

September 15, 2022



# Steeple Views

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MARTINSVILLE, VA

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## Pastor's Reflections

Dear First Presbyterian family,

Over the next few weeks, I will be on the phone making calls to all of you. My primary goals are to begin getting to know you and to hear how you have been engaging church during the pandemic. I know that some have simply gotten out of the habit of worship, and many have created new habits of worshipping online. As we look to our future and begin naming who we are and who God is calling us to be, we need to find ways to include all the voices of our membership.

Some of us are enjoying online worship. It has been interesting to watch the national trends. People are worshipping with coffee in hand in their homes and at times other than Sunday morning. Our service, at First Presbyterian Martinsville is viewed on average, 77 times during each week. In all that we do moving forward, we will need to find ways to connect our online community with our in-person community.

Recently a friend at the lake shared that she volunteered to organize the ushers at her church, because she needed a job on Sunday morning in order to get back in the habit of worship. The pandemic changed our habits, overnight. And some of us may need a catalyst, to change our habits again.

The work ahead of us includes many important questions like: Who are we? What has God done here and what is God doing here? Why do we exist? How do we see ourselves, and how does the rest of Martinsville see us? What are the gifts that God has given us? What do we want to look like in 5 years? As we journey together, discerning God's will, we are called to listen and reflect as we name all we are and we seek God's way forward. Our first step together is a phone call. Please take the time to let me know where you are in your church journey and the best ways for you to feel included in our discernment.

Peace,

Bea

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## ***The Church is Open for In-Person Worship Service!***

**The safety of our congregation and community** are our highest priority. COVID-19 transmission rates are medium 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.

### **OFFICE HOURS**

**Monday – Thursday 9:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.**

**Friday 9:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.**

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

### **Sermon by Rev. Dr. Bea Miller**

based on Luke 16:1-13 and Jeremiah 8:19-9:1

**Liturgist:** Nancy Davis

**Ushers/Greeters:** Ron Rebman, Nancy Baker

**\*\*Given the recent covid cases within the congregation, the congregational lunch, originally planned for this Sunday after the service, will be rescheduled for another time. This is a necessary precaution in order to protect the health of the members of our church.**

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**Community Breakfast - Saturday, September 17** led by Chuck and Brooke Cundiff and will be served in person. Contact Brooke ([276 340-6124](tel:276-340-6124)) if you are able to work.

**Congregational Meeting - Sunday, September 18** following worship to elect nominees for elder (Monica Stevens, Ron Rebman, Sue Legg) and trustee (Gale Legg and Bill Kirby)

### **The Grace Network Pumpkin Patch**



Volunteers are needed to help unload pumpkins on **Saturday, September 24 at 9:00 a.m.** 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).

**We regret to announce** that Drema has resigned her position as bookkeeper with FPC. Her last day is Wednesday, September 21. We would like to thank her for her time and contributions to our church and we wish her all the best in her future endeavors. She will be having knee replacement surgery on Monday, September 26. Prayers for a successful surgery and a speedy recovery.

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**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**

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, Doug Miller (Pastor Bea's husband), 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](tel:276-632-3431)) [632-3431](tel:632-3431), [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:276-340-3476).

### ***Grace Network Donations***

The 3rd quarter 2022 food donation item is **Green Peas** (15 oz.)



**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 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](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

*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](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)

Drema Austin, 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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