

December 21, 2023



Steeple Views

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MARTINSVILLE, VA

Pastor's Corner

Pastor Bea Miller

Dear First Presbyterian family,

It is with great excitement that I announce, our First Martinsville representatives to the Reunification Exploratory Team: Joe DeVault, Sharon Kirby, and Martha Rollins. Please keep them and the whole Exploratory Team in your prayers. The whole group, including First Collinsville and Forest Hills, will begin working together in January. Rev. Jen Brothers, Church Leadership Ministry Specialist at the Presbytery of the Peaks, will facilitate the group. And of course, Rev. Carl Utley, General Presbyter at the Presbytery of the Peaks, will be working with the group too. All of this is possible because of the work of the Holy Spirit. We give God all thanks and praise and glory!

I pray that everyone has a safe, healthy and blessed Christmas! And I look forward to seeing many of you and your families on Sunday during one, or more, of our Christmas Eve services.

Merry Christmas,

Pastor Bea



Please join us for worship this Christmas Eve at 10:00 AM and 5:00 PM

Liturgist (PM Service): Sam Smith

Ushers/Greeters: Neil Tatum, Monty Montgomery

Liturgist Schedule

December

24 Sam Smith

31 Lynn Pritchett

January

7 Joe Williams

14 Milt Davis

21 Nancy Davis

28 Jerri DeVault

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.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday 9:30-4pm

Friday 9:30-2pm

The church office will be closed December 25-29, 2023 for Christmas and January 1, 2024 for New Year's Day. If you need pastoral care, call the church cell phone ([276-734-8830](tel:276-734-8830)) and leave a message.

MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM THE STAFF





ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS



Look for Christmas Joy Offering envelopes in the church pews beginning **December 10 through December 24.**

LINK to ADVENT

Devotionals: https://www.pcusa.org/site_media/media/uploads/oga/pdf/advent_devotionals_2023.pdf

There will be two services on **Christmas Eve, Sunday, December 24. 10:00 AM** – Will be a quiet, prayerful service with communion served by intinction, and piano music.
5:00 PM – Will be a candlelight celebration with communion and music. Preservice music with the chancel choir will begin at 4:45 PM.

Sunday, December 31 will be a **10 AM** service of Lessons and Carols.

Circle Meeting, Monday, January 8th at 11 Am at King's Grant.

Community Breakfast



A Christmas Breakfast Rhyme

Tw'as the morning of the breakfast, when all through the kitchen
All the cooks were stirring, especially Shane on his egg mission.
The sausage, eggs, and biscuits were being cooked with care,

In hopes that our community guests would soon be there.
Coffee was brewing as, the smell of sausage filled the air,
And tables were set and decorated in a holiday flare.
Our guests, all ages, were greeted with a merry smile
As the piano and singers sounded out in a festive style.
When to our wondering eyes who should appear,
But Mr. and Mrs. Claus and a red nosed reindeer.
The Christmas spirit was all around the fellowship hall,
As we wished Merry Christmas to one and to all.



Thank you to all the church members, friends and family that made our December Community Breakfast a special time that will be remembered by many. May the love, joy and peace of Christ remain in all hearts throughout the remaining holiday season and the New Year.

Happy January Birthdays!



- 7** Elena King
- 10** Dr. James Beard
- 16** Billy Kirby, Wendy Luther
- 17** Grace Ann Crimmins
- 18** Mary Elizabeth Pilson-Bazemore
- 19** Helen Flythe
- 21** Bonny Pace
- 23** Milt Davis
- 28** David Garland
- 29** Jack Kirby, Rusty Reaser
- 31** Mattie Wingfield

These members and friends of the congregation need our prayers:

PRAYER CONCERNS

Sue Benfield, Georgette Bishop, Jackie Bloxom (P. Stanley), Marilyn and Ernest Bremner, Catherine Bridges, Cathie Carter (B. Tatum), Bob Chapman, Joel Christman (B. Stanley), April Cox (B. Tatum), Steve Edgerton, Marge Dunn, Neill Ferrill (S. Ford), Gary Francisco (Shanna King's Father), Charles & Frances Gray (Kym Tatum's parents), Juanita Griffin (B & J Williams), Daniel Handy, Marvin Hudson, Betty Carol and Harold Lamm, Darrel Lemke (N. Davis), Mary Manning, Maggie Pilson, Ronnie & Marissa Pruett, Susan Rosser, Becky Stone Sawyers (L. Pritchett), Dee Moore Smith, Laura Stevens, Scott Stevens, Bruce Thomas, Nathan Toms (A. Madonia), Carl Utley, Bill Vaughan (N. Davis), Tammy Tucker Wardinski, persecuted Christians, military service men and women, missionaries, and all refugees and immigrants forced to flee their countries..



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).

Grace Network Donations

1st quarter food donation item is Spaghetti Sauce (24)



Please consider donating extra when you are able to get out and about as your donations will become more important than ever.

Hygiene Items are always needed (optional)

- *Toilet Paper
- *Bath Soap
- *Dish Detergent
- *Feminine Products
- *Toilet Paper
- *Deodorant
- *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/images/2020_Peaks_Postings/PP_Aug18_2020.pdf

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:

First Presbyterian Church
1901 Patrick Henry Ave.
Martinsville, VA 24112

STAFF

Rev. Bea Miller, Interim Pastor, rev.millerb@gmail.com

Rita Bateman, Secretary/Office Manager, office@fpcmartinsvilleVA.org

Vickie Blair, Bookkeeper, bookkeeper@fpcmartinsvilleVA.org

Carol Carter, Weekday School Director, wds@fpcmartinsvilleVA.org

Spencer Koger, Director of Music, adultmusic@fpcmartinsvilleva.org

Peter Marshall, Worship Technology Coordinator,
worshiptechnology@fpcmartinsvilleVA.org

THE SESSION

Clerk: Nancy Baker

Treasurer: Henry Moore

Class of 2023

Billy Kirby: Administration

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

TRUSTEES

2023: Sandra Ford, Joe DeVault

2024: Duke Ferrell, Milt Davis
2025: William Kirby, Gale Legg

Copyright © 2023 First Presbyterian Church, Martinsville, VA, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)

