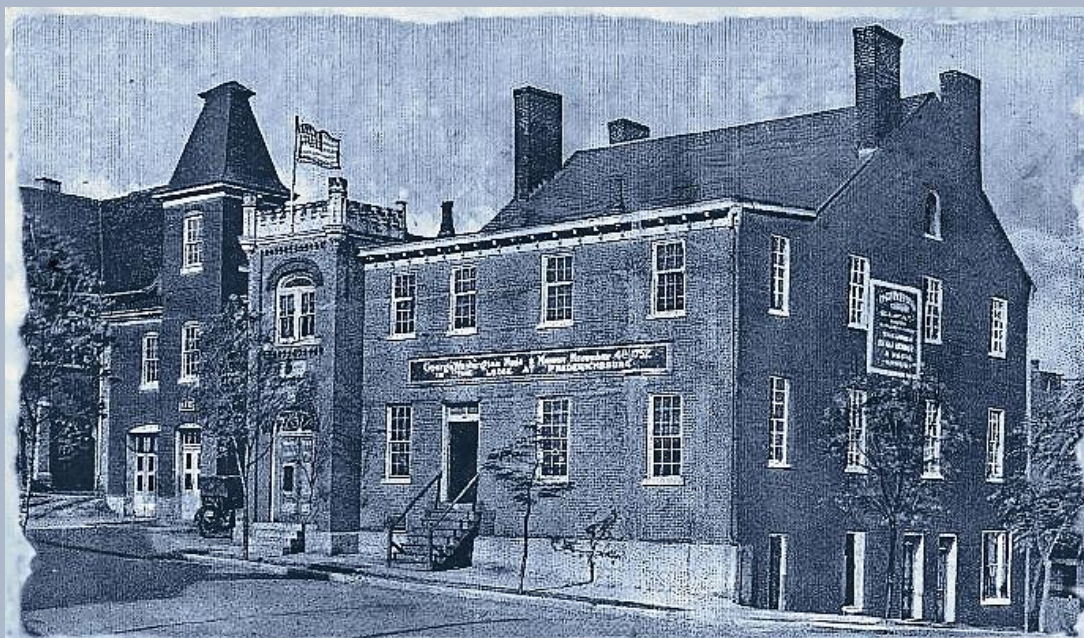


FREDERICKSBURG LODGE NO. 4, A.F. & A.M.



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

Stated Meeting
Second Fridays
(except Nov. 4)

Dinner 6:30 pm
Meeting 7:30 pm

'FREEMASONRY: THE BEST WORK OF LIFE'

Degree Work
Wednesdays 7pm
(check calendar)

NOVEMBER 2024

NOVEMBER 2024 EVENTS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2 Pancake Breakfast, 8 am
3	4 Dinner 6:30 pm Stated Communication 7:30 pm	5 Second Tuesday Community Meal 4 pm	6 Degree or Practice	7	8	9
10	11	12	13 Degree or Practice	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Degree or Practice	21	22	23 Lodge Tours from 1 pm to 4 pm
24 Lafayette Commemoration 10 am Chris Ruli Book Talk on Lafayette 2 pm.	25	26	27	28	29	30

Consult calendar on website for event details and updates.

ANNIVERSARIES & MILESTONES

Masonic Anniversaries for November

R.W. Dennis L. English	53 yrs.	Bro. Withers W. Moncure, Jr.	35
Bro. John R. Dodson	51	Bro. Charles T. Doyal	28
R.W. Bruce Z. Hollmann	46	Bro. William H. Peck	27
Wor. William G. L. Turner	46	Bro. Jonathan B. Stevens	21
Bro. Bruce J. Adkins	45	Bro. Raymond L. Nelson, Sr.	16
Bro. Terry L. Bruss	42	Bro. Travis D. Miller	5

Master's Moment

REMEMBER, our November Stated Communication is on MONDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2024. November 4th is traditionally the Grand Master's last official visit of his year. Accordingly, we will be welcoming Most Worshipful Jack Kayle Lewis, the 178th Grand Master of Masons in Virginia.

Most Worshipful Lewis was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason in Kent Lodge No. 305 on April 28, 1980. He served as Worshipful Master in 1984, 1988, and 2013, and as District Deputy Grand Master for the 38th Masonic District in 2014. He then served the 38th District from 2015-2018 as the District Educational Officer and as Lodge Secretary from 2015-2022. At the Grand Annual Communication in November 2017, Brother Lewis was elected Grand Junior Deacon. His Masonic services since that day have been extensive. During his tenure as Grand Master, his theme and emphasis has been "*Freemasonry — Building Better Leaders.*" Please come out to help us give Most Worshipful Lewis a hearty Fredericksburg welcome!

Over the weekend of November 23-24, we commemorate Brother Lafayette's visit to our Lodge and our city. Information about the whole weekend of festivities is available at <https://fxbg.com/lafayette/>.

On Sunday, November 24, the public is invited to join us as we reenact Worshipful William Gray's reception of Lafayette at 10:30 am in the Lodge Room. Right Worshipful Shelby Chandler will give a brief history of Masonry and of our Lodge during the 1820s. Then Worshipful Pat McConnell will be joined by Lafayette interpreter Mark Schneider to present Worshipful Gray's reception speech to the General and Lafayette's response. Next, General Lafayette will hold a question-and-answer session with those in attendance. Finally, Mr. Chuck Schwam, Executive Director of the American Friends of Lafayette, will have remarks for the audience.

Also on November 24, the public is invited to attend a book talk by Brother Chris Ruli about his new book, *Brother Lafayette*. Our country's Freemasons played a pivotal role and embraced Lafayette as a soldier, statesman, and fellow Mason. *Brother Lafayette* examines the Marquis' often misunderstood connection to the ancient Fraternity and provides the most detailed account, through Masonic records, newspapers, letters, and diaries, of how American Freemasons extended a heartfelt welcome to a fellow brother of the Mystic Tie.

November is the perfect opportunity to present our Lodge and the Craft to our community. I hope Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4 can turn out in numbers to support these events.

My Brothers, it is that time of year to set the annual dues amount for 2025. Section 2.86 of the Methodical Digest indicates that the by-laws of Subordinate Lodges may add an annual Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) to a base dues amount. Accordingly, Article II of our by-laws indicates that members are to be charged annual dues composed of a base dues amount (\$150 set in 2020), the Grand Lodge Assessment (\$55), plus a COLA (based on the [Consumer Price Index inflation calculator](#)). Current dues are \$215 and have been held at this amount for the past two years. However, our dues should be \$238 under the by-laws and if we want to fully account for the rise in inflation over the last couple of years.

The good news is that annual dues for 2025 will only be going up by \$10—from \$215 to \$225! The Worshipful Master can remit members' dues in part to keep the amount at \$215 or some amount up to \$238. An increase is needed, but the more modest increase of \$10 seems fair at this time. Even \$10 more a year will still significantly help maintain our historic building and help fund our activities to support the Brethren. Please note the rising costs of food, utilities, and everything else associated with running a Lodge. The dues notices that will go out in mid-November will reflect the new dues amount of \$225.

Finally, Brethren, November is the time of Thanksgiving. I am extremely thankful for all of you. I hope you and yours have a wonderful, happy, and blessed Thanksgiving.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,
Pat McConnell
(540) 809-1311
patmccnll@gmail.com

Secretary's Corner

Brethren, this is a busy month for your Lodge and your Grand Lodge. If you haven't been to a Grand Annual Communication before, I'd encourage you to attend at least part of it on November 8th and 9th. It's a very eye-opening experience. Please reach out if you need any details. One word of advice is to get there early—parking can be a challenge at the Hilton Richmond Hotel & Spa!

We will soon be issuing dues notices for 2025. Please take a minute to check your contact information and make sure we have your correct email and mailing address.

As in past months, I'd ask you to consider one of your often overlooked officers—the Marshal. Not only does he have the solemn duty and great honor of presenting the Flag of our Country at our Sacred Altar, it is his duty to conduct all public processions of the Lodge. This is an important duty, whether at the all-important Masonic funeral service, in marching to our annual Memorial Day observance at the Masonic Cemetery, or other such events. I was struck by the Grand Marshal's leading the dignified procession of the Grand Lodge officers at the cornerstone laying ceremony at Mount Vernon last month. But as with all Masonic symbols, let us look deeper—in asserting a definite order during all such processions, it reminds us that each of us has a role and a place in the Lodge, and that we're all moving in the same direction in our Masonic journey. Yet though some may be in front and others behind, we're all equal in worth—they're not going to start till we all get where we're going. The Installation Ceremony also states that the Marshal is responsible for 'the respectable appearance of the Craft,' which depends in great measure on his 'energy, promptness, and decision.' Are we mindful of our 'respectable appearance' as men and Masons? Do we have energy and enthusiasm? Do we show up on time? Can we, when we're called on to lead our Brethren, make a decision? I'll leave you with a quote attributed to Bro. Teddy Roosevelt, whom you may guess is one of my Masonic heroes: *'In any moment of decision, the best thing you can do is the right thing, the next best thing is the wrong thing, and the worth thing you can do is nothing.'*

Sincerely and Fraternaly,
Christopher S. Tripp

The Rest of the Year - Mark Your Calendars Now

November

Pancake Breakfast, *November 2*, 8 am

Stated Communication/GRAND MASTER'S OFFICIAL VISIT, *November 4*

Dinner Menu, 6:30 pm

Sliced Spiral Ham

Carved Roasted Turkey w/Cranberry Sauce

Mashed Potatoes & Gravy

Green Bean Casserole

Cornbread Dressing

Salad w/Spinach, Romaine, Dried Cranberries, Feta & Almonds

Parker House Rolls
Sweet Potato Pie

Meeting, 7:30 pm
GRAND MASTER'S OFFICIAL VISIT

2nd Tuesday Community Meal, *November 12*, 4 pm

Lafayette Commemoration Weekend; *November 23 and November 24*

Reception of General Lafayette, *November 24*, 10:30 am.

Brother Chris Ruli's book lecture on *Brother Lafayette*, *November 24*, 2 pm

December

Pancake Breakfast, *December 7*, 8 am

Fredericksburg Christmas Parade, *December 7*, Time TBD

2nd Tuesday Community Meal, *December 10*, 4 pm

Stated Communication/ELECTIONS FOR 2025 Officers, *December 13*

Dinner Menu, 6:30 pm

Meatloaf

Mashed Potatoes & Gravy

Country Style Green Beans

Caesar Salad

Parker House Rolls

Apple Pie

Meeting, 7:30
ELECTIONS FOR 2025 OFFICERS

Officer Installation, *TBD*

5th Tuesday Community Meal, *December 31*, 4 pm



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

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



Jim Ridenhour
(757) 714-5806
Smithfield, VA

PinDads@Outlook.Com

2024 LODGE OFFICERS

Patrick McConnell	patmccnll@gmail.com	(540) 809-1311	Worshipful Master
Michael Dove	Michaeldove79@gmail.com	(540) 388-1001	Senior Warden
Ken Carey	buddy79@comcast.net	(540) 226-7122	Junior Warden
James Snyder, PM	Jamie-snyder@usa.net	(540) 903-2937	Treasurer
Christopher Tripp, PM	secretarylodge4va@gmail.com	(540) 424-5767	Secretary
Seth Roderick	sethroderick@protonmail.com		Senior Deacon
Jeff Adams, Sr.	jadams@rosendin.com		Junior Deacon
Troy Blanchard	cajnboy24@gmail.com		Senior Steward
John Lapke	Lapke.j@gmail.com		Junior Steward
Justin Garrett	jaygarrett0214@gmail.com		Chaplain
Robert Breitenbach	robertjbreitenbach@icloud.com		Marshal
Kevin Valentine	vak242@yahoo.com		Tiler

TRUSTEES

Charles Cooper, PM – 2024	Dennis David – 2025	Dennis Berry, PDDGM – 2026
Chris Decker, PM – 2027	Dan Goodwin, PM - 2028	

PROGRAM OFFICERS

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

LIVING PAST MASTERS

Wor.: Carter. G. Wells.....	1963	R.: W.: Steven W. Sanford.....	2005
Wor.: Rudolph E. Griffith.....	1974	Wor.: Richard D. Dey.....	2006
Wor.: Henry W. Baker.....	1975	Wor.: Anthony L Rudder.....	2007
Wor.: Edward L. Donalson.....	1983	R.: W.: Jeffrey D. St. Onge.....	2009
R.: W.: Dennis W. Berry.....	1986	Wor.: Shelton S. Mackey.....	2010
Wor.: Thomas C Shelton.....	1988	R.: W.: Shelby L. Chandler.....	2011
Wor.: William J. White.....	1989	Wor.: Christopher J. Decker.....	2012
Wor.: James R. Adams.....	1992	Wor.: Christopher R. Wilson.....	2013
Wor.: Robert W. Benish.....	1993	Wor.: Jeffrey L. Mitchell.....	2014
Wor.: Michael J. McCray.....	1995	M.: W.: Jeffrey P. VanCuren.....	2015
Wor.: Steven M. Gallahan.....	1996	Wor.: James L. Ragsdale.....	2016
Wor.: Charles B. Pasto.....	1998	Wor.: Michael T. Moses.....	2017
Wor.: J. Travis Walker.....	2000	Wor.: Daniel T. Goodwin.....	2018
R.: W.: Daniel W. Thompson.....	2001	Wor.: James M. Snyder.....	2019
R.: W.: W. Robert Brammer.....	2002	Wor.: Stanley R. Kennedy.....	2020
Wor.: Sheridan G. Harrod.....	2003	Wor.: Christopher S. Tripp.....	2021
Wor.: Jene G. Parrotte.....	2004	Wor.: Joseph K. Gilkerson.....	2023