

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
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The Reverend David Joyner, District Superintendent
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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, September 14, 2025

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

** THE GATHERING *Prelude in C* Charles Callahan
THE CHIMING OF THE HOUR. WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Light of Christ leads us in to worship.

PRELUDE *Meditation on 'My Shepherd Will Supply My Need'* Callahan

GREETING AND CALL TO CREATION CARE

WORDS OF GREETING AND BLESSING *Shalom to You* UMH 666

PRAYER

O God of great bounty, we give you thanks for providing for our lives through the gifts found in nature, from the harvests that come from diligent toil, from the generosity of those who share with those who cannot adequately provide for themselves and from the blessings that come through your Holy Spirit. May our worship reflect your generosity as our hearts are transformed by your grace. Amen.

* HYMN *From All That Dwell Below the Skies* UMH 101

* AN AFFIRMATION OF CREATION

We affirm that all creation belongs to God and is a manifestation of God's goodness and providential care. Human beings, nonhuman animals, plants, and other sentient and non sentient beings participate in the community of creation, and their flourishing depends on the care of all God's creation. Rather than treating creation as if it were placed here solely for humanity's use and consumption, we are called to practice responsible stewardship and to live in right relationship with the Creator and with the whole of God's creation. We are also called to honor the role of every part of creation in healing the whole; thus we praise God with the whole of creation and recognize that we are part of complex ecosystems, all valued by God. We affirm our sacred calling to be responsible stewards and to lovingly tend all that God has wrought. We recognize the inherent worth of God's creation, celebrate earth's abundance and diversity, and, along with the entirety of the cosmos, give praise to its Creator. We recognize we are interconnected members of complex ecosystems, intricate webs of life, all of which have their origins in God's gracious act of creation.

* GLORIA PATRI *Glory Be to the Father* UMH 71

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON I *Leviticus 19:9-10* Pew Bible OT 104

A TIME OF SHARING WITH THE CHILDREN

GOSPEL LESSON *Matthew 12:1-8* Pew Bible NT 11

READING OF *When the Poor Ones* UMH 434

Readers will read each of the verses and the congregation is asked to read the refrain following each verse.

* HYMN *God Who Stretches the Spangled Heavens* UMH 150

* PSALTER LESSON *Psalms 147* UMH 859-860

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

ANTHEM *The Heavens Are Telling* Ludwig van Beethoven

SERMON *A Feast from the Gleanings* Reverend Gooch

PRAYERS FOR ALL OUR FEASTS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

UMH 895

OFFERTORY

Sicilienne

Callahan

* PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS

* DOXOLOGY

* HYMN

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

UMH 89

* BENEDICTION

* OUR BLESSING TO ONE ANOTHER

Shalom to You

UMH 666

* CHIMING THE TRINITY

* POSTLUDE

The Word of God

Callahan

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, Velvet Boyd

Ushers, John Coleman, Neblett Bullock

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.

NOMINATIONS MEETING: Following today's service, the Nominations Committee will meet to begin the work of creating a slate of church leaders for 2026. The nominations will be presented to the Administrative Council on September 28 and affirmed at the Charge Conference on October 20. The committee members are Ray Gooch, Velvet Boyd, Kent Copley, Jennifer Franks, Elton Brown, Rebecca Harris, Betsy Frazier and Jeff Harty.

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. Because of the September 19 meal, there will be no other meeting of the Men's Fellowship Group this month.

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!

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING:

The quarterly meeting of the Administrative Council will be held on Sunday, September 28, 2025 at 9:30 a.m. in the church Fellowship Hall. All are welcome to attend the meeting, but church officers and committee chairs are especially needed at this meeting.

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 21, 2025

Scripture: Isaiah 32:14-18; I Corinthians 12:12-27;
Genesis 1:20-31

Altar: Sheila Blackwood

Greeter: Stephie Harty

Ushers: Tommy Ross, Lee Whitley

COMING UP

Today - Nominations Committee Meeting,
following Worship

September 17 - Weekly Ecumenical Lectionary
Study, 9 a.m., Warrenton Baptist Church
Choir Rehearsal, 5:30 p.m., Fireside Room

September 19 - Supper for WCHS Football Team

September 20 - Church Grounds Cleanup

September 21 - Morning Worship, 11 a.m.

September 25 - NO Men's Fellowship Supper

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

The family, friends and colleagues of Charlie
Kirk, assassinated in Utah on Wednesday

The family, friends and colleagues of all who
are killed or injured in senseless mass shootings

The families of all in peril in the Middle East

The families of all in peril in Ukraine

Scott Lang - Brother of Mary Hunter, in treat-
ment for cardiac issues while awaiting surgery

Mike Aycock, Logan Barber, John Bender,
Lesla 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

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The Reverend Ray Gooch, Pastor

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2025 Church Budget - \$112,115.95

Amt. Needed Per Sunday - \$2,157.00

Collection Last Sunday - \$1,643.00

Attendance Last Sunday - 30