

Vanderbilt

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Welcome to Vanderbilt! We rejoice that you are here to worship God with us.

Children are important members of our faith community and are welcome in worship. Nursery ministry is also available. Please ask an usher if assistance is needed. As a courtesy to others, please turn off cell phones during the service. The asterisk (*) in the bulletin indicates that the congregation is asked to stand as able. We use responsive or unison readings and prayers at different times. The leader will read the words in *italics*, the congregation reads words in **bold print**.

VPC MISSION

Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church is called by God and empowered by the Holy Spirit to live like Christ in a broken world.

- To Proclaim the Gospel
- To Glorify God in worship and deed
- To Equip our congregation for ministry
- To Serve others in Christ's name.

VPC VISION

A congregation...

- ...so grounded in scripture and sustained by prayer,
- ...so committed to spiritual growth and faithful discipleship,
- ...so inviting, welcoming and inclusive,
- ...so nurturing and healing,
- ...so mission-minded,
- ...so vibrant, energetic and open to opportunities to share the Gospel that lives are transformed by the love of Christ.

Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church is a safe place for all people to worship regardless of race, creed, age, cultural background or sexual orientation.

We invite you, members and visitors, to sign our Green Friendship Pads and pass it down your pew and back, to welcome those with whom you are worshipping. If you are visiting, please fill out the blue card and leave it in the green pad.



1225 Piper Blvd., Naples, Florida 34110 — www.vpcnaples.org
 Office: 239-597-5410 — Learning Center: 239-594-9557
The church is a member of the Peace River Presbytery, the Synod of South Atlantic, and the Presbyterian Church (USA) — OneLicense.net # A-719387



September 8, 2024 — 10:00 am — Family Led Worship

The Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

The flowers on the chancel are sponsored in celebration of our 32nd wedding anniversary on September 12 by Jack & Ellen Tanner.

The Fellowship Hour is sponsored by the Education Ministry Team in celebration of Fall Education Kick Off Sunday!

Worship Participants

The Rev. Robert J. Marrow, Pastor
James Cochran, Director of Music, playing the **Richard & Patricia Fors Organ** given to the glory of God and in honor of James Cochran, Organist
Heather Mikes, Director of Christian Education
Karen Chappler, Liturgist
Evangeline Mikes, Youth Liturgist
Julie Carver, Pianist

The Chancel Choir
Victoria Bonavita, Audio/Visual Technician
Greeters: Jan Fern & Becky Wheat
Youth Acolyte: Addison Acx
Ushers: Greg & Julie Borden (Head Ushers), Nancy Guthy, Price & Carol Lindsay, Gwen Salyer
Youth Ushers: Devon Grider & Carter Mikes

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Psalm 146

¹ Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul!

² I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God all my life long.

³ Do not put your trust in princes, in mortals, in whom there is no help.

⁴ When their breath departs, they return to the earth; on that very day their plans perish.

⁵ Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD their God,

⁶ who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them; who keeps faith forever;

⁷ who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry.

The LORD sets the prisoners free; ⁸ the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.

The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.

⁹ The LORD watches over the strangers; he upholds the orphan and the widow,
but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

¹⁰ The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the LORD!

Prelude: Prelude on "Hymn to Joy"

Hal H. Hopson (b. 1933)

Announcements

* Call to Worship:

Here at the feast of God's holy word,

Eyes and ears are opened so that we may all be made glad and filled with hope.

Let us worship God.

* Hymn #464: "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

HYMN TO JOY

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| 1. Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee,
Opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
Drive the gloom of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day. | Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Flowery meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain,
Call us to rejoice in Thee. |
| 2. All Thy works with joy surround Thee,
Earth and heaven reflect Thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around Thee,
Center of unbroken praise. | 3. Mortals, join the happy chorus
Which the morning stars began;
Love divine is reigning o'er us,
Joining all in heaven's plan.
Ever singing, march we onward,
Victors in the midst of strife,
Joyful music leads us sunward
In the triumph song of life. |

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession & Silent Personal Confession

Almighty and compassionate God, every day, in our desire to attain our wants, avoid discomfort, and shun those we do not know or love, we show ourselves to be unworthy of your gifts of life. Of this we are sorely aware, and we ask your power to renew us in body and spirit, that we will be able, through your help, to walk in the way you intend for us. Forgive us and lead us, in Jesus' name. (silence) Amen.

Affirmation of Forgiveness

You are forgiven.

Walk in peace. Amen.

* Gloria Patri

Henry Greatorex (1816-1858)

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, Amen.**

A Moment for Children

Heather Mikes

We invite children to gather up front for a special children's message. After we sing "Jesus Loves Me," children and youth ages PreK-3 through High School may go to Sunday school or families may choose to worship together in the Sanctuary.

**Jesus loves me, this I know, For the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to Him belong, They are weak but He is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me, yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so.**

Prayer of Illumination

The First Reading

James 2:1-10 (11-13), 14-17

^{2:1} My brothers and sisters, do not claim the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ of glory while showing partiality. ² For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, ³ and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here in a good place, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit by my footstool," ⁴ have you not made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? ⁵ Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? ⁶ But you have dishonored the poor person. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into the courts? ⁷ Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you? ⁸ If you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you do well. ⁹ But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. ¹⁰ For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. ¹¹ For the one

who said, "You shall not commit adultery," also said, "You shall not murder." Now if you do not commit adultery but you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. ¹² So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. ¹³ For judgment will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment. ¹⁴ What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but does not have works? Surely that faith cannot save, can it? ¹⁵ If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food ¹⁶ and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? ¹⁷ So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Reading

Mark 7:24-37

²⁴ From there he set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, ²⁵ but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. ²⁶ Now the woman was a gentile, of Syrophoenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. ²⁷ He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁸ But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." ²⁹ Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." ³⁰ And when she went home, she found the child lying on the bed and the demon gone. ³¹ Then he returned from the region of Tyre and went by way of Sidon toward the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³² They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech, and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³ He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. ³⁴ Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." ³⁵ And his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶ Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one, but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷ They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message: "Be Opened"

The Rev. Robert J. Marrow

*** The Affirmation of Faith**

From the Book of Common Worship; Romans 8:1, 28, 38, 39

We believe there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus; for we know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to God's purpose. We are convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Offering

Offertory: "With a Voice of Singing"

Martin Shaw (1875-1958)

The Chancel Choir

With a voice of singing declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia! Utter it even unto the ends of the earth. The Lord hath delivered His people, Alleluia! O be joyful in God, all ye lands. O sing praises to the honor of His name, make His praise to be glorious. With a voice of singing, declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia!

*** Doxology**

OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

***Offertory Prayer**

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

*** Hymn #324: "Open My Eyes That I May See"**

OPEN MY EYES

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| 1. Open my eyes, that I may see
Glimpses of truth Thou hast for me;
Place in my hands the wonderful key
That shall unclasp and set me free. | 2. Open my ears, that I may hear
Voices of truth Thou sendest clear;
And while the wave notes fall on my ear,
Everything false will disappear. <i>Refrain</i> |
|--|--|

Refrain:

- | | |
|--|---|
| Silently now I wait for Thee,
Ready, my God, Thy will to see;
Open my eyes (ears, heart), illumine me,
Spirit divine! | 3. Open my mouth, and let me bear,
Gladly the warm truth everywhere;
Open my heart and let me prepare
Love with Thy children thus to share. <i>Refrain</i> |
|--|---|

*** Commission and Blessing:**

Be strong and do not fear!

We trust in the Lord's blessings of answered prayer and healing.

Listen to the wisdom around you.

We will speak well of our neighbors and teach peace.

Alleluia!

Amen!

*** Benediction Response: "Let There Be Peace on Earth"**

(Copyright 1955 by Jan-Lee Music. Renewed 1983. Used by permission.)

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me. Let there be peace on earth the peace that was meant to be. With God as our Father, children all are we; Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony. Let peace begin with me let this be the moment now. With every step I take let this be my solemn vow. To take each moment and live each moment in peace, eternally. Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.

Postlude: Prelude in C Major

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

Please remain seated until the end of the postlude.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGES FOR NEXT WEEK

September 15, 2024 — 10:00 am — The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sermon: "Follow Me"

First Reading: James 3:1-12 — **Gospel Reading:** Mark 8:27-38




**JOIN US ON SUNDAY,
SEPTEMBER 15, 2024,
10AM WORSHIP
FOR A MOMENT OF
GRATITUDE FOR
JENNIFER CROSSAN**

Thank YOU! You will be missed!
Join us for cake in Fellowship Hall.

Pastor's Bible Study

JOIN US AS WE STUDY THE
UPCOMING READINGS FOR
WORSHIP.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO
REFLECT ON THE WORD OF GOD!



WEDNESDAY
EVENINGS AT 6PM
IN THE LIBRARY

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The Session, at its August 26, 2024 meeting approved a request of the Congregational Nominating Committee (CNC) to hold a Congregational meeting on **Sunday, September 8, 2024** immediately following the 10am worship service for the purpose of approving a Deacon and an at-large representative to the CNC to fill unexpired terms.

- Richard A. Hilton, Clerk of Session

CNC NOMINATIONS:



STEVE BLAD joined VPC full-time by letter of transfer in 2003 after being a part-time visitor since the late 1980's. He has previously served as a Deacon, an Elder, on Building & Grounds, Personnel, the Transition Team, as an Usher and the Endowment Team. Steve is filling a vacancy for an at-large member on the CNC.



BARBARA HEBERT joined VPC in August of 2023 and has become an active volunteer on the Membership & Involvement Team, an usher and is the coordinator of the VPC Ladies Who Lunch. Barbara is filling a vacancy for the Class of 2026 Board of Deacons.

Fall Education Kick Off is Sunday, September 8!

We are starting a new season of Sunday School at Vanderbilt. Fall Education Kick Off is for all God's children - growing in our faith and deepening our relationship with God in a variety of ways.

VPC KIDS SHOW & TELL SUNDAY! SEPT. 8

Bring something from your summer to show your friends in Sunday School, like something you got at the beach, a picture from your trip, a fun activity you did, or a project you made.

YOU'RE INVITED

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIGHTS

**CHILDREN & YOUTH GROUPS
FELLOWSHIP HALL 5:30-7PM
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2024
EMAIL HEATHER FOR INFO
HMIKES@VPCNAPLES.ORG**



Help us help others
by serving this
important mission!



Friday, September 13 at 1pm
We carpool from the church
returning around 7pm

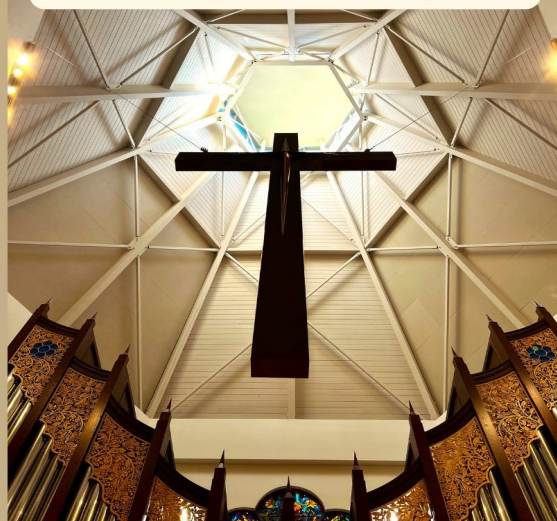
Join
Us!



Email Karen Chappler
kchappler@aol.com



Join us "Under the Spire!"



A.I.M.

Adventures In Membership
Are you interested in joining
our church family?

Join us for worship and stay for a
brief Q&A with Pastor Rob as we
chat about Vanderbilt and what it
means to be involved in the
ministry of Christ's church.

*childcare provided

September 8 - 11:15am

LUNCH BUNCH

Sign up to join us for lunch!

Small groups gather at a local
restaurant to enjoy lunch at 12pm.

• Our next date is:
September 15, 2024



PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
PEACEMAKING AND RECONCILIATION

BLESSED ARE THE PEACEMAKERS,
FOR THEY WILL BE CALLED
THE CHILDREN OF GOD.

Envelopes are in the
Narthex for your donation.

SEPTEMBER 8-
OCTOBER 6, 2024

PRAYER CONCERNS

Please continue to hold in prayer our church family and friends facing illness, injury and hardship. Also, if you have any joys or concerns, let us know. They are lifted up daily through our intercessory prayer ministry. Prayer requests will be kept in the bulletin for 30 days, after which a new prayer request card should be submitted.

PRAY MORE

worry less

Alexis Bevan	Bill & Joyce Dersch	The Kauffman Family	Marilyn & Sam Schellar
Peg Black	The Earhart Family	Cynthia Lacher	Dr. Seefer
Lee Burwinkle	Asia Elsbree	Andy Lowry	Shirley
Adriana Caruso	Joe Feddern	Meridee Lowry	Harriet Shouldice
Bob & Jan Conrad	Joe Felipe	The Lucarelli Family	Erik Strandwitz
Stephanie Copley	Gabrielle	Doris Martin	Bruce & Heidi Stryker
Dick Creviston	Lynn & Gerry Greenblatt	Dr. Michael	Traci Turner
Sigrid "Siggi"	Kate Hafner	Terry Morehouse	Frances Tuttle
Deneke & Family	Sandra Johnson	Geri Muck	Yvonne & Tony Van Rooyen
		Donna Mullin	Carol Ward
		Ivana Novelli	Bill & CC Waskey
		Laura Piipponen	Marion Wayenberg
		Father Monty Sayers	Chris Wood & Family

Happy Birthday!

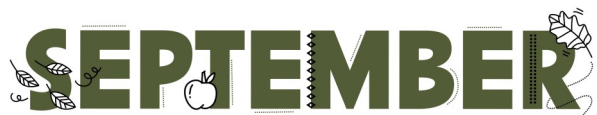
Karen Schulz	9/8
Bruce Stryker	9/8
Judy Istock	9/8
Susan Hallin	9/8
Joan Harter	9/8
*Marsha Reed	9/10
*Debra Bevilacqua	9/11
Paul Rowley	9/12
Martha Gates	9/13

Gillian Raymond	9/13
Jonas Rockhold	9/14

***Birthday Club** Members give one dollar for each year of their life to celebrate their special day. The Education Team may annually request up to 5% from the Club for Youth and Education Ministry!

Happy Anniversary!

Don & Greta Corcoran	9/9
John & Anna Maria Miles	9/10
Jack & Ellen Tanner	9/12
Scott & Claudia Cunningham	9/12



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE MEN AND WOMEN SERVING OUR COUNTRY

If you have any additions or corrections to the list below, please email Michele Byrd (mbyrd@vpcnaples.org). Thank you for your continued prayers for these military personnel.

<p>ENSIGN Francis Alvares US Navy, Pensacola, FL (Friend of Jay & Mary Chesslo)</p> <p>MSgt Kristopher Chesslo USAF (Jay & Mary Chesslo's nephew)</p> <p>LT Wyatt R. Dawley US Navy Intel/SEAL Team (Debbie Dawley's grandson)</p>	<p>MAJ Allen Fujinaka US Army (LaVerne Perrollaz's granddaughter's husband)</p> <p>COL Jessica D. Grassetti (Claudia Polzin's niece)</p> <p>E4 Brian Guzman USAF - Colorado (Cesar Guzman's son)</p> <p>SGT Jacob Guzman US Army-Tennessee (Cesar Guzman's son)</p>	<p>CPTN Devon Hennessey Korea (Toni Hubbard)</p> <p>SGT Wesley Kennedy USMC - Okinawa, Japan</p> <p>MAJ Rex Rafferty USAF—Alabama (Norm & Linda Parker's granddaughter's husband)</p> <p>LCPL Michael Russell USMC - Cape Lejeune, NC (Heather Anderson's son)</p>
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NOTES FROM THE OFFICE:
Please let the office know if you are in the hospital. [239-597-5410](tel:239-597-5410)