

# 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](mailto: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.*

*Fourth Sunday of Advent*

\* *All who are able may stand.*

---

---

Pastor, The Reverend Ray Gooch  
Liturgist, Jeff Harty  
Greeter, Suzi Byam

Organist/Choir Director, Chet Hunt  
Ushers, Steve Milligan, Tommy Ross  
Acolyte, Ellen Hunter  
Altar, Anne Harris

---

---

**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.

---

**CHRISTMAS OPPORTUNITIES:** Thanks to all who selected "ornaments" from the Angel Tree. Your gifts are filling the narthex and will surely brighten Christmas for several in need. Today is the deadline for returning your gifts, if you haven't already. Please wrap your gift and attach the name portion only of the gift tag. Thank you for your generosity and thoughtfulness!

---

**CONTEMPLATIVE WORSHIP:** Tomorrow night, December 22 at 5 p.m., there will be a contemplative worship, *Waiting in Darkness*, at Solitude Farm and Retreat Center, 182 Stagecoach Road, Warrenton, NC. Please bring a flashlight and arrive no later than 4:55 pm. Thank you to the Wethingtons for hosting, and to The Reverend Candy White for leading this service.

---

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE:** At 5 p.m. on Christmas Eve, Wesley Memorial will host *A Service of Lessons and Carols, Communion and Candlelight*. Please come as you are and bring your guests to this special service. The offering at this service is earmarked for the Pastor's Discretionary Fund to assist people in our community.

---

**CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS:** Our sincere thanks to all of you who so generously gave poinsettias and boxwood wreaths to decorate the church and parsonage for Christmas, and a special thanks to all who offered their talents to make the entire church, inside and out, a special place to worship and spend Advent and Christmas. Poinsettias will be on the altar for Christmas Eve and may be picked up following Wednesday's service.

---

**OUR SYMPATHIES:** We extend sympathies to the family, friends and colleagues of The Reverend Charles Owens, former pastor at Wesley Memorial, who died Saturday, December 13, at Croasdaile Village in Durham. Condolences may be shared with his children, Rosa, Eddie and Bobby, at 1119 Olive Branch Road, Durham, 27703. A celebration of his life will be in the new year.

---

**COMMUNITY PRAYER TREE:** Wesley Memorial hosted a lovely gathering on Monday night during which several from Warrenton Baptist Church led the devotional and presented music for Community Prayer Tree gathering. The tree will be up through Christmas, and you may still place prayer request tags on the tree. Please let others know!

---

**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.

---

---

## REMEMBER IN PRAYER

### Members

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

### Friends

The family, friends and colleagues of Mike Aycock

The family, friends and colleagues of The Reverend Charles Owens, former WMUMC pastor

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

Logan Barber, Lesa Bobbitt, Elke Capps, Glenn Coleman III, Janet Coleman,  
Syd Cooper, Abby and Josh Cordes, John Boyd Davis, Suzanne Fleming, Allen Harris,  
Ronnie Hight, Candy Holland, Donna Hunt, Phil Hunt, Warren Knight, Scott Lang,  
Diane Lynch, Doris Milligan, Luke McCullough, Chris Pegram, Judy Pulley, Travis Pulley,  
Suzan Monk Stafford and Holly Williams

---

---

**SUNDAY, December 28, 2025**

**Scripture:** Isaiah 52:7-10; Psalm 98;  
Hebrews 1:1-4 (5-12); John 1:1-14

**Altar:** Anne Harris

**Greeter:** Suzi Byam

**Ushers:** Alan DuBose, Lee Whitley

### COMING UP

**December 22** - *Waiting in Darkness* worship, 5 p.m.

Solitude Farm and Retreat Center

182 Stagecoach Road, Warrenton

**December 24** - Christmas Eve Service, 5 p.m.

Wesley Memorial sanctuary

**December 28** - Morning Worship, 11 a.m.

**Wesley Memorial UMC**

**210 N. Main St., PO Box 614**

**Warrenton, NC 27589, 252 257-2129, church**

**wesleymemorialumc.net**

**webmaster@wesleymemorialumc.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 - \$11,115.00*

*Attendance Last Sunday - 35*