

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
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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, August 9, 2026

Eleventh Sunday of Pentecost

** THE GATHERING Stuttgart (Child of Blessing, Child of Promise) C. S. Lang

THE CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Light of Christ leads us in to Worship.

PRELUDE St. Peter (In Christ There Is No East or West)

Lang

CALL TO WORSHIP

Sometimes when we are reading, we use a marker or our finger to make sure we stay on the line, but when we are reading stories, such as stories in the Bible, we may find it challenging to keep all the details of a story, such as the stories of Jacob's family clearly in our memory. *With so many people and so many episodes, sometimes we get lost. If the stories were shorter, and the characters were not changing names, it would be easier to follow the story line.* Maybe God will help us so that we may find ourselves in these stories, and maybe, just maybe, we can figure how to live closer to God's teachings.

PRAYER

Lord, in your mercy, help us to hear what you say to us today. Help us to have the courage to put into practice the truths that you give us, and fill our hearts with your love by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

* HYMN Come, Christians, Join to Sing UMH 158

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Apostles' Creed UMH 881

* GLORIA PATRI Glory Be to the Father UMH 71

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28 Pew Bible OT 33

A TIME OF SHARING WITH THE CHILDREN

PSALTER LESSON Psalm 105: 1-6, 16-22, 45b Pew Bible OT 533

* HYMN We Gather Together UMH 131

EPISTLE LESSON Romans 10:5-15 Pew Bible NT 149

AUGUST CHOIR SELECTION Jesus Paid It All

GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 14:22-36 Pew Bible NT 15

SERMON Why Doesn't God Make It Simple? Reverend Gooch

PRAYERS FOR FAITH TESTING MOMENTS

THE LORD'S PRAYER UMH 895

OFFERTORY Eventide (Abide with Me) Lang

* PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS

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

* HYMN Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior UMH 351

* BENEDICTION AND BLESSING

* CHIMING THE TRINITY

* POSTLUDE St. Anne (O God, Our Help in Ages Past) Lang

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, Betsy Frazier

Organist/Choir Director, Chet Hunt
Altar, Fern Boyd
Ushers, John Coleman, Heath Frazier

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.

PLEASE JOIN IN! Just for the joy of singing, during each Sunday in August, anyone who would like to join in singing a song beyond our hymnal is invited to gather at 10:30 a.m. for a brief rehearsal, sit in the congregation and come before the altar at the indicated time to join in singing. The music will be provided. The selections are: *Just a Closer Walk with Thee*, *Jesus Paid it All*, *I Must Tell Jesus*, *Sweet Hour of Prayer* and *In the Sweet By and By*. Come join our August Choir!

FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON: Our next fellowship luncheon is next 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, cook up a favorite dish and plan to be here with us! The luncheon is for EVERYONE - not just Prayer Pals!

IT'S BACK TO SCHOOL TIME! We are now collecting school supplies for Mariam Boyd Elementary School through **Sunday, August 16**. The following items are needed and may be placed in the back of the church: boxes of crayons, 16-24 pack, pencils, eraser caps, colored pencils, dry erase markers, composition notebooks, pocket folders, spiral notebooks, glue sticks, boxes of tissues, sanitizer wipes and small bottles of hand sanitizer. Delivery will be made to Mariam Boyd prior to the start of school on August 24. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

CHARGE CONFERENCE 2026: Charge Conference will be held on September 27, 2026 at First UMC, Henderson. This will be our first Charge Conference under the leadership of our new District Superintendent, The Reverend Dr. Gloria Winston. All Charge Conference reports are due September 13, so meetings of Nominations, Staff/Pastor Relations and Finance need to be scheduled before the next Administrative Council meeting, set for September 13, 9:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall.

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.

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.

LOAVES AND FISHES NEEDS: Loaves and 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. Loaves and Fishes also remains in constant need of your unwanted plastic grocery bags. They will make great use of all that we provide! There is a collection box in the back entrance by the church office. Thanks!

SUNDAY, August 9, 2026

Scripture: Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28;

Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22; Romans 11:5-15;

Matthew 14:22-36

Altar: Sheila Blackwood

Greeter: Velvet Boyd

Ushers: Grady Strickland, Alan DuBose

COMING UP

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

August 12 - Weekly Ecumenical Lectionary Study,
9 a.m., Warrenton Baptist Church.

August 16 - Morning Worship, 11 a.m.

Fellowship Covered Dish Luncheon, Prayer Pal
BIG REVEAL

School Supply Donations Deadline

September 13 - Administrative Council Meeting,
9:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall

September 27 - Charge Conference, First UMC,
Henderson, 5 p.m.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Members

Ted Echols - At home following hospitalization and surgical intervention due to a serious pulmonary crisis

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, Brenda Fuller,
Chip Bristow, Steve Brooks, Elke Capps,
Glenn Coleman III, Janet Coleman, Syd Cooper,
Jimmy Crenshaw, Dee Draffin,
Suzanne Fleming, Justin Fraser, Iris Frazier,
Kevin Geraghty, Rhonda Gibson, Allen Harris,
Karla Hehl, Sarah Hickman, Donna Hunt,
The Rev. and Mrs. Carson Jones,
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 - \$3,770.00

Attendance Last Sunday - 36
