

August 27, 2020



Steeple Views

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MARTINSVILLE, VA

PASTOR'S CORNER

Rev. Mark Hinchcliff
FPC Martinsville, VA

"The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still." Exodus 14:14

With all the turmoil in everyone's life today it is easy for any of us to start operating in so called "crisis mode". Crisis mode is when it seems you spend almost every moment of every day trying to put out the fires as they continue to pop up rather than taking the time to discern what the issue is and how to respond. The most common mistake we as Christian believers is to make emotional quick judgements on our own without consulting direction from God! We panic and make these snap decisions and move on to the next crisis before resolving the last one.

In crisis mode we keep running frantically, deadline to deadline, school, jobs, church, doctors' appointments, friends, lessons, homework, never slowing down until we crash and burn. All because somewhere along the way we forgot to enlist God in easing the chaos.

I came upon these words of prayer from an unnamed source that touched my heart and reminded me of the power in my faith;

Slow me down Lord.

Ease the pounding of my heart by the quieting of my mind.

Steady my hurried pace with a vision of the eternal reach of time.

Give me, amid the confusion of the day, the calmness of the everlasting hills.

Break the tensions of my nerves and muscles with the soothing music of the singing streams that live among my memories.

Teach me the art of taking minute vacations to pet a dog, visit with a friend, or enjoy a smile from a child.

Slow me down and inspire me to send my roots deep into life's enduring values, that I may grow towards my greater destiny.

Let me look toward you Lord like the towering oak that You inspired to grow to great heights slow and strong.

Amen.

Stressed and tired not knowing how to cope? Seek God's direction and share the load. Let His Holy Spirit walk alongside of you as you walk alongside others. Faith will bring you through to a better tomorrow.

In His Holy Name,

Pastor Mark

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Be sure to join the Facebook live worship service this Sunday at 10 AM. The info will be sent via text message and will include the link to the service. You may also join by navigating to our Facebook page, scrolling down to the "videos" section of the page and simply clicking on the video at 10 AM.

Who Am I to be Chosen?

Based upon Exodus 3:1–15 and Romans 12:9–21

Announcements

Women's Circle Meetings

The Presbyterian Women's Circle Meetings will begin on Monday, September 7 at 11 am using Zoom. Future meetings will take place the first Monday of each month unless otherwise noted. A study book will be available for those who wish to participate. Books will be located at the back entrance of the church. Please sign your name on the provided sheet if you take a book. You may want to call the church to make an appointment if you don't have a fob to gain entrance. Contact Betty Hudson (bchmhhudson@gmail.com or 638-0467) for more

details.

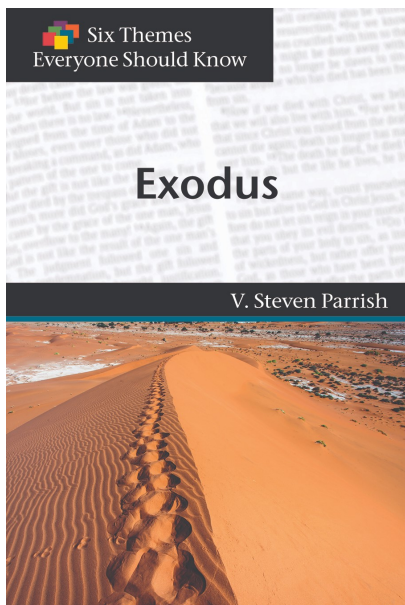
Session Meeting

The next Session meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 31 at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom.

Presbytery of the Peaks

Applications for the **Stated Clerk for Presbytery of the Peaks** are being accepted through September 29, 2020. The Stated Clerk is elected for a four-year term and is expected to work up to ten hours per week at an annual stipend of \$12,100, plus professional expenses. See Nancy Baker if you are interested in seeing the Position Description for the Stated Clerk, Qualifications for the Stated Clerk, and the Stated Clerk Application Form. This information will also be shared through the **Peaks Postings**.

Adult Sunday School



Join us for the next adult Sunday school class beginning **August 23**.

(excerpt from the PCUSA bookstore webpage)

“The story of the Exodus has emboldened oppressed people for centuries. In it, God empowers human striving for freedom. Steven Parrish introduces six themes that reveal the character of God. God listened to the captives’ suffering and responded. Through the wilderness, God sustained the people with food, water, and law. God promised to be present to the people. And God is merciful and gracious, as demonstrated in the golden calf episode. This volume includes material for participants and guides for leading all six sessions.”

The class meets Sundays at 9:00 AM by Zoom. Contact Denny Casey d.a.casey@comcast.net for a book and to get your Zoom invite.

Youth Sunday School

Monday evenings from 6- – The Youth will now be meeting on Youth Ministry 7pm still on **Zoom**. For the next few weeks, we will be doing **Virtual Netta!** Massanetta’s

Youth Conference has moved online for this summer with video collections of energizers, games, theme skits, and keynotes!

If your middle or high school child would like to join us, now would be a great time to, please contact me for an invite link to the Zoom meeting.

Sam Smith
Director of Youth and Family Ministries
First Presbyterian Church
Cell: 276-224-2811
Church: 276-632-3431

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%20Peaks%20Postings/PP_Aug18_2020.pdf)

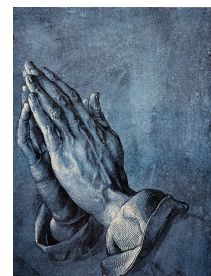
Happy September Birthdays!

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

Prayer Requests

These members and friends of the congregation need our prayers:

Doc Altizer, Carl and Georgette Bishop, Marilyn Bremner (S. Ford), Jim Brunt (N. Davis' brother), Tommy Cobb (M. Dunn), Sandra Bryson Cox, Mallory Hall-DeSantis (B. Tatum), Daniel Handy, Helen Hawkes,



Tracy Hinchcliff, Anne Holland (sister of Pearl Minter), Betty Carol [REDACTED]
Lamm, Eddie Levi, Mary Manning, Laura Stevens Milton, Regenia Noel (M. Stevens),
Anne Peterson, Gavin Russell, Gene Stanley, Charlotte Walker (JoAnne Sanders'
mother), persecuted Christians and all troops in defense of freedom throughout the
world.

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

Please remember

Assorted Canned Veggies (Veg-all)

The new food item for First Presbyterian Church for the 3rd quarter is **canned assorted veggies**. Please consider donating extra when you are able to get out and about as your donations will become more important than ever.

Please stay safe, stay healthy and please keep us in your prayers as we navigate these uncharted waters.

Hygiene Items - We are always in need of these items!

JULY Toilet Paper, Feminine Products, Deodorant

AUGUST Toilet Paper, Bath Soap, Toothpaste

SEPTEMBER Dish Detergent, Deodorant, 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*

Blessings, Tracy

A Note from the the Editor

Although regular church services have been cancelled and we are no longer meeting in person, I hope we all try to stay in touch with one another using any possible medium. Phone calls, face time, emails, etc. It is important that we look after one another during these difficult times and it's good to know we are not alone. While there are no regular happenings to report on, I would like to send out Steeple Views on a weekly basis so please feel free to share any news or updates with me and I will do my best to include them in the newsletter. skirbycwj@gmail.com or 276 806-9709.

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/

Steeple Views is published. **DEADLINE** for submission of articles is Tuesday evening. We reserve the right to edit all submissions. Sharon Kirby, Editor

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THE SESSION

Moderator: Rev. Mark Hinchcliff

Clerk: Nancy Baker

Treasurer: Henry Moore

Class of 2020

Denny Casey: Christian Education

Ron Rebman: Administration

Kym Tatum: Fellowship

Class of 2021

Lynn Pritchett: Stewardship

Monica Stevens: Worship

Class of 2022

Brooke Cundiff: Mission/Outreach

Pamela Rakes: Communications

Betty Hudson: Congregational Care

TRUSTEES

2020: Milton Davis, Duke Ferrell

2021: David Garland, Ed Linker

2022: Joan Montgomery, Ashby Pritchett

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