

December 15, 2022



# Steeple Views

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MARTINSVILLE, VA

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## Pastor's Corner

Dear First Presbyterian family,

Chili and a Movie night was great fun! We decorated the Fellowship Hall tree, ate good food, enjoyed the company of friends, and watched a wonderful

movie. Thanks to all who attended, planned, and made the evening possible. Special thanks to Pearl and her committee, Monica and Laura for cooking, Ron for finding a popcorn machine, and to Peter for making all the technology come together!

The coming new year will bring renewed focus on how we are called to live our mission. Rev. Jen Brothers, Leadership Ministry Specialist for Presbytery of the Peaks, has given us our invitation to **Purpose Labs**:

Because God is always doing a new thing and always calling us into the work of healing and repair, the key to following the Spirit into the world is learning to let go of what no longer helps us pursue God's mission while holding onto what does. The founders of adaptive leadership theory suggest that we humans don't actually fear change--we fear loss. When our sense of loss is greater than our sense of purpose, resistance kicks in. To sum it up in a simple equation:

**Loss > Purpose = Resistance**

Letting go of the **habits, values, loyalties, priorities, and values** that inhibit our ability to thrive is impossible without holding to a deep and compelling purpose.

Purpose (n)c. 1300, *purpus*, "intention, aim, goal; object to be kept in view; proper function for which something exists," from Anglo-French *purpos*, Old French *porpos* "an aim, intention" (12c.) from [etymonline.com](http://etymonline.com).

The purpose of **Purpose Labs** is to help you discern a deep, compelling sense of purpose for your church community—one that can effectively counter resistance to loss and compel your people into an experimental zone. We will meet online every other week on Mondays beginning mid-January for one hour at noon. These labs build on each other. For the sake of the work and your peers, please plan to attend all four sessions. The schedule is as follows:

January 16, 12-1 pm  
January 30, 12-1 pm  
February 13, 12- 1 pm  
February 27, 12- 1 pm

Please register for Purpose Labs on the presbytery website. You can find the registration link by clicking below:

<https://www.peakspresbytery.org/event/purpose-labs/>

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Pastor Bea

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Please join us for worship this Fourth Sunday of Advent at 10:00 am

Sermon by Rev. Dr. Bea Miller

**Sermon based on Matthew 1:18-25 and Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19**

**Liturgist:** Jerri DeVault

**Ushers/Greeters:** Ron Rebman, Nancy Baker

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**OFFICE HOURS**

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

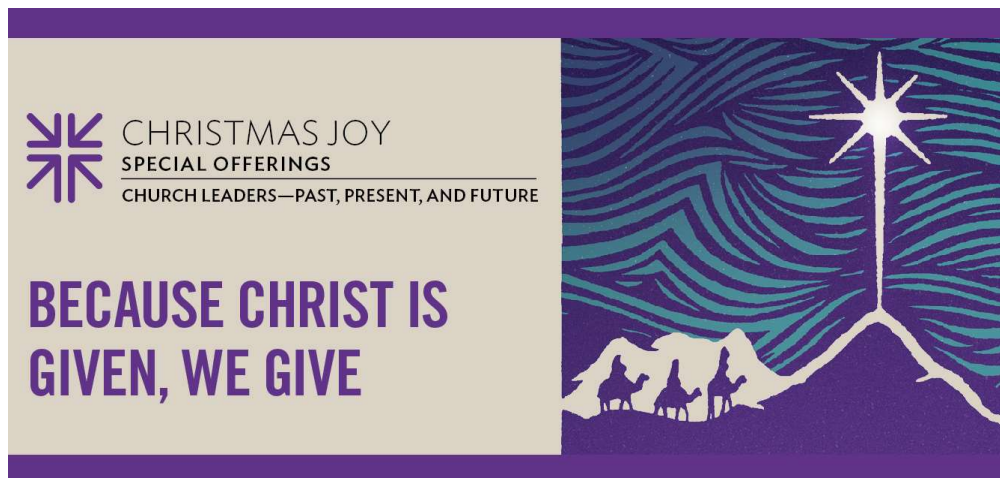
**Friday 9:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.**

**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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**FPC Office Staff Christmas Dinner**

We had a fun time and it was great to unwind and learn new things about one another. It's anybody's guess who the life of the party was!!



This special offering distributes gifts equally to the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions and Presbyterian-related schools and colleges.

As we gather together in Advent expectation, we know that the only perfect gift ever given was the one we received in Jesus Christ — a perfect gift from a gracious God. Although we cannot give the perfect gift, we can give generously, knowing, as the New Testament letter of James says, "Every generous act of giving ... is from above."

*(Envelopes are located in the pews.)*



**Tunes at Noon**, Wednesday December 21 at 12:00 p.m. This will be Spencer's final advent meditation on organ and piano.

**Community Breakfast Saturday, December 17**

Volunteers are needed to cook and prepare from 7-8:30 a.m. and to serve and clean up from 8:30-10:00 a.m. Please contact **Suzan Kirby** ([276 638-2587](tel:2766382587)) if you can help.



**Our December 24th Christmas Eve service will be at 5:00 p.m.** Join us for a mini version of Lessons and Carols. Come back Christmas Day for a full version of Lessons and Carols.

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**Adaptive Change Zoom Sessions**

Our **four-part Zoom series** will take place at noon on alternating Mondays beginning January 16. These gatherings will take place only on Zoom and will last one hour each. Please feel free to enjoy your lunch in front of your computer as you participate in this important work. Everyone is invited because we need all voices to engage in this process! The Zoom links will be available soon, but please mark these dates for this four-part series on your calendar:

**January 16 at noon**  
**January 30 at noon**  
**February 13 at noon**  
**February 27 at noon.**

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## Liturgist Schedule

### December

18 Jerri DeVault

24 Sam Smith

25 Sam Smith



As you may be aware, **Maggie Pilson** was recently diagnosed with a brain tumor. She has undergone a successful surgery and updates on her progress are posted on a Caring Bridge page created by Maggie and Martha. The internet link is: [caringbridge.org/maggiepilson](http://caringbridge.org/maggiepilson). *"We deeply appreciate the love and support of our church family. We ask that everyone please keep Maggie and her medical care providers in your prayers. Maggie's strength is remarkable!"*

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- 1** Anne Vipperman Madonia
- 2** Carol Belcher
- 3** Dru Rothrock
- 4** Ashby Pritchett
- 9** Chris Wingfield, Joan Montgomery
- 10** Marion Miller
- 11** K.J. Joyce
- 14** Dr. Mervyn R. King
- 15** Helen "Pat" Baumann, Kim Boyd
- 17** Matthew Mason

**18** Bill Kirby

**22** Grayson Russell

**24** Jackie McLachlan

**26** Smith Chaney

**27** Nancy Moore, Cathy Stone, Gael Chaney

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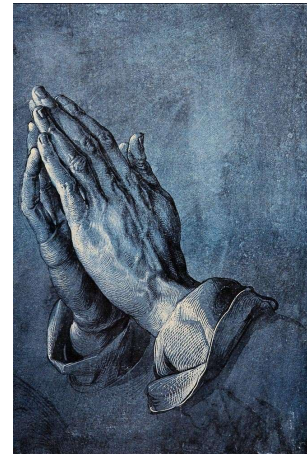
The sympathy of the congregation is extended to Monica Stevens and family on the passing of her brother, **Karl Kelley**. Karl passed away on Thursday, December 8, 2022 in St. Louis, MO

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

**PRAYER CONCERNS**

Family of Karl Kelley (Monica Stevens' brother), Sue Benfield, Georgette Bishop, Deborah Blankenship, Mike Boswell, Marilyn and Ernest Bremner, Catherine Bridges, Jim Brunt (N. Davis' brother), Bud Buffkin, Tommy Cobb, Bobby Davis (M. Davis' son), Neill Ferrill (S. Ford), Daniel Handy, Michele Handy, Marvin Hudson, Lindy Koger (Spencer's mother), Betty Carol Lamm, Mary Manning, Maggie Pilson, Lauren Prince, Susan Rosser, Paul Salmons (M&N Davis), David Seamon, Virginia Seamon, Laura Stevens, Scott Stevens, Bruce Thomas, 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 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 Minter at [276 340-3476](tel:2763403476).

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***Grace Network Donations***

**The 4th quarter 2022 food donation item is Jelly (28-32 oz).**

**The 1st quarter 2023 food donation item is Juice (40-64 oz).**

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*

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## 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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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](https://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**

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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 2022**

Brooke Cundiff: Mission/Outreach

Pamela Rakes: Stewardship and Communication

Betty Hudson: Christian Education

**Class of 2023**

Billy Kirby: Administration

**Class of 2024**

Pearl Minter: Congregational Care and Fellowship

Neil Tatum: Facilities

Liz Ferrell: Worship

**TRUSTEES**

2022: Joan Montgomery, Ashby Pritchett

2023: Sandra Ford, Joe DeVault

2024: Duke Ferrell, Milt Davis

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