

Connect

October 2026



Pumpkin Fest



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

September 27

November 1

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

October 4

November 15

NEXT LORD'S SUPPER

October 25

FOLLOW US! @LAKEWOODLIFE

NOTE FROM Dr. Tyler Smiley

October is an exciting time at Lakewood, and we have much to celebrate as we reflect on God's faithfulness and look forward to the opportunities He has placed before us.



What a joy it was to celebrate Lake Baptism! We continue to rejoice with each person who publicly professed their faith in Jesus Christ through baptism. There is nothing more encouraging than seeing lives changed by the power of the gospel. Thank you, Lakewood, for being a church family that celebrates these decisions and faithfully encourages others as they take their next steps in following Christ.

This month, we also recognize Theological Library Month. We are blessed to have a wonderful library filled with resources to help you grow in your knowledge of Scripture and deepen your walk with the Lord. Whether you are looking for a Bible study, exploring a theological topic, or preparing to teach and lead, I encourage you to take advantage of this valuable ministry.

One of our favorite fall traditions, PumpkinFest, is also just around the corner. This special evening provides a wonderful opportunity to welcome families from our community, build relationships, and share the love of Christ. I hope you will make plans to attend, invite a neighbor, or find a place to serve. Every act of hospitality is an opportunity to demonstrate the love of Jesus to those around us.

As you read through this issue of Connect, I encourage you to prayerfully consider how God might be calling you to take your next step in your Christian walk. Whether through growing in His Word, serving others, or inviting someone to experience the fellowship of our church family, each of us has a part to play in the work the Lord is doing in our church.

Thank you for your faithfulness, Lakewood. It is a privilege to serve alongside you as we continue making disciples of Jesus Christ locally, nationally, and globally.

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



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MISSIONS SPOTLIGHT



THE "B" FAMILY CENTRAL ASIA

The B's live and work among the Uyghur people, an unreached people group in Central Asia. As the Lord continues to bless and grow their ministry, the B's have been intentionally developing strategic partnerships within their community to strengthen their gospel witness and support the local church. As they continue this long-term work, they trust God to multiply the impact of their faithful commitment to the Uyghur people.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- The endurance, wisdom, and joy in their ministry
- Strategic partnerships to flourish and expand their gospel witness
- Many among the Uyghur people to come to know Christ
- The local church in their region to grow and be blessed by their ministry

For more information, please contact benji@lakewoodlife.org

NEW WEDNESDAY NIGHT STUDY FAITH, FAMILY AND FINANCES | SEPT 30

Join Pastor Scott on Wednesdays at 6:15 PM in the Worship Center Lobby for this four-week study offering biblical guidance for growing in faith, family, and finances.

NEW WOMEN'S MEET AND GREET OCTOBER 21 | 6:15 PM | ROOM 113-114

Women who are new to Lakewood are invited to connect with other women over dessert and learn more about Lakewood's Women's Ministry. Childcare provided through regular Wednesday programming. Please let us know you are coming by scanning the QR code.



ADULT 55+ LUNCH | OCTOBER 27 | 12:00 PM

Adults 55+ are invited to the Fellowship Hall for a covered dish lunch and an encouraging program with Diana Cowan, founder of Georgia Hair Solutions and Warrior Wigs. Bring a dish to share and hear how God transformed her personal struggle into a ministry of hope.

UPWARD BASKETBALL SIGNUPS

Upward Basketball is open to boys and girls ages 5-12. The final registration deadline is October 28. Volunteer coaches are also needed! Register your child today and let us know if you are interested in coaching.



VOLLEYBALL OPEN GYM ON TUESDAYS

Every Tuesday from 4:00–9:00 PM, the Ministry Center is open for volleyball. All skill levels are welcome—men and women, any age. Come play, have fun, and connect with others.



THE RETREAT AT LONG MOUNTAIN • OCT 24-25

Middle and high school guys are invited to a weekend of learning what it means to be a man of God through worship, small groups, and breakouts. Sign up by October 11.



**KNOW MORE CLEARLY. LOVE MORE
DEARLY. FOLLOW MORE NEARLY.**

THEOLOGICAL LIBRARY MONTH

LIBRARY OPEN HOUSE OCTOBER 7 & 18

This year's Theological Library Month theme is drawn from a prayer attributed to Richard of Chichester: "May I know Thee more clearly, love Thee more dearly, and follow Thee more nearly."



This prayer reflects Paul's words in Colossians 1:9-10, where he prays that believers would be filled with spiritual wisdom and understanding, walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, bear fruit in every good work, and increase in the knowledge of God.

Explore Lakewood's Theological Library and discover resources that can deepen your study of Scripture, strengthen your walk with Christ, and equip you to disciple and teach others. **Join us for one of our Open House events Wednesday, October 7, from 5:00 to 6:15 PM (Book Talk at 6:00 PM) and Sunday, October 18, from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM (Book Talk between services).**



COLLIN NDAHIRIWE DULUTH, GEORGIA

Collin Ndahiriwe is planting Alliance Family Church in Duluth, alongside his father, Amos, to serve Congolese and other African diaspora communities. After months of prayer and discernment, God has graciously provided a worship space for the church, and Collin will be commissioned in October to formally begin his pastoral ministry. Join us in praying for the Ndahiriwe family and the believers gathering at Alliance Family Church.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- Collin, his wife, Grace, and their children as they navigate the transition to Duluth
- Healing and strength for Collin's wife, Grace, as she continues to battle cancer
- Alliance Family Church as it begins meeting for worship

For more information, please contact benji@lakewoodlife.org

ADVENT GATHERING —Come Jesus Come—

DECEMBER 3 | 6:00 PM

Women of all ages are invited to this special night as we celebrate the coming of Jesus. Enjoy a catered meal together and worship as we hear from Anna Beth Havenar. Doors open at 5:30 PM. Register now for the Early Bird rate of \$25. Cost will be \$35 starting November 1.





PUMPKIN FEST

OCTOBER 28 • 5:30 - 8:00 PM



INVITE YOUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS AND JOIN US AT THIS FREE FALL EVENT!

Children will enjoy **ACTIVITY BOOTHS**, inflatables, petting zoo, games, photo booth, turkey shoot and hayride.

Eat **FREE FOOD**: Roasted Corn, Popcorn, Cotton Candy and Bruster's Ice Cream. There will also be **FOOD TO PURCHASE**: Hot Dog Ninja, Skogies, Frozen Frenzee, Chick-fil-A and Señor Fiesta.

INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING? Small groups, ministry teams or families can sponsor an Activity Booth. Individuals are also needed to staff inflatables, registration and other activities. Sign up at LAKEWOODLIFE.ORG.

CANDY DONATIONS: Bags of individually wrapped candy without nuts can be brought to the Church Office or Kids Cove.



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

October 6	Monthly Prayer Time 9:00 AM
October 6	Women on Mission 10:30 AM
October 7	First Wednesday Men's Gathering 6:15 AM
October 7	Theological Library Open House 5:00 PM
October 7	Discover Step 2 6:15 PM
October 14	Discover Step 3 6:15 PM
October 17	Special Needs Respite 5:00 PM
October 18	Theological Library Open House 9:00 AM
October 21	New Women's Meet and Greet 6:15 PM
October 21	Discover Step 4 6:15 PM
October 24-25	Mantreat (Students)
October 27	Adults 55+ Lunch 12:00 PM
October 28	Pumpkin Fest 5:30 PM
November 1	Discover Step 1 12:15 PM
November 1	Parent Child Dedication 4:00 PM
November 3	Monthly Prayer Time 9:00 AM
November 3	Women on Mission 10:30 AM
November 4	First Wednesday Men's Gathering 6:15 AM
November 4	Discover Step 2 6:15 PM
November 8	Veteran Recognition Sunday
November 8	8th Annual Craft Fair 10:30 AM
November 10	Lakewood Music Institute Fall Recital 5:30 PM
November 11	Discover Step 3 6:15 PM
November 15	Gather/Special Needs Ministry OCC Packing Party 12:15 PM
November 16-23	OCC Collection Week
November 17	Adults 55+ Luncheon 12:00 PM
November 18	Discover Step 4 6:15 PM
November 18	OCC Collection Night & Parade 6:15 PM
November 21	Thanksgiving Box Outreach 8:30 AM
November 22	Gather Friendsgiving 6:00 PM
November 25	No Wednesday Night Activities
November 29	Advent Begins

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

Worship Services 9:30 & 11:00 AM
Kids & Students 9:30 & 11:00 AM
Young Adult (Gather) Group 9:30 AM
Adult Small Groups 8:30, 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



Lakewood gathered at Holly Park to celebrate 13 children, teens, and adults who publicly declared their faith through baptism. Thank you to everyone who came out to celebrate with them! What a joyful reminder that in Christ, we are made new! "If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation" (2 Corinthians 5:17).

AVERAGE WEEKLY MINISTRY BUDGET NEED: \$134,325

AVERAGE WEEKLY RECEIVED 8/23-9/13: \$171,019

NEW MEMBERS: Emily Allen, Liam Allan, Lainey Allan, Annie Brown, Amelia Davis, Tammy Flippen, Enzo Haroon, Zaara Haroon, Briggs Keller, Huxton Keller, Alicia Klingler, Angela Loayza, Madilynn Shifflette, Sadie Showalter Jane Vandiver

*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

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



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