

December 17, 2017



# Steeple Views

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MARTINSVILLE, VA

## Christmas Music Worship

### "Celebrate the Birth of Jesus"

Our Chancel Choir, Sanctuary Ringers, and musicians Virginia King, Lynn Pritchett, and William Seamon, under the direction of Cynthia Dobrinski, cordially invite everyone to a special musical worship service this **Sunday, December 17, at 11:00 AM**, in the Sanctuary. The story of Jesus' birth will be told through scripture readings, anthems and instrumental music. Monica Stevens will deliver a brief mediation. "Joy" is the theme for the Third Sunday of Advent, and we hope this service will help you experience the joy of Christmas.



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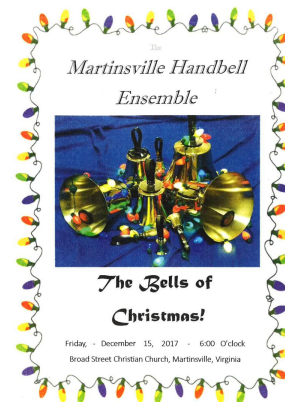
## What's Happening at FPC

### Thursday, December 14

**Praise Band** is on break until January 4.

### Friday, Dec. 15

**"The Bells of Christmas" Martinsville Handbell Ensemble Concert, 6:00 PM**, Broad Street Christian Church, 106 Broad St. MHE includes these FPC Sanctuary Ringers: Wendy Luther, Marion Miller, Sam Smith, Janet Fentress, and Sarah Robertson



### Saturday, Dec. 16

**Free Community Breakfast, 7:00 AM**, volunteers begin preparing; **8:00-9:30 AM**, serving, Fellowship Hall & Kitchen

### Third Sunday of Advent, Dec. 17

*Unlock:* Johnny Pinkard

**NO Early Service today**

**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)

**Sanctuary Ringers, 9:45 AM**, Sanctuary

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

**"Celebrate the Birth of Jesus" Christmas Music**

**Worship, 11:00 AM**, Sanctuary

*Advent Wreath:* Russell/Blevins family

*Ushers:* Ralph Shank, Jr., Bob Clark, Bob Davis, Harold Lamm, Henry Moore

*Liturgist:* Monica Stevens

*Lock up:* Monty Montgomery

**Community Christmas Music Program, 3:00 PM**, M-HC Heritage Center & Museum (old courthouse), 1 E. Main Street. Caroline Kirby and Deborah Burgess will be joining other community performers.

**Christmas Pageant Rehearsal, 5:00 PM**, Sanctuary, to prepare for the Christmas Eve service. Contact Joanna Wood (804-314-9134) if your children would like to take part.

**"Our Messiah" Christmas music program, 5:45 PM**, Forest Hills Presbyterian Church, 725 Beechnut Lane, followed by a reception.



*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 17, 2017**

***Third Sunday of Advent***

**"Celebrate the Birth of Jesus"**

A Christmas music worship service presented by the  
Chancel Choir, Sanctuary Ringers and musicians  
Scripture Lessons

**Isaiah 40:3-5; Luke 1:26-38; Luke 2:1-18**

Meditation by Monica Stevens

**"Remember, Rejoice, Respond"**

Lectionary Readings for Sunday

**Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11; Psalm 126 or Luke 1:46b-55**

**1 Thessalonians 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28**

Full text of lectionary readings

<https://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/texts.php?id=50>

**Next Week at FPC**

**Monday, Dec. 18**

**GPS** is on break until January 8.

## **Tuesday, Dec. 19**

**Agape Ministry, 12:00 Noon**, Session Room

**Steeple Views Double Issue Deadline, 4:00 PM.** Please email information to Gael Chaney, [steepleviews@fpcmartinsvilleva.org](mailto:steepleviews@fpcmartinsvilleva.org). There will be only one printed issue covering the weeks of Dec. 24 & 31.

**Open House at the Hinchcliffs, 6:00–8:30 PM**, 1009 Sam Lions Trail. Drop in and enjoy Christmas cheer and heavy hors d'oeuvres.

## **Wednesday, Dec. 20**

**No Sanctuary Ringers** until January 3

**Chancel Choir**, rehearsal not certain, we will let you know later.

## **Fourth Sunday of Advent & Christmas Eve, Dec. 24**

**Two-Cents-a-Meal Offering**, for hunger projects in our Presbytery and beyond, including our free community breakfast

*Unlock:* Neil Tatum

**NO Early Service today**

**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

**Advent Worship with Communion, 11:00 AM**, Sanctuary

*Ushers:* Monty Montgomery, Milt Davis, Nancy Davis, Buck Flythe, Joan Montgomery

*Liturgist:* Tracy Hinchcliff

**Candlelight Christmas Eve Service, 6:00 PM**, the birth of Christ celebrated with scripture, carols, and a children's pageant

*Liturgist:* Peter Marshall

*Lock up:* Milt Davis

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

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## **Sunday Afternoon**

### **Community Christmas Music Program**

**Sunday, December 17, 3:00 PM**

The Martinsville-Henry County Historical Society will host a Christmas music program this Sunday afternoon in the courtroom at the Heritage Center (former Henry County Courthouse), 1 East Main Street, Martinsville. Among the performers will be our own Caroline Kirby and our director of contemporary music Deborah Burgess. Admission is free, and the facility is now handicap accessible.



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## Preparation

### Children's Christmas Pageant Rehearsal

**Sunday, December 17, 5:00 PM**



Calling all children! We would love to have you participate in the pageant acting out the birth of Jesus **for the Christmas Eve service** on December 24, at 6:00 PM. If you would like to take part, have your parents contact Joanna Wood (804-314-9134) and come to the rehearsal this Sunday, December 17, at 5:00 PM, in the

Sanctuary.

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## You are invited

### Christmas Open House at the Hinchcliffs

**Tuesday, December 19**

**6:00–8:30 PM**

Pastor Mark and Tracy Hinchcliff invite the congregation to their home, 1009 Sam Lions Trail, for Christmas cheer and heavy hors d'oeuvres.

**Drop in any time between 6:00 and 8:30 PM on December 19.**



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## December 24

### Fourth Sunday of Advent Service, 11:00 AM

**December 24** is both the Fourth Sunday of Advent and Christmas Eve. There will be **no 8:30 service** on that morning. Everyone is invited for Advent worship together at **11:00 AM**. The morning service will include the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

### Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 6:00 PM



At **6:00 PM**, our Candlelight Christmas Eve service will have something for the whole family with a Christmas pageant telling the story of Jesus' birth in Bethlehem, scripture readings, and carols. We end the service by lighting candles, symbolizing taking the light of Christ out into the world.

Also, there will be **no 8:30 service on December 31**, so plan to worship at **11:00 AM** the morning of New Year's Eve as well.

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## **Call to Action**

### **Library Guild Needs Volunteers**

Our library is a valuable resource for Christian growth for our church community, and we need help maintaining it. The Christian Education Committee is forming a Library Guild and needs people who can help with cataloguing, processing, shelving books and media materials, suggesting new books, and advertising the books we have. Please contact Monica Stevens (632-8075, [mlkstev@hotmail.com](mailto:mlkstev@hotmail.com)) or the church office (632-3431) if you can give a little of your time.



### **Best Wishes and Congratulations**

to Mary Pilson and Thomas Bazemore who were married in our Sanctuary on Saturday, December 9. Mary is the daughter of Susan and Dick Pilson.

### **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, 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](mailto:office@fpcmartinsvilleva.org)).

## **Thank You**

### **Gifts to the Church**

**In Memory of James H. Ford**

Jeffrey Daly

Chris and Lynne Beeler

## **As a precaution**

When you are in the church building, be sure to put valuables out of sight and lock your vehicle. There was an incident a couple of Sundays ago of an

attempted theft of an unlocked car from our parking lot during the 11:00 worship service.

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### ***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. **Deodorant, toothpaste, bath soap, feminine products, dish detergent, laundry detergent, and toilet paper** are also distributed to food pantry clients. These personal care and household items are also needed at the SSRC shelter (former Rainbow House/CAFV). Boxes for donations to both ministries are in the church hallways.

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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/)

***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](mailto:steepleviews@fpcmartinsvilleva.org)

**Church Office Phone:** 276-632-3431

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Deborah Burgess, Contemporary Music  
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[contemporarymusic@fpcmartinsvilleva.org](mailto: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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