

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 Dr. Gloria Winston, 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, October 18, 2026

Twenty-first Sunday of Pentecost
Laity Sunday

** THE GATHERING	<i>Sweet Hour of Prayer</i>	William Bradbury
THE CHIMING OF THE HOUR, WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS	<i>The Light of Christ leads us in to Worship.</i>	
PRELUDE	<i>Amazing Grace</i>	Joseph Martin
CALL TO WORSHIP		
In the book of Proverbs, we are told that unless God reveals to us a heavenly vision of our purpose and role, we lose our course and perish. <i>May God reveal to our church a vision of our purpose as God's witnesses in this community and in the larger world.</i> May God also give us the courage to live out that vision, not only when we are gathered for worship or mission, but when we are scattered as individuals.		
PRAYER		
<i>Holy God, open our eyes and ears to all that you would teach us, that we may more fully follow your teachings and serve as your disciples. Amen.</i>		
* HYMN	<i>Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain</i>	UMH 315
* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH	<i>The Apostles' Creed</i>	UMH 881
* GLORIA PATRI	<i>Glory Be to the Father</i>	UMH 71
PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION		
OLD TESTAMENT LESSON	<i>Exodus 33:12-23</i>	Pew Bible OT 78
MY VISION FOR THE MINISTRY OF WESLEY MEMORIAL UMC	Ramona DuBose, SPRC Chairperson, as shared by Vivian Paynter	
* PSALTER LESSON	<i>Psalms 99</i>	UMH 819-820
A TIME OF SHARING WITH THE CHILDREN		
GOSPEL LESSON	<i>Matthew 22:15-22</i>	Pew Bible NT 23
* HYMN	<i>Take My Life, and Let It Be</i>	UMH 399
MY VISION FOR THE MINISTRY OF WESLEY MEMORIAL UMC	Jeffrey Harty, Lay Leader	
EPISTLE LESSON	<i>I Thessalonians 1:1-10</i>	Pew Bible NT 190
MY VISION FOR THE MINISTRY OF WESLEY MEMORIAL UMC	Cynthia Jenkins, Administrative Council Chairperson	
ANTHEM	<i>Give Me Jesus</i>	Arr. by Larry Shackley
SERMON	<i>If God Goes With Us . . .</i>	Reverend Gooch
PRAYERS FOR A VISION OF MINISTRY AS THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST		
THE LORD'S PRAYER		UMH 895
OFFERTORY	<i>What A Friend We Have in Jesus</i>	Charles Converse
PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS		
* DOXOLOGY	<i>Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow</i>	UMH 94
* HYMN	<i>O Jesus, I Have Promised</i>	UMH 396
* BENEDICTION AND BLESSING		
* CHORAL BENEDICTION	<i>Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing</i>	UMH 668
* CHIMING OF THE TRINITY		
* POSTLUDE	<i>Nettleton</i>	Noel Rawsthorne

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, Margaret Echols

Organist/Choir Director, Chet Hunt
Ushers, John Coleman, Ted Echols
Altar, Mary 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.

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY: Sunday, November 1, is All Saints Sunday. If you have family members or others who passed away during the past year that you would like to honor on All Saints Sunday, please notify Pastor Ray Gooch.

VETERANS TO BE RECOGNIZED: On Sunday, November 8, during Morning Worship, veterans who are church members as well as relatives or friends of church members will be recognized during the service. If there are those you would like to have recognized, please contact Elaine Coleman, Worship chairperson, 252 425-5616.

WREATH PROJECT 2026: It seems early, but plans are underway for the 2026 Wreath Project. Supplies have been ordered and some are here, calls are being made, and orders are being taken. **Bow Making will be held on Wednesday, November 11, at 9:30 a.m. in the Fireside Room.** Please plan on helping out. Boxwood will be gathered during Thanksgiving weekend, and wreaths will be made the week of **November 30 - December 4.** Please mark your calendars and plan to lend a hand for this church-wide project! Orders for wreaths may be placed by contacting Elaine Coleman, ElaineGibsonColeman@gmail.com, or Mary Hunter, malhunter210@gmail.com. Note: We are happy to accept and recycle your old wreath forms!

COOKIE DELIVERIES: Our Cookies for the Community project will be held on **Monday, November 16**, when we deliver boxes of homemade cookies to all schools in the Warren County Schools district and other public agencies. Bring your favorite homemade cookies to the church Fellowship Hall that day by 9 a.m. and plan to stay to help box them. We will also need volunteers to make deliveries. The last time we conducted this project, we had loads of cookies and delivered to some 17 schools and other agencies such as law enforcement, town halls, and the Health Department. Please plan on helping out! Thanks for your support!

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

LOAVES AND FISHES NEEDS: A recent delivery at Loaves and Fishes was sparse and left the pantry in dire need of canned goods, rice, noodles and other non-perishables. Please consider making donations directly to Loaves and Fishes or drop off goods at Wesley Memorial. Other needs continue to include your empty egg cartons and 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.

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.

CHERRY HILL CONCERT: This afternoon at 3 p.m., Music at Cherry Hill will present Tadeu Coelho, flutist, and Dmitri Vorobiev, pianist. Admission is \$10 for adults, and \$5 for students.

CARVING THE ROCK: *Carving the Rock*, a "Musical Odyssey with Simon Peter," will be on stage this afternoon at N.C. Wesleyan University in Rocky Mount at 3 p.m. The performance will be in Minges Auditorium at the Dunn Center. The music is by The Rev. Scott Wilkerson, retired United Methodist pastor.

SUNDAY, October 25, 2026

Scripture: Deuteronomy 34:1-12; Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17; I Thessalonians 2:1-8; Matthew 22:34-46

Altar: Harriet Banzet

Greeter: Martha Hicks

Ushers: Michael Comstock, Tommy Ross

COMING UP

Today - Cherry Hill Concert, 3 p.m.; flute and piano
Carving the Rock Musical, N.C. Wesleyan University, 3 p.m.

October 20 - Tuesday's Table, WRFD,
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

October 21 - Weekly Ecumenical Lectionary
Study, 9 a.m., Warrenton Baptist Church
Choir rehearsal, 5:30 p.m., Fireside Room

October 25 - Morning Worship, 11 a.m.

October 27 - WMUMC Volunteer Day at Loaves
and Fishes

November 1 - All Saints Sunday

November 8 - Recognition of Veterans

November 11 - Bow Making for Christmas Wreath
Project, Fireside Room, 9:30 a.m.

November 16 - Cookies for the Community Project
9 a.m., Fellowship Hall

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Members

Ramona DuBose - At home, recovering from
knee replacement surgery

Tom Ayccock, Harriet Banzet, Jules Banzet and
Saralee Scott

Friends

All who are impacted by catastrophic flooding
and other natural disasters, across the globe

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

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

The Family and Friends of Joe Durham,
Partner of Eliza Burton, former member of
Wesley Memorial, lived in Greensboro

Logan, Stacie and River Barber and family,

Lesa Bobbitt, Jerry Bolton, Steve Brooks,

Janet Coleman, Syd Cooper, Jimmy Crenshaw,

Dee Draffin, Sandy "Sunny" Eller,

Suzanne Fleming, Justin Fraser,

Kevin Geraghty, Rhonda Gibson, Allen Harris,

Sarah Hickman, Donna Hunt, Teresa Keirn,

Luke McCullough, Nathan Medlin,

Chris Pegram, Judy Pulley, Travis Pulley,

Desiree Robertson, Heidi Seifert, Ann Stultz,

Huey Thomerson 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 - \$1,826.00

Attendance Last Sunday - 39
