

Connect

December 2025



Christmas at Lakewood



WELCOME

NEW TO LAKEWOOD?

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

Visit our
Info Desk

OR

Fill out the Connect card
located in the pocket on
the back of each pew
or chair. Drop it in the
offering basket or take it
to the Info Desk.

OR

Go to
LAKEWOODLIFE.ORG/INFO



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

December 7 | January 11
in the Fellowship Hall
at 12:15 PM
[LAKEWOODLIFE.ORG/
DISCOVER](https://LAKEWOODLIFE.ORG/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

December 24
Christmas Eve 5:00 PM Service

NEXT LORD'S SUPPER

December 17
Family Lord Supper

FOLLOW US! @LAKEWOODLIFE

NOTE FROM

Dr. Tyler Smiley



As we approach the end of the year, we can reflect back on the journey we've shared through God's Word on Sunday mornings. We began by tracing the Gospel through the Old Testament. We looked at the Proverbs for wisdom, and, more recently, we studied Revelation which showed us how to live and endure for the sake of the Lord who will one day return in glory and make all things new. Hallelujah and praise the Lord! This December, we turn our focus to the hope of His coming as we pray together, "Come, Lord Jesus." I am so grateful to the Lord for His word, and I'm so grateful for this church that delights to read and study God's word together.

I am also grateful for what the Lord has done through our ministry work this last year. As a church we celebrated 44 baptisms and welcomed 106 new members into our church family. Lakewood participated in 9 disaster relief trips, taught 105 ESL students, and trained 172 music students through Lakewood Music Institute. We prepared 7 residents for ministry, sent 25 members to plant a new church in John's Creek, supported 36 COR 3:6 church planters, and reached 713 children through Upward Sports. The Lord has done remarkable things through His people—and we give Him all the glory!

As the year concludes, I invite you to prayerfully consider a year-end financial gift to support the ministry of Lakewood. Your generosity is essential for us to continue the good work that God is doing in and through our church. Pray and ask the Lord what it would mean for you to be faithful with what He has given you. I believe that if we are all willing to listen and obey the Lord individually, then He will provide for the needs of the ministry. If ever you want to talk about making a special financial gift to our church, please know it would be my honor to sit and talk with you. May the Lord be glorified, and His church be fruitful.



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

9:30 AM SUNDAY SERVICE

Traditional service in the Chapel

11:00 AM SUNDAY SERVICE

Contemporary service in the Worship Center



MISSIONS SPOTLIGHT



THE "T" FAMILY SOUTH ASIA

Meet our new global partners, the "T" Family—a family of five with three children, ages 4, 2, and 6 months — who are preparing to serve as global workers in South Asia. They will live and minister among an unreached Muslim people group, with the desire to plant a church where none currently exists. Their heart is to see the gospel take root and lives transformed by Christ's love.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- Open and receptive hearts among those they will meet
- The Lord to prepare opportunities and open doors for gospel conversations
- The "T" Family as they prepare to move and as they begin to adjust to life and ministry in a new culture

For more information please contact benji@lakewoodlife.org.

FOLLOW US!

[@lakewoodbaptistmissions](https://www.instagram.com/lakewoodbaptistmissions)

FAMILY CHRISTMAS CAROLING | DEC. 5

Join us at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall to go out and visit our homebound and nursing home residents. After caroling, we'll return for soup, grilled cheese, and Christmas cookies. Bring a plate of treats to share! Register for this free event by visiting Lakewoodlife.org/events.

SENIOR ADULT CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON DECEMBER 16 | NOON | FELLOWSHIP HALL

All adults 55+ are invited to a catered Christmas lunch and program. Call the Front Office to RSVP.



DELIGHT & DECLARE: A NIGHT OF WORSHIP JANUARY 7 | 6:15 PM | WORSHIP CENTER

Join us for a special evening of worship as kids, students, and adults come together to delight in the Lord and celebrate the good news of the gospel. As we lift our



voices and hearts in praise, we'll also reflect on those around us—friends, family, co-workers, and neighbors—who have yet to experience the joy of knowing Christ. Together we'll sing, hear God's Word, and pray that our delight in Jesus will overflow into joyful declaration of the gospel to others.

VOLLEYBALL OPEN GYM • TUESDAYS MINISTRY CENTER • 4:00-9:00 PM

Whether you are a beginner or advanced volleyball player, you are invited to Volleyball Open Gym on Tuesdays.

WOMEN'S GROUPS STARTING IN JANUARY

Grow in your faith and connect with other women through Bible study, conversation, and prayer. Groups are designed for every season of life and offer varying levels of study. Scan the code to see groups starting in January and join a community where women encourage one another to walk faithfully with Christ.



GENERATE SUMMER CAMP FLASH SALE FOR 6TH-12TH GRADERS | DECEMBER 3-10

Don't miss out on camp at Johnson University in Knoxville, TN, July 20-24! Save \$100 off the total cost when you register with a deposit during the Flash Sale, December 3-10. Learn more at LakewoodLife.org/summercamp or scan the code.



READ THE BIBLE IN 2026 Reading Plan

We believe that it's important to spend time daily in God's Word and we want to help you do that. In 2026, our daily readings will correspond with the weekly sermon text.

Sign up for daily texts with a link to the reading by texting "Bible" to (470) 516-5244 or scan the QR code with your phone. These texts come Monday through Friday at 6:15 AM (if that's too early, turn off your notifications for these texts and they'll be there when you are ready to read.)

On our website, we have several reading plans including a 3-year read through the Bible plan and several other one-year plans. Scan the code to find these plans.



NEW RESIDENT: COLLIN NDAHIRIWE

We're excited to welcome Collin Ndahiriwe as our newest Lakewood Resident. Collin is the son of current Resident Amos Semuzima. Originally from the Congo, Collin and his family came to the U.S. in 2013 and became citizens of the US. He and his wife, Grace, have four children—Joshua, Jasper, Janaya, and Jayla. Together with his father, Collin is preparing to plant a church in Duluth to reach Congolese and other African diaspora communities in that area.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- Healing and strength for Collin's wife, Grace, as she battles cancer
- Their family's transition to a new community
- Collin's time in residency and future ministry in Duluth
- Future members of their church in Duluth

FOLLOW US! @cor36network

CHRISTMAS

at Lakewood

This Christmas, we're excited to gather as a church family and celebrate the birth of Christ. Whether through worship, the Lord's Supper, or the glow of candles on Christmas Eve, each service is a chance to reflect on the hope and joy Jesus brings.

CHRISTMAS MUSIC SUNDAY

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7 • 9:30 & 11:00 AM

Both our 9:30 (traditional) and 11:00 (contemporary) services will feature Christmas music, including choral performances and congregational singing. We will also prepare our hearts for Christmas through scripture readings, prayers and the lighting of the advent candle.

FAMILY LORD'S SUPPER

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17 • 6:00-7:30 PM • WORSHIP CENTER

Drop by the Worship Center to participate in an intimate Lord's Supper with your friends and family. Gather around a table and one of our Lakewood staff will lead you in the Lord's Supper. No childcare will be provided for this family-friendly service. (Be sure to drop by the Library for **Cocoa, Cookies and Christmas Stories** which takes place at the same time as Family Lord's Supper. Details on page 4)

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICES

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24

5:00 PM in the Worship Center | 10:00 PM in the Chapel

Join us as we anticipate and celebrate the coming of Jesus with song and scripture during one of our Christmas Eve candlelight services. The 5:00 PM service will also include baptism. No childcare will be provided for these family-friendly services.

We look forward to celebrating together with you and your family this season!

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

December 2	Senior Adult Prayer 8:30 AM
December 2	Women on Mission 10:30 AM
December 3	First Wednesday Men's Gathering 6:15 AM
December 4	Come Jesus Come Women's Advent Gathering 6:00 PM
December 5	Family Christmas Caroling 6:00 PM
December 6	Special Needs Ministry Christmas Party 2:00 PM
December 7	Christmas Music Sunday 9:30 & 11:00 AM
December 7	Discover Step 1 12:15 PM
December 10	Lakewood Students Christmas Night of Worship 6:15 PM
December 10	Lakewood Kids Christmas Pageant 6:15 PM
December 16	Senior Adult Christmas Luncheon 12:00 PM
December 17	Family Lord's Supper 6:00 PM
December 17	Cookies, Cocoa, and Christmas Stories (Library) 6:00 PM
December 24	Christmas Eve Services 5:00 PM & 10:00 PM
December 24	Ministry Center Closed through January 4
December 28	No Small Groups
December 31	No Wednesday Night Activities
January 5-8	Senior Adult Winter Bible Study 10:00 AM
January 6	Senior Adult Prayer 8:30 AM
January 6	Women on Mission 10:30 AM
January 7	First Wednesday Men's Gathering 6:15 AM
January 7	Delight and Declare 6:15 PM
January 8	Praying with Purpose (Women) 10:00 AM & 6:00 PM
January 11	Discover Step 1 12:15 PM
January 12	Winter Women's Bible Groups Begin
January 13	ESL Resumes 6:00 PM
January 14	Wednesday Nights Resume 6:15 PM
January 14	Discover Step 2 6:15 PM
January 17	Tiny Stitches 10:00 AM
January 17	Special Needs Respite 5:00 PM
January 21	Discover Step 3 6:15 PM
January 28	Discover Step 4 6:15 PM

CONNECT THROUGH TEXTS

Receive a link to our **Daily Bible Reading Plan** Monday-Friday. Text **BIBLE** to (470) 516-5244.



Get **Lakewood Text Updates** for church events, special services, and schedule changes. Text **LAKEWOOD** to (470) 516-5297



SCAN THE QR CODE FOR THE LATEST CALENDAR INFORMATION.



WEEKLY

SUNDAYS

Kids & Students 9:30 & 11:00 AM
 Young Adult (Gather) Group 9:30 AM
 Adult Small Groups 8:30 & 9:30 & 11:00 AM
 Worship Services 9:30 & 11:00 AM
 Open Gym 2:00-7:00 PM
 Choir Practice 4:00 PM

TUESDAYS

CELEBRATE RECOVERY
 5:30 PM Dinner · 6:30 PM Large Group
English as a Second Language (ESL)
 6:00 PM

WEDNESDAYS

All Ages 6:15-7:45 PM



LOOKING BACK



Nearly 100 middle and high school guys and adult leaders participated in ManTreat at the Retreat at Long Mountain. They learned what it means to be a man of God through worship, small groups, and breakouts like archery, wood splitting, welding, fishing and automotive care.

AVERAGE WEEKLY MINISTRY BUDGET NEED: \$114,375

AVERAGE WEEKLY RECEIVED 10/26-11/16: \$95,075

THE 2025 PRAYER GUIDE for International Missions and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering envelopes are available at the Info Desks.

NEW MEMBERS: Hadassah Baker, James and Nancy Castleberry, Kate Deavers, Brian Haley, Stacy King Holcomb, Ryan Jackson, Louella Leonard, Cindy Martin, McKenzie Miller, Nicole Miller, Jerry and Sylvia Peck, Josiah and Jennifer Smith, Hannah Stice, Thatcher Wheeler

*The 11:00 AM service may contain flashing lights that might cause difficulties for people with photosensitive epilepsy.

WAYS TO GIVE:

GIVE ONLINE:
lakewoodlife.org/give



OFFERING BASKET:
cash or check

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

CONTACT

SENIOR PASTOR

EXECUTIVE PASTOR

MISSIONS PASTOR

WORSHIP PASTOR

WORSHIP PASTOR

DISCIPLESHIP PASTOR

NEXT GENERATION PASTOR

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

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