



Liberty Road Faith Fellowship

The CURRENT



Rev. Lisa Wood
Senior Pastor

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Who We Are

Liberty Road Faith Fellowship is a multi-denominational fellowship of Christian believers who enjoy traditional worship services.

This Week

Sunday, November 26,
2023

10:45 a.m. – Sunday
Worship at Liberty Road
Faith Fellowship and online.

Liberty Road
Faith Fellowship
2734 Liberty Road
Lexington, KY 40509

LRFF OFFICE
Phone (859) 277-0420
Hours: Mon-Thurs
9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
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A Word from The Pastor

Yesterday's sermon focused on Matthew's parable of the talents and the message of how "good and faithful" disciples conduct themselves while waiting for the return of their master.

We disciples did some waiting yesterday, didn't we? Due to unforeseen circumstances, our catered Thanksgiving dinner was delayed for over an hour in arriving. But, even as our tummies rumbled, we discovered something of *beauty*. We gathered around tables and engaged each other in friendly banter and casual conversation. Folks who rarely cross paths on Sunday mornings had time and opportunity to chat and become more acquainted.

I was truly gratified to stand back and watch as you "invested" yourselves and your "talents" in each other *as we waited*. We were grateful to the several ladies who brought additional desserts that were made readily available. No one grumbled. No one griped. No one made unkind accusations. Our kitchen crew kept us plied with drinks and occasional blasts of laughter gave evidence of our joy in just being together.

Our time spent waiting together proved a beautiful illustration to the sermon's topic. It also bore witness to our resolve to extend grace and patience, and enjoy *holy moments* in unplanned inconveniences. This is a great example of LRFF's using her "talents" and multiplying the richness of our fellowship. In this world of *instant gratification*, we responded to Sunday's snafu in a way that was truly counter-cultural. We were responsible, imaginative, and confident in the use of the talents among us. The precious memory we made together will live in our hearts and remind us that together that "tie that binds our hearts in Christian love" is stronger than anything that disappointment or frustration can throw at us.

Traditional Worship ~ Contemporary People

Please take time to express your gratitude to John and Valda May, whose responsible pre-arrangements and preparation of Kearns Hall provided us a wonderful meal and time of light-hearted fellowship. We also thank Patsy Blakeman, Janet Layman, Ann Greisner, Carolyn Blair, and Vicki Brown for pulling "KP" duty. We don't take your labors of love for granted, ladies!

I want to wish each of you a happy Thanksgiving. Whether you gather with family or friends, or snuggle in front of your television under a blanket, I hope the day is one of peaceful contentment and gratitude for you.

May our good and gracious God help us live in these days of waiting, with confidence in his providence and love for us as his agents of hope and peace.

Rev. Lisa Hood

Festive Fare & Fellowship

What a great way to begin the Advent season! We'll gather in Kearns Hall THIS Sunday immediately following the worship service and enjoy sampling favorite hors d'oeuvres and snacks that we like making for our families during the holidays. Whether it's ginger-molasses cookies, Captain Rodney's cheeseball, country ham and biscuits, or other appetizers, we can relish another time of informal fellowship and good, homemade items that have become traditional dishes for our families. What a great time to bring an unchurched friend and allow them to experience our fine music and liturgical worship!

Your Help is Needed!

Once again, we will be decorating the sanctuary for Advent. Volunteers are needed to help unpack decorations and set the sanctuary in our traditional Christmas décor. If you can spare a couple of hours on Saturday morning, Nov. 25, please let Valda May know she can count on you. A group will be gathering at 10:00 a.m. "Many hands make light work" holds true, so plan to show up and be a part of the group's festive camaraderie.



Annual Christmas Poinsettias!



The holidays are fast approaching! Our annual poinsettias will be ready by the first Sunday of Advent. We will publish the list of names of those being honored or remembered in the Current on Thursday, Nov. 30. These poinsettias always add such a beautiful splash of color to our sanctuary each Christmas and we appreciate those who choose to honor their loved ones in this way.

Christmas Cookie Swap Dec 11 at Noon

If you enjoy holiday baking, why not whip up a batch of your favorite Christmas cookies to share? Our annual Christmas Cookie Swap has become a great time to swap a dozen of your favorite cookies for a variety of other people's favorites. Simply bring a plate of one dozen cookies for swapping, and another plate of a dozen that will be delivered the next day to members who are homebound.

We will gather in the Chat Room at noon on Monday, Dec. 11, and enjoy some cider as we swap our cookies. "Take home" plates will be provided, if needed.



Christmas Cookie Caroling, Tuesday, Dec. 12

Carolers will gather at the church on Tuesday, Dec. 12, at 10:30 to receive song sheets and load Christmas Cookies for caroling to some of our homebound members. It doesn't matter if you can carry a tune, you can "make a joyful noise" and help us spread some Christmas cheer. We will carpool to as many locations as our time allows, but we plan to be back at the church by 2:00.

Weather is always a consideration, but we encourage carolers to dress warmly, festively, and just show up and have a good time. Our appearances at Liberty Ridge and Preston Greens are always met with great excitement and appreciation. We also try to do some "porch performances" for as many members as time (and energy) allows.

We hope you'll join us for this opportunity to represent our LRFF in our community, as well as remind our members at home that they are not forgotten. No need to sign up –just show up!



HEAR THE BELLS RING!!



The Bells will ring again at Christmas here at Liberty Road Faith Fellowship. Our first rehearsal for Christmas music is Wednesday, November 29th, in the sanctuary from 5:45-6:45. If you never rang a handbell and would like to give it a try, come to this rehearsal and you will be given a bell (or maybe more than 1) to ring. Our veteran bell ringers will be here to help you out. We look forward to making it possible for our congregation to hear the bells on Christmas Eve.

Coming Events

November

- 25 – Decorate Church for Christmas (meet at 10:00 a.m.)
- 26 – Advent Fellowship in Kearns Hall
- 28 – Administrative Board Meeting (7:00 p.m. via Zoom)

December

- 1 – Women of Faith Christmas Party
- 5 – Grief Workshop
- 7 – Kearns Hall Rented
- 11 – Church-wide Cookie Swap (noon in the Chat Room)
- 12 – Church-wide Caroling (meet at church at 10:30 a.m.)
- 24 – Christmas Eve Service **at 10:45 a.m**



Take a Look, Take a BOOK!

Carol and Paul Taylor have been busy cleaning out some of the unused children's rooms in the north hallway, and just look at the TREASURES they are offering to our members! These children's books would make great additions to your grandparent libraries and provide plenty of opportunities for lap time "ministry" with young grandchildren when they visit.

These books are free for the taking and sacks are even provided! Spend a few minutes this Sunday before and after worship perusing these tables of books and take the ones you believe your grandchildren would most enjoy. Books that remain after Sunday, Dec. 3, will be redistributed among local agencies.



Wildcards Dec. - Craft-a-Rama



Keep an eye out here for the date. And as always a sign-up sheet will be on the bulletin board to help us plan enough supplies and surprises! Friends are always welcome!

LRFF FAMILY



23 Jim Host 25 Nancy Strassner
29 Patty Layson 30 Tandy Haggard



Our intrepid musical leader Richard Dwyer



Kitchen Crew for Thanksgiving fellowship.



The reward for a job well done. Mike Brown

Mission Moment

Liberty Road Faith Fellowship seeks to become the hands and feet of Christ in the world through engagement in missions.

God's Pantry Food Bank by Mary Anne Pollock

Some people have asked why we are asking for financial contributions this year instead of collecting canned and boxed items of food. There are three reasons.

1. God's Pantry purchases food in bulk and therefore is able to get more food per dollar.
2. Cans are HEAVY!! After our very generous congregation has made these donations, it is very difficult to box them up and deliver them to God's Pantry...AND we are not getting any younger!
3. Workers at God's Pantry know the situations of families in need far better than we do, and they can purchase more appropriate food. For example, a donation of a box of cake mix is of no use to a family who does not have eggs and oil to mix it, and they often do not have access to an oven. While this is only one example, several others play a role in appropriate food choices.

You may give by placing your donation into the offering plate or at the table in the lobby. This coming Sunday will be the last for this mission. If you donate with a check, please make it out to Liberty Road Faith Fellowship, and write Missions: God's Pantry on the check.



Fall is in full swing, and the temperatures are falling to match the season. As you begin to get into **those closets and switch out your summer wardrobe for your winter warm things consider how you will dispose of those things you no longer wear or need. Could they be of use to someone else?**

There are many less fortunate people in our area that may be struggling with basic necessities, or just needing a little help making ends meet. Birthdays and holidays can be an extra burden on already stretched budgets.

So, as you are cleaning out those closets please consider donating to one, or more, of the many organizations that work to help our neighbors here in the area.

Below is a list of some of those organizations and the needs they provide for, so that you can decide the best place to give to help others.

Lexington Rescue Mission: 444 Glen Arvia Ave, Lexington, 859 381-9600

The assistance includes a clothing bank as well as vouchers. Families in poverty or the homeless can be given blankets, winter boots, and free clothes for work or a job interview. Other aid may be hot lunch, placement into housing, and basic medical care. There is also a laundry service. There is free socks, underwear, sleeping bags for people in Lexington, as well as other things.

Catholic Action Center 1055 Industry Rd. Lexington, 859 255-0301

The charity has many items for distribution in Fayette County, including stuff from a free furniture bank. There are sheets and bedding items, household goods, cleaning supplies, mattresses, couches, kitchen utensils and other general clothing items. The homeless can use the shower. The program known as God's Garments may also have free back to school uniforms or supplies for students.

New Circle Crossings Donation and Retail Center 130 West New Circle Rd Lexington 859 277-3661

The Goodwill Thrift Store helps the disabled and unemployed find a new job. They also provide clothing and support to families on public aid. Furniture vouchers, couches, and other goods are offered too. Assistance depends on the work of volunteers and clothes donated.

Christ Church Cathedral-Christ Community Cupboard 166 Market Street Lexington, 859 254-4497 (cell)

Applicants need to be referred by local school Family Resource Center

Heritage Baptist Church 155 North Ashland Ave. Lexington, 859 335-5433 (cell)

The site has a food pantry and clothing closet for free stuff. Shoes, sneakers, some school supplies and more may be offered, with free clothes in adult or child size too.

Grace Baptist Church 811 Bryan Ave. Lexington, 859 252-1119

A free clothing bank. Based on donations and volunteers, jeans, sneakers, socks, hats winter coats for kids and more. The free clothes are for single parents, the elderly, unemployed and others.

Saint Vincent de Paul 299 Colony Road, Lexington, 859 268-2861

A bargain thrift store sells items in Fayette County. Some people, such as single parents or the sick can get vouchers for free stuff. There is also free clothing as well as hot meals served.

The Nest, Center for Women Children and Families 530 North Limestone Street, Lexington, 859 259-1974

Women and children fleeing domestic violence can get help. Basic needs, items for single moms, diapers, free maternity clothing, baby stuff and changing tables, counseling and legal aid may be provided.

Salvation Army 736 West Main Street, Lexington, 859 252-7706

Free uniforms for school use, work boots, jackets, and more are provided by the clothing closet. There is also counseling, a worship service, Christmas gifts, and financial aid for bills too. Case managers help immigrants and struggling families get the clothes and household supplies they need. The annual free school supply giveaway helps students of all ages with backpacks, sneakers, notebooks and more.

Meadowthorpe Goodwill Thrift Store 1441 Leestown Rd, Lexington, 859 233-0222

Kitchen tables, appliances, lamps, chairs, TV, laptops, and many other furniture items may be sold to given out to the needy. They also help people looking for a job, with free or low cost work uniforms, boots, slacks, dresses and other goods.

For other charitable centers see Vicki in the office for a list.