

# SHORELINES

*The official newsletter of Lake Waccamaw Methodist Church*



## SAVE THE DATE

**DEC 7**  
**CHRISTMAS MUSIC &  
GATHERING**

**DEC 9**  
**BLUE CHRISTMAS  
SERVICE AT NOON**

**DEC 24**  
**CHRISTMAS  
CANDLELIGHT  
SERVICE 7:00 PM**

## LETTER FROM THE PASTOR

Dear LWMC Family and Friends,

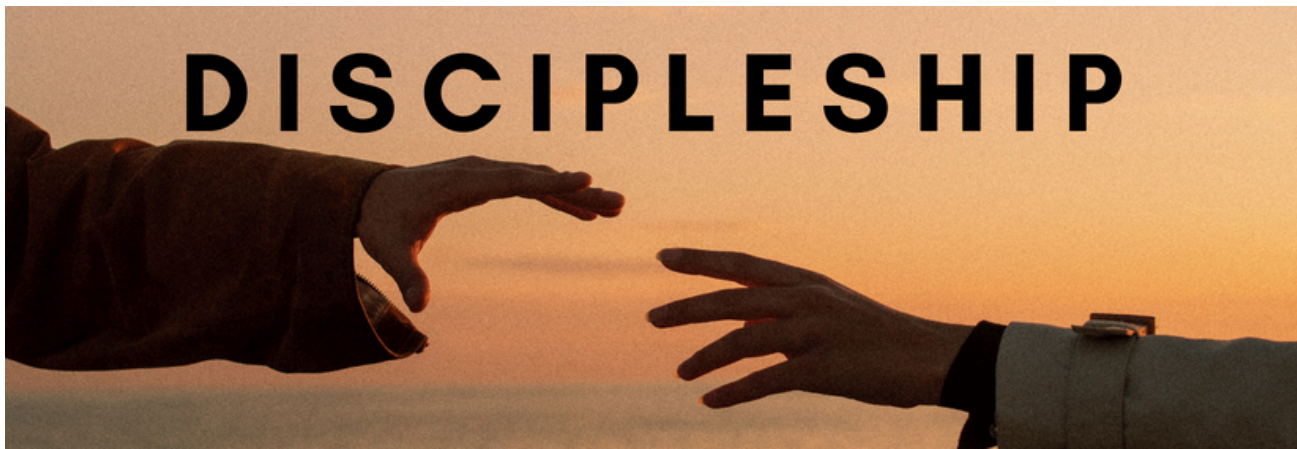
Advent is a season of holy anticipation. A time when we lean forward with hope, trusting that God is doing more than we can see. As we prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ, I invite you to embrace the quiet wonder of these weeks. Look for God in the simple moments, the small acts of kindness and the gentle nudges of the Spirit. This season reminds us that light still breaks through the darkness, and that God's promises are steady and true. May each candle we light guide us deeper into the mystery of Emmanuel.

I'm grateful to walk this journey with you. May your Advent be filled with peace, reflection, and the joyful hope of Christ's coming.  
With love and blessings,

In Christ,  
Pastor Chris Eason



**GLOBAL**  
**METHODIST CHURCH**



As we prepare our hearts for the season of Advent, I am reminded of our rich Methodist heritage. A heritage built on God's grace, an accountable community, and a deep love for the Word of God. John Wesley believed that real discipleship happened when believers gathered in small groups to search the Scriptures, pray together, and watch over one another in love. In 2026, we will continue to grow together offering discipleship studies through weekly gatherings, holy conversations, and regular engagement with Scripture. In the Methodist tradition, weekly Bible study is not optional; it is a means of grace. Wesley called us to "search the Scriptures," not only privately, but together, trusting that the Holy Spirit speaks powerfully when believers meet in fellowship.

During the season of Lent, we will participate in small groups again. Last year we heard some tremendous testimonies of spiritual growth during this time. In these groups, we will open the Word, ask honest questions, share testimonies of God's work in our lives, and encourage one another in holiness of heart and life. Just as the early class meetings helped people grow beyond Sunday worship into daily discipleship, we believe weekly Bible studies deepen our faith and strengthen our walk with Christ.

Whether you're seasoned in Bible study or just beginning, I encourage you to join or form a Bible Study. Bring your questions, your hopes, and your desire to grow. Let's open Scripture together and allow the Holy Spirit to guide, convict, and renew us. Discipleship is not accidental. Growth happens in intentional spaces. This is done through weekly gatherings, open Bibles, honest hearts, and the grace of Christ among us.

God bless you all, Pastor Chris



# CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

A thriving children's ministry is one of the clearest signs of a healthy church. When we teach children Scripture, model Christ's love, and create a safe place to grow, we build a strong foundation for generations to come.



On Sunday afternoons our children  
gather for

**PRAISE & WORSHIP**

Our children of all ages have the opportunity to  
gather for their choir practice every Sunday  
afternoon. Please join us 5:00-6:30 for fun and  
music





# YOUTH MINISTRIES

Youth are looking forward to an awesome 2026!! Sunday night gatherings, Winter Retreat, Lent Small Group, Summer Retreat, and Mission trip in NC!!







**“The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.” Psalm 145:18**

Prayer is one of the greatest gifts God has given us. It’s more than words we speak; it’s the posture of a heart that reaches toward God. When we pray, we are reminded that we’re not alone. We’re not carrying our burdens by ourselves. We’re not trying to figure life out in our own strength. Prayer is the place where our weakness meets God’s power and where our confusion meets God’s wisdom. Our fear meets God’s peace.

The psalmist reminds us that the Lord is near to those who call on Him. Not distant. Near. God leans in when His children pray. He listens not because our words are perfect, but because His love is perfect.

When we pray we bring our real struggles, hopes, and questions and God meets us there. Honest prayer opens the door for God to shape us, restore us, and guide us. It reminds us that prayer is not about getting everything we want; it’s about staying connected to the One we need.

Prayer doesn’t always change our circumstances immediately, but it always changes our hearts. It keeps us anchored in God’s presence when life feels overwhelming. Through prayer, we learn to trust God more deeply, surrender more freely, and walk more faithfully.

*Prayer Ministry*

**The prayer ministry meets every Tuesday  
morning at 9:30 am in church. All are  
welcome to attend**







<sup>9</sup> After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. <sup>10</sup> And they cried out in a loud voice: "Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb." –Revelation 7:9-10 (NIV).

After a bumpy ride down an unpaved road the van pulled over to the side, and we walked the rest of the way to the church. Our first church visit in Uganda on a Saturday morning. Still having some jet lag, but excited to meet our partner churches, we followed the leaders on foot to the church. Along the narrow pathway, the stench of a trash filled ravine filled the air.

Then there was the bridge. Across the ravine of trash and stagnant green water was a bridge that we had to cross. We crossed over the ravine on wooden slats with no handrails. "Lord, help me keep my balance!" was my prayer. We all stayed upright. Thank God.

Step by careful step was the way forward. I really didn't know what to expect when we turned the next corner. Then I began to hear the music. The music grew louder with each step. It was coming from the church. Loud praises to God. Music to drown out any doubts as to Who they believed in. Music of praise was there to fill the community with joy and invite anyone in who wanted to join in a relationship with Jesus Christ. They welcomed us with arms wide open. It was like coming home to family we hadn't seen in years.

In a community of poverty and hopelessness, the church was alive and rich in so many ways. The church had a dirt floor and walls covered with colorful tarps. It was decorated beautifully and a banner behind the pulpit that said, "Jesus is the answer." No matter the problem, they had the right answer. Jesus. They worshiped. They danced. They sang. Hugs and signs of welcome we all around. Even among the children. The children participated. I personally loved being with the children in worship. In fact, in many of the churches of Uganda there were more children than adults in worship. Young people helped to lead with gifts of interpretation into the languages, music leading, and dancing. The first worship service lasted about 3 hours by the way.

The second worship service was the same. On Sunday, the worship was with the same exuberance, the same joy and energy praising God. In fact, Monday was the same.

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday were the same. Joy in worship. Praise music. Dancing. Joy. I repeat: Great JOY! Three-hour worship services full of joy in the Lord.

I saw a glimpse of what John wrote about in Revelation. Chapter 7 describes when all those who have been in relationship with Jesus Christ, who belong to God through the blood of Jesus are as one before the throne of God in worship. Here we were together singing praise to God from different nations, speaking different languages. Tribes and people may have a different starting place and yet, if we are born again believers, we are family. Thanks be to God. Today we have interpreters, then we will understand fully. Today, we may have different life and church experiences, but then it will all be redeemed in the presence of Jesus Christ where our eternity is with Him. No matter the bridges that have to be crossed in life, the obstacles we face, where we started from, in Christ, we have belonging. It was a message from God's word that rang true through every worship service and still rings true at home. Through the salvation in Jesus Christ, we are family.

You will be learning more about what Global Partnership looks like in the months ahead. The GMC of Uganda is alive. The gospel message is spreading quickly. We can support them in the planting of churches, training of pastors, ministry with children and economic empowerment. We can also learn from their habits of faith sharing, prayer and evangelism.

Rev. Christopher Ddamulir, Conference Superintendent of the Uganda GMC, along with his staff of Wilberforce Bwire, Kalunge Ken, Iryn Komijni all led our group and took good care of us. Those traveling from NC were Kim and David King, Mike Phillips, Doug Miller, Brad Hopper, Greg Jenks, John Frank Howard and me.

"Salvation does belong to our God who sits on the throne!" Through this salvation, we have brothers and sisters on other continents. We don't look alike, but the same blood runs through us. We don't talk alike, but we know the language of God's love. Our churches are different, but we are the church together. They have shown us a glimpse of heaven and what awaits for us through their joy in worship. For now, join me in prayer for and anticipation of the good things that God has in store for those who love Him (1 Corinthians 2:9).

With thankfulness to God for each of you!  
Rev. Kari Howard  
Associate Conference Superintendent

The letter above is a testimony to what is happening in the Global Methodist Church and how connectional support is growing the Kingdom of Christ



# **WORSHIP AND MUSIC**

## **CHRISTMAS AT LAKE WACCAMAW METHODIST**

**Sun. Nov. 30 - Hanging of the Greens 9:00 & 11:00**

**Sun. Dec. 7 - Worship 9:00 & 11:00**

**Sun. Dec. 7 - Christmas Musical  
& Party 4:00 pm**

**Tues. Dec. 9 - Blue Christmas Service - Noon**

**Sun. Dec. 14 - Worship 9:00 & 11:00**

**Sun. Dec. 21- Worship 9:00 & 11:00**

**Christmas Eve  
Candlelight Service 7:00 pm**

506 Lake Shore Drive  
Lake Waccamaw, NC 28450



YOU ARE WELCOME  
HERE!!

