

June 22, 2023



Steeple Views

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MARTINSVILLE, VA

Pastor's Corner

Pastor Bea Miller

Dear First Presbyterian family,

God says to First Presbyterian, "Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it (1 Cor. 12:27)." God says the same to Grace Presbyterian, Forest Hills Presbyterian, First Collinsville, and all the other churches. We are all unique in our diversity and united as one. And together, with all churches, we are the body of Christ. And the body of Christ is in each of us.

Sometimes our spiritual understandings are beyond rational thinking. It's humbling and overwhelming to try to comprehend all that God is, all that Jesus is, and all that the Holy Spirit is. Christians have been trying for centuries. And while we never really understand, seeking understanding grows the peace in our hearts ~ growing our connection to God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit.

I'd like to share something from Symeon the New Theologian, a Greek Orthodox abbot and poet who lived around 949-1022. There are many theologians, including modern ones, who suggest that poetry is our best attempt at finding words of understanding:

*We awaken in Christ's body
as Christ awakens in our bodies,
and my poor hand is Christ. He enters
my foot, and is infinitely me.*

*I move my hand, and wonderfully
my hand become Christ, becomes all of Him
(for God is indivisibly
whole, seamless in His Godhead).*

*I move my foot, and at once
He appears like a flash of lighting.
Do my words seem blasphemous? – Then
open your heart to Him*

and let yourself receive the one

*who is opening to you so deeply.
For if we genuinely love Him,
we wake up inside Christ's body*

*were all our body, all over,
every most hidden part of it,
is realized in joy as Him,
and He makes us, utterly, real,*

*and everything that is hurt, everything
that seems to us dark, harsh, shameful
maimed, ugly, irreparably
damaged, is in Him transformed*

*and recognized as whole, as lovely,
and radiant in His light
we awaken as the Beloved
in every last part of our body.*

May we be utterly real and Beloved,
Pastor Bea



Please join us for worship this fourth Sunday after Pentecost at 10:00 am

Sermon by Rev. Dr. Bea Miller
Based upon Matthew 10:24-39 and Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17

Liturgist: Sharon Kirby
Greeters/Ushers: Neil Tatum, Monty Montgomery

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.

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

10 AM - 3:30 PM, Monday - Thursday and by appointment if necessary. Voicemail will be monitored.



We are the host site for the M-HC After 3 Summer Program through P&HCC again this year. Students will be using the fellowship hall and kitchen areas from 7:45 AM to 6:00 PM Monday - Friday now through July 21. Please keep this in mind if you schedule meetings or activities.

If you have a suggestion for Elder or Trustee (Class of 2026), nominations are being accepted. Please submit them to the office by Monday, July 17.

July 9 Lemonade on the lawn

FPC will host a bloodmobile in the Fellowship Hall Monday, **August 28 from 1-6**. Donors are needed.

Summer Community Worship schedule:

July 9 - 10:00 AM at First Presbyterian Martinsville
Aug 13 - 11:00 AM at Forest Hills Presbyterian
Sept 10 - 11:00 AM at First Presbyterian Collinsville

back2school

Jesus said "Let the children come to me. Don't stop them!"

For the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to those who are like these children"

Matthew 19:14

It is time to celebrate the 17th year of the **back2school** outreach event that has served over 36,000 kids with the efforts of over 20+ churches across our communities and beyond!

Won't you join us in serving these students and making a difference in their lives?

For questions call Tracy Hinchcliff
276-403-4222
Or email

Tracy.hinchcliff@gracenetorkmhc.org

back2school

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

There are many opportunities to let your gifts shine during this great event.

Registration

- Saturday, July 15 (noon– 3pm) at The Uptown Ministry Center
- Tuesday, July 25 (6-8 pm) at The Uptown Ministry Center

Pack the Bus

- At Walmart, Martinsville July 21-23 . Shifts TBD

Filling Backpacks

- At the Future Home of Community Fellowship
700 Commerce Court, Martinsville
Tuesday, August 1 (6:00 pm)

The Big Event

- At The Uptown Ministry Center (Behind Rania's)
Saturday, August 5 (7:30 am) Shifts will be determined

If you can help, please email: Tracy Hinchcliff
tracy.hinchcliff@gracenetorkmhc.org or call 276-403-4222.



First Presbyterian Church will host a bloodmobile in the Fellowship Hall Monday, **August 28 from 1-6**. Donors are needed. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Nancy Baker at nbaker08@comcast.net or [\(276\) 638-7923](tel:2766387923).

Liturgist Schedule

June

25 Sharon Kirby

July

2 Ashby Pinkard

9 Monty Montgomery

16 Nancy Moore

23 Briana Tatum

30 Lynn Pritchett

August

6 Joan Montgomery

13 **no liturgist needed**

20 Kym Tatum

27 Milt Davis

September

3 Nancy Davis

10 **no liturgist needed**

17 Jerri DeVault

24 Joe DeVault

June Birthdays



1 Gage Lawson, Reid Lawson

3 Riley Wood

8 Shanna King

9 Susan Smith

10 Betty Hudson, Cindy Edgerton

12 Lt. Col. David King

16 Ainsley Russell

18 Susan Pilson

23 Basil Boyd, David Price

24 Dr. Denny Casey

26 Ann Reaser

29 Caroline Kirby

These members and friends of the congregation need our prayers:

PRAYER CONCERNS

Jim Brunt Family (Nancy Davis' brother), Ryan Bachelor (niece of N. Davis), Sue Benfield, Georgette Bishop, Jackie Bloxom (P. Stanley), Mike Boswell, Marilyn and Ernest Bremner, Catherine Bridges, Bud Buffkin, Ruth Decker Chaney, Bob Chapman, Joel Christman (B. Stanley), Marge Dunn, Neill Ferrill (S. Ford), Daniel Handy, Marvin Hudson, Betty Carol and Harold Lamm, Mary Manning, Maggie Pilson, Lauren Prince, Susan Rosser, Beth Sibbick (N. Moore), Laura Stevens, Scott Stevens, Bruce Thomas, Nathan Toms (A. Madonia), Carl Utley, 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

The 2nd quarter food donation is canned greens (turnips, collards, etc.)

For the month of March, the food pantry at Grace Network served 121 clients which means we were quite busy most every day and a lot of food went out the door.

For this 2nd quarter, our church has been assigned greens: spinach, mixed, collards, etc. This is a

popular item and we often don't have any. In this same area we could also use canned potatoes, beets and tomatoes. Most of these items are fairly inexpensive and all would be greatly appreciated.

3rd quarter food donation item is 4lb bag of sugar



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 sent to skirbycwj@gmail.com

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



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

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