



Lexington Presbyterian Church

Faith • Fellowship • Service • Since 1789



August 2025

Worship Information

“Mission Possible” Sermon Series

August 3, 2025

Sermon: *Forgiveness...if you choose to accept it*

Preacher: Rev. Drew Ditzel

Old Testament Reading:

New Testament Reading: Mark 1:14-15

Worship Assistant: [Still Needed](#)

Worship Bulletin PDF and ***Worship Hymns PDF***

August 10, 2025

Sermon: *Why Community Is Always the Answer*

Preacher: Rev. Drew Ditzel

Old Testament Reading: 1 Samuel 1:1-2

New Testament Reading: Mark 1:16-20

Worship Assistant: Farsijana Adeney-Risakotta

August 17, 2025

Sermon: *Mission to the mundane.....*

Preacher: Rev. Drew Ditzel

New Testament Reading: Mark 1:21-22, 29

New Testament Reading: Mark 2:13-15, 23, 3:1, 7, 13, 20

Worship Assistant: Liz Shupe

August 24, 2025

Rat Sunday

Sermon: *...and beyond!*

Preacher: Rev. Drew Ditzel

Old Testament Reading: Exodus 4:10-13

New Testament Reading: Mark 1:29-34

Worship Assistant: Bruce King

August 31, 2025

Sermon: *Reworking Our Worth-ship*

Preacher: Rev. Drew Ditzel

Old Testament Reading: Psalm 46:10

New Testament Reading: Mark 1:35-39

Worship Assistant: [Still Needed](#)

We worship at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

To join our livestream, please visit www.lexpres.org

And click "LIVE on YouTube" at the top of the screen.

Please check our weekly newsletter for more information on worship services.

New August Sermon Series: Mission Possible

With our phones by our beds, many mornings our feet have not hit the floor before our internet perusal has made us newly aware of mission opportunities that would take a lifetime to engage. God's grace is certainly new every morning, but most days, thanks to the news at our fingertips, we are more overwhelmed with where God's grace is needed than how it is calling us to live.

Yet, despite this daunting reality, for the past couple of decades, many Christians have sought to leave behind the idea that God calls us to isolated "do good" trips, one off ventures to help the "less fortunate", and instead, to see, through God's grace, that we have been called to understand our whole lives as a part of God's mission. Yet, as we open ourselves to this new and exciting possibility, we are inundated with a need to embrace big ideas like racial and class reconciliation, solidarity with and loving concern for those living in extreme poverty near and far away, and systemic injustices that we do not know how to distance ourselves from, let alone solve. And after a while, it is pretty easy to think the old model of a once a year mission trip wasn't people ducking faith but the only manageable way anyone can take a first step!

I believe scripture offers us a more sustainable way - a faith that does not duck from the great needs of this world or the great invitation of Jesus to join him in redeeming every corner of this world that is swallowed up in brokenness. In fact, I think the Gospels give us a framework for reorienting our life on mission that is not only possible, but actually allows us to think creatively within the very context of how we currently spend our days.

So, over the next four weeks (with a unique bonus Sunday over Labor Day weekend), we are excited to use just a few verses from the beginning of the gospel of Mark, to paint a picture of how joining God's work is not only possible but a transformative, meaningful, grace-filled gift for those who believe in the good news of Jesus Christ.

Grace and peace,

Drew



Indonesian Church Leader Here August 10-11

Farsijana Adeney-Risakotta, an Indonesian church leader, will speak during reflection time in our worship service on **August 10** and lead a discussion on “Muslim-Christian Relationships and the Role of Christians in Nation Building in Indonesia” in Brady Chapel on **August 11 at 7:00 p.m.** She will also give a longer talk on the Indonesian Church and her work at McElwee Chapel in Rockbridge Baths during their worship service at 7:30 pm on August 10 (see below for directions).

Until recently Farsijana and her husband were mission co-workers of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.); and she continues her work as professor at the Duta Wacana Christian University, where she has taught classes in theology and business. She also is the founder and Director of a Co-op for small business owners in Indonesian villages. She was a leader in the movement that restored peace during the religious conflict in the Moluccan islands in 2004-2005 and in the recovery of the city of Yogyakarta following an earthquake in 2006-2007.

Farsijana was a student of Malcolm Brownlee when he taught in Indonesia. Because Lexington Presbyterian Church supported Malcolm and Sarah with prayers and money, we had a small role in her education.

Directions from Lexington to McElwee Chapel,
156 McElwee Rd., Rockbridge Baths, VA:

Drive north toward Fairfield on Rt. 11. Immediately after crossing over Rt. 164, turn left toward Goshen on Rt. 39, and follow it for 7.5 miles. Angle right on Rt. 252 toward Bustleburg. In 1.3 miles, turn left on Rt. 712. In .4 mile, angle right onto Rt. 726. In .3 mile, McElwee Chapel is on the right.



Diaper Drive Collection for RARA

Did you know that 1 in 2 families with young children struggle to afford the diapers necessary to keep their children clean, dry, and healthy? Diapers are a necessity for infants and toddlers, but they're often unaffordable, costing \$960-\$1,200 per child per year on average. Public assistance programs like SNAP and WIC do not cover diaper costs. Furthermore, 1 in 4 parents who reported diaper need have had to miss work or school to stay home with their child when they couldn't meet their daycare's diaper quota, resulting in lost wages and missed educational opportunities. (For a parent earning the Virginia minimum wage, this lost income on average is \$506.33 per month.)

To combat this issue, the Rockbridge Area Relief Association (“RARA”) is hosting a community-wide Diaper Drive from **July 16th – August 6th**. The drive is being coordinated by RARA's summer interns, including Lee Carter, a member of Lex Pres since her childhood. RARA's diaper drive collected over 10,000 diapers last year, and RARA is aiming to beat that threshold this summer.

Lexington Presbyterian Church will be hosting a diaper donation box from August 1st – August 6th to support this cause. There will be a designated colorful box in the sanctuary for donations to be made on **Sunday, August 3rd**. By that date, the school supplies donations from July will have been taken over to RARA, and the canned meat and fish collection will begin on August 10th. Donations can also be made at the RARA building or at www.raralex.org/donate.



Outreach Update

Neighborhood Grocery manager Shadrey Sands prepares to weigh another batch of school supplies donated by LexPres members and delivered on Tuesday. Sands said the additional 67 lbs. brought the total donation to 215 lbs. of pencils, markers, folders, crayons and more. He said kids will get gift bags of school supplies next week and that “they’ll go real fast!”

The Outreach Committee will be collecting canned meat and fish for the Neighborhood Grocery during the month of August. Tuna, salmon and chicken are good choices, but canned chili, beef stew, etc. would be welcomed too. Donations may be placed in the plastic bins in the sanctuary. Thank you for your support!

Rafiki Report

August Newsletter

“Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.” (James 1:27) The Rafiki Widows Program offers hundreds of women a means of employment, artistic expression, and opportunity to grow in their knowledge of God. Rafiki partners with the women by marketing their handmade products ranging from soapstone animals, beaded baskets, loom-woven shawls and placemats, carved gourds, Christmas ornaments, and a wide assortment of jewelry. Marketing their products to American buyers helps provide the widows and their children a way to raise their standard of living. Our Lexington Rafiki chapter will sponsor a booth at the Lexington Community Festival on **August 23**; visit our booth as you will be amazed at the craftsmanship and beauty of the products made by the widows.

Lexington Presbyterian Church has a wonderful, loving history supporting orphan Metesenanat “Metsy” Tages and Rafiki. Metsy and the Rafiki children love to receive mail. Please send letters to PO Box 2871, Nazareth, Ethiopia, East Africa. You may send cards or any other item that fits in a standard size envelope. Please do not send packages, checks or cash to the Village address. Monetary donations to help support Metsy’s educational and spiritual life can be made by check, payable to Lexington Presbyterian Church with “Metsy” written on the memo line. Our generosity is making a lasting impact on Metsy’s life, and hopefully, we will continue to support her as she pursues her further education. Funds given to her account will go toward her

scholarship. Thank you for cultivating godly contributors in Africa.

The next Rafiki Prayer meeting is Friday, **August 1, 9 a.m.** at Grace Presbyterian Church in room 205. Please feel free to join us in this hour of prayer; all are welcome. You are also invited to visit the Rafiki booth at the Lexington Community Festival on August 23. Thank you for supporting Rafiki's mission to spread God's Word throughout the world.

Calendar of Events

Recurring Events

Lectio - Every Tuesday at 10:00 a.m.

Children/Youth Ministry staging - Every Wednesday – 2:30 - 5:00 p.m.

Choir - No rehearsals until September

August

5th Session, 7:00 p.m., Brady Chapel

6th Staff Meeting, 9:30 a.m., Room 113

-Women's Bible Study, Gospel of Luke, 11:00 a.m., Borden sunroom, Kendal

7th Peace-Wagers, 10:30 a.m., Room 111

10th Backpack/school bag blessing for students and school staff, 10 a.m. worship service

-Presentation by Farsijana Adeney-Risakotta, former Presbyterian co-mission worker and social entrepreneurship/environmental stewardship worker in Indonesia,

7:30 p.m. McElwee Chapel (Rockbridge Baths)

11th Roundtable discussion with Farsijana Adeney-Risakotta, 1:00 p.m.. Brady Chapel

12th Worship Committee, 5:00 p.m., Brady Chapel

13th Staff meeting, 9:30 a.m., Room 113

-Budget meeting, 4:00 p.m. Room 113

17th Church Annual Picnic, following morning service, Richardson Park

19th Campus Ministry, 5:00 p.m., Brady Chapel

20th Staff meeting, 9:30 a.m., Room 113

-Adult Discipleship Committee, 6:00 p.m., Room 111

21st Peace-Wagers, 10:30 a.m., Room 111

24th VMI "Rat" Sunday

26th Administrative Committee, Noon, Room 113

27th Staff meeting, 9:30 a.m., Room 113

--Women's Bible Study, Gospel of Luke, 11:00 a.m., Borden sunroom, Kendal

-Children, Youth, and Family Ministry Committee, 7:00 p.m., Brady Chapel



Go to our website at www.lexpres.org and select "Giving" at the top of the page, or click the blue "ONLINE GIVING" button at the bottom of the same page, or click the button below:

Rafiki Online Giving

Lexington Presbyterian Church

120 South Main Street
Lexington, VA 24450
Phone: 540-463-3873

Online Giving

Calendar

Like us on Facebook and Subscribe to our YouTube channel!



Lexington Presbyterian Church | 120 S Main Street 120 S Main Street | Lexington, VA 24450
US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!