

June 25, 2026



Steeple Views

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MARTINSVILLE, VA

Pastor's Corner

Pastor Bea Miller

Dear First Presbyterian family,

As we prepare for our nation's 250th birthday, I want to share some of the ways Presbyterians were involved in the formation of our country.

Our Presbyterian heritage has deep roots in the American Revolution. King George even called the insurrection in the Americas, "That Presbyterian Revolt."

Our Presbyterian forbearers were instrumental in the establishment of the United States of America. Our American forefathers, many of whom were Presbyterian, modeled the United States government, after the Presbyterian system of checks and balances. Most signers of the Declaration of Independence were Presbyterian and Presbyterians helped write the Constitution. Presbyterian churches provided sanctuary for revolutionaries while housing both meetings and supplies for the resisters. And the only clergyperson to sign the Declaration of Independence was the Reverend John Witherspoon, a Presbyterian.

Who we are as Presbyterians is part of the fabric and establishment of our nation. I remember a seminary professor talking about the connection between denominations lead by bishops and nations lead by kings, verses representative democracies for both church and nation. He said that when your religious life is structured as a representative democracy it is difficult to live in a world governed by a king. He sighted this as one of the reasons for the American Revolution. Our representative democracy and Book of Order are as

important to being Presbyterian as the representative democracy and the constitution are to being American. We even call the Book of Order and Book of Confessions our constitution.

In May of 1776, the Reverend John Witherspoon ended his sermon with this prayer for the nation:

"God grant that in America true religion and civil liberty may be inseparable, and that the unjust attempts to destroy the one, may in the issue tend to the support and establishment of both. Amen."

Peace be with you,

Pastor Bea



Please join us for worship this fifth Sunday after Pentecost at 10 AM

Sermon by Pastor Bea

based upon Matthew 10:40-42 and Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18

Liturgist: Ione Linker

Ushers/Greeters: Monty and Joan Montgomery

2nd Cup: Joe and Susan Smith

Liturgist Schedule

July

5 Martha Rollins

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 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.

Congratulations to The Class of 2026!

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES:

Elena King, daughter of Shanna King and the late Rob King and granddaughter of Judy King, graduated from Bassett High School and also earned an associate degree from P&HCC. Elena plans to major in neuroscience at Virginia Tech.

Will Kirby, son of Billy and Sharon Kirby and grandson of Bill and Suzan Kirby, graduated from Carlisle School. Will plans to attend Hampden-Sydney College this fall.

Fletcher Ann Richards, daughter of Leighton (Kirby) and Mike Richards, graduated from Dowling Catholic High School in Des Moines, IA. and plans to attend Texas Christian University. She is also the granddaughter of Bill and Suzan Kirby and niece of Billy and Sharon Kirby.

Heath Russell, son of Gavin Russell and Dr. Leanna Blevins, graduated from Glenvar High School. Heath plans to attend Virginia Tech this fall.

Cole Tatum, son of Neil and Kym Tatum and grandson of Barbara Tatum, graduated from Magna Vista High School and the Career Academy. Cole plans to attend P&HCC to study to become an electrician.

COLLEGE GRADUATES:

Mary Hunter Millet, granddaughter of Randy and Martha Rollins, graduated from the University of South Carolina with honors with a B.S. in Mathematics. She was a member of the equestrian team which became 2026 National Equestrian Champions. Mary plans to take the state actuarial exam and also continue competitive riding.

Grayson Russell, daughter of Gavin Russell and Dr. Leanna Blevins,

graduated from Virginia Tech with a B.S. in Public Health. Grayson plans to work for one year before attending graduate school to become a Physician's Assistant.

Sam Smith graduated from Union Presbyterian Seminary with a Master of Divinity and a Master of Arts in Christian Education. Sam is currently enrolled in the Clinical Pastoral Education program at Wake Forest Baptist and is completing a chaplaincy internship. Sam's parents are Joe and Susan Smith.

June Birthdays.

- 1** Christopher Crimmins, Gage Lawson, Reid Lawson
- 3** Riley Wood
- 8** Shanna King
- 9** Susan Smith
- 10** Betty Hudson, Cindy Edgerton
- 12**, Lt. Col. David King
- 16** Ainsley Russell
- 18** Susan Pilson
- 23** Basil Boyd David Price
- 24** Dr. Denny Casey
- 26** Ann Reaser
- 29** Caroline 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

Barbara Adams (Patsy Stanley), Ernest Bremner, Gale Buck, Evelyn Cannaday, Joel Christman (B. Stanley)



BUCK, Evelyn Cannaday, Joel Christianson (D. Stanley), Bob Davis, Marge Dunn, Martin Ford, Michelle Handy (Pearl Minter's daughter), Randy Lawson (P. Stanley). Mary Manning, Jackie McLachlan, Marion Miller, Leslie Naradikian (Marion Miller's daughter), Maggie Pilson, 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

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)

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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