



# Lexington Presbyterian Church

*Faith • Fellowship • Service • Since 1789*

**March 2024**



## Worship Information

*Our 11AM Traditional Worship service is offered in-person and virtually on YouTube*

### **March 3, 2024**

Sermon: *Thinking Twice Before Trusting God*

Preacher: Rev. Malcolm Brownlee

Old Testament Reading: Exodus 19:16-23

New Testament Reading: Hebrews 12:18-29

8:45 worship assistant: Drew Ditzel

11 am worship assistant: Chuck Skoog

### **March 10, 2024**

Sermon: *Snakes. Why'd It Have to Be Snakes?*

Preacher: Rev. Drew Ditzel

Old Testament Reading: Numbers 21:4-9

New Testament Reading: John 3:14-21

8:45 worship assistant: Betsy Lee

11 am worship assistant: Jonathan Tarris

### **March 17, 2024**

Sermon: *Tattooed Hearts*

Preacher: Rev. Drew Ditzel

Old Testament Reading: Psalm 51:1-12

New Testament Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

8:45 worship assistant: Still needed ([sign up here](#))

11 am worship assistant: Mary Dugan

### **March 24, 2024**

Palm Sunday

Sermon: *Aw No or Awesome*

Preacher: Rev. Drew Ditzel  
Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 50:4-9a  
New Testament Reading: Mark 11:1-11  
8:45 worship assistant: None this week  
11 am worship assistant: Tom Goodale

**March 31st, 2024**

Easter Sunday!

We will worship all together at 11 am in the sanctuary.

Sermon: *The NeverEnding Story*

Preacher: Rev. Drew Ditzel

New Testament Reading 1: Acts 10:34-43

New Testament Reading 2: John 1-18

No 8:45 service

11 am worship assistant: Liz Shupe

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

## Life of the Church



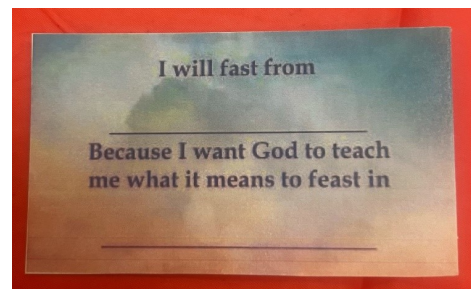
*If you missed the impromptu dramatic production at the Shrove Tuesday supper, or could not follow the rather complex plot and costume changes, fear not! Another such spectacle will likely occur the very next time we eat together in Dunlap.*

*Left to right: Harriet Dugan, Cyrus Green, Clementine Dugan, Nellie Green, Margaret Cline, and Ann Evelyn Ditzel*

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### A Lenten Reminder

Lent is about more than being without something for 40 days. It is about being dislodged from our routine so the God of the cross can teach us something new. This year, if you fast, we encourage you to also name where in your life you hope God will teach you what it means to feast.



The Music at Noon series resumes in March with two noontime organ concerts by William McCorkle on Wednesdays: **March 13 and March 27**. These programs, designed for a short music respite in the middle of a busy (work)day, showcase our lovely C. B. Fisk pipe organ (opus 128, 2007).

The March 13 program will feature music for the Lenten season. The March 27 program (perhaps organ 'and friends') will be appropriate for the Wednesday of Holy Week.

You are invited to share the music!

### Church Family Holy Week Events

There are many Christian traditions associated with the season of Easter that help us remember the sacrifice and death of Jesus and the joy of his resurrection. Join us in some Lex Pres church family traditions.



#### Family Egg Hunt

The LexPres Annual Egg Hunt will take place at the Ditzels' residence **March 23** at 206 Johnstone St. from 4:00-6:00 p.m. We'll serve a light supper. The church will provide hot dogs, buns, condiments, plates and utensils, and drinks. We're asking each family to bring a side, snack, or dessert to share (here is the [signupgenius link](#):

[Egg Hunt snack sign up](#) ).

Kids will be able to (by finding eggs with play money in them, representing real money from our established youth mission fund) contribute to the service work done by local anti-hunger/housing organizations. Pre-egg-hunt volunteer opportunities available for people who want to 1) stuff candy bags; 2) stuff eggs with play money. If you're interested, please email [shayslette@lexpres.org](mailto:shayslette@lexpres.org).

#### Palm Sunday– March 24

- Community Parade –You are invited to remember Jesus's entry to Jerusalem with a community parade beginning at Hopkins Green – gather at 9:15 and process to a number of downtown Lexington churches, ending up at Lexington Presbyterian.
- Hot Cross Buns –One of the Christian traditions we are familiar with that comes from Great Britain is eating "cross buns" during the Easter season. These fruited and spiced yeast buns are traditionally eaten hot or toasted on Good Friday. They are marked with a cross as a symbol of the crucifixion. The bread and the dried fruit which has been soaked in wine are reminders of the Last Supper and our communion with Christ. The spices in the buns may represent the anointing of Christ as he was wrapped in a linen shroud for the tomb. There are many superstitions associated with these buns—if hung in the kitchen or nailed to the hearth they are said to protect against fires and ensure that all breads rise well. A piece of a hot cross bun given to someone who is ill is said to help them recover good health. Sharing a hot cross bun with another is



supposed to ensure friendship throughout the coming year.

We will be taking part in this tradition by serving hot cross buns after the community Palm Sunday parade. Please join us in Brady Chapel during the Sunday School hour on Palm Sunday to “break bread” and share the blessings – and if you want to help prepare them the day before, the baking shift is from 9:00 a.m.-noon on the 23rd.

- Stations of the Cross

When you arrive at LexingtonPres, you are invited to take a self-guided walk through intergenerational ‘stations of the cross’ – complete with related coloring posters for our youngest church family members. Follow signs to the Dunlap and Faith Village halls to find the station.



### Worship Services

Join us on the journey to the cross, the tomb, and the resurrection in Holy Week worship services.

Our Maundy Thursday service will take place at 7:00 p.m. on **March 28**, location TBA. We will gather for a Good Friday service at noon in the sanctuary on **March 29**. Then, on Easter Sunday (**March 31**), we join our neighbors for a Community sunrise service at 7:00 a.m. at Trinity United Methodist Church, where Drew will bring the sermon. At LexPres we will observe one Easter service at 11:00 a.m. (no Sunday school or Kids’ Club that day).

### 2024 Educational Grants Application Now Available

LexPres friends who will be students in college/university, graduate/professional schools, or post-high-school technical programs in academic year 2024-5 are invited to apply for an educational grant from the church to support their studies. Applications are due on **May 1, 2024** and should be completed using this form: [Lexington Presbyterian Educational Grant Application 2024](#). Questions? Email Sandra Hayslette at [shayslette@lexpres.org](mailto:shayslette@lexpres.org) and she will route the question in the right direction.

### About the ‘Taste and See’ Adult Sunday School Class

*Taste and see that the LORD is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in God. – Psalm 38:8*

Looking for a way to dig deeper into Sunday sermons and to share where you find God at work in your experience? You’re invited to check out the Taste & See adult Sunday school class that runs from 9:45 to 10:45 in Dunlap Auditorium. . Join us as we read the weekly Bible selections and discuss Drew’s thought-provoking questions related to the week’s sermon. There are snacks, coffee, and tea each week. Everyone is welcome, and no advance preparation or registration is needed.





## Cheesy Tater Tot Casserole

I served this cheesy tater tot casserole at our Shrove Tuesday dinner and I had several requests for the recipe. I hope you enjoy it!

-Skip Hess, Director of Culinary Ministry

### Ingredients:

1 Pound Jimmy Dean Sausage (regular)  
3 Large Eggs  
2 Cups Whole Milk  
1 Bag Tater Tots  
Bacon Bits Sharp  
Cheddar Cheese or a cheese blend you like  
1 Teaspoon Onion Powder  
Pepper Flakes (optional)  
Salt & Pepper

### Directions:

Cook and drain sausage. Spray baking dish with cooking spray (PAM). Spread the sausage on the bottom of the pan and sprinkle some of the cheese on top. Top this layer with tater tots and sprinkle with some more cheese and bacon bits. In a bowl, beat together the eggs, milk, onion powder, pepper flakes, salt and pepper. Pour mixture over the tater tots. Bake in a 350 degree oven for 45-60 minutes until golden brown and firmly set. For a more spicy casserole, use Jimmy Dean HOT sausage and increase the pepper flakes. Adjust the amounts of onion powder, pepper flakes, bacon bits, salt and pepper to your taste. Read the tater tot bag and you will find that they are gluten free, making this dish suitable for gluten free people.



Many of you remember Lila Grace Rogers who served here at Lexington Presbyterian Church as administrative assistant for 52 years beginning in 1963. A bronze plaque in memory of, and recognizing Lila's service, has been placed on the left side of the doorway entrance to the administrative assistant's office in Murray Hall. Three ministers - Douglas Chase, Randolph Harrison, and William Klein – plus numerous assistant, associate, and interim ministers benefited from her professionalism, superb organizational skills, wise counsel, and steadfast work ethic.

Over nearly six decades, when no one knew the answer to a question whether at a session meeting, committee meeting, or in general conversation, the response would invariably be “don't worry Lila knows.” Please stop by to view the plaque and



remember Lila. Below is the text of the plaque:

*In loving memory of Lila Grace Rogers, Administrative Assistant,  
Lexington Presbyterian Church, 1963-2015,  
Well done good and faithful servant.*

## Rafiki Report

Rafiki was founded over 30 years ago for the purpose of helping Africans know God and grow in their faith. In Swahili, Rafiki means friend. Currently Rafiki Training Villages operate in ten countries: Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Nigeria, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia.

Our Rafiki Home Office travels to Africa this month, and we pray for their safety and health. Over 55,000 Bibles are currently en route to Nigeria and 23 schools in Tanzania are implementing the Rafiki Bible Study. With thanksgiving and praise, there are over 160 Rafiki Institute for Classical Education (RICE) students and over 3600 students in our 10 Rafiki schools.

Missionaries from the Lexington/Rockbridge County greater areas not only serve as Rafiki representatives in our local churches, but also minister as missionaries in Rafiki Villages throughout Africa. On March 8 Jane Hoadley will be journeying to Malawi to serve for six months. Please pray for her safety, health, and protection as she prepares to spread the Word of God. We pray for God's clear direction and provision for her and all those in the Villages.

Please join me in praying for the teachers in Malawi to continually grow in understanding and conviction of Scripture's teachings and for God's provision for Rafiki Institute for Classical Education (RICE) students to grow in their love for God and to embrace God's calling. Prayers requested for the Holy Spirit to illuminate hearts through Bible Study transforming the lives of the people leading to a deeper relationship with the Lord.

If you are interested in learning more about Rafiki, attending monthly prayer sessions, and supporting Rafiki, please contact Tammy Shomo.

## Calendar of Events

Lectio - Every Tuesday at 10:00 a.m.  
Handbells - Every Tuesday at 5:45 p.m. All are welcome!  
Kids' Club Staging Event – Wednesdays 2:30-4:30  
Choir -Every Thursday at 7:30 p.m.

### March

4th Women's Bible Study on Ruth, 7:00 p.m., 310 Enfield Road

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

8th Open house at the Ditzels' with Amelia, 7:45-10:00 a.m., 206 Johnstone St.

10th **Daylight Savings Time starts, move clocks forward one hour**

- Kids' Club baking for the Community Table, 9:45-10:45 a.m. class time, Dunlap
- Senior High (grades 9-12) out to lunch after the 11:00 a.m. service, note the "second Sunday" date
- 11th Women's Bible Study on Ruth, 7:00 p.m., 310 Enfield Road
  - Prayer Shawl group gathering, 9:30 a.m., Room 111
- 12th Worship Committee, 5:00 p.m., Brady Chapel
- 13th Music at noon, selections for the Lenten season, Sanctuary
  - Leah/Ruth Circle, 1:00 p.m., Brady Chapel
  - Outreach Committee, 4:00 p.m., Room 111
- 17th Community Youth group supper and service project with Washington and Lee University's Campus Kitchen. Start at LexPres (Dunlap Auditorium) at 5:00 p.m., finish at Campus Kitchen (Lee Avenue across from the Post Office), 7:00 p.m.
- 18th Women's Bible Study on Ruth, 7:00 p.m., 310 Enfield Road
- 19th Campus Ministry subcommittee, 5:30 p.m., Room 113
  - Property Committee, 12:00 noon, Room 113
- 20th Children/Youth/Family Ministry Committee, 7:00 p.m., Brady Chapel
- 23rd Egg Hunt for kids and youth, 4:00-6:00 p.m., The Ditzel's home 206 Johnstone St.
  - Hot cross buns baking, 9:00 a.m.-noon, Dunlap kitchen. Volunteers welcome!
- 24th Palm Sunday community parade. Gather at 9:15 a.m. at Hopkins Green
  - Hot cross buns served in Brady-self-guided intergenerational stations of the cross
- 25th Prayer Shawl group gathering, 9:30 a.m., Room 111
  - Administrative Committee, 5:15 p.m., Room 113
  - Women's Bible Study on Ruth, 7:00 p.m., 310 Enfield Road
- 26th Family and Children's Ministry, 7:00 p.m., Brady Chapel
- 27th Music at noon, selections for Holy Week, Sanctuary
- 28th Maundy Thursday service, 7:00 p.m.
- 29th Good Friday service, noon, Sanctuary
- 31st Easter Sunday**
  - Community sunrise service, Trinity United Methodist Church, 7:00 a.m. Drew is preaching!
  - We worship together in one service at LexPres, 11:00 a.m.



Go to our website at [www.lexpres.org](http://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**  
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Online Giving

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Calendar



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