

June 1, 2023



Steeple Views

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MARTINSVILLE, VA

Pastor's Corner

Pastor Bea Miller

Dear First Presbyterian family,

This week Betty Hudson's son was visiting from north Georgia, reminding me of home. My parents spent much of their life together in Ellijay, GA. The winding mountain roads of north Georgia were home. There was one turn, in particular, where my yellow lab always - yes always - got sick. It was just part of going home. Home, the only place I got red meat and vegetables, according to my dad.

In the mountains, each change of season brings a totally new landscape. It was a struggle to get home during fall, because of all the leaf watchers. And yes, my dog got sick when the going was slow too. But while fall brought loads of people to a quiet forgotten area, my mom always appreciated the varied shades of green announcing spring and flowing into summer. Perspective influences and enlivens the colors of our world. Perspective is our spiritual journey.

Some spiritual teachings suggest that in a single bloom, or leaf or even a blade of grass, we can see the whole world. I've read of monks who walk the same path every day, always finding something new ~ seeing anew with the eye of their heart. Julian of Norwich, saw the whole world in a hazelnut:

"And in this he showed me a little thing, the quantity of a hazel nut, lying in the palm of my hand, as it seemed. And it was as round as any ball. I looked upon it with the eye of my understanding, and thought, 'What may this be?' And it was answered generally thus, 'It is all that is made.' I marveled how it might last, for I thought it might suddenly have fallen to nothing for littleness. And I was answered in my understanding: It lasts and ever shall, for God loves it. And so have all things their beginning by the love of God.

In this little thing I saw three properties. The first is that God made it. The second that God loves it. And the third, that God keeps it."

With the passing of the holiday weekend, we enter a summer of vast shades of green, new growth, new life, and a different pace. The days are longer and as the heat comes, life slows down. Our thoughts, our perspectives, on time and temperature can change with the seasons. In

this and all seasons may we allow God to help us see the whole world in the beauty of God's creation ~ both nature and God's people. In this and all seasons may we know our true home, with God.

Peace be with you,

Pastor Bea



Please join us for worship this first Sunday after Pentecost at 10:00 am

Sermon by Rev. Dr. Bea Miller

based on Genesis 1:1-2:4a and Matthew 28:16-20

Liturgist: Jack Kirby

Ushers/Greeters: Johnny and Ashby Pinkard

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.



- **We are the host site for the M-HC After 3 Summer Program** through P&HCC again this year. Students will be using the fellowship hall and kitchen areas from 7:45 AM to 6:00 PM Monday - Friday beginning June 5 through July 21. Please keep this in mind if you schedule meetings or activities.
- **Congregational Meeting, immediately after worship - Sunday, June 18 to:**
 1. Elect a nominating committee to recruit elders and trustees
 2. Vote to increase the session size to 9 members.
- **June 18 & July 9** Lemonade on the lawn

Summer Community Worship schedule:

June 11 - 11:00 AM at Grace Presbyterian

July 9 - 10:00 AM at First Presbyterian Martinsville

Aug 13 - 11:00 AM at Forest Hills Presbyterian

Sept 10 - 11:00 AM at First Presbyterian Collinsville



Highlights from May's Session Meeting

- **Please note the following change: The church is no longer accepting recyclable material. We hope that you will continue to recycle by taking your recyclable materials to public recycling sites, such as the one on Market Street. Please Do not bring them to the church pantry.**
- Please be conscious of turning off lights and locking exit doors if you are the last exiting the building.
- The adult Sunday School class is currently studying **Biblical selections taken from Judges.**
- There will be a Congregational meeting June 18 following the morning worship service. The purpose of this meeting is to elect the 2024 nominating committee.
- Plans are being made to let the youth under the guidance of Brianna Tatum determine the use for the local share of this year's Pentecost offering.

Our Sincere 
Gratitude
& Appreciation

To First Presbyterian Church Family,

What is a church family? I recall the first meeting of Think Tank with Rev. Bea. She went around the room and asked, "State why you are here". Rob arriving late was the last one to speak. In an emotional tone, he looked around at the group and stated, "You are my church family". A church family is a group of people who are the body of Christ who bond together, worship together, pray together, work together, share pain, and love together.

This last month I have felt the bonding, support and love of this church family. There are not enough words to express my gratitude properly, but I would like to thank everyone that made

Rob's celebration of life a real celebration. Thank you to Rev. Bea, Spencer, Peter, and Pearl, for organizing the reception. To everyone that contributed to the reception, the ushers, everyone who attended the celebration and most of all, for all the support and love.

First Presbyterian Church family, you are a true living body of Christ. Rob's legacy will continue to live with this family.

In God's Love,

Judy King



Gael and Smith Chaney would like to invite all their First Presbyterian friends to their 50th Anniversary dinner on **Saturday, June 10**, at the 4-H Center at Smith Mountain Lake.

If you would like to attend, please reply to Gael (gael.chaney@alumni.duke.edu, [276-340-8081](tel:276-340-8081)) right away so she can send you the details.

back2school

Jesus said "Let the children come to me. Don't stop them!"

For the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to those who are like these children"

Matthew 19:14

It is time to celebrate the 17th year of the **back2school** outreach event that has served over 36,000 kids with the efforts of over 20+ churches across our communities and beyond!

Won't you join us in serving these students and making a difference in their lives?

For questions call Tracy Hinchcliff
276-403-4222

Or email
Tracy.hinchcliff@gracenetworkmhc.org

back2school

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

There are many opportunities to let your gifts shine during this great event.

Registration

- Saturday, July 15 (noon– 3pm) at The Uptown Ministry Center
- Tuesday, July 25 (6-8 pm) at The Uptown Ministry Center

Pack the Bus

- At Walmart, Martinsville July 21-23 . Shifts TBD

Filling Backpacks

- At the Future Home of Community Fellowship
700 Commerce Court, Martinsville
Tuesday, August 1 (6:00 pm)

The Big Event

- At The Uptown Ministry Center (Behind Rania's)
Saturday, August 5 (7:30 am) Shifts will be determined

If you can help, please email: Tracy Hinchcliff
tracy.hinchcliff@gracenetworkmhc.org or call 276-403-4222.

Liturgist Schedule

June

4 Jack Kirby

11 **no liturgist needed**

18 Pearl Minter

25 Sharon Kirby

June Birthdays

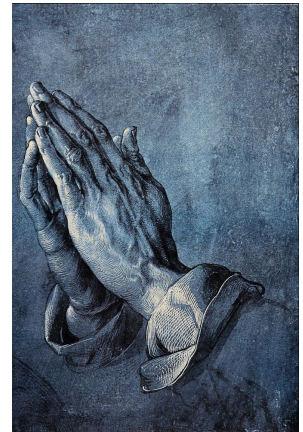


- 1 Gage Lawson, Reid Lawson
- 3 Riley Wood
- 8 Shanna King
- 9 Susan Smith
- 10 Betty Hudson, Cindy Edgerton
- 12 Lt. Col. David King
- 16 Ainsley Russell
- 18 Susan Pilson
- 23 Basil Boyd, David Price
- 24 Dr. Denny Casey
- 26 Ann Reaser
- 29 Caroline Kirby

These members and friends of the congregation need our prayers:

PRAYER CONCERNS

Katheryn (Kaky) King Lewis and Family (Judy King), Family of Rob King, Ryan Bachelor (niece of N. Davis), Sue Benfield, Georgette Bishop, Jackie Bloxom (P. Stanley), Mike Boswell, Marilyn and Ernest Bremner, Catherine Bridges, Jim Brunt (N. Davis' brother), Bud Buffkin, Bob Chapman, Joel Christman (B. Stanley), Marge Dunn, Neill Ferrill (S. Ford), Daniel Handy, Marvin Hudson, Judy King, Betty Carol and Harold Lamm, Mary Manning, Maggie Pilson, Lauren Prince, Susan Rosser, Jane Rothrock, David Seamon, Beth Sibbick (N. Moore), Laura Stevens, Scott Stevens, Bruce Thomas, Nathan Toms (A. Madonia), 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 a [prayer shawl](#), or know someone that could use one, please pick one up from the narthex and be sure to sign it out. If you have any questions, please reach out to Pearl Minter.

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 at [276 340-3476](tel:2763403476).

Grace Network Donations

The 2nd quarter food donation is canned greens (turnips, collards, etc.)

For the month of March, the food pantry at Grace Network served 121 clients which means we were quite busy most every day and a lot of food went out the door.

For this 2nd quarter, our church has been assigned greens: spinach, mixed, collards, etc. This is a popular item and we often don't have any. In this same area we could also use canned potatoes, beets and tomatoes. Most of these items are fairly inexpensive and all would be greatly appreciated.

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:

First Presbyterian Church

1901 Patrick Henry Ave.

Martinsville, VA 24112

STAFF

Rev. Bea Miller, Interim Pastor, rev.millerb@gmail.com

Rita Bateman, Secretary/Office Manager, office@fpcmartinsvilleVA.org

Vickie Blair, Bookkeeper, bookkeeper@fpcmartinsvilleVA.org

Carol Carter, Weekday School Director, wds@fpcmartinsvilleVA.org

Spencer Koger, Director of Music, adultmusic@fpcmartinsvilleva.org

Peter Marshall, Worship Technology Coordinator, 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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