



## Wilkesboro United Methodist Church

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**TOTAL ECLIPSE—AUGUST 21, 2017** Below is an excerpt from “Eclipse 101” found on the official website provided by Nasa. The last total solar eclipse viewed from the United States was 2/26/1979. Browse the table of contents on [eclipse2017.nasa.gov](http://eclipse2017.nasa.gov) (ECLIPSE 101; EVENTS; SCIENCE; ACTIVITIES; EDUCATION; RESOURCES) for a wealth of information.



On Monday, August 21, 2017, all of North America will be treated to an eclipse of the sun. Anyone within the path of totality can see one of nature’s most awe inspiring sights - a total solar eclipse. This path, where the moon will completely cover the sun and the sun’s tenuous atmosphere - the corona - can be seen, will stretch from Salem, Oregon to Charleston, South Carolina. Observers outside this path will still see a partial solar eclipse where the moon covers part of the sun's disk. NASA created this website to provide a guide to this amazing event. Here you will find activities, events, broadcasts, and resources from NASA and our partners across the nation.

The last time most Americans experienced a total solar eclipse was 1991. In 2017, an estimated 500 million people will be able to observe the August 21, 2017 total solar eclipse, in partial or total form: 391 million in the U.S., 35 million in Canada, and 119 million in Mexico (plus Central America and parts of South America and northwestern Europe). This is a golden opportunity to observe one of nature’s most exciting splendors and to engage and educate diverse audiences in the U.S. and internationally, using a backdrop of this amazing celestial event coupled with NASA unique assets.

Already there is great excitement and planning underway for the eclipse. A quick Google search on “eclipse 2017”, for example, yielded over 35 million hits! Numerous planning meetings are now being held within universities, K-12 institutions, museums, civic groups, and amateur astronomy clubs around the nation and abroad. Where will you be on August 21, 2017? What will you be doing for the eclipse? This website has many suggestions for safe eclipse viewing, eclipse parties, activities, and experiments you can do.

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