

February 13, 2025



Steeple Views

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MARTINSVILLE, VA

Pastor's Corner Pastor Bea Miller

Dear First Presbyterian family,

This week I have been drawn to the fable of the hummingbird. I grew up on Aesop's fables and in my adult life I've frequently re-read Friedman's Fables by Edwin H. Friedman. Stories seep into us in transformative ways ~ often before we realize we are being changed. Jesus teaches us through story and the Hebrew bible is filled with stories that form us as God's people.

The parable/fable of the hummingbird has been circulating recently because of its obvious connection to the destructive fires on the west coast of our country. But the stories' power extends to any overwhelming thing or event we face. Every small response has a positive ripple effect. Any positive action becomes part of the work of the greater good.

If you haven't seen or heard it, here is the story:

According to an old Native American legend....

Once there was a great forest fire.

All the animals fled to the edge of the forest and froze in fear not knowing what to do. They watched as the flames began destroying the beauty of their home.

Finally a tiny hummingbird flew to a body of water and took a few drops into its beak. It then flew quickly toward the fire allowing the drops to fall on the roaring flames.

Over and over the tiny bird continued.

Drop by drop.

Back and forth.

Again and again.

The other animals watched from the edge of the forest, and called to the little bird, "What are you doing?"

The hummingbird replied, "I am doing the best I can."

~

If we look at this as a metaphor: All the animals are transfixed as they watch the forest burning and they feel overwhelmed, powerless, except the hummingbird. What is our hummingbird response to our world?

We can talk about this during the Time with Young Disciples on Sunday! See you Sunday!

Peace be with you,

Pastor Bea



Please join us for the Sixth Sunday After the Epiphany at 10:00 AM

Sermon by Pastor Bea

based upon Jeremiah 17:5-10 and Psalm 1

Liturgist: Billy Kirby

Ushers/Greeters: Bob Wuetefeld, Barbara Duncan

Liturgist Schedule

February

16 Billy Kirby

23 Ione Linker

March

2 Mary Linker

9 Pearl Minter

16 Joan Montgomery

23 Nancy Moore

30 Ashby Pinkard

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 BACK IN SERVICE*****

As repairs are being made to the slate roof please refrain from parking on the chapel side of the parking lot until the work is completed.

The Community Breakfast is Saturday, February 15th with team leaders Nancy and Henry Moore. Cooking begins at 7:00 AM and breakfast is served from 8:00 - 9:30 AM. Reach out to Nancy ([276-732-3400](tel:276-732-3400)) if you are available to cook, serve, or clean.

The next Presbytery Meeting is Thursday, February 20th in person at Blacksburg Presbyterian Church (701 Church St SE). It will be a full day (8:30 AM-3:00 PM) and includes lunch. Registration opens February 10th.

Cookie Care Packages for College Students



The Presbyterian Women's Circle packed 9 boxes on Sunday for these college students who are certain to be grateful for our church family!

Caroline Kirby

Brianna Tatum

Jamie McAuliffe

Sam Smith

Sienna King

Kellene Wotring

Grayson Russell

Ainsley Russell

Anna Kate Jennings



SAVE THE DATE!!!

March 1 meal packing event.

To register or for additional information or questions, please reach out to ***Ron Rebman***.



- 2** Dr. David Seamon, Isla King
- 3** Charles R. Knighton
- 4** Pamela Rakes
- 7** Mason Wood
- 19** Evelyn Cannaday, Sandra T. Ford
- 21** Sharon Kirby
- 26** Spencer Koger

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).

These members and friends of the congregation need our prayers:

PRAYER CONCERNS

Nathan Toms Family, Anne Abercrombie, Sue Benfield, Jackie Bloxom (P. Stanley), Bud Buffkin, Evelyn Cannaday, Bob Chapman, Joel Christman (B. Stanley), April Cox (B. Tatum), Jerri, DeVault, Marge Dunn, Martin Ford, Doug Goldstein, Daniel Handy, Marvin Hudson, Jamelle Waid Linker (Ed Linker's daughter-in-law), Mary Manning, Jackie McLachlan, Maggie Pilson, Rusty Reaser, Susan Rosser, Becky Stone Sawyers (L. Pritchett), Dee Moore Smith, Betty Stanley, Laura Stevens, Scott Stevens, C.J. Swinney (great-grandson of P. Minter), Bruce Thomas, Carl Utley, Lil Wall, 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 and wildfires in California.



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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STAFF

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worshiptechnology@fpcmartinsvilleVA.org

THE SESSION

Clerk: Liz Ferrell

Treasurer: Henry Moore

Class of 2025

Ron Rebman: Mission/Outreach

Janet Fentress: Worship (co-chair)

Monica Stevens: Christian Education

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

TRUSTEES

2025: William Kirby, Gale Legg

2026: Sharon Kirby, Dru Rothrock

2027: Duke Ferrell, Joe Williams

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