

January 19, 2023



Steeple Views

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MARTINSVILLE, VA

Pastor's Corner

Dear First Presbyterian family,

Remember Kintsugi? We have been given a beautiful Kintsugi bowl to add to our worship space, helping us remember, "the art of Kintsugi is when broken pottery is repaired with gold, silver or brass filling seams. This metaphor represents us when we are broken...we can heal and become stronger, wiser and more beautiful when we mend. We have a more valuable life with knowledge gained from experience. We become better than before."

On Sunday, we talked about all our gratitude for the life we have had together – a life we loved, a life that formed us. Our gratitude is in every broken piece of our Kintsugi bowl. Gratitude is the foundation, the building pieces, for our future together. Our Gratitude is held together by God's golden light that forms us into a new vessel of love. This new beautiful, stronger, wiser bowl is our purpose in this precious time and place that God has given us to be God's light.

This past Monday thirteen of us attended the first Purpose Lab, hosted by Rev. Jen Brothers, Church Leadership Ministry Specialist at Presbytery of the Peaks. Here is some of what our group found meaningful:

We opened with the following, disruptive prayer:

Lord, make me a channel of disturbance

Where there is apathy, let me provoke

Where there is compliance, let me bring questions

Where there is silence, may I be a voice

Where there is too much comfort and too little action, grant disruption

Where there are doors closed and hearts locked, grant the willingness

to listen

When laws dictate and pain is overlooked, grant that I may rather seek to do justice than to talk about it

To be with as well as for the poor

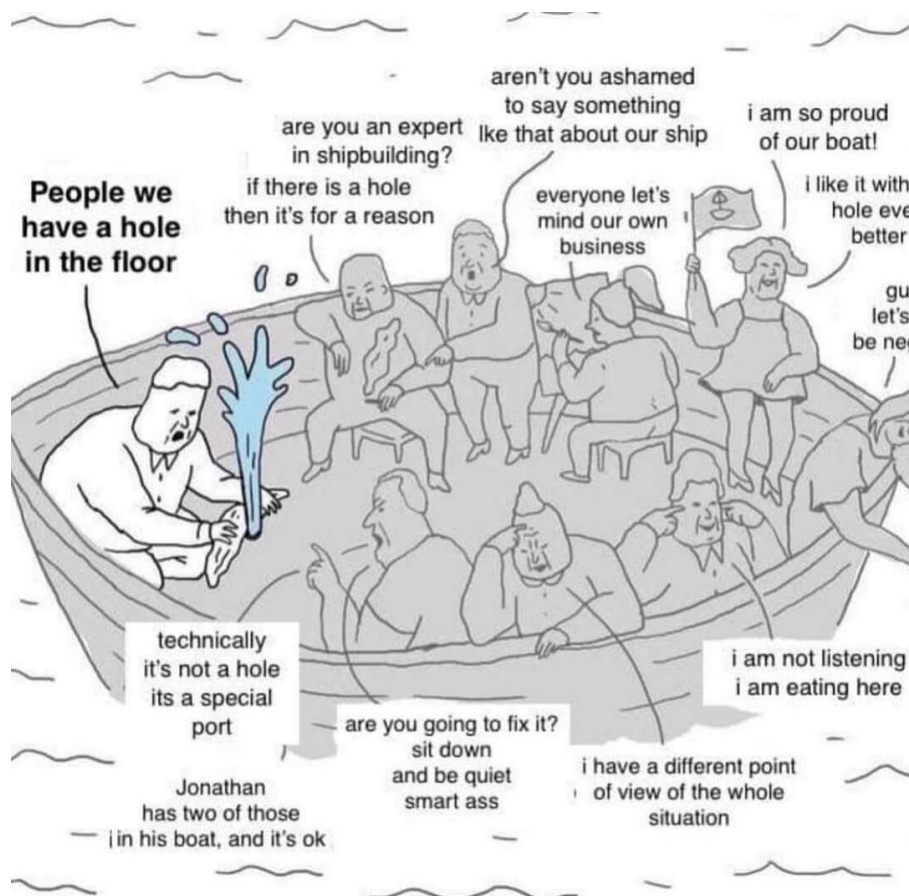
To love the unlovable as well as the lovely

Lord make me a channel of disturbance

Amen.

We talked about our natural instinct toward self-protection that drives us to preserve the status quo of our life at church. This primal instinct becomes a barrier and gets in our way of following Jesus out onto the water, or into the boat, or on the road to Jerusalem.

We looked at a boat with a leak, and discussed the various ways the people in the boat chose to deal with the leak:



And one participant added:

One of the things that struck me and stayed with me was the quotation that said emergency and emerge come from the same root and that new things can come forth when we are dealing with perceived emergencies. Those in the early church did not have preconceived notions about what a church was—they just worked to live into Christ's gospel with the help of the Holy Spirit. Perhaps in discerning our purpose, we need to set aside everything our culture has taught us about what a church is supposed to be and do and simply ask what Christ is calling us to do with the resources and tools we have (including our members, our wealth, and our building). God is not finished with FPC, and we need to align ourselves with God's purpose for our continued presence and ministry in Martinsville (and possibly beyond).

As we continue the process of discerning our purpose, we are seeking a purpose that: energizes, produces joy or a deep sense of meaning, provides

clarity for our walk together, engages our hearts, builds resilience, feeds us spiritually, emotionally and physically while providing something we can grow toward.

God is in the process, guiding our way forward. Please join us in praying for discernment.

With great hope,

Pastor Bea



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

Sermon by Rev. Dr. Bea Miller

Sermon based upon Matthew 4:12-23 and Psalm 27:1, 4-9

Liturgist: Nancy Moore

Ushers/Greeters: Rob King, Monty 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.



In our Purpose Labs we will seek to discern where the light of Christ is leading; how we are being called to serve as the hands and feet of Jesus at Patrick Henry Ave in 2023. Please plan to be part of the Purpose Labs: January 30, 12-1 p.m., February 13, 12- 1 p.m. and February 27, 12- 1 p.m. **Even if you didn't attend the first Purpose Lab you can still register for the others** on the presbytery website or by clicking this link: <https://www.peaks-presbytery.org/event/purpose-labs/>



The Community Breakfast is this Saturday, January 21 led by Ron Rebman and Rob King. 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. Contact Ron ([540-842-4698](tel:540-842-4698)) or Rob ([276-340-2263](tel:276-340-2263)) if you are available to work.

****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!****

The Session will meet on **Monday, January 30 at 6:00 p.m.** in the session room.

Liturgist Schedule

January

22 Nancy Moore
29 Lynn Pritchett

February

5 Ashby Pinkard
12 Briana Tatum
19 Kym Tatum
26 Brooke Cundiff

March

5 Nora Cundiff
12 Chuck Cundiff
19 Milt Davis
26 Nancy Davis

Happy January Birthdays!

7 Elena King, Rob King

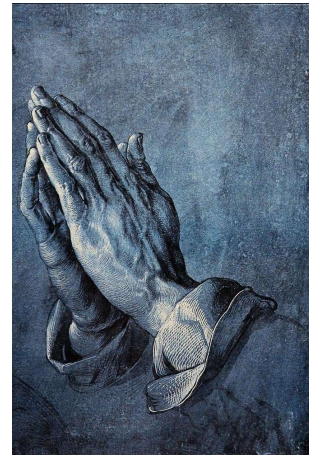
10 Dr. James Beard

- 16** Billy Kirby, Wendy Luther
17 Grace Ann Edgerton
18 Mary Elizabeth Pilson-Bazemore
19 Helen Flythe
21 Bonny Pace
23 Milt Davis
28 David Garland
29 Jack Kirby, Rusty Reaser
31 Mattie Wingfield
-

These members and friends of the congregation need our prayers:

PRAYER CONCERNS

Sarah Klett's family on the death of Sarah's grandmother. (Friends of Pastor Bea's daughter, Kara), 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, Lindy Koger (Spencer's mother), Spencer Koger, 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.



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 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

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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