

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
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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, October 26, 2025

20th Sunday after Pentecost/Reformation Sunday

** THE GATHERING Aurelia, Duke Street and Ellacombe Noel Rawsthorne
THE CHIMING OF THE HOUR, WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Light of Christ leads us in to worship.

PRELUDE Ein' feste Burg Rawsthorne
CALL TO WORSHIP

On this Reformation Sunday we recall that a new ordering came to the church universal. What may have seemed as division to some, was seen by others as new birth. *God is the giver of all order, so we turn to God to order the life of the church so that new birth produces fruitfulness and solidarity with the Holy Spirit.* May our worship this day bring clarity both of changes that we witness and an openness to fresh movement of God's Holy Spirit.

PRAYER Olive Wyon

Spirit of promise, Spirit of unity, we thank you that you are also the Spirit of renewal. Renew in the whole Church that passionate desire for the coming of your kingdom which will unite all Christians in one mission to the world. May we all grow up together into him who is our head, the Savior of the world. Amen.

* HYMN A Mighty Fortress Is Our God UMH 110

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Nicene Creed UMH 880

* GLORIA PATRI Glory Be to the Father UMH 71

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Joel 2:23-32 Pew Bible OT 804

A TIME OF SHARING WITH THE CHILDREN

GOSPEL LESSON Luke 18:9-14 Pew Bible NT 77

ANTHEM Father Almighty César Franck

EPISTLE LESSON II Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18 Pew Bible NT 200

* HYMN Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (vs. 1, 2 & 5) UMH 139

* PSALTER LESSON Psalm 65 (with response) UMH 789-790

SERMON The Ever-Changing Order of the Church Reverend Gooch

PRAYERS FOR THE ORDERING OF OUR LIVES THROUGH THE CHURCH

THE LORD'S PRAYER UMH 895

OFFERTORY Ellers Rawsthorne

* PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS

* DOXOLOGY Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow UMH 94

* HYMN The Church's One Foundation UMH 545

* BENEDICTION AND BLESSING

* CHORAL RESPONSE Go Now in Peace UMH 665

* CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

* POSTLUDE Lobe den Herren Rawsthorne

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, Ramona DuBose

Organist/Choir Director, Chet Hunt
Altar, Martha Hicks
Ushers, Heath Frazier, Richard Hunter

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.

REFORMATION SUNDAY: Reformation Sunday recalls the reordering of the life of the Christian Church that was initiated in 1517 by a protest by Martin Luther. In our worship today we are using the Nicene Creed that was agreed upon by a church council 1,700 years ago to address issues that had divided the church. May God's Spirit lead us in this observance today.

CONGRATULATIONS! Congratulations to Alaina Pulley and Hampton Short who were married yesterday, October 25, at Whispering Oaks Farm Venue in Afton. Alaina is a member of Wesley Memorial and the daughter of Paula and Ben Pulley. Hampton is the grandson of Macey and Vivian Paynter. Our blessings and best wishes to Alaina and Hampton as they enter this new passage.

COOKIE DELIVERIES: Our Cookies for Schools project will be held this Tuesday, October 28, when we deliver boxes of homemade cookies to all schools in the Warren County Schools district and other public agencies. Bring your favorite homemade cookies to the church Fellowship Hall by 9 a.m. that morning and plan to stay to help box them up for delivery. The last time we conducted this project, we had more than 1,600 cookies and delivered to some 17 schools and other agencies such as law enforcement, town halls, and the health department. For more information, please see Jennifer Franks.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP SUPPER: The monthly Men's Fellowship Supper will be held this coming Thursday, October 30, at 6 p.m. in the church Fellowship Hall. Please plan to attend, and consider bringing a guest! A sign-up sheet is in the narthex so that we can get an accurate head count.

WREATH PROJECT 2025: Plans are underway for the 2025 Wreath Project. **Bow Making will be held on Wednesday, November 12, at 9:30 a.m. in the Fireside Room.** Please plan on helping out. Boxwood will be gathered during Thanksgiving weekend, and wreaths will be made the week of **December 1 - 5.** Please mark your calendars and plan to lend a hand for this church-wide project! Orders for wreaths may be placed by contacting Elaine Coleman, ElaineGibsonColeman@gmail.com, or Mary Hunter, malhunter210@gmail.com. Note: We are still happy to accept and recycle your old wreath forms!

MUSIC NOTES: This morning's anthem, *Father Almighty*, is an English text adaptation by E. J. Lorenz of the Latin text *Panis Angelicus* (*Bread of Heaven*). The Latin text was written by Saint Thomas Aquinas in the 13th century for the Feast of Corpus Christi, a celebration of the body and blood of Jesus Christ. French composer, organist and teacher César Franck set the text to music as a part of his *Messe à trois voix*, Opus 12 (*Mass for three voices*). Franck's composition was first published in 1872.

OUR THANKS! Our thanks to all of you who braved the chilly morning and volunteered on Tuesday at Loaves and Fishes for the curbside food distribution. Some 75 cars came through, and trunks were loaded with a bounty of fresh fruits and vegetables.

NEW WEBSITE: If you haven't already, be sure to check out Wesley Memorial's newly designed and improved website! See for yourself at wesleymemorialumc.net. Our thanks to the Communications Committee for its perseverance over the past few months, and a special thanks to Brad Meisburg of Greenville, SC for his guidance, expertise and support. Members of the Communications Committee are Jennifer Franks, John Franks, Alan DuBose, Ramona DuBose and Mary Hunter, chair.

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, November 2, 2025

Scripture: Daniel 7:1-7, 15-18; Ephesians 1:11-23;
Luke 6:20-31

Altar: Anne Harris

Greeter: Sheila Blackwood

Ushers: Alan DuBose, Richard Hunter

COMING UP

Today - Cherry Hill Concert, 3 p.m.

Astralis Ensemble string trio

October 28 - Cookies for Schools Project, 9 a.m.
Fellowship Hall

October 29 - Weekly Ecumenical Lectionary
Study, 9 a.m., Warrenton Baptist Church
Choir Rehearsal, 5:30 p.m., Fireside Room

October 30 - Men's Fellowship Supper, 6 p.m.,
WMUMC Fellowship Hall

November 2 - Morning Worship, 11:00 a.m.

November 9 - Covered Dish Luncheon, Fellowship
Hall, following Morning Worship

November 23 - Community Thanksgiving Service
Courthouse Square

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Members

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

Friends

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

All parties involved with the fragile peace deal,
hostage/prisoner exchange in the Middle East

The families of all in peril in Ukraine

Mike Aycock, Logan Barber, Chip Bristow,
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,
John Jenkins II, Scott Lang, 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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2025 Church Budget - \$112,115.95

Amt. Needed Per Sunday - \$2,157.00

Collection Last Sunday - \$802.00

Attendance Last Sunday - 37