

March 6, 2025



Steeple Views

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MARTINSVILLE, VA

Pastor's Corner

Pastor Bea Miller

Dear First Presbyterian family,

We have just completed our Ash Wednesday service, focusing on Psalm 22. The Psalter is a prayer book and today's service reminded us that God's people have been praying laments for thousands of years. And Jesus prayed the lament of Psalm 22 on the cross, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

Also today we entered our Lenten Devotion Series with the reminder that "this 40-day journey with Jesus is a journey of grief." We are all probably grieving in some way. Grief kicks in whenever life kicks us, whenever a change or loss of any kind takes us by surprise. We grieve what we thought should be. And since we cannot control or predict the future, we are frequently caught off guard by the world around us.

When Jesus prays Psalm 22 on the cross, Jesus identifies with the deep affliction and suffering of the world and of our lives. Jesus acknowledges all the pain of the world and lifts it to God, praying for help. Jesus does this so that we know it is safe to lament. It is safe to acknowledge and name our pain, because Jesus has saved us. Our salvation has been won. Jesus is always delivering us into New Life.

Lent is our time to remember that Jesus is with us in all our pain and struggles. And with Jesus we can name all our grief, release it to God, and allow God to fill us with new life ~ with love and wholeness and peace and all the good that flows from God.

Peace be with us on our Lenten journey,

Pastor Bea



Please join us for the first Sunday in Lent at 10:00 AM

Sermon by Pastor Bea

based upon Luke 4:1-13 and Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

Liturgist: Mary Linker

Ushers/Greeters: Joe and Jerri DeVault

Liturgist Schedule

March

9 Mary Linker

16 Joan Montgomery

23 Nancy Moore

30 Sharon Kirby

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

Lenten Lunches will be held on Thursdays at 12 Noon and will include a light meal and a short devotional. These are the locations for each week:

March 13 at Chatham Heights Baptist (1235 Chatham Hts. Rd); devotional by Mike Hatfield

March 20 at First Baptist (23 Starling Ave.); devotional by Steve Zimmerman

March 27 at Calvary Christian (515 Mulberry Road); devotional by Adam Herod

April 3 at First Presbyterian; devotional – Andrew Taminger from Holy Trinity Lutheran

April 10 at First Baptist East (1043 Church St.); devotional by Charles Whitfield



Community Breakfast - Saturday, March 15th.

Team leaders **Susan Pilson** and **Liz Knighten**. Cooking begins at 7:00 AM and breakfast is served from 8:00 - 9:30 AM. Reach out to either **Susan** ([276-340-7288](tel:276-340-7288)) or **Liz** ([276-732-2856](tel:276-732-2856)), if you are available to help cook,

serve, or clean. This is their first time being team leaders so let's show them lots of support.

Community Cleanup

**When: March 15 (Saturday)
10:00am-noon**

**Where: J. Frank Wilson Park in
Martinsville – meet at main picnic shelter
near the entrance.**

**Contact: Valinda Dyer – vgdye003@gmail.com
if you plan to attend or have questions.**

**We will be picking up litter in the park. Bring
gloves and water and dress for the weather.
Bags and litter grabbers will be provided.**

Sponsored by:  **Virginia Master
Naturalists**
Southwestern Piedmont Chapter

Following the breakfast there is a clean up in J. Frank Wilson Park sponsored by Virginia Master Naturalists. Valinda Dyer is creating this event and she is one of our faithful breakfast volunteers. This park is the location of our Palm Sunday church service to be held April 13 at 9:00. Consider giving some time to helping beautify this park.

Job Opportunity: Preschool Director. First Presbyterian Church Martinsville is seeking a dedicated Preschool Director for our program serving children ages 1-4. This part-time position requires a BA/BS degree and offers a wonderful opportunity to lead and inspire young learners in a nurturing environment. Early drop-off and late pickup options are available for our families. Interested candidates should send a letter of interest detailing your qualifications to ritaofficefpc@gmail.com. For more information, please visit our church website. Join us in making a difference in the lives of our youngest members of the community!



Dear Church Family,

As I mentioned last Sunday during the Minute for Mission, the Worship Committee is excited to try something new for months that have a **5th Sunday**. If you missed that announcement, you can find it on the church Facebook page under Live Services.

The purpose of this initiative is to showcase musical talent within our congregation during these special Sundays. As we embark on our first 5th Sunday worship experience on March 30, 2025, we hope everyone is excited and interested in this new approach!

I would love to invite anyone who would like to volunteer their time and talents to participate in the service. This is a wonderful opportunity for congregation members of all ages to share their musical gifts. I already have a few things in the works, but I'm eager to encourage broader participation from the church family.

If you or a family member would like to be part of this special service, please let me know by **Sunday, March 16, 2025**, so we can plan accordingly. If you'd like to chat about what we're doing, feel free to see me after church or reach out to me via phone or email.

Thank you all for your time, and I look forward to celebrating this special Sunday together!

Blessings,
Spencer Koger

Happy Birthday in March!!

2 Peter Marshall
6 Jerry Wood
9 Tyler Price
18 Steve Edgerton
21 Emma Wilson, Evan Wilson
22 Martha Rollins

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 **Susan Pilson**.

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 **Susan** at [276 340-7288](tel:2763407288).

These members and friends of the congregation need our prayers:

PRAYER CONCERNS

Family of Bob Chapman, Anne Abercrombie, Sue Benfield, Jackie Bloxom (P. Stanley), Bud Buffkin, Evelyn Cannaday, Joel Christman (B. Stanley), April Cox (B. Tatum), Nancy Davis, 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, Betty Lou Pigg, 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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THE SESSION

Clerk: Liz Ferrell
Treasurer: Henry Moore

Class of 2025

Ron Rebman: Mission/Outreach
Janet Fentress: Worship
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 (co-chair)

TRUSTEES

2025: William Kirby, Gale Legg
2026: Sharon Kirby, Dru Rothrock
2027: Duke Ferrell, Joe Williams

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