



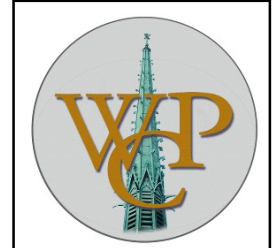
# CHIMES - February 2026

Westminster Presbyterian Church

<http://www.wpclynchburg.org> (434) 847-6655

e-mail: [wpclynchburg@gmail.com](mailto:wpclynchburg@gmail.com)

Pastor: Rev. Shawn Hyska



*"I imagine Lent for you and for me as a great departure from the greedy, anxious antineighborliness of our economy, a great departure from our exclusionary politics that fears the other, a great departure from self-indulgent consumerism that devours creation. And then an arrival in a new neighborhood, because it is a gift to be simple, it is a gift to be free; it is a gift to come down where we ought to be." — Walter Brueggemann, A Way Other Than Our Own: Devotions for Lent*

The way this past week and our cold, ice tundra of weather has gone it's not too far fetched to imagine us having to have drive-by ashes for Ash Wednesday in a few weeks when we begin the season of Lent. Or it could be 80 degrees and we're outside wearing shorts. I'll take a heat wave any day now.

In a few weeks we will begin the season of Lent, the season of the church liturgical year between Ash Wednesday and Palm Sunday. It's a season marked by deep, personal contemplation as we walk with Jesus and his disciples as he prepares to end his earthly ministry and show just how deep his love goes -by sacrificing it for all humankind.

As an adult the season of Lent has held a deeper meaning than just giving up something or not eating meat on Fridays as I did when I was a child. I've tried to add spiritual discipline during Lent, particularly in finding and reading a new devotional each year. I believe that if Lent is a season for deep, personal, and honest contemplation with God, why not read something that will engage me on an even deeper level with my God? I believe when we do this, when we engage longer in God's Word, when we provide more time for God in our lives, we allow ourselves to become more aligned with God's desires for us, we provide more opportunities for us to hear God's voice, to be cleansed of that which detracts us from God and thus preparing for what God has in store for us.

Lent is a departure from the usual grind, a time we are called to set aside to keep sacred, a time to depart, as Walter Brueggemann states, a departure from the pulls of the world to align ourselves to better receive the gift of new life, a gift that calls us forth into new ways in our lives and in the world.

May this season of Lent for you be one where you feel more connected to God, more in-tune with listening for God's voice, even if it means having to fiddle with the tuning dial to get that perfect, non-static, signal to come through.

I'll see you along the journey.

Peace,

Pastor Shawn



Our Centennial Celebration!  
 Save the Date: March 22, 2026

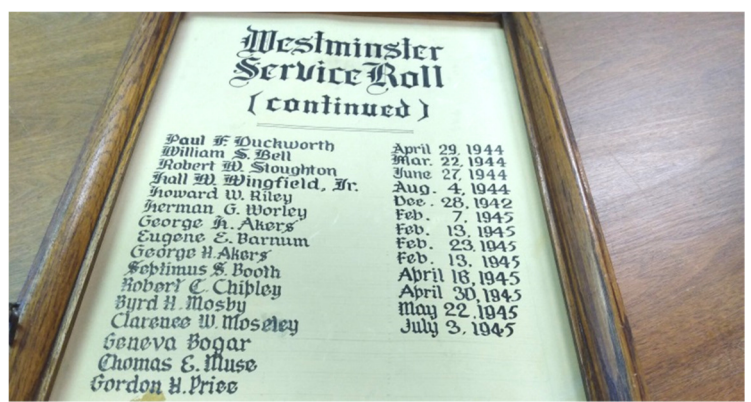
**CALLING ALL WPC VETERANS!!**

Thanks to everyone for your support of the new Legacy/Ladies Bible Study and Bridal Room. ( yes there is space for it all!)

Just as this remarkable space is serving more than one function, the remarkable members of this congregation have served and are serving this country. **We would like to continue to recognize all by adding to Westminster's Service Roll.**

**Please help us by submitting names and dates of your service or that of others to the church's email address or leave a note on the secretary's desk.**

With warm regards,  
 Angela Hart





*Please remember our homebound members.*

**February Birthdays**

- 4 Queen Webb
- 8 Christopher Reed
- 14 Raymond Ferguson
- 16 Sally Mock
- 18 Charlie Ross
- 18 Anna Bradley McCall
- 19 Mary Sue Childress

- |           |  |  |           |
|-----------|--|--|-----------|
| * * * * * | Kathleen Smith<br>Westminster Canterbury<br>501 VES Rd, H-429<br>Lynchburg, VA 24503   | Queen Webb<br>C/O The Summit<br>1300 Enterprise Dr.<br>Lynchburg, VA 24502                 | * * * * * |
| * * * * * | Maymie Keys<br>R&P at Liberty Ridge<br>30 Monica Blvd. Unit 305<br>Lynchburg, VA 24502 | Doris Hailey<br>209 Woodland Avenue<br>Lynchburg, VA<br>24501-2127                         | * * * * * |
| * * * * * | Eloise Peters<br>Westminster Canterbury<br>501 VES Rd, B-706<br>Lynchburg VA 24503     | Barbara Taylor<br>R&P at Liberty Ridge<br>30 Monica Blvd. Unit 344<br>Lynchburg, Va. 24502 | * * * * * |
| * * * * * | Sylvia Viar<br>15 John Rucker Drive<br>Ruckersville, VA 22968                          | Becky Maxey<br>57 Beech Avenue<br>Hamilton, NJ 08610                                       | * * * * * |
| * * * * * | Please pray for Nancy Duncan and Joe Slette.   |  | * * * * * |

**Chili Cookoff**

**Prior to the big game, stay after church to stuff your face with yummy chili! Souper Bowl Sunday** will be February 8th, 2026. On that Sunday, after worship, we invite the congregation to compete in the annual Chili Cookoff to raise money in support of Daily Bread.

Carter Miller won last year, so bring your best Chili to try your hand at being our next Chili Cookoff Winner, and support an incredible effort within our community to ensure no one goes hungry.

Be on the lookout for the Chili Sign-up Sheet outside the office and in the Narthex. Many compete, but who will win?

**100 Years of Westminster at 11th & Floyd!**

In spring of 2026, we will celebrate Westminster Presbyterian Church being here, in Lynchburg, Va, at 11th & Floyd, for 100 years!

In preparation for that incredible event, Angela Hart, our congregation Historian, is working on refurbishing the Legacy History room. It has been moved upstairs into what was once the Ladies Bible Study Room, behind the Fellowship Hall, for ease of access and enjoyment. There is still much to do to catalogue and artfully display all the incredible pieces of history we have hidden away here at WPC.

**If you would care to donate to this cause, please write checks to WPC with "Legacy Room Refurbishment" on the MEMO line of your check.**





## Keeping a Holy Lent

Lent begins this month with Ash Wednesday! Lent is meant to be a time of repentance. These 40 days are set aside to praise and worship the Lord; to read the Bible more, and to pray more often in order to grow a more intimate relationship with the Lord.

**We begin the season of Lent with TWO Ash Wednesday Services.**

**Wednesday, February 18th: 12:15 PM & 5 PM**

We will have Lenten Devotional booklets available after the Ash Wednesday Services. There are many different options in order to best meet each member where he or she is in his or her faith journey. Please peruse the options and decide on one that best fits you right now!

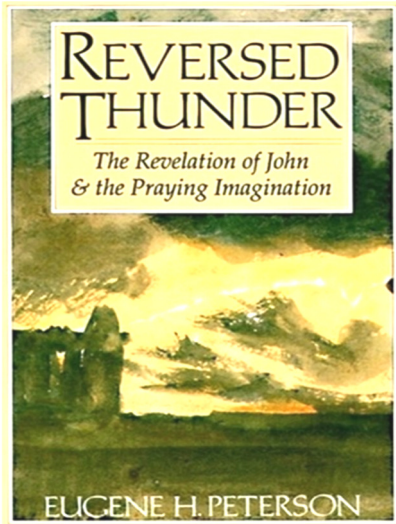
We will also have Lilies for Sale. Please sign up to purchase an Easter Lily that you can take home after the Easter service in April. They smell amazing!



## Revelation Bible Study at Westminster Presbyterian Church

### Continuing through

Join us this year as we delve into the Revelation and expand our imagination. During the study we will read the Biblical text itself alongside Peterson's book Reversed Thunder: The Revelation of John & the Praying Imagination. The Study will begin in October, and the group will meet for one hour each week— **Tuesday nights, 5.15 to 6.15 PM. There will also be a Zoom option for those who cannot make it in person to the church.**



We will be continuing our exploration of Revelation in February and welcome everyone who is interested to join us.

**Tuesday Nights 5:15 PM —6:15 PM**

**February 3**—Revelation 21:1-22:5/Chapter 12—The Last Word on Heaven

**February 10**—Conclusion/Chapter 13—The Last Words

## **Annual Congregational Meeting**

On January 18th, 2026, we were scheduled to have our annual congregational meeting. In this meeting, we were going to summarize all that had occurred in and around Westminster Presbyterian Church through the 2025 year. We were also going to elect new Elders for Session and Trustee for the 2026-2029 term. Unfortunately, the call for winter weather prompted a postponement until Sunday, January 25th. Winter threw us another curve ball and dropped snow and ice on half the country, including us here in Central Virginia, from Saturday the 24th through Sunday the 25th. Needless to say, we did not meet.

That being the case, please be aware that we will be meeting in February after worship service to elect our new Elders. We are still in need of one more Elder for nominee! If you someone on your mind and heart that you'd like to nominate for Session (and this person agreed to do it), please contact Nancy Duncan, Ashley Thulin, or Allen Hamblen.

# February 2026



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><b>1 4th Sunday After Epiphany</b>                      Scripture: Mic. 6:1-8 &amp; Ps. 15: Cor. 1:18-31; Matt. 5:1-12                      Pastor: Rev. Shawn Hyska                      Acolyte: Raymond Ferguson                      Ushers: Angela Hart &amp; Charlie Ross                      Counters: Hoc Hughes, Pix Mahler                      Liturgist: Mary Sue Childress                      Communion Prep.: Martha Wilson                      Communion Servers: Sharee Eans, Angela Hart, Ashley Thulin  <b>Session Meeting 9AM</b>  <b>W&amp;M meeting 12:15PM</b></p>	<p><b>2 Lunch Bunch</b>                      12PM</p>	<p><b>3 BIBLE STUDY</b>                      Revelation 21:1-22:5/Chapter 12—The Last Word on Heaven</p>	4	5	6	<p><b>7 Blessing Place</b>                      10Am—1 PM</p>
<p><b>8 5th Sunday After Epiphany</b>                      Scripture: Isa. 58:1-9a (9b -12) &amp; Ps. 112:1-9(10); 1 Cor. 2:1-12 (13-16); Matt. 5:13-20                      Pastor: Rev. Shawn Hyska                      Acolyte: Raymond Ferguson                      Ushers: Joe &amp; Lucy Slette                      Counters: Hoc Hughes, Pix Mahler                      Liturgist: Chris Harris</p>	<p><b>9 P.W. Circle</b>                      11AM</p>	<p><b>10 BIBLE STUDY</b>                      Conclusion/Chapter 13—The Last Words</p>	11	12	13	<p><b>14 Happy Valentine's Day!</b></p>
<p><b>15 Transfiguration of the Lord</b>                      Scripture: Ex. 24:12-18 &amp; Ps. 2 or Ps. 99; 2 Pet. 1:16-21; Matt. 17:1-9                      Pastor: Rev. Shawn Hyska                      Acolyte: Angela Hart                      Ushers: Wilbur Duncan &amp; Jeff Evans                      Counters: Hoc Hughes, Pix Mahler                      Liturgist: Byron Thulin</p>	<p><b>16 Presidents' Day</b></p>	<p><b>17</b></p>	<p><b>18 Ash Wed:</b>                      12:15 PM &amp; 5 PM Services</p>	19	20	21
<p><b>22 1st Sunday in Lent</b>                      Scripture: Gen. 2:15-17; 3:1-7 &amp; Ps. 32; Rom. 5:12-19; Matt. 4:1-11                      Pastor: Rev. Shawn Hyska                      Acolyte: Raymond Ferguson                      Ushers: Carter &amp; Kyle Miller                      Counters: Hoc Hughes, Pix Mahler                      Liturgist: Joe Slette</p>	<p><b>23</b></p>	<p><b>24</b></p>	25	26	27	28

**WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**1022 FLOYD STREET**

**LYNCHBURG, VIRGINIA 24501**



**February 1** 4th Sunday After Epiphany  
Scripture: Mic. 6:1-8 & Ps. 15: Cor. 1:18-31:  
Matt. 5:1-12

Pastor: Rev. Shawn Hyska  
Acolyte: Raymond Ferguson  
Ushers: Angela Hart & Charlie Ross  
Counters: Hoc Hughes, Pix Mahler  
Liturgist: Mary Sue Childress  
Communion Prep.: Martha Wilson  
Communion Servers: Sharee Eans, Angela  
Hart, Ashley Thulin

**Session Meeting 9AM**  
**W&M meeting 12:15PM**

**February 15th Transfiguration of the Lord**  
Scripture: Ex. 24:12-18 & Ps. 2 or Ps. 99; 2 Pet.  
1:16-21; Matt. 17:1-9

Pastor: Rev. Shawn Hyska  
Acolyte: Angela Hart  
Ushers: Wilbur Duncan & Jeff Evans  
Counters: Hoc Hughes, Pix Mahler  
Liturgist: Byron Thulin

**February 8** 5th Sunday After Epiphany  
Scripture: Isa. 58:1-9a (9b -12) & Ps. 112:1-9(10);  
1 Cor. 2:1-12 (13 -16); Matt. 5:13-20

Pastor: Rev. Shawn Hyska  
Acolyte: Raymond Ferguson  
Ushers: Joe & Lucy Slette  
Counters: Hoc Hughes, Pix Mahler  
Liturgist: Chris Harris  
**Chili Cookoff after the Service**

**February 22 1st Sunday in Lent**  
Scripture: Gen. 2:15-17; 3:1-7 & Ps. 32; Rom. 5:12  
-19; Matt. 4:1-11

Pastor: Rev. Shawn Hyska  
Acolyte: Raymond Ferguson  
Ushers: Carter & Kyle Miller  
Counters: Hoc Hughes, Pix Mahler  
Liturgist: Joe Slette