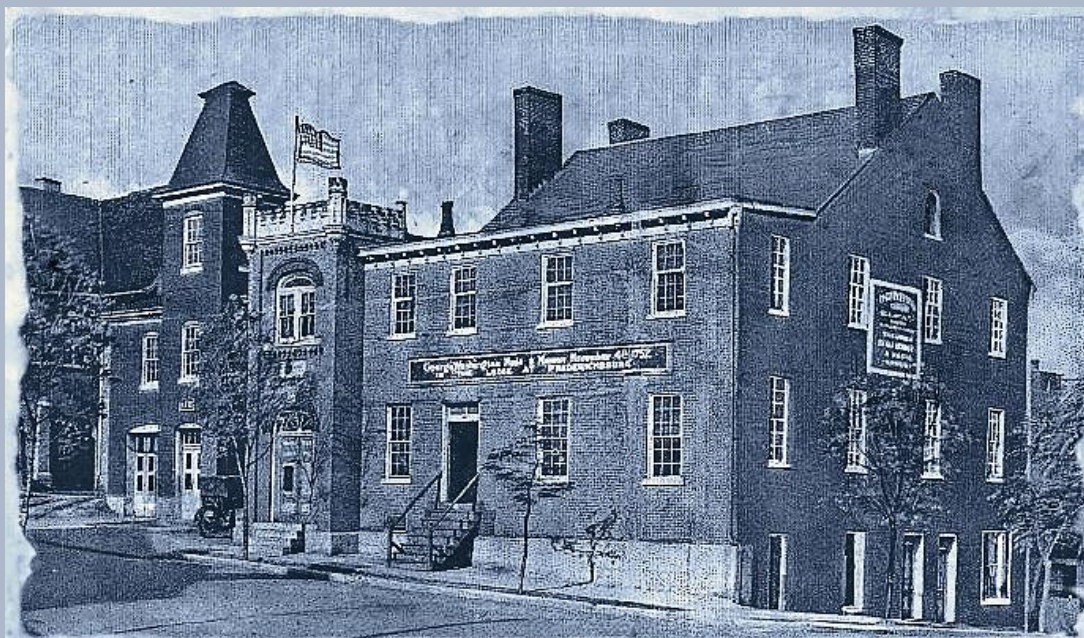


FREDERICKSBURG LODGE NO. 4, A.F. & A.M.



TRESTLE BOARD

FIRST RECORDED MEETING - SEPTEMBER 1, 1752

SCOTTISH CHARTER - JULY 21, 1758

VIRGINIA CHARTER - JANUARY 30, 1787

MOTHER LODGE OF ILL.: BRO.: GEORGE WASHINGTON

803 Princess Anne St.
Fredericksburg,
VA 22401

Masoniclodge4.org

INITIATED NOVEMBER 4, 1752

PASSED MARCH 3, 1753

RAISED AUGUST 4, 1753

**'GUARDIANS OF THE CRAFT,
BUILDERS OF TOMORROW'**

Stated Meeting
Second Fridays
(except Nov. 4)

Dinner 6:30 pm
Meeting 7:30 pm

Degree Work
Wednesdays 7pm
(check calendar)

JANUARY 2025

JANUARY 2025 EVENTS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 New Year's Day	2	3 Spotsylvania No. 26 Open Installation 7pm	4 Pancake Breakfast, 8 am
5	6	7 Second Tuesday Community Meal 4pm	8 Lodge Clean Up & Ritual Practice	9	10 Stated Communication Dinner, 6:30 pm Meeting, 7:30	11 Grand Master's Official Visit 6pm
12 Religious Freedom March	13	14 Community Meal 4pm	15 Ritual School	16	17	18 Richmond DLC
19 Job's Daughters Installation 4pm	20	21	22 Ritual School	23	24	25
26	27	28 District Ritual School 7pm	29 Ritual School	30	31	

Consult calendar on website for event details and updates.

ANNIVERSARIES & MILESTONES

Masonic Anniversaries for January

Wor. Carter G. Wells	69 yrs.	Bro. Michael J. Guarracino	18
Bro. John H. Chichester	65	Bro. Matthew S. Kennedy	16
Bro. Thomas Metts	65	Bro. Edward F. Kenney, II	13
Bro. Ralph A. Hicks, Jr.	59	Bro. Charles L. Sutton	13
R.W. Dennis W. Berry	46	Bro. George D. Langford	13
Bro. Richard T. Garnett	42	Bro. Christopher L. Pedersen	11
Bro. Robert R. Parker, Jr.	39	Wor. Michael J. Dove	10
Wor. James R. Adams	38	Bro. Eric W. Crisp	7
Bro. Richard D. Decatur	34	Bro. Joshua A. Clements	5
Wor. Shelton S. Mackey, III	33	Bro. Robert J. Breitenbach	3
Bro. Richard P. Franklin, Jr.	27	Bro. Kenneth E. Carey	3
Bro. Michael D. Tucci	26	Bro. Mahlon A. Johnson	1
Bro. Paul A. Diaz	20		

Humble Reflections from the East: A Message of Gratitude and Grace

Brethren and Friends of Lodge 4,

From the depths of my heart, I extend my sincerest gratitude to all who graced our recent officer installation with their presence. The day will remain etched in the records of Lodge 4 as a testament to the enduring bonds of brotherhood, tradition, and grace.

It was truly a mesmerizing day, a mosaic of moments stitched together by the threads of history and fellowship. The officer installation ceremony unfolded as both a humbling and uplifting experience. Our hallowed Lodge room, steeped in the whispers of centuries past, became again a beacon that welcomed brethren and friends from near and far. From the storied shores of Denmark to the vibrant landscapes of Gabon, Africa, from distant corners of our State to the embrace of our local community, the gathering was nothing short of remarkable.

The lodge-room exuded an ambiance that spoke of unity and purpose. The very walls seemed to resonate with the energy of those assembled.

Tours through the old lodge-room ignited a spark of curiosity and reverence, while the bustling coordination in the baker-room mirrored the precision of a well-tuned symphony. Each individual played their part with dedication and grace, contributing to a harmony that elevated the entire occasion.

Admittedly, the Worshipful Master stumbled briefly in the speech -a momentary lapse near the finish line. Yet, as often happens in our fraternity, the guiding word of a brother -Wor. Jamie, giving me his own name, brought clarity and focus back into view. Such moments remind us that even in our imperfections, the collective strength of brotherhood prevails.

The ceremony concluded amidst a cascade of fellowship, smiles, and heartfelt exchanges. Pictures captured the joy of the day, and conversations bridged the gap between past and present. We were fortunate to once again have Miss Susannah as our photographer, capturing these precious moments. The Lodge expressed its

gratitude by presenting her with a bouquet of flowers, a small token of appreciation for her dedication and artistry. It was heartening to witness the mingling of brethren who had not crossed our threshold in a long time, alongside curious visitors who found themselves drawn to the mystique and warmth of our fraternity. Each person, whether a brother, family member, or friend, added a unique note to the symphony of the day.

This event could not have come to fruition without the tireless efforts and steadfast support of many. I extend my deepest thanks to our outgoing Worshipful Master of 2024, whose leadership set the stage for such a memorable day.

My heartfelt appreciation goes to the exemplary installation team from JAL 350, led with aplomb by Wor. Solomon. To the Jobies, whose assistance brought a lively energy to the proceedings, and to the remarkable line of men who stand beside and behind me, your contributions have left an indelible mark.

To see our lodge-room filled with such an assembly, brethren, families, friends, and even curious newcomers, was a moment of profound inspiration.

It reinforced the purpose of our craft and the timeless values we uphold.

To those who ventured through our open door, your presence was a gift, and your interest, a reminder of the light we carry into the world.

As I communicate from the East for the first time, I am overwhelmed by pride and the blessing of standing among such remarkable brethren.

It is with humility and determination that I pledge to steward Lodge 4 with diligence and honor in the ensuing year of 2025. Together, we will continue to build upon the foundations laid by those who came before us, ever mindful of our shared commitment to the craft and to one another.

Thank you, one and all. Let us stride forward into the coming year, united in purpose and guided by the timeless principles that define us.

Fraternally and gratefully yours,

Michael Dove
Worshipful Master
Fredericksburg, Lodge 4

Secretary's Corner

My Brethren, thank you (I think) for again electing me as Secretary, and I trust this year we will work out some of the kinks we had last year. This is a reminder that your annual dues are now due and may be paid through Grand View, by PayPal on our website, or by check or cash at the Lodge. Please use the Lodge's secure address in sending checks in the mail – P.O, Box 702, Fredericksburg, VA 22404-0702. Please also reach out to us if you have difficulty paying your dues, which are \$225 this year. You're encouraged to sign up for Grand View, if you haven't already, and check that your contact info and all your other information on there is correct. Please reach out with any membership needs. We will have an exciting year and look forward to seeing you in Lodge and at some of our events. This is a busy time of year with the Grand Master's visit to District 8, the DDGM's official visits, and Division Leadership Conferences. Any questions, we're here to serve. We need you to pay your dues, but we'd like you to get your money's worth, and are here to assist you with that.

Sincerely and fraternally,
Chris Tripp, Secretary

Hope

Christmas, Hanukkah and the New Year have a common theme: Hope.

In the Christian tradition, Christmas is a celebration of prophesied hope in the birth of a Savior, who will promise a new covenant with the Great Architect of the Universe, the forgiveness of sins and eternal life. In the Jewish tradition, we find Hanukkah, the miracle of lights. Eight days of light in the rededicated Temple from just one day's supply of pure oil. This miracle, celebrated today with

Menorahs in windows and doors, is a symbol of resilience and the enduring light of hope. In the New Year holiday, although a secular date in the Gregorian calendar to represent the solar new year, history tells us it has been celebrated since at least 4,000 years ago, starting with the Babylonians. The Persians celebrated with gifts of eggs representing hope for new beginnings. Today, on Madeira Island, 12 raisins are eaten upon the arrival of the new year. One for each month of the coming year and a personal hope for that month.

As we celebrate this season in our own traditions, let us Freemasons reflect on one of our ancient symbols, more especially, what it represents. In the Anchor we find hope that we may live a well spent and eternal life, finally moored in the safety of heaven after navigating earthly seas. Let us also reflect on the miracle of light as in the Menorah. Charity and mercy as in Christmas; and hope in the new year.

It is our duty as Freemasons to carry the light of Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence and Justice. Likewise, our Lodge must represent these lights and continue to stand as an earthly anchor in our community (as we have for nearly 300 years), as we individual Brothers, continue to act as living anchors [hope] for our families and neighbors. In our obligations we avow ourselves with these awesome responsibilities and others. It is proper to use this time to reflect on these things. We should reflect on that anchor of hope which we must carry out of the Lodge that we dedicate to God. Reflect also on with the light we have obtained, as of yet, and continue to seek for ourselves in the service of mankind.

Remember, every person has a claim on your kind office.

Do good unto all-
Bro.: Seth Roderick

Looking ahead...

Join us for a special evening with our Grand Master, M.W. Gary Dwight Huffman

We are honored to welcome M.W. Gary Dwight Huffman on his official visit to our district.

This event will be held on **Saturday, January 11th, 2025**, at the historic **A. Smith Bowman Distillery**.

Schedule:

- Social Hour: 6:00 PM
- Dinner: 7:00 PM

Tickets are \$30 per person.

Don't miss this opportunity to show your support and fellowship.

Reserve your spot today and join us, reach out to Wor. Jamie or our Stewards.

Third time walking for the Coldest Night of the year!

For the third consecutive year, Lodge 4 is proud to participate in the Coldest Night of the Year, an event dedicated to supporting our local community.

Together, we step into the cold to raise awareness and collect donations for the Micah Ministry, our charity partner that provides essential services to vulnerable individuals and families.

This **February 22nd**, we walk to show our concerns and compassion for those facing homelessness, struggling to meet basic needs, fleeing violence, or coping with isolation and despair. Each step symbolizes our commitment to helping others find safety, stability, and hope.

Join us as we humbly walk to make a difference, demonstrating the values of compassion and service that define us.

Celebrating 200 Years of Fellowship Lodge No. 84 in Smithfield, North Carolina



On December 14, 2024, Fellowship Lodge No. 84 in Smithfield, North Carolina, marked a historic milestone, its 200th Anniversary of dispensation. The occasion was made even more special by the use of the George Washington Bible, brought down for their first-ever table lodge.

A trio of dedicated brothers from Lodge #4, Wor. Pat, Wor. Tripp, and Wor. M. Elect Mike, embarked on a glorious road trip to ensure this sacred artifact found its way to the celebration in North Carolina. Upon arrival, they were warmly received by Worshipful Master Benjamin J. Wagoner, some Brethren of the Lodge 84 and the DDGM RW Matt Moore 16th District NC. We got a little tour of the Lodge, some history, some friendly conversations, all a part of setting the tone for an unforgettable evening, no small thanks to Bro. Mark Phillips who helped coordinate this event!

The Lodge and Its newest Brother

One of the highlights of the visit was meeting Fellowship Lodge's newest Master Mason. His excitement was palpable, as was the collective energy among the brethren, all keenly anticipating an event steeped in excitement and camaraderie.

A feast for the ages

The table lodge itself was a masterpiece of organization. Beautifully adorned tables and a menu designed to delight awaited the brethren, and it is now a fact, that the "green-bean curse", is following Wor. Tripp no matter where we go!

A welcoming pour of wine set the evening in motion, followed by a series of 13 toasts doing the table-lodge. Each toast celebrated the principles of Freemasonry, the health of the brethren, and the cherished bond between lodges, underscoring the gravity and joy of the occasion. For those familiar with the table lodge tradition, 13 toasts is no small feat! Yet, with determination and good humor, the brethren raised their glasses time and again, sharing laughter and reflection in equal measure.

Cigars, stories, and Fellowship

As the evening wound down and the lodge closed, cigars were lit, and conversations flowed. It was a time for storytelling, shared experiences, and hearty laughter. The brethren from Virginia and North Carolina alike left the lodge that night with a renewed sense of connection and gratitude.

A special visit to a Veteran Brother

Before returning home, the visiting brethren were asked to make a detour to see a Wor. Brother who had been unable to attend the festivities. This +50-year veteran Past Master Wor. Graham Neville (WM1970-1971) was recovering from a fall and deeply saddened to miss the event. Over his breakfast as we visited him,

unknowingly to him at this time, as it was a surprise one of his fellow brethren had arranged.

His spirits lifted as he saw the Brethren from Virginia and Wor. Pat, presented the George Washington Bible and shared details of the celebration and the bible's history. Moments like these, rooted in compassion and brotherly love, exemplify the heart of Freemasonry!

Brotherly love in action

The 200th Anniversary of Fellowship Lodge No. 84 was more than a celebration, it was a testament to the enduring values of Freemasonry, unity, fellowship, and mutual support and love for the craft. From the jubilant toasts to the Brotherly moments of connection, the event will be remembered not only for its historic significance but for the bonds it strengthened among brethren.

Thank you, Fellowship Lodge No. 84, for hosting us and sharing this remarkable experience. It was a privilege to celebrate with you, and we look forward to meeting with you and the Brethren again!

Fraternally yours,
Lodge #4

A heartwarming effort: A meal for the homeless in our local community



In a remarkable display of community spirit, our Lodge, alongside several organizations, came together to provide a warm, hearty meal for the homeless in our area.

The effort, spearheaded by Micha and Sister Carrie Combs, was a shining example of what we can accomplish when we unite for a greater cause.

Despite the challenging weather conditions, rain and thunder, the event saw 71 individuals, many of whom were in need of a meal, gather to enjoy a delicious turkey dinner with all the fixings, and more. Not only did the meal provide comfort to those who needed it most, but the crew also ensured that everyone received a to-go box, so no one would leave empty-handed.

The gratitude expressed by the people we served was nothing short of heartwarming. It's a powerful reminder of how important it is to help those in need. It makes you pause and reflect on how we can sometimes take for granted what we have, especially when we see firsthand the deep appreciation from those less fortunate.

Under the leadership of Worshipful Brother Jamie, the turkeys were expertly prepared and served, ensuring that everything was done to perfection.

Behind the scenes, Sister Carrie Combs of the Eastern Star played a pivotal role in organizing the small army of volunteers who made the event run smoothly. Thanks to her meticulous coordination, the food and beverages were expedited without a hitch.

This event was a remarkable demonstration of the strength and unity that define our Lodge and the broader organizations we proudly associate with. It showcased how the combined efforts of diverse groups can create a meaningful impact within our community.

The collaboration involved a wide range of dedicated participants, including:

- **Masons**
- **Eastern Star**
- **Daughters, Sons, and Children of the American Revolution**
- **Micah Ministry**
- **Job's Daughters Bethel #16**
- **Surgeon Lawrence Brooke Society**
- **Disabled American Veterans Chapter/Auxiliary #7**
- **VFW Auxiliary #3103**
- **Germanna Community College Nursing Students**
- **Ad Astra Homeschool Co-op (Spotswood Baptist Church)**
- **Seven Oaks Homeschool Co-op**
- **I.O.R.G. Assembly #12**
- **Girl Scout Troop #5408**
- **Mary Washington Healthcare WCC Outpatient Clinic**

- **American Legion Post #290 Junior Shooting Team**
- **LCpl Caleb Powers Young Marines**
- **Culpeper Hospital Nursing Staff**
- **Gardening Gays Farm (King George - Kevin and Dragan)**
- **Fredericksburg Haunting Tours (Kim Harmon)**

We also extend our gratitude to the extended families, friends, and supporters who contributed to this initiative. Each group's unique contributions amplified our collective impact, highlighting the transformative power of collaboration.

Through efforts like these, we are reminded of the importance of working together toward common goals. This event stands as a shining example of the dedication, commitment, and unity that exists within our Lodge and the broader organizations we are a part of.

While there is no single word that can express enough gratitude for everyone involved, I am incredibly proud of our Lodge and all of our brethren, and a special thank you to Sister Carrie and Worshipful Brother Jamie for their unwavering dedication to this cause.

Events like these remind us that when we come together, we truly can make a positive impact on the lives of others!





Fellowship Lodge No. 84 Table Lodge







Some pictures from our Lodge installation on Dec. 21, 2024



Purchase a brick through [BricksRUs](http://BricksRUs.com) to help
maintain our Historic Home!

[Fredericksburg Masonic Lodge #4 Friends of Fredericksburg Donor Site \(bricksrus.com\)](http://FredericksburgMasonicLodge#4FriendsOfFredericksburgDonorSite)

YOUR ADVERTISEMENT HERE

We are accepting appropriate advertisements for the Trestle Board. Quarter-page ads are \$150, half-page ads \$250, and full-page ads \$400 for 12 months, payable in advance. We reserve the right to refuse any ads that do not meet our standards.

Please contact us at secretary@masoniclodge4.org for details.

2025 LODGE OFFICERS

Michael Dove	Michaeldove79@gmail.com	(540) 388-1001	Worshipful Master
Seth Roderick	Sethroderick@protonmail.com	(703) 935-9781	Senior Warden
Jeff Adams, Sr.	jadams@rosendin.com	(571) 643-3962	Junior Warden
James Snyder, PM	jamie-snyder@usa.net	(540) 903-2937	Treasurer
Thomas Baker	Baker8359@gmail.com		Asst. Treasurer
Christopher Tripp, PM	Secretarylodge4va@gmail.com	(540) 424-5767	Secretary
Troy Blanchard	Cajnboy24@gmail.com		Senior Deacon
John Lapke	Lapke.j@gmail.com		Junior Deacon
Kyle Olesevich	Kyle.olesevich@gmail.com		Senior Steward
Joshua Miller	Joshua.miller21@gmail.com		Junior Steward
Justin Garrett	Jaygarrett0214@gmail.com		Chaplain
Robert Breitenbach	Robertjbreitenbach@icloud.com		Marshal
Michael Scullin	mscullin@gmail.com		Tiler

TRUSTEES

Dennis David - 2025	Dennis Berry, PDDGM - 2026	Chris Decker, PM - 2027
Dan Goodwin, PM - 2028	Christopher Tripp, PM - 2029	

PROGRAM OFFICERS

<p>Lodge Blood Coordinator Jeff Adams</p> <p>Masonic Home Ambassador Joseph Ilk</p>	<p>Lodge Instructor of Work Christopher Tripp, PM</p> <p>Lodge Catechism Chair Justin Garrett</p> <p>Lodge Scholarship Coordinator David Smith</p>	<p>Lodge Education Officer Bob Melvin</p> <p>Widows Program Coordinator Kyle Olesevich</p>
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LIVING PAST MASTERS

Wor.: Carter. G. Wells.....	1963	Wor.: Anthony L Rudder.....	2007
Wor.: Rudolph E. Griffith.....	1974	R.: W.: Jeffrey D. St. Onge.....	2009
Wor.: Henry W. Baker.....	1975	Wor.: Shelton S. Mackey.....	2010
Wor.: Edward L. Donalson.....	1983	R.: W.: Shelby L. Chandler.....	2011
R.: W.: Dennis W. Berry.....	1986	Wor.: Christopher J. Decker.....	2012
Wor.: Thomas C Shelton.....	1988	Wor.: Christopher R. Wilson.....	2013
Wor.: William J. White.....	1989	Wor.: Jeffrey L. Mitchell.....	2014
Wor.: James R. Adams.....	1992	M.: W.: Jeffrey P. VanCuren.....	2015
Wor.: Michael J. McCray.....	1995	Wor.: James L. Ragsdale.....	2016
Wor.: Steven M. Gallahan.....	1996	Wor.: Michael T. Moses.....	2017
Wor.: Charles B. Pasto.....	1998	Wor.: Daniel T. Goodwin.....	2018
Wor.: J. Travis Walker.....	2000	Wor.: James M. Snyder.....	2019
R.: W.: Daniel W. Thompson.....	2001	Wor.: Stanley R. Kennedy.....	2020
R.: W.: W. Robert Brammer.....	2002	Wor.: Christopher S. Tripp.....	2021
Wor.: Sheridan G. Harrod.....	2003	Wor.: Joseph K. Gilkerson.....	2023
Wor.: Jene G. Parrotte.....	2004	Wor.: Patrick F. McConnell.....	2024
R.: W.: Steven W. Sanford.....	2005		
Wor.: Richard D. Dey.....	2006		