

August 13, 2020



Steeple Views

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MARTINSVILLE, VA

PASTOR'S CORNER

Rev. Mark Hinchcliff
FPC Martinsville, VA

August 12, 2020

“Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.” James 1:17

I recently heard a story that really hit home when I’m looking for God in the wrong place. If you’re looking for God as some divine vision in the clouds, you may be missing God’s transforming power coming through the person standing next to you. The story I heard goes like this;

He had only one eye and his arm was almost torn off dangling by a thread. But this little girl loved her teddy bear known to her only by the name “Bear”. She made a point to take Bear almost everywhere she went including her weekly attendance at Sunday School. In her class each week they always took time to pray to God for particular groups or individuals in need. This week her teacher suggested the class pray for those who were sick and hurting so the little girl prayed for Bear. While others were praying for hungry children around the world, sick relatives, and broken relationships, the little girl hugged her bear and asked Jesus to make her bear better.

By accident, the little girl left Bear behind. Overhearing the little girl’s prayer, one of the teachers took the bear home and “healed” him. She replaced Bear’s eyes with shiny new buttons, sewed his arm back on, and created some new clothes for the bear. When the teacher gave Bear back to the little girl on the next Sunday the little

girl had only one thing to say, "God heard my prayer"!

What the little girl would later learn is that sometimes God heals directly and sometimes God heals through others. Broken limbs and eyes, tattered clothes, or shattered lives God can show up in many ways. God is alive and well ready to fix things around us in the most unexpected ways. Pay attention and be ready to say thanks!

By the love of Christ,

Pastor Mark

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Be sure to join the Facebook live worship service this Sunday at 10 AM. The info will be sent via text message and will include the link to the service. You may also join by navigating to our Facebook page, scrolling down to the "videos" section of the page and simply clicking on the video at 10 AM.

Disagree in "How" but Agree in What"

Based upon Psalm 133 and Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

Rural King Church Week

For everyone who shops at Rural King, they will donate to FPC 10% of all purchases made between August 2 - August 15, 2020. Just choose **First Presbyterian** as the registered organization and upload receipts to Rural King by September 1, 2020. If you have any questions or need help with turning in receipts you can go to www.ruralking.com/churchweek or call me at 276-732-3296.

Thanks,

Henry Moore, Treasurer



Community Breakfast Next Saturday, August 22! (originally scheduled for this Saturday)

Our free community breakfast is next **SATURDAY, August 22** in a to-go drive-thru format.

Volunteers are needed beginning at 7am to cook & prepare the food, volunteers are also needed to pack & hand out the meals.

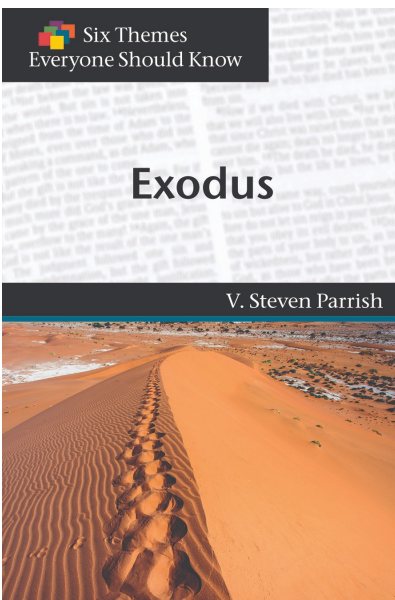
Breakfast starts at 8 AM - Brook will provide further instruction on Saturday.

Volunteers will only be in the kitchen coming through the kitchen's back door and all food and people entering and leaving from there.

To maintain social distancing, we'll only have about 4-5 volunteers at a time.

If you are available to help with one or both tasks, please contact **Brooke Cundiff** ([276 340-6124](tel:2763406124)).

Adult Sunday School



Join us for the next adult Sunday school class beginning **August 23**.

(excerpt from the PCUSA bookstore webpage)

“The story of the Exodus has emboldened oppressed people for centuries. In it, God empowers human striving for freedom. Steven Parrish introduces six themes that reveal the character of God. God listened to the captives’ suffering and responded. Through the wilderness, God sustained the people with food, water, and law. God promised to be present to the people. And God is merciful and gracious, as demonstrated in the golden calf episode. This volume includes material for

participants and guides for leading all six sessions.”

The class meets Sundays at 9:00 AM by Zoom. Contact Denny Casey d.a.casey@comcast.net for a book and to get your Zoom invite.



August 20

Red Cross Bloodmobile, Third Thursday of the month, 12:00–6:00 PM, Elks Lodge, 300 Fairy Street. Our congregation supplies volunteers who check in donors and serve them at the canteen after they finish donating blood. Contact Nancy Baker, 638-7923, nbaker08@comcast.net, if you can help.

Presbytery Meeting



PRESBYTERY MEETING VIA ZOOM

**August 15, 2020
9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

- **First Time Elder Orientation Training will be offered on Monday, Aug. 10 at 7:00 p.m. Register on our webpage.**
 - **Please review the Mission Study Video on the Meeting Information Page. We will be voting on this item.**
 - **Reminder that all pastors and CP's must register for this meeting.**
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Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
Presbyterian Mission



Lessons from **SOUTH SUDAN**

RECONCILIATION: WHAT THE CHURCH IS DOING

An Invitational Video Presentation to Presbytery of the Peaks

By Church Partners and PC(USA) Mission Workers

SATURDAY AUGUST 15TH, 2020, BETWEEN 9.00-12.30 ON ZOOM

Youth Sunday School

Monday evenings from 6- – The Youth will now be meeting on Youth Ministry **7pm** still on **Zoom**. For the next few weeks, we will be doing **Virtual Netta!** Massanetta's Youth Conference has moved online for this summer with video collections of energizers, games, theme skits, and keynotes!

If your middle or high school child would like to join us, now would be a great time to, please contact me for an invite link to the Zoom meeting.

Sam Smith

Director of Youth and Family Ministries

First Presbyterian Church

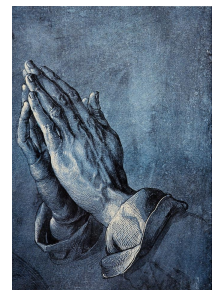
Cell: 276-224-2811

Church: 276-632-3431

Prayer Requests

These members and friends of the congregation need our prayers:

Doc Altizer, Carl and Georgette Bishop, Marilyn Bremner (S. Ford), Jim Brunt (N. Davis' brother), Tommy Cobb (M. Dunn), Sandra Bryson Cox, Mallory Hall-DeSantis (B. Tatum), Daniel Handy, Helen Hawkes, Anne



Holland (sister of Pearl Minter), Betty Carol Lamm, Eddie Levi, Mary Manning, Laura Stevens Milton, Regenia Noel (M. Stevens), Anne Peterson, Gavin Russell, Gene Stanley, Charlotte Walker (JoAnne Sanders' mother), persecuted Christians and all troops in defense of freedom throughout the world.

Please submit prayer requests to Rita in the church office, (276) 632-3431, office@fpcmartinsvilleVA.org.

Please remember

Assorted Canned Veggies (Veg-all)

The new food item for First Presbyterian Church for the 3rd quarter is **canned assorted veggies**. Please consider donating extra when you are able to get out and about as your donations will become more important than ever.

Please stay safe, stay healthy and please keep us in your prayers as we navigate these uncharted waters.

Hygiene Items - We are always in need of these items!

JULY Toilet Paper, Feminine Products, Deodorant

AUGUST Toilet Paper, Bath Soap, Toothpaste

SEPTEMBER Dish Detergent, Deodorant, Laundry Detergent

**Items may be brought to church but please call the office to make sure Rita is there. Alternatively, you may drop off at Grace Network, Monday - Friday, 9-2 PM*

Blessings, Tracy

A Note from the the Editor

Although regular church services have been cancelled and we are no longer meeting in person, I hope we all try to stay in touch with one another using any possible medium. Phone calls, face time, emails, etc. It is important that we look after one another during these difficult times and it's good to know we are not alone. While there are no regular happenings to report on, I would like to send out Steeple Views on a weekly basis so please feel free to share any news or updates with me and I will do my best to include them in the newsletter. skirbycwj@gmail.com or 276 806-9709.

Our Mission
Share God's Love, Embrace Our Neighbors, Nurture Each Other

Printed copies of *Steeple Views* are available at church. Current and back issues are also on our website:

www.firstpresbyterianmartinsville.org/page.cfm/topic/newsletter

Useful Links

FPC website: www.firstpresbyterianmartinsville.org/ or www.fpcmartinsvilleVA.org/

FPC online directory: members.instantchurchdirectory.com/

FPC Facebook page: www.facebook.com/FPCMartinsvilleVA

Presbytery of the Peaks: www.peakspresbytery.org/

Presbyterian Church (USA): www.pcusa.org/

Daily Bible Readings: www.presbyterianmission.org/devotion/daily/

Steeple Views is published. **DEADLINE** for submission of articles is Tuesday evening. We reserve the right to edit all submissions. Sharon Kirby, Editor

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THE SESSION

Moderator: Rev. Mark Hinchcliff

Clerk: Nancy Baker

Treasurer: Henry Moore

Class of 2020

Denny Casey: Christian Education

Ron Rebman: Administration

Kym Tatum: Fellowship

Class of 2021

Lynn Pritchett: Stewardship

Monica Stevens: Worship

Class of 2022

Brooke Cundiff: Mission/Outreach

Pamela Rakes: Communications

Betty Hudson: Congregational Care

TRUSTEES

2020: Milton Davis, Duke Ferrell

2021: David Garland, Ed Linker

2022: Joan Montgomery, Ashby Pritchett

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