

March 2, 2023



Steeple Views

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MARTINSVILLE, VA

Pastor's Corner

Dear First Presbyterian family,

Our congregation has a visionary mission statement which reads, "Share God's love, embrace our neighbors, nurture one another." This mission statement can and does encompass a great deal of wonderful ministry, but it is very broad. It would help us to sharpen our focus within our vision for ministry. To do that, we need to develop a purpose statement to guide us in forming the specific direction we need to take as a particular people in this particular time and place. A purpose statement will compel us to live into God's future, anchor us when we are unsure, and keep us relentlessly optimistic about what is to come.

Discerning our purpose will take time and energy. Since the beginning of the year more than ten of our church family have been involved in a two-day workshop on Adaptive Change, and then four one-hour Purpose Labs to learn and practice the process that will lead us to discover our compelling purpose for being God's people on Patrick Henry Avenue. The next step is to form a Think Tank that will take the lead in discerning our purpose.

The Think Tank will work on technical challenges such as: committee structure, staffing, and church leadership. They will also address our adaptive challenges—those challenges for which we do not have a clear road map, book, or manual to provide guidance because the challenges are different from what we have experienced before. The world the church faces today is very different from the world we grew up in. Much of the population today no longer views church as an essential part of life. Parents are choosing to have their children engage in activities on Sunday (sports, family time) that they view to be equally wholesome instead of attending church. Since the pandemic, the habit of church has been lost or replaced with worship at a "more convenient time" online. Presbyterians across the country are facing challenges that are unique to this time in our history. We are very skilled in what was good about the church in the past, and we will become very skilled in being the church of the future. This will require thinking about everything in new ways because we cannot rely

on restarting or reinventing things from the past as we move into the future. God has promised that all things are being made new, and that includes the church. As long as we are open and listening to Jesus, we will find the new life that is being offered.

The Think Tank will have an initial organizational meeting on **Monday, March 13 at 2:00 p.m. in the Session room.** If you are still prayerfully considering being a part of this group, please join us. If this time and date do not work for you, please let me know.

Please pray for the work of the Think Tank and its members.

Peace be with you,

Pastor Bea



Please join us for worship this Second Sunday in Lent at 10:00 am

Sermon by Rev. Dr. Bea Miller

Sermon based upon John 3:1-17 and Psalm 121

Liturgist: Norah Cundiff

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.

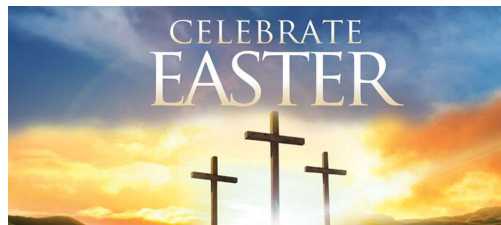
COVID-19 transmission rates are low in our area so you may wear a mask based on your personal preference, however, those who are not vaccinated should wear a mask that covers their nose and mouth while anywhere inside the church and sanctuary. People with symptoms, a positive test, or exposure to someone with COVID-19, should remain at home.



Presbyterian Women's Circle Meeting is Monday, March 6 at 11:00 a.m. at King's Grant. Lunch may be purchased for \$11. Please pay at the front desk.



Magna Vista's Rock of Ages Teen Edition will be performed on **March 17 & 18 at 7 p.m.** and **March 19 at 3 p.m.** Tickets are now on sale (\$8) and can be purchased in advance online: <https://www.onthestage.tickets/show/magna-vista-high-school/63764183d8d6350e3e46d9f4> **OR at the door.**



April 2 - Palm Sunday - Communion will be served

April 6 - Maunday Thursday - covered dish dinner in Fellowship Hall @ **6 p.m.** followed by Maunday Thursday service in sanctuary with Communion @ **7 p.m.**

April 9 -Easter Sunday with Communion

If you are able to help serve communion with any of these services, please contact Liz Ferrell at lizferrell@hotmail.com or text to [276-734-6376](tel:276-734-6376)

One Great Hour of Sharing offering will be collected on **Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday** to help with relief from natural disasters, food for the hungry and



support for the poor and oppressed. Giving envelopes will be located in the pews. Checks should be written to the church.

Liturgist Schedule

March

5 Norah 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:(276)634-1403) or davistwo@comcast.net. Let her know which day you prefer. God bless you as you consider this ministry.



2 Peter Marshall
6 Jerry Wood
9 Tyler Price
18 Steve Edgerton
21 Emma Wilson, Evan Wilson



John Haywood Crider

April 17, 1964 – February 20, 2023



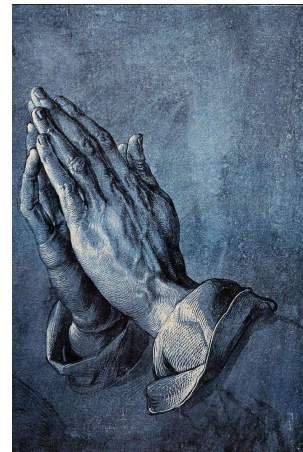
The sympathy of the congregation is extended to the family of Liz Knighton on the passing of her brother, **John Crider** on Monday, February 20.

The full obituary can be found at: <https://www.norrisfuneral.com/obituaries/John-Haywood-Jay-Crider?obId=27340961>

These members and friends of the congregation need our prayers:

PRAYER CONCERNS

Family of John Crider, 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 and Harold Lamm, Mary Manning, Maggie Pilson, Lauren Prince, Susan Rosser, Paul Salmons (M&N Davis), 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 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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STAFF

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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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