

January 29, 2026



Steeple Views

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MARTINSVILLE, VA

Pastor's Corner

Pastor Bea Miller

Dear First Presbyterian family,

I pray that everyone is safe and warm! Here, an hour from Martinsville, the 6-8 inches of snow is now covered with ice. It is pretty and pretty treacherous. My dog is sliding around and so am I. Praying for power to stay on, for everyone.

This Sunday (Sunday, February 1) we were scheduled to worship at Forest Hills Presbyterian, joining together in a grateful farewell for all the church has accomplished, while blessing the retirement of their pastor, Rev. Cheryl Peebles. However, Tuesday afternoon we received the following notice from Forest Hills Presbyterian:

Out of an abundance of caution due to the prediction of winter weather this coming weekend and the lingering aftermath of this past weekend's storm, Forest Hills has made the decision to move the Community Worship Service scheduled for Sunday, February 1st to Sunday, February 8th. This will enable our celebration of Cheryl's retirement and our 70+ years of ministry in our community to be as joyful and as accessible as possible for all members of our community.

We will join our brothers and sisters at Forest Hills Presbyterian in worship and celebration on Sunday, February 8th at 11:00 am.

This week, on Friday, we will decide if the weather will allow us all to be safe traveling to Sunday worship at First Presbyterian. (Check Facebook and TV stations) But weather permitting, we will have a "camp" style worship service with communion ~ no bulletin, singing acapella, casual. Come in your winter

snow shoveling clothes and warm yourselves in worship.

And I have exciting news!!! By the grace and encouragement of God, our Session extended a call to Whitney Melton to become our Director of Music. And she humbly and graciously accepted. We are blessed! Whitney's bachelor's degree has a concentration in organ ~ yes, she plays the organ. And she is currently working on a master's degree in worship and music. She has over 20 years' experience in conducting both choir and handbells and playing both organ and piano. She is the complete musical package. But best of all, the Session, Choir, Search Committee and Worship Committee love and appreciate who she is, the faith she shares and her energy for worship and church leadership! She will officially begin her journey with us on Monday, February 23rd. But you may see her around the building ~ organizing and planning ~ before then. And I hope all the choir folks and anyone interested in choir mark their calendar for rehearsals to begin Wednesday, February 25th. We will soon turn the calendar to February, and her start date will be here in no time. Please keep her and our music ministry in your prayers.

With prayers and excitement,

Pastor Bea



The **Community Worship Service** at Forest Hills has been rescheduled for Sunday, February, 8th at 11AM

**A decision to have a service at FPC will be made Friday. Check Facebook, WSLs-10, WFXR-27 and WDBJ-7 for cancellations.*

**NEW
DATE**

Community Worship

Join us as we celebrate Rev. Cheryl
Peeples' retirement and Forest Hills
Presbyterian Church's final worship service.
A reception in the Fellowship Hall will
follow the service.

**11 A.M.
SUNDAY,
FEBRUARY 8**

**FOREST HILLS
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

**725 BEECHNUT LANE,
MARTINSVILLE, VA**



Liturgist Schedule

February

1 Joe DeVault
8 Barbara Duncan
15 Cindy Edgerton
22 Janet Fentress

March

1 Duke Ferrell
8 Liz Ferrell
15 Billy Kirby
22 Sharon Kirby

29 no liturgist needed if we participate in Palm Sunday in the park

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday 9:30am - 4pm
Friday 9:30am - 2pm

If you need to conduct office business outside these hours, please call to make

an appointment.

BEWARE: Two members of our congregation recently received **scam** emails that purported to be sent by Pastor Bea asking for help with the purchase of gift cards. PLEASE remember, SHE WILL NEVER ASK you to purchase anything on her behalf with the promise to pay you back. If you have questions about any email communications from her, please call or text her or Rita!

Be Aware!

**Protect yourself
from scammers!**

Watch for emails, texts or calls that might be fraudulent and do not trust communications (even if they sound legitimate) that ask for personal information, money or gift cards.

You will NEVER get an email from the church or your pastor asking you to purchase gift cards because we are busy or in a meeting.



Join us at Forest Hills Presbyterian (725 Beechnut Lane, Martinsville)

on Sunday, February 8th at 11:00 AM for a community worship service of gratitude and farewell as we celebrate the retirement of Pastor Cheryl Peeples and Forest Hills' final worship service. A reception in the Fellowship Hall with sandwiches and other finger foods will follow the service.

The FPC Women's Circle Meeting is Monday, February 2nd at King's Grant at 11:00 AM. (***Weather Permitting***)



More information to come

January Birthdays

- 7** Elena King
- 10** Dr. James Beard
- 11** Cathy Martin
- 16** Billy Kirby, Wendy Luther
- 17** Grace Ann Crimmins
- 18** Mary Elizabeth Pilson-Bazemore
- 21** Bonny Pace
- 23** Milt Davis
- 26** Bud Buffkin
- 28** David Garland
- 29** Jack Kirby
- 29** Rusty Reaser
- 31** Mattie Wingfield

February Birthdays

- 1** Dr. David Seamon, Isla King
 - 3** Charles R. Knighton
 - 4** Pamela Rakes
 - 7** Mason Wood
 - 19** Evelyn Cannaday, Sandra T. Ford
 - 21** Sharon Kirby
-

Congregational Care and Fellowship

If you are in need of a [prayer shawl](#), or know someone that could use one,

please pick one up from the narthex and be sure to sign it out. If you have any questions, please reach out to **Susan Pilson**.

If you are in need of prayer, a meal, transportation, etc...due to a death in the family or the birth of a baby, please reach out to the Congregational Care and Fellowship committee by contacting **Susan** at [276 340-7288](tel:2763407288).

These members and friends of the congregation need our prayers:

PRAYER CONCERNS

Family of Kathryn Campbell Tuggle Neil, Family of Kathryn Judson, Sue Benfield, Bud Buffkin, Evelyn Cannaday, Joel Christman (B. Stanley), April Cox (B. Tatum), Marge Dunn, Martin Ford, Marvin Hudson, Liz Jackman (daughter of Nancy Davis), Mary Manning, Jackie McLachlan, Leslie Naradikian (Marion Miller's daughter), Maggie Pilson, Rusty Reaser, Cecil Robbins, Sandra Roberts (sister of Kat Walker), Susan Rosser, Becky Stone Sawyers (L. Pritchett), Dee Moore Smith, Laura Stevens, Scott Stevens, Bruce Thomas, , Tammy Tucker Wardinski, persecuted Christians, military service men and women, missionaries, refugees and immigrants forced to flee their countries, and families and areas devastated by severe weather.



Grace Network Donations

1st Quarter 2026 Food Donation Items is Creamed Corn, 15 oz.



Please consider donating extra when you are able to get out and about as your donations will become more important than ever.

ALSO in need of plastic grocery bags and empty egg cartons (dozen size). These can be deposited in the bins inside the Narthex

Hygiene Items are always needed (optional)

- *Toilet Paper
- *Bath Soap
- *Dish Detergent
- *Feminine Products
- *Deodorant
- *Toothpaste
- *Laundry Detergent

**Items may be brought to the church or dropped off at Grace Network, Monday - Friday, 9-2 PM*



Steeple Views Reminder

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MARTINSVILLE, VA

Steeple Views is published weekly on Thursdays, unless the Church office is

closed. **DEADLINE** for submission of articles is Wednesday afternoon by 3 PM

If you have information you want included in Steeple Views, **PLEASE SEND TO: fpcsteepleviews@gmail.com**. For time sensitive announcements, please send to skirbycwj@gmail.com **and text** [276 806-9709](tel:2768069709)

We reserve the right to edit all submissions. Sharon Kirby, Editor



For updates and announcements, please click on the link below or copy and paste into your web browser:

<https://www.peakspresbytery.org/peaks-postings/>

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/

Church Office Phone: [276-632-3431](tel:2766323431)

Our mailing address is:

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THE SESSION

Clerk: Liz Ferrell

Treasurer: Henry Moore

Class of 2026

Billy Kirby: Administration

Susan Pilson: Congregational Care and Fellowship

Anne Madonia: Think Tank

Class of 2027

Nancy Moore: Stewardship

Johnny Pinkard: Facilities

Judy King: Worship

Class of 2028

Ione Linker/Taylor Shank: Mission/Outreach

Nancy Davis: Christian Education

TRUSTEES

William Kirby, Gale Legg, Sharon Kirby, Dru Rothrock, Duke Ferrell, Joe Williams

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