

March 27, 2016



# Steeple Views

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MARTINSVILLE, VA

## The Holiest Season

Please join us for the solemn and joyful observances of Jesus' Last Supper, Crucifixion, and Resurrection.

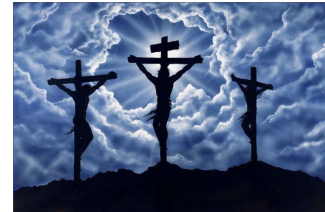
### **Maunder Thursday, March 24, 6:00 PM**



We gather in the Fellowship Hall for a reenactment of the Last Supper that Jesus and his disciples shared in the upper room. Pastor Mark will lead us through the Passover seder, which became our Sacrament of the Lord's Supper or Holy Communion.

### **Tenebrae**

After communion, we will go upstairs to the Sanctuary for a service of darkness commemorating Jesus' death on the cross for the sins of the world. This **Good Friday** service will take place on **Thursday** evening.



## **Resurrection Sunday/Easter, March 27**



**Easter Sunrise Service, 6:30 AM**, Lake Lanier. We join with Forest Hills and Grace Presbyterian and Broad Street Christian Churches in celebration of the first Easter morning when the disciples

discovered Jesus' empty tomb and heard the words, "He is risen!"

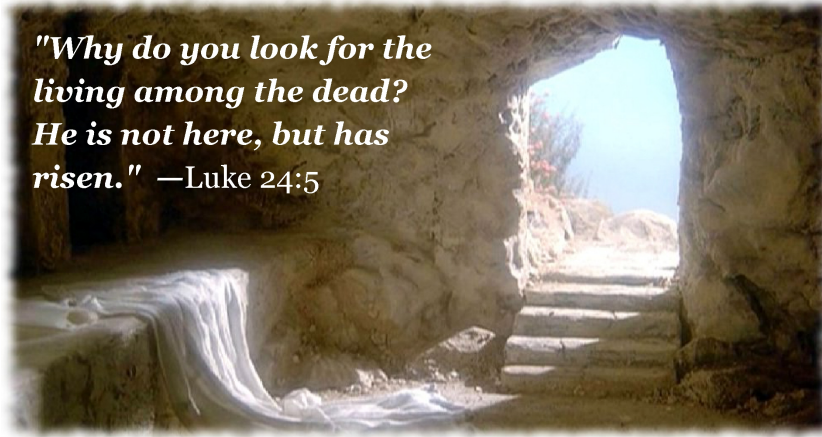
**No 8:30 service**

**Easter Breakfast, 9:30 AM**, Fellowship Hall, hosted by the Christian Education Committee

**Easter Egg Hunt, 10:00 AM**, for children, after breakfast

**Easter Worship, 11:00 AM**, Sanctuary. Our whole church family will gather together to hear the joyful news that Jesus is not dead but is alive forever! Communion will be served.

*"Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen." —Luke 24:5*



[View this email in your browser](#)

Printed copies are available at church.

## What's Happening This Week

### Maundy Thursday, March 24

**Maundy Thursday/Good Friday service, 6:00 PM**, beginning in the Fellowship Hall, then moving to the Sanctuary

### Good Friday 25

Contemplate Jesus' death on the cross and its meaning for us all.

Readings: Isaiah 52:13-53:12; Psalm 22; Hebrews 10:16-25 or Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9; John 18:1-19:42

### Holy Saturday 26

The Sabbath day when Jesus' disciples "rested according to the commandment" and mourned his death. Readings: Job 14:1-14 or Lamentations 3:1-9, 19-24; Psalm 31:1-4, 15-16; 1 Peter 4:1-8; Matthew 27:57-66 or John 19:38-42

### Resurrection Sunday/Easter 27

**One Great Hour of Sharing & Two-Cents-a-Meal Offerings**

**Easter Sunrise Service, 6:30 AM**, Lake Lanier, with communion, with Forest Hills and Grace Presbyterian and Broad Street Christian Churches.

**NO 8:30 Service**

**Easter Breakfast, 9:30 AM**, Fellowship Hall

**Easter Egg Hunt for Children**, immediately following breakfast

**Adult Sunday School, 10:00 AM**, Session Room

**Easter Worship, 11:00 AM**, Sanctuary, with communion, for the whole congregation together

Usher group #2: Ralph Shank, Jr. (Captain), Bob Davis, Bob Clark, Harold Lamm, Henry Moore

Liturgist: Peter Marshall

Communion servers: Neil Tatum, Duke Ferrell, Liz Ferrell, Victoria Esarey,



Denny Casey, Paul Cannaday, Bill Manning, +1  
*Childcare for infants and toddlers is provided in the nursery under the Sanctuary.*

## **Easter Monday 28**

**Church office closed**  
**NO G.P.S.**

## **Wednesday 30**

**Steeple Views Deadline, 10:00 AM.** Please email information to [fpcsteepleviews@gmail.com](mailto:fpcsteepleviews@gmail.com).

**Steeple Views Mailing, 4:00 PM,** copier room

**Prayer Shawl Ministry, 4:30 PM,** Session Room. We welcome new knitters (and crocheters) and will be glad to teach anyone who is interested in learning.

**Sanctuary Ringers, 5:45 PM,** Handbell Room

**Chancel Choir, 7:00 PM,** Choir Room



## **Thursday 31**

**Praise Band, 7:00 PM,** Chapel. New singers and musicians always welcome!

For a complete calendar of what's happening at FPC Martinsville, visit our website: <http://www.firstpresbyterianmartinsville.org/calendar.cfm>.

**The Service for the Lord's Day, March 27**  
**Resurrection of the Lord/First Sunday of Easter**

Scripture Lessons

**Psalms 118:1-2, 14-24; John 20:1-18; 1 Corinthians 15:19-26**

Sermon by Rev. Mark Hinchcliff

**"Rise to the Challenge"**

**Sacrament of the Lord's Supper**

Additional Lectionary Readings for Sunday

**Acts 10:34-43; Isaiah 65:17-25; Luke 24:1-12**

### ***Pastor's Corner***

## **Never Forsaken**

*"My God, my God why have you forsaken me?"*

Matthew 27:30

"My God why have you forsaken me" were the words that Jesus proclaimed from the cross! Those words reflected the human side of Jesus feeling abandoned by God the Father in his last physical breaths, as we do sometimes in our own times of struggle. While that may be the way we feel, the reality

was then at the cross for Jesus, as it is today and always for all of us, that God has never left our side. God's love and presence comes without condition and as the Scriptures say "endures forever"!

This past year at First Presbyterian Church of Martinsville has been a season of renewal. While the denomination of PC(USA) seeks ways to expand the Church's embrace towards all people, this church seems to be seeking not just to heal from old wounds but rather to move into a broader vision of our own calling locally. While other churches around us have battled conflicting ideologies, we have maintained a strong sense of community and caring for one another as the family of God. Our God has been present and walking with us every step of the way!



In the midst of theology debates between churches, we can still see in a number of charitable ecumenical organizations where our differences can't stand in the way of our call to service. Organizations, like Grace Network which is partnered with over 100 churches locally of different faiths and understandings, put aside where those understandings differ and focus only on our service to God by serving one another.

In addition, the past two years have seen many of our long-term members called home to be with the Lord, resulting in gatherings of renewed friendships and forgotten pasts. We gathered to renew relationships and honor the lives God has intermingled with our own. No one stopped to qualify what church others in attendance went to or even what their political views were. Our common calling from God to love one another as Jesus loves us continues to be our common ground.

This Easter we celebrate the "Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ" as a victory even over death that we may all be joined as family forever. May we always be reminded that God has never abandoned us!

God's continued presence with us,

*Pastor Mark*

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## Call to Action

### One Great Hour of Sharing

Around the world, people lack access to food, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity. Our gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) help change the lives of people in these challenging situations and provide us a way to share God's love with our neighbors in need. One Great Hour of Sharing makes a difference in the world through three impactful programs:

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People. This offering will be received in our church this Easter Sunday.



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### Church Directories Available

Printed copies of the church directory are available in the church office. The Session has asked for \$10 to cover the cost of materials.

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### Gifts to the Church

#### In Memory of Ronald Lee Fentress

Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Flythe  
Wesley and Vickie George  
Calvin and Frances Harris  
Gwen B. Sowdon

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### Our Mission

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



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Pearl Minter, Fellowship  
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**TRUSTEES**

2016: Billy Kirby, Kent Williams  
2017: Bob Davis, Joe DeVault  
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