



## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT LAKE JUNALUSKA

- Monthly **Junaluskans General Meeting** at 10a in the Harrell Center Auditorium on Mar 4.
- **Sunday Brunch Buffets** at York Dining Commons from 11a-2p. \$20 per person.
- Annual Community **Lake Cleanup Day** will be held Sat, Mar 7 from 9-11a. Come alongside fellow community members and staff as we work together to care for our beautiful grounds and lake shoreline.
- **Lenten services**, including communion, will take place at noon and 6:30p on Mar 4, 11, 18 and 25.
- **Annual Peace Conference** is Mar 13-15. Visit the website <https://www.wnccumc.org/peace-conference-2026> for more info and to register. Free **jazz concert** on Mar 14!
- **Holy Week services** will be offered at noon and 6:30p. on Maundy Thursday, Apr 2, and Good Friday, Apr 3. A rotating group of local ministers will lead worship. The series is sponsored by local United Methodist churches and Lake Junaluska's Program Ministry.
- Easter **Sunrise Service** is on Apr 5 at 7a. Join us at the amphitheater below the cross.



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## STRENGTHENING RECREATION MINISTRY

I am excited to share that we recently received a generous gift to fully fund the renovation of the mini-golf course at Lake Junaluska. This investment will refresh and reimagine a favorite recreational activity by creating an updated, welcoming space where families, conference guests and neighbors can gather and create lasting memories. Construction is anticipated to begin at the end of the summer. More details will be provided soon. We are grateful for the vision and generosity that made this possible.

With this exciting milestone secured, we now shift our focus to the other priorities within the Sharing Our Gifts Capital Campaign — expanding sidewalks to better accommodate pedestrian traffic, constructing an open-air pavilion to provide a shady gathering spot and creating a safer youth-focused walkway connecting York Dining Commons to the Recreation Ministry activities area. To date, we have raised over \$120,000 in gifts and pledges toward these projects.

A pavilion will serve as a flexible, open-air gathering space designed to:

- Host community events and family celebrations
- Support conferences and group activities
- Provide shaded respite and lakeside connection
- Create another welcoming place for fellowship and hospitality

This next phase reflects our continued commitment to enhancing both the beauty and functionality of Lake Junaluska. Each project within Sharing Our Gifts is intentionally designed to strengthen infrastructure, expand recreation and create meaningful spaces for connection. Momentum is building and progress is visible. Because of generous partners like you, the future of Lake Junaluska is bright.

To learn more about the pavilion or other campaign priorities, we would welcome the opportunity to share how you can help bring these next projects to life and help us continue to be a place of Christian hospitality where lives are transformed through renewal of soul, mind and body.



*Yours in Christ, Ken Howle*

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# ANNUAL SPRING POTLUCK

The Junaluska's' annual Spring Potluck will be held Tues, Apr 21 at noon in the York Dining Commons. Members are invited to bring a salad, sandwiches, or dessert to share —drinks will be provided. This gathering is always a special time of fellowship.

Research shows that people who enjoy the longest and happiest lives stay socially connected, and meaningful social activities become increasingly important to overall wellbeing with age. All members are encouraged to join for good food, warm conversation, and wonderful fellowship.



## GARDEN TALKS



The Corneille Native Garden has established the schedule for wildflower walks this season. We also are excited to have a new Gardener, Lucie Patten. We hope all garden visitors will welcome her!

Beginning in February, wildflower walks will take place each week through April at 1p on Wednesdays, beginning from the entrance on Stuart Circle.

- Mar 3
- Mar 11
- Mar 18
- Mar 25
- Mar 30 (Monday)
- Apr 8
- Apr 15
- Apr 22
- Apr 29.



For more information, contact [CBNativeGarden@gmail.com](mailto:CBNativeGarden@gmail.com). To learn more about the Corneille Bryan Native Garden, visit the garden's Facebook page or Lake Junaluska's gardens page.

## WESTERN BBQ AND TRIVIA NIGHT

They say laughter is the best medicine — and if that's true, the Jun 16 Junalusks BBQ & Western Night just might be the cure for whatever ails you!

We'll enjoy a delicious barbecue prepared by the chefs at Lake Junaluska, and members are asked to bring a favorite side dish or dessert to help keep costs low. Dust off those best recipes because we'll be voting for the top side dish and dessert — and yes, there will be prizes!

After dinner, get ready for a lively trivia contest. If you've never played before, this is your chance — you and your team are sure to know more than you think! And for even more fun, a couple of our members will be sharing some classic Jeff Foxworthy jokes to keep the laughs rolling.

We'll gather at the York Dining Commons (time to be announced). It's Western Night, so pull out your jeans, boots, and hats if you have them — and come ready for a boot-scootin' good time!

## LIBRARY NEWS

### WINTER HOURS:

March 2026

8a – 4p

Upcoming events:

- Bible Study on Tuesdays 11a-12:15p
- Cards & Games on Tuesday afternoons beginning @ 2p
- Book Club second Thursday beginning @2p
- Jig-Saw Puzzle Swap: Bring a puzzle, take one home! Please tape Puzzle boxes closed and leave in designated spot.

Questions? Want to help? Contact Stephanie Schulz 850-445-4375



Sweet & savory crepes, soup, salads & custard. Gluten-free also available.

Sun-Thu 9a-5p  
Fri & Sat 9a-6p  
Closed on Wednesdays

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## HAYWOOD CHORAL SOCIETY CHOOSES NEW DIRECTOR

The Haywood Choral Society has named **Dr. Isaiah Feken** as its new full-time director after serving as Interim Director since Fall 2025. The Board of Directors voted unanimously to confirm him in the role. Dr. Feken is an Associate Professor of Voice at Western Carolina Univ. Previously, he served as Artistic Director and Principal Conductor of the Drake Opera Theatre in Iowa. A native of Tulsa, OK, he holds degrees from the Univ. of Tulsa and the Univ. of Georgia, where he performed as a principal baritone with the UGA Opera Theatre. Founded in 1997 as an outgrowth of The Junalusks, the Haywood Choral Society has grown from 40 singers to 75 members this past Christmas season and recently launched a new student scholarship program. The Society's next concert, **Forever Mountain**, will be held Apr 19, at 4p at First UMC Waynesville, celebrating regional music and North Carolina authors.



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## JUNALUSKANS AT THEIR FINEST

Recently, Junaluskans were seen coming together to care for one of their own following surgery. Transportation was arranged to and from the hospital, meals were thoughtfully prepared, and friends checked in throughout the day to ensure everything was going smoothly. Some stayed through the discharge process, helped the patient safely settle in at home, and even remained overnight to provide comfort and reassurance.

This is Junaluskans at their finest—stepping in when family cannot and showing true compassion and brotherly love. It is a blessing for both giver and receiver: one gains peace of mind, the other the joy of serving. May this spirit always flourish at Lake Junaluska, so that as the community grows closer, it continues to reflect Christian hospitality—truly the “Antechamber to Heaven,” as Bill Lowery so beautifully described it.



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### THE SWAN CORNER - A LEGACY ON THE WATER

Did you know that swans have been part of this Christian community for more than 40 years? They were first brought to Lake Junaluska in the mid-1980s, and their story has been filled with intrigue, tremendous joy, and, at times, heartbreaking loss.

We owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to Ken Zulla, our first Swan Keeper, and his wife, Evelyn, for the 15 years of dedication they gave to the swans. Without their commitment and care, we would not be where we are today. The second Swan Keeper, Jim Pearson, and I have built upon Ken's foundation, always striving to honor his hard work while continuing to improve the program.

The Lake Junaluska swans belong to Lake Junaluska Assembly, Inc. The Junaluskans faithfully support the swans by budgeting for their feed and essential supplies needed to protect them. Additional expenses, including veterinary care, are covered through generous donations to the Lake Junaluska Swan Fund. We are also blessed to have more than 20 dedicated volunteers who assist in caring for these beautiful birds.

Today, seven mute swans grace our waters. They are admired by many and, at times, misunderstood by others. My simple request is this: please respect them. Thank you.

— Jackie Dingus  
Swan Keeper



# LAKE JUNALUSKA GUESTS

- All Hands and Hearts Mar 1-31
- High Street Baptist Church Mar 4-7
- Westminster Presbyterian Church Mar 6-8
- Capstone Church Mar 6-8
- Pisgah Valley Retirement Community Mar 10
- Peace Conference Mar 11-16
- Lake Junaluska Youth Confirmation Mar 13-15
- Harmony Grove UMC Mar 13-15
- St Peter's Church, Mt Pleasant Mar 13-15
- Eternal Church Mar 13-15
- One Dozen Who Care Mar 19-21
- Cedar Springs Presbyterian Church Mar 20-22
- Community of Christ Mar 20-22
- Midway United Methodist Church Mar 20-22
- Phi Mu Sorority Mar 21
- U.S. Army Fort Bragg Mar 23-27
- Algernon Sydney Sullivan Foundation Mar 27-29
- Appalachian College Association Mar 27-28
- Team Effort Youth Group Mission Trips #2 Mar 29 - Apr 3
- Operation Gateway Mar 31 - Apr 1
- Army National Guard Mar 31 - Apr 2

## 2026 JUNALUSKANS FLEA MARKET

**Saturday, Jun 13**

Set-up day, Friday, Jun 12

Now is a good time to be collecting items to donate to the flea market. Please tell your friends and neighbors about the sale and encourage them to donate and come to shop!

For more information contact Judy or Ed LaFontaine at 828-456-8308



## 2026 Junaluskans Events - Save the dates!

*(General meetings are always the first Wednesday of the month at 10 am)*

- Mar 7 - Lake Junaluska Clean-up Day
- Apr 21 - Spring Potluck Lunch
- May 13 - Beautification Day
- May 19 - Hymn Sing at Biblical Gardens
- Jun 13 - Annual Junaluskans Flea Market
- Jun 16 - Country/Western Dance w/BBQ Summer Social
- Jul 3 - Junaluskans Corn Hole Tournament
- Jul 21 - Sacred Spaces
- Aug 18 - Hymn Sing
- Sep 22 - Sacred Spaces
- Nov 12 - Lessons & Carols

**WANT MORE INFO ABOUT LJ ACTIVITIES??  
CHECK OUT THESE RESOURCES**

- Bethea Welcome Center
- Terrace Hotel Front Desk
- Lambuth Inn Front Desk
- Gifts and Grounds
- Assembly Public Works
- Junaluska Weekly (can be picked up at any of the locations listed above and also online at <https://bit.ly/LJweekly> and [www.lakejunaluska.com](http://www.lakejunaluska.com))