

# SEPTEMBER 2025

## JONES MEMORIAL LIBRARY

History, Archives & Special Collections

## This month at Jones

### History Lecture: *Colonial Churches & Their Role in Virginia*

**Wednesday, September 10  
5:00 p.m.  
JML Reading Room**

As we approach the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution, we are launching our 2025-26 series on the theme of *Freedom Forward*. Join us for our first lecture of the year this month.

It was at church that many of the Founding Fathers acquired their governing skills and many churches before the Revolution performed local government functions. In this presentation by Marjorie & Joseph Freeman, learn about the history of Virginia's colonial churches and their unique architecture.

The talk is free and open to all. JML lectures are also recorded and added to our [YouTube channel](#) approximately one month later.

FALL 2025  
*Freedom Forward!*

LECTURE SERIES

Jones Memorial Library  
John D. Owen Jr. History Series

2311 Memorial Avenue, Lynchburg, VA 24501  
www.jmlibrary.org 434-846-0501

9/10

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2025**  
5:00 P.M.



Marjorie & Joseph Freeman

*Colonial Churches & Their Role in Virginia*



Before the Revolution, Virginia's churches performed many local government functions. It was at church that many of the Founding Fathers acquired their governing skills. Uncover the history of colonial congregations in Virginia, and learn more about the unique architecture of these churches.

*The Freemans first researched this topic in the mid 1970s for the National Bicentennial. Marge is the photographer and historian. Joe is the interpreter of the role of the colonial churches in training the Founding Fathers.*

*Both Freemans have undergraduate degrees in History. Marge also has a Masters in Library Science. She is a retired academic librarian from the University of Lynchburg and Sweet Briar College. She is a volunteer and Board member at Jones Memorial Library.*

*Joe has his Masters and Ph.D. from UVA in Government and Foreign Affairs. He is a retired professor from the University of Lynchburg. He also served on the Lynchburg City Council for 16 years.*

## On Exhibit: *The Art of Travel*

**Through September 27, 2025**  
**JML Reading Room**

Catch it while you can! Our exhibit on *The Art of Travel* features travel notebooks, photos, and mementos.

*The Art of Travel: Highlights from the R. Chambliss Light, Jr. Papers* shares how personal and business travel serves to connect and document our world today.

Free and open to the public in the JML Reading Room.



## JML On the Road

Stop by our information booth at these events in September. We'll be highlighting our new grant-funded oral history project to document the lives of area residents.

While we are on the road, services continue as usual at the library.

**Saturday, September 6**

**12:00 - 6:00 p.m.**

Amherst County Fair  
Amherst Fairgrounds  
*Information booth*

**Saturday, September 13**

**10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

Roots & Reconnections  
Thomas Jefferson's Poplar Forest  
*Information booth, plus record a short oral history interview*

**Saturday, September 20**

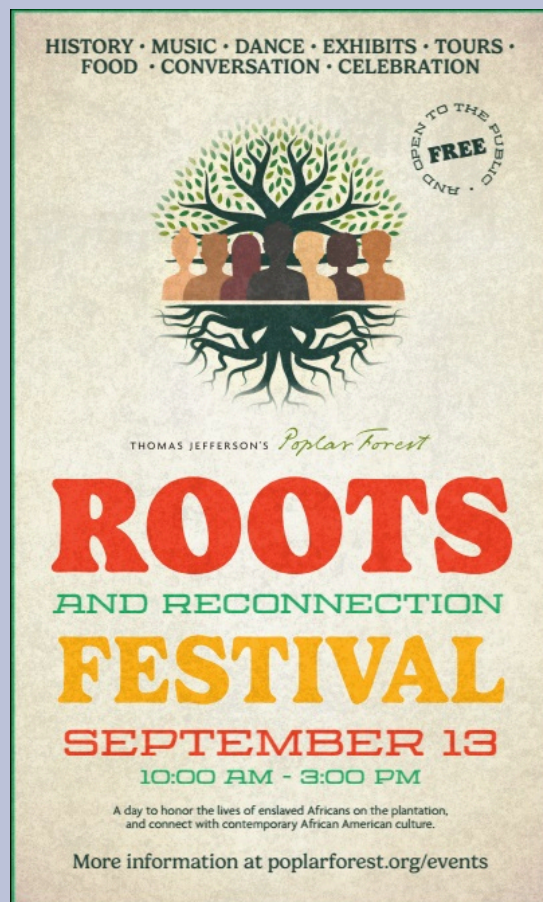
**2:00 - 5:00 p.m.**

Party on Pierce  
Pierce Street Gateway  
*Information booth, plus record a short oral history interview*

**Saturday, September 27**

**11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

Our Madison Heights Homecoming  
Rose Chapel Baptist Church  
*Information booth, plus record a short oral history interview*



# PARTY ON PIERCE



**SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 20, 2025**  
RAIN DATE SEPTEMBER 21 **2-5 P.M.**

**FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**  
**FOOD • DRINKS • LIVE MUSIC**  
**GAMES • TOURS • HISTORY**

1301 PIERCE STREET • LYNCHBURG, VA • [PIERCEST.ORG](http://PIERCEST.ORG)

  Presented by Pierce Street Gateway & The Whirlwind Johnson Foundation  
Sponsored by the Lynchburg Office of Economic Development 

## Our Madison Heights!

SAVE THE DATE  
REFLECTING ON A NURTURING BLACK COMMUNITY



**ROSE CHAPEL BAPTIST CHURCH**

SEPT 27 STARTS AT 11AM



Scan or press and hold the code on your iPhone to open the link

## Save the Dates!

### History Lectures

Save the dates for our October and November local history lectures.

Lectures are held at the JML Reading Room and are free and open to the public

**October 8 @ 5:00 p.m.**  
*Who was John Brown?*  
with Benjamin L. Greenbaum

**November 12 @ 5:00 p.m.**  
*Lynchburg's Friends & Families*  
with R. Chambliss Light, Jr.

10/8

**OCTOBER 08, 2025**

Benjamin L. Greenbaum  
*Who was John Brown?*

Abolitionist, patriot, agitator? Who exactly was John Brown? Learn about the man who planned an insurrection at Harper's Ferry that sought to overthrow American chattel slavery. In 2024, Civil War authentication expert Ben Greenbaum evaluated JML's John Brown pike (on display in the Reading Room). Learn how weapons like the pike were procured by Brown, and how the quest for freedom was foiled at the federal arsenal.

11/12

**NOVEMBER 12, 2025**

R. Chambliss Light Jr.  
*Lynchburg's Friends & Families*



In the early to mid 1700's Central Virginia emerged as the next frontier in westward expansion. A large percentage of the earliest settlers were members of the Society of Friends (commonly called Quakers). Learn about Lynchburg's Quaker families, whose names, homes, and plantations are familiar even 200+ years later.

## October GLAM

Thursday, October 9

5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Campbell County Museum

Are you a staff member or volunteer at a gallery, library, archive or museum in the Lynchburg area?

Lynchburg GLAM is a free networking group which meets four times a year. Area institutions sign up to host a tour and share updates on their collections and projects.

In October, Lynchburg GLAM will visit the Campbell County Museum. To learn more and sign up for our e-mail list, visit the [GLAM webpage](#)

## LYNCHBURG GLAM OCTOBER 2025



Join us for a tour and get together with  
Campbell County Museum

**Thursday, October 9, 2025**  
**5:30 - 7:00 P.M.**

Campbell County Museum At The Historic Courthouse  
774 Village Highway (US 501/ Rt 24), Rustburg VA



# Non-Fiction Book Group

Wednesday, October 22  
10:30 a.m.  
Westminster Canterbury

Join the Non-Fiction Book group in October as we discuss *Midnight Rising* by Tony Horwitz.

The discussion group is free and open to the public. Chats are co-moderated by librarians from Jones Memorial Library and the Lynchburg Public Library. We meet at Westminster Canterbury in the Hume Room.

Read all of the book, or come to learn more about it! You can borrow a copy of the book from the Lynchburg Public Library or use the Hoopla and Libby apps to read or listen online.

## Our 2025-26 titles are:

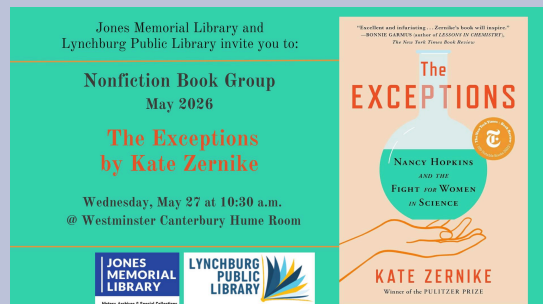
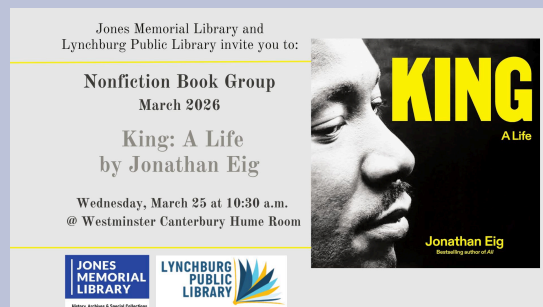
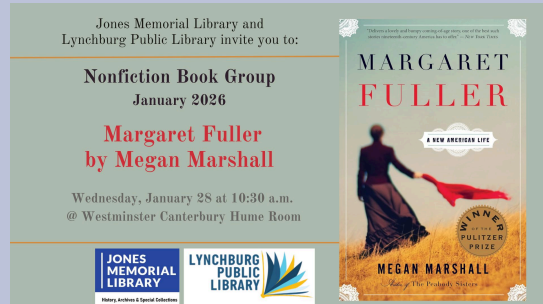
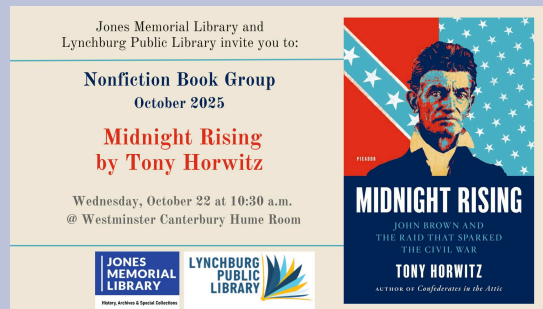
August 27  
*The Pioneers* by David McCullough

October 22  
*Midnight Rising* by Tony Horwitz

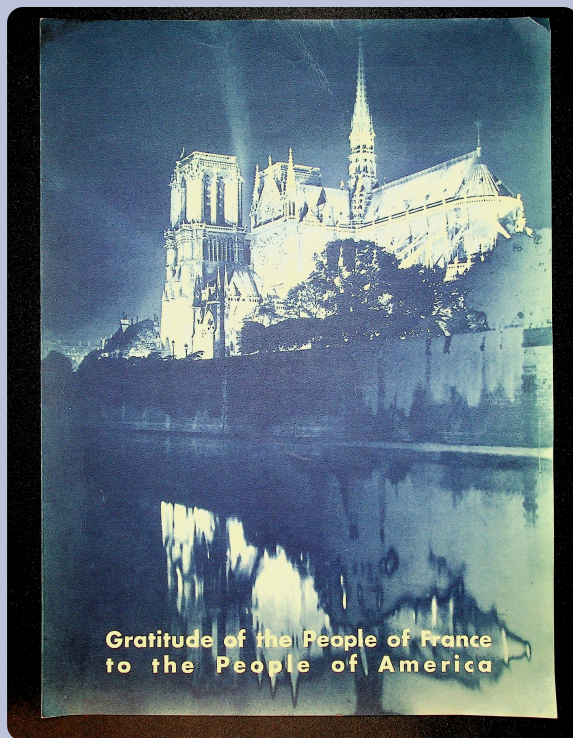
January 28  
*Margaret Fuller* by Megan Marshall

March 25  
*King: A Life* by Jonathan Eig

May 27  
*The Exceptions* by Kate Zernike



Now Online @ Digital Jones

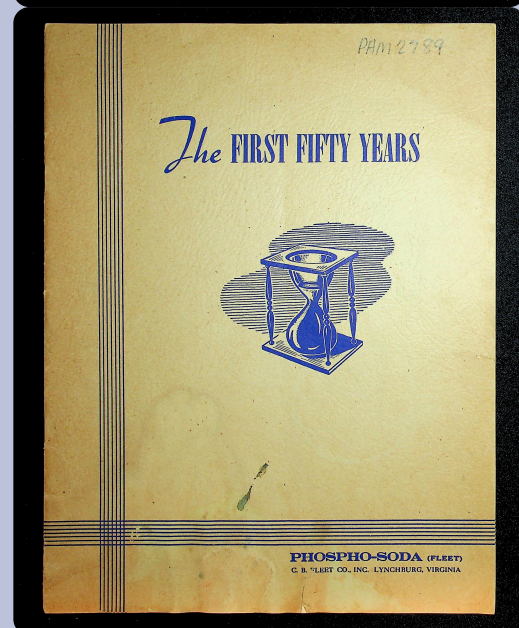
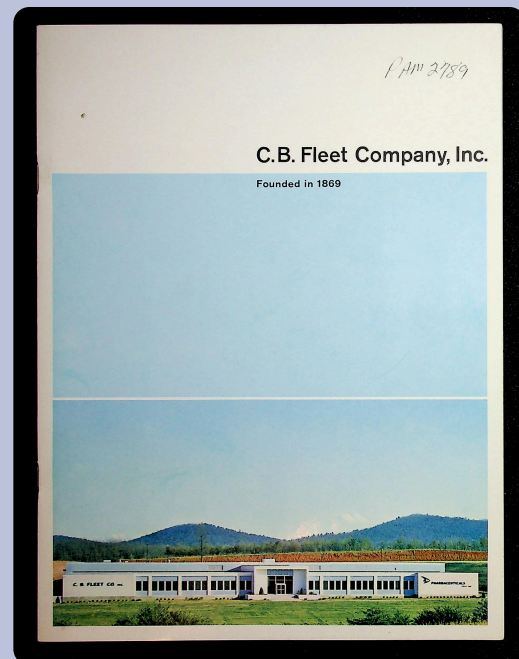


**LIONS CLUB PAPERS**  
**Merci Train Materials**  
 JML.MS1122  
 Box 1, Folders 11-12

The French "Merci Train" rolled across America after World War 2. The train delivered a boxcar of goods to each state in gratitude for America's liberation of Nazi-occupied France.

JML has recently digitized some of the booklets and pamphlets that were distributed from the Virginia car when the train passed through Lynchburg in April 1949.

Lions Club  
 Merci Train Materials



**C.B. FLEET COMPANY**  
 JML.PAM 2789

JML Pamphlet File 2789 contains two company publications produced by C.B. Fleet, founded in 1869 in Lynchburg. Learn about the company's history through "C.B. Fleet Company, Inc." and "The First Fifty Years".

C.B. Fleet  
 Pamphlet Files

Did you know that JML has a series of files with information on families who lived in the area? Family Files are organized by surname, and include items like family histories, lineage charts & notes, and newspaper articles. Family Files can be a big help in discovering leads about ancestors and also compliment the information in our book and manuscript holdings. You can search for Family Files (FF) by keyword or browse our Family File Item Set.

JML Family Files

## Coming Soon!

### Annual Report

The JML 2024-25 Annual Report will arrive in mailboxes later this month.

The report shares news and updates about the library's projects and initiatives. The honor roll of donors lists monetary donations and gifts of materials to the library received between July 1, 2024 and June 30, 2025. The report is just one of the ways that we share our gratitude for your support!

We expect to mail copies to patrons on our mailing list by mid-September. You can also pick up a copy at the library this fall.



MAKE A GIFT TO THE 2025-26  
ANNUAL FUND

### Jones Memorial Library

2311 Memorial Avenue, Lynchburg VA 24501

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