



WHAT'S HAPPENING RIGHT NOW

- **October Junaluskans Meeting** will be in the Gaines Auditorium at the Welcome Center on Wed Oct 9 at 10a. This will be a time of fellowship and updates.
 - **Prayer Time at the Chapel** Mon-Fri 11a-1p.
 - **Second Annual Junaluskan Soup Potluck** will take place on Tue Oct 15 at 12p (Location is TBD). Sign up for soup, bread or a dessert at Oct 9 meeting. Drinks will be provided.
 - **Walkabout Wednesday** will happen on Oct 16 at 10a. Join us for a walk around the lake with other Junaluskans. Meet at the Labyrinth next to the chapel.
 - A **Vespers Service** will be in the chapel on Tue Oct 22 at 4p. David Hanson will be sharing about the history and restoration of the chapel baptismal fount and Rev. Gary Phillips will conduct the rededication.
 - For all things related to storm assistance, information and places to donate or help, go to <https://readyhaywood.com>
 - **Volunteer Opportunities:**
 - Haywood Christian Ministries needs volunteers at Bethel Elementary (4700 Old River Rd. Canton) and at Jonathan Valley Elementary (410 Hall Dr, Waynesville) each day from 9a-6p for a variety of tasks.
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Hurricane Helene Updates

Hurricane Helene swept through our region and left behind death, destruction, and despair. The total breadth of damage is hard to comprehend, and many have described it as a storm of biblical proportions.

True to our mission, we came together as a community in this challenging time. We have been going neighbor to neighbor, ensuring everyone is safe and accounted for. The Junaluskans have organized daily volunteer opportunities ranging from debris pickup to unloading food trucks to cleaning hotel rooms to ensure there was room at the inn for everyone in need. Seeing the Junaluskans working alongside the staff makes my heart swell with pride.

We have been housing and feeding hundreds of rescue, relief and law enforcement workers who have traveled from all over the country and Canada to help us in our time of need. The York Dining Commons has served as the incident command center for Haywood County. Each day, the workers venture out into the destruction, and their stories of devastation, loss of life and home are difficult to comprehend. I am so thankful that we have created a sanctuary for them to return to daily.

Since communication returned on October 2, we have been working diligently to account for all of our staff. We are relieved to report that all of our staff are accounted for, but several have experienced damage to their homes and, sadly, some have lost their homes completely.

The total scope of damage from the storm to Lake Junaluska and the region will take a while to assess. In the coming weeks, we will keep you posted about our progress in recovery and sincerely appreciate your prayers, assistance and charitable support, which make a difference every day.

Many are asking how they can support the repairs needed at Lake Junaluska and underwrite the Lake's partnership with emergency services and community organizations. We are asking that gifts be made to the Lake Junaluska Annual Fund at lakejunaluska.com/give. Checks can be mailed to 759 N. Lakeshore Dr., Lake Junaluska, NC 28745 or dropped off at the Administration Building between 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Friday.

I look forward to seeing you at the Junaluskans meeting on Wednesday, October 9, where I will be available to provide any additional updates we may have at that time. Thanks again for helping us be an enduring place of Christian hospitality where lives are transformed through renewal of soul, mind and body.

Yours in Christ, Ken Howle

