

July 15, 2021



Steeple Views

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MARTINSVILLE, VA

Pastor's Corner
Rev. Mark Hinchcliff
July 14, 2021

"But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint." Isaiah 40:31

No one has ever accused me of being the most patient person in the world. And I truly own that! I hate ordering online and normally I'll buy something if it's right there in front of me on the shelf and walk away when I'm asked, "Do you want me to check another store?" I watch anxiously for a checkout to open when the line's too long. And I probably don't always wait for the light to totally turn green before moving.

When it comes to waiting on God, well as my wife says, "I know how you are!". I remember how anxious I was when it came to getting my driver's license. The soonest I could get it was at sixteen for an automobile but if I took the test on a motorcycle under 100CCs I could get it at fifteen. So, you know which one I chose.

After receiving a learner's permit, I found out that a State Trooper would be giving the motorcycle practical exam by driving behind me and honking directions to me on his car horn. I knew this was going to make me nervous, so I decided to ask my father to give me a practice run. Ready to get this unnerving event over with, I took off with Dad right behind. My instructions were to listen for one horn blast to turn right, two to turn left, and three for a quick stop. I made it through the first couple of turns just fine when I came to a railroad crossing. Hearing no additional horn blasts, I proceeded across when I heard four or five loud, long blasts. Just at that time, I looked in my mirror only to see a train flying by at 60 or 70MPH! I slammed on my breaks and just sat there shaking.

I was in such a hurry I forgot the number one rule of "Stop, Listen, Look Left, Look Right, and Look Again !!!" Slow down and take in all of your surroundings. It's not just a good lesson for driving, it's a good lesson for life. Maybe we should quit rushing around impatiently looking for God to show up. Maybe, just maybe, we should stop, look, listen, and wait. God's there you know. If we listen twice as much as we act without God, we'll hear what God has to say.

Be grace filled in your days to come,

Pastor Mark

The Church is Open for In-Person Worship Service!

If you **have not** been fully vaccinated please wear a mask and continue to practice social distancing.

The church office will open for limited appointments. Please call to schedule. **If you are not fully vaccinated PLEASE WEAR A MASK.** Thanks for your cooperation and understanding. Please enter at the narthex for Sunday worship and during the week use the back door at the portico.

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Please join us for the eighth Sunday after Pentecost either **in person** or via **Facebook live** at 10:00 AM

Get Some Rest and Make Ready for What God Has in Store for You

Based upon Mark 6:30-34, 53-56 and 2 Samuel 7:1-14a

Sermon by Rev. Mark Hinchcliff

back2school

It's hard to believe but **Back2School** is once again upon us and we are excited to bring this mission to the kids of Martinsville!

The last year has been such a challenge for all of us, but for our kids in the community, even more so. The **Back2School** event for the city cluster will be at Albert Harris again with a curbside event like last year. We are looking forward to getting back to the foot washing next year, but out of an abundance of precautions for the community and for the volunteers, we are going to do it like last year as an outside curbside event.

The first date to register and get feet measured has passed. The second date for kids to register is **July 20** and the **Big Event will be on August 7, 2021.**

If you are interested in sponsoring a child, you can do that for \$20.00 by check made out to the First Presbyterian Church, with Back2School in the memo.

If you are interested in volunteering, you can do that by contacting Tracy Hinchcliff at 409-330-0847 or tracy.hinchcliff@gracenetWORKmhc.org

We are looking forward to serving the kiddos of our community and with your help, we will see great joy to so many!



The Presbyterian Men Synod of the Mid-Atlantic Conference is Saturday, July 17 and will be via Zoom beginning at 9:00 a.m. The cost is \$25 per person or a max of \$75 for 3 or more. **Information on how to register will be available soon.**



Compassion Camp 2021: The Sequel is Coming Soon! Register NOW!

We will once again be offering a virtual at-home Vacation Bible School program this summer. Although we are sad to not have an in-person VBS or Camp Peaks program this year, we look forward to those returning next summer.

Who's Invited? Compassion Camp 2021: The Sequel will be available to participants, preschoolers-rising 6th graders, **July 26-30**. While each day's session will be sent out via email each morning, you will be able to complete each session at your leisure. This event is FREE so invite your grandchildren, nieces, nephews, friends, and neighbors.

Materials & Supplies: The supplies you will need are items you will likely have readily available in your household. A list of supplies will be available soon & help with supplies will be available to anyone who requests.

Registration: You can find more information & register your children [HERE](#) or please contact VBS co-

directors Sam Smith at sam@peaksprebytery.org or Debbie Norton at dnorto02@leeu.edu if you have any questions.



What can we pick up for you? Contact **Victoria Esarey** **276 732-9110** or email vesarey@gmail.com. These items will be broken down into parts, making them more valuable as recyclables.

Congregational Care and Fellowship

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 Lynn Pritchett at [276 252-6068](tel:276-252-6068).



The family of Ronald Cannaday greatly appreciate the sympathy and friendship shown to us during the loss of son and brother.

Thank you,
The Cannaday's

Prayer Requests

These members and friends of the congregation need our prayers:

PRAYER CONCERNS

Carl and Georgette Bishop, Ernest and Marilyn Bremner (S. Ford), Jim Brunt (N. Davis' brother), Kimberly Bryson, Laura Buffkin, Tommy Cobb (M. Dunn), Sandra and Mark Dobrinski (brother and sister-in-law of Cynthia), Daniel Handy, Leonard Kelley (Monica Stevens' brother), Betty Carol Lamm, Eddie Levi, Mary Manning, Laura Stevens Milton, Regenia Noel (M. Stevens), Anne Peterson, Gene and Betty Stanley, Tammy Tucker Wardinski (Susan Pilson), 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

Potato Products



The 3rd quarter food donation item is **Potato Products (mashed, scalloped)**

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

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

**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*

Presbytery of the Peaks

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



https://www.peakspresbytery.org/images/2020_Peaks_Postings/PP_Aug18_2020.pdf

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 steepleviews@fpcmartinsvilleVA.org

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THE SESSION

Moderator: Rev. Mark Hinchcliff

Clerk: Nancy Baker

Treasurer: Henry Moore

Class of 2021

Lynn Pritchett: Congregational Care and Fellowship

Rob King: Facilities

Monica Stevens: Worship

Class of 2022

Brooke Cundiff: Mission/Outreach

Pamela Rakes: Stewardship and Communication

Betty Hudson: Christian Education

Class of 2023

Billy Kirby: Administration

TRUSTEES

2021: David Garland, Ed Linker

2022: Joan Montgomery, Ashby Pritchett

2023: Sandra Ford, Joe DeVault

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