



Lexington Presbyterian Church

Faith • Fellowship • Service • Since 1789

January 2026

Worship Information

January 11, 2026

Sermon: *Up in Smoke*

Preacher: Rev. Drew Ditzel

Old Testament Reading: Ecclesiastes 1:1-11

New Testament Reading: Matthew 6:25-27

8:45 a.m. Worship Assistant: Malcolm Brownlee

11 a.m. Worship Assistant: Megan Miller

Flowers: [Still Needed](#)

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

5:30 p.m. Longest Night Service Zoom link

January 18, 2026

Sermon: *We are all going to die!*

Preacher: Rev. Drew Ditzel

Old Testament Reading: Ecclesiastes 2:12-16

New Testament Reading: Matthew 7:24-27

8:45 a.m. Worship Assistant: Mary Beth Baker

11:00 a.m. Worship Assistant: [Still Needed](#)

Flowers: [Still Needed](#)

January 25, 2026

Sermon: *Can't Get No Satisfaction*

Preacher: Rev. Drew Ditzel

Old Testament Reading: Ecclesiastes 2:17-26

New Testament Reading: Matthew 6:19-21

8:45 a.m. Worship Assistant: Betty Dax

11:00 a.m. Worship Assistant: Neely Young

Flowers: [Still Needed](#)

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

New Sermon Series begins Sunday on Ecclesiastes

On Sunday, January 11, we will begin a five week series on the first few chapters of Ecclesiastes. I am calling it “Hevel”, a word we start to become very familiar with on Sunday. Admittedly, Ecclesiastes is an odd choice to begin the new year. The opening lines of this book declare, “Meaningless, everything is meaningless”... not exactly the new year’s encouragement many of us are looking for! And yet Ecclesiastes is a hard book, in part, because it is an honest book, and in troubling, complicated times, maybe honesty is exactly what we need.

There is a line in the Talmud (the ancient Jewish commentary on the Torah) that captures a bit of what is at stake in the pages of Ecclesiastes when one author writes, “Every person must render an account before God of all the things one beheld and did not enjoy.” And for all the harsh language and negative views expressed throughout the book, at its core, Ecclesiastes is shockingly about joy! And who doesn’t need a little more of that these days? Therefore, my prayer is that our time in Ecclesiastes doesn’t leave us guilt ridden or pessimistic, but instead, opens us up to letting go of what will not last so we can be present in, surprised by, and enjoy what is in our midst. At least to me, that sounds like a worthwhile way to start 2026 together. Grateful to do it with each of you.

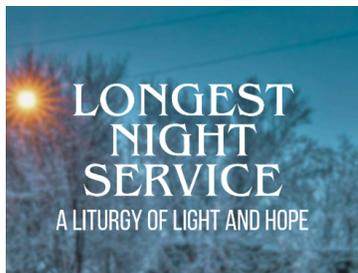
Life of the Church



Elder Class of 2028 Installed

During the January 4 worship service, we installed the 2028 class of elders: Jason Bunn, Josh Elrod, Ryan Holston, Liz Ramsey, Polly Schultz, and Larry Wiese. Pictured above is the laying on of hands by current and former Presbyterian elders.

Photo credit: Melissa Friedman



Longest Night Service Rescheduled for January 11

Lexington Presbyterian Church will hold a Longest Night service on **Sunday January 11 at 5:30 p.m.** in Brady Chapel.

For many, the Christmas season is a time for family gatherings, joyous celebrations, feasting with friends, sharing gifts and singing songs. Yet others may struggle to find joy amid loss, illness, loneliness or anxiety. When the church focuses solely on the joy of the season, those who are struggling may feel isolated or guilty for not being able to be joyful while holding heavy burdens.

Our Longest Night Service, new to our church family worship this year, acknowledges this tension and creates a space for our sadnesses to be tended in community. The service will employ the natural darkness of the evening and the light of candles. Together we will read scripture, pray, and meditate on how we may feel burdened or hidden in the shadows of life during this season, and how Christ offers hope even in these moments.

Join us for this brief, quiet, contemplative service, which will leave space for people to feel the feelings that may seem out of place in the rest of the season's festivities. Together, we will seek and offer each other hope for the new day that is dawning at Christ's incarnation.

The service will not be livestreamed, but a Zoom link appears above for those who want to participate remotely.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Weekend Events

January 18 at 4:00 p.m. - First Baptist Church will host a community wide worship service in honor of the life and legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr. All are welcome to attend.

January 19 at 10:30 a.m. - 10th annual CARE Rockbridge Martin Luther King, Jr. parade. Meet in front of Randolph St. United Methodist Church. LexPres will host a community-wide soup lunch immediately following the parade.

First Baptist Church of Lexington, VA
103 North Main Street

Celebrates the life and legacy of
THE REVEREND DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
Sunday, January 18, 2026
4:00 pm

RESURRECTING PRAISE COMMUNITY CHURCH, CLIFTON AVENUE, VA
DIRECTOR: RICHIE PATTERSON

Guest Preacher
The Reverend Jerome J. Washington, Ph.D., Senior Pastor
Mount Vernon Baptist Church, Durham, NC

ALL ARE INVITED TO ATTEND
FOR MORE INFORMATION
CALL THE CHURCH: 540-463-4854

The Reverend McKinley A. Williams, Pastor

From the Director of Music, William McCorkle

I am especially grateful all the time to our choirs, singing and ringing, for their hard work and dedicated sharing of their talents in our worship and beyond, but I wish to heap extra praise and gratitude upon them for their efforts at Christmas. Their music-making throughout the Advent-Christmas season, but especially for the Lessons and Carols service, was radiant and inspiring. Many of you have shared similar sentiments with me, and I hope you have told this to any singers or ringers you have encountered. January is a wonderful time to hug a choir member, or an even better time to become one. If there is music in you searching for expression, what better outlet than in the worship life of the congregation. Please speak to Mayumi or me, or come 'try it out.' - WMcC

Music at Noon on January 22

William McCorkle will offer one *Music at Noon* concert in January, on Thursday, January 22, at 12 noon in the Sanctuary. In the spirit of the Epiphany season, which is all about the many ways in which Jesus shines in our hearts as he is revealed as the Messiah, the Son of God, the *Music at Noon* program will offer sets of variations for organ on the melodies of important Reformation hymns to Jesus. The program will include music by three master composers of the 'golden' age (1650-1750) of German organ music J. S. Bach, his probable teacher, Georg Böhm, and his contemporary Johann Gottfried Walther. Plan now to take a short break from your busy-ness to a midday rendezvous with some remarkable organ music!

Notes from the Property Committee

The Property Committee requests that any drinks brought into the Sanctuary be in covered containers. Thank you.

In the past few months we have accumulated a number of lost and found items. They can be picked up from the shelf inside the front door of Murray Hall. They include a knitted scarf with a big button; a witch's hat from Halloween; a hard-side glasses case; a man's wrist watch with a silver stretch band; a black purse that contains colored pencils and a stuffie; a red Kangol winter hat; a black USB cord; and an adult size L cranberry red winter jacket with a hood (hanging on a hallway hook). Please claim by the end of January when they will be donated.



RARA Warm Soup for Our Neighbors

Our monthly food collection for customers of RARA's Neighborhood Grocery has returned. The item-of-the-month is soup, either canned, boxed or bagged. Just place your contributions in the bins at the front of the sanctuary and the Outreach Committee will deliver them to RARA by the end of the month.

Calendar of Events

Recurring Events

- Lectio - Every Tuesday at 10:00 a.m.
- Lam Handbell Choir - Every Tuesday at 5:45 p.m.
- Staff Meeting - Every Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. in Room 113
- Children/Youth Ministry staging - Every Wednesday at 2:30 - 4:30 p.m.
- Choir - Every Thursday at 7:30 p.m. in Brady Chapel

January

- 11 Kids Club Middle Grades Youth classes resume, 9:45-10:45 a.m.
 - High School class, 12:10 p.m. over restaurant lunch
 - Longest Night worship service, 5:30 p.m.
- 12 APNC meeting, 8:00 a.m., Room 111
- 13 Worship Committee, 5:00 p.m., Brady Chapel
- 14 Women's Bible study (Luke), 11:00-12:15 p.m., Kendal Borden conference room
 - Leah-Ruth Circle, 1:00 p.m., Brady Chapel
 - Outreach Committee, 4:00 p.m., Room 111
- 16 Youth outing to LDMS-MRMS basketball game, tipoff 5:00 p.m., RCHS
- 18 Youth group, 5:00-7:00 p.m., location TBA
 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Community March and Soup Lunch
- 19 APNC meeting 8:00 a.m., Room 111
 - Brittigan Fund Committee, 3:00 p.m., Room 111
- 20 Campus Ministry Committee, 5:00 p.m., Brady Chapel
 - Property Committee, 5:30 p.m., Room 113
- 21 Adult Discipleship Committee, 6:00 p.m., Room 111
- 22 Men's Bible Study, 8:00 a.m., Brady Chapel

-Music at Noon, William McCorkle: Organ Music on Great Hymns to Jesus,
12 noon, Sanctuary

25 High School Youth class, 12:10 p.m. over restaurant lunch

26 APNC meeting, 8:00 a.m., Room 111

27 Administrative Committee, 12:00 noon, Room 113

28 Women's Bible study (Luke), 11:00-12:15 p.m., Kendal Borden conference room



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:

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Lexington Presbyterian Church

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Lexington, VA 24450
Phone: 540-463-3873

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Calendar



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