

January 1, 2017



Steeple Views

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MARTINSVILLE, VA

Pastor's Corner

The Love of God

Love is patient, love is kind, love is not envious or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. I Corinthians 13:4-7

This wonderful piece of Scripture from the Apostle Paul's letter to the church in Corinth describes God's greatest expression of love to the world in Jesus Christ. Jesus as our role model is God's desire for each one of us to follow. To bind ourselves to such lofty goals as described in this Scripture can only be accomplished by giving ourselves to God the way God has already given to each one of us. Nothing we ourselves consider to be "our accomplishments" truly belongs to us without the gift of life itself coming from our Creator.



To be patient, kind, or never envious or rude without exception are not achievable goals without God's help. Even Jesus himself lost his temper with the vendors in Temple, but the Holy Spirit's presence can draw us closer to God's plan. Not to insist on your own way, not to be irritable or resentful, ever, is not a part of who we are as humans. But seeking God's presence in all things can draw us ever closer to God's plans for everyone.

In this New Year, our lives will be faced with countless numbers of temptations, distractions, and wrong choices. But with God's help and the Community of Faith's support and cooperation, 2017 can witness of each one of us being drawn closer to God's heart. Celebrate the love of God in community today.

Pastor Mark

Service for the Lord's Day, January 1, 2017

Second Sunday of Christmas

Scripture Lessons

Hebrews 2:10-18; Isaiah 63:7-9

Sermon by Rev. Mark Hinchcliff

"Our Pain Would Become His and His Joy Would Become Ours!"

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Additional Lectionary Readings

Psalm 148; Matthew 2:13-23

Full text of lectionary readings at

<http://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/texts.php?id=8>

[View this email in your browser.](#)

What's Happening This Week

Sunday, January 1, 2017

New Year's Day (8th Day of Christmas)

Communion Sunday, prep/clean-up team: Ferguson

Fellowship & Refreshments, 9:30 AM, Fellowship Hall

Sunday School, 9:45 AM, Children 4 yrs-2nd grade, Room 11-12 under the Sanctuary; Adult Adult class, Session Room

Traditional Worship, 11:00 AM, Sanctuary

Usher group #6: Monty Montgomery (Captain), Manly Boyd, David Garland, Bill Manning, Dru Rothrock

Liturgist: Janet Fentress

Communion Servers: *Neil Tatum, +Duke Ferrell, Liz Ferrell, Victoria Esarey, Denny Casey, Paul Cannaday, Bill Manning

Monday 2, 9th Day of Christmas

Church office closed

Circle 2, 7:00 PM, Home of Janet Fentress, 906 Corn Tassel Trail.

Tuesday 3, 10th Day of Christmas

Cooks Who Care has been postponed until January 10.

Steeple Views Deadline. Please email articles to

steepleviews@firstpresbyterianmartinsville.org by the end of the day.

Session meeting, 7:00 PM, Session Room

Wednesday 4, 11th Day of Christmas

Sanctuary Ringers, 5:45 PM, Handbell Room

Chancel Choir, 7:00 PM, Choir Room

Thursday 5, Twelfth Night

Disciple Bible Study, 6:00 PM

Praise Band, 7:00 PM, Chapel

Friday 6, Epiphany

Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14; Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12

For a complete calendar of what's happening at FPC Martinsville, visit our website:

<http://www.firstpresbyterianmartinsville.org/calendar.cfm>.



Note change of date!

Cooks Who Care Jan. 10

Cooks Who Care would like you to join them at **9:34 AM or 5:30 PM** (or both) on **Tuesday, January 10**, in the Marge Dunn Kitchen. We are preparing a delicious meal under the direction of Marge Dunn herself to be packaged and delivered to anyone who needs one because of illness, bereavement, or other difficult circumstances.



Looking Ahead

Sunday, January 8

Congregational Meeting at the close of the 11 o'clock service

Sunday, January 15

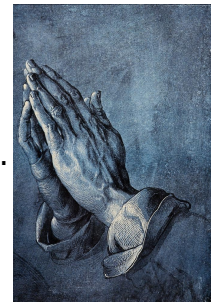
Ordination and installation of new church officers

Saturday, January 21

New officer training, 12:00–5:00 PM

Prayer Concerns

The following members and friends of our congregation need our prayers: Walter Anderson, Sue Benfield, Ami Bryson Peck, Dot Bryson, Evelyn Clark, Virginia Coley, Brennen Cox, Sandra B. Cox, Floyd Craig, Colleen Dallas, Jim Ford, Clara Hartley, Clyde Hill, Ann King, Ed Pace, Anne Peterson, Louise Mauck Rawls, Barbara Regen, Vanessa Simms (Our custodian Louis' wife), Lilian Turman, Martha and Joe Valentine, Sarah Wells, and all our troops throughout the world.



Please submit prayer requests to Rita in the church office (276-632-3431, office@firstpresbyterianmartinsville.org).

Facilities use

Please Note

No one is allowed to use the church building on a holiday when the church office is closed. If you have questions, please contact Pastor Mark.

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:

<http://www.firstpresbyterianmartinsville.org/page.cfm/topic/newsletter>

Useful Links

FPC website: <http://www.firstpresbyterianmartinsville.org/> or

<http://www.fpcmartinsvilleva.org/>

FPC online directory: <https://members.instantchurchdirectory.com/>

FPC Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/FPCMartinsvilleVA>

Presbytery of the Peaks: <http://www.peakspresbytery.org/>

Presbyterian Church (USA): <http://www.pcusa.org/>

Revised Common Lectionary: <http://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/>

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TRUSTEES

2016: Billy Kirby (Moderator), Kent Williams

2017: Bob Davis, Joe DeVault

2018: Monty Montgomery, Henry Moore

2016 SESSION

Moderator:

Rev. Mark Hinchcliff

Clerk: Nancy Baker

Treasurer: Milton Davis

Class of 2016

Chris Beeler, Stewardship

Pearl Minter, Fellowship

Bill Kirby, Administration

Class of 2017

Denny Casey, Facilities

Cindy Edgerton, Worship

Victoria Esarey,

Congregational Care

Class of 2018

Jerri DeVault, Mission

Nancy Moore,

Communications

Monica Stevens, Christian

Education

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