

August 6, 2020



Steeple Views

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MARTINSVILLE, VA

PASTOR'S CORNER

Rev. Mark Hinchcliff
FPC Martinsville, VA

August 5, 2020

"For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared for us in advance to do." Ephesians 2:10

Do you ever feel like you can never be good enough? Well in this time of the pandemic this feels like something pastors and politicians can finally share. Whether it's taking the proper health precautions to protect the community, showing the proper empathy of others unlike us, or trying to correct our own past mistakes, it seems like it's never enough. I laugh when I read the Apostle Paul's charge to be all things to all people when I feel I fail to be enough for even a few. We watch the news on national and local issues and see the focus on the superstars or celebrities all around us. Instead of being inspired by these stories we feel a deeper sense of inadequacy for our own response. So why didn't God give me those skills to shine above the rest when so many need a hero to follow?

While shining the light on the extremely gifted gives hope to some, I'm concerned that some of us may give up attempting to make a difference when we feel we can't measure up. While we may not see the spotlight of celebrity, God doesn't call us to be famous but only faithful! God calls us to love one another, to give ourselves away to serve others besides ourselves, and to focus our lives with God's purpose individually and in community according to God's plan. We cannot solve the world's problems alone but we each have a role to play according to God's call.

Stop playing the comparison game where everyone loses. There will always be someone else who does things a little bit better or is more effective. We are called to serve the Lord. Our desire should be solely to please Him. Serve the Lord today with only your best. If you put forth your best, your service will give honor and glory to the King.

By the love of Christ,

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.

"Believe So You Can See"

Based upon Matthew 14:22-23 and Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b

Rob King will be ordained as an elder during the live service on Sunday.

Rural King Church Week

For everyone who shops at Rural King, they will donate to FPC 10% of all purchases made between August 2 - August 15, 2020. Just choose **First Presbyterian** as the registered organization and upload receipts to Rural King by September 1, 2020. If you have any questions or need help with turning in receipts you can go to www.ruralking.com/churchweek or call me at 276-732-3296.

Thanks,

Henry Moore, Treasurer



Volunteers Needed

The outside of the church, (which is Covid free!) needs a bit of attention. During the next few weeks, if you have some time and are so inclined, please stop by the church as there is plenty of work to be done. Weeds, tree/bush pruning, sticks, etc., are all things that need to be addressed. If we all give just an hour or two of our time, this can all be easily accomplished.

A group is planning on meeting **this Saturday, August 8**, starting at 8 am. If you are free, please consider coming over to help out.

THANK YOU!

Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School

Compassion helps us to be present with others! Even during this time of social distancing, we can still find many ways to be present with one another. Our friends at King's Grant were able to individually complete each of these 56 squares to later combine into this one very large-scale wall poster for all to enjoy- a fun way to be creative while socially distant yet collectively sharing their artwork. Thank you, residents and staff of King's Grant, for participating in our virtual VBS in this way.

In the photos you will see Joanne Arnold pointing out one of her favorite individual pieces she colored. The group photo shows from left to right: Marie Thompson, Betty Hendricks, Joanne Arnold, Jean Wright, Lorene Cruise, and Jackie McLachlan.



If anyone has any questions or needs any help with the new technologies we're using now...Facebook, Facebook Live, Zoom, email, text messaging, or any technology questions in general, call, text, or email Denny Casey (276) 224-3906, d.a.casey@comcast.net.



August 20

Red Cross Bloodmobile, Third Thursday of the month, 12:00-6:00 PM, Elks Lodge, 300 Fairy Street. Our



congregation supplies volunteers who check in donors and serve them at the canteen after they finish donating blood. Contact Nancy Baker, 638-7923, nbaker08@comcast.net, if you can help.

Presbytery Meeting



PRESBYTERY MEETING VIA ZOOM


August 15, 2020

9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

- **First Time Elder Orientation Training will be offered on Monday, Aug. 10 at 7:00 p.m. Register on our webpage.**
 - **Please review the Mission Study Video on the Meeting Information Page. We will be voting on this item.**
 - **Reminder that all pastors and CP's must register for this meeting.**
-

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
Presbyterian Mission



Lessons from SOUTH SUDAN
RECONCILIATION: WHAT THE CHURCH IS DOING
An Invitational Video Presentation to Presbytery of the Peaks
By Church Partners and PC(USA) Mission Workers
SATURDAY AUGUST 15TH, 2020, BETWEEN 9.00-12.30 ON ZOOM

Youth Sunday School

Youth Ministry – The Youth will now be meeting on **Monday evenings from 6-7pm** 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

Also, here's a link for July's

These Days: <https://www.thethoughtfulchristian.com/Pages/Item/59264/These-Days.aspx>

Prayer Requests

These members and friends of the congregation need our prayers:



Family of Dorothy Bryson, 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, Anne Holland (sister of Pearl Minter), Betty Carol 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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