

January 9, 2025



# Steeple Views

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MARTINSVILLE, VA

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

Dear First Presbyterian family,

Jesus came that we might have life, and have life abundantly. And Jesus teaches us to embrace all of life because Jesus is with us in all of life. "What has come into being in Christ was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it (John 1:3b-5)."

This week, in embracing the ice and cold, we are reminded that life is both hard and beautiful. The slippery, solid ice kept us from having sure footing, caused power outages, and kept us inside and isolated ~ missing appointments, reminding us of nature's extremes. And as the sun began to shine beauty was exposed ~ crystals and prisms glistening in the trees, yards filled with reflective jewels. Every branch of the bush outside my window is coated in ice, as if a sculpture. And one lone red bird sits in the bare ice branches just a few feet away. There is a picturesque beauty and sweet stillness in this cold. Abundant life is in everything because God is in everything ~ both the ice of struggle and the scenery that shines.

Perhaps you may resolve with me this new year, to choose to see God's love in all things.

Epiphany Blessings,

Pastor Bea

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

**Sermon By Pastor Bea**

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

**Liturgist:** Janet Fentress

**Ushers/Greeters:** Monty and Joan Montgomery

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## Liturgist Schedule

**January**

12 Janet Fentress

19 Duke Ferrell

26 Cindy Edgerton

**February**

2 Sharon Kirby

9 Jack Kirby

16 Billy Kirby

23 Ione Linker

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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

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

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

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**RESCHEDULED FROM LAST SUNDAY: The MHC Heritage Center** (former Henry County Courthouse) located at 1 East Main St., Martinsville will have its Christmas music program **Sunday, January 12th at 3:00 PM**. Community musicians will be performing including FPC members Gale Buck, Lynn Pritchett and Virginia King. Admission is free and the building is handicap accessible.

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**Think Tank Meeting** - Monday, January 13th at 2:00 PM in the session room.

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**Cooks Who Care** will meet next Tuesday, January 14 at 9:00 a.m. to prepare January's meal for our members and shut ins.

Liz Ferrell, Cindy Edgerton & Nancy Moore will be the leaders this month.

Please join us as we cut, chop, mix, bake & deliver a nutritious meal for our members!

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## 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).

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*Happy January Birthdays!*

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

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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.

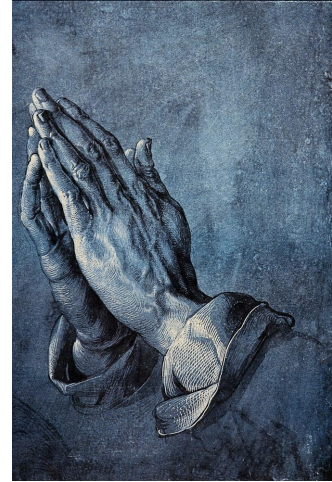
If you are in need of prayer, a meal, transportation, etc...due to a death in the family or the birth of a baby, please reach out to the Congregational Care and Fellowship committee by contacting Pearl at [276 340-3476](tel:2763403476).

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

## **PRAYER CONCERNS**

Family of Juanita Griffin (J & B Williams), 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, Steve Edgerton, Teri Ferguson, Martin Ford, 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 Utley, 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.



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## ***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](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)

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

Peter Marshall, Worship Technology Coordinator,

[worshiptechnology@fpcmartinsvilleVA.org](mailto: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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