

April 6, 2023



Steeple Views

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MARTINSVILLE, VA

Pastor's Corner

Dear First Presbyterian family,

As you receive this email, we will be celebrating our Lord's Last Supper. What we are given in this sacrament is beyond our full comprehension. Sometimes all we can do, all we need to do is remember – remember Jesus. In reflection on the sacrament, I'd like to share the words of Henri Nouwen, from his book, *Can You Drink the Cup?*:

Before we drink the cup, we must hold it!...

One thing I learned [from my family]...drinking wine is more than just drinking. You have to know what you are drinking, and you have to be able to talk about it. Similarly, just living life is not enough. We must know what we are living. A life that is not reflected upon isn't worth living. It belongs to the essence of being human that we contemplate our life, think about it, discuss it, evaluate it, and form opinions about it. Half of living is reflecting on what is being lived. Is it worth it? Is it good? Is it bad? Is it old? Is it new? What is it all about? The greatest joy as well as the greatest pain of living come not only from what we live but even more from how we think and feel about what we are living. Poverty and wealth, success and failure, beauty and ugliness aren't just the facts of life. They are realities that are lived very differently by different people, depending on the way they are placed in the larger scheme of things....Reflection is essential for growth, development, and change. It is the unique power of the human person.

Holding the cup means looking critically at what we are living. This requires great courage, because when we start looking, we might be terrified by what we see. Questions may arise that we don't know how to answer. Doubts may come up about things we thought we were sure about. Fear may emerge from unexpected places. We are tempted to say: 'Let's just live life. All this thinking about it only makes things harder.' Still, we intuitively know that without looking at life critically we lose our vision and our direction. When we drink the cup without holding it first, we may simply get drunk and wander around

aimlessly.

Holding the cup of life is a hard discipline.

Peace be with you,

Pastor Bea



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

Sermon by Pastor Bea Miller

Sermon based upon Matthew 28:1-10 and Jeremiah 31:1-6

Liturgist: Sam Smith

Ushers/Greeters: Monty and Joan Montgomery

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!

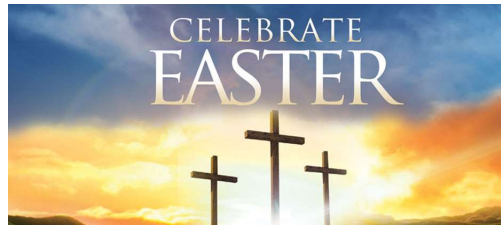
OFFICE HOURS
Monday – Thursday 9:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
Friday 9:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

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.



We now have three new listening devices for people who are hard-of-hearing. If you would like to use one during worship service, just ask an usher for assistance.





April 6 - Maunday Thursday - covered dish dinner in Fellowship Hall @ **6 p.m.** followed by Maunday Thursday service in sanctuary with Communion @ **7 p.m.**

April 9 -Easter Sunday with Communion

If you are able to help serve communion, please contact Liz Ferrell at lizdferrell@hotmail.com or text to [276-734-6376](tel:276-734-6376)

The church office and WDS will be closed Monday, April 10 for Easter.

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

April 16 - Sam Smith will preach in Pastor Bea's absence.

Community Breakfast - Saturday, April 15 led by Chuck and Brooke Cundiff. If you are available to help serve in any capacity, please contact either Brooke or Chuck (chucknbrooke1@yahoo.com) Chuck ([276 340-6129](tel:276-340-6129)), Brooke ([276 340-6124](tel:276-340-6124)).

One Great Hour of Sharing offering will be collected on **Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday**

to help with relief from natural disasters, food for the hungry and

support for the poor and oppressed. Giving envelopes will be located in the pews. Checks should be written to the church.



back2school

This year, the City Cluster will be participating in Back2School at the Uptown Ministry Center located behind Rania's once again.

The registration dates and times will be:

July 15, 12-3pm

July 25, 6-8pm

The Big Event will be Saturday August 5.

More details to come.

Liturgist Schedule

April

9 Sam Smith **Easter**

16 Janet Fentress

23 Liz Ferrell

30 Cindy Edgerton

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

These members and friends of the congregation need our prayers:

PRAYER CONCERNS

Family of Paul Salmons (M&N Davis), 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, Joel Christman (B. Stanley), Tommy Cobb, Neill Ferrill (S. Ford), Daniel Handy, Marvin Hudson, 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.



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

[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 2nd 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. For time sensitive announcements, please sent to skirbycwj@gmail.com

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/images/2020 Peaks Postings/PP Aug18 2020.pdf](https://www.peakspresbytery.org/images/2020%20Peaks%20Postings/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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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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