



Lewinsville Presbyterian Church

www.lewinsville.org

March 2024

MARCH WORSHIP

LENT SERMON SERIES: "HOSPITALITY & SERVICE"

MARCH 3, livestreamed at 11:00 a.m.

3rd SUNDAY IN LENT

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Luke 19:1-10; Matthew 9:9-13

"Not the Righteous"

Rev. Dr. Scott Ramsey

7:00 p.m. Contemplative/Celtic Evensong

LENT SERMON SERIES: "HOSPITALITY & SERVICE"

MARCH 10, livestreamed at 11:00 a.m.

4th SUNDAY IN LENT

Acts 6:1-7; 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

"Serving by the Spirit"

Rev. Jen Dunfee

LENT SERMON SERIES: "HOSPITALITY & SERVICE"

MARCH 17, livestreamed at 11:00 a.m.

5th SUNDAY IN LENT

Amos 9:5-7; Acts 11:1-18

"Even the Gentiles"

Rev. Dr. Scott Ramsey

9:30 a.m. Messy Church

GOOD SAMARITAN DAY

MARCH 24, livestreamed at 11:00 a.m.

PALM/PASSION SUNDAY-HOLY WEEK BEGINS

Exodus 2:1-10

"Unexpected Hospitality"

Rev. Layne Brubaker

MARCH 31, livestreamed at 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.

EASTER SUNDAY/RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

6:30 a.m. Service in the Lewinsville Cemetery

Mark 16:1-18

Rev. Layne Brubaker

9:00 & 11:00 a.m. Services

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Isaiah 25:6-9; Mark 16:1-18

"Death Swallowed Up"

Rev. Dr. Scott Ramsey

Holy Week: Journey to the Cross

Palm Sunday

March 24

Readings of the

Palm Sunday

Narrative from

Mark 14:1-15:47

Music of the
Boulanger Sisters for
String, Organ & Choir

11:00 a.m. Worship

Maundy Thursday

March 28

"This is My Body,
Broken for You"

1 Corinthians 11:23-26;

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

7:30 p.m. Worship
& Communion

Rev. Dr. Scott Ramsey



Good Friday

March 29

The Passion

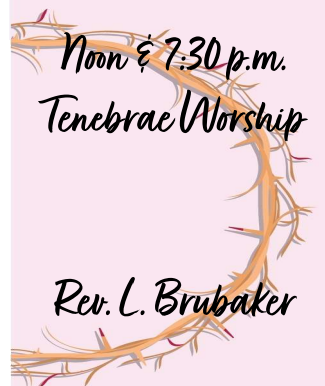
Narrative from the

Gospel of John

Noon & 7:30 p.m.

Tenebrae Worship

Rev. L. Brubaker



Easter Sunday: Christ is Risen!

March 31

6:30 a.m.

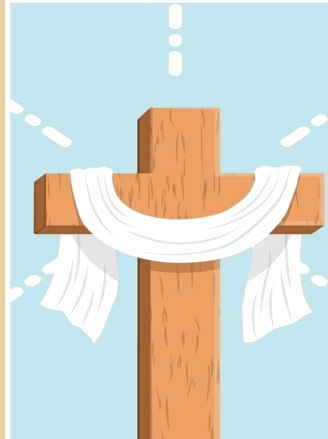
Sunrise Service

in the Lewinsville

Cemetery

Mark 16:1-8

Rev. L. Brubaker



9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Worship & Communion

Isaiah 25:6-9; Mark 16:1-18

"Death Swallowed Up"

Rev. Dr. Scott Ramsey

Featuring commissioned music by David

Conte with Brass, Organ & Tympani

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear friends at Lewinsville,

"We love because he first loved us"
(1 John 4:19).

During this Lenten season at Lewinsville, we are reflecting together on the theme of "Hospitality and Service." Showing hospitality to others – strangers, friends, loved ones, neighbors, enemies – is one of the core ways for us to practice our faith in Jesus Christ.

However, it can sometimes happen that hospitality becomes heavily weighed down with "should." We **SHOULD** show hospitality. *We SHOULD be a welcoming congregation. We SHOULD reach out to new people.*

Whenever the word "should" begins to show up a whole lot in our vocabulary, we have likely moved out of the kingdom of grace and into the kingdom of legalism.

What legalistic religion (i.e., "You **SHOULD** do these things in order to be faithful") always forgets is that we are always acting *in response to Jesus' grace*. We do not make the first move with hospitality. Any hospitality that we show is done out of the recognition that Jesus has already shown profound hospitality to us. We are responding to Jesus' gracious hospitality to us. "We love because he first loved us."

This is the same concept that is behind Jesus' statement that those who have been forgiven much love much, and those who think that they have little to be forgiven will almost certainly love little. Our love for others always flows out of the awareness that we have ourselves been loved, especially in the places where we didn't deserve to be loved, where we had not "earned" the love.

As we approach the cross of Jesus Christ, we become ever more aware of how Jesus has loved us *while we were still sinners*. As that knowledge sinks in - as we acknowledge and understand and accept the ways that we have been loved and shown hospitality – our hearts will break open, and we will naturally extend that love and hospitality to others, just as they are.

Blessings for your Lenten journey,
Pastor Scott



IONA CELTIC EVENSONG

with Harp and Fiddle

Sunday, March 3 at 7:00 pm

Lewinsville
Presbyterian Church

Lewinsville will host an Iona-inspired Celtic Evensong featuring music for Celtic Harp and Fiddle. Join for prayer, peace, and a Gaelic blessing during the season of Lent.

Celebrate Women Composers

each Sunday in March!

Lewinsville
Presbyterian Church

To honor Women's History Month, Lewinsville's Music Ministry will be performing works of female composers throughout the month. As part of Lewinsville's mission, may we continue to promote and empower women.



PALM SUNDAY FEATURING MUSIC OF THE BOULANGER SISTERS FOR STRINGS, ORGAN, AND CHOIR

This Palm Sunday we celebrate the music of Nadia and Lili Boulanger. The sisters were not only talented musicians and composers, but also broke gender barriers on their way to great musical achievements. Both sisters were among the first few women to enter the prestigious Prix de Rome competition, and in 1913 Lili became the first woman to earn the coveted Grand Prix. After Lili's untimely death at the age of 24, her sister continued to promote her music and worked to keep her legacy alive. Nadia went on to become one of the most influential musical pedagogues of her generation. Her pupils, the so-called "Boulangerie," included such luminaries-to-be as Aaron Copland, Philip Glass and Quincy Jones. Palm Sunday's worship service will feature music for strings and choir by the Boulanger Sisters, their teacher, Gabriel Fauré, and their pupils, including Aaron Copland and David Conte.

HOLY HAPPY HOUR - IRISH BRAZILIANS: MUSIC OF OUR CELTIC ANCESTORS, SUNDAY, MARCH 17 AT 5:00 PM

March's Holy Happy Hour on Sunday, March 17 at 5:00 pm features the Irish Brazilians, a family affair with Offaly County's finest Lisa Greenfield on vocals, John Nothaft on piano, Sarah Berger on fiddle, Daniel Nothaft and Uberaba's own, Marylia Duarte, on guitar, as well Celtic harp, cello, and flute.



SPECIAL COMMISSIONED PIECE FOR EASTER SUNDAY MARCH 31, 2024

Lewinsville's Music Fund has commissioned a Brass and Organ prelude composed by David Conte. This special Easter prelude is in memory of Helen Martin, a longtime friend, musician, and generous supporter of Lewinsville's Music Ministry and Music Fund.

Conte (b. 1955) is the composer of over one hundred and fifty works published by E. C. Schirmer Music Company. He lived and worked with Aaron Copland while preparing a study of the composer's sketches, having received a Fulbright Fellowship for study with Copland's teacher Nadia Boulanger in Paris, where he was one of her last students. Conte received his DMA from Cornell University. He is Professor of Composition and Chair of the Composition Department at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. He has received commissions from Chanticleer, the San Francisco, Oakland, Stockton, and Dayton Symphonies, the Atlantic Classical Orchestra; and from the American Guild of Organists. In 2007 he received the Raymond Brock commission from the American Choral Directors Association, one of the nation's highest honors in choral music. Conte is a significant LGBTQ+ composer and leading compositional voice in America.





Lent is the 40 days—not including Sundays!—from Ash Wednesday to the Saturday before Easter. Christians around the world consider Lent a time to reflect on what Jesus did for us. Lent is a prime time to introduce spiritual disciplines—prayer, fasting, remembering, simplicity, celebrating—into your family’s lifestyle and rhythms. Join us for this Messy Church where we will dive into some of the traditions of Lent through activities that will highlight the three pillars of Lent: Fasting, Almsgiving, and Prayer.

This Messy Church will have activities that highlight the last week of Lent-Holy Week and Palm Sunday. Activities begin at 9:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.

Concluding worship will be led by Pastor Layne and we will end with a snack of soft pretzels.

FOLLOWING THIS MESSY CHURCH, FAMILIES ARE ENCOURAGED TO CONTINUE THE DISCIPLINE OF SERVICE/GIVING BY JOINING IN THE ACTIVITIES THROUGH GOOD SAMARITAN DAY; WHICH BEGINS FOLLOWING MESSY LENT AND THE 11:00 A.M. WORSHIP.

This Easter, Lewinsville will be opening up the Easter Egg hunt to the community. We will be holding three hunts on the Saturday before Easter Sunday and we need eggs! Plastic Easter eggs stuffed with candy, toys, and stickers for the children of our church and the community.

Easter Egg Collection Month

During the month of March, we will be collecting donations of pre-stuffed eggs or requesting church groups to hold egg stuffings at their gatherings. Bins for the collections of the Easter Eggs will be located at various locations around the church. If you have any questions contact Allison Lineberger,

alineberger@lewinsville.org



Join us at Lewinsville Presbyterian Church & the Pavilion at the Lewinsville

Saturday, March 30



HUNT 1
Ages 2-5
9:30-10:15 a.m.

HUNT 2
Grades 1-3
11:00-11:45 a.m.

HUNT 3
Grades 4-6
12:30-1:15 p.m.

The Lewinsville Family Ministry is holding three Easter Egg Hunts. Hunt 1 will be for preschool children, ages 2-kindergarten/age 5, held at 9:30-10:15 a.m.; Hunt 2 will be for grades 1-3 held at 11:00-11:45 a.m. and Hunt 3 will be for children grades 4-5 held at 12:30-1:15 p.m.

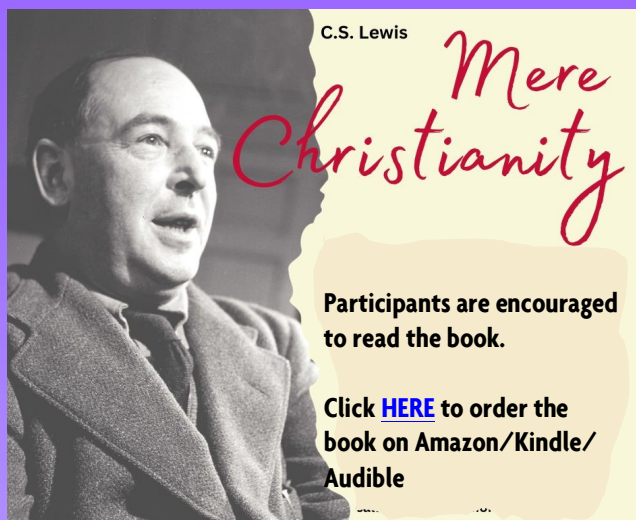
Each hunt will begin in the Pavilion at the Lewinsville with activities & games. The hunts will follow in the garden surrounding the Pavilion. This event is free and open to our neighbors. All children need to be accompanied by an adult.

Volunteers are needed to run the Pavilion games and to hide the eggs for each of the hunts. Volunteers may sign up to help with one, two or all of the hunts. Volunteers times:

- 9:00-10:15 a.m. for Hunt one, includes set up time
- 10:15-11:45 a.m. for Hunt two, includes set up time
- 11:45-1:45 p.m. for Hunt three, includes breakdown time

Contact alineberger@lewinsville.org to volunteer to help!

ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES



SUNDAY, MARCH 3, 10, 17

9:30-10:30 AM

ROOM 102B

One of the most popular introductions to Christian faith ever written, *Mere Christianity* brings together Lewis's legendary broadcast talks during World War Two. Lewis provides an unequaled opportunity for believers and nonbelievers alike to hear a powerful, rational case for the Christian faith.

"...I have thought that the best, perhaps the only service I could do.... was to explain and defend the belief that has been common to nearly all Christians at all times." C.S. Lewis

LEADER: DEBBIE LEAVENS



SUNDAY, MARCH 3, 10, 17

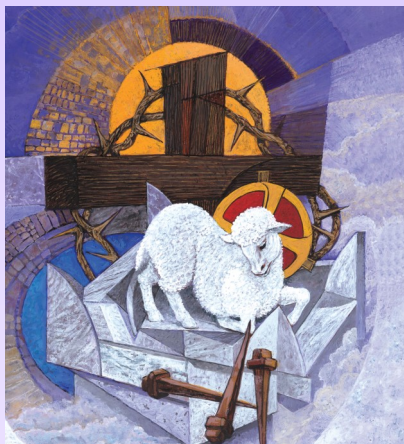
9:30-10:30 AM

ROOM 102A

How do you see Jesus? Each of us probably sees Jesus in a slightly different way, And that includes the four gospel writers. But of the gospel writers John's Gospel offers the richest and most unique view of Jesus. John makes this clear on how he wants his readers to see Jesus in these words near the end of his gospel, "But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name." John seeks to provide his unique perspective on Jesus

through the use of memorable metaphors. Join Rev. Dan Thomas as together we explore such rich and illuminating metaphors as tabernacle, living water, bread of life, resurrection and the life, and Passover offering and seek to discover how these can enrich our view and understanding of Jesus during this Lenten season.

LEADER: REV. DAN THOMAS



SPECIAL PALM SUNDAY CLASS-THE PASSOVER OFFERING-MARCH 24

9:30-10:30 AM

ROOM 102A

One of the key metaphors John uses in his gospel to enable his readers to see Jesus more clearly is "The Lamb of God". John introduces this metaphor two times in the first chapter of his gospel; as Jesus approaches John the Baptist to be baptized; and later for John the Baptist to identify Jesus to two of John's disciples. But this metaphor reaches its apex during Holy Week and in particular with Jesus' passion on Good Friday. How can the meaning and significance of the Jewish festival of Passover lead us to a heightened appreciation and understanding of Jesus' true identity and us to see and Believe in Jesus with greater conviction? Come and begin your Holy Week observance with a deeper dive into these questions and others.

LEADER: REV. DAN THOMAS





SUMMER MISSION TRIP 2024 RUTLAND, VERMONT JUNE 23-29

We are excited to partner with Youth Works who provide Christ-centered mission trips for thousands of teenagers and their adult leaders in communities across the U.S. and beyond.

Youth Works connects with organizations already at work serving the needs of people within the community and help these organizations do what they do every day of the year by providing them with volunteers. Partnerships include working with the elderly, children, individuals with special needs, people who are homeless or in transition, or serving through hands-on labor with food banks, community gardens or neighborhood revitalization projects. A priority is placed on relational service ministry opportunities but they also serve behind the scenes through manual labor. Most likely we will experience some of both in Rutland.

All youth who have completed the 6th grade by June 22, 2024 are able to attend SMP 2024! COVID-19 vaccinations will be required for all participants and all participants age 18 and over must complete a Criminal Background Check (unless there is one on file with LPC within the last year). The registration fee for this year's trip is \$300. The fee for each additional family member is \$250.

Sign up at this link! <https://smp.lewinsville.org/home>

NEW DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS WELCOME ALEXANDRIA JOHNSON!



We are VERY excited to welcome Alexandria (Alex) Johnson to the Lewinsville staff as our new, full-time Director of Communications. Alex will be coordinating all aspects of our communications as a congregation. We look forward to seeing the impact that she will have on our mission and ministry.

Welcome, Alex!



IT'S TIME TO REGISTER FOR MONTREAT YOUTH CONFERENCE!

Dates: July 28th- August 3rd

Who: Any youth that has completed 7th Grade is encouraged to attend

How: Register at this link:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1chgVmtDh7ccSfxyCZgxnpNo8KaQz7ZL3pYOTdyp5TY8/edit>

Payment: You Can Submit your Payment at this Link (Please specify that the payment is for

Montreat) <https://secure.myvanco.com/YN8C/campaign/C-138C2>

Learn More: You can read about the conference at this link: <https://montreat.org/events/myc-24>

YOUNG ADULTS MONDAY, MARCH 18 7:00-9:00 P.M. YOUTH ROOM

Monday March 18th all Lewinsville Young Adults (folks between the ages of 19-39ish) are welcome to join our Young Adult Small Group. This group will focus on fellowship, faith formation, service, and having fun together!

To be a young adult means you are in a stage of life where you are still trying to figure it all out. This group hopes to be a space for you to process life while you are figuring it all out. We meet in the youth room from 7-9pm



REV. LAYNE BRUBAKER

SPIRITUAL FORMATION & MISSION

One of the best parts of being a member of Lewinsville is the friendship and fellowship that is foundational to this congregation. As I continue to care and nurture the faith of our youth, I recognize the profound impact summer mission project and Montreat Youth Conference have on our youth in creating this sense of friendship and fellowship. These experiences not only enrich their spiritual lives but also foster bonds and create a profound sense of belonging to each other and to our congregation.

The Summer Mission Project and the Montreat youth conference provide invaluable opportunities for our youth to connect with each other on a deeper level. Through shared experiences of service, worship, and fellowship, they develop bonds that create friendships that will sustain them throughout their lives. These shared experiences create lasting memories and forge friendships that endure beyond the duration of the trip or conference. I believe that participating in the Summer Mission Project and the Montreat youth conference empowers our youth to make a tangible difference in the world while exploring their faith in action.

These experiences not only strengthen their commitment to service but also cultivates a deep sense of empathy and understanding towards others. Both trips provide safe spaces for our youth to explore and deepen their faith, ask questions, and wrestle with challenging issues. Through meaningful discussions, worship services, and reflections, they gain valuable insights and develop a deeper understanding of their beliefs.

I am incredibly grateful that Lewinsville is committed to nurturing the faith and growth of our youth. I hope all youth register to attend our two trips this summer and I encourage all adults in the congregation to prayerfully consider signing up for Summer Mission Project. Getting to know our youth during that week is a wonderful opportunity.

Gratefully,
Layne



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING/ FOUR SPECIAL OFFERINGS:

Throughout the liturgical year the Presbyterian Church (USA), has four Special Offerings, each with its unique purpose and mission.

- One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) is an offering that supports a wide range of programs aimed at providing relief to those affected by natural disasters, addressing hunger and poverty, and promoting sustainable development worldwide.
- The Pentecost Offering is dedicated to nurturing the faith of young people within and beyond the Presbyterian Church (USA). Funds raised through this offering support youth ministries, youth conferences, leadership development programs, and projects aimed at empowering young individuals to grow spiritually and engage actively in their communities.
- The Peace & Global Witness Offering enables the Presbyterian Church (USA) to engage in peacemaking efforts both locally and globally. This offering supports initiatives that promote reconciliation, justice, and peacebuilding in communities affected by conflict and violence.
- The Christmas Joy Offering celebrates the birth of Jesus Christ by supporting two vital ministries: the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions, which provides financial assistance to current and retired church workers in need, and racial ethnic education programs at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges.

During Lent the Mission and Service Ministry Group invites you to consider directing your generosity towards One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS), all money collected in this offering goes towards providing relief and assistance to communities around the world.

One Great Hour of Sharing encompasses the spirit of compassion and solidarity, embodying the core values of our faith as we extend a helping hand to those facing adversity. Through this offering, we stand in solidarity with vulnerable populations, offering support and resources in times of crisis and uncertainty. Whether it's responding to natural disasters, providing access to clean water, supporting sustainable agriculture, or empowering communities through education and economic development, OGHS plays a pivotal role in addressing multifaceted challenges with resilience and hope.





**SUNDAY, MARCH 17TH
FOLLOWING WORSHIP
SIGN UP AT LEWINSVILLE.ORG**

Good Samaritan day is on Sunday March 17th following worship in Fellowship Hall. We will have multiple Service Projects that is inclusive of all ages. We will be doing service projects for Lewinsville Retirement Residence, Falls Church Homeless Shelter, Miriam's Kitchen, and McLean Falls Church Children's Center.

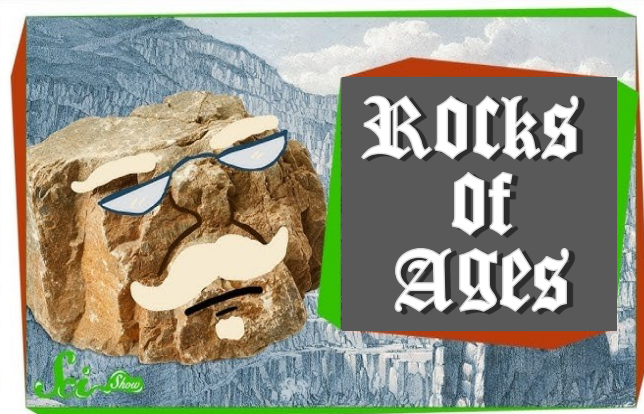
Sign up at this link: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeMk1m5uzNTTcOU1sJv9PHIEqDwrNN-v3W8rHnI6PtDy-f-XA/viewform>



**MARCH MADNESS - MEN SING!
MARCH 10TH SUNDAY WORSHIP
MISSION AND SERVICE LENTEN
CHALLENGE - MALE CHOIR**

Please join us in this Mission and Service Lenten Challenge, the pickup choir will meet at 10:30 am in the choir loft. No robes required, only a willingness to Praise!





“ROCKS OF AGES” MARCH 22 11:30 A.M.

Lewinsville’s seniors, known as the Rocks of Ages, will meet on Friday, March 22, at 11:30 a.m. in Room 102A for a light lunch for which there will be a suggested donation of \$7 to help cover costs. Following lunch, Ed Sumner will go over with us how the major renovation of 2022 has enhanced the active life of our congregation. There are new members, and some old members, who have never seen all the new construction and are curious. Ed will have drawings and first-hand knowledge to share. Ed and Wendy will then lead small groups for a walk through of the building. Please plan to join us for lunch and the tour. it is helpful to know if you will be attending for planning purposes but not essential. Please let either Wendy Maiwurm at 703 622-1659 wmaiwurm@gmail.com or Lois Dokken at 703 789-0617 manpadokken@aol.com know if you can come. Hope to see many of you on the 22nd.



SECOND SATURDAY SET MARCH 9 6:00 P.M. LEWINSVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, FELLOWSHIP HALL

Join the group for a potluck dinner and entertainment
Reply to
Karen Siple: Karen.siple@cox.net,
Liz Stevens: lizstevens541@hotmail.com or
Eve Jelstrom: emjelstrom@gmail.com and indicate your
food choice: appetizer, main dish, vegetable, salad or
dessert. Bring your own adult beverage.

NEWS FROM OUR LEWINSVILLE FAMILY

MEMBERS IN INDEPENDENT LIVING, NURSING HOMES & CARE CENTERS:

ASHBY PONDS:

Quinn and Celia Morrison,
Evelyn Jones, Richard Rager
Nancy Miller, Anne Schwartz
Charles and Mary Hutchison
Doug Bauer, Joanne Field,
Sarah Larson, Ray Martin
Bob and Beverly Johnson,
Fran Pearce

CHESTERBROOK RESIDENCES:

GOODWIN HOUSE, FALLS CHURCH:

GREENSPRING, SPRINGFIELD:

THE JEFFERSON, ARLINGTON:

THE KENSINGTON, RESTON:

LARMAX, MCLEAN

LEWINSVILLE RETIREMENT RESIDENCE:

Janie Waldrop
Bert Wolfe
Tirza Edwin, Jane Gardner,
Lurleen Ogle, Lucille Quinn,
Mina Sulaiman

LOUDOUN NURSING & REHABILITATION CENTER

Lois Rorex,
Saundra Leslie
Jean and Charlie Mertz,
Don Robb

VINSON HALL, MCLEAN:

THE VIRGINIAN:

ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to ALL Lewinsville couples celebrating MARCH wedding anniversaries. The following couple is celebrating a milestone occasion:
* Ernst and Sara Volgenau—65 years (March 29)

DEATHS

Our loving sympathy and prayers are with the family of Rick Neldon who died on February 2. Rick has been a member of Lewinsville Presbyterian Church since 1996, and has served as an Elder, Deacon/Stephen Minister, and a member of the bi-weekly Men’s Breakfast Group. A memorial service will be held Thursday, February 29, at 2pm with a reception to follow.



Daylight Savings Time begins in the early hours of Sunday, March 10. Don’t forget to set your clocks ahead 1 hour

Saturday night, March 9.



JOIN US FOR THE MARCH MADNESS/CHILI COOK-OFF PARTY

Hosted by the Young Adult and Fellowship Ministry Groups.
This event is for all ages at Lewinsville on Friday, March 22
from 6:00-9:00 p.m. held on the 2nd floor of the church.

There will be prizes for best chili in a wide variety of
categories, March Madness basketball live on the TV screens in
the youth room, bracket contests and games for kids.

Sign up to bring your own chili recipe:

[https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F084CA8A62AA7FA7-48012977
-march#/](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F084CA8A62AA7FA7-48012977-march#/)



REV. JEN DUNFEE CARE MINISTRIES

A 2020 report from AARP estimates there are 41 million Americans providing unpaid care to an adult over age 50. The report included children caring for parents, a person caring for a spouse or partner (either sharing the same home or not) and neighbors and friends providing care. A similar Blue Cross/Blue Shield study noted an increased stress level in 57% of respondents, including anxiety, financial strain, and time limitations that impact the caregiver's physical health. Since the average age of a caregiver is 50, many are also in the sandwich generation, caring for children at home and older adults at the same time.

Many people at Lewinsville Presbyterian identify as caregivers of older adults, and from stories I have heard, would resonate with the mix of challenges above and blessings described below that come with the role. The writer Kathleen Norris wrote about caring for her parents in a Christian Century article, "caregiving chose me, and through it I discovered capacities within myself I had no idea were there. Success is simply being there, enjoying another's company and being willing to do whatever job is necessary." (*Christian Century*, 5/5/21) Joyce Ann Meyer describes the mutual gifts of caregiving that follow a biblical pattern of call, "The call of individuals and communities overlaps so that the circumstances of one are addressed in the vocation of the other....an ecological understanding of vocation leaves room for the possibility that the needs of some parts of the community to receive care may activate giving on the part of others called to offer care." (*Christian Century*, 7/5/2017)

Caregiving in any relationship (spouse, partner, parent, child, friend, neighbor) brings a mix of stressors and opportunities for blessing. Christian faith can help support caregiving with a theological understanding of mutuality, service and vocation. Prayer, personal and share with others, can remind caregivers of a strength beyond the moment in a difficult day, and that God is always with the caregiver and person receiving care. Opportunities to share stressors together, in small groups, fellowship events, age and stage groups like those for youth parents, older adults, people in their 50s/60s can lighten the load. An upcoming opportunity for the particularly difficult challenge of caring for people with memory loss is a CE course on *Navigating Dementia with Compassion and Care* on May 5, 12 and 19th. There will be presentations from Melissa Long at Memory Care Center, theologian Dorothy Lithicum sharing advice for caregivers, and a panel of church members. If you have ideas for the series or would like to participate in the panel, please reach out. I end this article with a prayer for all caregivers, that they may be strengthened by the love of Christ, showered with the gifts of the Spirit, and encouraged by God who is always with them.



NEXT CLERK OF SESSION

In February, the Session voted to elect Doug Smith as our next Clerk of Session. Doug's term as clerk will begin this May, when Linda Bender will step down after four years in this role. Thank you, Linda, for your faithful and effective ministry, and thank you, Doug, for moving into this position!



EXPLORING THE INTERSECTION OF EARTH CARE AND MATTHEW 25



Lewinsville is both an [Earth Care Congregation](#) and a [Matthew 25](#) congregation. We tend to view these as separate commitments, when in fact, they are closely intertwined. Environmental degradation often impacts poor and vulnerable populations first and most acutely.

In a resolution titled [“Investing in a Green Future: A Vision for a Renewed Creation”](#) the 2022 PC(USA) General Assembly directed the Presbyterian Mission Agency (PMA) to “make restoring Creation (including environmental justice, racial justice and economic justice) a key priority in its Matthew 25 programming and in its advocacy”. In so doing, PMA identified [climate change](#) as a persistent and serious threat to the well-being of communities thrust to the margins and connected it to Matthew 25 program's primary focal points of eradicating structural racism, eliminating systemic poverty, and building congregational vitality.

Lewinsville's Earth Care Book Group is hosting a discussion via Zoom of [Before the Streetlights Come On](#) by Heather McTeer Toney on **Wednesday, March 6, 7:30 - 8:30 pm.** to explore the overlapping concerns of Earth Care and Matthew 25 with respect to climate change. Dr. McTeer Toney shares real-life stories drawn from her background in politics, community advocacy and leadership in environmental justice that illustrate the many ways that Black Americans are disproportionately impacted by climate change. She writes “when it comes to climate and environmental issues, humanity is in the same storm, but we are not in the same boat. Some of us are sailing along in yachts or manning aircraft carriers while others are bobbing along in rafts and rowboats. The impact of the storm hits us differently”.

All are invited to join the discussion. Familiarity with the book is helpful, but not required. (Zoom link provided in the Feb. 29 Lewinsville Update).

FEBRUARY SESSION MEETING HIGHLIGHTS:

1. At a special meeting of Session held on February 8, 2024, Session approved the Personnel Committee's request to hire Alexandria (Alex) Johnson as a full-time Director of Communications effective March 4, 2024. At that same meeting, Session elected Doug Smith as Clerk of Session for a one-year term beginning May 1, 2024.
2. At the regular meeting of Session held on February 20, 2024, Finance Committee Chair, Phil Cooke, reported that January 2024 income was strong and more than budgeted and expenses for January were under budget; a good start to the year.
3. At that same meeting, Session received a report from elder elect Alan Kohler about the new Lewinsville Emergency Action Preparedness (LEAP) Team. The main objective of this new group is to “make Lewinsville Presbyterian Church safer for everyone”. The initial planning process includes understanding current safety and security measures, prioritizing the focus, then communicating with the congregation
4. Additionally, Session received a report from Jerry Kohlenberger, finance committee liaison to the Worship Ministry Group, on the Music Fund and approved two Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) to provide support for the Music Ministry, improved transparency for Session on sources and uses of the Fund, and clear roles and limits of authority.
5. Session received a report from the Youth Council with an update on current activities.
6. Finally, Session approved a request from the Director of Christian Education Search Committee to post the open position on the Presbyterian Church (USA)'s Church Leadership Connection platform to attract ordained candidates.

If you ever have any questions, feel free to reach out to any of the pastors or to me.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Bender, Clerk of Session



Lewinsville

Presbyterian Church

1724 CHAIN BRIDGE ROAD
MCLEAN, VIRGINIA 22101

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Donate Now!

Lewinsville's Junior Choristers, Lewinsville Choristers, and Puppeteers recently held an 'Invite a Friend' Day! Much fun was had by all! We meet weekly on Sundays from 9:30-10:00 (Joyful Noise), 3:00-3:45 (Junior Choir), 3:45-4:30 (Puppeteers), 4:30-6:00 (Lewinsville Choir and Bells), 6:00-8:00 (Youth Fellowship). We welcome you to invite a friend to choir, church, or an upcoming event at Lewinsville!



JOIN US FOR SUNDAY REHEARSAL

Joyful Noise (9:30-10:00 am)
Junior Choristers (3:00-3:45 pm)
Lewinsville Choristers (4:30-6:00 pm)

Lewinsville
Presbyterian Church

Lewinsville will host the McLean Interfaith Community Choir on Sunday, May 5th at 7:00 pm. There will be weekly rehearsals on Saturdays from 4:00-5:00 pm in April. Please contact John Nothhaft if you'd like to join in this community building event!

MCLEAN INTERFAITH COMMUNITY CHORAL CONCERT

SUNDAY, MAY 5TH AT 7:00 PM



REHEARSALS: SATURDAYS IN APRIL 4:00-5:00 PM

Lewinsville Presbyterian Church
1724 Chain Bridge Rd. McLean, VA 22101

Lewinsville
Presbyterian Church