Connect

December 2026



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 6
January 10
in the Fellowship Hall
at 12:15 PM
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

NEXT LORD'S SUPPER

December 16
Family Lord's Supper

FOLLOW US! @LAKEWOODLIFE

NOTE FROM

Dr. Tyler Smiley



As 2026 draws to a close, we have much to celebrate and many reasons to thank the Lord. Throughout 2026, our Sunday morning studies took us through the Gospel of John, the biblical purpose and calling of the church, the Psalms, and Colossians. Each series pointed us to the truth of Scripture and reminded us that Jesus Christ is supreme, sufficient, and worthy of our worship and devotion.

This year, we have seen the Lord work in so many ways through the ministries of Lakewood. We have celebrated 36 baptisms and welcomed 45 new members into our church family. We have grown in our love for the Lord and His Word, and we've joined together in discipling men, women, boys, and girls. As a church, we've participated in 7 Disaster Relief trips, taught 55 ESL students, and trained 208 students through Lakewood Music Institute. We've prepared 4 residents for ministry, sent out church planters, supported 22 COR 3:6 church planters, and connected with 1,018 children through Upward Sports. The Lord has done remarkable things through this church, and we give God all the glory!

As we celebrate Christmas, I encourage you to invite family, friends, and neighbors to join us at Lakewood. In worship, fellowship, and special events throughout December, we have many opportunities to share the hope we have in Jesus. He is the Savior who came to rescue us, and one day He will return.

As the year concludes, please prayerfully consider making a year-end financial gift to support the ongoing ministry of Lakewood. Prayerfully ask the Lord how He would have you faithfully steward what He has entrusted to you. Together, may we continue making disciples and sharing the gospel in the year ahead.







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



CENTRAL ASIA

"R" is in her fourth year serving in Central Asia, where she builds relationships and shares kingdom values through her work as a school nurse and CPR and first aid instructor. This summer, she helped a short-term team host an English camp for neighborhood children. She is thankful for a new church plant that meets weekly for fellowship and Bible study. She is also helping plan a community project designed to build new relationships and create opportunities for gospel conversations.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- The Spirit to work in the hearts of those hearing the gospel for the first time through the new church plant.
- God's direction and provision as the team pursues the new project.
- Her continued growth in the language as she reads Bible stories with her language teacher.
- Open doors to share Christ through nursing and teaching.

For more information, please contact benji@lakewoodlife.org

FAMILY CHRISTMAS CAROLING
DECEMBER 4 | 6:00 PM

Families are invited to share Christmas joy with Lakewood's homebound members and nursing home residents! Meet in the Fellowship Hall before heading out to sing Christmas carols. Afterward, we'll return for soup, grilled cheese, and Christmas cookies. Bring a plate of treats to share and register for this free event.

"THE GRINCH" MOVIE NIGHT
DECEMBER 12 | 7:00 PM | MINISTRY CENTER

Bring the whole family for a free showing of The Grinch (2018 animated version) on the big screen in the Ministry Center gym. Popcorn and bottled water will be provided. Bring a blanket, camping chair, beanbag, or another comfortable seat and settle in for a fun Christmas movie night.

GENERATE SUMMER CAMP FLASH SALE FOR STUDENTS IN 6TH–12TH GRADES

Make plans now for Generate Summer Camp at Johnson University in Knoxville, July 19–23. Register with a deposit during the Flash Sale to save $100 on the total cost. Flash Sale runs from December 2–9. Learn more at lakewoodlife.org/summercamp.



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

Kids, students, and adults are invited to begin the new year with a special evening of worship. Together, we'll delight in the Lord through singing and God's Word while praying for friends, family members, co-workers, and neighbors who do not yet know Christ. May our joy in Jesus overflow into a joyful declaration of the gospel to others.

PRAYING WITH PURPOSE
JANUARY 7 | 10:00 AM & 6:00 PM

Women are invited to begin the new year with an intentional time of prayer. Choose the morning or evening session and join other women as we seek the Lord, pray through Scripture, and prepare our hearts for the year ahead.

WOMEN'S WINTER BIBLE STUDIES BEGINNING MONDAY, JANUARY 11

Grow in your faith and build meaningful relationships through Bible study, conversation, and prayer. Groups are available for women in every season of life and offer varying levels of study. Explore the available groups and find a place to connect this winter.



Spending time in God's Word each day helps us grow in our knowledge of God and live faithfully as followers of Jesus. In 2027, Lakewood's daily readings will correspond with the weekly sermon text.

Receive a link to each day's reading by texting BIBLE to (470) 516-5244. Messages are sent Monday through Friday at 6:15 AM.

Additional reading plans—including a three-year journey through the Bible and several one-year plans—are available on our website.

LAKEWOOD CHURCH PLANTING
COR 316 NETWORK



BRANDON KNOX
PILLAR CHURCH
DAWSONVILLE, GA

Pastor Brandon Knox is one of the pastors of Pillar Church, the church plant in Dawsonville. Lt. Col. Knox is a West Point graduate, the Senior Director of Cadet Recruiting at UNG, and currently serves at Special Operations Command South. Service members and their families have a special place in the hearts of Brandon and his wife, Jessie. They will continue serving that community through Pillar Church as they stand firmly for the truth of God's Word and the gospel.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- Brandon, Jessie, and their children, Ava, Graham, and Clara.
- Unity among Pillar's pastors and their families as they lead together.
- God's provision of the right meeting place for Pillar Church.
- Brandon as he seeks to complete his PhD dissertation early next year.

For more information, please contact benji@lakewoodlife.org

Christmas
AT LAKEWOOD

This Christmas, we invite you to celebrate the birth of Jesus with your Lakewood family. Through Christmas music, the Lord's Supper, Scripture, and candlelight worship, we will pause together to remember the hope and joy we have in Christ.

DEC 6

CHRISTMAS MUSIC SUNDAY

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6 | 9:30 & 11:00 AM

Celebrate the season during both our 9:30 AM traditional service and 11:00 AM contemporary service. Each service will include special Christmas music, congregational singing, Scripture readings, prayer, and the lighting of the Advent candle.

DEC 16

FAMILY LORD'S SUPPER

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16 | 6:00–7:30 PM

Drop by the Worship Center anytime between 6:00 and 7:30 PM to observe the Lord's Supper with your family and friends. A member of Lakewood's staff will guide you through this meaningful time. No childcare will be provided for this family-friendly service. **Be sure to visit the Library for Cookies, Cocoa & Christmas Stories, taking place at the same time. (Page 4)**

DEC 24

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24

5:00 PM • WORSHIP CENTER | 8:00 PM • CHAPEL

Join us for one of our Christmas Eve candlelight services as we celebrate the coming of Jesus through song, baptism, and Scripture. No childcare will be provided for these family-friendly services.

We look forward to celebrating Christmas with you and your family!

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

December 1	First Tuesday Prayer Time | 9:00 AM
December 1	Women on Mission | 10:30 AM
December 2	First Wednesday Men's Gathering | 6:15 AM
December 3	Women's Advent Gathering | 6:00 PM
December 4	Family Christmas Caroling | 6:00 PM
December 5	Special Needs Ministry Family Christmas Party | 2:00 PM
December 6	Christmas Music Sunday | 9:30 & 11:00 AM
December 6	Discover Step 1 | 12:15 PM
December 9	Kids Christmas Pageant | 6:15 PM
December 12	Recreation Ministry Movie Night | 7:00 PM
December 13	Gather Christmas Party | 6:30 PM
December 16	Family Lord's Supper | 6:00 PM
December 16	Cookies, Cocoa, & Christmas Stories | 6:00 PM
December 17	Christmas at the Tate House (Adults 55+) | 10:00 AM
Dec. 23–Jan. 3	Ministry Center Closed
December 23	No Wednesday Night Activities
December 24	Christmas Eve Services | 5:00 PM & 8:00 PM
December 27	No Small Groups or Coffee House
December 30	No Wednesday Night Activities
January 5	First Tuesday Prayer Time | 9:00 AM
January 5	Women on Mission | 10:30 AM
January 5	ESL Resumes | 6:00 PM
January 6	First Wednesday Men's Gathering | 6:15 AM
January 6	Delight and Declare | 6:15 PM
January 7	Praying with Purpose (Women) | 10:00 AM & 6:00 PM
January 10	Discover Step 1 | 12:15 PM
January 10	Choir Starts Back | 4:00 PM
January 11	Winter Women's Bible Groups Begin
January 13	Wednesday Nights Resume | 6:15 PM
January 13	Discover Step 2 | 6:15 PM
January 16	Special Needs Respite | 5:00 PM
January 20	Discover Step 3 | 6:15 PM
January 25–27	Winter Bible Study (Adults 55+) | 10:30 AM
January 27	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

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



WAYS TO GIVE:

GIVE ONLINE:
lakewoodlife.org/give

OFFERING BASKET:
cash or check

ENDOWMENT FUND:
lakewoodlife.org/
endowment-ministry

What a great night at Pumpkin Fest! Approximately 2,200 people registered, including 105 unchurched families, for an evening of fun and fellowship. Thank you to our many volunteers who made this event possible and helped us connect with families in our community!

AVERAGE WEEKLY MINISTRY BUDGET NEED: $134,325
AVERAGE WEEKLY RECEIVED 10/25–11/8: $130,502

NEW MEMBERS: Robert & Suzi Lewis

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

CONTACT

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

Lakewood
BAPTIST CHURCH

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