



Lexington Presbyterian Church

Faith • Fellowship • Service • Since 1789



Worship Information

March 2, 2025

Sermon: *This Aggression Will Not Stand*

Preacher: Rev. Drew Ditzel

New Testament Reading: Matthew 5:5

New Testament Reading: Matthew 18:1-6

8:45 a.m. Worship Assistant: Community Prayers

11 a.m. Worship Assistant: Neely Young

Worship Bulletin PDF and Worship Hymns PDF

March 5, 2025

Ash Wednesday Service

7 p.m. in the Sanctuary

March 9, 2025

Sermon: *A Desire to Desire*

Preacher: Rev. Drew Ditzel

New Testament Reading: Matthew 5:6

New Testament Reading: Mark 9:14-29

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

11 a.m. Worship Assistant: Mary Dugan

March 16, 2025

Sermon: *The Uncle Jessie Beatitude*

Preacher: Rev. Drew Ditzel

New Testament Reading: Matthew 5:7

New Testament Reading: Matthew 12:1-14

8:45 a.m. Worship Assistant: Liz Shupe

11 a.m. Worship Assistant: Kevin Green

New Testament Reading: Matthew 5:7

March 23, 2025

Sermon: *The Simple Life*

Preacher: Rev. Drew Ditzel

New Testament Reading: Matthew 5:8

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

11 a.m. Worship Assistant: Emily King

Flowers: [Still Needed](#)

March 30, 2025

Sermon: *Is Peace in our DNA?*

Preacher: Rev. Drew Ditzel

New Testament Reading: 5:9

8:45 a.m. Worship Assistant: Mary Ellena Ward

11 a.m. Worship Assistant: Debbie Pollard

Flowers: [Still Needed](#)

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

Life of the Church



Culinary Ministry at Work and Play

Our amazing culinary staff and volunteers prepared a locally-sourced meal for 185 for our Festival of Faith and demonstrated their typical joy, warmth, and love. The Holy Spirit was present in our kitchen. For more photos of their work, scroll down.

Elevator Out of Service

Please note that the elevator at Lexington Presbyterian Church is currently out of order. Technicians are working on the situation and have ordered parts necessary for

the elevator's repair. While it is out of service, access to the sanctuary will be available as always through the street-level (handicapped-accessible) doors between the sanctuary and Murray Hall. However, there is no **elevator** access to the 'middle' floor with offices and restroom, the upstairs Westfel hallway, or the Dunlap hallway and Randolph Street entrance.

We apologize for the inconvenience and will let you know as soon as the elevator is back in service.

Invitation to Lenten Observance

On the church calendar, the forty-day journey to the cross and grave of Christ begins **Wednesday, March 5**. The term Lent comes from the same root word as *lengthen*, and came to be associated with this season because of the noticeable lengthening of days that occurs in the early spring in the northern hemisphere. Underground and deep within trees and bushes, new leaves and new life begin to awaken. We invite you to accept a Lenten invitation to travel inward, exploring God's call to repentance and renewal in your own life.

Bread for the Journey

Our shared Lenten devotional materials this year focus on the gift of bread, that staple food that sustained Jesus's ancestors and his own community, and that bonds and sustains our own today. What can we learn from what we eat on our Lenten journey? You can pick up a printed copy of the Lenten devotional (there's a version for adults and a supplement for kids to share with their families, as well) at the church in paper copies, starting **Sunday March 2**. Alternatively, you can follow links in each week's newsletter to access the adult materials digitally:

[*Adult Lenten Devotional PDF*](#)

Special Events During Lent

Tuesday, March 4, 5:30 p.m. Shrove Tuesday waffle supper, free, open to all,
Dunlap Auditorium

Wednesday, March 5, 7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday service, Sanctuary

Palm Sunday, April 13

9:15 a.m. Community Parade Gather at Hopkins Green, process
to various downtown churches for prayer

9:45-10:45 hour Hot Cross Buns and Stations of the Cross Observance,
LexPres

Maundy Thursday, April 17 Evening Worship Service, time and place TBA

Good Friday, April 18, Noon Worship Service, Sanctuary

Easter Sunday, April 20,

-7:00 a.m. Community Easter Sunrise Service, Sanctuary

-Breakfast following Sunrise Service, Dunlap Auditorium

-11:00 a.m. Worship Service, Sanctuary

Get Ready for Asheville Youth Mission Trip 2025

The youth service trip to Asheville, NC will take place the last week in May 2025 (specific departure and return dates to be announced by March 10). Interested students who are currently in grades 5-12 should be sure to express that interest to Sandra so that she has you on the list.



We will serve with Beloved Asheville and Haywood Street congregation, leaders in outreach to the unhoused and in advocacy and action around the housing crisis. We are currently seeking chaperones for the trip, especially male chaperones. Parents of participating students have first dibs on accompanying us.

Chili Cookoff and Silent Auction for Youth Missions: March 16

Mark your calendars for **Sunday, March 16** for the 2025 Ultimate Chili Cookoff. This culinary smackdown will take place at LexPres in Dunlap Auditorium at 5:30 p.m. Time to polish up those pots, perfect the recipes, and fine-tune the spices. You vote for your favorite with your dollar donations.

It's also time to pull together those silent-auction entries that we'll all want to bid on and tap your creativity. Quality second-hand items, handmade treasures, offers of services (babysitting, serenades, yard work, car washes, etc.), gift certificates, the sky's the limit. We will begin accepting auction items on March 2. Bring them to Sandra's or Janice's office and fill out an item information sheet when you do so.

Please do not leave any items without completing an information sheet.



Some of Our Kitchen Artists in Their Natural Habitat

Left to right: Liz Shupe, Julie Hammond, and Joyce Fraley prove that chopping vegetables is fun; Mary Dugan and Carol Bryan had the 'easy' (?) job of stirring; Jane Horton prepared the polenta from her own recipe – and it was widely reported to be the best anyone had

ever tasted.

Ferns for Sale

The tiny fern centerpieces from our Festival of Faith need new loving homes. If you'd like to purchase one, call or email the office at 540-463-3873 or admin@lexpres.org.

Rafiki Report



March 2025

“And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to His purpose” (Romans 8:28). In Ethiopia the new school year began with major challenges- widespread economic and security crises, and more than nine million school children out of school. Thanks be to

God that the Rafiki Schools opened at the end of September despite those challenges. Rafiki also received the wonderful news that all seven of their recent graduates would have the opportunity to attend university. Metsy was one of the seven graduating students who passed her National Exams. What a testament to God's faithfulness in the lives of these young men and women.

Lexington Presbyterian Church has faithfully supported orphan Metsenamat “Metsy” Tages who was born on June 2, 2004, and arrived at Ethiopia Rafiki Village on May 1, 2010. Shortly after Metsy entered the Rafiki Ethiopia Village, Lexington Presbyterian Church through the faith, guidance, and love of Mary Raine Paxton, embraced and “adopted” Metsy. Many of our members recall watching videos and seeing pictures of Metsy as she grew in faith living in the Rafiki Village. Through the years a strong bond has been formed with Metsy which has continued to grow and strengthen with LexPres members. She is eternally grateful for our spiritual and monetary support. Metsy entered Rafiki Ethiopia Village not speaking English, unable to read or write. With praise and thanksgiving, Metsy recently graduated from grade level 12 and passed her National University entrance exams with great results. Less than six percent of grade twelve graduates in Ethiopia passed the national exam and Metsy was one such student.

She is now enrolled at Hawassa University pursuing a degree in Public Administration and is on track to earn her Bachelor of Arts in this field. Although she has experienced some struggles adjusting to food, climate, and dorm life, she continues to show faith, determination and a positive attitude in her studies. She is active in church and fellowship programs. Overall, Metsy is doing well and looks forward to communicating with LexPres members. Please pray for Metsy and all the students to remain strong in their faith, and to be a light to others; pray also for their good health and safety as there is instability in Ethiopia.

As Metsy begins this next chapter of her life, please continue to pray for and support her. 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. She loves to receive mail; letters should be sent to PO Box 2871, Nazareth, Ethiopia, EAST AFRICA. Cards or letters must fit in a standard size envelope. Please DO NOT send packages, checks, or cash to the Village address.

The next Rafiki Prayer meeting is **Friday, March 7, 9 a.m.**, at Grace Presbyterian Church in room 205. Please feel free to join us in this hour of prayer; all are welcome.

Calendar of Events

Recurring Events

Lectio - Every Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. - Room 113 and on Zoom

Handbells - Every Tuesday at 5:45 p.m. - Handbell Room All are welcome!

Staging for Kids Club - Every Wednesday 2:30-4:00 p.m. - Faith Village classrooms

Choir - Every Thursday at 7:30 p.m. - Westfel

March

4th Shrove Tuesday waffle supper, 5:30 p.m., Dunlap Auditorium

-Session Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Brady Chapel

5th Ash Wednesday worship service, 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary

9th Daylight Savings Time begins

10th Hospitality and Care Committee, 1:00 p.m., Room 113

11th Worship Committee, 5:00 p.m., Brady Chapel

12th Leah/Ruth Circle, 1:00 p.m., Room 111

-Outreach Committee, 4:00 p.m., Room 111

-Worship Committee, 5:00 p.m., Brady Chapel

16th Chili Cookoff and Silent Auction to benefit Youth Missions, 5:30 p.m., Dunlap

17th Brittigan Fund Committee, 3:00 p.m., Room 111

18th Campus Ministry Committee, 5:00 p.m., Brady Chapel

-Property Committee, 5:30 p.m., Room 113

19th Adult Discipleship Committee, 6:00 p.m., Room 111

23rd Youth trip to Massanutten Water Park, after 11:00 a.m. service

24th Administrative Committee, 5:15 p.m., Room 113

26th Children, Youth and Family Ministry, 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

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Online Giving

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Calendar

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