



Celebrating that Christ is all and in all by seeking, inviting, belonging,
serving and reverencing God's creation

Restoration in Creation: Earth, Body, Mind and Spirit, a day retreat at Lake Logan, was held on Saturday, July 30th and hosted by Grace Church, First United Methodist, and the Creation Care Alliance of WNC. Joslyn+ offered a deep-time perspective for the beautiful setting as she described some of the human and geological history of the area. Sarah Ogletree, Director of Creation Care Alliance, and Joslyn+ also offered poetry and blessings. Participants in the retreat were invited to set an intention for finding restoration in nature and in community and for sharing hope for the work of creation care. During the closing ceremony, all were invited to give a blessing for the river cane restoration, a project that will benefit the river and will offer Cherokee people basket cane, which has become increasingly scarce. Four retreat centers were offered: Painting from the Source, Journaling in Nature, Yoga, and Eco-Grief. In addition to these sessions, participants could choose swimming or paddling in the lake, exploring wooded trails, and making connections and friendships with others. Thanks to Suzanne LeClaire and to Emily Chatfield-Lusto for leading the painting and journaling sessions, and to Laura Armour for welcoming and guiding arrivals to the retreat setting. We hope to offer the retreat again in 2023.