

February 16, 2023



Steeple Views

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MARTINSVILLE, VA

Pastor's Corner

Dear First Presbyterian family,

The Thomas Merton prayer, which I have referenced in a few sermons, has guided me through uncertainty and struggle – through thresholds. A threshold is the time between what has been and what will be. We are standing together in the threshold of the church we have known, and the church God is calling us to become. It is an unsettling yet hope filled time. Change is unsettling. Change often requires the release of familiar expectations, as we embrace new ways of being. With so much in flux, thresholds are places of prayer and discernment.

The Thomas Merton prayer acknowledges that we do not know the future, but God does. And God will lead us to God's future for our church: *"My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end. Nor do I really know myself, and the fact that I think that I am following your will does not mean that I am actually doing so. But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you. And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing. I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire. And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road, though I may know nothing about it. Therefore will I trust you always, though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death. I will not fear, for you are ever with me, and you will never leave me to face my perils alone."*

This is a good prayer for our Lenten journey, which begins on Wednesday, February 22 at noon with our Ash Wednesday service followed by lunch. Please join us.

Peace be with you,

Pastor Bea

P.S. Please prayerfully consider becoming a part of the Think Tank.



Please join us for worship this Last Sunday after the Epiphany at 10:00 am

Sermon by Rev. Dr. Bea Miller

Sermon based upon Matthew 17:1-9 and Psalm 99

Liturgist: Kym Tatum

Ushers/Greeters: Billy and Sharon Kirby



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.



Ash Wednesday Service at Noon on Wednesday, February 22 in the sanctuary. Lunch will be provided and we will eat in the session room.



American Red Cross
Southwest Virginia

Happy February!

Help save lives in the Henry County community by VOLUNTEERING at area blood drives.

Did you know someone in the US needs blood every two seconds?

Every day, roughly 36,000 units of red blood cells are needed in the US.

To continue to meet this critical need, the Southwest Va. Region is looking for friendly, customer-focused individuals to volunteer at blood drives in our community.

BLOOD DONOR AMBASSADOR VOLUNTEERS

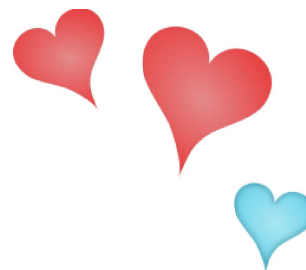
As a Blood Donor Ambassador volunteer, you will engage donors by greeting, registering, answering questions, providing information, and supporting them through the recovery process at the refreshments table.

Blood Donor Ambassadors' extraordinary attention helps create a favorable impression that encourages ongoing blood donor support.

Time Commitment

- Variable; preferred commitment: 1+ shift/month, the average shift is 4-6 hours & you choose your schedule. Training is available at your convivence.

To learn more OR apply, visit: www.redcross.org/donorambassador or



Geralynn Trellue, Volunteer Recruitment Specialist – Southwestern Virginia

[540.598.1882](tel:540.598.1882) cell - Geralynn.Trellue@redcross.org



Purpose Labs continue: **February 27**, beginning at 12 p.m. on Zoom. Join by clicking this link: <https://www.peakspresbytery.org/event/purpose-labs/>



Community Breakfast is Saturday, **February 18**. Please contact team leaders, Joe and Jerri DeVault ([276 666-3024](tel:2766663024)) if you are interested in volunteering.

****If you have Kroger coupons for items that can be used for the community breakfast, (i.e., eggs, biscuits, juice, fruit) and you aren't going to use them, we would welcome them. Leave your coupons at the church office or drop them in the mail slot at the back door. Thank you!****

A Report from the Grace Network Pantry:

There were **90** clients served in the pantry during January. That means 90 bottles of juice, 90 tubes toothpaste, 180 cans corn... At about 20 grocery bags per client that means around **1,800 bags** for the month. We always need bags and **ANY other item you would like to donate** - our church is assigned juice for this quarter but you may bring any food or hygiene item.

Thanks for any help.

Liturgist Schedule

February

19 Kym Tatum

26 Brooke Cundiff

March

5 Nora Cundiff

12 Chuck Cundiff

19 Milt Davis
26 Nancy Davis



Extended Table

It's time to update the 2023 Extended Table schedule. We need for more folks to sign up for this rewarding ministry.

The qualifications are that you are an Elder or have been an Elder at some point. Nancy Davis will offer training as needed.

We offer this ministry on **the first Sunday and Monday** of each month. **Sunday** we take the elements to individual shut ins. **Monday** we offer the elements to a group at King's Grant.

If you are interested please contact Nancy at [\(276\) 634-1403](tel:2766341403) or davistwo@comcast.net. Let her know which day you prefer. God bless you as you consider this ministry.



- 2** Dr. David Seamon, Isla King
- 3** Charles R. Knighton, Harold Lamm
- 4** Pamela Rakes
- 7** Mason Wood
- 13** Connie Anderson
- 19** Sandra T. Ford
- 21** Sharon Kirby

These members and friends of the congregation need our prayers:

PRAYER CONCERNS

Family of David Chittum, Ryan Bachelor (niece of N. Davis), Sue Benfield, Georgette Bishop, Mike Boswell, Marilyn and Ernest Bremner, Catherine Bridges, Jim Brunt (N. Davis' brother), Bud Buffkin, Tommy Cobb, Neill Ferrill (S. Ford), Daniel Handy, Marvin Hudson, Betty Carol Lamm, Mary Manning, Maggie Pilson, Lauren Prince, Susan Rosser, Paul Salmons (M&N Davis), David 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.



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).

Grace Network Donations

[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*



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

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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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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