

**Junaluskans General Meeting**  
**Welcome Center, Gaines Auditorium**  
**October 9, 2024**

Jan Lemasters called the meeting to order at 9:58 a.m.

**Caring & Sharing:** Hilda Ryan reported a card was sent to the family of Bill Lowry, who died September 29.

Opening prayer was offered by Mark Shulz.

**Guest Speakers:** Linda Carlson and Melba Hanson gave a report on the “prayer requests ministry”, citing Philippians 4:6 as their key scripture. The ministry was taken over by Paul Davenport and uses as its location the International Prayer room at Lambuth. Prayer boxes are located at Lambuth, the Terrace lobby, outside the library, and in the chapel. Prayer cards are placed at the boxes and all requests are kept confidential. The cards contain an email address for a prayer line and people do respond. The yearly National Day of Prayer is the first Thursday in May.

John Wells then gave a brief update on Lake gifting, reporting that it is a complicated endeavor and there are 3 levels of giving: Associates, Friends of the Lake Circle, and the Lake Junaluska Society.

**October Birthdays, Anniversaries and First timers:** Larry Roberts recognized those with birthdays and/or anniversaries in the month of October. There were 6 first timers in attendance: Dan & Susan Epperson, Brian Artley, Sue Cobb, and Clifton & Harriet Black.

**Chairperson Reports:**

*Travel Committee:* No trips will be planned until Spring of 2025. There will be an October hike TBD.

*Nominations Committee:* Jackie Dingus presented the slate of officer nominees for the 2025-26 term. Changes from the current term are as follows: Recording secretary – Jeff Mickle; Fellowship groups – Susan Folds; Caring and Sharing – Cynthia Lindberg

*Christmas Decorations Committee:* Randy Carlson is stepping down as chairperson and was recognized for his years of good leadership as chairperson. Decorating for Christmas will begin the week of November 11, and volunteers are needed to chair certain venues.

*Spiritual Committee:* Following the devastation of Hurricane Helene, prayer time is being held at the chapel this week from 11am – 1 pm. A Vespers service of Loss, Remembrance and Thanksgiving will be held October 22 at 4 pm in the chapel. A service of Lessons and Carols is scheduled for December 14.

*Membership:* Margaret Amick reported that membership now stands at 581.

**New Business:**

- ◆ Soup potluck luncheon, October 15<sup>th</sup>, at noon. Location TBD

### **Ken Howle: Update on the Lake Junaluska Community**

- Ken's report centered on the impacts of Hurricane Helene. He expressed a deep thank you to all those volunteers who have been helping and recognized Allison Richmond as the Public Information officer. The website, ReadyHaywood.com was given as the information site to visit. To date more than 951 welfare checks have been issued, FEMA is going door-to-door to check on residents, and churches have been helping with needed supplies. LJA sustained damage to the Rosewalk, as well as flooding in the lower level of the Harrell Center, York Dining Commons, and Stuart Auditorium, and a sewage line was broken upstream. LJA is serving as a shelter, and first responders and emergency vehicles are here, with York Dining Commons serving as the command center.
- Vehicular bridge was opened October 8.
- Currently no fishing or boating, but it will be gradually allowed as conditions improve.
- Trash P/U is on schedule.
- The dam is structurally sound, even after water rose above the vehicular bridge.
- Removal of debris will begin next week.
- The upstairs of the Harrell has now been reopened.
- The financial impact LJA sustained has been costly. Over \$200,00 in refunds has already been made, and it is estimated that there will be a total of over \$500,000 in refunds, due to groups cancelling because of the hurricane damage.

In closing, those in attendance stood to sing together "God Bless America", with Mark Shulz accompanying on guitar.

The meeting was dismissed at 11:03 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Steve Berwager, recording secretary