

August 31, 2022



Steeple Views

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MARTINSVILLE, VA

Dear First Presbyterian family,

It is a blessing and privilege to be in ministry with you, especially during this time of transition. Transitions give us the precious opportunity to delve into our purpose, discovering the rich meaning of our life together, we discern how God is calling First Presbyterian into God's future. And the timing of this focus could not be better. Along with all other congregations, the pandemic has changed how we engage in mission and ministry. Taking the time and energy to discover who we are - after the hibernation of pandemic; while discovering who we are called to be - with all the changes of pandemic, will help First Presbyterian live into God's calling, as we search for our next called pastor. Our journey with God will be a time of transition and transformation, within the glow of God's love as together we build up the body of Christ that is First Presbyterian Martinsville.

Transitional, transformative ministry requires the full participation of all. To the best of our ability, all voices must be heard as we seek to discern God's future direction for First Presbyterian. I am with you as a guide, facilitator, encourager and coach. While you are my family for this process, this is your home, and it will take everyone to discern God's way forward. We are part of the priesthood of all believers, each having a role in mission and ministry. Only together are we the Body of Christ called to be First Presbyterian Martinsville.

I truly feel called to be with you. God has been preparing me for this time, just as God is currently preparing the next pastor of First Martinsville. I have experienced transformational change both corporately and pastorally. My first career in the corporate world was in systems design and quality facilitation, giving me big picture visioning and group process skills. During my corporate career, I experienced the transitions of divestiture and downsizing. My second pastoral call was as a solo pastor in North Carolina, during a time when all the jobs (textile and furniture) went overseas and as a result the trucking companies lost business. Currently, I have been serving as a co-pastor throughout this pandemic and living into our continuous redefinition of how to be church together. In all my experience I have known God in struggle and seen God's hand recreate all things good.

I look forward to getting to know you and becoming part of this family. You may be curious about my family. I've included some pictures, as introduction.

May God be our guide,

Bea

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20th birthday: In 2020 my younger daughter turned 20 and my mother, a leap-year baby celebrated her 20th "real" birthday. My daughter, Kasey, is a senior at Hollins University. My mother, who moved to our neighborhood (Westlake) about 5 years ago, after my father died, is the Rev. Dr. Maxine Edwards, Honorably Retired, Cherokee Presbytery. Mother joins us at home for dinner most evenings.



2012 General Assembly: My daughter Kara served as Co-Moderator of the Young Adults at GA in 2012. She is pictured here with the Rev. Bruce Reyes-Chow, former Moderator of GA. Kara, who turns 30 this year, currently lives in Charlotte and works for Dell Technologies.



Our race team on top of the mountain after the 2021 San Pedro Martir Hill Climb: My husband, Doug, is on the bike. I'm the short one. Doug and I finished second in our division. Doug is the driver and I'm the sidecar monkey, swinging from side to side - to ballast the bike. And throughout life, Doug keeps me grounded and balanced.

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: Nancy Baker

Treasurer: Henry Moore

Class of 2022

Brooke Cundiff: Mission/Outreach

Pamela Rakes: Stewardship and Communication

Betty Hudson: Christian Education

Class of 2023

Billy Kirby: Administration

Class of 2024

Pearl Minter: Congregational Care and Fellowship

Neil Tatum: Facilities

Liz Ferrell: Worship

TRUSTEES

2022: Joan Montgomery, Ashby Pritchett

2023: Sandra Ford, Joe DeVault

2024: Duke Ferrell, Milt Davis

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