women and The United Methodist Church’s principles and values include:

- Promoting the empowerment of women, children and youth.
- Promoting anti-racism and multiculturalism.
- Promoting inclusion and equity.
- Promoting fair labor practices.
- Promoting economic and environmental stewardship and sustainability.

MARCH IS WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH

Women’s History Month in the United States grew out of a weeklong celebration of women’s contributions to culture, history and society organized by the school district of Sonoma, California, in 1978.

Presentations were given at dozens of schools, hundreds of students participated in a “Real Woman” essay contest and a parade was held in downtown Santa Rosa. A few years later, the idea had caught on within communities, school districts and organizations across the country.

In 1980, President Jimmy Carter issued the first presidential proclamation declaring the week of March 8 as National Women’s History Week. The U.S. Congress followed suit the next year, passing a resolution.

Note: For a more detailed presentation please retrieve from our website at: www.theroadumc.org

SPLOST
2015 SPLOST
March 17, 2015 Special Election

Our children deserve the best that we can offer as it relates to buildings and learning environments.

WHAT IS A SPLOST?
A Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax for education is known as a SPLOST or ESPLOST. The money collected can be used for only capital projects, such as school construction, addition or renovation, technology, new buses, furniture, fixtures and equipment.

SPLOST money cannot be used for day-to-day operating expenses, salaries and other personnel expenses, to offset a budget shortage, books and curriculum.

How much money is needed?
$192,185,000.00 million dollars over 5 years.

Funding Options?
There are three general areas for funding - Budget Cuts, State and Federal Funding and Tax Increases.
Tax increases generally occur in one of two ways, property tax increase or sales tax increase.

How will the money be used?
Funds will be used on capital projects district wide.

How much will the SPLOST cost taxpayers?
Based on annual per capita retail expenditures, the SPLOST will cost approximately $150.00 a year per resident.

Impact
In addition to the tangible improvements, passing the SPLOST may also free funds for spending in areas such as curriculum, teacher salaries, and support staff salaries.

What if the SPLOST Does Not Pass?
The capital projects identified, will either be eliminated, reduced in scope, or funded through adjustments to the general fund.

Regarding the construction of a new Spencer High School, with an estimated price tag of $56 million dollars, without the passage of the 2015 SPLOST, it is improbable that this will occur.

Bottom Line
While political pundits are predicting the 2015 SPLOST will pass, my concern is that regardless of our positions on the issue, our voices are heard in this historic election. Let not our decisions be guided by commercials, personal politics, or political rhetoric, but rather by the impact of our votes on the education and future of our children.

Note: For a more detailed presentation please retrieve from our website at: www.theroadumc.org
Past Recipients Of the Eve of the Year Award

Jacqueline Egins
Sherman Whitfield
Janice Ramsey
Joyce Gosha
Doris Upshaw
Paula Shaw-Powell
Cheryl Walker
Mary Hosley

Past Recipients Of the Quiet Disciple Award

Paula Egins
Rose McRae
Geraldine Hightower

Prayer Warrior On-Call for the month of March
Mr. Emery Ramsey (706) 326-0785

Prayer Concerns

Harold Claytor
926 Celia Drive, Columbus, GA (07) (706) 563-6499
Jeannye Dudley
3039 Four Oaks Drive, Atlanta, GA 30360 (770) 399-6340
Emily Walker
5410 Kennedy Street, Columbus, GA (07) (706) 689-7510

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

Please call the church office at (706) 689-8707 to notify the staff of any known illnesses, hospitalizations or deaths.

Trustee Alert

St. Mary’s Road UMC campus is monitored 24/7 at both interior and exterior spaces.

Please refrain from giving money to people who approach you on our campus. We have ministries in place to respond to persons in need.

@ TheRoadUMC

Visit our Website @ www.theroadumc.org

Lectionary Readings
Week of March 8, 2015
Exodus 20:1-17, Psalm 19
I Corinthians 1:18-25, John 2:13-22

March 29, 2015
10:00 a.m.—Worship Service
News in the Pews

**Usher Meeting:** There will be a mandatory Usher Meeting today after worship service. This meeting will be brief so please make arrangements to attend.

**The Marriage Ministry** will meet Monday, March 9, 2015 at 6:20 p.m. Please come out and enjoy a very special evening with the Marriage Ministry! Our presenters will be Debra & Perry Alexander! Childcare will be available. If you have any questions, please call Mrs. Rose McRae at (706) 327-8379.

**The Altar Guild Easter Lily Drive** is in progress. Buy an Easter Lily in Memory of or in Honor of your loved one(s). Easter Lilies are $10.00 each and will be used to beautify our Sanctuary during the Easter Season. Please see Mrs. Doris Upshaw, Jennie Milliner, or Rose McRae. You may pick up your Easter Lily after the 10:00 a.m. service Easter Sunday. The Last Day to purchase an Easter Lily is Sunday, March 29, 2015.

**The Road, South Columbus and M.L. Harris UM Churches** will hold joint worship services during the Lenten Season. The schedule is as follows: Maundy Thursday Service, Thursday, April 2, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at M.L. Harris UMC, Good Friday Service, Friday, April 3, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Mary’s Road UMC.

**The Sunday School Easter Program** will be held Sunday, April 5, 2015 at 8:30 a.m. Please see your Sunday School Teacher, Mrs. Rose McRae or Ramona Williams or stop by the Sunday School Office for recitations. Rehearsal is Saturday, April 4, 2015 at 11:00 a.m., followed by our Easter Luncheon Celebration.

**Coming Soon!!!** Our 59th Church Anniversary will be on Sunday, April 26, 2015, “On The Road To Sixty.” The colors for this year’s church anniversary will be “Black and Red.” Rev. Frederick Gray will be our messenger, so please mark your calendars to be here for our 10:00 a.m. worship service.

**Don’t forget to deposit** your change in the Faith Well located in the lobby next to the kiosk, each week before or after service. This money will be used to fund our Sunday Breakfast Ministry!

24/7-365 Prayer Request/Praise Report is now available online.

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

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**About our Messenger**

Rev. Dr. Sherry R. Austin

The Rev. Dr. Sherry R. Austin, a native of Urbana, Ohio is a retired ordained Elder in the North Georgia Conference of the United Methodist Church. After earning her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Religion and Philosophy at Clark-Atlanta University, she continued her matriculation at The Interdenominational Theological Center, Atlanta, Georgia. Dr. Austin completed the Master of Divinity, and Doctor of Ministry degrees at United Theological Seminary, Dayton, Ohio.

Pastor Austin has toured the ranks of her spiritual development by serving as both a student and assistant minister of Ben Hill United Methodist Church in Atlanta. She has served as senior pastor of Lithonia First United Methodist Church, Ariel Bowen, Union Chapel, Bethlehem United Methodist Church, and Bentley Hill United Methodist Churches respectively.

Dr. Austin served as The Executive Director of The Atlanta Urban Ministry, serving the needs of men, women, and children who are homeless, as well as the District Board of Trustees, and the District Board of Ordained Ministry of the United Methodist Church. In an effort to make disciples for Jesus Christ, she serves on the Conference level of the World Methodist Evangelism Institute.

Dr. Austin has performed services throughout the United States, and several international countries around the world, including, Africa, Israel and Japan. She has sailed on the Sea of Galilee, prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane, walked the Via de La Rosa (the way Jesus carried His cross for us), and dipped in the Jordan River.

She is a member of several community and civic organizations, including the N.A.A.C.P., The National Council of Negro Women, The National Association of Executive Females, and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

In addition to numerous awards, Dr. Austin most notably was the recipient of a Citizen’s Action Award from the State of Georgia’s Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation; and the Honorable Mayor of Atlanta’s Progressive Award. She has also been featured in Ebony Magazine.

Under the influence of the late Bishop Cornelius L. Henderson, of The United Methodist Church, the late Dr. Samuel D. Proctor of New York City, and her mentor, Dr. Wyatt Tee Walker, the former Chief of Staff to Martin Luther King, Jr., Dr. Austin continues to develop a love for preaching and the pulpit. She loves interacting with people from every nation. She loves mentoring and focuses on spiritual nurture and development. She is the proud mother of one son, Ronald Geoffrey. Her favorite Scripture is “To whom much is given, much shall be required.” (Luke 12:48) Most of all, she loves the Lord, and has dedicated her life in service for Him.
Our Time of Worship
Sunday, March 8, 2015
10:00 A.M.

3rd Sunday in Lent
Color: Purple
Liturgist
Cynthia Williams

THE GATHERING
(Time of Prayer And Meditation)

Lighting of the Candles
Acolytes

*Song of Praise
“Jehovah Jirrah”
Congregation

*Call to Worship
Leader: Today we celebrate the strength, power, passion, beauty, courage, and faith of women across this world. Made in the image and likeness of God, He chose the women to lead, support, nourish, and deliver His glory to the earth.

People: We praise God for the creation of the woman.
Leader: We celebrate women for following the Savior’s example of service. These vessels of life, these wives, these mothers, and these believers are often overlooked, choosing to relinquish their will for the uplifting of others.

People: We honor God for endowing the spirit of service into the heart of the woman.
Leader: We give reverence to every woman, who like the beautiful, thoughtful, mindful, and powerful women of scripture who continue to defy odds, banish stereotypes, and serve in the face of oppression and tradition.

People: We thank God for the unselfish spirit that lives in the heart of the woman.
All: We praise God for the virtuous women who persevered through our yesterdays, influence our todays, and shape our tomorrows. From the rib of man God created woman. He has found favor in her and has sent her into the lives of every man and child.

Medley of Praise
“I Just Want To Praise You”
Congregation

*Invocation
Cynthia Williams

Choral Response
“Lord You Are Welcome”
Congregation

**Parish Notices/Welcome and Recognition of Visitors
Lavinia Wade
(All worship guests and members please sign the Fellowship Register)

Worship Through Music
The Women’s Chorus

The Scripture Lessons
Hebrew Testament
Exodus 20:1-17
Cheryl Walker
New Testament
John 2:13-22
Kayla Walker
Altar Call
Sheila Woodbury
Worship Through Song
The Women’s Chorus
The Introduction of the Messenger
Beverly Brown
Worship Through Music
The Women’s Chorus
The Sermon
Rev. Dr. Sherry Austin
Invitation to Discipleship
Presentations
Georgette Martin
The Presentation of Tithes, Commitments & Offerings
The Extinguishing of the Candles
Acolytes
*The Benediction
Rev. Dr. Sherry Austin
*Congregation standing
**Ushers may seat those entering

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 product fruit in your life.

Scripture:
Subject:

“Be doers of the Word, and not hearers only.” (James 1:22)