



Lexington Presbyterian Church

Faith • Fellowship • Service • Since 1789



Worship Information

August 31, 2025

Sermon: *Reworking Our Worth-ship*

Preacher: Rev. Drew Ditzel

Old Testament Reading: Psalm 46:10

New Testament Reading: Mark 1:36-39

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

September 7, 2025

******* Begin Two Services (8:45 and 11 a.m. schedule)*******

Sermon: *Neighborly God, Artful Life*

Preacher: Rev. Drew Ditzel

New Testament Reading: John 1:15

New Testament Reading: Acts 2:42-47

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

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

Flowers: [Still Needed](#)

September 14, 2025

Sermon: *Family Problems*

Preacher: Rev. Drew Ditzel

Old Testament Reading: Genesis 32:22-3

New Testament Reading: Matthew 12:46-50

8:45 a.m. Worship Assistant: [Still Needed](#)

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

September 21, 2025

Sermon: *Living in a Samaritan World*

Preacher: Rev. Drew Ditzel

Old Testament Reading: Ezra 4:1-4

New Testament Reading: Luke 10:36-37
8:45 a.m. Worship Assistant: Mary Beth Baker
11 a.m. Worship Assistant: [Still Needed](#)

September 28, 2025

Sermon: *Faithful Tree Hugging*
Preacher: Rev. Drew Ditzel
Old Testament Reading: Genesis 2:15-20
New Testament Reading: Mark 1:12
8:45 a.m. Worship Assistant: [Still Needed](#)
11 .am. Worship Assistant: [Still Needed](#)

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

Sign up to be a worship assistant

As we return to our two service schedule, we have lots of openings for worship assistants for both the 8:45 and 11:00 a.m. worship services, and it is incredibly easy to sign up. [Simply follow this link](#) and type your name under the date and service you would like to serve. (If you have trouble with this, you can also email Drew directly). It doesn't matter if you haven't ever been a worship assistant, haven't done it in years, or just led last month, we think having a variety of voices and ages that represent every facet of our church is important. With that in mind, we ask that you initially only sign up for one week as a worship assistant.

Flowers in worship

One of the simplest and most beautiful ways to help with our Sunday worship: to provide flowers for the sanctuary. You can [sign up for a Sunday by clicking on this link](#) – just put your name and contact information next to any date for which the 'flowers' column is blank. If you'd prefer, you can call Janice in the church office at 540-463-3873 and she will sign you up. Then, you contact a florist or grower of your choice to arrange delivery and payment. Questions about flowers? Contact Marshall Wilt at marshallwilt1@gmail.com or call the church office.

Important Note: Yonderyear Farm, owned by Lex Pres members Amanda and Kevin Green, has generously offered to donate flowers any Sunday a person desires to provide the flowers but finds the cost prohibitive. If this would be a gift to you, simply sign up as normal in the link above and let Drew know. He will then confidentially make sure flowers are provided.

Life of the Church



Smiles Around the Table on "Rat" Sunday

Christina Ortiz (left foreground), Megan Miller, Lily Moreschi, Ryan Holston, Bill McCorkle, Sophia Lurey

Exploring Lex Pres

Are you new to Lex Pres and interested in knowing what we believe, who we are, and where we hope to go? Are you someone who has attended worship for years but would like to hear what it would look like to make a more formal commitment to this community through membership? Or do you just want to meet some new people around lively discussions of faith and what it means to be Presbyterian?

If you answered yes (or *maybe*, or even *probably not*) to any of these questions, I hope you will consider signing up for Exploring Lex Pres classes led by Drew Ditzel on **Sunday September 28th and October 5th at 9:45 a.m.** While this is the primary step toward joining Lex Pres, there is no expectation that one will join the church upon finishing the class. It is truly a chance to explore together what it means to be God's people.

Questions? Interested? Want to sign up? Email Drew (drditzel@lexpres.org).

Mark Your Calendars for Fall Discipleship Opportunities

The shifting season brings the chance to consider how engaging with community at LexPres might enrich your faith walk. September 14 marks the beginning of new classes on Sunday mornings, and the chance to think about ongoing opportunities for you and your family. We invite you to prayerfully consider a commitment of at least 6 weeks to an opportunity you have not tried before, or one you have relished in the past. Questions about any of the opportunities described below? Contact Sandra at shayslette@lexpres.org.

Kids and Youth Opportunities



Adult Discipleship Opportunities

Sunday 9:45-10:45 a.m. Classes begin September 14

Ask Seek Knock – This fall, the ASK class will read Ross Douthat’s *Believe*. A contributing editor for the New York Times on spiritual and religious matters, Douthat addresses in this book the pressing question of why people believe in God and in concepts of faith and argues that to believe is more reasonable and rational than to not do so. A runaway bestseller since its publication in February, the book will anchor discussion in the class, which has both in person and Zoom options. The in-person group meets in room 113; email facilitator Ann Massie (massiea@wlu.edu) for the Zoom link.

Koinonia - This class is a group of ordinary people of faith seeking to strengthen our spiritual growth through fellowship and conversation. We pursue God’s grace, what it means, and how it impacts our daily lives through books, articles, shared life stories, and other resources. We hope to encourage each other on our spiritual journey towards God. This year, the group will continue reading and discussing Frederick Buechner’s *Secrets in the Dark*, a collection of sermons from a pastor whose advice to all who seek God is “listen to your life!” The group welcomes newcomers even if they are unfamiliar with Buechner’s book. Koinonia meets in room 111.

Men’s Sunday School Class - The Men's Sunday School Class was formed to promote discipleship, learning, and fellowship. Ours is a discussion class with members of the class rotating responsibility for facilitating discussion. We are open to all men regardless of age or background. This fall the Men’s class will be reading and discussing the book of Acts. The class meets in room D-5.

Scripture and Doughnuts - Grab a doughnut, open the Bible, and talk. It’s that simple. Join this class of confessed non-Bible experts wrestling with how God’s words encourage us to live our everyday life. S&D usually focuses on the week’s sermon scripture, and meets in Dunlap Auditorium.

ParentsTalk – This new discussion class for parents and guardians with kids at home (or those planning to be parents) examines major issues in the life of contemporary children and their families through the lens of selected scriptures. Topics include rest, rivalries, discipline, calming, worry, and change. Come explore how we experience these in our families and how our focus scriptures may comfort or challenge us as caregivers. ParentsTalk will meet in Room D-1.

Weekday Opportunities -- Ongoing

Lectio Divina - The friendly folks at Lectio Divina are eager to accept new participants either online (Zoom) or in person (Room 113) every Tuesday morning from 10-11 a.m. We contemplate and discuss the week's Bible selection. It's a cherished time to slow down, listen, and share as desired. No experience or Bible knowledge required. Zoom link appears in the weekly email newsletter.

Leah Ruth Circle - The Leah Ruth Circle is a spiritually-uplifting fellowship of Christian women. The women support each other through fellowship, Bible study/devotion, prayer, and service to the church and community. They affirm women's calls to leadership and spiritual growth, raise concerns, and channel information throughout the church. This group meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 1:00 in Brady Chapel. All women are welcome.

Men's Bible Study - All men are welcome to attend this morning study on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month. We will begin at 8 a.m. with a hard stop at 9 a.m. We will meet in Brady Chapel. This study will be facilitated by Drew and is designed to be a meaningful gathering for both infrequent and consistent attendees. It begins this fall with a study of Jesus's parables.

50s-60s Group Game Night on September 12

Those of you in your sixth and seventh decades: it's time to unleash your competitive side. We'll gather at the Ponds Clubhouse on **Friday, September 12 at 5:30** for a potluck supper and game night. Please bring a side dish, salad, or dessert to share, as well as serving utensils. We'll provide a main dish, drinks, plates, and utensils. Expect to start out with some mild-mannered pictionary and charades, then ratchet up the stakes to tougher rounds of Exploding Kittens, Shut The Box, or trivia. No trophies, but longlasting bragging rights are at stake. Come and bring your 50s-60s-something friends!

From the Director of Music

Join a Singing or Ringing Choir

Fall is a great time to add choir music to your diet. The musical leadership of our choirs is an essential part of our worship experience. Now could be the perfect time for you to become a part of the music.

The Adult Choir rehearses on Thursdays from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. We sing at most of the 11:00 worship services (warm-up at 10:30), and at additional services. We explore new music while drawing on the rich resources of our choral library. Extensive

musical experience is not necessary. Our first rehearsal for the fall will be on

Thursday,

September 11. For more information, please contact William McCorkle (mccorklew@wlu.edu; 540-460-8110).

The Lam Handbell Choir consists of 11-13 ringers, and rehearses on Tuesdays from 5:45 to 7:00 p.m. The full choir rings in worship (11:00) about once a month, and there are opportunities for smaller groups to further enhance our congregational music-making. If you read music, and are interested in ringing in the Lam Choir, including as a substitute, please contact Mayumi Smitka (mayumi_smitka@yahoo.com; 540-460-3371). The Lam Choir's first fall rehearsal will be on **Tuesday, September 16.**

Concerts at Lexington Presbyterian in September

Saturday, September 20 at 7:00 p.m.

Rockbridge Chorus: *Classic Pops*

Scott Williamson, conductor; William McCorkle, piano

Advance tickets at www.rcs.org

Sunday, September 28 at 3:00 p.m.

Washington and Lee Faculty Recital: William McCorkle, organ

A Constellation of Pipes: Organ Masterpieces from the Star Cities of Europe

On the splendid C. B. Fisk pipe organ, an array of short masterworks from the rich organ traditions of Paris, Rome, Venice, London, Leipzig, Munich, Amsterdam, Madrid, Danzig.

RARA Food Pantry Item of the Month

Cereal is the food we are collecting for RARA's Neighborhood Grocery in September. Just leave a box or two of your family favorite in the bins at the front of the sanctuary. Oatmeal and other cooked cereals are welcome, as well as cold varieties such as Cheerios. And thank you so much for the many cans of meat and fish that have been donated in August. (We are continuing to collect these through Aug. 31.)

Become a Reading Tutor and Help a Child in our Community

The Rockbridge Regional Library is seeking additional volunteers to serve as reading mentors/tutors for children in our Lexington and Rockbridge County elementary schools. The commitment for tutoring is a one-hour, one-on-one session per week, and training is provided. Click [here](#) for additional details.

To sign up or to learn more, please call or email Lenna Ojure, Youth Literacy Program Coordinator (540-463-4324 ext 105; cell: 540-460-0704; lojure@rrlib.net).

Session Minutes from the June and August Meetings

We are continually grateful for our Clerk of Session, Mary Atthowe, and her tireless work to make sure our church operates in good order and keeps good records. See just

a bit of what she provides with the minutes from the June and August Session meeting (there was no meeting in July).

[June Session Minutes](#)

[August Session Minutes](#)

Leah-Ruth Meetings

Leah-Ruth circle will begin its meetings for the new year on **Wednesday, September 10**, at 1:00 p.m. in Brady Chapel. All women of the church are welcome.

From the Director of Culinary Ministry Skip Hess

Back in the saddle again! Fall is just around the corner and our kitchen crew is busy making plans for this fall and winter culinary events. I have listed some of our meals for the fall.

Sunday, September 14 - Brunch

Sunday, October 5 - Dinner (Talent Show)

Sunday, October 19 - Brunch

Sunday, November 2 - Dinner

Sunday, November 16 - Brunch

Sunday, December 7 - Dinner (Hymn Sing)

Sunday, December 21 - Brunch (Lessons and Carols). This brunch is a covered dish

On Sunday, August 17, we had our annual Congregational Picnic at Richardson Park. The food was wonderful and the afternoon events ended with a water balloon fight for the kids and some of us older kids.

I prepared a dessert from a post on-line. As some of you know, on-line recipes can be questionable at best. This recipe for Neiman Marcus Cake sounded like a winner so I decided to try it. To my surprise, it was wonderful. I made it for the picnic and I had several requests for the recipe. So here it is:

Neiman Marcus Cake Recipe From Allrecipe

Ingredients:

1 (15.25 ounce) package yellow cake mix

4 Eggs, divided

½ Cup butter, melted

1 teaspoon vanilla extract

3 ½ Cups confectioners' sugar

8 ounces cream cheese, softened

Directions:

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees and grease a 13/9 inch baking pan.

Combine yellow cake mix, 2 eggs, butter, and vanilla in a large bowl and mix well. The batter should be stiff. Spread batter into the prepared pan.

Combine confectioners' sugar, cream cheese, and the remaining 2 eggs in a separate bowl; mix well and pour over the top of the cake batter.

Bake in a preheated oven until a toothpick inserted into the center comes out clean, about 35 minutes. Cool and cut into small square pieces. Enjoy.



Starting brunch for the RAT Sunday

Back in the kitchen again, Linda and Lilly Moreschi, Linda Hall, and Marti Burke. Not pictured Liz Shupe. Welcome back Lily! Lily learned how to make our special scrambled eggs from our chef, Curt Fredin, and she prepared them for many years until she left for college. I don't know what the secret is, but nobody makes scrambled eggs like Lily.

Rafiki Report

Rafiki Report - September 2025

“Truly, I say to you, as you did it not to one of the least of these, you did it not to me” (Matthew 25:45). For over 20 years, Rafiki’s ten Orphan Care Programs have been dedicated to the promotion of the spiritual and emotional wellbeing of children and to cultivating a family environment in which each child could have the opportunity to follow God’s plan and purpose for his or her life. Thus far, the Orphan Care Program has had the privilege of touching the lives of over 900 children in which 334 have finished high school and 302 have been granted a Rafiki Scholarship to pursue further education and training. One such young lady is Metsenamat “Metsy” Tages who entered the Rafiki Orphan Care Program in Ethiopia on May 1, 2010. Through the years, LexPres members have helped support her monetarily and encouraged her spiritual growth through letters and cards. The light of Christ shines through Metsy as she participates in Bible study programs and devotionals at Hawassa University as she pursues a degree in Public Administration. Metsy asks we include her in our prayers specifically praying for her to live an exemplary life for others. She prays she will be a faithful servant to God and to the responsibility He has given her in the University Christian Fellowship Program. She is active in both the worship program and choir.

Rafiki has established 10 villages in 10 African countries serving as the epicenter for all the different aspects of their work. Each Village is supervised by missionaries and equipped with schools, orphan housing, a teachers college (RICE), dining hall, missionary homes, libraries, a widows program and so much more. Rafiki is fully committed to the vision of distributing their resources to Africa (primarily through their partnership with 23 African church denominations), the USA, and the world.

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, September 5, 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.

Lam Handbell Choir - beginning September 16 - Every Tuesday at 5:45 p.m.

Children/Youth Ministry staging - Every Wednesday at 2:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Choir - beginning September 11 - Every Thursday at 7:30 p.m. in Brady Chapel

September

1 Labor Day, Church office closed

2 Session meeting, 7:00 p.m., Brady Chapel

-Washington and Lee new student "get downtown" event, 4:30-6:30 p.m.

3 Women's Bible Study, 11:00 a.m., Kendal Borden conference room

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

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

9 Worship Committee, 4:30 p.m., Laura de Maria's home

10 Women's Bible Study, 11:00 a.m., Kendal Borden conference room

-Leah/Ruth Circle, 1:00 p.m., Brady Chapel

11 Men's Bible Study, 8:00 a.m., Brady Chapel

-Choir rehearsal resumes, 7:30 p.m., Brady Chapel

12 50s-60s Game Night, 5:30 p.m., Ponds Clubhouse

14 First day of 9:45-10:45 Sunday morning classes for ages 2.5-middle school and adults

-Brunch following 11:00 a.m. worship service, Dunlap Auditorium

-Kids Club and Middle School Youth Sunday class leaders' meeting,
12:30-1:00 p.m., Room D-1

16 Campus Ministry meeting, 5:00 p.m., Brady Chapel

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

-Lam Handbell Choir rehearsals resume, 5:45 p.m.

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

18 Peace-Wagers meeting, 10:30 p.m., Room 111

21 Washington and Lee student lunch, 12:15 p.m., Elliott and Emily Kings' house

-High school youth lunch out/class kickoff, after 11:00 a.m. worship service

24 Women's Bible Study, 11:00 a.m., Kendal Borden conference room

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

25 Men's Bible Study, 8:00 a.m., Brady Chapel

29 Brittigan Fund Committee, 3:00 p.m., Room 111
30 Administrative Committee, 12:00 Noon, Room 113



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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