

June 3, 2021



Steeple Views

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MARTINSVILLE, VA

Pastor's Corner

Rev. Mark Hinchcliff

June 2, 2021

"From him the whole body, joined together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work." Ephesians 4:16

As a Type 1 Diabetic of over 30 years, I have seen the long-term effects of the daily battle of managing the sometimes out-of-control blood glucose on my body. I inherited a family predetermined tendency towards the disease and watched my mother die at age 52 in a diabetic coma. Although scientific treatment advances over the last 35 years have been significant, like cancer, a cure is no closer. One of the long-term effects of the disease is poor circulatory functions and an added risk of tendon tears and muscular breakdowns. I have been plagued with these tendon tears, and the surgeries associated with them, all over my body. With each tear temporary disability in one area causes another area to strengthen.

As I age, I must admit that although I have survived, I long for the days when everything worked together at the same time. It's like replacing a broken part on an automobile only to have two more breakdowns. But one part supports the other and all must work together to operate at its best. The Scripture quote from Ephesians 4 seemed to me to parallel the Christian life and my own life of health, breakdowns, repair, and restoration. No Christ-follower is an island unto themselves. Spiritual health requires constant attention. And when a breakdown occurs, it may take a team to make a repair. Don't believe me? Try operating on yourself next time without assistance from another. We're better together.

Christianity while requiring an individual's personal faith commitment is not an individual faith by nature. Christianity is designed to be lived out in the community, not in isolation. We are born out of the Father's will, sanctified by Jesus's death and resurrection, and empowered by the Holy Spirit. We all have a role to play as members of the Body of Christ. And when the body is torn apart, it's those tendons or ligaments as the Scripture says that rejoin together for the body to rebuild itself.

We can rise above our own weaknesses and challenges when we support one another to accomplish what God has called us to be. I look at all the evidence of the scars that life has inflicted on me but I am reminded by those scars all the people it took to put my body back together. I am also reminded of what Jesus did for me to love me through the pain by surrounding me with caring believers for a better tomorrow. Give thanks to God today not only for health and prosperity but also for the scars along the way!

Blessed be your days,

Pastor Mark

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The Church is Open for In-Person Worship Service!

The sanctuary has reopened for in-person worship and will continue with restrictions as before (wear a mask, enter at narthex, social distance) unless otherwise notified.

Virtual services will still be available on Facebook for those that wish to remain at home until they feel safe to return.



Please join us for the second Sunday after Pentecost either **in person** or via **Facebook live** at 10 am.

What's Seen is temporary, but What's Unseen Can be Eternal

Based upon 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1 and Psalm 138

Sermon by Rev. Mark Hinchcliff

**MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!**

Join us for Lemonade on the Lawn on Sunday, June 6 immediately after the worship service. Enjoy some fellowship time outside but remember to practice social distancing.

Educate Virginia will host an onsite Covid-19 vaccination clinic in the church parking lot on Sunday, June 6 from 2:00 – 6:00 p.m. Anyone in the community desiring a vaccination is encouraged to come out.

Our church is the host site for the Martinsville-Henry County After 3 Summer Program sponsored by PHCC. This program will run Monday through Friday, 7:45 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., June 7 through July 23. They will remain downstairs and will be using the fellowship hall, kitchen and hallway areas.


A Congregational Meeting will take place at 11:30 AM on Sunday, June 13, following the 10:00 AM worship service to elect the Nominating Committee members. Elder Brooke Cundiff will present the nominees and Elder Billy Kirby will chair the committee for the Session. The meeting will be in person and also on Zoom.

Summer Adventure Camp

**JOIN US AT CAMP BETHEL FOR
A SPECTACULAR WEEK OF ADVENTURE
June 20-25, 2021**

Adventure Camp has your perfect mix of wild fun and discipleship activities. Adventure Camp is for active youth who enjoy the outdoors.

For more information: [Adventure Camp, Camp Bethel](#)



Middle School Adventure
for rising 6th-8th graders,
ages 12-15

High School Adventure
for rising 9th-12th graders,
ages 15-18

New this Summer:
Biking
Rock Climbing
Belaying



For more info & to register, visit the Presbytery website here: [Adventure Camp | Presbytery of the Peaks \(peakspresbytery.org\)](http://peakspresbytery.org)



Compassion Camp 2021: The Sequel is Coming Soon! Register NOW!

We will once again be offering a virtual at-home Vacation Bible School program this summer. Although we are sad to not have an in-person VBS or Camp Peaks program this year, we look forward to those returning next summer.

Who's Invited? Compassion Camp 2021: The Sequel will be available to participants, preschoolers-rising 6th graders, **July 26-30**. While each day's session will be sent out via email each morning, you will be able to complete each session at your leisure. This event is FREE so invite your grandchildren, nieces, nephews, friends, and neighbors.

Materials & Supplies: The supplies you will need are items you will likely have readily available in your household. A list of supplies will be available soon & help with supplies will be available to anyone who requests.

Registration: You can find more information & register your children [HERE](#) or please contact VBS co-directors Sam Smith at sam@peaksprebytery.org or Debbie Norton at dnorto02@leeu.edu if you have any questions.



What can we pick up for you? Contact **Victoria Esarey** 276 732-9110 or email vesarey@gmail.com. These items will be broken down into parts, making them more valuable as recyclables.

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 Lynn Pritchett at [276 252-6068](tel:2762526068).

Prayer Requests

These members and friends of the congregation need our prayers:

PRAYER CONCERNS



Family of Jim Murray (Judy King), Carl and Georgette Bishop, Ernest and Marilyn Bremner (S. Ford), Jim Brunt (N. Davis' brother), Laura Buffkin, Tommy Cobb (M. Dunn), Sandra and Mark Dobrinski (brother and sister in-law of Cynthia), Daniel Handy, Dr. Jimmy Jordan, Leonard Kelley (Monica Stevens' brother), Betty Carol Lamm, Eddie Levi, Mary Manning, Laura Stevens Milton, Regenia Noel (M. Stevens), Anne Peterson, Gene and Betty Stanley, Tammy Tucker Wardinski (Susan Pilson), Sarah Vicki Wells, 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

Cornbread Mix



The 2nd quarter food donation item is **Cornbread Mix (i.e.: Jiffy)**.

Please consider donating extra when you are able to get out and about as your donations will become more important than ever.

Hygiene Items - We are always in need of these items!

**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*

Presbytery of the Peaks

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/

Steeple Views is published. **DEADLINE** for submission of articles is Tuesday evening. We reserve the right to edit all submissions. Sharon Kirby, Editor stepleviews@fpcmartinsvilleVA.org

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Deborah Burgess, Contemporary Music Director, contemporarymusic@fpcmartinsvilleVA.org

THE SESSION

Moderator: Rev. Mark Hinchcliff
Clerk: Nancy Baker
Treasurer: Henry Moore

Class of 2021

Lynn Pritchett: Congregational Care and Fellowship
Rob King: Facilities
Monica Stevens: Worship

Class of 2022

Brooke Cundiff: Mission/Outreach
Pamela Rakes: Stewardship and Communication
Betty Hudson: Christian Education

Class of 2023

Billy Kirby: Administration

TRUSTEES

2021: David Garland, Ed Linker
2022: Joan Montgomery, Ashby Pritchett
2023: Sandra Ford, Joe DeVault

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