

**Junaluskans General Meeting
Harrell Center Auditorium
May 7, 2025**

Jan Lemasters called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Caring and Sharing – Cynthia Lindberg shared a couple concerns.

Opening Prayer - Rev. Mark Shultz offered the opening prayer.

Guest Speakers – Jody Lipscomb made a presentation about our Cherokee neighbors. She is a member of the tribe, who has served in a variety of ways there. She told a Cherokee story about the origins of humans, animals, and plants. She shared about Cherokee history as an agricultural people, with a thriving culture, organized into clans, who faced many obstacles from European settlers. In 1839, Andrew Jackson ordered the removal of Cherokees into Oklahoma, called the Trail of Tears due to great suffering endured. Junaluska was removed to Oklahoma and returned three times; he is buried in Robbinsville. He saved Andrew Jackson's life, and lamented it later. Eastern tribe Cherokees hid in the woods and became the Qualla Boundary reservation. Some children were forced into boarding schools, where they lost much of their culture, and endured hardship. Jody's parents were both in boarding school. Cherokees have survived, with intergenerational grief, trauma, and greatly diminished land. They are a sovereign nation, with great resilience and survival skills, including their own government, school, hospital, mental health center, and more. A few of Jody's art works were displayed on easels.

Birthdays, anniversaries and first-time attendees – Larry Roberts recognized six persons as first-time attendees. May birthdays and anniversaries were recognized.

Announcements

Flea Market Judy LaFontaine reminded us that it is June 14. It is the main annual fundraiser for the Junaluskans. We need bakers for the bake sale; we will provide plastic containers at the meeting next month. We need a more truck drivers to pick things up. Those wanting to volunteer were invited to see Judy after the meeting.

Constitution and Bylaws revisions. Gary Phillips reviewed proposed changes to the by-laws. He referred us to the Lake Junaluska Public Works website to find the document. Bylaw changes are proposed to Articles 1, 3, 4. He offered also a motion for implementation:

It is moved that the revised Constitution and Bylaws of the Junaluskans, upon being fully and finally approved by the Junaluskans Board, the Junaluskans body and the Lake Junaluska Assembly, Inc., Board of Trustees, be implemented on January 1, 2026. Further it is proposed that the implementation consider that if the officers currently in a specific office have served in that office longer than the span of a single term, they shall not be eligible for re-election to a term beginning January 1, 2027. This is pertaining to elected officers only, not heads of the various programs or projects that fall under the Junaluskans purview.

The motion was approved.

Travel George Shepherd announced a trip to Cherokee on Wednesday, May 28. Participants can choose among options, including the Village, the museum, Mingo Falls. A sign-up sheet circulated.

Luau June 17 at Warren Center. A \$10 charge will cover pulled pork, salmon, and drinks. Bring a dish to share. Burt Howard will DJ. There will also be live music. A sign-up sheet circulated.

Beautification Day May 14 Meet at Stuart Auditorium at 9:00, to disperse to various projects, lasting until 11:30.

Hymn sing in Biblical garden May 15 at 6:30. Hymnals will be provided. Bring a chair.

Bible study, led by Sue Cobb, will study the Gospel of Luke, meeting at the library.

Updates from Ken Howle

Ken welcomed snowbirds back to the community, and welcomed Paul Starnes back among us.

1. Progress on the DOT projects. May 12-22 there will be a road closure for access to Asheville. To prevent people from driving through Hickory Hill, that entrance will be completely closed. Residents will need to use east gate. No update on traffic light, but some paint is evident on the place where crosswalks are planned.
2. Changes to minigolf area. Nine worn-out holes have been removed. A rendering of the future renovation is on display.
3. The recreation bathrooms are being renovated, with three instead of two. It should be done by the end of the month.
4. The dam fence will be installed soon.
5. The exterior of the Terrace is being painted.
6. The tree removal below Lambuth Hill will be completed along with the dam fence.
7. Miranda Johns, our new director of development, was introduced.
8. We have received over \$100,000 since our last meeting, when the capital campaign was announced.
9. Conferences begin returning at the end of the month; first Seventh Day Adventists, then Holston UMC.

Jan announced May 15-16 **Junaluska History Art Show** across from Gifts and Grounds, featuring works of Haidee Wilson.

Jan made a **special presentation to Steve Berwager**, honoring him with a plaque for his many years of humble service to the Junaluska Community. Refreshments were provided by his Sunday School class.

Paul Starnes expressed his gratitude for all the cards and other support he has received since he was last able to be with June 2024.

The meeting adjourned at 11:01.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeffrey Mickle,
Recording Secretary