

Connect

February 2024



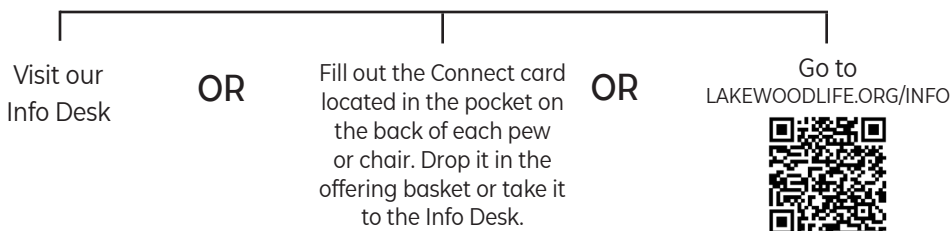
United WKND



WELCOME

NEW TO LAKEWOOD?

We want to meet you, answer your questions
and help you get connected.



GET INVOLVED

Discover your place at Lakewood

ATTEND DISCOVER

This basic intro to Lakewood is designed to help you discover who we are and where we are going as a church.

NEXT DISCOVER CLASS

March 17
in the Lodge
at 12:15 PM
[LAKEWOODLIFE.ORG/](https://LAKEWOODLIFE.ORG/DISCOVER)
DISCOVER

FIND A GROUP

We believe you grow to be like Christ as you do life with other people. In addition, we are convinced sustained life-change happens best in the context of a small group. Visit our Info Desk to learn about Sunday morning groups. We also have groups that meet all week around Hall County. To find a group, go to LAKEWOODLIFE.ORG/GROUPLIFE

JOIN A TEAM

God has gifted each of us differently and at Lakewood we have ways to serve that match your gifting! Visit LAKEWOODLIFE.ORG/SERVE to see some of the ways to serve using your personality, gifts and abilities.

NEXT BAPTISM

February 11

NEXT LORD'S SUPPER

February 25

FOLLOW US! @LAKEWOODLIFE

NOTE FROM Dr. Tyler Smiley

This month we are seeing a decade's long dream come to fruition in our Residency Program. The two townhomes we purchased last year have been completed and we have two residents and their families moving in this month. I hope you will take time to welcome Parker and Yessin to Lakewood. The vision of this Residency ministry is to serve in training, preparing, and sending out men and women for gospel ministry throughout the world. As we see this ministry grow, I'm confident that we will be as blessed by these men and women as they are by us. Thank you for your support and commitment to this mission-centered vision.

We are excited to welcome Thompson VanDeMark as our new Upward Sports Director at Lakewood and his fiancé, Emma Robinson. He will be overseeing our Upward Sports program and leading our Recreation Ministry.

This month, we extend a warm welcome to our COR 3:6 Church Planters as they join us for the Church Planters Conference at Lakewood. I hope you'll connect with them, learn about their families and ministries, and find ways you can pray for them. This will be an exciting weekend at Lakewood.

Additionally, our Student Ministry team is gearing up for United WKND in early March. If you're a middle or high school student, or a parent of one, make sure to register for this incredible and transformative weekend experience.

Praise the Lord for His work in and through our church. What an honor it is to serve our Lord Jesus Christ!

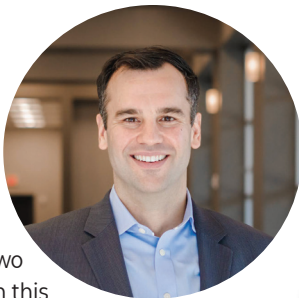
Blessings,



The **VISION** of Lakewood is to be a regional church that makes disciples of Jesus Christ locally, nationally and globally.

CROSSPOINT WORSHIP is a traditional blend of praise and worship at 9:30 AM in the Chapel.

REAL LIFE is a vibrant, contemporary worship experience at 11:00 AM in the Worship Center.



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MISSIONS SPOTLIGHT



ASIA MEDIA TEAM MINISTERING TO UYGHUR

Our church supports a missionary team in Asia who uses media as a means of getting the gospel to the Uyghur. The media team uses advanced technology to creatively access areas of an East Asian country that is currently physically inaccessible due to the political environment. As missionaries await the opportunity to physically return to this country, the media team is able to send gospel resources in the Uyghur language through various internet platforms.

PLEASE PRAY:

- For the team's encouragement
- For wisdom and vision for the team as they explore new media platforms for ministry
- For Uyghur men, women and children to encounter the gospel through media

For more information please contact benji@lakewoodlife.org.

For the safety of our mission partners and protection of their ministry, please do not share this information on any online platform.

WELCOME TO LAKEWOOD

You may see some new faces around Lakewood! We want to introduce our newest staff member and two new residents to you so when you see them, you can introduce yourself and welcome them to our Lakewood family.

THOMPSON VANDEMARK UPWARD SPORTS DIRECTOR



Thompson is coming from Watkinsville to lead our Upward Sports ministry. Having grown up in a small town in Morgan County Georgia, he has been the maintenance foreman over aquatics at UGA's student center and plans to marry his fiancé, Emma, in July. Johnson enjoys a variety of sports including basketball, pickle ball, and spikeball.

LAKEWOOD'S RESIDENCY PROGRAM

Lakewood's Residency program is designed to serve in training, preparing, and sending out men and women for gospel ministry throughout the world.



PARKER MATTHEWS is joining Lakewood's residency program to prepare for ministry as an associate pastor in rural North Georgia. Parker is married to Kristie and together they have an infant daughter named Brooklyn.



YESSEN ITASHEV is joining Lakewood's residency program to prepare for ministry as a church planter in Central Asia. Yessen is from Central Asia and works in coordination with Lakewood's missionary team there. Yessen is married to Nursale and together they have a three year old daughter named Dariga.

ANNUAL CHILI COOK-OFF • FEBRUARY 21 5:00-6:00 PM • FELLOWSHIP HALL



Join us for our 9th Annual Chili Cook-off to sample the entries and vote for your favorite. The cost is \$5 per person and all proceeds benefit our Prison Ministry. Additional tickets may be purchased for more



votes. Do you make a great chili? You could be our 2024 Chili Cook-off winner! Enter your chili by scanning the QR code and filling out the entry form.

SIX WEEK BEGINNER GROUP GUITAR CLASS STARTS FEBRUARY 15 | 5:30-6:00 PM



Have you always wanted to play the guitar? Sixth graders through adults are invited to join this LMI class taught by Jeremy Daniels. Sign up and learn more at lakewoodlife.org/lmi.



LAKEWOOD'S THEOLOGICAL LIBRARY

If you haven't visited our newly renovated library, we hope you will stop by soon. Our library is located next to the Fellowship Hall and is available for any member of our Lakewood Community for study and to check out books. If you would like to search our library catalog, learn more about the library or find out about volunteer opportunities, visit lakewoodlife.org/library or scan the code.



Ash Wednesday Service

FEBRUARY 14 AT NOON IN THE CHAPEL

LAKEWOOD CHURCH PLANTING



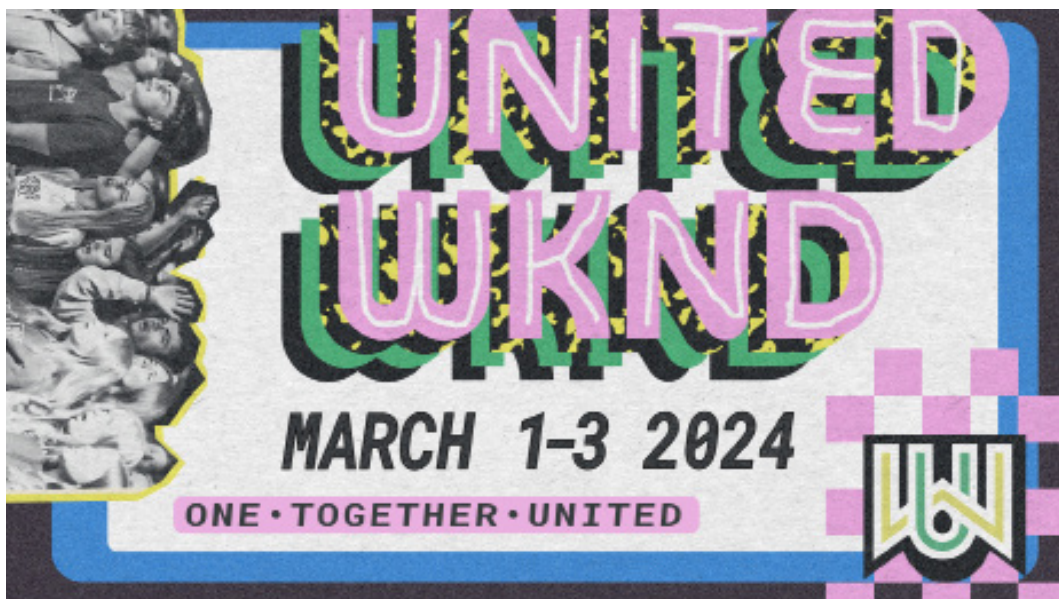
COR 3:6 CHURCH PLANTER CONFERENCE

We will host our third COR 3:6 Church Planter conference February 16-18. On this weekend, 30 of our partnering church planters from around the country will be joining us here in Gainesville for a time of fellowship & mutual encouragement. Over the course of the weekend we will sing, pray, hear God's Word, eat, and spend time connecting as we celebrate the gift of gospel partnership.

On Sunday February 18, we will have lunch for all of our planters after church and would love for you to join. This is a great opportunity to meet & spend time with our partners! Space is limited so if you are interested in attending the lunch, please scan the QR code to RSVP.



For more information please contact benji@lakewoodlife.org.



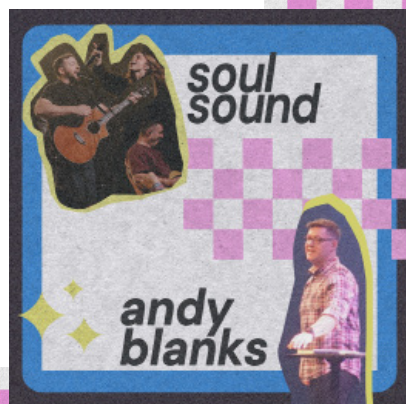
UNITED WKND is an event for middle and high school students that takes place at Lakewood Baptist Church and in host homes of church members. We will gather with students from other churches in the area to worship the Lord together and grow deeper in community with one another. This year also includes a serving experience and silent disco!

THEME: WHO I AM

Who are you? It's a simple question, but how you answer it reveals a lot about the way you see yourself. It might be easy to define your identity by what you do (a sport or instrument you play) or by who you spend the most time with (family, friends, girl/boyfriend). While all of these can be good things, none of them define who you are. We live in a world where there is massive confusion about the most basic question of who we are, but God has already made this clear. Ephesians 2:10 says, "For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago." At United WKND, we're going to spend time looking in God's Word to see how He defines our identity and talk about how we live in light of who we already are in Christ.

LAKWOODLIFE.ORG/UNITEDWKND

Cost is \$75
Register by
February 14



COMING UP AT LAKEWOOD LEARN MORE AT LAKEWOODLIFE.ORG/EVENTS

February 6	Women on Mission 10:30 AM
February 7	First Wednesday Men's Gathering 6:15 AM
February 7	Discover Step 3 6:15 PM
February 9	Galentines (High School Girls) 6:00 PM
February 10	Tiny Stitches 10:00 AM
February 11	For the Girls (Middle School Girls) 12:15 PM
February 14	Ash Wednesday Service 12:00 PM
February 14	Discover Step 4 6:15 PM
February 15	Upward Soccer Registration Ends
February 15	Group Guitar Class Begins
February 16-18	COR 3:6 Conference
February 17	JOY Ministry Respite 5:00 PM
February 21	9th Annual CRI Chili Cook-Off 5:00 PM
February 27	Senior Adult Lunch 12:00 PM
March 1-3	United WKND (Student Ministry)
March 5	Women on Mission 10:30 AM
March 6	First Wednesday Men's Gathering 6:15 AM
March 7	Women's Series: Jesus in the Jewish Festivals Begins 6:15 PM
March 8-17	Croatia Mission Trip
March 17	Discover Step 1 12:15 PM
March 20	Delight and Declare 6:15 PM
March 22	Forever Marriage Live 6:00 PM
March 25-27	Easter Week Bible Study 12:00 PM
March 28	Maundy Thursday Service 12:00 PM & 6:30 PM
March 29	Good Friday Service 12:00 PM & 6:30 PM
March 30	Family Easter Celebration 11:00 AM
March 30-April 5	High School Mission Trip to Guatemala
March 31	Easter Sunday Services 7:00, 8:30, 10:00 & 11:00 AM

USE YOUR
SMART PHONE
TO SCAN THE
QR CODE FOR
THE LATEST
INFORMATION.



WEEKLY

SUNDAY MORNINGS

Babies, Preschool & Grade School 9:30 & 11:00
Middle & High School Students 9:30
Young Adult Groups 9:30
Adult Small Groups 8:30 & 9:30 & 11:00
Worship Services 9:30 & 11:00

TUESDAYS Celebrate Recovery • 5:30 PM Dinner • 6:30 PM Large Group

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

ALL ACTIVITIES MEET 6:15-7:45 PM
Babies, Preschool & Grade School
Middle & High School Students
Adult Bible Studies & DivorceCare
Crosspoint Choir



LOOKING BACK



On Wednesday nights, Scott Smith leads an interactive and practical verse-by-verse study of Romans for adults of all ages and stages of life.

AVERAGE WEEKLY MINISTRY BUDGET NEED: \$114,375

AVERAGE WEEKLY RECEIVED 12/24-1/21: \$209,298

NEW MEMBERS: Elijah Workman, Noah Workman, Gracie Workman, Jewel Sullivan, Katice Sayles, Joy Rico, Lillian West, Jim & Pearl Knight, Jon & Katie Edwards, Mike & Jessica Satterfield

WAYS TO GIVE:

GIVE ONLINE:
lakewoodlife.org/give



OFFERING BASKET:
cash or check

ENDOWMENT FUND:
[lakewoodlife.org/
endowment-ministry](https://lakewoodlife.org/endowment-ministry)

*The Real Life service may contain flashing lights that might cause difficulties for people with photosensitive epilepsy.

CONTACT

SENIOR PASTOR

EXECUTIVE PASTOR

ASSOCIATE/SR. ADULT PASTOR

MISSIONS PASTOR

WORSHIP PASTOR

WORSHIP PASTOR

DISCIPLESHIP PASTOR

NEXT GENERATION PASTOR

Dr. Tyler Smiley • thsmiley@lakewoodlife.org

Robert Puckett • rpuckett@lakewoodlife.org

Don Ormsbee • dormsbee@lakewoodlife.org

Dr. Benji Lavender • benji@lakewoodlife.org

Jeremy Daniels • jdaniels@lakewoodlife.org

Carter Reeves • creeves@lakewoodlife.org

Scott Smith • ssmith@lakewoodlife.org

Jamie Willis • jwillis@lakewoodlife.org

Scan the QR Code to see a complete list of our Lakewood staff



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