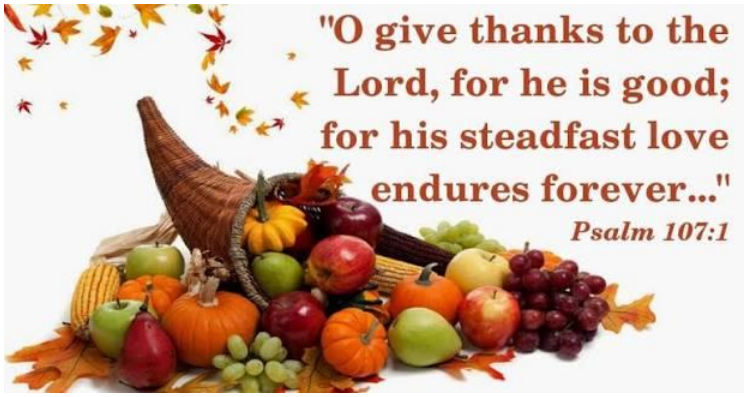
CHIMES November 2026

Westminster Presbyterian Church
http://www.wpclynchburg.org (434) 847-6655
e-mail: wpclynchburg@gmail.com
Pastor: Rev. Shawn Hyska



Grace and Peace to you all, the faithful saints of Westminster Presbyterian Church. As we enter this season of Thanksgiving, we are reminded of the spiritual practice of giving thanks and glory to God, something I do daily for you all. During these holiday seasons I know many of us enjoy music and songs of the season that help us connect even more fully and deeply. As many radio stations, along with retail stores, have now brough out all their Christmas decorations and non-stop Christmas music, it feels as if Thanksgiving is overlooked. Yes, it might just be a meal on the last Thursday of November, but this holiday connects all of us, all of God's children, together to share around one table. One of my favorite modern Thanksgiving memories was our first ever Thanksgiving at our house in Garland Hill 5 years ago when we welcomed an Afghan family who lives up in the Manassas area and they joined us for Thanksgiving. It was their first ever invite to an American Thanksgiving after living in the states for over 7 years. A few years later we had much larger Afghan Thanksgiving with our house full of the students from Afghanistan in addition to welcoming other Afghan students and a local Afghan family. Thanksgiving might get the short end of the stick sometimes, but it's the season and the day itself that can draw us closer to God.

To add to our Thanksgiving memories, as we've been mentioning the past few weeks, and we'll send out an email reminder in the next week, Sarah and I are inviting you all over to our house for a Thanksgiving themed lunch on Saturday, November 14th at 12noon. We know it's been a while since we last hosted y'all and had the church over and this time of fellowship is well long overdue.

I leave you with these words from Rumi, a 13th century mystic poet, "Wear gratitude like a cloak, and it will feed every corner of your life." We are a people of gratitude, a people called to be thankful, where gratitude flows more freely out of us than does gravy on Thanksgiving Day.

May the peace of the Holy Spirit be with you all until we meet again.

Peace – Pastor Shawn

November Birthdays

5 Donna Goldenberg

8 Monique Brown

17 Michael Harris

29 Cary Roberts



Remember Our Homebound Members

Kathleen Smith
501 VES Rd., H-429
Lynchburg, Va. 24503

Becky Maxey
New address
is forthcoming.

Maymie Keys
R&P at Liberty Ridge
30 Monica Blvd. Unit 305
Lynchburg, Va. 24502

Eloise Peters
501 VES Rd., H-428
Lynchburg, Va. 24503

Barbara Taylor
R&P at Liberty Ridge
30 Monica Blvd. Unit 344
Lynchburg, Va. 24502

Nancy & Wilbur Duncan
(recovering at home)
2837 Depot Road
Rustburg, Va. 24588

Add To Prayer List

Reverend Bill Russell was Westminster's former pastor who retired 10 years ago. He has had a stroke. Please include him and his wife, Joyce, in your prayers.

If you wish to send them a card of love and support, please address it to the following location:

Bill and Joyce Russell
18505 SE 30th Way
Vancouver, WA 98683

Upcoming Events

1. November 1st—All Saints' Day
2. November 2nd—Lunch Bunch at WC 11:30 AM
3. November 7—Betty Blevins's Concert at 2PM
4. November 8th—NO Sunday School. Session Meeting at 9AM
5. November 9th—P.W. Circle at Westminster Canterbury at 11AM
6. Saturday, November 14th—Lunch at the Hyska's 12Noon
7. November 21st—Blessing Place Community Thanksgiving Dinner
8. November 26th—Happy Thanksgiving! Office Closed
9. November 28th—Hanging of the Greens at 9:30 AM
10. November 29th—First Sunday of Advent

World Communion Sunday
October 4, 2026
All believers around the globe celebrated the Lord's Supper together, symbolically, on Sunday, October 4th, with World Communion.

"This is my body broken for you"





Stewardship Luncheon
October 18th, 2026

Westminster Presbyterian Church
Stewardship Luncheon Presentation from Shawn Hyska

Over the past few months, the Finance and Stewardship Committee of Westminster Presbyterian Church has discerned, prayed, and dutifully prepared the attached full 2027 budget which has been adopted by the church session.

Looking ahead to 2027, the budget prepares us as the church with the necessary guidance of how to structure our church finances with uncertain futures. Creating the budget involved difficult conversations due to two main areas of financial contributions that are projected to be lower in 2027 than we've previously experienced, due to two main areas.

First, for the past few years, the church has been beautifully blessed by the late Robert Roberts who left an annual gift to the church that has helped sustain it over the past few years. 2026, however, was the final year of that commitment. We give glory and thanksgiving to God for the life and witness of Robert through his many generous contributions he made to our church over the years.

In addition, as we all have born witness to, we've had to say goodbye to some dear church members and friends this year and in the years that preceded it as well. With these members no longer with us and with the church in the process of growing its membership, the committee evaluated previous pledges and came up with a conservative estimate of budgeted pledges for 2027 based on these membership changes.

With these two large funding sources being eliminated or lowered in 2027 it created the need to have hard conversations of what expenses were essential in the life and ministry of the church. There are only two main areas of expense reduction in 2027 to help offset lower contributions.

First, we wanted to ensure that all local benevolences were kept at their 2026 rates and they were not touched. The budget does reflect a reduction of contributions to the Presbytery and Synod level, but overall, our total benevolence offerings for 2027 total 10% of our member pledge contributions, the church leadership living into its own tithe. One significant contribution the church makes monthly that is not reflected anywhere in our financial reports directly is our offering of space for the Blessing Place ministry. They are allowed to use our building free of charge and it's a committed investment
we as a church make through them in our local community.

Lastly, the most major change in expenses in 2027 is the church's inability to financially support paying for a church secretary. The church will be asking members to help contribute in non-monetary ways with their time and talents to help us meet the administrative support needs of the church in the coming year.

In summary, with the changing financial contribution landscape heading into 2027 the budget for next year reflects a continued faithful commitment from our members, along with the need for us to continue to grow our witness, while also living within our financial means.

Adult Sunday School
Study of Romans
Schedule

The Foundation of the Gospel

New Life In Christ

- November 15th: Hope as a Result of Righteousness by Faith (Rom. 5:1–21)
- November 22nd: The Triumph of Grace (Rom. 6:1–7:25)
- November 29th: Life in the Spirit (Rom. 8:1–39)

God's Promises Fulfilled

- December 13th: God's Promises to Israel (Rom. 9:1–33)
- January 10th: God's Righteousness in His Plans for Jews and Gentiles (Rom. 10:1–11:36)

Responding To the Gospel

- January 17th: Living in Light of the Gospel (Rom. 12:1–13:14)
- January 24th: The Extension of God's Righteousness through Mission (Rom. 14:1–16:23)

February 14th: Final Summary of the Gospel of the Righteousness of God (Rom. 16:25–27)

Advent Candle Lighters and Readers

As Advent approaches, we come to a time in our Sunday Worship services that is more interactive. Every Sunday in Advent, we will light a candle on the Advent Wreath. Each candle lighter also has a little piece to read explaining the candle's significance to the Christmas story and a prayer. If you would like to be involved in this beautiful tradition, please contact Ashley Thulin to fill in one of the empty spaces below.

First Sunday in Advent: November 29th—The Candle of Hope—**Sharee, Erin, and Jeff Evans**

Second Sunday in Advent: December 6th—The Candle of Peace _____

Third Sunday in Advent: December 13th—The Candle of Joy (Pink) _____

Fourth Sunday in Advent: December 20th—The Candle of Love _____

Christmas Eve Candlelit Service: Thursday, December 24th—The Christ Candle—**Shawn Hyska**

Lessons and Carols Readers

On Sunday, December 20th, we will again have our special Lessons and Carols service. There are many beautiful carols sung, and eight important lessons read. Shawn Hyska always reads the eighth lesson, but other readings are open for volunteers. If you are feeling called to participate in the worship service this way, please contact Ashley Thulin to be added to the list of readers. The Lessons in need of readers are left blank below.

Lesson One: Genesis 3:8-15 *God announces the seed of woman shall bruise the serpent's head—**Hoc Hughes***

Lesson Two: Isaiah 9:2, 6-7 *Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by Isaiah—**Rachel Harris***

Lesson Three: Isaiah 11:1-9 *The Peace that Christ will bring is foreshown—**Richard Mahler***

Lesson Four: Luke 1:26-38 *The birth of Jesus foretold—**Carter Broocks***

Lesson Five: Luke 2:1-7 *The birth of Jesus—**Chris Harris***

Lesson Six: Luke 2:8-16 *The shepherds go to the manger--?*

Lesson Seven: Matthew 2:1-11 *The wise men are led by the star to Jesus--?*

Lesson Eight: John 1:1-14 *The Mystery of the Incarnation* **Shawn Hyska**

November 2026 Calendar of Events

1. **Sunday, November 1st—All Saints' Day**
2. **Monday, November 2nd—Lunch Bunch at WC 11:30 AM**
3. **Saturday, November 7th—Betty Blevins's Concert at 2PM**
4. **Sunday, November 8th—NO Sunday School. Session Meeting at 9AM**
5. **Monday, November 9th—P.W. Circle at Westminster Canterbury at 11AM**
6. **Saturday, November 14th—Lunch at the Hyska's 12 Noon**
7. **Saturday, November 21st—Blessing Place Community Thanksgiving Dinner**
8. **Tuesday, November 24th—6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal for Lessons and Carols**
9. **Thursday, November 26th—Happy Thanksgiving! Office Closed**
10. **Saturday, November 28th—Hanging of the Greens at 9:30 AM**
    — Tristan Thulin's 8th Birthday Party at 1PM
11. **Sunday, November 29th—First Sunday of Advent**
12. **Tuesday, December 1st—6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal for Lessons and Carols**
13. **Monday, December 2nd—Lunch Bunch at W.C. at 11:30AM**
14. **Sunday, December 6th—Second Sunday of Advent**
15. **Monday, December 7th—P.W. Circle at 11AM**
16. **Tuesday, December 8th—6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal for Lessons and Carols**
17. **Sunday, December 13th—Third Sunday of Advent**
18. **Tuesday, December 15th—6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal for Lessons and Carols**
19. **Sunday, December 20th—Fourth Sunday of Advent**
    —Lessons & Carols Service & Luncheon
20. **Thursday, December 24th—Christmas Eve Candlelit service at 4PM**

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1022 FLOYD STREET
LYNCHBURG, VIRGINIA 24501

November 2026



November 1st 23rd Sunday after Pentecost
All Saints' Day Communion
Scripture: Josh.. 3:7-17, *and Ps 107:1-7 ,33-37;* Mic.. 3:5-12 *and Ps. 43; 1 Thess:2:9-13* Matt. 23:1-12;
Communion Prep. Martha Wilson
Pastor: Shawn Hyska
Acolyte: Raymond Ferguson
Ushers: Daniele & Allen Hamblen
Liturgist: Mary Sue Childress
Counters: Pix Mahler and Hoc Hughes
Communion Prep: Irene Hoag
Communion Servers: Chris Harris, Ashley Thulin, Sharee Evans

November 15th 25th Sunday after Pentecost
Scripture: Judg. 4:1-7 *and Ps. 123;* Zeph. 1-7, 12-18 and *Ps. 90: 1-8 (9-11) 12;* 1 Thess. 5:1-11; Matt.: 25:14-30
Pastor: Shawn Hyska
Acolyte: Angela Hart
Ushers: Wilbur Duncan & Jeff Evans
Liturgist: Pix Mahler
Counters: Pix & Hoc. Hughes

November 8th 24th Sunday after Pentecost
Josh. 24:1-3 *a 14-25; and Ps. 78:1-7;* Amos 5:18-24 *and Ps. 70;* 1 Thess.:4: 13-18; Mat.: 25:1-13
Pastor: Shawn Hyska
Acolyte: Raymond Ferguson
Ushers: Byron and Aidan Thulin
Liturgist: Ashley Thulin
Counters: Pix Mahler & Hoc Hughes

November 22nd Christ the King Sunday
Ezek. 34:11-16 20-24 *and Ps. 100 or Ps, 95:1-7a;* Eph. 1:15-23; Matt. 25:31-46
Pastor: Shawn Hyska
Acolyte: Raymond Ferguson
Ushers: Ashley & Byron Thulin
Liturgist: Chris Harris
Counters: Pix Mahler Hoc Hughes

November 29th First Sunday of Advent
Scripture: Isa. 64:1-9 *and Ps. 80:1-7, 17-19; I* 1 Cor:. 1:3-9; Mark 13:24-37
Pastor: Shawn Hyska
Acolyte: Rachel Harris
Ushers: Chris & Val Harris
Liturgist: Pix Mahler
Counters: Pix and Hoc Hughes
Advent Candle Lighter: Sharee & Jeff Evans