# DISCOVER GUIDE DISCOVER DISTORTION LAKE JUNALUSKA

THE



# Come celebrate at Lake Junaluska!

Enjoy a beautiful fireworks display during Lake Junaluska's annual Independence Day Celebration. Learn more at lakejunaluska.com/July4.

#### IN THIS ISSUE

### **DISCOVER LAKE JUNALUSKA** WHERE THERE'S ALWAYS TIME FOR WHAT MATTERS MOST

This issue of Discover Lake Junaluska celebrates what draws thousands of visitors to the Lake year-round: faith, fun, family reunions, solitude, exercise, nature, outdoor activities, companionship, celebrations, retreats and more. Simply, Lake Junaluska has what people seek — all in a comfortable, natural environment. What are you seeking? Discover the beauty of Lake time at Lake Junaluska, where there's always time for what matters most.

**4** Welcome

#### TOP 10 **5** Take a Break 10 ways to slow down

FEATURE **8** Lake Time Where there's always time for what matters most

PHOTO ESSAY **10** Moment by Moment Treasured time at Lake Junaluska

CHARITABLE GIVING **16** Reflections of Lives Well Loved Floating lanterns lighten hearts

GROUP FEATURE **32** Crafting Connections Knitting, quilting and tatting retreats mean friendship and fun

WEDDINGS **34** Holy Moments Couple's faith is front and center

**35** Remembered *Cherokee I-IV*, an enduring signature event

### **VISIT LAKE JUNALUSKA**

A place of Christian hospitality where lives are transformed through renewal of soul, mind and body, Lake Junaluska is a beloved spiritual retreat center in the mountains of Western North Carolina. We welcome you for a special getaway. Enjoy our lakeside hotel, historic inn, vacation rentals, walking trails, gardens, golf course, gift and coffee shop, water activities, wildlife viewing and panoramic vistas. Where better to spend time than at Lake Junaluska? Plan your visit at lakejunaluska.com.



**20** Lodging

22 Recreation

**23** Water Fun

### » Table of Contents



**COVER PHOTO** A family admires Lake Junaluska's fall color from the Meditation and Fishing Pier. Learn more at lakejunaluska.com. РНОТО ВУ DEREK DILUZIO

Book your stay at our lakeside hotel, historic inn, vacation rentals or campground.

Explore the walking trail and gardens. Play golf, tennis and pickleball.

Enjoy paddleboarding, canoeing, kayaking, swimming and lake cruises. **24** Day Trips & Dining Discover area hikes, top attractions and restaurants.

#### **25** Shopping

Find unique gifts, fair-trade items, books, apparel and more.

#### **26** Explore Year-Round

Plan your spring, summer, fall and winter Lake getaways.





# DISCOVER LAKE JUNALUSKA

eed a reset, a little R and R or just an adventure for yourself, a friend or the whole family? Need to refocus on what matters most or even rediscover it? At Lake Junaluska, our guests find what they need, whether it's quiet time in a kayak or a nap in one of our outdoor rocking chairs, a run around the lake or a stroll along the Rose Walk. Some just sit with family and friends during a weekend reunion and celebrate the beauty around them. Others come for the fall color and return later for a ski weekend.

Lake Junaluska is a year-round respite from a busy world, a spiritual retreat for many, where visitors come to restore themselves in our meditative gardens, at our iconic Cross or with a walk through the Prayer Labyrinth. Many come for the wildlife and to feel God's presence through the beauty of our natural surroundings.

Lake Junaluska is where you can park the car and walk from one fun adventure to another. At Lake Junaluska, we're on lake time, where there's always time for what matters most.

# Discover LAKE JUNALUSKA

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HAVE AN IDEA FOR DISCOVER LAKE JUNALUSKA MAGAZINE? We welcome story contributions and feedback. Contact us at communications@lakejunaluska.com.



Lake Junaluska is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, governed by a Board of Trustees. Learn more at lakejunaluska.com/about-us.

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Sponsored in part by the Haywood County Tourism Development Authority. Plan your trip at visitncsmokies.com.

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# Take A Break

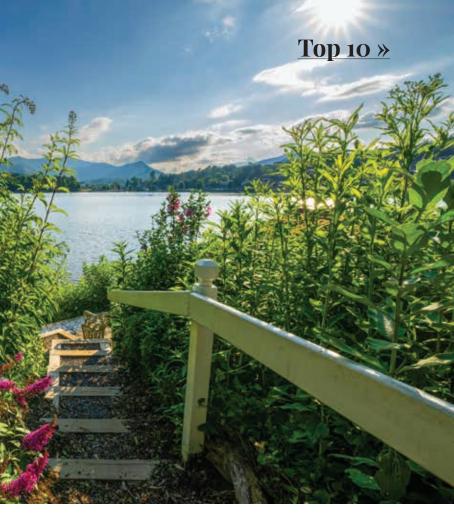
### **TOP 10 WAYS TO SLOW DOWN**

#### **EXPLORE THE GARDENS**

Sit in one of Lake Junaluska's myriad gardens and be mesmerized by their beauty. Find peace and serenity among the plants many of them native — and discover a new appreciation for these lush ecosystems, home to various insects, butterflies and birds. Some of these gardens will urge you to wander their paths and smell their flowers, while others will greet you like an old friend and insist you sit and stay awhile. (Psst, take them up on it.)

The Butterfly Garden (top) is across from the Francis Asbury Trail waterfall. Entrance to Stuart Spring (right) is on Stuart Circle, across from the Rose Walk.





ature takes the lead most days at Lake Junaluska, whether it's the lake itself, the wildlife or the incredible sunrises and sunsets framed to perfection by the surrounding mountains. That's why our rocking chairs are so popular — they're

### **Top 10 »**



A LITTLE The park below the dam makes for a perfect spot for lunch from Crepe & Custard or to relax at Richland Creek. Take the Asbury Trail section of the walking trail and you'll pass a man-made waterfall. Enjoy the sounds of a gurgling fountain at the Bethea Welcome Center's Biblical Garden while viewing plants mentioned in the Bible.

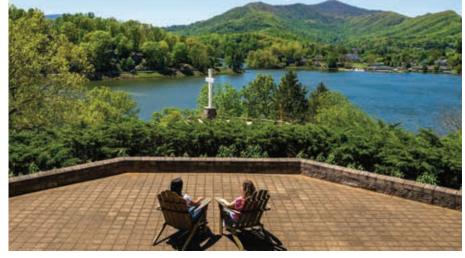
#### WALK A ROUND

Sure you could rent a cart, but try walking the scenic Lake Junaluska 18-hole golf course for a relaxing round of golf. With incredible views of the Blue Ridge Mountains from nearly every hole, be forewarned: It might be hard to keep your head down when there's so much beauty to see above you. It's a great course for guests of all ages.



#### **BE INSPIRED**

The name says it all. Inspiration Point boasts unparalleled views of the lake, mountains and sky from one of the Lake's best vantage points. Its beautifully landscaped gardens are in full bloom from early spring through fall. Visitors draw inspiration from the Point's sculpture of Christ and the Memorial Cross. Located near Lambuth Inn, Inspiration Point may be reserved for weddings and other special events.



#### CATCH A BREAK

Cast out your worries or a fishing line (either one will make you feel better) at the Meditation and Fishing Pier, which extends more than 40 feet into Lake Junaluska. Arrive early with a cup of coffee from Junaluska Gifts & Grounds to savor the serenity of a calm, quiet morning or ease in at dusk to watch the sunset — and maybe the bald eagles, if you're lucky. Any time at the pier is a meditation moment like no other to enjoy God's handiwork.







#### A ROSE IS A ROSE

We mean it when we say "stop and smell the roses" at Lake Junaluska because it's so easy to do. Our famous Rose Walk features more than 200 hybrid tea, grandiflora and floribunda roses, including Queen Elizabeth and Easy on the Eyes varieties. This longtime lakeside landmark is easily accessible from the parking area in front of The Terrace Hotel.

Ο EYES ON THE SKY While the swan, ducks, geese and bald eagles get much of the attention at Lake Junaluska, there are also nearly 180 species of birds that visit. Lake Junaluska offers many places for these happy residents to eat, nest and play — just like our guests! For an early start, book a stay at The Terrace Hotel or Lambuth Inn.



ROCK THE NIGHT (OR DAY) AWAY The first thing many of our guests do once they check in and put their bags away is head to the outdoor rocking chairs to unwind and soak up the scenery. As you will discover, rocking is one of our most popular activities, whether it's at The Terrace Hotel, Lambuth Inn, Harrell Center or the Kern Center, all with front-row seats to the grandeur of God's beautiful creation.



#### THE SOUND OF

Take a few minutes to walk the lakeside Prayer Labyrinth as a spiritual practice or as a way to quiet your mind. Located on the lawn east of Memorial Chapel, the pathway is designed for meditation and contemplation with each meaningful step and is perfect for children and adults. This simple exercise in intentional silence is a welcome refuge from a noisy world.



#### JUST A CRUISIN'

According to some, a guided lake cruise on the historic Cherokee IV pontoon boat is the bestkept secret. Or, go at your own pace in a rented canoe or kayak from Lake Junaluska Outfitters, especially at sunset when the colors will take your breath away. Either way, head to the water for a different perspective on Lake Junaluska and see what stunning views it has to offer.





Larry Roberts, a retired Methodist minister and widower, walks nearly every day at Lake Junaluska for the interaction he has with other people.

or Larry Roberts, it's the interaction with other people. For Ashley Lantz, it's the relaxed atmosphere. For Dave Moore, it's the rocking chair with a view. For Anthony McGary, it's the freedom to exercise in a beautiful setting, and for Kathryn Young, it's a long-held family tradition.

Since its establishment in 1913, Lake Junaluska's draw as a sanctuary for thousands of people is as varied as its visitors. But most say the Lake is a vital part of their lives because of what it offers: a respite from a busy world, a place to connect with God, a place for family reunions and, simply, a lifeline.

Larry Roberts walks the lake nearly every day, twice a day — although not all the way around due to a heart condition. Now 86 and a widower for seven years, Larry first discovered Lake Junaluska in 1954 as a young man about to become a preacher, when he attended a conference on the call to ministry. "I immediately fell in love with the place," said Larry, a retired United Methodist minister from Columbus, Georgia. "I'm always



Ashley Lantz, front, has been attending conferences at the Lake for years, bringing colleagues with her for much needed downtime.

so grateful to God for the beauty he's given us and the multitudes of things that just bless us."

Larry and his wife, Myrna, bought a house near Lake Junaluska in 1998 and retired there a year later. She passed away in January 2017.

people and enjoy nature," said Larry. coming year after year, and we're able "During the COVID time, which to reconnect," she said. "I love that, and

came right after [Myrna] died, this was my contact with people, walking around the lake and standing, usually at a distance. I cut up an awful lot, carry on a lot of foolishness with people. I continue to do that ... but this was my socialization, especially during COVID."

Ashley Lantz, director of the Department of Social Services in Union County, has been attending conferences at Lake Junaluska for the past 14 years, the most recent in 2023 and the 29th such conference held at the Lake by the Children's Advocacy Centers of North Carolina. It's an intentional decision, Ashley said, to attend conferences because of the Lake's environment.

"The atmosphere is rejuvenating," she said. She brought 12 social workers with her this past year for some muchneeded downtime. "My favorite thing is sitting out in front of the coffee shop where the tables are set up. "I like to be out in the open and see People come by who I recognize from I love sitting with them out on the deck of The Terrace in the rocking chairs in the evenings with the mountains and lake in the background. That's what it's all about."

Dave Moore knows a thing or two about those rocking chairs. At 89, he has made it a point to visit the Lake nearly every day for the past 40 years, snagging the same rocking chair in the same spot in front of the Harrell Center, if it's available, because it's where the action is. "I have a lot of friends here," Dave said, a coffee cup from Junaluska Gifts & Grounds in lake because of the "seasonal changes youngest of whom was Kathryn's one hand. He usually has a scone in the other, but the coffee shop was out by the time Dave arrived. "A few years ago, I used to walk the lake. I'm not able to anymore so I come over here and [talk "My favorite time of the day to run to] the girls in the coffee shop," he said. On cue, one of the employees came out to tell him more scones were coming,

Middle Tennessee State University, found the beauty of Lake Junaluska

but not until later that day.



against the beautiful Lake Junaluska backdrop" and the different running route options available.

is in the morning," he said. "I enjoy watching the sun rise and the resulting illumination of the lake waters and surrounding trees and mountains."

A former cross-country runner for Kathryn Young of Atlanta and members of her extended family of all Anthony McGary Jr., now 41, has ages gather each Independence Day at Lake Junaluska, parking themselves at to be especially inspiring on his a bench in front of the Administration thrice weekly runs around the lake. Building to watch the parade. It's a A newcomer to Haywood County, special location for the descendants Anthony said he enjoys running the of the three Satterfield sisters, the



Each Independence Day, four generations of the three Satterfield sisters gather to watch the parade at a bench donated in honor of a family member.

Anthony McGary Jr. of Waynesville enjoys running around the lake because of its scenery.

mother, Byrd Austin Young.

The bench was placed in honor of W.G. "Bill" Cheney Jr., the husband of Winnie Satterfield Cheney, the second Satterfield sister. The Rev. Edward C. Blackburn was married to the first Satterfield sister, Mary Emily Satterfield, who met her future husband at the Lake when he served as a youth pastor in the summers.

Both Mary Emily and Winnie and their husbands bought homes at the Lake years ago, making it the go-to place for family gatherings. The family's history goes back even deeper with Kathryn's great aunt Mildred Satterfield, who summered at the Lake as early as the 1920s.

The only surviving member of the three Satterfield sisters and their husbands is Kathryn's Uncle Ed, now 90, who was unable to attend the 2023 gathering. "Not everyone can come every year, but every year there's a critical mass of family that gathers here," Kathryn said.

"It is so hard these days for a single house or even a hometown to be the gathering place for family. But meeting each summer at Lake J gives the family a second home where we build memories and renew connections," she added. "Lake Junaluska is a familiar, welcoming hometown that will always be there for us."

**Photo Essay »** 



EASURED TIME AT LAKE JUNALUSKA

ore than 100 years ago, the Lake Junaluska Cross began shining at night from a hill overlooking the lake. As summer L residents departed, the lights of the Cross were turned off for the winter. Then, a letter arrived on behalf of railroad workers who traveled through the valley requesting that the lights be turned back on — noting how the lights reminded them of the One who watched over them as they traveled. In response, Lake Junaluska began shining the lights of the Cross every night, all year long. This remained the practice for decades until the early days of the pandemic in 2020. At the suggestion of a community member, the lights of the Cross began shining — and continue to shine — day and night, as a beacon of God's ever-present love.

### Light in the Darkness

### **Photo Essay** »

### Calm Water

ake Junaluska's calm water is the perfect place for family-L friendly fun and adventure and soul-soothing solitude. Lake Junaluska Outfitters offers kayak, canoe and paddleboard rentals for experts and beginners alike. Some of the best views of the grounds, wildlife and surrounding scenery can be seen only from the water.





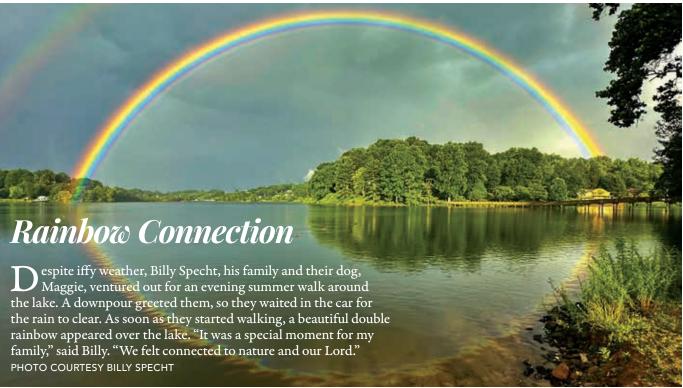
### Fresh Air

T nhale. Exhale. Crisp mountain air greets participants practicing yoga poses at Inspiration Point. Yoga is offered as part of Lake Junaluska's Summer Activities Program, which features free and lowcost activities to help residents and visitors find community and make memories. Made possible through charitable giving, the Summer Activities Program also includes morning devotions, s'mores by the fire and more.

## Garden Firecracker

T he red buckeye or "firecracker plant" is one of more than 500 species of native plants nurtured in the timeless Corneille Bryan Native Garden at Lake Junaluska. Located just steps from Stuart Spring on the northwest side of the lake, the peaceful garden features a winding path accompanied by birdsong and the trickle of a small stream. Volunteers host work days and workshops, lead garden walks and share plants from the garden at plant sales.



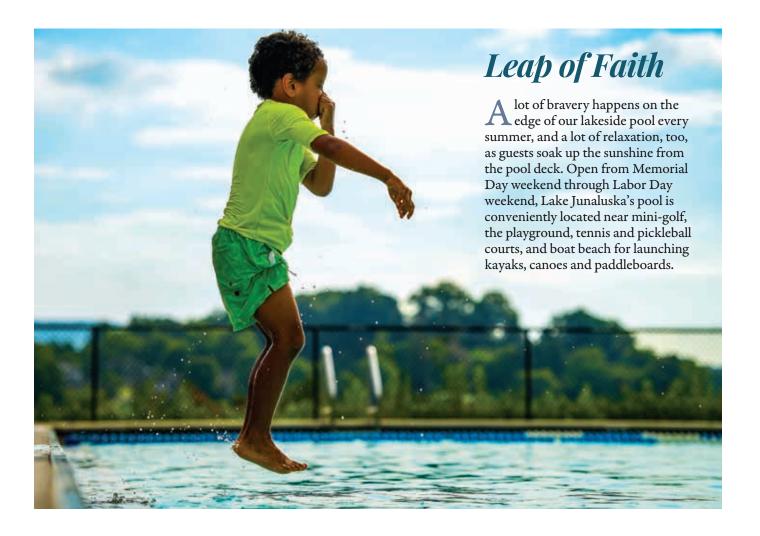




### **Renewed By Love**

A spring INTOUCH Women's Weekend Retreat, themed "Freedom from Cycles," brought a dozen women together to examine their hearts, get clarity on what had been holding them back in their lives and then release it to the Lord. The weekend concluded with a spontaneous baptism and Sunday morning worship at the Cross. PHOTO COURTESY JACYNTHIA BAILEY

### **Photo Essay »**



## Family Time

**T**amilies love spending time **F** together at Lake Junaluska, especially families of geese, ducks and swans. Resident eagles nest high in the evergreen trees, often soaring over the lake to the delight of visitors and guests, especially during morning devotions and the Easter sunrise service. Nature photographers frequent the shore capturing images of the beloved bald eagles as well as other birds from Tennessee warblers to rosebreasted grosbeaks.



## **Joyful Reunion**

S miles, handshakes and hugs abound at registration tables and opening sessions for conferences and retreats returning year after year to Lake Junaluska Groups ranging from 10 to 2,000 meet at Lake Junaluska and value the range of accommodations, dining options and recreational amenities as they learn, connect and grow in faith together.





## **Picture Window**

rches outside Lake Junaluska's A stone Memorial Chapel frame the lakeshore. Built as a Temple of Peace in the name of the Prince of Peace in honor of Methodist youth who served in World War II, the chapel hosts events from memorial services to weddings and from concerts to candlelight Christmas services. When not reserved, Memorial Chapel opens midday for private prayer and meditation.

### Rest Stop

monarch butterfly visits a zinnia at Lake Junaluska. An official A Monarch Waystation, the Lake's goldenrod, milkweed, butterfly bush, blazing star, cornflowers and asters attract the migrating beauties as they travel from Canada to Mexico. The first monarchs are typically spotted in August each year, but the best chance of seeing them at the Lake is in October, a perfect complement to the changing leaves.



### **Charitable Giving** »

# REFLECTIONS of LIVES WELL LOVED

### FLOATING LANTERNS LIGHTEN HEARTS

ike silent messengers on a mission to heaven, 274 floating Lanterns bobbed gently across Lake Junaluska during a lovely event to honor and celebrate loved ones, many who had passed on.

Every lantern, their lit candles aglow in the dark summer night, carried a name in remembrance or in honor of a loved one — and, for some, a special message. Among them was a lantern for Steve Williams, a Vietnam War-era machinist mate who had served in the Navy aboard the USS Yorktown. The message: "After 53 years, the story still lives on."

"I always choose to do something special for our parents on their anniversary," said Amy Craft, one of Williams' adult children who, along with her siblings, made a donation to have the lantern floated in honor of what would have been her parents' 53rd year of marriage had her father been alive.

The special event was held at dusk on July 5 as part of Lake Junaluska's

"The Lake just pours over your heart when you stand in its presence. It just gives us so much."

- AMY CRAFT

Independence Day Celebration events. Each donation supports ministry and worship offerings at Lake Junaluska.

Amy's mother, Sara Williams, and Amy's three children and other relatives were among those who had gathered at the Harrell Center's back deck to watch the event. Hundreds of others gathered along the shore.

Steve Williams died at age 68 in 2007 from pulmonary fibrosis, his family said. "It just seemed right," Amy said,

to honor him on the water and in the mountains he loved so much.

Donating to the annual fund was also important, Amy said, because her family has spent so much time at the Lake visiting her aunt and uncle, Bryant and Linda Lindsey.

"Anything we can do to help the Lake, to better the Lake, we want to do because the Lake does so much for us while we're there — spiritually, emotionally, physically," said Amy, who lives in Lexington, South Carolina, with her husband, Willis, and their three children. "The Lake just pours over your heart when you stand in its presence. It just gives us so much."

Nellie Clark's grandmother, Elizabeth Clark, was a former school superintendent in New York state and a single mother of three boys. She loved to travel and loved taking her granddaughter on trips around the world.

Elizabeth eventually moved next door to Nellie in Canton, but not before a

stint working for the National Park Service out West after she retired.

"I lived right next to her for 11 years, pretty much," said Nellie, who was born and raised in Asheville but now lives in Waynesville. "We got to spend the last few years with her, and that was great."

When Elizabeth died at age 92 in 2021 shortly after the birth of Nellie's son, Hudson, Nellie grieved hard. Discovering the floating lantern project at Lake Junaluska was the boost Nellie needed. "I thought, 'That's a great way to remember my grandmother.' We miss her dearly," Nellie said. "She was my everything. She was my mom, my dad. She raised me and took me everywhere."

Nellie, husband Jeremy and son Hudson watched the lantern release with Elizabeth in mind. "To Gram, We love you. We miss you. Love, Nellie, Hudson, Jeremy," her lantern's message read.

"We honor her all the time. I want We go to the park. [Hudson] rides his Hudson to know all about her. She is a big part of my life, and I just always want him to know that," Nellie said.

The event reminded Nellie that other

people were likely grieving too. "It's a Catherine Jarvic was thrilled her lot to see all of those lanterns out there. extended family would be gathering at fitting to honor them."



People have lost their children, their parents, loved ones," she said. "When you do something like that, you're grieving again, but you're wanting to show that person you love them and are keeping their spirit alive."



Nellie was grateful that by honoring her grandmother she was also supporting Lake Junaluska. "I love the Lake. We go all the time. We live five minutes away. bike. We get ice cream. He sees his friends. We get a pool pass every year. It's wonderful for him to have that to grow up with," she said.

Lake Junaluska on the Fourth of July, their first time on the Fourth and their first time back at the Lake since her maternal grandmother, Nancy Dale, died in 2019. The family decided to make the most of it by honoring Nancy and her husband, Dr. Payne Dale, of Kinston, with two floating lanterns.

"We knew that we were all going there for a little family get-together with aunts and uncles and cousins. We used to do it every summer with my grandparents - the ones we honored, and we would get a house and all stay together," said Catherine, who lives in Chico, California, but grew up in North Carolina and married at Lake Junaluska in 2007.

The trip back was one down memory lane, Catherine said. She recalled a summer when her grandmother got the key to Memorial Chapel and the family gathered for a private worship service.

"One night, we were in the chapel and my uncle got up and shared some scripture, and my cousin and I played worship songs on the piano. We just have a lot of memories of worshiping as a family up there. It's been a special place for our family to come together and just be," she said. "So, it was just

#### Donate a Lantern

As part of Lake Junaluska's multiday Independence Day Celebration, staff and volunteers place floating lanterns in the lake just after dusk. Each lantern carries a name in remembrance or in honor of a loved one. To have a loved one's name placed on a lantern, make a donation online. Visit lakejunaluska.com/lanterns.



WHERE TO STAY & WHAT TO DO WHEN YOU TRAVEL TO LAKE JUNALUSKA

**PLAN YOUR VISIT** 

### Visitor Guide »

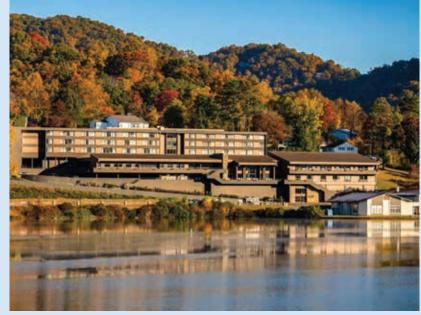


### The Terrace Hotel

#### lakejunaluska.com/terrace

Location, location, location is what you get when you stay at The Terrace Hotel. With modern guest rooms and breathtaking views of the lake from the rocking chairs on the balcony, The Terrace Hotel is convenient to the Rose Walk, Junaluska Gifts & Grounds coffee and gift shop, Stuart Auditorium, kayak and canoe rentals and the walking trail.

Its spacious two-story lobby features a fireplace and floor-to-ceiling windows overlooking the lake. It also has meeting rooms and venues, meaning it's a great location for groups. It offers a daily breakfast buffet and 105 guest rooms.





### Historic Lambuth Inn

#### lakejunaluska.com/lambuth

One of Lake Junaluska's most notable landmarks, Lambuth Inn sits perched above the lake near the Cross, its historic grandeur as inviting as much as it is intriguing. The "stately lady" was built in 1921 and renovated in 2018. With 130 rooms, Lambuth Inn is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and offers panoramic views of the lake and the Blue Ridge Mountains. Inside, you'll find quaint parlors, historic charm, an old-world feel and a year-round Christmas shop. A short walk through the gardens leads guests to Inspiration Point to watch a sunset over the lake and mountains and to see the illuminated Lake Junaluska Cross.



### **Vacation Rentals**

#### lakejunaluska.com/rentals

Lake Junaluska is flush with vacation homes, condominiums, cottages and apartments with options for couples or a family affair. Managed by Vacasa, a premier short-term vacation rentals management company, Lake Junaluska Vacation Rentals are available year-round with options for up to 16 guests. Rentals are individually owned by private owners. Some are pet friendly.



#### HILLSIDE LODGE

lakejunaluska.com/hillside-lodge Hillside Lodge is budget-friendly with a large lobby and 25 motelstyle rooms that feature two double beds, flat-screen TVs and coffee makers. It's located near the swimming pool, boat rentals, awardwinning playground and Crepe & Custard restaurant. APARTMENTS lakejunaluska.com/apartments Lake Junaluska's 48 apartments are modest, economical, convenient and comfortable, and some are pet friendly. They can host from four to 10 guests, and most of the apartments have kitchenettes. These short-term rentals are just steps from our seasonal pool and boat rentals.

## Book your stay at Lake Junaluska!



### Campground

#### lakejunaluska.com/campground

Lake Junaluska Campground has RV hook-ups, tent sites, cabins, apartments and a spacious meeting lodge. Open mid-spring through fall, the campground features pullthrough sites for RVs and offers fire rings and picnic tables. Wireless Internet access and cable are in the log cabin, apartments and some RV areas. Campground guests may access the Lake Junaluska lakeside pool, shuffleboard, tennis and pickleball courts, playground and lakeside walking trail.





#### MOUNTAINVIEW LODGE

**lakejunaluska.com/mountainview** With 40 simple rooms that sleep up to six people, Mountainview Lodge is an ideal budget option for youth groups and hostel-hoppers. During summer, guests may enjoy complimentary access to our swimming pool, tennis and pickleball courts, and shuffleboard, mini-golf and volleyball areas.

Call 800-222-4930 or visit lakejunaluska.com

### Visitor Guide »





#### GARDENS lakejunaluska.com/gardens

Lake Junaluska's gardens and places of meditation are some of our most popular attractions. These lush green spaces are perfect for reconnecting with nature and with God. Download our Garden Tour Guide on our website to learn more. Bouquets and floral arrangements made with Lake Junaluska blooms may be available for purchase seasonally for weddings and other special events. An annual plant sale each spring supports landscaping and gardens at Lake Junaluska.

#### BIRD-WATCHING lakejunaluska.com/birding

With about 180 bird species, including bald eagles, Lake Junaluska is one of the best year-round bird-watching sites in Western North Carolina. Download a birding checklist on the website.

#### GOLF lakejunaluska.com/golf

Lake Junaluska Golf Course is a fun and challenging course. Opened in 1919, this historic 18-hole, par-68 course with scenic views of the Blue Ridge Mountains is one of the oldest courses in North Carolina. Spanning 5,108 yards, the course is open to the public year-round. Players of all ages and skill levels are welcome. The pro shop has everything you need, from golf shirts to gift certificates and more. Book a round or purchase an annual membership. The course is available for tournament bookings.

#### FISHING lakejunaluska.com/fishing

Fishing at Lake Junaluska is open to the public in designated areas. Best catches are bass, perch, crappie, brim, bluegill and trout. A public boat ramp is located on Highway 19 near the main Lake Junaluska entrance, and a boat beach is near the pool. A valid N.C. fishing license is required.



#### WALKING TRAIL lakejunaluska.com/laketrail

Lake Junaluska's popular lakeside walking trail, with 2.3-mile and 3.8mile loops, is wheelchair- and strollerfriendly. Made possible through charitable giving, the walking trail is mostly paved, with some uneven surfaces, and is open daily.



MINI-GOLF, TENNIS, PICKLEBALL & MORE lakejunaluska.com/play

Lake Junaluska Outfitters features miniature golf, tennis, pickleball, sand volleyball, basketball, shuffleboard, cornhole, an award-winning playground and more. Rent recreation equipment at the Outfitters window or bring your own.



#### Lake Junaluska Outfitters lakejunaluska.com/play

Our 200-acre lake is the star of the show come summertime at Lake Junaluska. With our lakeside swimming pool; kayak, canoe and paddleboard rentals; and resident ducks and geese, the lake is a hub of activity from sunup to sundown.

Find everything you need for a day at the lake at the Lake Junaluska Outfitters window, located at the pool. It's your one-stop shop for boat rentals, swimming pool passes and recreation equipment for miniature golf, cornhole, shuffleboard, volleyball, tennis, pickleball and more. Lake Junaluska Outfitters sells snacks, bottled water and soft drinks too. Hours are seasonal, and parking and restrooms are nearby.



#### LAKE CRUISES lakejunaluska.com/lake-cruises

A cruise around the lake on the *Cherokee IV* pontoon boat is a signature experience at Lake Junaluska and is perfect for guests of all ages. The 45-minute guided tours depart from the dock behind the Harrell Center. The *Cherokee IV* can also be booked for private tours or for small weddings and special events. Visit the website for pricing and upcoming guided tours and to make reservations online.





#### SWIMMING POOL lakejunaluska.com/pool

Nothing says summer like children laughing and splashing in our beautiful lakeside swimming pool. Surrounded on three sides by the lake, the Lake Junaluska pool is open daily, weather permitting, Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day. Season and day passes are available for purchase, and include pool access, miniature golf and more. Lodging guests enjoy complimentary admission. Purchase passes at the Outfitters window or online.

#### KAYAK, CANOE & PADDLEBOARD RENTALS lakejunaluska.com/kayak

With its gentle water, the lake is the perfect place to try something new, like kayaking, canoeing or stand-up paddleboarding. Our Lake Junaluska Outfitters staff help guests with their rental equipment, whether it's a boat or personal flotation device or just launching them into the water from the beach. Rentals are available daily during the summer and weekends in late spring and early fall. Make reservations at the Outfitters window or online.



### Visitor Guide »

Day Trips & Dining

### **Day Trips**

Lake Junaluska is close to many other exciting adventures in Western North Carolina, whether they're outdoors or shopping and dining. Explore waterfalls, see elk, ski, whitewater raft, hike, mountain bike or take a scenic train ride. Visit Biltmore Estate, Cherokee or other top regional attractions.

Discover the quaint mountain towns of Waynesville, Canton, Clyde and Maggie Valley, or go the nature route with side trips to the nearby Blue Ridge Parkway, Great Smoky Mountains National Park and Pisgah National Forest. Whatever you choose, plan your trip at visitnc.com.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: Nantahala River PHOTO CREDIT: WWW.NOC.COM; Waynesville Street Dance PHOTO COURTESY DOWNTOWN WAYNESVILLE COMMISSION; Black Balsam Knob PHOTO COURTESY VISIT NC SMOKIES







### Dining

Enjoy lakeview dining, both inside and out at The Terrace Hotel, which offers a daily hot breakfast buffet in the third-floor dining room, and at Crepe & Custard restaurant in the Kern Center, which features savory and sweet crepes and rich, creamy custard as well as soups and salads. In addition, a coffee and smoothie bar with pastries, ice cream and more is located inside Junaluska Gifts & Grounds. Coming to Lake Junaluska Golf Course in 2024 is the 1919 Grill, with a menu that's sure to score a holein-one with every diner. Lake Junaluska also hosts special dining events on Easter, Mother's Day and Thanksgiving and offers on-site catering for meetings, conferences, retreats, reunions and special occasions, such as weddings and banquets. PHOTO COURTESY CREPE & CUSTARD







Walk into Junaluska Gifts & Grounds and enter a treasure trove of fun, feel-good and fabulous flavors. This wonderful shop is filled with unique local, regional and international gifts. It also boasts its own ice cream and smoothie bar. Order an espresso, milkshake (vegan options available) or lemonade and enjoy them at a nearby outdoor table, rocking chair or bench.

Located along the lakeside walking trail across from The Terrace Hotel, Junaluska Gifts & Grounds has something for everyone, ranging from jewelry, greeting cards, psalm stones and artwork by local artists to satin pillowcases, comfy aloe socks, relaxing eye masks and more. Also available are local pottery, gift cards and our own label of coffee, preserves, salsas and salad dressings.

Hours change seasonally. For current hours or more information, call 828-454-6777 or visit lakejunaluska.com/shop.

**ESPRESSO & SMOOTHIE BAR** Locally roasted fair trade coffee and espresso, lattes frappes, smoothies, sodas, snacks, ice cream, milkshakes, sandwiches, pastries

**GIFTS** 

Garden items, home décor, jewelry, pottery, puzzles, games and toys, art print collections from local artists, gift cards

**FAIR TRADE** Handmade gifts from around-the-world nonprofit organizations

T-shirts, sweatshirts,



**GOLF PRO SHOP** 

Find golf shirts, caps, balls, tees, clubs, soft drinks, snacks, gift certificates and more at the Lake Junaluska Golf Course Pro Shop.



### Junaluska Gifts & Grounds

#### LOGO APPAREL

outerwear, caps, umbrellas





### **BOOKS & CARDS**

Lake Junaluska history, local hiking, birding, Bibles, Christian living and devotionals, journals, greeting cards







CHRISTMAS YEAR-ROUND Inside historic Lambuth Inn is Christmas Memories, a faith-based shop featuring decorative angels, nativities, ornaments, holiday puzzles, snow globes and more.



**HOTEL MARKETS** Grab-and-go markets near the front desks at The Terrace Hotel and Lambuth Inn sell bottled water, soft drinks, snacks and convenience items.









February 14	Valentine's Day
March 15-17	Journey to Joy Women's Retreat
March 22-24	Awaken Your Radiant Heart Women's Creative Retreat
March 31	Easter Sunrise Service Easter Buffet
May 2	National Day of Prayer Service
May 4	Annual Plant Sale
May 12	Mother's Day Buffet

pring is the tap on the door that awakens us from our long winter's nap. It greets us not with a jarring alarm, but with gentle nudges: daffodils, chirping birds and patches of green grass. "Hello," it whispers, "time to get up. It's a new day, a new beginning."

And we do, joyfully and faithfully, knowing that each spring signals a rebirth, marked most notably by Lake Junaluska's Sunrise Service held Easter morning at the amphitheater overlooking the lake below the Lake Junaluska Cross.

Lake Junaluska is full of signs of renewal and gladness, and we're drawn to them: crocuses along the walking trail, flowering cherry trees on the golf course, the banter on the tennis and pickleball courts as players reconnect, the ducks and geese honking their presence to all who will listen, and the preparation for and excitement of summer programming. All signs that our rhythm has returned, and we want to be a part of it.

In addition to the Easter Sunrise Service, springtime Lake events include Easter and Mother's Day buffet meals and the annual plant sale. A beloved event that supports landscaping at Lake Junaluska, the plant sale features many flora grown in the Lake's greenhouse and propagated from the gardens.

lakejunaluska.com/spring • lakejunaluska.com/events



un in the sun takes center stage at Lake Junaluska when summer rolls around. With a 200-acre lake, a lakeside swimming pool, an 18-hole golf course, miniature golf, boating and more, the Lake offers activities for visitors of all ages.

Rent a kayak, canoe or paddleboard, or enjoy a gentle, family-friendly cruise aboard the Cherokee IV pontoon boat. Splash in the lakeside swimming pool, then follow it with a scoop of ice cream at Junaluska Gifts & Grounds. Or, experience our award-winning playground for children of all ages.

Lake Junaluska offers fun, free and low-cost activities through the Summer Activities Program, such as morning devotions, evening bonfires with s'mores and more. Sunday mornings feature lakeside worship services with our theologians-in-residence, who also offer weekday workshops and discussion groups.

A highlight of summer at Lake Junaluska is our annual Independence Day Celebration, July 2-5, featuring a spectacular fireworks display, floating lanterns, flotilla, parade, music and more. Other highlights are watching youth groups walk to the Cross and hearing echoes of praise songs across the water.

lakejunaluska.com/summer • lakejunaluska.com/events





May 24 to Sept. 2	Summer Season for Lake Junaluska Outfitters & Pool
June 24-28	Music & Worship Arts Week
June 25	Lake Junaluska Day
June 30 to Aug.16	Summer Worship Series, Theologian-in-Residence Program, Summer Activities Program
June 28 to July 13	M28 Summer Youth Camps
July 2-5	Independence Day Celebration
Aug. 19-22	Festival of Wisdom & Grace
Aug. 23-25	Journey to Joy Women's Retreat
Aug. 31	Friends of the Lake 5K Road Race & Walk









Sept. 1 to Oct. 31	Fall Lodging Specials
Oct. 18-20	Choir Music Weekend
Nov. 1-3	Journey to Joy Women's Retreat
Nov. 28	Thanksgiving at Lake Junaluska, Thanksgiving Buffet

t's autumn, and all eyes turn to Lake Junaluska as its lush green landscape becomes a kaleidoscope of color. Typically for six weeks, leaves of red, gold and orange light up the grounds and surrounding Blue Ridge Mountains as this "gateway" season marks a costume change for nature.

It's when gardens take a bow, leaving yellow goldenrod and pink and purple asters in the spotlight for the final curtain call.

Crisp, cool mornings beg for a seasonal spiced latte from Junaluska Gifts & Grounds and a seat in an outdoor rocking chair to just sit, sip and savor the beauty of God's creation. Warm afternoons mean a leisurely walk around the lake, a lively game of pickleball or a cruise aboard the *Cherokee IV*.

Fall highlights at the Lake include the Choir Music Weekend in October and a dinner buffet on Thanksgiving. Events in nearby towns feature an apple harvest festival, an outdoor arts and crafts show and a bluegrass festival. An official Monarch Waystation, Lake Junaluska offers glimpses of the migrating beauties as they make their way through Haywood County during the early fall season.

lakejunaluska.com/fall • lakejunaluska.com/events





s the cold moves in, Lake Junaluska celebrates Advent and Christmas with concerts, holiday parties, family gatherings, candlelight services and other special events.

It's the ultimate host for the season of Hope, Peace, Love and Joy with carriage rides, hot chocolate, cookies and carols. The historic Lambuth Inn, home of Christmas Memories shop, is a festive venue for holiday parties booked by organizations and businesses alike.

Winter may be a traditional time to slow down, but the walking trail at Lake Junaluska is a popular site for brisk walks, spectacular views of the surrounding Blue Ridge Mountains and some of the best bird-watching of the year. Look for the Gray Catbird or the Downy Woodpecker. Then, head inside to The Terrace Hotel lobby to warm up by its large stone fireplace.

Just 12 miles from Cataloochee Ski Area, one of the best places to snowboard and ski in the Southeast, Lake Junaluska hosts youth groups and outdoor adventurers traveling to the mountains for ski and winter retreats.

lakejunaluska.com/winter • lakejunaluska.com/events





Nov. 8, 2024 to Jan. 1, 2025	Holidays at Lake Junaluska
Dec. 6-7	Balsam Range Art of Music Festival
Dec. 25	Christmas Day
Dec. 2024 to Feb. 2025	Ski Lake Junaluska Youth Retreats
Jan. 1, 2025	New Year's Day



#### **KEY**

Public Area

Lake

- Gardens and Sacred Spaces
- Golf Course (Public)
- Road
- --- Walking Trail: Inner Loop
- --- Walking Trail: Outer Loop
- 😬 Trolley Stop
- P Public Parking
- Public Restrooms
- i Visitor Information
- **A** RV/Tent Camping
- Golf Course
- Swimming Pool
- 📇 Boat Rentals
- New York Boat Launch
- 💋 Kayak/Canoe Launch

#### WALKING TRAIL

--- Inner Loop – 2.3 miles --- Outer Loop – 3.8 miles

Walkways have irregular surfaces. Pick up our Walking Trail Guide for more information.

#### LODGING

- The Terrace Hotel
- 2 Lambuth Inn
- 3 Mountainview Lodge
- 4 Hillside Lodge
- 5 Apartments 1-20
- 5 Apartments 21-40
- **5**C Apartments 41-50
- 6 Vacation Rentals Office
- 7 Campground

#### **SHOPPING & DINING**

- **Golf Course Pro Shop**
- A York Dining Commons/ Lakeside Deck Private events
- \Lambda Crepe & Custard
- A Terrace Hotel Hot breakfast
- \Lambda Junaluska Gifts & Grounds Harrell Center
- A Christmas Memories

#### lakejunaluska.com 31

- 👌 Corneille Bryan Native Garden
- **d** Gattis Meditation Garden
- 🟚 Park at Lake Junaluska Dam



# CRAFTING **CONNECTIONS**

#### KNITTING, QUILTING AND TATTING **RETREATS WEAVE TAPESTRIES OF** FRIENDSHIP AND FUN

Tor some, it's about learning new techniques. For others, it's the joy of hearing someone speak their language and experiencing the change of scenery.

But the one common thread among the textile artisans who gathered last year at Lake Junaluska for their respective retreats was this: They came for the camaraderie — the old and new friends with whom they could kick off their shoes and laugh, all in a beautiful and relaxing setting.

"During COVID, we didn't have retreats for one year, and people were begging us to have the retreats again," said Becky Whitt, co-owner with her husband, Mike, of Carolina Fiber Retreats and Tours of Columbus, North Carolina, who organized two knitting retreats at Lake Junaluska in 2023.

"So, we started them up again even when it was still bad. [The participants] had to be tested, and they had to wear a mask. The women would come in, and they would literally just start crying because they longed for the companionship of the other ladies."

The August retreat was the second gathering at Lake Junaluska organized by the Whitts, with the first in April.

"We chose [Lake Junaluska] because we looked for a location that was affordable, that was beautiful, a scenic place where people would want to sit out and knit and enjoy the fresh air," Becky said. "It's been excellent, and the food is just amazing."

About 35 knitters (with a few crocheters thrown in), mostly from the Southeast, attended the late-summer retreat to socialize, learn new knitting techniques and just talk shop. The group stayed at The Terrace Hotel, using conference rooms for classes and shopping from the vendors who also attended. "It's the bonding experience of being together," Becky posited on why the retreats are so popular.

Teresa Woods, past president of the Palmetto Tatters Guild in Lexington, South Carolina, which brought about 70 members from across the country to its tatting retreat, echoed Becky's sentiment: "We're here to learn, but ... when people were checking in they said, 'I want to get my bag up in my room so I can go sit out on the porch."

The Palmetto Tatters Guild members stayed at Lambuth Inn, which offered space for classes and to display the artisans' beautiful and intricate works. Tatting, by the way, is a form of lace-making that once was called knotting, Teresa said, thus the acronym KNOTS - Kind Network Of Tatting Supporters — that members use to describe their helpers. "Usually our spouses," Teresa said. "They help us tote and carry" the supplies. And when they weren't working, they enjoyed the lake itself and the pickleball courts, she said.

For Donna Taylor of the Classic South Quilt Guild of Washington, Georgia, Lake Junaluska was the perfect change of pace for her guild to spend four days and three nights. Guild members wanted a place where they could "go and sew," she said. "It was our first time," Donna said. "We loved it."

The Classic South Quilt Guild has 23 members. About half attended the May retreat, bringing projects to work on, Donna said. The members, who stayed at Lambuth Inn, make quilts of valor for military veterans and pillowcases for the Ronald McDonald House in Washington, Georgia, among other charity work, she said. The retreat allowed members to focus on their work, have fun and visit without distractions of the "mundane," such as laundry, she said.

For knitter Deborah Nave of Arden, North Carolina, her retreat experience affirmed the value of connecting with others. "Some people think a knitting retreat is boring. It is far from boring," she said. "It is not about the knitting; it's about the friendships. It's about being with people with the same interests. It is just so relaxing to come to a retreat."



### **BRING YOUR GROUP**

Lake Junaluska is the perfect place for conferences, retreats, meetings, weddings, reunions and more. Choose from a wide range of accommodations, dining and catering options, recreational activities and spacious indoor and outdoor meeting and event venues as you plan your next event.

#### **AMENITIES & RECREATION**

- 200-acre lake
- 2.3-mile or 3.8-mile loop walking trail with Rose Walk
- Canoes, kayaks and paddleboards
- 18-hole golf course

#### **INDOOR & OUTDOOR MEETING VENUES**

#### **Stuart Auditorium:**

Accommodates 2,000 people in permanent theater-style seating and a green room.

#### Inspiration Point:

Accommodates 90 people; offers sweeping views of the lake, mountains and Cross.

#### Shackford Hall:

Accommodates 600 people in auditorium with stage; 10 breakout rooms.

Memorial Chapel: Accommodates 200 people; pew seating.

Terrace Auditorium: Accommodates 220 people; five breakout rooms.

York Lakeside Deck: Accommodates up to 220 people.

#### CONTACT

Visit lakejunaluska.com/plan-an-event, call 828-454-6650 or email groupsales@lakejunaluska.com to learn more.

Warren Center: Accommodates 200 people in banquet hall and features an event lawn. Opening 2024.

#### Harrell Center:

Accommodates 400 people in theater-style seating; five breakout rooms.

#### Lambuth International:

Accommodates up to 220 people; seven breakout rooms.

#### Kern Center:

Accommodates 200 people; one breakout room.

Nanci Weldon Gym: Accommodates 400 people in open air gym.

Lakeside Tent: Accommodates 175 people in theater-style seating.

• Playground

 Outdoor pool • Campground • Mini-golf

• Gift and coffee shop

• Gardens

• Fitness center

### Weddings »

# Holy Moments

#### COUPLE PUTS FAITH FRONT AND CENTER AT LAKE JUNALUSKA WEDDING

nteps from the Lake Junaluska Cross and an arbor with fresh-cut flowers from the Lake Junaluska gardens, Christina Britt and Taylor Hibbs exchanged wedding vows.

"It was perfect," said Christina, 25. "We were over the moon. It was the closest to Jesus I've ever felt in my entire life. It was the most holy day."

Lake Junaluska has been a part of Christina's life for a long time, so it wasn't surprising she chose it as the site of such an important event. She grew up in Peachtree City, Georgia, and summered as a child at the Lake with her family. Her Aunt Brenda and Uncle Bruce Birdsal lived on Sleepy Hollow Drive, and her grandparents would stay at a nearby campground, using the Lake's amenities as the family's

recreation headquarters. "It was a very special place for my family," she said.

In 2018, while a student at the University of Georgia, Christina worked as a summer intern at the Lake, helping with youth camps and small groups, living in the same building as the international students who had been a draw for her.

"I knew [working at] Lake J would be a great opportunity to grow in my faith as well as in my career, and to learn

more about God's people from around the world," she said.

Christina graduated with an undergraduate degree in marketing, a master's degree in nonprofit management and leadership and her heart set on helping others.

It was in that spirit that Christina met her husband, Taylor Hibbs. He responded to her social-media post about donating to a nonprofit organization she was starting while in college. They met for coffee and five hours later had an inkling they were meant to be, although Taylor, 30, who works in medical-device sales, lived in Greenville, South Carolina, and Christina was two hours away in Athens, Georgia.



They made it work and, on Aug. 3, 2022, became engaged. Two months later, on a trip to Lake Junaluska, they decided to make it their wedding destination. They married May 13, 2023, at Inspiration Point.

"We felt so much peace leading up to the day. I remember waking up the morning of our wedding, and I went for a run and actually ran past our florist picking our flowers,"

Christina said. "Oh my goodness, I felt so much peace and so much joy. They were gorgeous."

The couple kept their wedding simple with about 50 people in attendance. The Lake's freshly cut wildflowers were the only decorations. "We wanted it focused on Jesus and each other," Christina said.

The reception was held lakeside under the white tent and catered by Lake Junaluska. The couple filled

the evening with dancing and a late-night dinner. "Lake Junaluska was the dream wedding for us," Christina said. "I'm really, really grateful to all who worked so hard for us to have such a beautiful wedding. God was glorified there. We had so much fun and danced so much."

#### WEDDINGS & RECEPTIONS

Lake Junaluska offers scenic indoor and outdoor wedding and reception venues, as well as packages that include lodging, meals, flowers and more. Learn more at lakejunaluska.com/weddings.



s retired Dr. Thad L. McDonald tells it, the summer of 1973 was one of the greatest of his life. He was 21, had just finished his junior year at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and was spending the summer working at Lake Junaluska, something he had done to ferry guests around the lake on since he was in fourth grade delivering the Assembly Daily newspaper to all the summer and yearlong residents.

But this summer was different. He was a "captain" of the Cherokee III, a double-decker pontoon boat that Cherokee III in 1967. would take guests on guided tours around the lake.

The Cherokee had first launched 59 years earlier, in August of 1914, as the for Lake Junaluska guests.

Oonagusta, to help transport guests from the train depot on the south side of the lake to the hotels on the north side. At the helm then was J.T. Wescott, a former officer in the U.S. Coast Guard. The boat, which was renamed the Cherokee, was also used sightseeing tours.

By the time Thad was old enough to drive the boat, it had been replaced twice before. The Cherokee II launched in 1951 and was replaced with the

The Cherokee III was then replaced with the Cherokee IV in 1997. The tours remain a signature experience

#### REMEMBERED



A crowd lines the rails of the Oonagusta, later renamed the Cherokee, on Launch Day in August 1914.

For Thad, 72, the joy of that "magical summer" job was enhanced by other youth at the lake who took it upon themselves to create characters to entertain passengers during a lull in the tour, he said, and then expected tips at the end.

Thad said driving the Cherokee III was an experience that will never leave him. Some 50 years later, he can still recite the script he read to his passengers. "When I'm 100 years old and I don't know what my name is, I'll be able to give that tour," he said.

Some information was taken from Bill Lowry's book The Antechamber of Heaven: A History of Lake Junaluska Assembly.



Lake Junaluska Assembly, Inc. 759 N. Lakeshore Dr. Lake Junaluska, NC 28745



# Discover Lake Junaluska

A beloved spiritual retreat center for over 110 years, scenic Lake Junaluska in the mountains of Western North Carolina welcomes leisure and business travelers, families and groups seeking a special getaway experience with plenty of on-site things to do. Discover nature's beauty and the best of the Blue Ridge Mountains at our 200-acre lake and charming community. Relax and enjoy the lakeside hotel, historic inn, vacation rentals, lakeside walking trail, gardens, golf course, pickleball and tennis courts, lake cruises, wildlife viewing and panoramic vistas. A place of Christian hospitality where lives are transformed through renewal of soul, mind and body, where better to reconnect with your family or group than our peaceful slice of heaven?

To plan your Lake Junaluska personal getaway or group retreat, visit lakejunaluska.com today.

