

July 9, 2026



Steeple Views

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MARTINSVILLE, VA

Pastor's Corner **Pastor Bea Miller**

Dear First Presbyterian family,

When people we love are in pain, it is difficult to know how to respond ~ or even how to pray. We can never really know the pain of others. We may be able to come close with empathy and compassion but no matter how much we try to walk in someone else's shoes ~ it is not our journey to make. Our journey of empathy and compassion is to stand with, to sit with, to be present with our loved ones who are in pain. We need not say anything, presence is a comfort ~ like knowing Jesus is with us. When we are present in moments of pain, the Christ in us touches the Christ in others. The touch of Christ always brings healing.

And when distance prevents us from being physically present, our prayers are the touch of Christ too. Words are not necessary. God knows those for whom we pray, better than they know themselves. Our inescapable God is already in them and with them. Praying for those in pain can be as simple as sitting in God's love, saying, "God, I love you and I'm here to pray," as you hold an image of a situation or a person in your heart. In contemplative prayerful moments like this, the heart of Christ in us and the heart of Christ in those for whom we pray, opens the path toward healing ~ even at a distance. It is the love of God that connects us, no matter the distance.

Openhearted, contemplative prayer is what Paul describes in Romans 8:26-27, "The Spirit helps us in our weakness for we do not know how to pray as we ought, that very Spirit intercedes with sighs and groans too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit."

And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind or the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.” This scripture affirms that the Spirit takes all the sighs and groans from deep within us, all that is beyond our words, and molds all of it by God’s will ~ God’s will for us and for those in our heart. And then the Spirit whispers everything that we are too pained to name ~ and that we do not even know to name ~ into the ear of God. The Spirit prays for us. In a broken and fear-filled world, the heart of Christ ~ the heart of the Spirit of our Living Lord ~ connects and heal us.

May all hearts know the healing of Christ,

Pastor Bea



Please join us for worship this seventh Sunday after Pentecost at 11 AM at
Collinsville Presbyterian Church

Liturgist Schedule

July

12 *Community Worship at First Presb. Collinsville*

19 Lynn Pritchett

26 Randy Rollins

August

2 Taylor Shank

9 Joe Williams

16 Gale Buck

23 Barbara Duncan

30 Cindy Feltner

30 Cindy Edgerton

September

6 Janet Fentress

13 Duke Ferrell

20 Liz Ferrell

27 Billy Kirby

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday 9:30am - 3pm

Friday - Closed

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.



Cooks Who Care - Tuesday, July 14th at 9AM. Meet us in the Marge Dunn kitchen to prepare a delicious meal. Please text or email Liz Ferrell at [276- 734- 6376](tel:276-734-6376) if you are available to help.

Community Breakfast - Saturday, July 18th. Cooks arrive at 7 am, servers & others about 7:30. If you can help, please contact Mary Linker at [919-548-2452](tel:919-548-2452) (text or call).

Community Worship - July 12th at Collinsville PC at 11am

Session Meeting - Monday, July 27th at 4pm

July Birthdays

2 William Seamon
4 Ben Pinkston
5 Paul Cannaday, Samuel Smith
8 Dyer Pace
12 Heidi Pinkston
15 Dick Pilson
17 Jerri DeVault
18 Ashby Pinkard, Duke Ferrell
20 Connor Wotring
21 Sienna King
23 Anne M. Lackey
26 Tom Martin
27 Laura Stevens
28 Madison Sanders



Prayers for Isla King Needed!



Isla is fighting for her life after an accident on a side by side Sunday afternoon. She is currently on ecmo life support and ventilator. We are taking every hour of consistency as a miracle and a gift. We appreciate every single prayer. Please share with friends and loved ones who will pray for her.

Isla is the youngest daughter of Shanna King and the late Rob King and the granddaughter of Judy King.

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

Barbara Adams (Patsy Stanley), Ernest Bremner, Gale Buck, Evelyn Cannaday, Joel Christman (B. Stanley), Bob Davis, Marge Dunn, Martin Ford, Michelle Handy (Pearl Minter's daughter), Isla King, Randy Lawson (P. Stanley). Mary Manning, Jackie McLachlan, Marion Miller, Leslie Naradikian (Marion Miller's daughter), Maggie Pilson, Ann Reaser, 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



missionaries, refugees and immigrants forced to flee their countries, and families and areas devastated by severe weather.

Grace Network Donations

3rd Quarter Food Donation Item is Juice 40-64 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:276-632-3431)

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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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