Lewinsville Epiphany

JANUARY 4, 2026

11 AM

FOLLOWING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

Welcome to worship at Lewinsville Presbyterian Church! We are so glad you have joined us, and we hope that worship will strengthen, comfort, challenge, and inspire you in your own journey of faith.

As individuals and a congregation, we want to *bear fruit for the kingdom of God*.

"Bearing fruit" is different from being successful, from impressing other people, from making ourselves feel good, from having people like us, and other tempting goals that we might be inclined to aim at.

"Bearing fruit" is about allowing God to grow something through us. Things like - *community, mercy, faithfulness, compassion, justice, hospitality, trust*.

In John 15:2 Jesus teaches us, "Every branch that bears fruit my Father prunes so that it will bear more fruit."

"Bearing fruit" involves *intentional and attentive cultivation*. Gardeners are well aware that one must prune a vine, in order for it to bear fruit well. There may be things that have accumulated in our lives, as individuals and as a congregation, that are no longer giving life, but to which we may have grown accustomed and comfortable. We may need to prune those things together. This pruning is always for the sake of bearing more fruit.

Worship is a central activity in which we participate in God's mission of bearing fruit for the world. God's loving grace is poured out upon all people, from the youngest among us to the older. We are delighted to welcome *children of all ages* to worship:

- There are pillows available in the narthex to make the pews more comfortable.
- There are worship bags with activities for young children.
- Nursery care is available downstairs for our very youngest children.
- Hearing Assistance devices are available from the ushers or the audio/video station at the rear of the sanctuary.
- Enlarged-print *Glory to God* hymnals are available from the ushers.

During the coming year, we hope that your participation and involvement in the mission and ministry of Lewinsville will help you to bear fruit in your life!

New to Lewinsville?

Scan this code

Programs of the Presbyterian Church (USA)

THE LEWINSVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS
SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
JANUARY 4, 2026

* *If you are able, please stand*

GATHERING

PRELUDE *The Gifts We Bring*

* **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Arise, shine! A light has appeared in the darkness.
A star leads the way to Christ, the hope of the world.

We come, seeking and wondering,
led by the light of God's presence.

Come, bring your gifts, your questions, your hearts.

We come to worship Christ
light for all people, joy for every nation.

* **HYMN** *We Three Kings* GTG 151
KINGS OF ORIENT

CALL TO CONFESSION

Silence for personal confession

Radiant God,
You shine your light for all to see,
but we confess that we often turn away.
Like Herod, we fear what we do not control.
Like the Magi, we sometimes lose our way.
We cling to comfort instead of following your call.
We guard our gifts instead of offering them freely.

Forgive us, Holy One.
Guide us by your light.
Open our hearts to your presence,
and lead us in the way of Christ
so that we may find joy in the journey
and share your light with the world.

RESPONSE *There's a Star in the East* GTG 135 V.1

ANTIOCH

There's a star in the east on Christmas morn.
Rise up, shepherd, and follow.
It will lead to the place where the Christ was born.
Rise up, shepherd, and follow.

Refrain:
Follow, follow;
rise up, shepherd, and follow.
Follow the star of Bethlehem.
Rise up, shepherd, and follow.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, hear and believe the good news that comes from God.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

* **RESPONSE** *There's a Star in the East* GTG 135 V.2

ANTIOCH

If you take good heed to the angel's words,
rise up, shepherd, and follow.
You'll forget your flocks, you'll forget your herds.
Rise up, shepherd, and follow.

Refrain:
Follow, follow;
rise up, shepherd, and follow.
Follow the star of Bethlehem.
Rise up, shepherd, and follow.

* **THE PEACE**

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also, with you.

Greet those around you, saying "Peace be with you" or "The Peace of Christ." If you prefer not to shake hands in greeting while passing the Peace of Christ, you may choose to make eye contact and greet others in another personal way.

THE WORD

CHILDREN'S MEDITATION

Children are welcome to stay in the Sanctuary during the sermon. After the children's meditation, children ages PK-elementary school also have the option of leaving for Sermon Stories. Pastor Jen or a member of the Sermon Stories team will lead the children to Room 102B

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE Exodus 3:1-6 OT p. 50
Matthew 2: 1-18 NT p. 2

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

SERMON God is with Us - All the Way Down on the Ground Rev. Layne B. Brubaker

* **HYMN** *What Child is This* GTG 145
GREENSLEEVES

* **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *Apostles' Creed*

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,

and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

(continued)

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

THANKSGIVING

INVITATION TO OFFERING

** Please sign and pass The Red Hand of Greeting Pad*

(Scan this QR code to donate or go to www.lewinsville.org and click the "Make a Gift" Button to give online.)

OFFERTORY *I Will Light the Candles This Christmas* Text by Rev. Dr. Howard Thurman

* **RESPONSE** *T'was in the Moon of Wintertime* GC 142 V.4

UNE JEUNE PUCELLE

O children of the forest free,
the angel song is true;
the holy child of earth and heav'n
is born today for you.
Come, kneel before the radiant boy,
who brings you beauty, peace, and joy.

Refrain:
Jesus your king is born!
Jesus is born,
in excelsis gloria!

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

All who profess faith in Jesus Christ are invited to the table.

THE INVITATION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Prayer is offered.

…and with all the faithful of every time and place,
who forever sing to the glory of your name.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *Still, Still, Still* GTG 124 V.1

STILL, STILL, STILL

Still, still, still, He sleeps this night so chill!
The Virgin's tender arms enfolding,
Warm and safe the Child are holding.
Still, still, still, He sleeps this night so chill!

Prayer continues.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF BREAD AND THE POURING OF THE CUP

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Alleluia! Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *Still, Still, Still* GTG 124 V.2

STILL, STILL, STILL

Sleep, sleep, sleep, He lies in slumber deep
While angel hosts from heaven come winging,
Sweetest songs of joy are singing.
Sleep, sleep, sleep, He lies in slumber deep.

Communion will be served at the front of the sanctuary. Ushers will indicate when each pew is to come forward to receive the bread and cup. After receiving the bread and cup, you may return to your pew using the side aisles. Those not desiring or unable to come forward may so indicate to the ushers, and the bread and cup will be brought to the pew so all may partake. Gluten-free bread is available. Wine is in the outside ring; grape juice is on the inside. Please indicate your preference.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION *Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring* by Johann Sebastian Bach

PRAYER AFTER THE SUPPER

Holy and radiant God, we thank You for feeding us at this table and revealing the light of Christ to the world. As the star once led seekers to the Christ-child, so lead us by Your Spirit to walk in the way of truth and peace. May Your light shine through us, that all may see and be drawn to Your love. Through Christ, our Light and our Hope. Amen.

SENDING

FOLLOWING CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

* **HYMN** *As with Gladness Men of Old* GTG 150
DIX

* **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

* **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE *Star Rising* Erik Santos

An Elder or Deacon will be standing beside the pastors on the way out of the sanctuary, to take notes about any pastoral concerns.

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ACTIVE IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Music Ministry	Chancel Choir, Three Queens, Dr. Leelee Hunter, Susanna Foster, Maeve McDonald, Sophia Niday
Lay Reader	Cathy Saunders
Duty Elder	Madison Kloster
Duty Deacon	Carroll Bastian
Audio/Visual Ministry	Daniel Howell/Carlos Claros (Aperture Media)

UPCOMING MEMORIAL SERVICES

Marie Heilen — Saturday, January 10, 2026, 1 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 4, 2026

Help Our Neighbors with Urgent Needs — Donate to the Deacon's Fund

Today, the Deacons ask you to consider a donation to the Deacons Fund. The fund is used to help alleviate urgent needs faced by the Lewinsville community, The Deacon's Fund assists church and community members with rental/housing, medical, and food support. Cash and check donations are received in the narthex after the worship service. Alternatively, donations can be made on the church website or by scanning this QR code.

Epiphany Contemplative Service

Today, Sunday, January 4, 2026 4 p.m., Narthex

Join us for a contemplative service in which you will have the opportunity to discover your 2026 Star Word. The use of star words, also called "star gifts," is a prayer practice connected to Epiphany and the new year that has been growing in popularity in Protestant churches for nearly a decade now. The idea is that a list of intention words, or guiding words, are written or printed on paper stars. During our labyrinth walk, individuals are invited to draw a word from the basket and use that word as a guiding word throughout the coming year. Once you have your word, we encourage you to place your star word somewhere you will see it regularly throughout the year to allow consistent reflection on how God has moved through, around, or in connection to that word.

Dinner Church

Sunday, January 11, 2026, 6 p.m.

Join us for this monthly worship service held on the second Sunday of each month, welcoming people of all ages to gather in community. This service offers a unique way to worship God while sharing a meal together. It is an age-inclusive experience, designed to bring everyone—from children to adults—into meaningful worship. Dinner Church also serves as an alternative for those who find Sundays challenging to attend, creating an opportunity for worship and fellowship midweek in a relaxed and welcoming environment.

This month, please plan to stay for the free Salzman Lecture at 7 p.m. , with Dr. Mark Stoll who will speak about the contributions the Reformed Faith made to the Environmental Movement. Both events are free and all are welcome.

Inquirers' Class

Sunday, January 25, 2026 3- 5 p.m. Room 102a

Learn about Lewinsville and the Presbyterian Church (USA. You are welcome to attend the session. For questions, see Pastors Scott, Layne or Jen.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

CHILDREN

Lewinsville Presbyterian Church For Kids And Parents

- **Looking for a Bible story time and singing for your infant and toddler, while meeting other parents with little ones?** Join "Lewinsville Littles", a monthly singing and story time for infants and toddlers with a parent. Next "Littles" are January 18 and February 15 at 4 p.m. in the Church downstairs.
- **Want to introduce your PK-1st grader to beginning choir, instruments and Bible stories?** Joyful Noise choir meets second and fourth Sunday mornings, 9:30 a.m. - 10 a.m. Godly Play story telling is from 10-10:30 a.m.
- **Hoping for conversation with other parents to talk about parenting challenges while growing in faith?** Parent faith building and support class meets 2nd and 4th Sunday mornings from 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
- **Have a child interested in hand bells or youth choir?** Kids in 2nd-12th grades meet every Sunday from 4:30-5:30 p.m. for choir, and 5:30-6 p.m. for Hand Bells. Absolutely no experience needed!
- **Looking for service opportunities to do as a family?** Come to **1st Sunday Service,** a monthly service time at 10 a.m. and learn about our church's Mission partners while serving together. The next 1st Sunday Service gatherings are January 4 and March 1, 2026. Good for service hours.
- **Interested in a worship service that welcomes your children, however they are doing that day, and grows the faith of each person in the family?** Join Lewinsville church on Sundays at 11 a.m. Children can stay in worship or go to a mini-Sermon Stories lesson for part of the service. Every 3rd Sunday is "Messy Church" (because God loves us even when we are not perfect) at 9:30 with interactive worship and prayer stations. Next Messy Churches are January 18 and February 15, 2026.

YOUTH

Lewinsville Presbyterian Church for Middle School and High School

Youth looking for fellowship and faith formation? At youth fellowship we gather, share a meal, have fun, and grow in our faith together. All Youth are welcomed and encouraged to bring friends!

Register for Montreat Youth Conference

July 19-25, 2026

All youth who have completed 7th grade are welcome to register for Montreat Youth Conference. It is a week of faith formation and fun in the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina. Reach out to Pastor Layne with any questions. Register with this QR Code.

YOUNG ADULTS

Register for the Young Adult Retreat

January 16 -18, 2026, Massanutten

We're excited to announce that our Young Adult Retreat is back for MLK Weekend 2026, and we're heading once again to the beautiful Massanutten Resort! This retreat is a perfect mid-winter getaway for young adults in their 20s and 30s looking for rest, renewal, and meaningful connection. This small group aims to provide a supportive space where you can process and explore life's challenges as you navigate your journey of faith.

Whether you're new to the group or have come before, this is a great opportunity to step away from the busyness of daily life and spend intentional time in faith, friendship, and reflection—all surrounded by the beauty of the mountains. Expect fun activities, shared meals, group discussions, and plenty of time to relax. Interested? Contact LeeLee Hunter or Nate Jones for more information or to reserve your spot. Let's make space to grow in community and faith together—we'd love for you to join us!

ADULT EDUCATION

Reformed Portraits—The Founders, taught by Bruce Douglass
Sundays, January 4 – January 25, 9:30 a.m. and on Zoom
Presbyterians are a branch of a wider spiritual family that has been known ever since the Protestant Reformation as "Reformed." The figure who is most commonly identified as the founder of the Reformed movement is John Calvin, a French lawyer who became a theologian and pastor and spent most of his life in exile in Geneva, Switzerland. But Calvin did not act alone. He was part of a multinational team of leaders (laity as well as clergy) who together took actions that laid the foundations of Reformed Protestantism. This class is designed to provide a brief account of that part of Reformed history through an examination of the careers of some of the key figures.

- January 11 – John Calvin
- January 18 – John Knox
- January 25 – Marguerite of Navarre & Jeanne d'Albret

Strong Roots, Calm Waters: Helping Kids Handle Hard Feelings
Two More Sundays: January 11 and January 25, 2026.
When children experience emotional discomfort, distress, and disappointment, so do parents. Parents' first reaction might be to do anything to remove the negative feeling in their child, and therefore in themselves. The short-term outcome might be a child (and parent) who feels better; the long-term outcome might diminish a child's distress tolerance and resilience. In this three-week course, explore how parents can better understand their own emotions and reactions in order to grow their children's skills at dealing with hard experiences and feelings. Faith, spiritual practices and scripture will be through lines for how parents find support in the challenges of parenting. This course is for parents, grandparents, teachers, and church friends. Even if you are not a parent or currently parenting, this class is still for you. We all have parents and are processing our own childhoods which impacts our spiritual life.

- January 11 - Carlie Cooney, family support specialist at The Brooksfield School and a licensed family therapist, and Pastor Jen, moderate a conversation on "Healthy Bonds, Healthy boundaries" - how to provide children with behavioral guardrails while maintaining love and connection.

- January 25- Adam Diaz, Director of Wellness at Landon School, returns to Lewinsville to lead a discussion on building one's internal reserves to navigate the challenges of children without rescuing them, spiraling, or freaking out.

Salzman Speaker Announcement, Dr. Mark Stoll

Sunday, January 11, 2026, 7 p.m., - Following Dinner Church

Dr. Stoll, professor of American environmental history and American religious history, will present on how the Reformed churches in American, including Presbyterians, were, in his words, " the undisputed leaders in environmental thought, art and action." He will present on the historical basis for how faith energized these Presbyterian and Reformed Christians towards a public mission to protect the environment. Dr. Stoll's writings challenge Presbyterians to look at our history as a way to commit to energy, clarity and leadership in earth care today. The Salzman Lecture Series was established in 1998 to honor the memory of Lewinsville elder and outstanding Presbyterian layman, Howard Salzman. The lecture is an opportunity for reflection on areas central to Howard's own ministry: public affairs, global missions, and Christian education.

MUSIC MINISTRY EVENTS

Holy Happy Hour

Wednesday, January 28, 2026, 6:15 p.m.

Lewinsville is very excited to host the U.S. Army Strings Quartet. Founded in 1950, the U.S. Army String Quartet showcases music of all varieties in a chamber music setting. Join us for an evening of beloved melodies. Following the concert there will be a wine and cheese reception in Saint Andrews Hall. Wines curated by Vienna Vinter.

MISSION AND SERVICE

Register for Summer Mission Project

June 28-July 4, 2026, Blue Ridge, NC

The Summer Mission Project planning team is excited to announce the 2026 Summer Mission Project (SMP) location and open registration for all who are ready to serve, grow, and connect this summer! This year, SMP is heading to the

Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina from June 28 to July 4, 2026, for a week of hands-on mission work, and spiritual growth.

Good News About our Ukrainian Family

A few days before Christmas the P Family received notice that the parole applications for Olga and her three children had been tentatively approved, pending payment of the application fees. Sergii's parole application apparently has some missing documentation, so his application is still "in process."

David Foster's law firm is working with the family to sort all this out and get everything submitted to USCIS. The Immigration Parole Fees are $1,000 per person, an impossible amount for a family of five with no income and no ability to work legally.

On Christmas Eve a family in our congregation donated $5,000 to pay their application fees; truly a Christmas miracle!

After the Christmas Eve service, Bob Gaugler (LPC Treasurer) wrote the check to the family from the church. On December 26, Karen Steel and Betty Douglass hand-delivered the check to the P Family in Woodbridge. They were able to meet with the whole family, hear about their home and family back in Ukraine, tour their tiny two-bedroom apartment, and determine what furniture and furnishings the family needs.

We will be sending out the list of these needs to the congregation in the next couple of weeks. Be on the look-out for this list, and please help us provide this additional support to this lovely family. And please continue to pray for the successful resolution of their legal status, which will enable the parents to return to their previous employment and financially support their family.

FELLOWSHIP

Rocks of Ages

Friday, January 23, 2026 11:30 a.m. Room 102a

Join the Rocks of Ages for lunch and a presentation from Michelle Boulay of N2Shape Personal Training who will provide techniques to avoid falls and some strength training exercises. Wear comfortable shoes and prepare for some exercises in your chair. Lunch provided. A donation of $7 is requested. RSVP to William Black at wmjblack@gmail.com or call 703-448-5614 or Wendy Maiwurm at wmaiwurm@gmail.com or call 571-661-8775.

Ministers	The Entire Congregation of Lewinsville Church
Pastor	The Rev. Dr. Scott Ramsey
Associate Pastor for Christian Formation	The Rev. Layne B. Brubaker
Stated Supply Pastor for Christian Education	The Rev. Jen Dunfee
Director of Music Ministries	John Nothaft
Children's Music Specialist	Evan Ayars

Leadership at Lewinsville
Ruling Elders

Clerk of Session: Doug Smith

Treasurer: Robert Gaugler

Spencer Deese	Janet Gale	Emily Foster
Betty Douglass	LeeLee Hunter	Debbie Leavens
Beverly Johnson	Jerry Kohlenberger	Karl Sandberg
Madison Kloster	Alan Kohler	Roy Siple

Deacons

Judy Herseth	Harriet Hopkins	Carroll Bastian
Tom Staeger (Moderator)	Corbin Rugh Rochedreux	Peterson Huang
		Virginia McCormick

Mission Co-workers

Andrew and Ellen Collins, Interserve (USA), Chiang Mai, Thailand

Church Staff

Communications & Live Stream Manager	Amelia Townsend
Office Coordinator	Davi McDonald
Financial Manager	Jeanne Melone
Interim Property Manager	Bob Clark
Facilities Manager	Steven Kirkland
Pastor Emeritus	The Reverend Gary G. Pinder

Lewinsville
Presbyterian Church

New to Lewinsville?

WELCOME TO LEWINSVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH! We are delighted to welcome all newcomers to our church family! At Lewinsville Presbyterian Church, we are claimed by God in Jesus Christ, called to live as a community of faith, and sent to participate in the unfolding of God's kingdom on earth.

As you embark on this journey with us, we invite you to explore our mission and vision, which guide our every endeavor. To learn more about who we are and what we do, please visit our website at lewinsville.org.

LEWINSVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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703-356-7200 —FAX – 703-356-7334 www.lewinsville.org