

**December 12, 2024**



# Steeple Views

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MARTINSVILLE, VA

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**Pastor's Corner**  
**Pastor Bea Miller**

Dear First Presbyterian family,

On Christmas Eve at 5:00, in addition to candlelight and communion, a special storyteller will join us to share The Bethlehem Tree. Please invite all the young, and young-at-heart, to join us for this meaningful and uplifting service.

And when you are in the building, please take a moment to see the newly restored painting in the Fellowship Hall. Continue reading the newsletter to learn more about the painting and notecards with the image. And remember, notecards of the painting will bring back memories and make great stocking stuffers. The notecards are \$1 each if you are interested.

With Advent blessings,

Pastor Bea

P.S. Please keep those pledge cards coming!

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Please join us this third Sunday of Advent at 10:00 AM

**Sermon by Pastor Bea**

based upon Zephaniah 3:14-20 and Philippians 4:4-7

**Liturgist:** Gale Buck

**Ushers/Greeters:** Neil Tatum, Betty Hudson

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## Liturgist Schedule

**December**

15 Gale Buck

22 Sam Smith

29 Joe DeVault

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## Advent Wreath Lighting Schedule



**Dec. 15** - Bell Choir

**Dec. 22** - Facilities

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## CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday 9:30am - 4pm

Friday 9:30am - 2pm

**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.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

### \*\*\*\*ELEVATOR IS OUT OF SERVICE\*\*\*\*

Please park wherever is most convenient and suitable to your specific needs.

*Advent devotions will be emailed each week from the office. Printed copies are available upon request by calling Rita at [276-632-3431](tel:276-632-3431).*

### UPCOMING CHRISTMAS EVENTS

- **Tunes at Noon** starting **Wednesday, December 4th**
- **The Martinsville Handbell Ensemble** will perform a Christmas concert

Sunday, **December 15th at 2:00 PM** at the First United Methodist Church (146 East Main Street, Martinsville). Janet Fentress is a member of this ensemble.

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**Community Breakfast - Saturday, December 21st** with team leaders Neil and Kym Tatum.

Cooking begins at 7:00 AM and breakfast is served from 8:00 - 9:30 AM. If you are willing to help cook, serve, or clean up contact Neil ([276-734-2680](tel:276-734-2680)) or Kym ([276-790-9594](tel:276-790-9594)).

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 **Toons At Noon:**

**The Sounds of Christmas** 

Dear Members of First Presbyterian Church,

I am delighted to announce that I will once again be playing the Tunes At Noon Advent Concerts. I want to extend a warm invitation to you to attend. It is my hope that everyone will embrace the festive spirit that the holiday season brings each Wednesday during Advent 12:00 noon to approximately 12:30. Join me in this joyous celebration of the holiday season through music.

Throughout the concerts we will embrace the holidays through a blended selection of sacred and secular music for the season. It is my goal to create a magical atmosphere that resonates with the true essence of Christmas.

Save the dates for these special music events:

- Wednesday, December 11, 2023
- Wednesday, December 18, 2023

May the melodies of Yuletide Keys fill your hearts with peace and joy!

In love,

Spencer Koger  
Music Director

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## Community Breakfast

### Team leaders and schedule for the remainder of the year

- December 21 **Kym & Neil Tatum**
- January 18 **NEED LEADER**

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## Rise Against Hunger



Thank you to everyone who participated in our special Thanksgiving Offering.

Every dollar donated will be used to REDUCE the Mission Budget for 2025 which in turn helps reduce the use of endowment funds in our congregation's budget. Please consider alternative ways to support our Rise Against Hunger

Event. Maybe you want to honor someone who helped you, give a donation instead of a gift-wrapped gift to someone, maybe you are the person who is a difficult person to shop for on someone's list – ask them to make a donation. Any other option you come up with which generates a joyful gift to help people in need. Thank you, The Mission Team

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- 1 Anne Vipperman Madonia
- 2 Carol Belcher
- 3 Dru Rothrock
- 4 Ashby Pritchett
- 9 Chris Wingfield, Joan Montgomery
- 10 Marion Miller
- 11 K.J. Joyce
- 14 Dr. Mervyn R. King
- 15 Helen "Pat" Baumann, Kim Boyd
- 17 Matthew Mason
- 18 Bill Kirby

- 21 Vickie Blair
- 22 Grayson Russell
- 24 Jackie McLachlan
- 26 Smith Chaney
- 27 Cathy Stone, Gael Chaney, Nancy B. Moore
- 28 Brenda Williams

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### *Our Deepest Sympathy*

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to the family of Shanna King on the passing of her father, **Gary L. Francisco** on December 2. The obituary can be found at <https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/roanoke/name/gary-francisco-obituary?id=56931888>

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### **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 Pearl Minter.

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 Pearl at [276 340-3476](tel:2763403476).

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**These members and friends of the congregation need our prayers:**

**PRAYER CONCERNS**

Gary Francisco Family (Shanna King's father), Anne Abercrombie, Barbara Adams, Sue Benfield, Jackie Bloxom (P. Stanley), Bud Buffkin, Evelyn Cannaday, Bob Chapman, Joel Christman (B. Stanley), April Cox (B. Tatum), Nancy Davis, Marge Dunn, Steve Edgerton, Teri Ferguson, Martin Ford, Juanita Griffin (J & B Williams), Daniel Handy, Marvin Hudson, Dr. Mervyn King, Rita Lawson, Mary Manning, Jackie McLachlan, Maggie Pilson, Rusty Reaser, Susan Rosser, Becky Stone Sawyers (L. Pritchett), Dee Moore Smith, Susan C. Smith (M. Davis), Laura Stevens, Scott Stevens, C.J. Swinney (great-grandson of P. Minter), Bruce Thomas, Nathan Toms (A. Madonia), Carl Utley, James Walker, Tammy Tucker Wardinski, Jodi White (sister of P. Marshall/G. Chaney), persecuted Christians, military service men and women, missionaries, and all refugees and immigrants forced to flee their countries. Areas and families affected by Hurricanes Helene and Milton.



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***Grace Network Donations***

**4th quarter food donation item is  
Canned Fruit**



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 (any 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. **DEADLINE** for submission of articles is Wednesday evening.

If you have information you want included in Steeple Views, **PLEASE SEND TO:** [fpcsteepleviews@gmail.com](mailto:fpcsteepleviews@gmail.com). For time sensitive announcements, please send to [skirbycwj@gmail.com](mailto:skirbycwj@gmail.com)

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

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*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/peaks-postings/>

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Our Mission

Share God's Love, Embrace Our Neighbors, Nurture Each Other

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**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](http://www.firstpresbyterianmartinsville.org/page.cfm/topic/newsletter)

### **Useful Links**

FPC website:

[www.firstpresbyterianmartinsville.org/](http://www.firstpresbyterianmartinsville.org/) or [www.fpcmartinsvilleVA.org/](http://www.fpcmartinsvilleVA.org/)

FPC online directory: [members.instantchurchdirectory.com/](http://members.instantchurchdirectory.com/)

FPC Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/FPCMartinsvilleVA](http://www.facebook.com/FPCMartinsvilleVA)

Presbytery of the Peaks: [www.peakspresbytery.org/](http://www.peakspresbytery.org/)

Presbyterian Church (USA): [www.pcusa.org/](http://www.pcusa.org/)

Daily Bible Readings: [www.presbyterianmission.org/devotion/daily/](http://www.presbyterianmission.org/devotion/daily/)

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

### **Our mailing address is:**

First Presbyterian Church

1901 Patrick Henry Ave.

Martinsville, VA 24112

### **STAFF**

Rev. Bea Miller, Interim Pastor, [rev.millerb@gmail.com](mailto:rev.millerb@gmail.com)

Rita Bateman, Secretary/Office Manager, [office@fpcmartinsvilleVA.org](mailto:office@fpcmartinsvilleVA.org)

Vickie Blair, Bookkeeper, [bookkeeper@fpcmartinsvilleVA.org](mailto:bookkeeper@fpcmartinsvilleVA.org)

Carol Carter, Weekday School Director, [wds@fpcmartinsvilleVA.org](mailto:wds@fpcmartinsvilleVA.org)

Spencer Koger, Director of Music, [adulthoodmusic@fpcmartinsvilleva.org](mailto:adulthoodmusic@fpcmartinsvilleva.org)

Peter Marshall, Worship Technology Coordinator,

[worshiptechnology@fpcmartinsvilleVA.org](mailto:worshiptechnology@fpcmartinsvilleVA.org)

### **THE SESSION**

Clerk: Nancy Baker

Treasurer: Henry Moore

### **Class of 2024**

Pearl Minter: Congregational Care and Fellowship

Neil Tatum: Facilities

Liz Ferrell: Worship

### **Class of 2025**

Ron Rebman: Mission/Outreach

Sue Legg: Stewardship and Communication

Monica Stevens: Christian Education

### **Class of 2026**

Billy Kirby: Administration

Susan Pilson: Communication

Anne Madonia: Think Tank

**TRUSTEES**

2024: Duke Ferrell, Milt Davis

2025: William Kirby, Gale Legg

2026: Sharon Kirby, Dru Rothrock

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