

November 21, 2024



Steeple Views

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MARTINSVILLE, VA

Dear First Presbyterian family,

It is a blessing to read your gratitude stories. Thank you. I pray that God has a hand in putting them together for Sunday. During Sunday's service, I hope you feel all the love you have for each other and for the Divine. Love that is in and around all of you ~ knitting you together in beautiful and wonderful ways.

On a personal note, I got a puppy a few days ago. She is a sensitive soul. Everything is strange and new to her. She is an almost 10-month-old Golden Mountain Doodle (Golden Retriever, Bernese Mountain Dog, Poodle). I am her fourth home, so she is not sure what "home" really is, yet. She's smart and lovable and I'm sure she will be adjusted, content, and brave soon. So if, in the future, I say that the dog ate my Steeple Views article, I'm sure you will understand. 😊



Peace be with you,
Pastor Bea



Please join us this last Sunday after Pentecost at 10:00 AM

Service by Pastor Bea based upon *Stories of Gratitude*

Liturgist: Lynn Pritchett

Ushers/Greeters: Monty and Joan Montgomery

Liturgist Schedule

November

24 Lynn Pritchett

December

1 Martha Rollins

8 Joe Williams

15 Gale Buck

22 Sam Smith

29 Joe DeVault

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

Advent devotions will be emailed each week from the office. Printed copies are available upon request by calling Rita at [276-632-3431](tel:276-632-3431).

The church office will close at noon on Wednesday, November 27 and will remain closed Thursday and Friday for Thanksgiving.

The Weekday School will be on Fall Break November 25-29.

FPC Women's Circle Meeting is Monday, December 2nd at King's Grant at 11:00 AM. Cheryl Peeples from Forest Hills PC will be leading lesson 4, Water Justice. If you are not a King's Grant resident, please sign in at the front desk and purchase your lunch ticket for \$12 upon arrival.

Session Meeting - Monday, December 9 at 6:00 PM. This will be the November/December meeting.

The December 8th worship service will be followed by a hymn sing and a potluck lunch.

UPCOMING CHRISTMAS EVENTS

The Smith River Singers will present the Christmas portion of Handel's Messiah Monday, December 9 at 7:00 PM under the direction of Dr. Pamela Randall featuring soloists Jill Gardner, soprano; Stephanie Davis, mezzo soprano; Ted Federle, tenor; Terrence Taylor, bass; accompanied by a full orchestra with additional numbers by the select ensemble Still Water at the Galilean House of Worship (5078 A L Philpott Hwy, Martinsville). Admission is free but an offering will be collected. Doors open at 6:15 PM.

The Martinsville Handbell Ensemble will perform a Christmas concert Sunday, December 15th at 2:00 PM at the First United Methodist Church (146 East Main Street, Martinsville). Janet Fentress is a member of this ensemble.



Community Breakfast

Team leaders and schedule for the remainder of the year

- December 21 **Kym & Neil Tatum**
- January 18 **NEED LEADER**

Rise Against Hunger

World Hunger is Real, We are Blessed, Let us Bless Others

Session approved a special Thanksgiving Offering, Overflowing with Gratitude, to fund our 2025 Rise Against Hunger Event on March 1. Our funds and volunteer efforts can help feed children in countries suffering severe food shortages. By providing meals through the schools, children not only benefit from daily nutrition, but also are encouraged to complete their education. Malnutrition accounts for nearly half of all childhood deaths and stunts the development of those who survive. We can be part of the solution to this worldwide problem by donating our time and money to the World Against Hunger campaign. Checks may be written payable to the church. Use the special pew envelope for your donation or mail a check with Rise Against Hunger on the memo line to the church office.



Have you ever been food insecure?
 Did you know **720 million** people around
 the globe face hunger every day?



IMPACTS OF ONGOING MALNUTRITION

- Accounts for nearly half of all childhood deaths
- Stunts development
- Causes hopelessness



RISE AGAINST HUNGER

- Provides daily nutritious meals through schools
- Fosters healthy growth and development
- Encourages attendance through high school



GRATEFUL RESPONSE

- Monetary donations support food security, education and individual livelihoods
- Make checks out to First Presbyterian Church with "Rise Against Hunger" in subject line
- Volunteer with friends and neighbors to package food in March
- For more information go to riseagainsthunger.org



How can we share God's abundance with many in need? One way is to support our **Rise Against Hunger** event coming up in March. Your donations now will:

- Allow the Mission Committee to plan for the event, help determine the number of volunteers needed
- Paying now for food and supplies for the meal packages to be sent to children in countries experiencing food shortages, also helps lower our budget for next

year

- Pew envelopes marked Overflowing with Gratitude will be available for your donations starting Sunday.



- 2** Colton Sanders
- 3** Bill Hensley, Elizabeth Harris
- 5** Neil Tatum
- 6** Brooke Cundiff
- 8** Donna Lawhon
- 11** Ione Linker
- 15** Steven Minter
- 18** Donna King
- 21** Henry Grady III Moore
- 23** Sue Benfield
- 27** Joe DeVault, Leanna Blevins
- 28** Norah Cundiff

Our Deepest Sympathy

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to the family of **Georgette Bishop** on her passing, November 13, 2024. The full obituary can be found at <https://www.norrisfuneral.com/obituaries/Georgette-Schaefer-Bishop?obId=33770558>

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).

These members and friends of the congregation need our prayers:

PRAYER CONCERNS

Family of Georgette Bishop, Family of Neill Ferrill, Anne Abercrombie, Sue Benfield, Jackie Bloxom (P. Stanley), Bud Buffkin, Evelyn Cannaday, Bob Chapman, Joel Christman (B. Stanley), April Cox (B. Tatum), Steve Edgerton, Marge Dunn, Teri Ferguson, Martin Ford, Gary Francisco (Shanna King's father), Juanita Griffin (J & B Williams), Daniel Handy, Jennifer Holland (N. Davis), Dr. Mervyn King, Marvin Hudson, 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 Pearl Minter), Bruce Thomas, Nathan Toms (A. Madonia), Carl Utley, Lil Wall, Tammy Tucker Wardinski, 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.



Grace Network Donations

4th quarter food donation item is
Canned Fruit



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



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: Nancy Baker

Treasurer: Henry Moore

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

Class of 2026

Billy Kirby: Administration

Susan Pilson: Communication

Anne Madonia: Think Tank

TRUSTEES

2024: Duke Ferrell, Milt Davis

2025: William Kirby, Gale Legg

2026: Sharon Kirby, Dru Rothrock

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