

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



March 16, 2025 — 10:00 am

The Second Sunday in Lent

The flowers on the Chancel are donated in celebration of Riley Grider's birthday.

The Fellowship Hour is sponsored
in remembrance of Ed Haller from the VPC Sunshine Gang.

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
Mike Swain, Liturgist

Julie Carver, Pianist
The Chancel Choir
Victoria Bonavita, Audio/Visual Technician
Greeters: Joan Butler & Ann Grundstrom
Ushers: Becky Wheat (Head Usher), Ron & Linda Addaman, Ben Hood, Gwen Salyer, Joe Trees

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Psalm 27: 1-6

¹ The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

² When evildoers assail me to devour my flesh—my adversaries and foes—they shall stumble and fall.

³ Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear;
though war rise up against me, yet I will be confident.

⁴ One thing I asked of the LORD; this I seek: to live in the house of the LORD
all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in his temple.

⁵ For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble;
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will set me high on a rock.

⁶ Now my head is lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent
sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the LORD.

Prelude: Three Settings of “To God Be the Glory”

Friedrich Wilhelm Zachau (1663-1712)

Johann Gottfried Walther (1684-1748)

Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

Announcements

The Call to Worship

The psalmist sings, One thing I asked of the Lord, that I will seek after;

To live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,

To behold the beauty of the Lord, and inquire in God's temple.

God is good, and in love and mercy greets us here.

Let us worship God.

* **Hymn #263:** “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

ST DENIO

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| <p>1. Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of
Days,
Almighty, victorious, Thy great name we
praise.</p> <p>2. Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
Nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in
might;
Thy justice, like mountains, high soaring
above Thy clouds, which are fountains of
goodness and love.</p> | <p>3. To all, life Thou givest, to both great and small;
In all life Thou livest, the true life of all;
We blossom and flourish like leaves on the
tree,
Then wither and perish; but naught changeth
Thee.</p> <p>4. Thou reignest in glory, Thou rulest in light,
Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their
sight;
All praise we would render; O help us to see
'Tis only the splendor of light hideth Thee!</p> |
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Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession & Silent Personal Confession

Merciful God, you have made us citizens of heaven, but we confess that we have set our minds on earthly things. We have let our desire for security restrain our commitment to serve the poor. We have let our fear of danger curb our obligation to love our enemies. We have let our love of things dull our generosity to the needy. We have let our craving for public status prevent our honesty about hidden sins. Yet, you know the desires of our heart and nothing is hidden from you. By the power of the Holy Spirit, conform our sin-weakened bodies to the glory of Christ, that we may be the body of Christ for the world. *(silence)* Amen.

Affirmation of Forgiveness

God, our light and our salvation, does not forsake us or leave us with our sin. In Christ we are forgiven and offered the gift of healing repentance.

Thanks be to God. 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

Philippians 3:17-4:1

¹⁷ Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. ¹⁸ For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. ¹⁹ Their end is destruction, their god is the belly, and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. ²⁰ But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are

expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. ²¹ He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. ^{4:1} Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Reading

Luke 13:31-35

³¹ At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." ³² He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. ³³ Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.'

³⁴ Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! ³⁵ See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.' "

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message: "Are You Willing?"

The Rev. Robert J. Marrow

***Affirmation of Faith**

from a Brief Statement of Faith

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still. Amen.

Reception of New Members

Offering

Offertory: "Guide My Feet"

African-American Spiritual, arr. Wendell Whallum

The Chancel Choir

Text can be found on page 354 of The Hymnal

*** 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 #85: "What Wondrous Love is This"**

WONDROUS LOVE

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| <p>1. What wondrous love is this,
O my soul, O my soul,
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this
that caused the Lord of bliss
To bear the heavy cross for my soul, for my
soul, To bear the heavy cross for my soul!</p> <p>2. To God and to the Lamb,
I will sing, I will sing,
To God and to the Lamb, I will sing;
To God and to the Lamb</p> | <p>who is the great I Am,
While millions join the theme,
I will sing, I will sing;
While millions join the theme, I will sing!</p> <p>3. And when from death I'm free,
I'll sing on, I'll sing on.
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;
And when from death I'm free,
I'll sing and joyful be,
And through eternity, I'll sing on, I'll sing on.
And through eternity I'll sing on.</p> |
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*** Commission and Blessing:**

Sisters and brothers, we are called to stand firm in the Lord.

The Spirit of the triune God will strengthen and sustain us throughout these forty days.

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 F Major"

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Please remain seated until the end of the postlude.

**SCRIPTURE PASSAGES
FOR NEXT WEEK**

**March 23, 2025
10:00 am**

The Third Sunday in Lent

Sermon: "Bearing Fruit"

First Reading: Isaiah 55:1-9

Gospel Reading: Luke 13:1-9

WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS



Max and Janey Borden joined VPC on March 2 as full time members. They have a home in Rochester, Indiana where they spend about 7 months and the other 5 are in Naples at Stonebridge Country Club. They have three grown children (including Greg) and eight grandchildren. As lifelong United Methodists, they were both very active in their churches serving in many volunteer leadership roles. Max was a farmer and worked in the agricultural supply industry until he retired. Janey worked for the Indiana Department of Corrections and in social services. Janey has been an active choral singer and performed in community theater. Max enjoys golfing in his free time. They are excited to be members of VPC and get involved here.

March 16, 2025 — 4 p.m.

The Winner of the Dr. James B. Cochran

Organ Prize:

Augustine Sobeng



Augustine Sobeng is a native of Ghana who is studying at the Eastman School of Music and pursuing a DMA degree in organ performance. Highlights of the concert include works by Bach, Widor and Vierne.

Join the VPC Book Club!



Our next meeting is Monday,
March 17, 2025

at 1:30pm at the church.

We will be discussing

Hello Beautiful

by Ann Napolitano

"A Decades Long family saga of love, grief and basketball, inspired by Little Women."

For more information,
email Peggy Landon
mldan711@gmail.com



**March is Habitat for Humanity
Month at VPC!**

Our goal is to raise \$250,000!



For more information about volunteering on-site,
email Karen Chappler - kchappler@aol.com.



Wednesday Night Lights

Habitat Build Challenge

March 19 - Construction

March 23 - Penny Voting

"Love your neighbor." - Mark 12:31

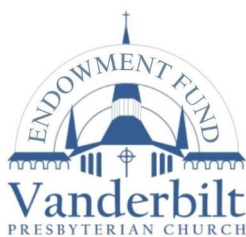


**RESPOND TO GOD'S LOVE.
ENSURE THE FUTURE OF VPC.
MAKE A PLANNED GIFT.**

- CASH
- STOCK/GIFTS OF SECURITIES
- BEQUESTS
- REAL ESTATE
- LIFE INSURANCE
- RETIREMENT ASSETS
- IRA CHARITABLE TRUST ROLLOVER
- CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITY
- CHARITABLE REMAINDER TRUST
- CHARITABLE LEAD TRUST

Questions? Contact a member of the **Endowment Fund Ministry**

Team: Steve Blad, Julie Borden, Chair, Debbie Dawley, Doug Dunn, Don Fern, Steve Kutler, Jon White & Jackie Woodring.



GREAT AMERICAN CLAM PASS BEACH CLEAN UP
KEEP COLLIER BEAUTIFUL

Let's join together and show our commitment to keeping our beaches clean.

SATURDAY MARCH 22, 2025 **START AT** 08:00AM - DONE

Charles Whittington TEXT (239) 216-3137

465 Seagate Drive, then take boardwalk

STEPHEN MINISTRY

Stephen Ministers make forgiveness evident by accepting the care receivers as he or she is. They show that the other person does not have to earn acceptance. *"Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God."* - Romans 15:7



We're bringing a team of 10 middle school and high school students to the 2025 Food Bowl Games! Email Heather hmikes@vpcnaples.org if you'd like to serve Meals of Hope and join us for lunch afterwards.



COLLIER HARVEST

Join us to pack bags of healthy and nutritious food for our hungry neighbors across Collier County.
Monday, March 3, 2025
4:15pm - unloading van
6pm - bagging food at 4451 Mercantile Ave.
Email Pete Rodino pvrodino@aol.com to volunteer!

Holy Week

SCHEDULE

- ***Palm Sunday** April 13 8:00 & 10:00 am
Worship includes Palm Processional with Children and Youth (10am)
- ***Maundy Thursday** April 17 6:00 pm Fellowship Hall
Dinner provided by Boston Beer Garden
Call the office by **April 14** to sign up 597-5410
- ***Good Friday** April 18 7:00 pm
Tenebrae with Chancel Choir
- ***Easter Sunday** April 20 8:00 & 10:00 am
Worship with special music. Sunday School for children & youth including Flowering of the Cross & Easter Egg Hunt (10am)



*Worship in the Sanctuary

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**

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.

Betty Angulo & Aguilar Family	Dick Creviston	Sandra Johnson	Sam & Marilyn Schellar
Susan Aufderhaar	Teresa DeBaun	Ed Kirby	Ron Shaffer
John Baird	Annette Dietrich	Doris Martin	Ron Sieling
Chuck & Kristi Beattie	Louise Eliot	The McDonald Family	Matthew Skrip
Johnny Beckman	Jackie Elmer	Ellen Morton	Erik Strandwitz
Alexis Bevan	Max & Pat Gould	Joan Mountford	Bruce & Heidi Stryker
Adriana Caruso	Lynn & Gerry Greenblatt	Donna Mullin	Linda Surawiak
Dick Clark	The Grider Family	Ivana Novelli	Bob Townsend
Pat Colby	Kate Hafner	Pocket Patterson	Yana and family in Ukraine
Bob & Jan Conrad	Pam Heimberger	Laura Piipponen	Yvonne & Tony Van Rooyen
Sonja Cookson	Elaine Hinkle	Jodi Reckmeyer	Jay Wilson
	Tom Hurley	Father Monty Sayers	Chris Wood & Family

Happy Birthday!

Bill Hoffman	3/17	Maureen Clark	3/19
Eliana Lynn Berger	3/17	* Lynn Thomas	3/20
Pat Kirby	3/17	* Karen Hiller	3/21
Grayson Trees	3/18	Bill Cattrell	3/21
Alayne Eastman	3/18	Marsha Bennett	3/22
Hans Hoppner	3/19		
Karen Talford	3/19		



*** Birthday Club Members** give one dollar for each year of their life and **** Anniversary Club Members** give two dollars for each year of their marriage to celebrate or commemorate these special events. The Education Team may annually request up to 5% from the Club for Youth and Education Ministry!

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.

LT Wyatt R. Dawley US Navy Intel (Debbie Dawley's grandson)	E4 Brian Guzman USAF - Colorado (Cesar Guzman's son)	1st LT Tyler Olbrich US Army - Iraq (friend of Karen Hiller)
PVT E2 Joshua Fowler, US Army, Columbus, GA (Joe & Sharon Doggett's grandson)	SGT Jacob Guzman US Army-Tennessee (Cesar Guzman's son)	MAJ Rex Rafferty USAF—Alabama (Norm & Linda Parker's granddaughter's husband)
MAJ Allen Fujinaka US Army (LaVerne Perrollaz's granddaughter's husband)	CPTN Devon Hennessey Korea (Toni Hubbard)	LCPL Michael Russell USMC - Camp Lejeune, NC (Heather Anderson's son)
COL Jessica D. Grasseti (Claudia Polzin's niece)	SGT Wesley Kennedy USMC - Ft. Myers, FL	

NOTES FROM THE OFFICE:

Please let the office know if you are in the hospital. **597-5410**