

December 3, 2017



Steeple Views

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MARTINSVILLE, VA

Breakfast 9:15-10:00

Advent Begins Sunday, Dec. 3!

For centuries, the Christian church has marked the beginning of the yearly cycle of liturgy with Advent, the time of preparation for the birth of Jesus, the Incarnation of God. Our congregation will joyfully begin the season with our **Advent Breakfast** on **Sunday, December 3, 9:15–10:00 AM**, in the Fellowship Hall. Enjoy a delicious breakfast and help decorate the Christmas tree, then go to Sunday School at 10:00. During the services, Hanging of the Greens will usher in the season with wreaths and special liturgy. The GPS children will sing and ring handchimes during the 11:00 service.



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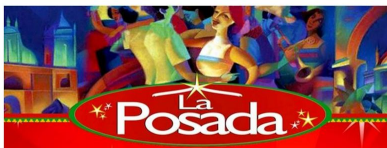
What's Happening at FPC

Thursday, Nov. 30

La Posada Rehearsal, 6:30 PM, Chapel

Praise Band, 7:00 PM, Chapel

Friday, Dec. 1



La Posada, Journey to Bethlehem, 5:30 PM,
Uptown Martinsville, beginning in front of Martinsville
Municipal Building, continuing procession around town,
ending at the historic courthouse.

First Sunday of Advent, Dec. 3

Hanging of the Greens

Communion Sunday

Prep/Clean-up: Pinkard (8:30) & Davis/Pritchett

Contemporary Worship, 8:30 AM, Chapel

Advent Breakfast, 9:15–10:00 AM, Fellowship Hall

Sunday School, 10:00 AM, Children 4 yrs-2nd grade, Room 11-12 under the Sanctuary; Adult class, Session Room (#134)

Chancel Choir, 10:30 AM, Choir Room, warm-up before service

Traditional Worship, 11:00 AM, Sanctuary

GPS Children will sing and ring handchimes.

Advent Wreath: Jerry & Joanna Wood, Riley & Mason

Liturgist: Janet Fentress

Ushers: Monty Montgomery, Manly Boyd, David Garland, Bill Manning, Dru Rothrock

Communion Servers: Joan Montgomery, Monty Montgomery, Nancy Davis, Milt Davis, Janet Fentress, Smith Chaney



Childcare for infants and toddlers is provided all morning in the nursery under the Sanctuary. Children's Worship is offered for age 4 through 2nd grade during the 11:00 service after the Time with Young Disciples.

The Service for the Lord's Day, December 3, 2017

First Sunday of Advent

Scripture Lessons

1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

Sermon by Rev. Mark Hinchcliff

"Called by Grace"

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Additional Lectionary Readings for Sunday

Isaiah 64:1-9; Mark 13:24-37

Full text of lectionary readings

<https://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/texts.php?id=48>

Next Week at FPC

Monday, Dec. 4

Presbyterian Women Circle, 10:30 AM, King's Grant private dining room

DEADLINE to order poinsettias for Sanctuary

GPS, 3:00–5:00 PM, Christmas party

Tuesday, Dec. 5

Cooks Who Care, 9:45 AM & 5:30 PM, Marge Dunn Kitchen

Steeple Views Deadline, 4:00 PM. Please email information to Gael Chaney, steepleviews@fpcmartinsvilleva.org.

Wednesday, Dec. 6

Sanctuary Ringers, 5:45 PM, Handbell Room

Chancel Choir, 7:00 PM, Choir Room. New singers are welcome to join!

Thursday, Dec. 7

Praise Band, 7:00 PM, Chapel

Sunday, Dec. 10

Contemporary Worship, 8:30 AM, Chapel

Fellowship & Refreshments, 9:30 AM, Fellowship Hall

Sunday School, 9:45 AM, Children 4 yrs-2nd grade, Room 11-12 under the Sanctuary; Adult class, Session Room (Room 134, upper level)

Chancel Choir, 10:30 AM, Choir Room, warm-up before service

Traditional Worship, 11:00 AM, Sanctuary

Ushers: Neil Tatum, Clarence Benfield, Paul Cannaday, Victoria Esarey, Bill Kirby

Liturgist: Alanna Ferguson

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

Presbyterian Women

Circle Lunch at King's Grant

Monday, Dec. 4, 10:30 AM

Circle will gather at King's Grant for a special Christmas meeting. We start at 10:30 AM with our lesson and business, followed by a delicious luncheon (dutch treat). **All women are invited!** Go to the main entrance of the big building and check in at the desk, where you will pay **\$8.75** for lunch. They will direct you from there. Our Bible study is on the book of Hebrews using chapter 4 in our workbook, *Cloud of Witnesses*.



Last Sunday to order



Poinsettias for Sanctuary

Order forms for poinsettias to decorate the Sanctuary Dec. 10–25 are now in the pews and the church office. The cost is \$10 each. Poinsettias may be given in memory or in honor of a loved one. **Deadline** to order is **Monday, Dec. 4**.

Call to Action

Cooks Who Care

Tuesday, Dec. 5

9:45 AM & 5:30 PM

If you enjoy cooking, come help Cooks Who Care prepare a delicious Christmas brunch for our special church family members. The morning session, when the food is cooked, begins with a devotional. The food is packaged for delivery during the afternoon session.



Call to Action

Prayer Shawl Ministry Needs New Knitters



We are running out of prayer shawls! That's a good problem because it means that our members are taking comfort to people who need a little TLC. However, it also means that we need more people to be making prayer shawls, since we have lost some members. **We will teach you how to knit!** The shawls are very simple, just a large rectangle. We have donated yarn and needles, so there's nothing to buy. To get started, contact Joan Montgomery (joanmontgo@gmail.com, 632-1157). As you can see in the photo, we have a good time at our meetings!

Looking Ahead

Monday, December 11, 7:00 PM

Smith River Singers Concert: "Winter"

Choral music for the season, First Baptist Church, 23 Starling Ave., Martinsville. Admission is free; an offering to benefit Safety Net will be collected. Reception after the concert. FPC singers participating include Gael & Smith Chaney, Pat Christenbury, Ned Linker, Darla Main-Schneider, Marion Miller, Gwen Sowdon, Betty & Gene Stanley, and Mike Ware. The Singers will also perform on Dec. 1 for *La Posada* and with the Roanoke Symphony Orchestra at Martinsville High School on Dec. 10.

Friday, December 15, 6:00 PM

Martinsville Handbell Ensemble Concert: "The Bells of Christmas"

Broad Street Christian Church. Several of our Sanctuary Ringers ring with this group and will be delighted if you attend.

Sunday, December 17, 11:00 AM

The Christmas Story in Music and Scripture, presented by the Chancel Choir and Sanctuary Ringers. No 8:30 service this morning.

Sunday, December 24

Fourth Sunday of Advent Worship, 11:00 AM, with communion. No 8:30 service this morning.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 6:00 PM, for the whole family, with a Christmas pageant.



Mission

Angel Tree to Benefit Christmas Cheer & Toy Drive

The Mission Committee is trying something different this year; we are requesting **monetary donations for Christmas Cheer and the Martinsville Speedway Toy Drive**, which benefits Grace Network. Donations may be placed in the offering plate or sent to the church office. Deadline is **Sunday, December 10**. Angels are on the trees in the hallways and Narthex with instructions for making donations. For more information, contact Paul Cannaday (252-8191 or pcannaday@comcast.net).



Angel Tree

Prayer Concerns

The following members and friends of our congregation need our prayers: Doc Altizer, Walter Anderson, Jack Beane (M. Stevens), Sonny Benfield, Catherine Bridges, Jim Brunt (N. Davis' brother), Dot Bryson, Kimberly Bryson, Elaine Button, Evelyn Clark, Ernie Cobb (M. Dunn), Tommy Cobb (M. Dunn), Sandra B. Cox, Charles Gray (Kym Tatum's father), John Luther, Regenia Noel (M. Stevens), Ed Pace, Amy B. Peck, Anne Peterson, Charles "Pete" Peterson (Anne's brother-in-law), Barbara Regen, Posey Riedel (A. Pinkard's sister), Doris Smith, Betty and Gene Stanley, Family of Louann Spencer (John Luther's sister), Sarah V. Wells, Roger Williams (V. Esarey), 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).

Gifts to the Church

In Memory of James H. Ford

Nancy Baker, E. Campbell, Mr. & Mrs. William Garrett, Jr.
William & Fran Hensley, Robert & Katherine Neil, PHCC Foundation
James & Susan Reaghard, Dee Moore & Bill Smith
Dr. & Mrs. George Scouras, Eliza and Jim Severt, Paulette Willard

Happy Birthday!

December

- 1 Anne Vipperman Madonia
- 2 Carol Belcher
- 3 Dru Rothrock
- 4 Ashby Pritchett
- 9 Joan Montgomery, Chris Wingfield
- 10 Marion Miller
- 11 K. J. Joyce
- 14 Mervin King
- 15 Pat Baumann, Kim Boyd
- 17 Matthew Mason
- 18 Bill Kirby
- 20 Evan Hatchett
- 22 Vera Jane Kuhn, Grayson Russell
- 24 Jackie McLachlan
- 26 Smith Chaney
- 27 Gael Chaney, Nancy Moore, Cathy Stone
- 28 Brenda Williams
- 29 Kenneth Smith, Denise Unterbrink



The list of birthdays is from our printed church directory, from the forms filled out when the directory was set up with Instant Church Directory. If you would like your birthday added, please call the church office (632-3431).

Please remember

Grace Network & SSRC Shelter

Breakfast muffin mix (in pouches, not cornbread) is our assignment for October through December for Grace Network's food pantry. Personal care and household items are also needed at both Grace and the SSRC shelter (former Rainbow House/CAFV). Boxes for donations to both ministries are in the church hallways.

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/

Steeple Views is published weekly. **DEADLINE** for submission of articles is Tuesday evening. We reserve the right to edit all submissions. Gael Chaney, Editor steeplevIEWS@fpcmartinsvilleva.org

Church Office Phone: 276-632-3431

Our mailing address is:

First Presbyterian Church
1901 Patrick Henry Ave.
Martinsville, VA 24112

STAFF

Rev. Mark Hinchcliff, Pastor, pastor@fpcmartinsvilleva.org

Cynthia Dobrinski, Music Director & Organist, 276-734-0212

Rita Bateman, Secretary/Office Manager, office@fpcmartinsvilleva.org

Kim Tankersley, Bookkeeper, bookkeeper@fpcmartinsvilleva.org

Mary Lewis Johnston, Weekday School Director, wds@fpcmartinsvilleva.org

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

THE SESSION

Moderator: Rev. Mark Hinchcliff

Clerk: Nancy Baker

Treasurer: Milton Davis

Class of 2017

Denny Casey: Facilities

Cindy Edgerton: Worship

Victoria Esarey: Congregational Care

Class of 2018

Jerri DeVault: Stewardship

Nancy Moore: Communications

Monica Stevens: Christian Education

Class of 2019

Bill Manning: Administration

Teri Ferguson: Fellowship

Paul Cannaday: Mission/Outreach

TRUSTEES

2017: Bob Davis, Joe DeVault

2018: Monty Montgomery, Henry Moore

2019: Reed Moore, Ralph Shank

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