

October 13, 2022



# Steeple Views

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MARTINSVILLE, VA

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## Pastor's Corner

Dear First Presbyterian family,

Please do me a favor. Please take a few moments to list three things that are important to you at or about First Presbyterian and three things about First Presbyterian that bring you joy. You can email ([rev.millerb@gmail.com](mailto:rev.millerb@gmail.com)) your responses, bring them by the church, send them with a friend, or put them in the mail. I look forward to hearing from all of you.

Peace be with you,

Bea

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Please join us for worship this Nineteenth Sunday after **Pentecost** at 10:00 AM

**\*\*\*\*LAITY SUNDAY\*\*\*\***

**Sermon by Duke Ferrell**

**Based on Matthew 16:13-20 and Psalm 150**

**Liturgist:** Rob King

**Ushers/Greeters:** Billy and Sharon Kirby

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**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.

***Commitment Sunday*****November 13****The Creation Story (Genesis 1:1-5)**

Start at the very beginning! This verse reminds us that God created everything, so all that we have is ultimately from God. It is also a reminder that God brings light into our world, and as children of the light, we are called to live lives of gratitude and generosity, giving back to the work of God out of the abundance that God has shared with us from the very beginning. (*Presbyterian Foundation*)

**Minute for Mission****What First Presbyterian Church Has Meant to My Life****By: Sandra Ford**

Writing thoughts on what this church has meant to me was a welcome opportunity, for it brought back a stream of memories dating back to 1959. We had just come to Martinsville, my husband's hometown, and I was planning to move my membership to Anderson Memorial Presbyterian Church, as we were then called.

The church's move from its old location on Church Street had taken place a few months before, and folks still talked about walking from the old church, carrying Bibles and hymnbooks to the new church, singing Onward Christian

Soldiers as they walked. It was an exciting time. The sanctuary had not been completed so we worshiped in the Fellowship Hall, which was filled each Sunday.

Soon, I had my first visitor from the church, Carolyn Franck, who came to welcome me into the church and tell me of the church's various programs. As she spoke, she scooped up our six-month old baby onto her lap and asked me the question that was to become a turning point in my life; "Sandra, what do you plan to do for the church?" I was startled, for I most likely was thinking about what the church would be doing for me and my family. Unaffected, she continued. "We need a children's choir director." I answered that I had never done anything like that and doubted my ability to help in that way. Undeterred, she continued. "I understand that you play piano." I said that my skills were rusty, but she was not discouraged. "You have taught school." I agreed. "I think you would do fine," she countered, and with her encouragement I began a very fulfilling experience, and one that would later generate a career change in mid-life.

Within the fellowship of this church community my family made deep and lasting friendships. Here we were comforted in times of loss, prayed for in periods of serious illness and uplifted on occasions of joy. It was in this church that we were given the opportunities to work as volunteers in programs within the congregation and the broader community. These years have been a wonderful journey and I look back gratefully to those whose lives touched and enriched mine, and who continue to help me grow in the love of Jesus Christ.

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**Community Breakfast - Saturday, October 15** led by Ron Rebman and Rob King and will be served in person. Contact Rob ([276 340-2263](tel:2763402263)) if you are able to work.

**The POP Southside Adaptive Church Project Workshop** will meet at FPC

October 18 and 19, 9:00 am to 4:30 pm. Lunch and snacks will be provided.

### The Grace Network Pumpkin Patch



The **Pumpkin Patch** is open Sept 24 - Oct 31 and volunteers are needed to help sell the pumpkins. The times are divided up in shifts. This is a great way to help the community! If you are interested in volunteering, please call Sandi Teague [276-340-6822](tel:276-340-6822).

**Session Meeting** - Monday, October 24 at 7 pm.

**All Saints Sunday** - October 30

**We're trying out our automated phone system.** When you call, press 1 for the Office Staff and then you may choose **1=Pastor Bea**, **2=Rita**, or **3=Bookkeeper, Vickie Blair**.

### Devoted to Devotionals

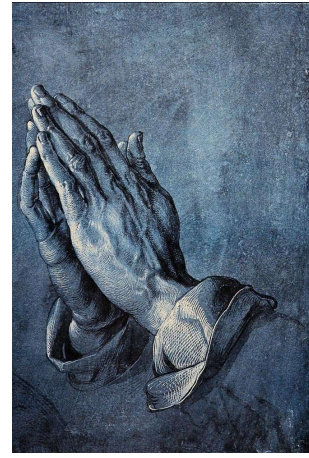


Spiritual gifts abound at First Presbyterian. We are truly grateful to Monica and Denny for continuing to write weekly devotionals for Steeple Views. It is now time to form a team of writers, taking turns, providing a weekly devotion. If you would like to share your spiritual gifts as part of the team of writers, please contact Bea ([rev.millerb@gmail.com](mailto:rev.millerb@gmail.com), or [276-632-3431](tel:276-632-3431)). The team will gather occasionally to share resources and set a writing schedule. Please prayerfully consider joining the team.

**These members and friends of the congregation need our prayers:**

**PRAYER CONCERNS**

Family of Tyler Stone, Family of Elizabeth Teague Coglitore, Sue Benfield, Georgette Bishop, Mike Boswell, Catherine Bridges, Jim Brunt (N Davis' brother), Bud Buffkin, Tommy Cobb, Bobby Davis (Milt Davis' son), Neill Ferrill (Sandra Ford), Daniel Handy, Melanie Hardy, Marvin Hudson, Betty Carol Lamm, Mary Manning, Maggie Pilson, Lauren Prince, Susan Rosser, Paul Salmons (M&N Davis), 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.



Please submit prayer requests to Rita in the church office, [\(276\) 632-3431](tel:2766323431), [office@fpcmartinsvilleVA.org](mailto:office@fpcmartinsvilleVA.org).

### **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 4th quarter 2022 food donation item is Jelly (28-32 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](mailto:fpcsteepleviews@gmail.com). For time sensitive announcements, please sent to [skirbycwj@gmail.com](mailto:skirbycwj@gmail.com)

We reserve the right to edit all submissions. Sharon Kirby, Editor

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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](https://www.peakspresbytery.org/images/2020_Peaks_Postings/PP_Aug18_2020.pdf)

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#### Our Mission

Share God's Love, Embrace Our Neighbors, Nurture Each Other

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**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](http://www.firstpresbyterianmartinsville.org/page.cfm/topic/newsletter)

#### Useful Links

FPC website:

[www.firstpresbyterianmartinsville.org/](http://www.firstpresbyterianmartinsville.org/) or [www.fpcmartinsvilleVA.org/](http://www.fpcmartinsvilleVA.org/)

FPC online directory: [members.instantchurchdirectory.com/](http://members.instantchurchdirectory.com/)

FPC Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/FPCMartinsvilleVA](https://www.facebook.com/FPCMartinsvilleVA)

Presbytery of the Peaks: [www.peakspresbytery.org/](http://www.peakspresbytery.org/)

Presbyterian Church (USA): [www.pcusa.org/](http://www.pcusa.org/)

Daily Bible Readings: [www.presbyterianmission.org/devotion/daily/](http://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](mailto:rev.millerb@gmail.com)  
Rita Bateman, Secretary/Office Manager, [office@fpcmartinsvilleVA.org](mailto:office@fpcmartinsvilleVA.org)  
Vickie Blair, Bookkeeper, [bookkeeper@fpcmartinsvilleVA.org](mailto:bookkeeper@fpcmartinsvilleVA.org)  
Carol Carter, Weekday School Director, [wds@fpcmartinsvilleVA.org](mailto:wds@fpcmartinsvilleVA.org)  
Spencer Koger, Director of Music, [adultmusic@fpcmartinsvilleva.org](mailto:adultmusic@fpcmartinsvilleva.org)  
Peter Marshall, Worship Technology Coordinator,  
[worshiptechnology@fpcmartinsvilleVA.org](mailto:worshiptechnology@fpcmartinsvilleVA.org)

### **THE SESSION**

Clerk: Nancy Baker

Treasurer: Henry Moore

#### **Class of 2022**

Brooke Cundiff: Mission/Outreach

Pamela Rakes: Stewardship and Communication

Betty Hudson: Christian Education

#### **Class of 2023**

Billy Kirby: Administration

#### **Class of 2024**

Pearl Minter: Congregational Care and Fellowship

Neil Tatum: Facilities

Liz Ferrell: Worship

### **TRUSTEES**

2022: Joan Montgomery, Ashby Pritchett

2023: Sandra Ford, Joe DeVault

2024: Duke Ferrell, Milt Davis

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