

# Connect

May 2026



*Guatemala Missions*



# 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](https://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

May 3  
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](https://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](https://LAKEWOODLIFE.ORG/SERVE) to see some of the ways to serve using your personality, gifts and abilities.

### NEXT BAPTISM

July 19  
(Pool Baptism)

### NEXT LORD'S SUPPER

June 7

**FOLLOW US! @LAKEWOODLIFE**

NOTE FROM

## Dr. Tyler Smiley

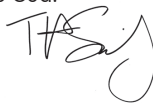
Last month, we had the privilege of sending both our High School and Middle School students on mission—with the high school students serving in Guatemala and our middle school students serving here in our own community. These trips are always a reminder that God is at work all around us and that He invites us into His work. We are grateful for the way our students served, shared the Gospel, and returned with a deeper love for Christ and others.

In May, we look forward to celebrating our high school and college seniors on Graduate Recognition Sunday. This is a meaningful milestone, and as a church family, we want to recognize their accomplishments and pray for them as they step into a new season.

We are also excited to begin our Women's COPE Groups, which provide care, support, and encouragement for those walking through difficult circumstances. Learn more on page 4.

As we look ahead to summer, there are many opportunities for all ages to grow and connect—from Kids Camp and Student Camp to Music and Drama Camp, basketball camps, and VBS. We invite you to prayerfully consider ways that you can serve and participate as we continue to make disciples of Jesus Christ locally, nationally, and globally.

Lastly, I want to say how thankful I am to be part of a church that has a vision for deep discipleship within our church, and a church with a vision for raising up and sending out men and women for the sake of the gospel. I pray that the Lord will never let us lose sight of the good work that He has called us to as we trust Him to provide for all that He leads us to do. All glory to God!



# Connect

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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



## CHRIS FITZGERALD ATHENS, GA

Chris serves as a Missions Mobilizer with Café 1040 in Athens, Georgia. He is passionate about raising up the next generation of gospel workers, mobilizing young adults through local churches and challenging them to take the message of Christ to some of the most unreached places in the world. Through Café 1040's Mission Mentorship Program, he is seeing young people say "yes" to the Great Commission. Chris also partners with churches across Athens to help cultivate a missions heartbeat.

### PLEASE PRAY:

- That God would raise up laborers from among the students Chris is investing in.
- For partner churches—that missions would shape who they are, not just what they do.
- For Café 1040 bases in the 10/40 Window facing visa challenges.
- For opportunities to collaborate with other mobilizing organizations.

## WOMEN'S C.O.P.E. GROUPS START IN MAY

C.O.P.E. Groups are new groups for women walking through grief and difficult seasons of life. These confidential, ongoing groups provide a place to connect with others who understand, find hope in God's Word, pray together, and encourage one another to move forward in the grace and mercy of Jesus. Groups meet at various times throughout the week and currently include support for moms of



prodigals, widows, and women experiencing infertility or infant loss. Scan the code to learn more and to sign up for a group.

## C.S. LEWIS BOOK CLUB: PERELANDRA MAY 13 | 6:15 PM | ROOM 128 B & C

This quarterly book club is designed to bring readers together for engaging conversations that stretch and enrich our faith. Whether you're a longtime reader or new to Lewis, come enjoy meaningful dialogue and community around a shared love of good books.

## KING OF THE DILL PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT MAY 16 | 9:00 AM | MINISTRY CENTER



Grab a partner and join us for a fun morning of competition at our 3rd Annual Pickleball Tournament. Teams will compete in two divisions (54 and under and 55 and over) in a double-elimination format, all for a chance to take home the prized jar of pickles. Scan the code to sign up.

## GRADUATE RECOGNITION SUNDAY MAY 17 | 9:30 & 11:00 AM

We're excited to celebrate Lakewood's high school, college, and graduate school graduates during both worship services. After the 11:00 AM service, graduates and their families are invited to a special lunch in their honor. To help us prepare, we are asking families to submit photos of their graduate for the booklet and slideshow by May 4. Scan the code for more details, to RSVP for lunch, and to submit your photos.



# BASKETBALL CAMP

**K4-2ND GRADE | JUNE 8-11**  
**3RD-5TH GRADE | JUNE 22-25**

Boys and girls can improve their basketball skills at one of our basketball camps. Students who just finished K4-2nd grade will meet June 8-11, and those who just finished 3rd-5th grade will meet June 22-25. Camps meet from 9:00-11:00 AM each day. Visit [lakewoodlife.org/recreation](http://lakewoodlife.org/recreation) or scan the code to sign up.



## MUSIC AND DRAMA CAMP

**KINDERGARTEN-5TH GRADE | JULY 13-16**

Music and Drama Camp is a fun week of learning, collaboration, and creativity as students prepare a musical to perform at the end of the week. This year's production, *Star Quest: Search for the Stolen Scriptures*, follows the crew of ship J-316 on an exciting space adventure centered on God's Word. Camp runs Monday-Thursday from 9:00 AM-12:00 PM, with a performance on Thursday, July 16 at 6:00 PM in the Chapel. Scan the code to sign up.



## SUMMER CAMP

**MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL | JULY 20-24 |**  
**JOHNSON UNIVERSITY, KNOXVILLE, TN**

All middle and high school students are invited to join us for Summer Camp 2026 with Generate Camp. This year's theme, *For All* (1 Timothy 2:3-6), will be led by speaker Ryan Fontenot with worship from People of the Earth. Students will stay on campus and experience worship, teaching, small groups, and recreation. Scan the code to sign up.



**GREG SALAZAR**  
**MYERS PARK, NC**

Greg Salazar, with his wife, Christie, and their five children, are planting Christ Our King Church in Myers Park—an affluent neighborhood just south of uptown Charlotte. Though one of the most prosperous communities in the Southeast, Myers Park is spiritually dry, with residents who have everything the world offers but remain far from Christ. Greg is building a launch team and raising support as first steps toward becoming a faithful gospel presence in the Myers Park community.

### PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- The Salazars as they put down roots and build community in Charlotte.
- The launch team to have unity, faith, and a heart for the lost.
- God to open eyes and soften hearts of the people of Myers Park.
- That many would hear, believe, and be transformed by the grace of Jesus.

For more information, please contact [benji@lakewoodlife.org](mailto:benji@lakewoodlife.org).

SHINING A LIGHT ON  
WHO JESUS REALLY IS

# ILLUMINATION STATION

JOHN 8:12

**VBS IS JUNE 15-19 AND IT'S TIME TO SIGN UP! EVERY DAY IS FILLED WITH MUSIC, CRAFTS, DRAMA, BIBLE STUDY, RECREATION, MISSIONS, SNACKS AND FUN!**

Through this year's theme, Illumination Station – Shining a Light on Who Jesus Really Is, kids will be challenged to answer Jesus' important question to His disciples, "Who do you say that I am?" As they explore who Jesus is, they'll discover that He is the Light of the World—"Anyone who follows Me will never walk in the darkness but will have the light of life" (John 8:12).

Vacation Bible School is for children who have completed kindergarten through 5th grade. Infant through Pre-K classes are available for children of volunteers.

## **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

We are looking for adults to help us in music, missions, crafts, recreation, snacks and security teams, but our GREATEST NEED is for grade specific classroom leadership. Classroom leaders serve on a team of at least two adults and lead a group of up to 12 children—curriculum and training are provided. Following classroom activities, these leaders accompany their group to missions, crafts, recreation and music which are led by other volunteer teams.

If you have questions about volunteering, email Lakewood's Next Gen Ministry Assistant, Ashley Echols at [aechols@lakewoodlife.org](mailto:aechols@lakewoodlife.org).



**TO SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER OR REGISTER YOUR CHILD, SCAN THE QR CODE WITH YOUR SMART PHONE OR VISIT [LAKWOODLIFE.ORG/EVENTS](http://LAKWOODLIFE.ORG/EVENTS).**

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

- May 3 Sing the Gospel Sunday | 9:30 AM & 11:00 AM
- May 3 Discover Step 1 | 12:15 PM
- May 3 Parent Child Dedication | 4:00 PM
- May 5 Senior Adult Prayer Meeting | 8:30 AM
- May 5 Women on Mission | 10:30 AM
- May 6 First Wednesday Men's Gathering | 6:15 AM
- May 6 Discover Step 2 | 6:15 PM
- May 6 Lakewood Kids Recognition Night | 6:15 PM
- May 13 Discover Step 3 | 6:15 PM
- May 13 Final Night of Wednesday Night Activities
- May 13 C.S. Lewis Book Club: Perelandra | 6:15 PM
- May 16 King of the Dill Pickleball Tournament | 9:00 AM
- May 16 Tiny Stitches | 10:00 AM
- May 17 Graduate Recognition Sunday | 9:30 AM & 11:00 AM
- May 26 Senior Adult Lunch | 12:00 PM
- May 26-30 Kids Camp
- June 2 Senior Adult Prayer Meeting | 8:30 AM
- June 2 Women on Mission | 10:30 AM
- June 3 First Wednesday Men's Gathering | 6:15 AM
- June 8-11 Basketball Camp K4-2nd Grade | 9:00 AM
- June 14 No Small Groups for Kids, Students or Adults
- June 15-19 Illumination Station VBS | 9:00 AM
- June 20 Tiny Stitches | 10:00 AM
- June 22-25 Basketball Camp 3rd-5th Grade | 9:00 AM
- June 23 Senior Adult Lunch | 12:00 PM
- June 24 Women's Summer Bible Study Begins
- June 27 Ministry Center Trivia Night | 6:00 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

## TUESDAYS

- Celebrate Recovery
- 5:30 PM Dinner
- 6:30 PM Large Group

## WEDNESDAYS

- All Ages 6:15-7:45 PM



# LOOKING BACK



Lakewood middle school students served throughout our community during Spring Break, partnering with local ministries, sharing the Gospel, and caring for others through service projects, outreach, and encouragement.

**AVERAGE WEEKLY MINISTRY BUDGET NEED:** \$114,375

**AVERAGE WEEKLY RECEIVED 3/29-4/19:** \$194,085

**NEW MEMBERS:** Elijah & Adria Lambricht, Michael & Miriam Moore, Peter Smiley, Jeremy Thompson

\*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](https://lakewoodlife.org/give)



OFFERING BASKET:  
cash or check

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

## CONTACT

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



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