

November 16, 2023



Steeple Views

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MARTINSVILLE, VA

Pastor's Corner

Pastor Bea Miller

Dear First Presbyterian family,

I imagine that most of you are planning Thanksgiving meals, or at least where to eat. And plans for travel and being or receiving company are in the works ~ for both Thanksgiving and Christmas. It is a festive, busy and exciting time! And it is a time when we are called to wait and prepare for the incarnation of God among us. Like Mary, the whole world is pregnant, waiting for the promised birth of new life.

This year Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday. As you plan your time on Christmas Eve, I want you to know that our two Christmas Eve services will be distinctly different. During the 10:00 am service we will be waiting in December darkness. The service will be contemplative and prayerful. Some chanting will be incorporated in the service, but there will be no service music. We will celebrate our Lord's Supper, but I will be the only worship leader for this quiet, simple service. The 5:00 pm service will look and feel entirely different; it will look and feel like the service you typically expect on Christmas Eve. At 5:00 we will celebrate the birth of Jesus with communion and candle light ~ and much wonderful music. Please plan to participate in one or both of our Christmas Eve worship offerings.

Come, Lord Jesus Come,

Pastor Bea



Please join us for worship this Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost at 10:00
AM

Sermon by Pastor Bea based upon Matthew 25:14-30 and Psalm 123

Liturgist: Pearl Minter

Usher/Greeters: Milt and Nancy Davis

Liturgist Schedule

November

19 Pearl Minter

26 Joan Montgomery

December

3 Monty Montgomery

10 Nancy Moore

17 Ashby Pinkard

24 Sam Smith

31 Lynn Pritchett

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.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday 9:30-4pm

Friday 9:30-2pm

Voicemail will be monitored.



**ANNOUNCEMENTS
& UPCOMING EVENTS**

Nancy Brown memorial service at King's Grant, Friday, November 17th at 11:30 AM with Rev. Paul Johnson.



Community Breakfast, November 18 with team leaders **Henry and Nancy Moore**. If you are able to help prep, cook, clean, or fellowship, please reach out to **Nancy at [276 732-3400](tel:276732-3400)**.

The church office will be closed November 23 & 24 for Thanksgiving and **Steepleviews will not be published**.

Session Meeting - Monday, November 27 at 6 PM

Tunes at Noon with Spencer. Come enjoy Christmas music on December 6, 13, and 20 (Wednesdays).

There will be two services on **Christmas Eve, Sunday, December 24**. The **10 AM** service will be a quiet service with communion and no music. **At 5 PM** there will be a candlelight service with communion and music.

Sunday, December 31 will be a **10 AM** service of Lessons and Carols.



Commitment Sunday is November 19 when we offer our financial and discipleship gifts to God for the upcoming year. **A potluck will follow the service** so please bring your favorite dish to share and join us for food and fellowship.

Martinsville Churches



Forest Hills



First Martinsville



Grace Community Resource Day

Over the summer, Grace, First Collinsville, First Martinsville and Forest Hills Presbyterian Churches joined together the second Sunday of each month for worship and fellowship. And in October, the other churches helped support Grace's Community Resource Day. Everyone benefitted from the partnership. Pews were full, more voices carried the music, pastors got a respite from preaching, relationships were built and strengthened, and the community got to see a strong, vital, vibrant Presbyterian presence.

Comments from parishioners had similar themes:

- "We look forward to doing it again."
- "We love the sounds of all those voices singing hymns together."
- "Let's plan to do this more and do other things together also."



Forest Hills



Grace Community Resource Day



First Collinsville

2023

Worship  Serve Together

Happy November Birthdays!



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

These members and friends of the congregation need our prayers:

PRAYER CONCERNS

Sue Benfield, Georgette Bishop, Jackie Bloxom (P. Stanley), Mike Boswell, Marilyn and Ernest Bremner, Catherine Bridges, Bud Buffkin, Cathie Carter (B. Tatum), Bob Chapman, Joel Christman (B. Stanley), Steve Edgerton, Marge Dunn, Neill Ferrill (S. Ford), Gary Francisco (Shanna King's Father), Daniel Handy, Marvin Hudson, Betty Carol and Harold Lamm, Darrel Lemke (N. Davis), Mary Manning, Maggie Pilson, Susan Rosser, Becky Stone Sawyers (L. Pritchett), Dee Moore Smith, 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

[4th quarter food donation item is Jelly \(28-32oz\)](#)



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 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/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:

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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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