



# Wesley Memorial Methodist Church

## Missions and Community Impact Newsletter

*The purpose of Wesley Memorial is to make and sustain spiritually healthy followers of Jesus Christ who live in ways that transform the world*

### MERGE Day of Service – Join Us!

### 2025 Mission Team Members

<b>Charles Surles</b>	<b>Chair</b>
<b>Ken Gullede</b>	<b>Vice-Chair</b>
Lisa Cheek .....	Member
Pat Colonna .....	Member
Mary Drummond.....	Member
Matt Heald.....	Member
Brook Moore.....	Member
April Maines.....	Member
Becky Scholtz .....	Member
Buddy Wilson .....	Member
Jayne Lutz .....	At Large
Brenda Coates .....	At Large
Sydney Harris.....	At Large
Rev. Ken Lyon ...	Staff Liaison
David Adams .....	Lay Leader

### Upcoming Events

#### MERGE event

Saturday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>

#### Easter in the Mountains

Saturday, April 19<sup>th</sup>

New Missions Website



#### Story on page 2

In the meantime, use your smart phone, take a picture of the QR code and be taken to the site.

Join with other members on Saturday in the dining hall to participate in the **MERGE Day of Service**—a special mission event happening on March 22<sup>nd</sup> from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM.

This is a wonderful multi-generational opportunity (ages 13 up) to come together and serve our community! We'll kick things off with a short prayer at Wesley Memorial before forming small teams (5-6 people) and heading out to one of our amazing partner organizations for hands-on service.

When you arrive at your assigned location, you'll be welcomed by a representative who will give a quick orientation and guide you through the tasks they need help with

#### Our Participating Mission Partners:

- West End Ministries
- HorsePower
- Open Door Ministry

- Macedonia Family Resource Center
- Commander Peace Academy
- Wesley Memorial (For those who prefer to stay at the church, we'll be assembling Homeless Care Kits right here!)

Sign up today! Visit [www.wesleymemorial.org/merge](http://www.wesleymemorial.org/merge) or call the church office at (336) 884-2204 to let us know you're coming.

This is more than just a day of service—it's an opportunity to make a real impact, build relationships, and live out our faith in action. Whether you're painting, gardening, organizing, or lending a helping hand in another way, there's a place for YOU!

We'd love for individuals, families, and groups to join us in showing Christ's love to our neighbors. Let's make this a special day together!

Hope to see you there!

### Join Us for a Special Day of Service in Newland!

After the devastation of Hurricane Helene, so many lives have been turned upside down. To bring some joy and much-needed support to the community, we're teaming up with the Seaboard Lions Club from Seaboard, NC to host a special event on Easter Saturday, April XX—and we'd love for you to be part of it!

#### What's Happening?

- Morning Fun for Kids – Games & Easter egg hunts
- Pizza Lunch & Dinner – Sharing meals together 11-2pm
- Evening Musical Entertainment – A time to unwind and enjoy!

- Mental Health Support – All Souls Counseling (Asheville) & the Lions Club will provide appointments for those in need, with follow-up sessions available.

#### How You Can Help!

We're looking for volunteers—individuals, families, or groups—who are willing to drive or ride the church bus to Newland (close to Boone) and lend a hand. Here's where you can make a difference:

- Helping with kids' activities
- Serving meals (on-site, in nursing homes, and wherever needed)

*Continued on page 2, Newland*

***Newland - continued***

- No cooking required!
- Just bring your energy and kindness!

You may remember that in an earlier newsletter, we mentioned a group that prepared 5,000 meals for Newland last Thanksgiving—this is that same incredible team! For them, the current goal is to provide 200+ Easter dinners.

Let's come together to spread hope, joy, and love to those who need it most. If you're interested in joining us, let us know—we'd love to have you!

The date is Saturday, April 19th with a small advance group leaving on the 18th.

Please contact Ken Gullede at 336-442-1741, Charles Surles at 336-870-9820 or Joe Lorber at 336-285-5030 for more information or to register.

This event is age appropriate for those 10 to 70.

---

***New Wesley Missions Website***

---

Now that our newsletter is up and running—and has been so well received by our congregation and friends of Wesley Memorial—we wanted to create a go-to place for long-term access to important mission updates. A website seemed like the perfect solution!

**Introducing...**

**[www.mywesleymissions.com](http://www.mywesleymissions.com)**

This site is your one-stop hub for all things related to Wesley Missions. Here's what you'll find:

- A list of Missions Committee members with email addresses
- Current & past newsletters
- Photos from our mission events
- Blog updates reporting Wesley's involvement in Western North Carolina (coming soon!)
- A calendar of upcoming events—both near and far!
- A contact form to get a message to the committee

We'd love your feedback! If you have comments or suggestions to help improve the site, please reach out to a committee member—we're always looking for ways to make it even better.

**Check it out and stay connected!**




---

***Rise Against Hunger***

---

On March 8th, a Sunday afternoon, approximately 150 people joined together to package over 36,000 meals. This was the largest meal packaging event we have ever done. Thanks to everyone who turned out to help is this vital program. Many people will be helped by your generosity



## ***Financial Status for Western North Carolina Program and Missions Program***

The members of Wesley Memorial have contributed approximately \$93,000.00 as of March 1, 2025! We will continue to provide funding for our neighbors in the mountains of North Carolina as long as our resources allow. Please know that your mission team is keeping its finger on the pulse of the needs in Western North Carolina. Ken Gullede and Joe Lorber are in communications with our contacts multiple times a week in determining how we can support our neighbors.

The most pressing need now is counseling for mental health. How would you feel if you lost everything or almost everything? You survived the Hurricane but your home and property did not, or, perhaps, you lost a family member or friend. You still have monthly payments on items that were either damaged or destroyed. Samaritan's purse is coming in and helping rebuild or repair 500 traditional homes and 500 mobile homes. This is why we are continuing to support Samaritan's Purse. We have also provided heating fuel for the past several months and will continue through May. We will be partnering with Seaboard Lion's Club with a hands-on event over the Easter weekend in Newland. Please continue to pray for these people for they are just like us in their desire to help themselves but they need a helping hand. Personally, having spoken to people with Samaritan's Purse they said, "The quality of our work is the platform of our witness," by Franklin Graham. Their theme is, "Ordinary people doing extraordinary things inspired by an awesome God." We at Wesley Memorial are doing just that! With your help, we will bring comfort and hope to these children of God through our financial, spiritual and personal support.

Charles Surlles, Co-chair  
Mission and Community Impact Team

### **Financial Status of the Western North Carolina Relief Fund\***

Organization	Amount
Samaritan's Purse	\$32,000
UMCOR	\$4,000
Camp Linn Haven	\$10,000
Weaverville UMC (initial response 10/2024)	\$9,000
Propane for people affected by the hurricane: Blue Ridge and 3 Nail dealers	\$10,000
Homeless Care Kits	\$2,303
Help in restoring a first responder's home	\$4,000
Samaritan's Purse (continue to give \$4,000 per month next 3 months)	\$12,000
Propane for next 2 months	\$8,000
<i>*Total amount distributed just for WNC since September:</i>	\$91,303 -

Below is a list of organizations who benefited from Wesley Memorial. This is truly an example of the great heart and generosity of our Wesley Memorial family. Even more amazing and humbling is that those dollars were utilized to serve, heal, encourage, educate and bless thousands in Jesus' name. This is what we do. This is who we are. We are God's Church, we are Wesley!

### **2024 Missions Grants distributed by Wesley Memorial Methodist Church\*\***

Camp Linn Haven (Christmas Eve offering) .....	\$10,000
Children's Law Center .....	\$5,000
Commander Peace Academy .....	\$3,000
Commander Peace Academy (Back to school dinner) .....	\$207
Commander Peace Academy (Game room) .....	\$4,000
Community Clinic of HP (Medications) .....	\$7,000
Cover the City (blankets) .....	\$1,500
Fairview Teacher Appreciation Meals .....	\$1,136
Fairview Thanksgiving Meal Cards .....	\$1,400
Good Samaritan Clinic Dominican Republic (Child Nutrition) .....	\$1,500
Greater High Point Food Alliance .....	\$2,500
Hinton Resource Center (home repair) .....	\$5,000
Homeless Care Kits (Easter offering) .....	\$7,601
Homeless Care Kits for Hurricane Relief .....	\$2,303
HorsePower (Horse name Cassie) .....	\$5,028
HP MLK Breakfast .....	\$1,000
Macedonia FRC (Baseball Uniforms) .....	\$5,000
Macedonia FRC (Dance Elite team) .....	\$2,000
Open Door Ministries (Easter offering) .....	\$7,601
Partners Ending Homelessness (Easter offering) .....	\$7,601
Rise Against Hunger .....	\$14,500
Samaritan's Purse (Christmas Eve offering) .....	\$10,000
Samaritan's Purse designated Hurricane Relief .....	\$18,000
Sr Resources of Guilford (Mobile Meals) .....	\$5,000
Steve Shamblin Ministries .....	\$2,500
UMCOR designated Hurricane Relief .....	\$4,000
Victory Junction .....	\$5,000
Weaverville UMC (Initial Response with basic items) .....	\$9,000
Wesley Memorial School Rainbow Scholarship .....	\$5,000
West End Ministries, Leslie's House (Easter offering) .....	\$7,601
Wheels 4 Hope (Car blessed during the cruise-in) .....	\$3,000
World Relief -Triad .....	\$3,300
YWCA baby closet .....	\$5,000

### **Total Gifts distributed in 2024 from**

**Wesley Memorial ..... \$172,280**

**\*\* Includes ALL of the funds from budget, Christmas and Easter offerings, and Western NC gifts**

---

## ***A Family That You Helped In The Mountains***

---

One of the newer projects we've been involved with is helping a first responder, his wife, and their two young children rebuild their home after devastating flood damage. Brandy Boone, our dedicated local contact, brought their situation to our attention.

Floodwaters filled their home, rising halfway up the walls. They had to evacuate, salvaging what they could. As soon as it was safe, they removed the water-damaged sheetrock to prevent mildew. From there, it was time to rebuild. After an on-site visit by Ken Gullidge, we knew we had to help.

Thanks to your support, we were able to provide funding for replacement sheetrock, a full bathroom renovation, new flooring, vanities, kitchen appliances, counter-tops, and other essentials—including the labor needed to get it all done.

And now, we have wonderful news: as of March 14th, the family has moved back into their home!

Brandy shared this heartfelt message to all of you:

***"We cannot express how thankful we are and how blessed we are to see the family in THEIR home."***

Thank you for being part of this journey and making a real difference in people's lives.



---

## ***Western North Carolina Partners***

---

### **Wesley Memorial Congregation**

An incredible group of unbelievable, caring, generous, Christ like people who have provided funds and encouragement to be of assistance to people who were and are still in need.

### **Blue Ridge Propane, Newland, NC**

Located in the Newland area, they maintain a fund for home delivery and refilling of larger propane tanks. All of the recipients have had their homes destroyed or made mostly unlivable due to Helene. These folks have been customers for a long time and are known to the organization to be in need.

### **3 Nails Hardware, Newland, NC**

Located in the heart of Newland, they maintain a fund which we contribute to that pays for refills of 30 and 50 pound propane cylinders.

### **Brandy Boone, Elk Park, NC**

Brandy is the Mayor of Elk Park's wife and prior to the storm operated an animal rescue center. As a result of her involvement with animals she became a rescue point for many of the residents of the area by arranging services, providing food and necessities as well as a caring touch. She has been our partner and has directed us to local needs where we can make a difference.

### **Samaritans Purse, Boon, NC**

One of the nation's premier response organizations who has had a presence in the area as soon as the storm lifted. They provided meals, emergency services, shelter and other relief services. Currently, they are preparing to build over 500 homes in the devastated area along with 500 mobile homes.

### **All Souls Counseling Service, Asheville, NC**

A counseling organization based in Asheville who recently received a governmental grant to provide needed mental health counseling services to victims on a sliding scale based on income. We are in conversations with them to provide on-site counseling in Newland

### **Weaverville UMC, Weaverville, NC**

Our first contact with anyone in the area after the flood was a member of this church. She coached us with what we should try to provide and what to forget - at least until later. As soon as the weather began to turn cold she began to tell us about propane. This church acted as a relief center for many weeks.

### **Seaboard Lions Club**

A group from Eastern North Carolina who prepared and delivered over 5,000 thanksgiving meals. It started out with a goal of 200 but quickly escalated. This year we are planning on joining them to help with the meals (not as many) and support other activities.