

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 Word and Table

Sunday, July 5, 2026

Sixth Sunday of Pentecost

** THE GATHERING *Meditation on 'America, the Beautiful'* James Denton
WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS and THE CHIMING OF THE HOUR

The Light of Christ leads us in to Worship.

PRELUDE *Fanfare* Gordon Jacob
 America *Thesaurus Musicus, 1774*

CALL TO WORSHIP

In this year our nation marks 250 years of history initiated when colonists journeyed to a New World with hopes and dreams of a new life. In due time they banded themselves together in a confederation to map out a new nation. Today we begin a celebration of their journey and ours, to freedom. ***May our hearts and minds embrace the recollection of their insistence for freedom and honestly explore the freedom challenges in our day.***

A PRAYER FOR OUR COUNTRY UMH 429

* HYMN *All People That on Earth Do Dwell* UMH 75

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *The Apostles Creed* UMH 881

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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON *I Chronicles 16:23-36* Pew Bible OT 366

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *Amen and Praise the Lord!*

A TIME OF SHARING WITH THE CHILDREN

EPISTLE LESSON *Galatians 5:13-26* Pew Bible NT 179

* HYMN *America the Beautiful* UMH 696

GOSPEL LESSON *Matthew 11:28-30* Pew Bible NT 11

THE JOURNEY TO FREEDOM: 250 YEARS AND NOW

SERMON *The Freedom of Worship* Reverend Gooch

PRAYER *Help Us Accept Each Other* UMH 560

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

PRAYERS OF CONFESSION AND PARDON UMH 12

OFFERTORY *Let Us Break Bread Together* Charles Callahan

* DOXOLOGY

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING UMH 13

THE LORD'S PRAYER UMH 895

SHARING THE HOLY MEAL

OUR THANKS

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. We celebrate our freedom to worship. Help us guard that freedom for ourselves and for others. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit to give ourselves for others in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

* HYMN *God of the Ages* UMH 698

* BENEDICTION AND BLESSING

* CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

* POSTLUDE *The National Anthem of the United States of America* John Stafford Smith

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, Cynthia Jenkins

Organist/Choir Director, Chet Hunt
Altar, Kate Hazen
Ushers, Ben Hunter, 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.

CHURCH T-SHIRTS: Several people have asked about getting church T-shirts, and we now have a couple of selections to choose from: a unisex light heather gray crew neck and a ladies fit white v-neck. Both shirts have the church name, town, state, and UMC flame and cross on the front. Order forms are in the narthex. Please make your selections on the form, indicating how many of each size you would like. Sizes Small-XL are \$18; 2X and 3X are \$19. Make checks payable to the church. Once all orders are in by the deadline of July 12, we will place one order with Lake Gaston Sign & Graphic Co. and distribute the shirts when they arrive.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Tuesday's Table will be serving meals on July 7 and 21 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Several volunteers are needed for each date to help with meal prep, serving food and filling beverages, room tear down, and kitchen clean-up. Volunteer hours are flexible between the hours of 9 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. for those who are unable to stay the entire time. If anyone is available to help on either of those dates, please let Jennifer Franks know or contact her at 252 257-0633. Volunteer applications are available in the narthex and may be returned to Jennifer. Tuesday's Table will begin service every Tuesday from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. in August at the Warrenton Rural Vol. Fire Station, 236 S. Main St., Warrenton.

HAVE EXTRA PRODUCE IN YOUR GARDEN?: Help Tuesday's Table serve the community nutritious food with your donations. Fresh produce may be brought to church on Sundays and left in the produce collection bin in the narthex, or delivered during the week to Rebecca Harris at Citizens Insurance & Bonding, 130 N. Main St., Suite 4, Warrenton, Mon-Fri, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. During the month of July, Tuesday's Table will be serving lunch from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. on July 7 and 21. Service every Tuesday will begin in August at the Warrenton Rural Vol. Fire Station, 236 S. Main St., Warrenton.

PRAYER PAL SIGN UP: Sign up sheets for the 2026-2027 Prayer Pal Program are in the narthex for both children and youth as well as adult prayer partners. Please complete the appropriate form and return to Rebecca no later than August 1st. Assignments will then be made prior to the beginning of the school year.

FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON: Our next fellowship luncheon is planned for Sunday, August 16. Also planned for that day is the Prayer Pal BIG REVEAL, the day when children will learn who has been in daily prayer for them and making contact throughout the year. Please mark your calendars and plan to be with us here! As we approach our Prayer Pal Reveal Celebration, Adult Prayer Partners are encouraged to send notes to Prayer Pals telling them how excited you are to share this day and reminding them to plan to be present.

CELEBRATION OBSERVED: During July, in concert with our nation's 250th celebration, each of our services will celebrate a freedom that we treasure in our country and our commitment to guarding those freedoms.

LOAVES & FISHES NEEDS: Loaves & Fishes is in desperate need of egg cartons. Please save and bring your empty ones to the church narthex, and they will be delivered to them.

MUSIC NOTES: On this Sunday after Independence Day, during the POSTLUDE, all are invited to remain in place and join in the singing of *The National Anthem of the United States of America*, words by Francis Scott Key, 1814.

BASKET COLLECTION: Basket funds are used to provide relief to those of our community who are in need. In 2025, the amount raised was \$2,561.00. Thanks to all who contribute throughout the year.

SUNDAY, July 12, 2026

Scripture: Psalm 118:5-9; Proverbs 14:34;
Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Altar: Dian Sourelis

Greeter: Susan Whitley

Ushers: Steve Milligan, Tommy Ross

COMING UP

July 7 - Tuesday's Table, WRFD, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

July 8 - Weekly Ecumenical Lectionary Study,
9 a.m., Warrenton Baptist Church

July 12 - Morning Worship, 11 a.m.

July 21 - Tuesday's Table, WRFD, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

August 16 - Fellowship Covered Dish Luncheon,
Prayer Pal BIG R  VEAL

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Members

Tom Aycock, Harriet Banzet, Jules Banzet 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, Stacie and River Barber and family,
Lesa Bobbitt, Jerry Bolton, Chip Bristow,
Steve Brooks, Elke Capps, Glenn Coleman III,
Janet Coleman, Syd Cooper, Jimmy Crenshaw,
Dee Draffin, Suzanne Fleming, Iris Frazier,
Kevin Geraghty, Martine Gomory, Allen Harris,
Karla Hehl, Sarah Hickman, Candy Holland,
Donna Hunt, The Rev. and Mrs. Carson Jones,
Scott Lang, Luke McCullough, Nathan Medlin,
Chris Pegram, Judy Pulley, Travis Pulley,
Desiree Robertson, Heidi Seifert, Ann Stultz,
and Holly Williams

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2026 Church Budget - \$129,346.95
Amt. Needed Per Sunday - \$2,488.00

Collection Last Sunday - \$1,823.00
Attendance Last Sunday - 37