

Lake Views and News

THE JUNALUSKANS
♦
January 2026



WHAT'S HAPPENING AT LAKE JUNALUSKA

- Monthly **Junaluskans General Meeting** at 10a in the Harrell Center Auditorium on Jan 7.
- **Sunday Brunch Buffets** at York Dining Commons from 11a-2p. \$20 per person.
- Haywood **MLK Prayer Breakfast** is on Jan 19 at 8a in the Lambuth Inn Dining Room. Tickets may be purchased online at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/haywood-county-mlk-prayer-breakfast-tickets-1971495370725>.
- Visit Haywood **Ice Fest** Weekend is Jan 29-Feb 1.

Support for Caregivers

We have two wonderful speakers for the January Junaluskans General Meeting. Our own Dr. Mike Pass and his colleague Sarah Tamaka, both associated with Heartfelt Haywood, will share the amazing services this organization is offering to the Haywood community. Their focus has been with adult and child grieving programs and caregiver education. Heartfelt Haywood has caregiver groups which offer support for those feeling the stress of caring for loved ones. I hope you will be able to join us at the Harrell Center auditorium at 10a on January 7.



Planned Improvements Underway for Lake Junaluska

Happy New Year! 2026 brings excitement and anticipation. New conferences and events are planned, and we look forward to welcoming back many historic events that have been part of our community for many years. This year also marks the final year of the Sharing Our Gifts campaign, with over \$13.5 million already committed to the future of this sacred place. Below is an overview of two projects that will begin this winter.

The Susanna Wesley Garden is a cherished part of our grounds, offering beauty, reflection and a natural connection between the Musgrave Event Lawn and the Summer House at the top of the garden. In the coming months, we will begin a series of thoughtful improvements to enhance accessibility and preserve the long-term health of this space.

The existing stairwell will be replaced with a new stone-and-concrete staircase featuring handrails on both sides. This improvement will make the garden easier to navigate while complementing the character of the landscape below. It has been many years since this area last received a major renovation, and several plantings have grown beyond their original intent. Over the next two years, the garden will be refreshed, including replacing select species that have outgrown the space.

This work has been carefully planned by Melissa Marshall, Lake Junaluska's Director of Grounds, with guidance from Will Blozan, President of Appalachian Arborist and a longtime advocate for native trees, and Paul Russell, a landscape architect and member of the Clemson University faculty. Their expertise, combined with the enduring design principles of Frederick Law Olmsted and Melissa's professional experience, has shaped a plan that honors both the garden's history and its future. Melissa will present the proposed plan at the January Junaluskans meeting. This two-year project is funded through charitable support, and we are grateful for the generosity that makes it possible.

Work is also underway on the stoplight safety project located at the junction of Highway 19 and North Lakeshore Drive near the Bethea Welcome Center. Power supply upgrades began in December, and the project is expected to take approximately five months to complete, significantly improving safety in this area. Junior Woody will present a draft plan at the upcoming Junaluskans meeting.

Thank you for your continued engagement, volunteer service and charitable support for Lake Junaluska. Together, we are stewarding this place in ways that honor its past and prepare it well for the future.

Yours in Christ, Ken Howle

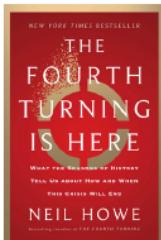
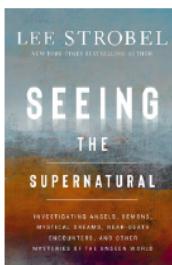
JUNALUSKANS BOOK CLUB

Happy New Year! The Junaluska Book Club is returning January 8! If you have been thinking about joining our small but interesting group, now is the perfect time. The book that was chosen for this month's gathering is **The School of Essential Ingredients** by Erica Bauermeister. We will meet in the Harrell Center Library at 2p and all are welcome. The book for the February 12th meeting is **George Masa: A Life Reimagined** by Janet McCue and Paul Bonesteel. We hope to see you in the coming year.



New Books at the Library

We hear stories all the time about the supernatural--miraculous healings, unexplained sightings, near-death experiences--but how do we know what is real? Are rumors of spiritual beings, healings, and prophetic dreams dangerous deceptions, or is there something important for us to explore? Join investigative journalist and former atheist Lee Strobel as he examines the evidence in **Seeing the Supernatural** and considers how we should think about the unseen world--and the God who made and rules over it.



The Fourth Turning by Neil Howe and William Strauss proposes that American history moves in cycles of roughly 80-100 years, each composed of four 20-year "turnings": a High, an Awakening, an Unraveling, and a Crisis (the Fourth Turning). The book argues that each generation plays a specific role in these cycles, and America is currently in or approaching a Fourth Turning, a period of great upheaval and societal reset, similar to the Revolutionary War or the Great Depression, requiring collective action to build a new civic order.

LIBRARY NEWS

HAPPY NEW YEAR! from the Lake Junaluska Library Volunteers!

NEW WINTER HOURS:

January 2026-March 2026

8a – 4p

Come in this winter and enjoy a good read. We offer a Bible Study, a Book Club, and a Cards and Game afternoon. * Remember to fill out a patron card to borrow books. Used book donations are always welcome!

Upcoming events:

- Library cleaning and inventory January 5-9.
- Bible Study on Tuesdays 11a-12:15p
- Cards & Games on Tuesday afternoons beginning @ 2p
- Book Club second Thursday beginning @2p
- January Jig-Saw Puzzle Swap: Bring a puzzle, take one home! Please tape Puzzle boxes closed and leave in designated spot.

Questions? Want to help? Contact Stephanie Schulz 850-445-4375

LAKE JUNALUSKA GUESTS

- All Hands and Hearts (Jan 1-31)
- Isle of Hope UMC (Jan 2-4)
- Encounter (Jan 16-19)
- Winter Ski (Jan 16-19)
- Tom and Jerry Inc (Jan 16-18)
- First Baptist Church (Jan 16-18)
- MLK Prayer Breakfast (Jan 18-19)
- Encounter (Jan 23-25)
- Smoky Mountain District WNCC (Jan 25-25)
- U.S. Army Fort Bragg (Jan 26-30)
- The Ministry Collaborative (Jan 29- 30)
- Wakefield (Jan 30-Feb 1)
- FUMC Isle of Palms (Jan 30-Feb 1)
- Central UMC-Shelby (Jan 30-Feb 1)
- Cherokee Indian Hospital Authority (Jan 30-Feb 7)



**WANT MORE INFO ABOUT LJ ACTIVITIES??
CHECK OUT THESE RESOURCES**



2026 Junalusks Events - Save the dates!

(General meetings are always the first Wednesday of the month at 10 am)

- January 7 - General Meeting at 10a, Harrell Center Auditorium
- March 7 - Lake Junaluska Clean-up Day
- TBD - Beautification Day
- June 13 - Annual Junalusks Flea Market
- July 3 - Junalusks Corn Hole Tournament

More event dates coming soon!

- Bethea Welcome Center
- Terrace Hotel Front Desk
- Lambuth Inn Front Desk
- Gifts and Grounds
- Assembly Public Works
- Junaluska Weekly (can be picked up at any of the locations listed above and also online at <https://bit.ly/LJweekly>)
- www.lakejunaluska.com

HELLO
January

Junaluskans Christmas Card

The Junaluskans are grateful for the generous support of those who donated to the Scholarship Fund benefiting employees and their families at Lake Junaluska. More than \$3,000 was raised, and the Junaluskans Board has agreed to supplement these funds to award several scholarships.

Susan Folds
John Johnson
Paul & Laura Young
Melanie Young
Larry Roberts
Bard & Deb Stanton
Pat & Frank Dunnewind
Deborah Austin & Jeff Mickle
Steve & Susie Crites
Jeannette Shaver
Anna Ruth Conway
Sandra & John Scott
Jack & Sharon Carlisle
Mark & Stephanie Schulz
Gordon & Nancy Toney
Wayne & Anna Allen
Gary Phillips & Patricia Parrish
Paul & Ginni Davenport
Ron Phelps
Ron Clauser & Nancy Oates
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Ed & Judy LaFontaine
Delmas & Nancy Copeland
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Paul & Judy Starnes

Bob & Mary Stark
Diane Haynes
Margaret Ervin
Margaret Amy Fite
Donna Surrett
Steve Berwager
Lynda Varner
Daphne Chapman
Willie Hubbard
Pat & Linda Stewart
Anonymous Donors



Thank you



GOLF CART PARADE!

