

January 16, 2025



Steeple Views

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MARTINSVILLE, VA

Pastor's Corner
Pastor Bea Miller

Dear First Presbyterian family,

In modern times we have never seen anything like the fires currently burning in California. There have been devastating urban fires in history like the Great Fire of London in 1666 or the Chicago fire of 1871. But the Los Angeles fires and the fires in other co-located areas, in the largest metropolitan area in the United States, will surely go down in history as one of the worst.

Thousands of people are on edge, unsure of what will happen next, frightened and grieving ~ and so we pray:

God of Life, hold us as we grieve and pray. Be tender toward those who suffer, bringing the comfort and peace that surpasses all understanding. Bring hope to the broken, healing and mending all brokenness with the light of your love.

We grieve and lament the devastating losses: whole neighborhoods, generations of memories, tokens and touch-points of love and lives well-lived, futures ~ plans and choices. Lord, as you breathed life into the valley of dry bones, breathe life into the ash and rubble of all that was.

We weep with those who weep: the vulnerable and frail, those struggling medically, those who will never go home again, those who have lost their strength in the devastation, and so many others.

We pray for relief: water to quench the fire and still air to stop its spread.

We pray for all who are running toward the fire, to help.

We ask for love to shower everyone. We ask for needs to be met. We ask you to be the strength and endurance everyone needs. We ask for your presence to be felt and known in all fear and uncertainty. We ask for Peace to be felt in the midst of chaos.

Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy. Amen.

Peace be with us all,

Pastor Bea



Please join us this second Sunday after the Epiphany at 10:00 AM

Sermon By Pastor Bea

based upon Luke 3 (select verses) and Isaiah 43:1-7

Liturgist: Duke Ferrell

Ushers/Greeters: Ron Rebman, Judy King

Liturgist Schedule

January

19 Duke Ferrell

26 Cindy Edgerton

February

2 Sharon Kirby

9 Jack Kirby

16 Billy Kirby

23 Ione Linker

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.

The church office and WDS will be closed Monday, January 20th in observance of Martin Luther King Day.

The Think Tank will meet Monday, January 27th at 2:00 PM in the session room.



Community Breakfast

The December breakfast was a sure sign of God's love being shared during Advent season. We filled about 130 plates with approximately 70 quests eating in the fellowship hall enjoying music by Barbara Duncan and storytelling by Mr. Claus, Gale Buck. We had a whole table of new faces with lots of children, such a joy to see so many children guests and volunteers.



Seeing so many children in the Fellowship Hall is a reminder of the beautiful restored painting of Jesus and the Children hanging on the kitchen wall of the hall. Several of our quests were so taken with the painting, they were taking pictures of it with their phones. Please notice the included picture of the painting with three of our volunteers. This picture expresses our mission here at First Presbyterian Church.

Thank you to Kym and Neil Tatum for being team leaders.

Thank you for all the cooks, servers and cleanup crew and especially for Cole, Briana & boyfriend, Isla King, Ann & Evamarie King for their help.

Thank you for all the team leaders, cooks, servers and cleanup crew, sign manager, Joe DeVault for another successful year for the Community Breakfast. We will be assigning team leaders for the schedule for 2025. Please support the faithful current leaders and consider becoming a

new team leader. If you are interested please contact **Judy King** at [276 340-8101](tel:2763408101).

Happy January Birthdays!

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

Congregational Care and Fellowship

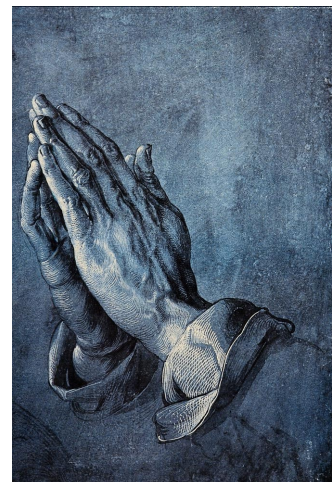
If you are in need of a [prayer shawl](#), or know someone that could use one, please pick one up from the narthex and be sure to sign it out. If you have any questions, please reach out to Pearl Minter.

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

Anne Abercrombie, Barbara Adams, Sue Benfield, Jackie Bloxom (P. Stanley), Bud Buffkin, Evelyn Cannaday, Bob Chapman, Joel Christman (B. Stanley), April Cox (B. Tatum), Jerri, DeVault, Marge Dunn, Teri Ferguson, Martin Ford, Doug Goldstein, Daniel Handy, Marvin Hudson, Rita Lawson, 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, Laura Stevens, Scott Stevens, C.J. Swinney (great-grandson of P. Minter), Bruce Thomas, Nathan Toms (A. Madonia), Carl



Utlely, James Walker, 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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Peter Marshall, Worship Technology Coordinator,

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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