

April 20, 2023



# Steeple Views

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MARTINSVILLE, VA

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## Pastor's Corner

Elder Monica Stevens

***"Don't you know? Haven't you heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the creator of the ends of the earth. He doesn't grow tired or weary. His understanding is beyond human reach, giving power to the tired and reviving the exhausted. Youths will become tired and weary, young men will certainly stumble; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength; they will fly upon wings like eagles; they will run and not be tired; they will walk and not be weary." Isaiah 40:28-31 (CEB)***

Pollen notwithstanding, there is a lot that I really enjoy and look forward to each spring. After the dreary weariness of winter and the cold and damp of the early spring, April and May seem to offer the earth and humanity a much needed revival. I like that the temperature has risen above freezing, but it is still comfortable enough to be outside on a sunny day. I love that the days are getting longer and that it is no longer completely dark when choir practice is over on Wednesday evening. I love being able to sit outside in the morning and listen to the birds singing their praise for the gift of a new day. I especially love that nature is dressed in delicate, lacy pastels that seem to course with joy, energy, and the promise of good things to come.

For those who hope in the Lord, the renewal that spring offers is just a foretaste of the renewal God offers us on a daily basis. We have hope because God is always faithful to God's promises. Even when we sometimes become weary and disheartened, we can trust and rely on the promise that we are always surrounded by the love, strength, and nurture of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. We are never left on our own even though it may sometimes seem that way. God is always ready to love, sustain, and encourage us as individuals and as a congregation, so that as we gain strength, we will share God's love, strength, and guidance with others.

Gracious Lord, Thank you for your undying love for us. Help us gain strength and joy from that love so that we may gladly share the gifts of your grace with all those we meet. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

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Please join us for worship this third Sunday of Easter at 10:00 am

Sermon by Rev. Bea Miller

**based upon Luke 24:13-35 and Isaiah 51:1-6**

**Liturgist:** Liz Ferrell

**Ushers/Greeters:** Johnny and Ashby Pinkard

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Just a reminder:

You will NEVER get an email or text from the church or your pastor asking you to purchase gift cards because we are busy or in a meeting.

If you receive one of these messages, it will come from an email other than an official church email address or a phone number not in use by a church staff member. Simply report it to the church and delete. Do not respond. We are so sorry for the inconvenience these fraudulent activities (that have been happening for years to churches everywhere-not just here) continue to cause!

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#### **OFFICE HOURS**

**Monday – Thursday 9:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.**

**Friday 9:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.**

**The safety of our congregation and community** are our highest priority. COVID-19 transmission rates are low in our area so you may wear a mask based on your personal preference, however, those who are not vaccinated should wear a mask that covers their nose and mouth while anywhere inside the church and sanctuary. People with symptoms, a positive test, or exposure to someone with COVID-19, should remain at home.

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**Pastor Bea will be away April 10-21.** Monica Stevens will be on call for pastoral care ([276-734-8830](tel:276-734-8830)).

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**Think Tank Meeting - Monday, April 24 at 2PM** in the session room.

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**Session Meeting - Monday, April 24 at 6PM** in the session room.

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**The Smith River Singers** spring concert "Give My Regards to Broadway" featuring the Bassett High School Band of Distinction and the First United Methodist Youth Choir is **Monday, May 1, 7:00 PM at the Galilean House of Worship** (5078 A L Philpott Highway (US 58), Martinsville). Admission is free however a free-will offering will be collected at intermission.

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**The Weekday School** will be having their art show in the fellowship hall on **Friday, May 5 at 6PM** and their last day of school is Friday, May 12.

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**Presbytery Meeting - Saturday, May 6** at Campbell Memorial Presbyterian Church, Vinton, VA.

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**The Presbyterian Women's Circle** Meeting is **Monday, May 8 at 11AM** at King's Grant. Lunch can be purchased for \$11. Please pay at the front desk.

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First Presbyterian will be a host site for the bloodmobile Tuesday, **May 16 from 1-6**. We encourage folks to become donors! To make an appointment online, visit: <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-resultsdt=WB:DR&ed=05%2F16%2F2023&order=DATE&range=10&sd=05%2F16%2F2023&zipSponsor=24112>

Whether you give blood at your local donation center or at an upcoming blood drive April 1-23, you'll also [get an exclusive American Red Cross and PEANUTS® T-shirt featuring Snoopy](#) as the coolest beagle in town, Joe Cool, while supplies last!

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# back2school

*Jesus said "Let the children come to me. Don't stop them!"*

*For the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to those who are like these children"*

*Matthew 19:14*

It is time to celebrate the 17th year of the **back2school** outreach event that has served over 36,000 kids with the efforts of over 20+ churches across our communities and beyond!

Won't you join us in serving these students and making a difference in their lives?

For questions call Tracy Hinchcliff  
276-403-4222  
Or email

Tracy.hinchcliff@gracenetorkmhc.org

# back2school

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

There are many opportunities to let your gifts shine during this great event.

### Registration

- Saturday, July 15 (noon– 3pm) at The Uptown Ministry Center
- Tuesday, July 25 (6-8 pm) at The Uptown Ministry Center

### Pack the Bus

- At Walmart, Martinsville July 21-23 . Shifts TBD

### Filling Backpacks

- At the Future Home of Community Fellowship  
700 Commerce Court, Martinsville  
Tuesday, August 1 (6:00 pm)

### The Big Event

- At The Uptown Ministry Center (Behind Rania's)  
Saturday, August 5 (7:30 am) Shifts will be determined

If you can help, please email: Tracy Hinchcliff  
tracy.hinchcliff@gracenetorkmhc.org or call 276-403-4222.

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## Liturgist Schedule

April

23 Liz Ferrell

30 Cindy Edgerton

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## April birthdays



**4** Max Pinkston

**5** Kathryn Judson, Mark Hinchcliff

**7** Bob Davis

**14** Judy Garland

**15** Briana Tatum

**17** Barbara Tatum

**20** Manly Boyd

**22** Matthew Price

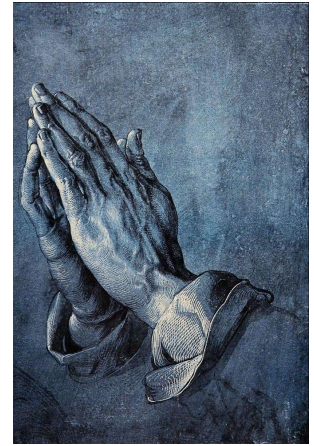
**30** Lynn Pritchett, Will Kirby

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**These members and friends of the congregation need our prayers:**

**PRAYER CONCERNS**

Family of Tommy Cobb (M. Dunn's nephew), Family of Mark Joyce (K.J. Joyce's brother), Ryan Bachelor (niece of N. Davis), Sue Benfield, Georgette Bishop, Jackie Bloxom (P. Stanley), Mike Boswell, Marilyn and Ernest Bremner, Catherine Bridges, Jim Brunt (N. Davis' brother), Bud Buffkin, Bob Chapman, Joel Christman (B. Stanley), Marge Dunn, Neill Ferrill (S. Ford), Daniel Handy, Marvin Hudson, Judy King, Betty Carol and Harold Lamm, Mary Manning, Maggie Pilson, Lauren Prince, Susan Rosser, Jane Rothrock, David Seamon, Beth Sibbick (N. Moore), 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.



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**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:276-340-3476).

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***Grace Network Donations***

**[The 2nd quarter food donation is canned greens \(turnips, collards, etc.\)](#)**

For the month of March, the food pantry at Grace Network served 121 clients which means we were quite busy most every day and a lot of food went out the door.



For this 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter, our church has been assigned greens: spinach, mixed, collards, etc. This is a popular item and we often don't have any. In this same area we could also use canned potatoes, beets and tomatoes. Most of these items are fairly inexpensive and all would be greatly appreciated.

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 church but please call the office to make sure Rita is there.  
Alternatively, you may drop 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](mailto:fpcsteepleviews@gmail.com). For time sensitive announcements, please sent to [skirbycwj@gmail.com](mailto:skirbycwj@gmail.com)

We reserve the right to edit all submissions. Sharon Kirby, Editor

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*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](https://www.peakspresbytery.org/images/2020_Peaks_Postings/PP_Aug18_2020.pdf)

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Our Mission

Share God's Love, Embrace Our Neighbors, Nurture Each Other

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**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](http://www.firstpresbyterianmartinsville.org/page.cfm/topic/newsletter)

### **Useful Links**

FPC website: [www.firstpresbyterianmartinsville.org/](http://www.firstpresbyterianmartinsville.org/) or [www.fpcmartinsvilleVA.org/](http://www.fpcmartinsvilleVA.org/)

FPC online directory: [members.instantchurchdirectory.com/](http://members.instantchurchdirectory.com/)

FPC Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/FPCMartinsvilleVA](http://www.facebook.com/FPCMartinsvilleVA)

Presbytery of the Peaks: [www.peakspresbytery.org/](http://www.peakspresbytery.org/)

Presbyterian Church (USA): [www.pcusa.org/](http://www.pcusa.org/)

Daily Bible Readings: [www.presbyterianmission.org/devotion/daily/](http://www.presbyterianmission.org/devotion/daily/)

**Church Office Phone:** [276-632-3431](tel:276-632-3431)

### **Our mailing address is:**

First Presbyterian Church

1901 Patrick Henry Ave.

Martinsville, VA 24112

### **STAFF**

Rev. Bea Miller, Interim Pastor, [rev.millerb@gmail.com](mailto:rev.millerb@gmail.com)

Rita Bateman, Secretary/Office Manager, [office@fpcmartinsvilleVA.org](mailto:office@fpcmartinsvilleVA.org)

Vickie Blair, Bookkeeper, [bookkeeper@fpcmartinsvilleVA.org](mailto:bookkeeper@fpcmartinsvilleVA.org)

Carol Carter, Weekday School Director, [wds@fpcmartinsvilleVA.org](mailto:wds@fpcmartinsvilleVA.org)

Spencer Koger, Director of Music, [adultmusic@fpcmartinsvilleva.org](mailto:adultmusic@fpcmartinsvilleva.org)

Peter Marshall, Worship Technology Coordinator, [worshiptechnology@fpcmartinsvilleVA.org](mailto: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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