

December 19, 2024



Steeple Views

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MARTINSVILLE, VA

Wishing you a Meowry Christmas!



Pastor Bea, Rita, Vicky, Spencer & Peter





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

Sermon by Pastor Bea

based upon Luke 1:39-56 and Micah 5:2-5a

Liturgist: Sam Smith

Ushers/Greeters: Johnny and Ashby Pinkard

Liturgist Schedule

December

22 Sam Smith

29 Joe DeVault

Advent Wreath Lighting Schedule



Dec. 22 - Facilities

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday 9:30am - 4pm

Friday 9:30am - 2pm



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.

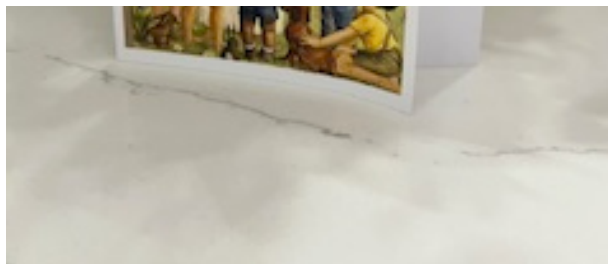
Restored Painting in Fellowship Hall

Several years ago, the much beloved painting in the Fellowship Hall "Jesus Loves the Little Children" was accidentally damaged. It was taken down until we could find someone to repair and restore it. It was missed by all and inquired about quite often, so we knew we had to find a solution!

Local artist, Karen Despot, was contacted to assess damages, what was needed and she graciously offered to do the work, when she had time between her private commissions. Karen's children attended our weekday school, so she was familiar with the painting. She came in one weekend and repaired the hole, cleaned the painting, updated Jesus and the children to be more inclusive of all nationalities and put a protective coating over all.

We rehung just in time for last Sunday's Pot Luck Luncheon and Christmas Carol Sing A Long for all members to once again enjoy. Note cards were also made for church stationery. If anyone is interested in purchasing some note cards, Rita has them in the office at \$1/card with envelope. A sample card will be in the Narthex on the table with news letters and brochures.





Steepleviews will return next year!

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** Thursday, December 19 from 12:00 - 12:30 PM



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)).

Christmas Eve service with communion - 5 PM Dec 24th.

Sunday, December 29th will be a service of Lessons and Carols at 10:00 AM

From your Facilities Committee

I think during the Christmas holidays it is common to reflect upon the past year and to lift up thanks for the blessings we have each received. As I finish out my term as the facilities chairman I would like to give thanks to the hardworking members of the committee that

have graciously served alongside of me and have accomplished so much this year. Gale Legg, Johnny Pinkard, David Price, Dru Rothrock, and Bob Wuestefeld have each had a hand in tackling the many "challenges" that seem arise weekly (daily?).

This year the committee has been responsible for a long list of "To Do's" that got done! This includes but is not limited to:

- Updating and upgrading the church's security system
- Painting the handicap access spots along the sidewalk/curbs for easy recognition
- Replacing countless water-stained ceiling tiles throughout the building
- Constant cleanup of limb/sticks that fall out of our trees
- Unclogging the building's downspouts
- Replacing burned out light bulbs and electrical repairsthroughout the facility
- Door and lock repairs
- Kitchen cabinet repairs
- Cleaning out and organizing storage rooms
- Pruning of trees and shrubs throughout the property
- Installing a tin cover over the grate just outside of the old choir room to prevent leaf accumulation below
- Painting of several of the church's doors
- Etc, etc, etc.....

Our lovely facility is indeed an asset to us all but as the hard work of these individuals (and many other congregants) shows it is our membership that is the real asset and blessing of this church.

Merry Christmas and thanks to all who have lent a helping hand this year!



Community Breakfast

Team leaders and schedule for the remainder of the year

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

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



- 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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Congregational Care and Fellowship

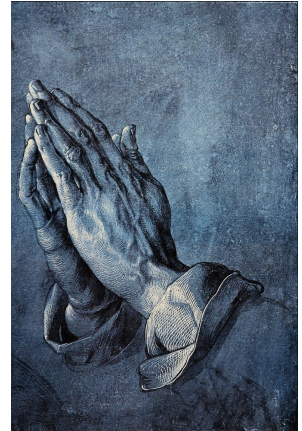
If you are in need of a [prayer shawl](#), or know someone that could use one, please pick one up from the narthex and be sure to sign it out. If you have any questions, please reach out to Pearl Minter.

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:276-340-3476).

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, Jerri, DeVault, Marge Dunn, Steve Edgerton, Teri Ferguson, Martin Ford, Juanita Griffin (J & B Williams), Daniel Handy, Marvin Hudson, 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.



Grace Network Donations

1st quarter 2025 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 (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. For time sensitive announcements, please send to skirbycwj@gmail.com

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

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/>

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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Martinsville, VA 24112

STAFF

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Peter Marshall, Worship Technology Coordinator, 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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