

SHORELINES FROM LAKE WACCAMAW METHODIST CHURCH

Visit our website at <https://lakewaccamawmethodist.org>

Lay Leader Message by Amy Sessions:

One of my best friends, Angela and I just returned from a girls' trip to Blowing Rock, NC. What an absolute blast we had spending time together with no expectations, just love for each other, time together and God's great outdoors! God more than delivered on this trip. This little mountain town was beautiful. Our adventures were over the top from shopping, bike riding, delicious meals, horse back riding, and watching God's creatures in their space. However there was nothing sweeter nor more wonderful than just being with my friend and breathing in the presence of God. What a wonderful gift God has given us in our friends and what a wonderful gift it is to be a friend.

Let me say that again, Friendship isn't entitled or deserved, it's something we give.

*It's something we value.

*It's relationships without expectations and an abundance of forgiveness.

*It's value in connection more than perfection.

*It's sharing your raw, messy places of life and hardship.

*It's being inconvenienced at times.

*It's telling someone, "I believe in you. I see your pain, struggle, and hurt.

*Hold my hand. Stand up. WE are going to keep pushing through this

*It's everything we fight for.

*It's something we give of ourselves for the greater good of another.

*It's a valued sacred relationship.

Hmmm! Sounding familiar, church??

What was made really clear to me on this trip is the beauty and power in a friendship happens when we replace expectations and simply see each other with love. Love for where they are, we were are in the moment and cherish where our paths crossed.

Angela and I shared our story of friendship with more people than I can count on two hands and two feet in the last 5 days. Why? Because we see the value and joy of having and knowing each other brings to us.

Remember....Friendship is one of life's greatest gifts straight from God! Savor it and let it refresh your soul!

Pray this prayer with me....

Lord Jesus, Thank you for giving me such a vibrant community of friends. I praise you for the people you have blessed me with, the ones who have come into my life to love, encourage, and support me. I'm so grateful that you have shown me examples of your love through my friends.

I pray that you would be present in my friendships, that you would be drawing us closer together with one another toward greater unity with you. I pray that you would help heal any places of brokenness or discord in my friendships, and that you would restore any friendships that have fallen apart.

Like your Word says in Colossians 3:12-13, may I clothe myself in compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. May I be patient with my friends, and may I forgive freely like you have forgiven me. May I shine your light in my friendships, giving glory to you through all that I do, say, and think. Thank you for my friends, Jesus. Thank you for the ways they build me up and remind me of your goodness and faithfulness. In your name I pray, Amen.

Blessings and Love in Christ, Amy H. Sessions, Lay Leader

Please mark your calendar for **Homecoming 2023** on **Sunday, October 8**. Please help us to **spread the word and invite others!**

LAKE WACCAMAW METHODIST CHURCH SHORELINES

What's Happening at LWMC

*Wednesdays at **6:30 pm**: Handbell practice & **7:30 pm** Choir Practice— All are invited to join us.

Methodist Women will meet at 6:30 pm every first Thursday at 6:30 pm. We are making Chrismons for Christmas. You are invited to join in this fellowship and make some memories.

YOUTH Fellowship!

Come join us for Youth on Sunday evenings at 5. Last week, we enjoyed a devotion, ice cream sundaes, and a fun game where we got to know each other called Changing Places.

Our Youth is planning to visit the Maze Craze during the month of October. We will reserve a fire pit to make smores! The date to be announced.

Bring your friends and neighbors to Youth!

Jeana, Sharon and Brianna

Kids Following Christ Every Sunday Evening

Kids Following Christ (K-Grade 2) & Book It! (Grades 3 - 5) is every **Sunday at 5pm**. We are also excited to start our newest group, the **new Little Lambs** group (Ages 2-4)! Let's feed all these sheep on **Sunday evening** for the week ahead!

We have nursery for Church and Sunday School! Please let Mrs. Patty know when you can volunteer to help so our young parents can attend services.



Mission Opportunities

The next Red Bird Mission Trip will be **October 15-20** and then **December 2-7th, 2023**. We will be working in the community on home repairs, working in the food ministry, and in the community store. See Jeff and Ann Clarke.

Christmas Outreach Opportunities: Please prayerfully consider helping with one of our Christmas ministries including the Shoe Boxes and the Angel Trees. If you know of a potential mission outreach project or need, please let us know! We are here to support our community as God's hands and feet.



Back Pack Buddies continues this school year, with the first bulk food delivery in September sponsored by the Elwood Martin Missions Fund. Children receive a backpack of food for the weekend to ensure they had something to eat.

***If you know of needs in our community, please reach out to Amy Sessions, Elizabeth Ehlers, or Jeff & Ann Clarke**

Submit info/pictures by the 25th of each month to lakewaccamawmethodist@gmail.com

Chrismons

Chrismons were first made by Frances Spencer at Ascension Lutheran Church in Danville, Virginia in 1957. Mrs. Spencer was trying to figure out how to have ornaments for the church Christmas tree that would reflect the Christian faith instead of using random ornaments like we might use on our trees at home. She wanted ornaments with deep, spiritual meaning.



She settled on limiting the ornament colors to just two: gold to represent the majesty and glory of Jesus and then white to represent our joy and His purity and His perfection. Rather than using the English name, Jesus, and calling these decorations “Jesus ornaments”, she used the Greek word for Jesus.... “Christos” representing His name. Chrismon means “Christ’s monogram”.

In our church, we decorate our tree with Chrismons, lovingly prepared by the women of our church, many who have left their handiwork as a memory. Each Chrismon is a symbol of Christ. Some use Greek letters that spell His name; others symbolize the various roles that He played in fulfilling scripture. When we look at the beautiful Chrismons, let us remember majesty, glory, purity, perfection, and joy.


50+ Church Group Outing to Cape Fear Vineyard!

The LWMC 50’s plus members enjoyed Cape Fear Vineyard for great fellowship, food, and fun sharing Christian love! We believe small group outings helps to know fellow church members. We’ve enjoyed Cape Fear Vineyard twice-it’s a beautiful venue, with Tin Frog art all over the grounds and animals you can feed. You have to visit the gift shop and see all their memorabilia! We ate delicious grapes at one of the many grape vines-with their permission, of course! Our next quarterly event will be our Christmas white elephant evening with finger foods and lots of “Dirty Santa” shenanigans!! More information soon. You don’t want to miss this fun evening!



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SUNDAY SCHOOL ROUND-UP!

What a fun-filled event! We celebrated the importance of Sunday School and small group involvement with food and, of course, ICE CREAM with all the fixins! We have Sunday School for all ages. 



Kamryn and kids of all ages enjoyed the ice cream and fun!

