

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, August 30, 2026

Fourteenth Sunday of Pentecost

** THE GATHERING

L'méditation dans les hymnes

Leone N. Rothswar

THE CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Light of Christ leads us in to Worship.

PRELUDE

Prélude dans 'Leoni'

Rothswar

CALL TO WORSHIP

Our world is filled with tragedies, pain, suffering and acts of cruelty. Sometimes we become numb to all the news we hear, but people involved in these events have no escape and must face the challenges every day. ***When things overwhelm us, we often ask God for help, and truthfully, sometimes we wonder where God is.*** The Bible reaffirms to us that God's heart knows and embraces us in every situation. Let us turn again to God to ask for help and understanding and God's compassion.

PRAYER

God of all compassion, you listen to your children praying, calling and asking for help. Send your helpers to relieve, guide, show compassion and share the heavy loads. Equip us to be your helpers. Give us the courage to live in such a manner that others find encouragement and peace. Amen.

* HYMN

The God of Abraham Praise

UMH 116

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

From the United Church of Canada

UMH 883

* GLORIA PATRI

Glory Be to the Father

UMH 71

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Exodus 3:1-15

Pew Bible OT 48

A TIME OF SHARING WITH THE CHILDREN

PSALTER LESSON

Psalms 105:1-6

UMH 828

* HYMN

Give to the Winds Thy Fears

UMH 129

* GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 16:21-28

Pew Bible NT 17

AUGUST CHOIR SELECTION

Sweet Hour of Prayer

EPISTLE LESSON

Romans 12:9-21

Pew Bible NT 152

SERMON

Moved by Compassion

Reverend Gooch

PRAYERS FOR GOD'S COMPASSION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

UMH 895

OFFERTORY

L'offertoire

Rothswar

* PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS

* DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH 94

* HYMN

He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought

UMH 128

* BENEDICTION AND BLESSING

* CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

* POSTLUDE

Benedictus

Rothswar

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 Hartly
Greeter, Vivian Paynter

Organist/Choir Director, Chet Hunt
Altar, Betsy Frazier
Ushers, John Coleman, Lee Whitley

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, we have asked 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. Our last selection is *The Sweet By and By*. Come join us!

CHANCEL CHOIR TO RESUME: Attention all choir members - and potential choir members! Wednesday evening choir rehearsals will resume on Wednesday, September 9, at 5:30 p.m., in the Fireside Room. Please plan to get back in the groove to prepare for making music again! All are welcome and encouraged to join in. The choir will begin singing from the chancel on Sunday, September 13.

TUESDAY'S TABLE WISH LIST: Tuesday's Table is in need of a few disposable items used for weekly meal services. An Amazon Wish List has been created under the name Tuesday's Table for anyone who would like to make a contribution. Items purchased from the Amazon list will be shipped to Jennifer Franks, or you may have them sent to yourself, and then bring them to church and place them in the handicapped entrance by the bench. Many thanks for your support!

CHARGE CONFERENCE 2026 AND UPCOMING MEETINGS: 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 the church's various committees need to be scheduled, if they haven't already, before the next Administrative Council meeting, set for September 13, 9:30 a.m., in the Fellowship Hall.

VOLUNTEER TUTORING SIGN-UP: In the narthex, there are sign-up forms seeking volunteer tutors in Warren County Schools. Please consider helping out! Contact Elizabeth Comstock, a member of the Education Committee, at 252 468-8272 or 252 468-8273 for more information. The tutoring program is a joint venture between Wesley Memorial's Missions and Education Committees.

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!

SEPTEMBER - CREATION CARE MONTH:

Our theme is *Creation Care - Show You Care*. **On Saturday, September 19, 8 a.m.**, we will have an organized trash pick-up along the road-sides of Warrenton. Supplies will be in the parking lot of the church. Let's show the community that we care about how our community looks! Each Sunday of September there will be an open spot in worship for a word of witness about why we care about our created world. Consider sharing a time or experience that caused you to treasure something in this world more dearly. A sign-up sheet is in the narthex. **On Sunday, September 27** we will sponsor a plant exchange at the church. Bring plants to exchange with others to take home or to give to someone for fall planting.

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, September 6, 2026

Scripture: Exodus 12:1-14; Psalm 148;
Romans 13:8-14; Matthew 18:15-20

Altar: Betsy Frazier

Greeter: Sheila Blackwood

Ushers: Michael Comstock, Todd Wemyss

COMING UP

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

September 2 - Weekly Ecumenical Lectionary
Study, 9 a.m., Warrenton Baptist Church.

September 6 - Morning Worship, 11 a.m.

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

September 19 - Trash Pickup Day, 8 a.m.
Meet in church parking lot

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

October 2 - Warren County High School football
team supper; details TBA

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Members

Tom Aycock, Harriet Banzet, Jules Banzet,
Ted Echols, Saralee Scott and Renee Teel

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, Sarah Hickman, Donna Hunt,
The Rev. and Mrs. Carson Jones, Teresa Keirn,

Glenn Mason, 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 - \$1,420.00

Attendance Last Sunday - 29