

December 16 & 23, 2018



Steeple Views

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MARTINSVILLE, VA

Candlelight Service

Christmas Eve

Monday, December 24, 6:00 PM



Come join us for our annual Candlelight Christmas Eve service featuring a children's pageant and the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, in the Sanctuary.

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What's Happening at FPC

Thursday, Dec. 13

No Praise Band through the rest of December

Friday, Dec. 14

Martinsville Handbell Ensemble Christmas concert, "We Wish You a Merry Christmas," 7:00

PM, Broad Street Christian Church, 106 Broad St. Several members of this group are members of our Sanctuary Ringers. Free admission, donations accepted.



Saturday, Dec. 15



Free Community Breakfast, Kitchen & Fellowship Hall
7:00 AM, Volunteers begin preparing.

8:00–9:30 AM, Serving.

Contact Sharon Kirby, skirbycwj@gmail.com, 806-9709, or
Paul Cannaday, pcannaday@comcast.net, 252-8191.

Facilities Work Session, 9:30–11:00 AM. Contact Denny Casey, 224-3906,
d.a.casey@comcast.net.

Dessert Auction, 4:30 PM dessert preview, 5:00 PM dinner, 6:00 PM bidding begins, Uptown Ministry Center, 145 E. Main Street. free admission, \$5 donation for dinner. All proceeds benefit Pregnancy Care Center. For more information, call 634-5433.

Services at 8:30 & 11:00 AM

The Service for the Lord's Day, December 16, 2018

Third Sunday of Advent

Scripture Lessons

Isaiah 12:2-6; Philippians 4:4-7; Zephaniah 3:14-20

Sermon by Rev. Mark Hinchcliff

"Songs of Joy and A Peaceful Heart"

Additional Lectionary Reading for Sunday

Luke 3:7-18

Full text of lectionary readings

www.presbyterianmission.org/devotion/revised-common-lectionary/

Third Sunday of Advent, Dec. 16

Unlock/Lock up: Johnny Pinkard/Duke Ferrell

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, 10:10 AM, Choir Room

Traditional Worship, 11:00 AM, Sanctuary

Advent Wreath: Sunday School Class

Ushers: *Monty Montgomery, David Garland, Bill Manning, Dru Rothrock

Liturgist: Joan Montgomery



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.

Monday, Dec. 17

Smith River Singers Concert, "Love and Joy Come to You," 7:00 PM, Galilean House of Worship, 5078 A. L. Philpott Hwy (US 58 East).

Several of our member sing in this group. Free admission, offering collected.

SRS
SMITH
RIVER
SINGERS

Tuesday, Dec. 18

Christmas
Open House



Open House at the home of Pastor Mark and Tracy Hinchcliff, drop in from 6:00 to 8:30 PM, 1009 Sam Lions Trail. Everyone is welcome!

Wednesday, Dec. 19

No Sanctuary Ringers
Chancel Choir TBA

Fourth Sunday of Advent, Dec. 23

Christmas Joy Offering

Two-Cents-a-Meal Hunger Offering

Unlock/Lock up: Neil Tatum/Denny Casey

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)

Traditional Worship, 11:00 AM, Sanctuary

Advent Wreath: Prayer Shawl Ministry

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

Liturgist: Nancy Moore



Monday, Dec. 24, Christmas Eve

Church office closed

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

Advent Wreath: Ushers

Liturgist: Peter Marshall



Tuesday, Dec. 25, Christmas Day

Church office closed

Thursday, Dec. 27

Red Cross Bloodmobile, 1:00–5:00 PM, Elks Lodge, 300 Fairy Street. Our congregation supplies volunteers who check in donors and serve them at the canteen after they finish donating blood. Contact Nancy Baker, nbaker08@comcast.net, 638-7923, if you can help.

First Sunday of Christmas, Dec. 30

Christmas Joy Offering

Unlock/Lock up: Johnny Pinkard/Joe DeVault

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)

Traditional Worship, 11:00 AM, Sanctuary
Ushers: Ralph Shank Jr., Bob Davis, Harold Lamm, Henry Moore
Liturgist: Lynn Pritchett

Monday, Dec. 31, New Year's Eve

Church office closed
Session will meet January 7

Tuesday, January 1, 2019, New Year's Day

Church office closed
Cooks Who Care will meet January 8

Wednesday, Jan. 2

Sanctuary Ringers, 5:45 PM, Handbell Room
Chancel Choir, 7:00 PM, Choir Room. New singers welcome!



Thursday, Jan. 3

No Praise Band

Sunday, Jan. 6, Epiphany of the Lord

"Come and Kneel with the Shepherds," Christmas service of music and scripture, 11:00 AM, rescheduled from December 9. No 8:30 service.

For a complete calendar of what's happening at FPC Martinsville, visit our website:

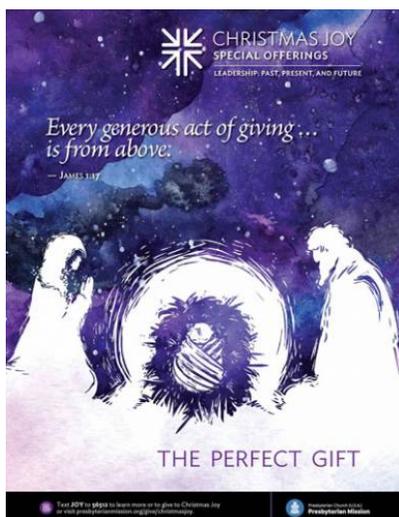
www.firstpresbyterianmartinsville.org/calendar.cfm.



Give Generously

Christmas Joy Offering

December 23 & 30



In the lead up to Christmas, many of us spend time in search of the perfect gift—the gift that communicates to friends and family how much we know and love them. We search our memories for indications of what gift might cause the faces of our loved ones to light up. We scour the stores and shops, hoping to come across the thing that will communicate a depth of love that our words cannot.

As important as gifts to loved ones are, we have an opportunity to give gifts that help many people we do not know through the Christmas Joy Offering. These gifts in particular draw us back to the manger and God's perfect gift to us—Jesus Christ.

Jesus came to live among us, bringing light into darkness, and reconciliation to God and to one another. A perfect gift from a gracious God.

During this Christmas and Advent Season, we celebrate leadership; past, present and future through support of the Christmas Joy Offering. We do so because church leaders greatly impact our lives of faith, walking with us down the path to be more like Jesus. We want those church leaders and their families who find themselves grappling with a critical financial need to have the resources they need which are provided through the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions. We also support the offering to help our future leaders in the church and world, like those educated at our Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. Supporting these students helps the whole church develop leaders who reflect the wideness of God's intended diversity. For those supported through the Christmas Joy Offering, this help is truly a gift from above. May our gifts, and the leaders who receive them, point us always to the truth of the one whose birth we celebrate, Jesus Christ—the truly perfect gift.

Please give generously when we receive the Offering on December 23 and 30. Or you may text JOY to 20222 to give \$10, or give online at presbyterianmission.org/give/christmasjoy.

To learn more about the Christmas Joy Offering, please visit: Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions: www.pensions.org, click on Plans & Programs
Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges: www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/resc/
From this page, you can also link to the institutions supported.



Our deepest sympathy is extended to Logan and Victoria Esarey on the death of Logan's mother, Lois Winn Esarey, on December 10, in Summerville, SC.

In the New Year

January Events

Monday, January 7

Presbyterian Women's Circle, 10:30 AM, Fellowship Hall
G.P.S., 3:00 PM, beginning a new semester of music and Bible lessons for kids Kindergarten through 8th grade.
Session, 7:00 PM, Session Room



Tuesday, January 8

Cooks Who Care, 9:45 AM & 5:30 PM, Marge Dunn Kitchen. We begin with a devotional at 9:45, then cook during the morning. Meals are packaged for delivery or freezing in the afternoon session. Contact Judy Ware, je_ware@yahoo.com, 666-2269, for more information.



Draw Out the Best

Harland Merriam's Blog

Church members who remember our former Associate Pastor Harland Merriam, and even those of you who never met him, might be interested in reading his blog at www.harlandmerriam.com. The posts are short and often ask a question to get you thinking.

4 Marie Thompson
6 Iliene Hite
7 W.W. "Buck" Flythe,
Elena King, Robert King
10 Dr. James Beard
16 Billy Kirby, Wendy Luther
17 Grace Ann Edgerton
18 Mary Elizabeth Pilson-Bazemore
19 Helen Flythe
21 Bonny Pace
22 Waymon Lockett
23 Milt Davis
24 Lillian Hatchett
28 David Garland
29 Alan Ferguson, Jack Kirby, Rusty Reaser
31 Mattie Wingfield



Prayer Requests

These members and friends of the congregation need our prayers: Family of Lois Esarey (Logan's mother), Ken Ashley, Doc Altizer, Walter Anderson, Marilyn Bremner (S. Ford), Carl and Georgette Bishop, Jim Brunt (N. Davis' brother), Dot Bryson, Kimberly Bryson, Evelyn Clark, Tommy Cobb (M. Dunn), Holli Cox and her Family, Janet Cox, Sandra Bryson Cox, Judy Garland, Daniel Handy, Helen Hawkes, Jean Hill, Jeannie Hinchie (D. Bryson), Joye Hughes, Eddie Levi, Laura Stevens Milton, Regenia Noel (M. Stevens), Ed Pace, Amy Bryson Peck, Anne Peterson, Lauren Prince (N. Moore), Barbara Regen, Walt Seamon, Lil Wall, 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.

All Saints Remembrance

On All Saints Sunday, November 4, the following were remembered during the worship services:

Members of First Presbyterian

Myrtis Lester, December 28, 2017
Dr. Fred Renick, Jr., April 10, 2018

Clarence "Sonny" Benfield, May 19, 2018

Elizabeth DePuy, July 4, 2018

Hilde Chappell, October 24, 2018

Extended Family

Dr. Charles Peterson, Anne Peterson's brother in-law, Melissa Jessup's uncle, January 3, 2018

Spencer Leavitt, Frances Leavitt's son, January 5, 2018

Charlotte Kisseleff, George Townsend's sister, January 10, 2018

Ruth Rothrock, Dru Rothrock's mother, January 11, 2018

Ernie Cobb, Marge Dunn's brother in-law, January 13, 2018

Posey Curren Riedel, Ashby Pinkard's sister, January 14, 2018

Ruby Snow, Jerri DeVault's mother, January 24, 2018

Edgar Sydnor, Lang Mauck's brother, February 11, 2018

James Purks, Mary Page's nephew, February 19, 2018

Ruth Groves Chaney, Smith Chaney's mother, April 1, 2018

Geneva Turner, Susan Smith's mother, Sam Smith's grandmother, April 23, 2018

Elizabeth Pritchett, Ashby Pritchett's mother, May 17, 2018

Elsie Hodnett Minter, Steve Minter's aunt, August 29, 2018

Joseph Hinchcliff, Rev. Mark Hinchcliff's father, September 28, 2018



Please remember

Beef Stew for Grace Network

Our assignment for October through December for Grace Network's food pantry is BEEF STEW, 15-20 ounce cans.

Please include plastic grocery bags with your

donation. Deodorant, toothpaste, bath soap, feminine products, dish detergent, laundry detergent, and toilet

paper are also distributed to food pantry clients. 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.



From the Editor

It's Time

Dear Friends,

This is the last issue of *Steeple Views* that I will publish. I have enjoyed this job, but

I need to give it up now. Communications, like all the other ministries of the church,

is in the hands of the Session, and I don't know what direction they will choose. I

assume that volunteers will be welcomed. My personal email address is

gael.chaney@alumni.duke.edu. Please do not use the Steeple Views email address

for personal messages. I have set it up so someone else can easily take it over. I will

see you around Martinsville and at Presbyterian Women's circle meetings.

God bless you all,

Gael Chaney

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/

Daily Bible Readings: www.presbyterianmission.org/devotion/daily/

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

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THE SESSION

Moderator: Rev. Mark Hinchcliff

Clerk: Nancy Baker

Treasurer: Henry Moore

Class of 2018

Sharon Kirby: Mission/Outreach

Nancy Moore: Stewardship/Communications

Monica Stevens: Christian Education

Class of 2019

Paul Cannaday: Mission/Outreach

Teri Ferguson: Worship

Susan Pilson, Congregational Care

Class of 2020

Denny Casey: Facilities

Ron Rebman: Administration

Kym Tatum: Fellowship

TRUSTEES

2018: Monty Montgomery, Henry Moore

2019: Reed Moore, Ralph Shank

2020: Milton Davis, Duke Ferrell

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