

May 11, 2023



Steeple Views

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MARTINSVILLE, VA

Pastor's Corner

Pastor Bea Miller

Dear First Presbyterian family,

School years are ending, graduates of all ages are transitioning to something new and different. The Latin word *limen* means "threshold." It is where we are betwixt and between, in transition, from one way of being to the next. Liminal spaces can feel vulnerable, but when we remain open to all God is doing in and around us, a liminal space becomes God's ground for authentic transformation.

For me, liminal space is about peeling away the layers that my ego places between me and God. While I was discerning a call, my spiritual director shared a poem called "Layers." At first it made me think of a scene in Shrek where he talks about having layers, like an onion. I think we all have layers and peeling away the layers leads us to our core ~ to finding God at our core.

I hope you find this poem meaningful, as we all try to live in the layers:

The Layers

BY [STANLEY KUNITZ](#)

I have walked through many lives, some of them my own,
and I am not who I was,
though some principle of being
abides, from which I struggle
not to stray.

When I look behind,
as I am compelled to look
before I can gather strength
to proceed on my journey,
I see the milestones dwindling
toward the horizon
and the slow fires trailing
from the abandoned camp-sites,
over which scavenger angels
wheel on heavy wings.

Oh, I have made myself a tribe
out of my true affections,
and my tribe is scattered!
How shall the heart be reconciled
to its feast of losses?
In a rising wind
the manic dust of my friends,
those who fell along the way,
bitterly stings my face.
Yet I turn, I turn,
exulting somewhat,
with my will intact to go
wherever I need to go,
and every stone on the road
precious to me.
In my darkest night,
when the moon was covered
and I roamed through wreckage,
a nimbus-clouded voice
directed me:
"Live in the layers,
not on the litter."
Though I lack the art
to decipher it,
no doubt the next chapter
in my book of transformations
is already written.
I am not done with my changes.

Peace be with you,

Pastor Bea



Please join us for worship this Sixth Sunday of Easter at 10:00 am

Sermon by Rev. Bea Miller

Sermon based upon Acts 17:22-31 and John 14:15-21

Liturgist: Sharon Kirby

Greeters/Ushers: Monty and Joan Montgomery



Just a reminder:

You will NEVER get an email or text from the church or your pastor asking you to purchase gift cards because we are busy or in a meeting.

If you receive one of these messages, it will come from an email other than an official church email address or a phone number not in use by a church staff member. Simply report it to the church and delete. Do not respond. We are so sorry for the inconvenience these fraudulent activities (that have been happening for years to churches everywhere-not just here) continue to cause!

OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Thursday 9:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Friday 9:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

The safety of our congregation and community are our highest priority. COVID-19 transmission rates are **low** in our area so you may wear a mask based on your personal preference, however, those who are not vaccinated should wear a mask that covers their nose and mouth while anywhere inside the church and sanctuary. People with symptoms, a positive test, or exposure to someone with COVID-19, should remain at home.





The sympathy of the congregation is extended to **the King family** on the passing of **Rob**. He suffered a fatal heart attack and passed away early Friday morning.

Please keep the King family in your thoughts and prayers.

Services will be held at **First Presbyterian Church** on **Saturday, May 13 at 2:00 PM**.

A reception for the family will follow the service. Items needed are sandwiches, fruit and desserts (brownies, cookies, bars, etc.).

If you can help, please contact Pearl Minter ([276 340-3476](tel:2763403476)) or Nancy Davis ([276 634-1403](tel:2766341403)).



Saturday, May 13 - Service for Rob King at 2 pm at FPC

Pentecost Offering - will be collected now through May 28.

Tuesday, May 16 - **Red Cross Blood Drive**, 1-6 PM in the FH

Saturday, May 20 - **Community Breakfast**. Leaders are Neil and Kym Tatum.

Tuesday, May 22 - **Think Tank** meeting at 2 PM

Tuesday, May 22 - **Session** meeting at 6 PM

Summer Community Worship schedule:

June 11 - 11:00 AM at Grace Presbyterian
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



First Presbyterian will be a host site for the bloodmobile Tuesday, **May 16 from 1-6**. We encourage folks to become donors! To make an appointment online, visit: <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-resultsdt=WB:DR&ed=05%2F16%2F2023&order=DATE&range=10&sd=05%2F16%2F2023&zipSponsor=24112>

Those who come to give blood, platelets or AB Elite plasma May 1-19, 2023, will receive a \$10 gift card by email to the merchant of their choice.

Eligible donors of all blood types and procedure types at mobiles and blood donation centers – whole blood, Power Red, platelets and AB Elite plasma, who present to give during the time frame and have an email address on file, will receive a \$10 e-gift card.

Type O donors are especially needed right now. Type O positive is the most common blood type, and type O negative can be received by patients of all blood types. It's important to ensure a steady supply of these critical blood types.

FOR DRIVES MAY 1-19: In thanks for joining Team Red Cross, all who come to give blood, platelets or AB Elite plasma May 1-19 will receive a \$10 e-gift card to a merchant of their choice.

FOR DRIVES MAY 20-31: [To help encourage donations around the Memorial Day holiday, all who come to give May 20-31 will receive an exclusive Red Cross beach towel, while supplies last.](#)

[FOR DRIVES WHERE POWER REDS WILL BE COLLECTED] Eligible donors with types O, B negative or A negative blood are encouraged to make a Power Red donation at this blood drive.

- o Power Red donors give a concentrated dose of red blood cells during a single donation, allowing them to maximize their impact.
 - o During this type of donation, red blood cells are separated from other blood components, and the plasma and platelets are safely and comfortably returned to the donor.
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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.

Liturgist Schedule

May

7 Duke Ferrell
14 Sharon Kirby
21 Jerri DeVault
28 Billy Kirby

June

4 Jack Kirby
11 **no liturgist needed**
18 Pearl Minter
25 Sharon Kirby

May Birthdays



- 1** Janet Fentress
- 3** Georgette "Jerry" Bishop
- 5** Amy Mason
- 8** Gavin Luther
- 10** Sandra Shank
- 11** Bonnie Price, Emily Beard
- 12** Monica Stevens, Patricia Christenbury, Pearl Minter
- 17** Heath Russell
- 19** Annie B. Boyd, Taylor Shank
- 20** Christal Kelly
- 22** Hayden Cundiff, Joanna Wood
- 27** Jacob Wingfield, Kent Williams, Virginia Seamon
- 29** Ed Linker
- 30** Ron Rebman

These members and friends of the congregation need our prayers:

PRAYER CONCERNS

Family of Rob King, Ryan Bachelor (niece of N. Davis), Sue Benfield, Georgette Bishop, Jackie Bloxom (P. Stanley), Mike Boswell, Marilyn and Ernest Bremner, Catherine Bridges, Jim Brunt (N. Davis' brother), Bud Buffkin, Bob Chapman, Joel Christman (B. Stanley), Marge Dunn, Neill Ferrill (S. Ford), Daniel Handy, Marvin Hudson, Judy King, Betty Carol and Harold Lamm, Mary Manning, Maggie Pilson, Lauren Prince, Susan Rosser, Jane Rothrock, David Seamon, 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.

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 church but please call the office to make sure Rita is there.
Alternatively, you may drop 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

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/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

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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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