

Junaluskans General Meeting
Lambuth Inn, Gilbert Room
June 3, 2026

Jan Lemasters called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

Jan announced that we can pay \$10 for the June 16 BBQ/Trivia Night to Frank Dunnewind in the back. Burt Howard circulated a **signup sheet** for the event.

Caring and Sharing – Mark Schultz shared that his great-grandchildren twins were born a week ago; one is in very dire straits. He offered a prayer for him, as well as other needs. His prayer was also the **opening prayer**.

Guest Speaker – Ken Howle, executive director of Lake Junaluska, shared news about the Lake. Much of this flows from the vision process that involved many Junaluskans a few years ago. Each item aligns with a specific aspiration, goal, and objective from that strategic plan (lakejunaluska.com/vision).

- \$8.8 million grant for water and sewer improvements
 - \$8,818,934 from the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality
 - \$4,712,036 – Clean Water State Revolving Fund – Wastewater Projects
He showed an illustration of the sewer line that runs in the water along the shore of the lake. One of the funded projects will be to replace the sewer line and change the lakeshore to cover the sewer line, so that it will be underground instead of under the water.
 - \$4,106,898 – Drinking Water State Revolving Fund
The water system's 200,000 gallon water tank is getting old. The funding will be to add another water tank, building redundancy to better weather future storms. Also, it will fund drilling a well as well as a treatment facility. All of this is located at Susie's Knob.
 - Support recovery from Hurricane Helene and resiliency for future storms
 - Board of Trustees approved receiving these funds March 5-6, 2026
 - Junior Woody, Leisa McDonald, and Buddy Melton key to getting this grant
 - Timeline will take 2-4 years to complete construction
- \$175,000 grant for improvements to Stuart Auditorium
 - The grant will improve the area of the auditorium near the white tent, including the women's restrooms.
 - Haywood County Tourism Development Authority is providing a matching grant. They provide \$175,000. Every gift will be matched dollar for dollar for this project. The total estimated cost is \$400,000.
 - Thanks to Betsy Schuessler, Mike Huber, and Leisa McDonald for getting this grant.
- Pigeon River Fund Grant
 - Cynthia Lindberg observed the area where the train depot is eroding away. She wrote the grant to the Pigeon River Fund for this project, and received a \$35,000 matching gift.
 - It will stabilize the shore and establish a buffer where native grasses can be planted to preserve the lake's edge from future erosion.

Birthdays, anniversaries and first-time attendees Larry Roberts asked if there were any first-time attendees. One new couple introduced themselves. June birthdays and anniversaries were recognized.

Committees

Flea Market on June 13. Judy LaFontaine asked that donations be brought on Friday between 9:00 and 12:00. Also, please do not park at the Wellness at the Lake on Friday. Free lunch for volunteers on Friday. Volunteers can begin shopping on Friday at 1:00. Todd Stewart is looking for one more person to help load trucks to pick up items on Friday morning. **Credit and debit cards** will be used this year, though it is not being advertised, as this is a soft opening to see how it works; there is a minimum \$20 purchase. There will be three credit card stations with balloons.

Steve Berwager announced that there are five **tents to be put up next Thursday at 11:00**. The tent committee needs more volunteers.

Sandra Shepherd announced that **baked goods** for the flea market are needed. Baked items can be brought Friday or Saturday morning. They should be bagged. The team will price the items.

Travel and Hiking – George Shepherd announced that the travel group will plan something later this summer. The hiking group will meet on Friday, June 24, for a three-mile hike near Balsam Gap. Meet at 10:00 at the Welcome Center to carpool from there. He also leads more challenging hikes on Thursdays. He has sign-up sheets in the back for interested people.

Membership – Margaret Amick will take membership dues in the back of the room today.

Fellowship Groups – Susan Folds announced that new Fellowship Groups will organize this year. She has forms in the back of the room today to sign up. There is also a QR code in the newsletter. The Groups meet monthly for a meal with 8-10 other people, to get to know one another.

Announcements/Events

Joni's Friends – Jan Lemasters announced information is available in the back.

Ushers for summer worship service – Paul Starnes sent around a signup sheet.

Melissa Aldridge announced that **Junaluska Day** will be June 25. She asked us to share posts on Facebook. Matching gifts will be announced during the day. The Weatherby Bell will be rung 113 times. On July 1, **floating lanterns** will be placed on the lake, in honor or in memory of persons.

Junaluskans BBQ and Trivia Night on June 16. Meat will be furnished. The \$10 fee is due today. Other dishes are provided by our sharing. Sign-up sheet is circulating.

The meeting adjourned at 10:54 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeffrey Mickle,
Recording Secretary