

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, December 28, 2025

First Sunday After Christmas Day

** THE GATHERING	Carols	Charles Callahan
THE CHIMING OF THE HOUR		
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS		
	<i>The Light of Christ leads us in to worship.</i>	
PRELUDE	<i>Infant Holy, Infant Lowly</i>	Callahan
CALL TO WORSHIP		
	<i>At the birth of Jesus Christ, the world is gifted with the presence of God in the form of a human being and divinely inspired to seek the kingdom of God. Let us rise to celebrate God's gift through Psalm 98, page 818 in your hymnal.</i>	
* PSALTER LESSON	Psalm 98, response 2	UMH 818-819
* PRAYER		
	<i>Eternal God, by the birth of Jesus Christ, you gave yourself to the world. Grant that, being born in our hearts, he may save us from all our sins, and restore within us the image and likeness of our Creator, to whom be everlasting praise and glory, world without end.</i>	
	<i>Amen.</i>	
* HYMN	<i>Hark! the Herald Angels Sing</i>	UMH 240
* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH	<i>A Modern Affirmation</i>	UMH 885
* GLORIA PATRI	<i>Glory Be to the Father</i>	UMH 71
PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION		
OLD TESTAMENT LESSON	<i>Isaiah 52:7-10</i>	Pew Bible OT 648
A TIME OF SHARING WITH THE CHILDREN		
EPISTLE LESSON	<i>Hebrews 1:1-12</i>	Pew Bible NT 203
* HYMN	<i>Angels We Have Heard on High</i>	UMH 238
GOSPEL LESSON	<i>John 1:1-14</i>	Pew Bible NT 87
SERMON	<i>One Like Me</i>	Reverend Gooch
PRAYERS FOR LIFE AFTER CHRISTMAS		
THE LORD'S PRAYER		UMH 895
OFFERTORY	<i>Ding Dong Merrily on High</i>	Callahan
PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS		
* DOXOLOGY	<i>Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow</i>	UMH 94
* HYMN	<i>Joy to the World</i>	UMH 246
* BENEDICTION AND BLESSINGS		
* CHORAL RESPONSE	<i>Amen</i>	UMH 898
* CHIMING OF THE TRINITY		
* POSTLUDE	<i>Noel Fanfare</i>	Callahan
	<i>The Light of Christ leads us out into the world.</i>	

** Please enter in preparation for Christian Worship.

* All who are able may stand.

Pastor, The Reverend Ray Gooch
Liturgist, Jeff Harty
Greeter, Kae Aycock

Organist / Choir Director, Chet Hunt
Ushers, Alan DuBose, Lee Whitley
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 EVE OFFERING: This year, the Christmas Eve offering was designated for Wesley Memorial's Pastor's Discretionary Fund, and is to be used to help those in need in the community. A total of \$2283.00 was given that evening. As always, thank you for your generosity and for supporting this important local mission.

POINSETTIAS AND WREATHS: Our sincere thanks to all of you who so generously gave poinsettias and boxwood wreaths to decorate the church for Christmas. A special thanks to Mabel and Neblett Bullock, Stephie and Jeff Harty, Anne Harris, Jennifer Franks and Rebecca Harris for the church decorations and arrangements, inside and out, throughout this festive season. Several poinsettias have yet to be picked up, and can be found out in the "old entrance" of the church. Also, extra copies of the Christmas Eve insert that lists the poinsettia and wreath gifts honoring loved ones are available in the narthex.

A SPECIAL CHRISTMAS: Thanks to all of you who have so generously *given* during this season of Advent and Christmas. From wreath making (and purchasing), to decorating, giving of poinsettias, providing of and delivering Angel Tree gifts, to participating in services, special music and special celebrations, and for the many acts of kindness that only you know about - many thanks to each and every one of you for making this holiday season special at Wesley Memorial.

BASKET COLLECTION: Basket funds are used to provide relief to those of our community who are in need. In 2023, the amount raised was \$2,203.00. 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 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, Kay Schoellhorn, Suzan Monk Stafford, Bob Traylor and Holly Williams

SUNDAY, January 4, 2026

Scripture: Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14;
Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12

Altar: Claudia Wemyss

Greeter: Betsy Frazier

Ushers: Elton Brown, Grady Strickland

COMING UP

January 7 - Weekly Ecumenical Lectionary
Study, 9 a.m., Warrenton Baptist Church

January 11 - Morning Worship, 11 a.m.

January 14 - Choir Rehearsal Resumes, 5:30 p.m.
Fireside Room

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2025 Church Budget - \$112,115.95
Amt. Needed Per Sunday - \$2,157.00

Collection Last Sunday - \$6,887.00

Attendance Last Sunday - 46

Christmas Eve Collection - \$2283.00

Attendance Christmas Eve - 93