

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 the Word

Sunday, August 24, 2025

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

** THE GATHERING O Gott, du frommer Gott Johannes Brahms

THE CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Light of Christ leads us in to worship.

PRELUDE Träumerei Robert Schumann

CALL TO WORSHIP

In the tradition of the Bible, Hebrew people often worshipped God at or on a mountain. *Sometimes the mountain gatherings were a part of a sacred journey to approach God, to live in God's presence, to seek God's blessings.* Sometimes the mountain gatherings were by God's appointment to address moral and ethical challenges. Sometimes God's anger and disappointment was evident, and yet God always provided the means of a fresh start. *Because God is holy and all powerful, we sometimes dread those gatherings. We are afraid, for we have been told that God is a consuming fire.* Let us seek a fresh understanding today of God's power to consume our failures and grant us wholeness and peace.

PRAYER

Almighty God of cleansing and refining fire, teach us how to surrender ourselves to you without fear of being consumed, but in the confidence of being refined for greater service in your kingdom. Amen.

* HYMN Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken UMH 731

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH From the United Church of Canada UMH 883

* GLORIA PATRI UMH 71

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Jeremiah 1:4-10 Pew Bible OT 662

A TIME OF SHARING WITH THE CHILDREN

GOSPEL LESSON Luke 13:10-17 Pew Bible NT 72

* HYMN Come, We That Love the Lord UMH 732

EPISTLE LESSON Hebrews 12:18-29 Pew Bible NT 211

A PSALTER PRAYER Psalm 71:1-6 (in unison) UMH 794

SERMON A Consuming Fire Reverend Gooch

PRAYERS FOR OUR CLEANSING

THE LORD'S PRAYER UMH 895

OFFERTORY Herzbester Jesu Brahms

* PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS

* DOXOLOGY Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow UMH 94

* HYMN Marching to Zion UMH 733

* BENEDICTION AND BLESSING

* CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

* POSTLUDE O wie selig seid ihr doch, ihr Frommen Brahms

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
Liturgist, Jeff Harty
Greeter, Mary Hunter

Organist/Choir Director, Chet Hunt
Ushers, John Franks, Richard Hunter
Altar, Kay Copley

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.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP DINNER: The Men's Fellowship group will gather at Elton Brown's Ranch on Thursday, August 28, at 6 p.m. If you plan to attend, and if you are inviting others, please sign the sign-up sheet in the narthex so that ample food will be provided. A monetary collection for the food will be received of whatever amount you deem appropriate.

NEW CONFERENCE OFFERINGS: Two Conference offerings will be received on Sunday, August 31: The Golden Cross offering assists families in financial distress because of medical bills. The Cross and Key Prison Ministry helps to fund Bible Study to incarcerated persons in our state prison facilities. You can earmark your offering for either or both of these ministries.

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 about to get underway.

WIC BREASTFEEDING WEEK: Warren County Health Department's Women, Infants and Children Program, also known as the WIC program, is celebrating Breastfeeding Week and collecting supplies that will be distributed to clients later in the month. A list of needed items can be found in the narthex. Supplies will be collected until August 31. Please leave your items in the collection box in the Parlor. We will be collecting through the end of the month. Thank you for participating in this important local project.

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.

MUSIC NOTES: On Sunday, April 21, 1986, more than sixty years after his departure from then Soviet Russia, 81-year-old legendary pianist Vladimir Horowitz returned to the land of his birth with a concert at the Great Hall of the Tchaikovsky Conservatory in Moscow. The concert was broadcast live in the United States by CBS television. Among the pieces Horowitz played was Robert Schumann's *Träumerei* ('Reverie') from *Kinderszenen* ('Scenes from Childhood'). As Horowitz played this tender evocation, members of the audience openly wept. Johannes Brahms was a protégé of Schumann and Schumann's wife, pianist and composer Clara Wieck Schumann. Three of Brahms' chorale preludes for organ are voluntaries this morning: first, *O God, Thou Faithful God*, then *Ah, Dearest Jesus* and finally, *Thou Who Live in Faith Unswerving*. Brahms composed these pieces in memory of Clara Schumann.

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.

CHURCH GROUNDS CLEANUP: On Saturday, September 20, there will be a Church Grounds Cleanup Day. Please bring your favorite tools, rakes, brooms, gloves, etc. and plan to pitch in and give the church grounds a much needed sprucing!

CHERRY HILL CONCERT: This afternoon's Cherry Hill Concert will feature Jonathan Levin, pianist, and mezzo-soprano Angeli-que Alexander. The husband and wife duo will present a program of works by Dvorak, Brahms, Liszt, Weber, Verdi and other revered composers. The concert begins at 3 p.m., and admission is \$10 adults, \$5.00 students, and 12 and under, free. Cherry Hill is located in Inez on Hwy 58.

SUNDAY, August 31, 2025

Scripture: Jeremiah 2:4-13; Psalm 81:1, 10-16;
Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16; Luke 14:1, 7-14

Altar: Ramona DuBose

Greeter: Ramona DuBose

Ushers: Alan DuBose, Lee Whitley

COMING UP

Today - Cherry Hill Concert, 3 p.m.

August 27 - Weekly Ecumenical Lectionary Study, 9 a.m., Warrenton Baptist Church

August 28 - Men's Fellowship Supper, 6 p.m., Elton Brown's Ranch; Sign up in narthex

August 31 - Morning Worship, 11 a.m.

September 19 - Supper for WCHS Football Team

September 20 - Church Grounds Cleanup

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

Mike Aycock, Logan Barber, Lesa Bobbitt,
Mark Byam, Elke Capps, Glenn Coleman III,
Janet Coleman, Syd Cooper,
Abby & Josh Cordes, John Boyd Davis,
Jake Echols, Suzanne Fleming, Allen Harris,
Terri Hedrick, Ronnie Hight, Candy Holland,
Donna Hunt, Diane Lynch, Doris Milligan,
Luke McCullough, Evelyn Ostendorf,
Tim Proctor, Judy Pulley, Travis Pulley,
Nancy Walman and Holly Williams

Wesley Memorial UMC

210 N. Main St., PO Box 614

**Warrenton, NC 27589, 252 257-2129, church
webmaster@wesley Memorialumc.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 - \$1,256.00

Attendance Last Sunday - 32