

# 2017 National Preservation Month in Lexington and Rockbridge County

Sacred Places: Historic Churches and Cemeteries in Rockbridge County

## Saturday, May 6, 10am to 1pm



Falling Spring  
Presbyterian Church

Church Open House and Tours of five mid-19th century churches in the Buffalo Creek area of Rockbridge County: Falling Spring Presbyterian, Cedar Hill Baptist, Oxford Presbyterian, Collierstown Methodist, and Collierstown Presbyterian. Map with guide to churches is available.

## May 13, 2 to 4pm

Walking Tours of Lexington's Main Street. Tours begin every half-hour from Old Courthouse Square on South Main Street. Learn about the evolution of buildings and the people who lived there. First Baptist Church, 103 N. Main Street, will hold an open-house. This is a family-oriented event and children are encouraged to participate.



Main Street, with  
First Baptist Church

## May 14, 1 to 2pm

An Invitation for Children to Explore Stonewall Jackson Memorial Cemetery in Lexington, Virginia. Guides will be at the cemetery to help children identify gravestones of people, different kinds of markers, and symbols. Children will be given a printed guide that will allow them to record their findings.

## May 14, 2 to 3pm

Open House at Beechenbrook Chapel, the c. 1873 chapel built by the Lexington Presbyterian Church for use by the workers at Jordan's Point. At 2:30pm, Skip



Beechenbrook Chapel

Ravenhorst, AIA, will give a presentation on the rehabilitation of the chapel and plans for adaptive reuse of the structure. The nearby Miller's Museum at Jordan's Point will also be open to visitors (1–3pm.)

## May 20, 1 to 3pm

At Hillel House on the campus of Washington and Lee University, a Preservation Month discussion of the area's African-American heritage:

*"Forging Ahead: A Preliminary Analysis of the Buffalo Forge Iron Companies"* by Erin Schwarz, a 2012 graduate of Washington and Lee University. Her presentation is based on the doctoral research she is doing for her PhD at the College of William and Mary on the lives and home places of members of the enslaved community at Buffalo Forge.

*"The 'Colored Dead': African-American Burying Places in Lexington and Rockbridge County"* by Dr. Alison Bell. A 1991 graduate of Washington and Lee University with a PhD in Anthropology from the University of Virginia, Dr. Bell is on the faculty of W&L and currently writing a book of Virginia cemeteries. The presentation will include discussion of Mt. Lydia Cemetery, the final resting ground of freedmen from Buffalo Forge and their descendants.



Mt. Lydia Cemetery