

CORNERSTONE

VBS CELEBRATION SUNDAY AND PICNIC AT WCUMC

Our Vacation Bible School was a huge success! We averaged about 75 children each day, touching 82 children with the Love of Jesus! Wesleyan Chapel UMC is blessed to have such a great children's program with so many people who volunteered their time that week to have fun and share the love of Jesus with those children. We ended our week with a VBS Celebration Sunday, June 29. The children shared what they learned with scripture reading, mini sermonette given by Gracie Gray, and singing songs with hand motions and dance moves! Thank you to all the people who so generously let us borrow their Christmas trees for our setup.

We concluded our celebration with our God and Country Picnic. Due to warmer temperatures, the event was held in Lee Hall. The cooler temperatures were enjoyed by all, along with great food and fellowship. We had so many in attendance, we ran out of chairs! Thank you to the Chancel Choir, and Greg Gore for your musical excellence in this program.

While the choir shared patriotic music, the children enjoyed a foam party, slip 'n slide, games, and snowcones outside. It was a crazy good time! Thank you to all the many hands who helped put this together and make it run smoothly- we could not make it happen without our awesome volunteers! A special thank-you to Jamie Wrede and David Hoover for their leadership.



AUGUST EVENTS

- 2 Gene Parker Shrimperoo 3-6pm
- 3 Communion Sunday
- 7 4-H Coastal Critters 3:30 pm
- 10 Pennies for Hunger
- 11 LIFT 7 pm
- 13-14 Lydia Abbey Crafting 9 am - 3 pm
- 14 4-H Coastal Critters 3:30 pm
- 17 Harbor District Beach Bash
- 18 Our New Normal 10 am
- 19 JOY Group 10 am
- 21 4-H Coastal Critters 3:30 pm
- 23 Rise Against Hunger Event 10 am
- 26 Pickleball resumes 2 pm time
- 31 Blended 5th Sunday Service 10 am
End of Summer Potluck 11:15 am

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

- 8:30 am Casual Worship
- 9:30 am Breakfast
- 9:45 am Sunday School- Upper Room and Children ONLY
- 10:30 am Choir Practice
- 11:00 am Traditional Worship & Children's Church

YMCA Summer camp continues, Monday - Friday
7am - 6pm until August 22!
Mondays: Boy Scouts 7pm
Tuesdays: Pickleball 7pm
Wednesdays: Worship at PNV 10 am
Fridays: Good Sam House 9 am - 12 pm
Saturdays: Good Sam House 9 am - 3 pm

For the complete, up-to-date church calendar, please go online to wesleyanchapel.org

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

REFUGEE ASSISTANCE TEAM

| | |
|----------------------------|----|
| Sue & Drew Shepard | 1 |
| Brenda & Tommy Tuttle | 1 |
| Todd Walls & Carrie Dixon | 2 |
| Tom & Dot Spencer | 5 |
| Angie & Steve West | 12 |
| Rick & Paulette Hasty | 14 |
| Brian & Jane Both | 17 |
| George & Susan Gamble | 20 |
| Rick & Karen France | 23 |
| Catherine & Travis Huffman | 25 |
| Sammy & Terry Baxley | 26 |
| David & Phyllis Leitch | 27 |

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

| | |
|-----------------|----|
| Miriam Shipp | 1 |
| Morgan Walls | 1 |
| Natalie Thorn | 3 |
| Joyce Wentz | 4 |
| Sammy Baxley | 8 |
| Lauren Moore | 9 |
| Chris Thorn | 10 |
| Kitty Brunjes | 12 |
| Marie Miller | 12 |
| Leslie Beuth | 13 |
| Melanie Nelson | 15 |
| Alissa Boyette | 19 |
| Jane Both | 20 |
| Connie Fletcher | 22 |
| Tom Spencer | 28 |
| Zachary Noe | 30 |
| Tamara Spivey | 30 |
| Betty Barnes | 31 |

Members of the Wesleyan Chapel team continued working with Halima for English orientation two days each week. The children have also taken an interest and are participating as well making it fun for all. While progress may be limited, the team is seeing improvement and expects good results over time.

With the donation of a sewing machine and crocheting supplies, Halima has begun making items the team is hoping can be sold at fairs, markets, etc. in order to provide another income source for the family. Supplies are needed, including fabric, thread, and general sewing supplies. Contact either Cindy Murray (cmurray2427@gmail.com) or Dennis Laderwager (bigreader54@yahoo.com) if you would like to make a donation of supplies. Generally, there is always a list of other household and hygienic items the family needs. If you would like to donate some of those items, or would like to consider joining the Wesleyan Chapel team to lend support in other ways, please reach out to Cindy or Dennis above.

Regarding the prospect of work, Islam secured a part-time position at Walmart doing order fulfillment. Unfortunately, the hours are limited and benefits are not offered with the position. Islam also applied for and was offered a position as a Medical Assistant with Novant Health. Assistance with the onboarding process is being provided by the team with expectations that Islam will be starting this full-time, with benefits, position over the next couple of weeks. This is wonderful news and is an excellent entry point for Islam, who was certified as a nurse in his country of origin.

There was a general feeling on the team that the children and Halima could use small outings to get out of the apartment for a little while and to participate in some fun activities. To that end, the first activity was an afternoon visit to Long Leaf Park organized by the ladies of the team, which took place on Wednesday, July 16th. There was plenty of food and snacks for all and lots of games. Indications were that everyone had a great time with the children ending up exhausted; the youngest falling asleep on the short trip back home. Wonderful job, ladies!

The team thanks you for your continued prayers for Islam as he begins his new career journey and for the entire family as they continue to meet the many challenges with which they are presented in this new life in the United States.

IT TAKES ALL OF US TO SHOW GOD'S LOVE TO EVERYONE WHO COMES TO OUR CHURCH.

VISITOR RETENTION

Summertime is a great time for visitors to check out our worship services! Be on the lookout for new faces to welcome with a friendly smile, a handshake, and a bit of conversation. This summer, we have had several visitors who have noticed our friendliness. The Welcome Team is always glad to get responses like that to our emails sent out to those who fill out the Connection Cards. Encouraging visitors to fill out the yellow card and put it in the offering plate is a big help. Showing the goodness of our church is more than just the welcome team. Keep shining the light that is within you!



CRAFT CAMP

WRAP-UP & FALL BAZAAR PREP BEGINS!

Our annual Craft Camp was held from July 21st through July 25th. Be sure to check out our next issue, where we will share more about the projects we completed and more fun pictures!

As we head into August, our preparations for the Fall Bazaar begin in earnest. We will meet four days this month:

- August 13 and 14
- August 27 and 28

9:00 am - 3:00 pm in the Chapel

We hope you'll join us as our efforts ramp up during this exciting time leading up to the Bazaar.

We continue to need dried okra and are gratefully accepting your gently used, clean, and fully functional attic treasures. Donations can be dropped off on the back pew in the Chapel on Sundays, Mondays, and Tuesdays directly before our crafting days. In August, this includes August 10- 12 and August 24- 26. Please remember that we do not accept furniture, clothing, electronics (such as TVs, monitors, vacuums, lamps, and computers), silver serving items, clear glass vases, bicycles, or VCR and cassette tapes.

Thank you for your continued support—we truly couldn't do this without you!



A HEARTFELT THANK YOU TO JIMMY SCHIFF

We extend our deepest thanks to Jimmy Schiff for his generous gift of time and effort in service to our church. Jimmy spent two full days of his personal time shampooing the carpets in the Lee Hall offices, hallway, and classrooms—a task that required both hard work and dedication.

Estimates for professional carpet cleaning of this scope ranged from \$800 to \$900, making Jimmy's contribution not only a labor of love but also a significant financial blessing to our church community. We are incredibly grateful for his selfless act and the care he shows for our shared spaces.

Thank you, Jimmy, for your servant's heart and the time you so generously gave!



FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

As of June 30, 2025, all bills are current and paid!! During the first six months of 2025, we are spending equal to or a little under budget. Several items, such as utilities, electricity, trash, and water, have exceeded budget. We planned for inflation on these items, but it appears not enough. Insurance and transportation to date have exceeded budget, but the budget is broken down in equal monthly amounts, and these payments don't follow that rule. They will even out over the year.

It is summer/vacation time. Wesleyan Chapel wishes and hopes that each of you can enjoy the season. Just remember that as you are away, WCUMC continues to open the doors and welcomes everyone. Don't forget to continue to support it with your God-given resources and prayers. God bless each of you. Al Howard, Finance Committee Chair



We will start back our regular meetings August 11th at 7 pm. We meet upstairs for devotions, fellowship, and food. All ladies are invited! It's a great group of women who lift each other up in prayer as we go through life together and grow spiritually surrounded in God's Love!

**YOU'RE INVITED
AUG 11TH @ 7PM**

**ROOM 202
LEE HALL**

LIFT YOUR VOICE! JOIN US FOR A SEASON OF MUSIC AND CELEBRATION

The Chancel Choir and Orchestra Present
And There Was Light
By Joseph Martin
Sunday, December 14, 2025
at 4:00 PM

Mark your calendars for a beloved Wesleyan Chapel tradition! On Sunday, December 14, 2025, at 4:00 PM, the Chancel Choir and Orchestra will present "And There Was Light" by Joseph Martin. This powerful musical celebration of the Christmas season will be followed by a festive Christmas Dessert Bar, offering a time of sweet fellowship and holiday cheer. We invite you to make plans now to attend this annual holiday favorite—and bring a friend with you!

If you would like to be part of this special musical presentation, we welcome singers to join the Chancel Choir for this seasonal celebration. Rehearsals will be held on Sunday afternoons: September 14, October 12, and November 9, with a final rehearsal on Saturday, December 13. Come lend your voice and help us fill the sanctuary with the joyful sounds of Christmas.

JOY Group on the Move!

The JOY Group is hitting the road for its August gathering! Plans are underway to meet at Porter's Neck Village to include members of our congregation who live there. While final details will be shared in the weekly email and bulletin, go ahead and mark your calendar for August 19 at 10:00 AM. We're looking forward to a joyful time of fellowship in a new setting!

Adam Hamilton
Seeing
Gray
in a World of Black and White
Thoughts on Religion, Morality, and Politics

New UMM Study Begins September 10

The United Methodist Men will begin a new study on "Seeing Gray in a World of Black and White," by Adam Hamilton on Wednesday, September 10, from 9:30 to 11:00 AM.

Each session includes prayer, fellowship, and discussion. Weekly attendance is encouraged but not required. Books are \$15—let the church office or Pastor Rick know if you'd like one. All men are welcome!

PENNIES FOR HUNGER

2nd Sunday Each Month

Next Collection date: August 10

July Collection: \$ 571.65

2025 Total: \$2,582.05



We had a banner collection last month, which brings our collections so far ahead of where we were last year. I am confident that we will be able to fund 11 ministries again this year. Your generosity is such a blessing to each of these ministries as they work to provide food for those who are food insecure. We have sent \$400 donations to the following ministries: Mother Hubbard Cupboard, Four C's Food Pantry, Rise Against Hunger, Pender County Meals on Wheels, Living Hope, Share the Table, and CHAP Thanksgiving.

Pennies Fact: From 1859 to 1909, the Indian one-cent coin was in use and depicted an Indian princess on the obverse side. The design is said to depict Lady Liberty wearing a traditional Native American headdress. A popular story about its design claims a visiting Indian chief lent the designer's daughter his headdress so she could pass as the Indian princess.

PROJECT AGAPE Christmas Boxes August Ministry Item of the Month

Spread some early Christmas joy by supporting *Project AGAPE*, a joint effort between NC United Methodist churches and the Armenian Apostolic Church to bring hope to children in war-torn Armenia. This is the only humanitarian group permitted to serve in this region.

Just like last year, we're collecting items throughout August for Christmas boxes. Ornament tags listing needed items can be found on the door outside the Choir Room—take as many as you'd like. Donation bins are located at the front and back entrances of the sanctuary and Lee Hall.

Prefer to pack a full box? Pick up a 2024 packing list and instructions near the choir room or across from the church office. Please follow the guidelines carefully, include all listed items, and enclose \$5 for shipping (check to "NC Conference," memo: Agape Christmas Boxes).

Deadline to return boxes: September 15

Drop off completed boxes outside the choir room or in the church office. Questions? Contact Beth Sanders at efsanders@charter.net or 910-470-2725.

Our pickleball group continues to grow! Invite your friends and neighbors to play with us on Tuesday nights at 7:00. Good games, good fellowship, and good exercise! Come join us!

United Methodist Men – July Meeting Recap

Sixteen men gathered for the UMM meeting on **Monday, July 7, 2025, at 6:00 PM** in Lee Hall. The evening began with a meal of pizza and dessert, followed by a devotion and prayer led by Pastor Rick France, including prayer concerns shared by the group. We were pleased to welcome **Bruce Myers** as a new member.

The minutes from the June 2 meeting were approved unanimously. During the business portion, the group discussed how to respond quickly to requests for wheelchair ramps—either by purchasing pre-made ramps or building them as needed. Al Howard, Mike Priddy, and Pastor Rick also met recently to explore ways to involve more men in UMM and in supporting the upcoming **Gene Parker Memorial Shrimperoo**. They've identified active men in the congregation who are not yet involved and will be reaching out with personal invitations. Al encouraged current members to do the same.

Preparations for the **Shrimperoo on Saturday, August 2, from 3:00–6:00 PM** are well underway. As in years past, we will be serving shrimp, corn on the cob, cole slaw, hush puppies, tea, lemonade, and desserts provided by the ladies of the church. Help is welcomed from all men in the church, not just UMM members!

Please note: **there will be no UMM meeting in August** due to the Shrimperoo. Our next regular meeting will be on Monday, September 8, at 6:00 PM.



A Note of THANKS

To our wonderful church family—Brian and I are deeply grateful for the outpouring of love we received during the past few months of my dad's life. Your cards, food, flowers, calls, messages, and countless acts of kindness meant more than we can say. My father, Josef Lemmen, went home to be with Jesus and reunite with my mom on July 13, just shy of his 97th birthday. We are thankful for his long and fruitful life.

For those who wish to read his obituary, it can be found at:
<https://www.andrewsmortuary.com/obituary/josef-lemmen>

With heartfelt thanks,

 *Jane Both*

Join us on
Saturday, August
23, 2025, from
10:00 AM to
noon in Lee Hall
for our annual
Rise Against

Rise

AGAINST HUNGER

Hunger meal packaging event. Together, we'll pack 20,000 meals to help fight global hunger in communities with the greatest need. This is a fun, hands-on, family-friendly volunteer opportunity filled with energy, music, and even a little dancing—especially if Sweet Caroline comes on!

To make this event happen, we need your help in two ways. First, we're looking for 100 volunteers, and we currently have about 40 signed up. This is a great way for people of all ages to serve, though younger children will need adult supervision. Second, we're working to raise the \$8,400 needed to fund the meal supplies. So far, we've received \$5,429, leaving us with a remaining goal of \$2,971. Every donation makes a difference—\$25 provides 60 meals, \$100 provides 238 meals, and \$200 covers 476 meals.

Let's come together as a church family and make an impact. For more information or to get involved, please contact Carrie Dixon at Dixon184@yahoo.com or Beth Sanders at efsanders@charter.net.



YOUTH MINISTRY SUMMER UPDATE

Our youth have been hard at work serving our church and community this summer!

In June, 15 youth volunteered their time to help with Vacation Bible School. They led skits, guided children between activities, and supported leaders with lessons and games—bringing energy and joy to an impactful week. On July 12, nine youth spent their Saturday morning on a church beautification project. They washed the church bus, moved picnic tables in preparation for pressure washing, cleaned the mailbox, sanded railings for painting, organized pantry shelves, and helped Ms. Jamie return VBS supplies to the attic. Their willingness to serve in big and small ways truly made a difference!

We wrapped up July with a fun pool party at the home of Ken and Joan Jolly. A big thank you to them for their warm hospitality!

Looking ahead, we have two exciting events to close out the summer:

- Beach Bash at Oceanview UMC – Saturday, August 17 at 2:30 PM
- RISE Against Hunger – Friday, August 23 at 10 AM

Let's continue to serve and have fun together as God's hands and feet!

We'll kick off our Fall season with a Back2School Retro Arcade Pizza Party on Saturday, September 7 at 5 PM at the Retro Meadery & Arcade in Burgaw, NC. We can't wait to see everyone there!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR FALL CHILDREN'S MINISTRY EVENTS!

As you prepare your fall calendars, be sure to save these important dates for our children's ministry!

- *September 7 - Back2School Sunday*
We'll celebrate with a Blessing of the Backpacks at both worship services, the launch of new Sunday School classes for K-2nd and 3rd-5th grades at 10:00 AM, and a fun Pizza & Foam Party at noon.
- *Wednesday, September 10 at 4:30 PM*
K-5 Alive begins and will meet weekly through December 3.
- *Sunday, December 7 at 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM*
The fall session of K-5 will conclude with a special Christmas Program during both worship services.

Please continue to keep our children's ministry in your prayers as we grow into our mission of welcoming all and nurturing the faith of our children and youth.

Have you registered your child for K-5 Alive? It's not too late! Get excited about this fall's K-5 Alive program:

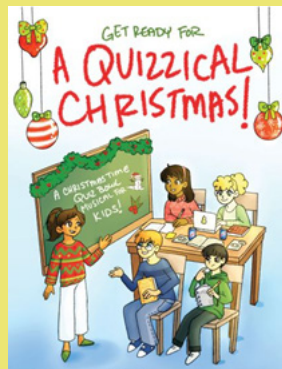
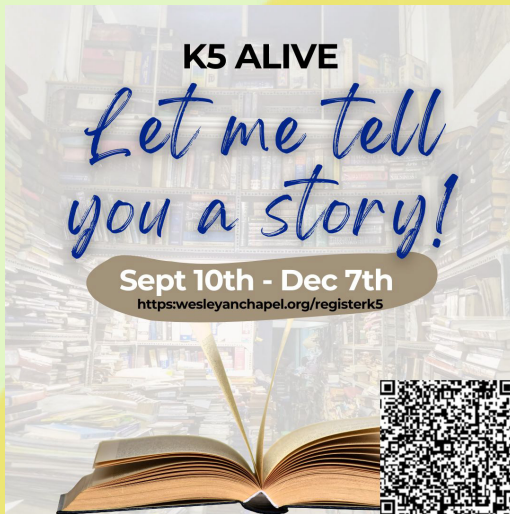
From creator, Gina Boe and Brentwood Benson Kids, comes the new Christmas musical, *A Quizzical Christmas!* Through these trendy, upbeat songs, your kids' choir will find that there's so much to know about Christmas! Dive into scripture with our Quiz Bowl friends to learn the who, what, when, where, and why about Christmas...and, most importantly, the way those truths transform our lives.

Make sure to bring your child to K-5 each Wednesday evening so they can be a part of this fun and exciting Christmas program.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Children's Church continues each Sunday during the 11 am worship service. After leaving the sanctuary, the group worships "kid-style" in the chapel. Combining simple prayers, mini drama sermons, scripture talks, movement, and rhythmic songs, and sharing joys, the children get a time of worship with an understanding of the same lesson shared in the sanctuary. First Sunday Communion is especially memorable as everyone is served at the table as a learning experience. Before long, the doors open with parents looking for their children. That is the signal to ring the chapel bell that sends God's love out into the world.

Children ages (at least) 4 through 5th grade are welcome to be a part of Children's Church. Middle school and high school youth are welcome to be helpers. Interested adults are welcome to come and maybe be a leader on some Sunday!



Above: Leah Wrede and Geneva Jayroe love reading books upstairs in the Children's Library. Right: Tiara and Bea, this year's YMCA Summer Camp leaders. Summer camp runs through August 22! This year's YMCA camp leaders have shown exemplary leadership for campers and keep a tight ship.



Wesleyan Chapel UMC is grateful for the opportunity to partner with this community program and looks forward to an ongoing future partnership. Above right: Children's Church participants with their instruments used for our "hymns" include (from L to R) Leah Wrede, Marie Kaefer, Lily Shively, Geneva Jayroe, and Charlotte Johnson.



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

WESLEYAN CHAPEL

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

10255 US Highway 17 N

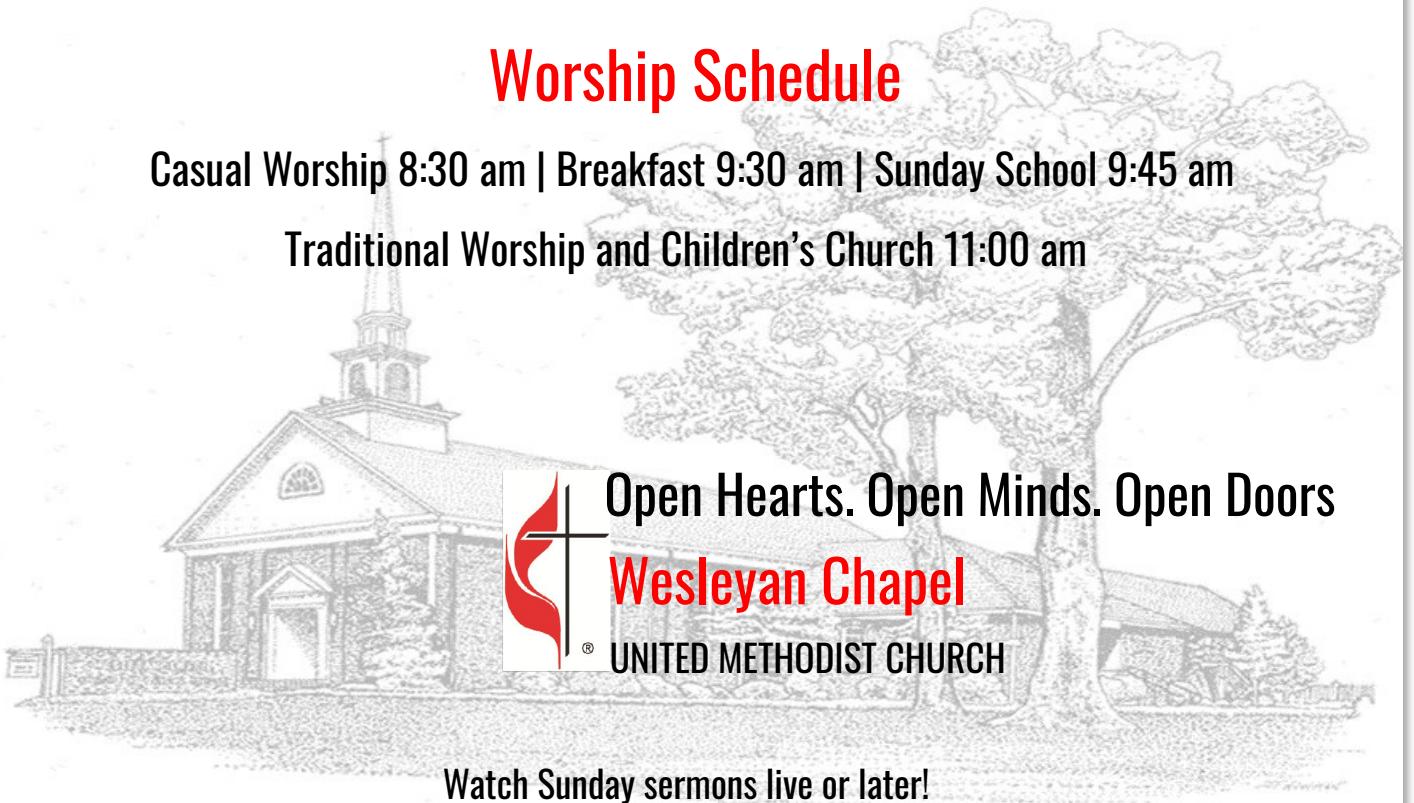
Wilmington, NC 28411

Change Service Requested

Worship Schedule

Casual Worship 8:30 am | Breakfast 9:30 am | Sunday School 9:45 am

Traditional Worship and Children's Church 11:00 am



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors

Wesleyan Chapel

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Watch Sunday sermons live or later!

Visit wesleyanchapel.org and click on the link for our YouTube Channel.

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