

# Connect

April 2025



Easter Week



# 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](https://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

May 4  
in the Lodge 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](https://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](https://LAKEWOODLIFE.ORG/SERVE) to see some of the ways to serve using your personality, gifts and abilities.

### NEXT BAPTISM

April 20 (Easter)

### NEXT LORD'S SUPPER

April 17 (Maundy Thursday)

FOLLOW US! @LAKEWOODLIFE

## NOTE FROM Dr. Tyler Smiley



As Easter approaches, we have the opportunity to reflect on the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ and to prepare our hearts for this season of celebration. To that end, we want to invite you to join us for Easter Week as we reflect on the sacrifice Jesus made on the cross and the victory he won in the resurrection. We have opportunities each day during the week leading up to Easter Sunday, starting with a special Bible Study led by our pastors Monday through Wednesday. We will also gather for Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services, leading us into our celebration of Easter Sunday.

This year, our Family Easter Celebration will take place on the main campus at Lakewood instead of the Retreat at Long Mountain. While the setting will look a little different, we're excited for some new things Lakewood Kids has planned for our families that day. Bring your family, a picnic lunch, and come enjoy a fun-filled time together. This is a great opportunity to invite your friends and neighbors to Lakewood!

April is also an exciting month for our High School Mission Team as they travel to Guatemala to serve and share the gospel. Please be in prayer for these students and leaders as they go. You can find more details about their trip in the Missions Spotlight inside this issue of Connect.

I hope you'll take part in all that God is doing at Lakewood this month. Let's celebrate our risen Savior together!

Christ is Risen!

The **VISION** of Lakewood is to be a regional church that makes disciples of Jesus Christ locally, nationally and globally.

**CROSSPOINT WORSHIP** is a traditional blend of praise and worship at 9:30 AM in the Chapel.

**REAL LIFE** is a vibrant, contemporary worship experience at 11:00 AM in the Worship Center.



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# MISSIONS SPOTLIGHT



## GUATEMALA MISSION TRIP APRIL 5-11

For Spring Break, 29 Lakewood high school students and 8 adult leaders will be serving with our ministry partners in Guatemala. Our team will be going to share the love of Jesus with those in the school and landfill area in a variety of ways.

### PLEASE PRAY:

- For the encouragement and protection of our team as they travel there and back
- For our team's dependence upon the Spirit as they serve in Guatemala
- For those in Guatemala to be encouraged in Christ through our team
- For the team as they return and process their experience in a different culture

For more information please contact [benji@lakewoodlife.org](mailto:benji@lakewoodlife.org).

### FOLLOW US!

[@lakewoodbaptistmissions](https://www.instagram.com/lakewoodbaptistmissions)



## 11:00 AM | LAKEWOOD RECREATION FIELD

Join us for a special time of fellowship at our Family Easter Celebration! Families are invited to bring a picnic lunch and walk through the pages of 'Twas the Morning of Easter in our Storybook Walk Thru, where they can participate in activities related to the Easter story. Plus, enjoy family games (1:00 PM), an egg hunt (1:30 PM), and time to connect with friends and neighbors. This is a great opportunity to celebrate Easter in a fun and meaningful way—invite a friend and come enjoy the day with us!

## EVENTS FOR WOMEN

### REFUGE WOMEN'S GATHERING THURSDAY APRIL 24 | 6:30 PM | CHAPEL



Experience an evening of encouragement, fellowship, and worship at Refuge. This women's gathering will focus on the name of God, Jehovah Mekoddishkem: The LORD Who Sanctifies You, with Bethany O'Bryant as the speaker. Enjoy refreshments and connection before the program begins at 7:00 PM. We are also partnering with Good Samaritan to support women in need by collecting essential hygiene products. Bring an item to donate and take a moment to write a note of encouragement.

### NEW WOMEN'S MEET AND GREET APRIL 30 | 6:15 PM | CHAPEL FOYER



Women who are new to Lakewood are invited to meet other Lakewood women over dessert in the Pastor's Reception room located in the Chapel Foyer. Please let us know you are coming by scanning the QR code.

**STUDENTS: GIRLS NIGHT OUT**  
**HIGH SCHOOL | APRIL 25 | 6:00 PM**  
**MIDDLE SCHOOL | APRIL 26 | 6:00 PM**



Middle and high school girls are invited to an evening of worship, prayer, and fellowship over a shared meal. They will create Prayer Bibles—marking specific verses to pray over people and events in their lives. This will be a meaningful time of connection and growing deeper in prayer through a practical tool. Each gathering will be at a different home. Scan the code for more details, including locations and registration.

**GRADUATE RECOGNITION SUNDAY**

We're excited to celebrate all high school, college, and graduate school graduates on May 18.

Graduates will be recognized during both worship services. There will be a special lunch for graduates and their families. We are also asking families to submit photos of their graduate for a booklet and slideshow. Scan the code for more details, RSVP for lunch, and submit photos.



**NEXTGEN SUMMER INTERN OPPORTUNITY**

Looking for a meaningful way to grow in faith and leadership this summer? The NextGen Summer Internship is a paid opportunity for college-age students to serve, lead, and make an impact through hands-on ministry with our Kids or Student Ministry Staff Teams. Scan the code to learn more and apply.



**COMING UP THIS SUMMER**

**KIDS MINISTRY**

- Kids Camp: Like a Tree** · June 2-6
- Magnified VBS** · June 16-20
- Music & Drama Camp** · July 6-10



**RECREATION MINISTRY**

- Kids Summer Basketball Camp**  
K4-2nd Grade · June 9-12
- 3rd-5th Grade · June 23-26



**STUDENT MINISTRY**

- Student Summer Camp** · July 15-19



**SCAN THE CODES TO LEARN MORE & SIGN UP!**



**MEET OUR CHURCH  
PLANTING RESIDENT:  
AMOS SEMUZIMA**

Amos has been a pastor for over 30 years in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Rwanda. In recent years, Amos and his family moved to the United States with the hope of planting new churches. By God's grace, Amos was brought to Lakewood in order to serve in our residency program as he prepares to plant a Congolese church in the Lawrenceville area in the next year.

**PLEASE PRAY:**

- For the Lord to encourage Amos and his family as they prepare to plant a new church
- For the Lord to save many through the ministry of this new church
- For boldness for Amos and his team in sharing the gospel in Lawrenceville
- For wisdom for Amos as he thinks through the future vision and values for the new church

For more information please contact [benji@lakewoodlife.org](mailto:benji@lakewoodlife.org).

EXPERIENCE THE HOPE OF

# EASTER



AT LAKEWOOD

This Easter, we invite you to join us for a special week of worship, reflection, and celebration. Each gathering will prepare our hearts for the joy of Resurrection Sunday. Make plans to join us, and invite a friend, coworker, or neighbor to come with you. Let's celebrate the hope we have in Jesus together!

## APRIL 14-16 • EASTER WEEK BIBLE STUDY

This three-day Bible study, led by Lakewood ministers, will be at 12:00 PM in the Lodge. Feel free to bring a sack lunch.

## APRIL 17 • MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICES

Lord's Supper Service at 12:00 PM or 6:30 PM in the Chapel  
(Childcare provided for the evening service.)

## APRIL 18 • GOOD FRIDAY SERVICES

Service remembering the death of Christ at 12:00 PM or 6:30 PM in the Worship Center. (Childcare provided for the evening service.)

## APRIL 19 • FAMILY EASTER CELEBRATION

Family event on Lakewood's Recreation Field starting at 11:00 AM

## APRIL 20 • EASTER SUNDAY SERVICES

7:00 AM	Sunrise Service <i>(Coffee &amp; Donuts will be served after Sunrise Service)</i>	Back Parking Lot
8:30 AM	Crosspoint (Traditional)	Chapel
10:00 AM	Crosspoint (Traditional)	Chapel
11:00 AM	Real Life (Contemporary)	Worship Center



There will be no small groups on Easter Sunday. Childcare provided for birth-PreK4

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

- April 1 Women on Mission | 10:30 AM
- April 2 First Wednesday Men's Gathering | 6:15 AM
- April 2 Discover Step 3 | 6:15 PM
- April 5-11 High School Guatemala Mission Trip
- April 6-10 Middle School Local Mission Trip
- April 9 No Wednesday Night Activities (Spring Break)
- April 12 Tiny Stitches | 10:00 AM
- April 14-16 Easter Week Bible Study | 12:00 PM
- April 16 Discover Step 4 | 6:15 PM
- April 16 Kids Spring Rec Night | 6:15 PM
- April 17 Maundy Thursday Services | 12:00 & 6:30 PM
- April 18 Good Friday Services | 12:00 & 6:30 PM
- April 19 Family Easter Celebration | 11:00 AM
- April 20 Easter Services | 7:00, 8:30, 10:00 & 11:00 AM
- April 22 Lakewood Music Institute Spring Recital | 5:30 & 6:45 PM
- April 24 Women's Spring Refuge | 6:30 PM
- April 25 High School Girls Night Out | 6:00 PM
- April 26 Rec Ministry: Hiking Trip | 9:00 AM
- April 26 Middle School Girls Night Out | 6:00 PM
- April 29 Senior Adult Lunch | 12:00 PM
- April 30 Lakewood Kids Bible Rumble | 6:15 PM
- April 30 Welcome Dessert for New Women | 6:15 PM
- May 4 Sing the Gospel | 9:30 AM
- May 4 Discover Step 1 | 12:15 PM
- May 4 Parent Child Dedication | 4:00 PM
- May 6 Women on Mission | 10:30 AM
- May 7 First Wednesday Men's Gathering | 6:15 AM
- May 7 Discover Step 2 | 6:15 PM
- May 7 Lakewood Kids Recognition Night | 6:15 PM
- May 7 Final Night of Wednesday Night Activities
- May 14 Discover Steps 3 & 4 | 6:15 PM
- May 17 Rec Ministry: 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament | 9:00 AM
- May 18 Graduate Recognition Sunday

SCAN THE QR CODE FOR THE LATEST CALENDAR INFORMATION.



## 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



# WEEKLY

## SUNDAYS

- Kids & Students 9:30 & 11:00 AM
- Young Adult (Gather) Group 9:30 AM
- Adult Small Groups 8:30 & 9:30 & 11:00 AM
- Worship Services 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 ACTIVITIES MEET 6:15-7:45 PM
- Babies, Preschool & Grade School
- Middle & High School Students
- DivorceCare & Grief Share
- Adult Bible Studies



# LOOKING BACK



Last month these 6th grade girls experienced their first United WKND. Lakewood hosted students and leaders from 13 area churches with over 200 Lakewood students who learned that we were created for Christian community.

**AVERAGE WEEKLY MINISTRY BUDGET NEED:** \$114,375

**AVERAGE WEEKLY RECEIVED 2/23-3/16:** \$109,539

**NEW MEMBERS:** Kaleigh Turner

\*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](http://lakewoodlife.org/give)



OFFERING BASKET:  
cash or check

ENDOWMENT FUND:  
[lakewoodlife.org/  
endowment-ministry](http://lakewoodlife.org/endowment-ministry)

## CONTACT

SENIOR PASTOR

EXECUTIVE PASTOR

ASSOCIATE/SR. ADULT PASTOR

MISSIONS PASTOR

WORSHIP PASTOR

WORSHIP PASTOR

DISCIPLESHIP PASTOR

NEXT GENERATION PASTOR

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

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