



A Reconciling in Christ Congregation



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Contact: Pastor Monica Weber  
[pastormonica@lmlc.org](mailto:pastormonica@lmlc.org)

**Luther Memorial Lutheran Church Hosts Mr. Jefferson's Bones Trombone Quintet for Special Concert**

**Blacksburg, Virginia** --- On March 12, 2023 at 4 pm, Luther Memorial Lutheran Church is hosting a very special concert by Mr. Jefferson's Bones, a professional trombone quintet. The New River Valley community is invited to attend.

For the second time, Mr. Jefferson's Bones quintet is traveling to Puerto Rico to share their music, with a class for university students planned, and a free public concert on March 20<sup>th</sup>. The quintet first visited Puerto Rico in 2018 as a Hurricane Maria relief effort: eight trombonists from the United States spent a week performing a number of free concerts for the public; they also offered music classes to students, distributed free music books and pBone instruments, and spent money with local businesses to help them recover and know they had not been forgotten by American citizens. [Click here](#) for more information on the 2018 trip.

Robert Mott, a member of the quintet, says, "We made some great friends and contacts with music teachers and professors on our 2018 trip and as a result, we have been invited to perform this year for the [Puertorrican Brass Fest](#) held annually in Mayaguez on Tuesday, March 21. Trumpet, trombone, horn, and tuba students of all ages from across the island will gather for one day of classes and performances and we will be the closing concert for that one-day festival."

600 Prices Fork Road  
Blacksburg, VA 24060  
Tel: 540-951-1000  
e-mail: [luther@lmlc.org](mailto:luther@lmlc.org)  
[www.lmlc.org](http://www.lmlc.org)

As they did in 2018, Mr. Jefferson's Bones is performing in Puerto Rico free of charge and are covering their own travel and lodging expenses for the trip. The group will also purchase musical instruments (e.g., pBones, pTrumpets, etc.) and music method books to donate to the music students of Puerto Rico, and are working with teachers in Puerto Rico to make sure that they are providing the most helpful resources. "Luther Memorial Lutheran Church is delighted to host this 'practice' concert; this event is made possible by an endowment from the *Marilyn Norstedt Memorial Music Fund* at Luther Memorial Lutheran Church. We have made a \$1,000 contribution to the quintet to help purchase valuable resources for Puerto Rican students," says Reverend Monica Weber, pastor at Luther Memorial. A free-will offering will be taken at the Blacksburg concert for anyone wishing to help defray the artists' lodging and transportation costs.

Pastor Monica says, "We invite everyone in the New River Valley to come enjoy a wonderful free brass concert on March 12<sup>th</sup> at 4 pm and thank this gifted group of musicians for offering their time and talent to help young music students."

**About Luther Memorial Lutheran Church:** Luther Memorial Lutheran Church is a [Reconciling in Christ](#) congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America ([ELCA](#)). Founded in 1886, the church serves the Blacksburg community and residents of Southwest Virginia's New River Valley. The [Well Campus Ministry](#), hosted by Luther Memorial, offers regular opportunities for fun, food, and fellowship in Christ for students at Virginia Tech. Luther Memorial offers worship services, faith formation, and Christian education studies throughout the week, and enjoys a long-standing tradition of mission and community service in the New River Valley. For more information, contact Reverend Monica Weber, (540) 951-1003, or visit [www.lmlc.org](#).

**About Mr. Jefferson's Bones:** Mr. Jefferson's Bones, a versatile, professional trombone quintet, is comprised of some of the Shenandoah Valley's most experienced and talented professional trombonists and enjoys performing a wide variety of classical, sacred, popular and jazz repertoire. The group's members include Andy Lankford, Tom McKenzie, Robert Mott, Jay Crone and Kyle Remnant. Mr. Jefferson's Bones is most proud of its annual trombone festival —

*Tromblow'in* — typically held each January at James Madison University, which gives trombonists of all ages and abilities a day of workshops, concerts and clinics with professionals from around the state and country. Notable performances for the ensemble have included headlining Staunton's Center Stage! Concert Series and Jazz in the Park summer concert series; performing at Thomas Jefferson's Monticello for the annual 4th of July Naturalization and Citizenship Ceremony; Valley Baseball League national anthem performances; school assembly concerts for K-12 students; and numbers other local concert and church events, including the SACRA Christmas benefit and summertime Concerts on the Lawn at JMU, Bridgewater and Massanutten, to name just a few. Visit <https://mrjeffersonsbones.com/> for more information.

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