

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 Word and Table

Sunday, May 3, 2026

Fifth Sunday of Easter

** THE GATHERING *Variations I & II, 'Deck Thyself, My Soul, with Gladness'* David N. Johnson

THE CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Light of Christ leads us in to worship.

PRELUDE *Variation III, 'Deck Thyself, My Soul, with Gladness'* Johnson

CALL TO WORSHIP

In the journey of this life, we sometimes have to choose allegiance to causes or leaders or ideals to which we are willing to commit our time, our energy and our loyalty. The choosing is not always easy, but ultimately until we make the choice our witness is not clear to our spirits or visible to others. ***As disciples of Jesus Christ we make that choice, but to totally commit to Jesus as Lord requires unwavering allegiance.*** Let us now commit, as did the psalmist, to letting God be the leader of our lives.

PSALTER LESSON *Psalms 31:1-5, 15-16* UMH 764-765

PRAYER

Lord, you have heard our words. Help us daily to surrender ourselves to your leading. Amen.

* HYMN *The Church's One Foundation* UMH 545

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *The Apostles' Creed* UMH 881

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

A MISSION MOMENT REGARDING CLERGY LEADERSHIP IN EUROPE,
AFRICA AND THE PHILIPPINES

VIDEO WITNESS

PRAYER

God, we are quickly approaching the commitment to assist the clergy of our United Methodist Church around the world in their theological education. Fill us with your joy that we may serve you by equipping others to serve in servant leadership. Amen.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GOSPEL LESSON *John 14:1-14* Pew Bible NT 103

A TIME OF SHARING WITH THE CHILDREN

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON *Acts 7:51-60* Pew Bible NT 119

ANTHEM *All the Way Home* Sarah Quartel

EPISTLE LESSON *I Peter 2:2-10* Pew Bible NT 216

* HYMN *My Times Are in Thy Hands* Bulletin Insert

SERMON *"My Times Are In Your Hands!" - I Entrust Myself to You!* Reverend Gooch

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

OUR CONFESSION AND PARDON UMH 12

OFFERTORY *Variation IV, 'Deck Thyself, My Soul, with Gladness'* Johnson

* PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS

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

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING UMH 13

THE LORD'S PRAYER
SHARING THE HOLY MEAL
OUR THANKS

UMH 895

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Through this sacrament help us to know him who died and rose for us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others and to serve joyfully, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

- * HYMN *For the Bread Which You Have Broken* UMH 614
* BENEDICTION
* CHORAL RESPONSE *Go Forth For God, Go to the World in Strength* UMH 670
* CHIMING THE TRINITY
* POSTLUDE *Variation V, 'Deck Thyself, My Soul, with Gladness'* Johnson
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, Velvet Boyd

Organist/Choir Director, Chet Hunt
Altar, Kay Copley
Ushers, John Coleman, Michael Comstock

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.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER: This year's National Day of Prayer observance will be held on Thursday, May 7, at 12 noon on Warren County's Courthouse Square, and again at 6 p.m. at the Warren County Armory Civic Center. This year's theme is *The Lord is My Light and Salvation, Psalm 27:1*. Plan to bring your own lawn chair and be a part of this community-wide effort.

MOTHER'S DAY OBSERVANCE: Mother's Day is May 10, a day that our focus is on love. In observance of that special day, we invite you to bring to church an item that symbolizes love or a message of love, such as a plaque, a figurine, a picture etc., to display in a window of the church. Please include a small tag with a short explanation of the significance of your display.

SPECIAL COLLECTION: On May 10, Mother's Day, there will be a special collection for Methodist Retirement Homes. As always, thank you for your generosity.

MIRACLE SUNDAY CAMPAIGN: We are participating in a capital campaign that seeks to establish an endowment for theological education in Africa, the Philippines and Europe. The campaign, *How Did Jesus Call Disciples?*, is a worldwide effort sponsored by the United Methodist Church that will inform people about the urgent need for the local church to assist with theological education for clergy, internationally. Our participation in this campaign will culminate on Sunday, May 17, *Miracle Sunday*, when you will have the opportunity to contribute to the capital campaign/endowment.

A STUDY ON DISCIPLESHIP: Ray Gooch is facilitating a six-week study, *Discipleship*, that meets each Sunday morning through May 17 at 9:30 a.m. Study guides for the class are available in the narthex. The class is meeting in the front of the sanctuary, and all are welcome and encouraged to participate.

FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON: Our next Fellowship Luncheon will be held on May 17, *Miracle Sunday*, following morning worship. Please plan to bring a favorite dish or dessert and stay for lunch. Consider bringing guests!

PROJECT AGAPE PRESENTATION: On Tuesday, May 26, at 7 p.m., Nara Melkonyan, who works with Project Agape, will be at Wesley Memorial UMC to share news about the project that was started in Armenia in 1989 to provide relief to those impacted by a disastrous earthquake. You are invited to this informational and conversational meeting with Nara that will be held in the sanctuary. A reception will follow the gathering. Please invite others to join us.

SUNDAY, May 10, 2026

Scripture: Acts 1:1-14; Psalm 47; Ephesians 1:15-23; Luke 24:44-53

Altar: Ramona DuBose

Greeter: Elizabeth Comstock

Ushers: Alan DuBose, Tommy Ross

COMING UP

- May 6** - Weekly Ecumenical Lectionary Study, 9 a.m., Warrenton Baptist Church
- May 7** - National Day of Prayer, 12 noon, Warren County Courthouse Square and 6 p.m. Warren County Armory Civic Center
- May 10** - Discipleship Study with Ray Gooch, 9:30 a.m., Sanctuary
Morning Worship, 11 a.m.; Mother's Day Special Collection for Methodist Retirement Homes
- May 17** - Miracle Sunday; Fellowship Luncheon, following Morning Worship, Fellowship Hall
- May 26** - Project Agape Presentation, 7 p.m., WMUMC Sanctuary

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Members

Tom Aycocock, Harriet Banzet, Jules Banzet,
Anne Harris and Saralee Scott

Friends

Members of the US military and those abroad,
engaged in and affected by warfare

Nancy Guthrie, mother of *Today Show* host
Savannah Guthrie, abducted on February 1 in
Tucson, Arizona

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

Logan Barber, John Blalock, Lesa Bobbitt,
Jerry Bolton, Chip Bristow, Steve Brooks,
Elke Capps, Glenn Coleman III, Janet Coleman,
Syd Cooper, Jimmy Crenshaw,

Desiree Robertson, Suzanne Fleming,
Kevin Geraghty, Martine Gomory, Allen Harris,
Sarah Hickman, Ronnie Hight, Candy Holland,
Rev. and Mrs. Carson Jones, Luke McCullough,
Judy Joyner Morgan, Chris Pegram,
Judy Pulley, Travis Pulley, and Holly Williams

Wesley Memorial UMC

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The Reverend Ray Gooch, Pastor

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2026 Church Budget - \$129,346.95

Amt. Needed Per Sunday - \$2,488.00

Collection Last Sunday - \$2,266.00

Attendance Last Sunday - 35