

Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church

Established 1812
Warrenton, North Carolina



The Reverend Ray Gooch, Pastor

The Reverend Connie Mitchell Shelton, Bishop
North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church
700 Waterfield Ridge Place
Garner, North Carolina 27529
Phone 800 849-4433

The Reverend David Joyner, District Superintendent
heritagedistrict@nccumc.org

Our mission is to assist people in recognizing God's call to a new life through faith in Christ Jesus. We exist to worship God, to serve Christ and to love our neighbors in the same way God loves us. We are a family of believers who profess our imperfections at the same time that we strive to help each other become more Christ-like through worship, education, service and fellowship.

Service of Word and Table

Sunday, September 7, 2025

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Creation Care Month: Peace with Creation

** THE GATHERING Liturgical Improvisation No. 1 Geotgrge Oldroyd

THE CHIMING OF THE HOUR. WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Light of Christ leads us in to worship.

PRELUDE Liturgical Prelude I Oldroyd

GREETING AND CALL TO CREATION CARE

WORDS OF GREETING AND BLESSING Shalom to You UMH 666

PRAYER

Creator of all, we praise you for the gift of life and for the faith that unites us in care for our common home. We confess how estranged we have become- from one another, from your Creation, and from our truest selves. We acknowledge that our greed and destructive impulses have fractured our relationships with you, with others, and with the Earth. Fertile fields have become barren, forest lie desolate, oceans and rivers are polluted. Thriving communities have become places of suffering, and the earth cries out.

Beloved Christ, who spoke "Shalom" to frightened hearts, stir us to compassionate action. Inspire us to work for the end of conflict and for the full restoration of broken relationships – with you, with the ecumenical community and the human family, and with all Creation. Prince of Peace, through your wounds, teach us to stand in solidarity with the woundedness of others, of creation, and of the world. Through your resurrection, make us people of hope – with visions of swords tuned into ploughshares and tears transformed into joy. My we come together as one family, to labor for your peace – of shalom where all your people may dwell in safety, and rest in quiet places. May we come together as one family, to labor for your peace – a shalom where all your people may dwell in safety, and rest in quiet places. Amen.

* HYMN Praise to the Lord, the Almighty UMH 139

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON I Genesis 3:17-19, 23 Pew Bible OT 3

A TIME OF SHARING WITH THE CHILDREN

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON II Isaiah 32:14-18 Pew Bible OT 627

* HYMN This Is My Father's World UMH 144

PSALTER LESSON Psalm 104:1-3, 24-35, with sung response UMH 826-827

SERMON Abandoned Reverend Gooch

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

ANTHEM Create in Me A Clean Heart, O God Carl Mueller

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Pastor: Merciful God, it is the truth that even as your love for us never fails, our own efforts to love our neighbors and steward your creation have not been as they should be.

People: *We have not loved you with our whole heart.*

Pastor: Merciful God, you call us to trust in you and live faithfully, abundantly and peace-together. Yet we have rejected your gifts, and sin has made shadows on this Earth.

(Confession and Pardon, cont.)

People: *Free us from sin that we may return to you.*

Pastor: Gracious God, we ask you, let the shadows disperse! Let us hear the songs of your creation. In the sound of the running stream, in the song of birds, and in the echo of high tide on a sandy beach, we will listen and be glad!

WORDS OF PARDON

OFFERTORY *Liturgical Prelude II* Oldroyd

* PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS

* DOXOLOGY

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING WITH THANKS FOR THE GIFTS OF CREATION *UMH 13*
by Rev. Richenda Fairhurst

THE LORD’S PRAYER *UMH 895*

SHARING THE HOLY MEAL

OUR THANKS

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others and care for this good earth, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

* HYMN *How Great Thou Art* *UMH 77*

* BENEDICTION

* OUR BLESSING TO ONE ANOTHER *Shalom to You* *UMH 666*

* CHIMING THE TRINITY

* POSTLUDE *Liturgical Improvisation No. 3* *Oldroyd*
The Light of Christ leads us out into the world.

*** Please enter in preparation for Christian Worship.* ** All who are able may stand.*

Pastor, The Reverend Ray Gooch	Organist/Choir Director, Chet Hunt
Liturgist, Jeff Harty	Altar, Mary Hunter
Greeter, Vivian Paynter	Ushers, Elton Brown, Grady Strickland

TO OUR VISITORS: We welcome all of our visitors today! In this hour, may your life be filled with peace as we worship our Lord together. If you do not have a church home, we invite you to join us. Please sign a visitor’s card and let us know if you would like a call or a visit.

SEPTEMBER’S OBSERVANCE: September is being observed as a Season of Creation. The theme is based on the text of *Isaiah 32:14-18* and sets the tone for our worship. The logo for this season, which is on display in the sanctuary, pictures the differences between a tree planted in a well-watered environment and a tree planted in an arid location. The dove at the top of the logo reminds us of the dove that returned to Noah’s ark with a branch from the olive tree to assure Noah that the flood waters had receded. It was time for a new beginning as the people turned from sinfulness to faithfulness to God. A very special thanks to Velvet Boyd and Vivian Paynter for assisting in the preparation of the logo.

FOOTBALL TEAM SUPPER: The Men’s Fellowship group will host a pre-game supper for the Warren County High School Football Team on Friday, September 19. Please plan to participate and help prepare for and serve this much-appreciated meal.

PRAYER PAL SIGN-UP: The process of signing up Adult Prayer Pals, as well as children and youth to be assigned Prayer Pals, is underway. Both forms are in the narthex and should be returned to Vivian Paynter. There is a box in the narthex in which to place completed forms. We need to complete the sign-up process as soon as possible since Prayer Pal 2025-2026 is underway.

CHURCH GROUNDS CLEANUP: On Saturday, September 20, at 9 a.m., there will be a Church Grounds Cleanup Day. Please bring your favorite tools and gloves and plan to help give the church grounds a much needed sprucing up!

BASKET COLLECTION: Basket funds provide relief to those in need in our community. In 2024, the amount raised was \$2,777.00. Thanks to all who contribute throughout the year.

SUNDAY, September 14, 2025

Scripture: Leviticus 19:9-10; Matthew 12:1-8;
Isaiah 32:14-18

Altar: Mary Hunter

Greeter: Velvet Boyd

Ushers: John Coleman, Neblett Bullock

COMING UP

September 10 - Weekly Ecumenical Lectionary Study, 9 a.m., Warrenton Baptist Church
Choir Rehearsal, 5:30 p.m., Fireside Room

September 14 - Morning Worship, 11 a.m.

September 19 - Supper for WCHS Football Team

September 20 - Church Grounds Cleanup

September 25 - Men's Fellowship Supper, 6 p.m.

October 20 - Charge Conference, to be held at Wesley Memorial UMC

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Members

Tom Aycock, Jules Banzet, Mary Lou Bond,
Anne Harris and Saralee Scott

Friends

All who are affected by devastating wildfires,
hurricanes, floods and tornadoes in the US

The families of all in peril in the Middle East

The families of all in peril in the Ukraine
conflict

Scott Lang, brother of Mary Hunter, cardiac
patient at ECU Health Medical Center
in Greenville

Mike Aycock, Logan Barber, John Bender,

Lesa Bobbitt, Mark Byam, Elke Capps,
Glenn Coleman III, Janet Coleman, Syd Cooper,

Abby and Josh Cordes, John Boyd Davis,

Jake Echols, Suzanne Fleming, Allen Harris,

Ronnie Hight, Candy Holland, Donna Hunt,

Diane Lynch, Doris Milligan,

Edgar and Debbie Milligan and Family,

Luke McCullough, Evelyn Ostendorf,

Judy Pulley, Travis Pulley and Holly Williams

Wesley Memorial UMC

210 N. Main St., PO Box 614

Warrenton, NC 27589, 252 257-2129, church

webmaster@wesley Memorial UMC.net

The Reverend Ray Gooch, Pastor

3590 NC 56, Creedmoor, NC 27522

raygooch1950@gmail.com, 919 548-4295

2025 Church Budget - \$112,115.95

Amt. Needed Per Sunday - \$2,157.00

Collection Last Sunday - \$1,793.00

Attendance Last Sunday - 32