

March 13, 2025



Steeple Views

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MARTINSVILLE, VA

Pastor's Corner

Pastor Bea Miller

Dear First Presbyterian family,

I'll admit I was a day or two late starting our Lenten devotions. Ash Wednesday was busy, and the next day was Presbytery. Excuses. I know the devotions are short. But the topic, grief...really...? Can you hear my long sigh? And by Day 4, divorce was named as one of the big griefs. (another long sigh....)

During our Adaptive Change workshop, we heard that we do not fear change, we fear loss. And on Day 3 we were reminded that "if change is happening, grief is happening." Both change and loss throw us into grief. And again, from Day 3, "change unfolds at an impossibly fast pace all around us, within us and even through us." It sounds like we are living in a sea of grief. And the author is correct, "unless we have space to name it, walk it and work it, grief will fester in resistance, anger and apathy. Sometimes it feels like the world is filled with resistance, anger and apathy. Maybe we grieve that too.

But grief, really working through our grief, brings us out of the darkness and into the light. The other side of grief is always hope and new life. That is a promise I'm holding on to. I can hold to the promise of hope and new life, because I've seen it in so many ~ even in you. We are both individually and collectively becoming something new. God is doing a new thing. And we find blessings in all that God and our faith community has seen us through. Thanks be to God!

Please share the gold nuggets you find in our Lenten devotion. We all find life in each other's gleanings.

Peace for the journey,

Pastor Bea



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

Sermon by Pastor Bea

based upon Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18 and Psalm 27

Liturgist: Joan Montgomery

Ushers/Greeters: Ron Rebman, Judy King

Liturgist Schedule

March

16 Joan Montgomery

23 Nancy Moore

30 Sharon Kirby

April

8 Billy Kirby

13 no liturgist needed - Palm Sunday in the park, followed by potluck brunch

20 Sam Smith (Easter)

27 Susan Pilson

May

4 Ashby Pinkard

11 Lynn Pritchett

18 Ron Rebman
25 Martha Rollins

June

8 Randy Rollins
15 no liturgist needed
22 Joe Williams
29 Taylor Shank

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

Session Meeting - Monday, March 31st at 4 PM.



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)** or **Liz (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 – vgdyer003@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 Daniel Handy (Pearl Minter's son in-law), 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, Marvin Hudson, Jamelle Waid Linker (Ed Linker's daughter-in-law), Mary Manning, Jackie McLachlan, Betty Lou Pigg, Maggie Pilson, Rusty Reaser, Cecil Robbins, 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 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



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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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

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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