

STEEPLE VIEWS

First Presbyterian Church

January 2014

Martinsville, Virginia

Upcoming in January:

Mark your calendars!

Annual Congregational Meeting!

There will be an Annual Congregational Meeting on **January 26, 2014 at 9:45am in the Fellowship Hall**. The business of this meeting will be to receive the annual reports from Session committees, to elect ruling elders and trustees, to adopt congregation rule for election of the Nominating Committee, to receive the 2014 budget and approve the 2014 Associate Pastor's Terms of Call. A packet of information containing written reports from Session Committees, the slate of nominees for the offices of ruling elder and trustees, the budget and proposed Terms of Call will be available on Sunday, January 12 to be picked up in the narthex, Fellowship Hall or church office.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry will resume its regular meeting schedule, the last Wednesday of the month at **5:30 p.m.** The January meeting will be on **January 29** in the Session room. A light supper is provided.

If you would like to join our knitting group, January is the perfect time. If you don't know how to knit, there are experienced knitters in our group who will help you get started and mentor you until your shawl is complete. Yarn is free so just bring two #13 knitting needles.

Our ministry has distributed over 70 shawls in the year we have been in existence. If you know of someone needing a prayer shawl, you may pick one up and sign it out from Jenny's old office. If you have questions contact Joan Montgomery at 632-1157 or jandmmontgom@embarqmail.com or any member of the Prayer Shawl Ministry.

Congregational Supper and Committee Night

Don't miss the supper on January 13th at 6:00pm to be hosted by the Congregational Care Committee. Dinner music and entertainment will be provided by John Brown and William Seamon! Committee meetings will follow at 7:00pm.

Christian Education Opportunities

There are several opportunities for Adult Bible study and devotional studies in January.

During the **Sunday School hour** (9:45-10:40 Sunday mornings) there will be two classes.

First, a group facilitated by Lang Mauck will continue their study of *The Journey*, by Adam Hamilton. This is an Advent series that will continue through this season following Epiphany. This class meets in the Session Room.



A new seven-week study will begin on January 6 in the Irby classroom (across the hall from the Session Room). It will use a series called, *Keeping the Sabbath*, featuring reflections and discussion guides by Dorothy Bass, Walter Breuggemann and Carol Wehrheim. The first gathering on January 6th will be an introduction and materials will be distributed for future sessions at that meeting.

The Adult Sunday School classes will not meet on Sunday, January 26th due to the Annual Congregational Meeting.

The Sunday evening Bible Study group will resume meeting on Sunday evenings from 6:00-7:30pm starting on January 13th. For the months of January and February we will use a book by Brian Wren entitled, *Hymns for Today*, which explores foundational theological themes (Jesus, Spirit, Church, Worship, Witness, Praise, Treasure) through the art and poetry of hymns. Ordering a copy of the book is not required, but copies are available on Amazon for about \$12. The class meetings will pair hymn texts with scripture passages, and we will do some singing! (Yes, you can sing!) Come and join Pastor Jenny as she leads this study which is close to her heart.

Winter Weather Possibility REMINDER

In case of inclement weather, service cancellation may be found on WDBJ channel 7 from Roanoke, the church website or local radio stations, WHEE and WMVA. If possible, the information will also be sent out in an email.

From the Bridge Pastor:

Most people, whether church-going or not, recognize the season of Christmas and the time of preparation and busy-ness that leads up to it (in the church we call that Advent). After the excitement and celebration of Christmas, what next? The poet Howard Thurman wrote,

*When the song of the angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flock,
The work of Christmas begins.*

In the church, we this is the season that follows Epiphany, a period of “Ordinary Time” preceding the beginning of Lent. It is anything but “ordinary” however. Though the celebration of Christmas is past, the “work” of Christ-with-us is just begun! And in the season of Epiphany we celebrate God’s ongoing gift of light, sight, and vision that brings us revelation and direction and purpose!

General Assembly Committee on Representation member Rev. Rubén Ortiz Rodríguez shares the following reflection: “in our life epiphany moments occur when our thinking discovers a truth that so far had not been realized. But, for this to happen we can’t be content with what we know or limit our experiences to what we are used to. The Biblical story tells us how men and women relate many of those moments when they discovered at some point in their lives how God revealed God’s plan and work. Those moments of epiphany transformed their thinking and how they interpreted their life’s circumstances. Thus, under this new revelation and insight, they transformed the world in which they lived. In our personal and ecclesial experience, how have we discovered those moments of revelation and insight? How we have transformed the way we think and live? How we have impacted the world in this time in which we live?”

During this season in which we greet the new year, let us be open to the new revelation, new direction, new calling that God is opening up in our midst here at FPC. There will be much to come in this year of 2014, especially as we anticipate the arrival the new pastor. Let us continue to be in prayer for the Pastor Nominating Committee, for the elders and leaders who currently serve, and for those who will serve. Thanks be to God!

-Pastor Jenny

Upcoming in Worship

Sunday, January 5 – *Second Sunday after Christmas*, Theme: Mystery, Revelation and Surprise, Scriptures: Isaiah 60:1-6, Ephesians 3:1-12

Sunday, January 12 – *Baptism of the Lord Sunday*, Theme: Calling, Scripture: Isaiah 42:1-9, Matthew 3:13-17

Sunday, January 19 – *Second Sunday in Ordinary Time*, Theme: Light to the World, Scripture: Isaiah 49, 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Sunday, January 26 - *Third Sunday in Ordinary Time*, Theme: Light on our Way, Scripture: Isaiah 9, Matthew 4:12-23

Facilities Committee

At the Session meeting in August, the discussion began about securing our building more effectively. This was due to finding strangers in the building during work hours and while our Weekday School was in session. The Facilities Committee was asked to get quotes on locking the building during work hours while allowing a way for those with legitimate reasons to enter.

The Session authorized the installation of a closed circuit camera outside the weekday school entrance and put a keypad at that door and the choir room outside door. These doors and all outside entry doors will remain locked during the day for the safety of the staff and our weekday school children.

At the November Session meeting it was decided that the rear carport entrance and the choir room doors would allow entry only by a keypad activated with a number code or a fob. Keys will no longer work on those two doors and should be returned to the office.



Anyone needing access will be issued a key fob to open the door. There will be a \$5 deposit requested to insure return of the fob when it is no longer needed. If you need a fob, please see Smith Chaney or Nancy Moore..

A special thank-you goes to Smith who installed the keypads and the security camera. The intent of this action, above all else, is for the security of our children and our staff.



in *January* to:

- 4 Marie Thompson
- 5 Katherine Earles
- 6 Iliene Hite
- 7 Buck Flythe, Rob King, King
- 9 Jennifer Nease
- 10 Jim Beard
- 11 Cathy Martin
- 16 Wendy Luther, Billy Kirby
- 17 Carolyn Franck, Jake Sanders,
Grace Anne Edgerton
- 19 Helen Flythe
- 21 Mark Mason, Bonny Pace
- 24 Greg Darnell
- 26 Bud Buffkin
- 28 David Garland
- 29 Rusty Reaser, Alan Ferguson, Jack Kirby
- 31 Mattie Wingfield

Mission Committee

Many thanks to all for the generous support of the Angel Tree Project. In addition, thanks to all who helped organize and deliver the gifts and food baskets. The holidays were made brighter for seventeen children from six families who felt honored to be the recipients of the gifts.



SAVE THE DATE Vacation Bible School 2014 July 7-11

The Session 2013-2014

Moderator, Jenny Spivey

Clerk, Joan Montgomery

Mission: Nancy Baker

Administration: Chris Beeler

Fellowship: Pearl Minter

Christian Education: JoAnne Sanders

Stewardship: Lang Mauck

Worship: Cathy Stone

Congregational Care: Virginia Truitt

Evangelism and Outreach: Nancy Moore

Note: the Session did not meet on December because of the Christmas holiday. The Session will meet twice in January (Jan. 6th and 27th)

Session Highlights

November 25, 2013

- Jenny Spivey moderated the meeting which began at 7 pm.
- Pearl Minter gave the devotion and opened with prayer.
- The Session accepted the resignation of Harold Lamm as moderator of the Facilities Committee; Nancy Moore will assume this position until a new elder is installed.
- The Session approved up to \$5000 to complete the security system work already underway.
- Memorial gifts from Margaret Hotchkiss and Bunny O'Neal were received.
- It was reported that total pledges for 2014 received to-date amount to \$239,756, representing 85 pledging units so far against 105 units for 2013. It was also reported that if the additional pledging united from whom we have not yet heard were to pledge the same amount as in 2013, we could surpass this year's \$330, 858 by nearly \$10,000.
- A policy was approved for receiving and handling bequests and memorial gifts to the church. Procedures will be placed in the Manual of Operations.
- The Session approved the hiring of an additional Weekday School aide due to increased enrollment.
- Joan Montgomery was elected as Clerk through August 2014. Milt Davis was elected as Treasurer through August 2014.
- The meeting was adjourned with prayer by the moderator

First Presbyterian Church
1901 Patrick Henry Ave.
Martinsville, VA 24112

Address Service Requested

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*Our Mission is to:
Share God's love, embrace our neighbors, nurture each other*



Presbyterian Web Sites:

Presbytery of the Peaks: www.peakspresbytery.org

Synod of the Mid-Atlantic: www.synatlantic.org

Presbyterian Church (USA): www.pcusa.org

Pby. Disaster Assistance: www.pcusa.org/pda/

Presbyterian Today: www.pcusa.org/pcusa/today

Pby. News Service: www.pcusa.org/pcusa/brief.hem

First Presbyterian Church Staff:

Jenny Spivey, Bridge Pastor pastorjennyfpc@yahoo.com

Cynthia Dobrinski, Music Director and Organist CDMartinsville@aol.com

Sarah P. Altizer, Office Manager sarahfpcoffice@gmail.com

Sandra Brooks, Bookkeeper, fpc@kimbanet.com

Our Sunday Schedule:

8:30 Contemporary Worship (Chapel)

9:30 Fellowship Reception

(join us for coffee in the Fellowship Hall)

9:45 Sunday School

11:00 Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)

Our Web Site: www.firstpresbyterianmartinsville.org

Phone: 276-632-3431 *Fax:* 276-632- 3802

sarahfpcoffice@gmail.com

January 2014

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

			1 Happy New Year—Church Office Closed	2	3	4
5 8:30a Early Service 9:30a Fellowship Reception 9:45a Sunday School 11:00a Trad. Worship	6 7:00p Session	7	8 5:45p Sanc. Rngrs 7:00p Chancel	9	10	11
	9a-12p Weekday School					
12 8:30a Early Service 9:30a Fellowship Reception 9:45a Sunday School 11:00a Trad. Worship 6:00 Bible Study	13 1:00p Staff Mtg. 2:45p GPS 6:00p Supper 7:00p Committee Night	14 7:00p Worship Band	15 12:00p Steeple Views Deadline 5:45p Sanc. Rngrs 7:00p Chancel Choir	16	17	18 8:00a Community Breakfast
	9a-12p Weekday School					
19 8:30a Early Service 9:30a Fellowship Reception 9:45a Sunday School 11:00a Trad. Worship 6:00 Bible Study	20 Martin Luther King Day - Church Office Closed	21	22 5:45p Sanc. Rngrs 7:00p Chancel Choir	23	24	25
	9a-12p Weekday School					
26 8:30a Early Service 9:45a ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING 11:00a Trad. Worship 6:00 Bible Study	27 2:45p GPS 7:00p Session	28	29 5:45p Sanc. Rngrs 7:00p Chancel Choir	30	31	
	9a-12p Weekday School					