

September 3, 2026



Steeple Views

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MARTINSVILLE, VA

Pastor's Corner
Pastor Bea Miller

Dear First Presbyterian family,

On September 13th our Session will begin their overview of key concepts in the book *The Strategically Small Church*, by Brandon J. O'Brien. We have a few copies available if you'd like to preview or read along. The Session will be presenting these key concepts during the Time with Young Disciples for 8 weeks, beginning September 13th.

From reviews of *The Strategically Small Church*:

The smaller church is not a problem to be solved but a strategic advantage that can be leveraged for effective ministry. With insightful cultural analysis, compelling storytelling, and perceptive theological reflection, O'Brien's book gives us new eyes for what God can do uniquely in the small church. With every page turned, the small church becomes less a burden to bear and more a compelling way of life.

This book is a celebration of the strategic, missional potential of small churches, which are often underreported and underappreciated in our bigger-is-better society. O'Brien's winsome and informed reimagining of church success provides a hopeful path forward. Small churches aren't a mistake or relics of a bygone age. They are uniquely equipped participants in God's mission.

Please bring your whole heart to this important discussion.

Peace,

Pastor Bea



Please join us for worship this fifteenth day after Pentecost at 10 AM

Sermon by Pastor Bea

based upon Matthew 18:15-20 and Romans 13:8-14

Liturgist: Cindy Edgerton

Usher/Greeters: Monty and Joan Montgomery

2nd Cup: Joe and Brenda Williams

Liturgist Schedule

September

13 Duke Ferrell

20 Liz Ferrell

27 Billy Kirby

October

4 Sharon Kirby

11 Ione Linker

18 Mary Linker

25 Pearl Minter

November

1 Joan Montgomery

8 Nancy Moore

15 Lynn Pritchett

22 Martha Rollins

29 Ben Bohman

29 Ron Redman

December

6 Randy Rollins

13 Taylor Shank

20 Ashby Pinkard

24 TBD

27 Gale Buck

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday 9:30am - 3pm

Friday - Closed

If you need to conduct office business outside these hours, please call to make an appointment.

BEWARE: Two members of our congregation recently received **scam** emails that purported to be sent by Pastor Bea asking for help with the purchase of gift cards. PLEASE remember, SHE WILL NEVER ASK you to purchase anything on her behalf with the promise to pay you back. If you have questions about any email communications from her, please call or text her or Rita!



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

The church office will be closed Monday, September 7th for Labor Day.

The Weekday Day will be back in session beginning Tuesday, September 8th. Welcome back teachers and students. We also welcome our new 4-year old teacher Amy Clemons.

Greater Love Tour: Sunday, September 19 at 4PM, First United Methodist Church

From the Music Department ***Harmonic Expressions from Whitney***

Early Christian banquets were religious rituals that included prayers, conversation, singing, and giving thanks over the bread and cup. This meal became known as the Thanksgiving meal or eucharista. Today's Eucharist, communion, or Lord's Supper.¹

Consider these words with today's scripture

Draw us in the spirit's tether, for when humbly in your name 2 or 3 are met together, You are in the midst of them. Here we touch your garment's hem.

As disciples used together in the name of Christ to sup, then with thanks to God, The Giver, break the bread and bless the cup, so now bind our friendship up.

All our meals and all our living make a sacraments of you, that by caring, helping, giving, we may be discipled true. We will serve with faith anew.

-Percy Dearmer

1. Andrew McGowan, "Eucharist," *Historical Foundations of Worship: Catholic, Orthodox, and Protestant Perspectives*, (Grand Rapids, MI. Baker Academic 2022), 19.

KYIV SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA & CHORUS PRESENTS

Greater LOVE TOUR

WITH CONDUCTOR VIKTORIIA KONCHAKOVSKA

SEPTEMBER 19 AT 4 P.M.
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
146 E Main Street | Martinsville, VA



[MUSICMISSIONKIEV.ORG/TOUR](https://musicmissionkiev.org/tour)

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The sympathy of the congregation is extended to Monica Stevens and family on the passing of **Laura**, Tuesday, September 1. Arrangements are incomplete at this time.

September Birthdays

- 1** Monty Montgomery, Virginia R. King
- 4** Nancy Davis
- 8** Suzan Kirby
- 10** Autumn Sanders
- 11** Victoria Esarey
- 15** Gwendolyn Seamon
- 16** Judy King
- 20** Jean Williams
- 25** Carolyn Baptist, Gavin Russell



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 Pileon**.

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

Barbara Adams (Patsy Stanley), Ernest Bremner, Evelyn Cannaday, Joel Christman (B. Stanley), Bob Davis, Marge Dunn, Sandra Ford, Michelle Handy (Pearl Minter's daughter), Randy Lawson (P. Stanley), Mary Manning, Jackie McLachlan, Marion Miller, Maggie Pilson, Ann Reaser, Susan Rosser, Becky Stone Sawyers (L. Pritchett), Dee Moore Smith, Laura Stevens, Scott Stevens, Bruce Thomas, Tammy Tucker Wardinski, persecuted Christians, military service men and women, missionaries, refugees and immigrants forced to flee their countries, and families and areas devastated by severe weather.



Grace Network Donations

[3rd Quarter 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 (dozen 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, unless the Church office is closed. **DEADLINE** for submission of articles is Wednesday afternoon by 3 PM

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 **and text** [276 806-9709](tel:2768069709)

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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THE SESSION

Clerk: Liz Ferrell

Treasurer: Henry Moore

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

Class of 2028

Ione Linker/Taylor Shank: Mission/Outreach

Nancy Davis: Christian Education

TRUSTEES

William Kirby, Gale Legg, Sharon Kirby, Dru Rothrock, Duke Ferrell, Joe Williams

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