



## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT LAKE JUNALUSKA

- It's not a joke! The April Junaluskans' Meeting is in the **Lambuth Inn**, International Room on Apr 1 at 10a. Mike Huber will be the guest speaker.
- Celebrate Easter with an uplifting outdoor **sunrise service** at the amphitheater below the Lake Junaluska Cross. The Apr 5 service begins at 7a, and attendees are encouraged to dress warmly for cool mountain morning temperatures. In the event of rain, the service will be held at Memorial Chapel. The Rev. Dr. Mark Conforti will deliver the sermon titled "See Jesus" from Matthew 28:1-10.
- **Easter Breakfast & Lunch Buffets** will be at the Lambuth Inn Dining Room on Apr 5. For tickets go to <https://lakejunaluska.com/events-calendar/>
- Join us for a special **Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast** to celebrate YOU on Wednesday, Apr 29 at 8:30a in The Terrace Hotel Dining Room. We are grateful for all you do to support our staff, guests, and community each year. Please RSVP (before Apr 15) by emailing [volunteers@lakejunaluska.com](mailto:volunteers@lakejunaluska.com), calling Betsy at 828-454-6708, or signing up in person at the next Junaluskans meeting or the Administration building. We look forward to honoring you!



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# SPRING SALAD & SANDWICH POTLUCK

The Junaluskan's annual Spring potluck will be Tuesday, Apr 21 at the York Dining Commons at 12p. Members are asked to bring a salad, sandwiches or desserts to share. Drinks will be furnished. This is a particularly wonderful time for fellowship. Research shows that people who live the longest and have the happiest life have an active social life. So as we age, social activities become more and more important to our wellbeing. Hope to see you for this "healthy" event!

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## Holy Week in Memorial Chapel

Holy Week services will be offered at 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.

## Save the Dates

- May 2 - Labyrinth Walk
- May 7 - National Day of Prayer
- May 8-9 - Steve Sutton Fest
- May 13 - Beautification Day
- June 28 - Summer Worship & Theologian in Residence Begins
- August 17-20 - Festival of Wisdom and Grace
- September 5 - Friends of the Lake 5K
- September 17-20 Smoky Mountain Ukulele Retreat

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# The 2026 Junaluskans' Flea Market is COMING!

Saturday, Jun 13 from 8a-12p  
Early Bird Shopping 7:30-8a (\$5 fee)  
at the Nanci Weldon Gym

Set-up is Friday, Jun 12 from 9a-2p  
For more information contact:  
Judy or Ed LaFontaine at [edjudy1@outlook.com](mailto:edjudy1@outlook.com)

Pass the date and time to your  
friends, family and neighbors.  
Wonderful bargains and great fellowship!



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## TRAVEL GROUP RETURNS!

The next Travel Group trip will be on Friday, Apr 17. The day will begin with a tour of Hickory Nut Gap Farm near Fairview, where participants will observe sustainably raised animals and crops and have an opportunity to shop in the farm store. A picnic lunch is encouraged, although several dining options are also available in Fairview.

In the afternoon, the group will travel to Old Fort to visit the Visitor Center and the Mountain Gateway Museum. These visits will offer insight into the people and culture that shaped Western North Carolina. Exhibits explore topics such as the construction of the railroad and regional farming practices. Current temporary exhibits include the story of the Cowee Tunnel—where 19 incarcerated laborers tragically drowned—and a look at the diverse communities of the area during the American Revolution.

Participants who wish to attend should meet at the Bethea Welcome Center at 9a to arrange carpools and receive details for the day's itinerary.

For additional information, please contact George and Sondra Shepherd at [gsshepherd620@gmail.com](mailto:gsshepherd620@gmail.com) or 405-596-2632.

## LIBRARY NEWS

### NEW SPRING HOURS:

Mar 27 - May 1

Mon-Sat

8a – 5p

### Upcoming events:

- Bible Study on Tuesdays 11a-12:15p
- Cards & Games on 2nd, 3rd, & 4th Tuesday afternoons beginning @ 2p
- Book Club second Thursday beginning @2p

Check out our great selection of **Children's Easter and Spring books** for visiting nieces, nephews and grandchildren. A stack of picture or chapter books is a great way to spend a lazy day at the lake!

Don't forget to drop off your **used books** anytime the library is open and leave by the computer desk. Thanks! Questions? Want to help? We need a few new volunteers for the busy summer season, especially on Saturday. Contact: Stephanie Schulz 850-445-4375

Do you have a **new neighbor**? Are you new to the Lake? We now have Welcome Neighbor Folders available at the library. Stop by and pick one up and give it to your new neighbors!



Caring & Sharing

Cynthia Lindberg

caringandsharing@lakejunaluska.com



The Lake Junaluska community mourns the loss of several beloved individuals this March:

- Mary Garrison, 73, passed on Mar 5.
- Charles Meek, Greg and Danna Meek's father/father-in-law, passed on Mar 12 at the age of 98.
- Margaret Burson, long time friend and supporter of Lake Junaluska passed on Mar 16 at the age of 97.



## 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.

- 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.

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## BOOK CLUB

The Lake Junaluska Books & Friends group will gather on Apr 9 at 2p to discuss *Queens of Crime* by New York Times bestselling author, Marie Benedict. This novel tells the thrilling story of five of the greatest women writers of the Golden Age of Mystery and their bid to solve a real-life murder. We'll meet in the Lake Junaluska Library, located in the Harrell Center building. Looking ahead, our May selection is *The Indigo Girl* by Natasha Boyd, which we'll discuss on May 14 at 2p.

# HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MARCH 2026 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

The Lake Junaluska Board of Trustees held its biannual meeting on March 5-6, 2026. The following are highlights from the meeting:

Chuck Lipp presented a **strategic update on the dam**, highlighting the need for repairs and improvements following Hurricane Helene. In a recent inspection, NC Dam Safety (the regulatory agency for the dam) noted erosion caused by Hurricane Helene and spalling concrete. These are non-structural issues, but will require repairs estimated to cost more than \$500,000. We have received nearly \$400,000 in grants for engineering and repairs. We anticipate beginning these repairs this year.

The need for a **“log boom”** to prevent debris from accumulating in the spillway was also identified. We have received \$250,000 in grants to support this project. More information on the location and construction timeline for this project will be shared at JACC, Junaluskans, and LJAPOO meetings.

**Sediment management** is a key issue. The sediment disposal site needs to be increased by 350 feet, which requires a Section 404 permit and mitigation credits. The estimated cost of this project is between \$500,000 and \$750,000. We have received a \$400,000 grant for this project.

**Shining Rock Charter School** is closing its Dellwood Road campus adjacent to the campground. This site is leased from the Assembly, and we are working with them on the future of this property.

The Lake Junaluska Strategic Vision includes the possibility of creating an **independent living facility at Lake Junaluska**. Land on County Road has been identified for this purpose, and a board task force is working on obtaining formal appraisals to determine its value and will continue discussions to move the project forward.

The Public Works Committee discussed the **status of the Colonial Inn**, focusing on progress of the mandatory deed-restrictions regarding its renovation and preservation. Management is actively communicating with the owner. Any modifications to the restrictions require Board approval.

## **The Board took the following actions:**

- approved management spending up to \$25,000 from unrestricted reserves for appraisals and a study of property for a potential senior living facility
- ratified the actions taken by the Executive and Finance Committees to approve the 2026 Operating and Public Works budgets
- ratified the action taken by the Executive Committee to approve authorizing submission of applications for three separate grant opportunities that support critical infrastructure

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My heartfelt thanks to the Board of Trustees for their dedication, leadership and service. Their commitment to the community and our mission to be a place of Christian hospitality where lives are transformed by renewal of soul, mind and body is truly appreciated. In this world filled with chaos, uncertainty and division, places like Lake Junaluska serve as sanctuaries of peace, reflection and community – offering a space where people can come together in faith, fellowship and renewal. Here, the beauty of creation and the spirit of unity remind us of the hope and healing that can still be found, even in the most challenging times.

Yours in Christ, Ken Howle

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The **Junaluskans Hike** in March included wildflowers blooming near the NC Arboretum and a trail around Lake Powhatan. Watch your Junaluskans email for the announcement of the next hike in late spring.



## LAKE JUNALUSKA GUESTS

- Piedmont Emmaus (Womens): Apr 9-12
- The Shepherd's Church: Apr 10-12
- WNC-UMC Bishop's Confirmation: Apr 10-11
- Smoky Mountain Youth Rally: Apr 10-12
- Piedmont Emmaus (Mens): Apr 16-19
- Western NC-UMC: Apr 20-26
- Academy for Spiritual Formation: Apr 19-24
- Speros Foundation: Apr 21-23
- National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR): Apr 23-26
- Highland United Methodist Church (HUMC) Men's Retreat: Apr 24-26
- WNC District Lay Servant Ministries: Apr 24-25
- Rally in the Mountains: Apr 24-26
- First United Methodist Church - Gastonia: Apr 24-26
- Canton High School Class of 1961: Apr 25
- South Carolina UMC - Conference Spiritual Formation Retreat: Apr 27-29
- Southeastern Jurisdiction (SEJ) Intentional Growth Center (IGC) Board Meeting: Apr 29-May 1
- Blue Ridge Mountain Dulcimer Society: Apr 30-May 3
- Center for Spiritual Formation (CSF) Spring Event: Apr 30-May 2



## 2026 Junaluskans Events - Save the dates!

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

- Apr 21 - Spring Potluck Lunch
- May 13 - Beautification Day
- May 19 - Hymn Sing at Biblical Gardens
- Jun 13 - Annual Junaluskans Flea Market
- Jun 16 - BBQ Summer Social
- Jul 3 - Junaluskans Corn Hole Tournament
- Jul 21 - Sacred Spaces
- Aug 18 - Hymn Sing
- Sep 22 - Sacred Spaces
- Dec 12 - Lessons & Carols

**WANT MORE INFO ABOUT LAKE  
JUNALUSKA 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>)
- [www.lakejunaluska.com/Calendar](http://www.lakejunaluska.com/Calendar)
- Junaluska Assembly Community Council Minutes and Lake Views & News can be found at [lakejunaluskacommunity.com](http://lakejunaluskacommunity.com)

# HELP KEEP OUR GROUNDS BEAUTIFUL!

The beauty of our shared spaces is one of the things that makes our community so special, and you can play a part in maintaining it. Melissa Marshall, our Director of Grounds, is looking for seasonal volunteers to help care for some of our most prominent flower beds, including the Welcome Center, Main Entrance and Inspiration Point. If you have a green thumb and some time to spare between Memorial Day and Labor Day, we would love your help!

To volunteer or learn more, please reach out to Melissa directly at [mmarshall@lakejunaluska.com](mailto:mmarshall@lakejunaluska.com).



**Saturday May, 2 | 8 a.m.-1 p.m.**

**Nanci Weldon Memorial Gym**

Shop for annuals, perennials, vegetables, herbs and house plants at the Lake Junaluska Annual Plant Sale! The annual plant sale supports landscaping at Lake Junaluska, where the gardens and grounds are open for all to enjoy and are made possible through charitable giving.

[lakejunaluska.com/plantsale](http://lakejunaluska.com/plantsale)