

Venice View

A monthly newsletter of Venice Presbyterian Church

September 2024

Established 1828



“Love God, Love Others, Make Disciples of Jesus”

Venice Presbyterian Church

4244 Layhigh Road

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Ross, Ohio 45061

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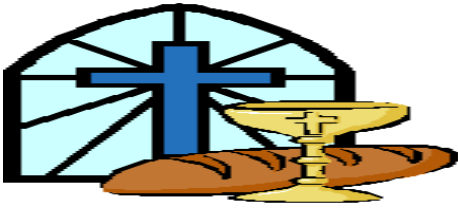
email: churchoffice@thevenicechurch.com

www.thevenicechurch.com

Adult Sunday School - 9:00a

Worship Service - 10:30a

Junior Church - during worship



The Sacrament of Holy Communion
will be celebrated on:

September 1

Please “Like” our
Facebook page.
Venice Presbyterian
Church!



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STAFF

Pastor
Rev. Owen Derrick

Administrative Assistant
Gwen Kohlman

Intermediate Youth Director
Beth Ziepfel

Choir Director
Houston Tyrrell

Music Director
Ben Tweedt

Audio/Visual
Owen Ziepfel

Custodian
Larry Hayes

Venice View is published monthly.
All items should be submitted by the
third Tuesday of each month.

WELCOME

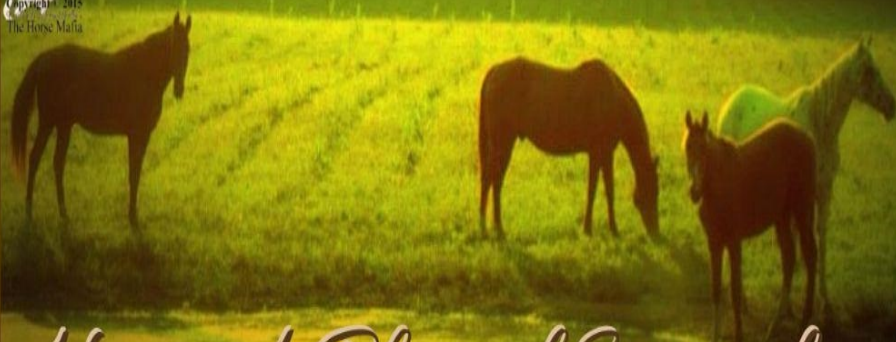
September Blessings!

Take time to enjoy the little things that make **Life** so wonderful during *September...*

Crisper morning and evening air, Friday night football, Saturday football, trees with leaves beginning to turn a kaleidoscope of colors, hoodies, hot coffee, boots, and jeans. May *September* surround you with *Peace, Joy, Happiness, Hope and Love.*

~Charity M. Richey-Bentley


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The Horse Mafia



Have A Blessed September!



From the Manse

As we prepare for the return to school and re-entry into the “normal” life that is fall, winter and spring, we will soon be saying “goodbye” to the “lazy, hazy days” of summer. In the church here, this means the continuation of Sunday school and the blessed busy-ness of having school children on the church premises during the week. Already, I feel a sense of anticipation! There is something uplifting about the presence of children in our midst!

Our role as a place of Christian education is a vital one. It is also a difficult one, in a world where there are so many competing demands on people’s time, and it seems like the traditional approaches are less and less effective. Particularly when it comes to children and youth, life for them is so significantly more complex and demanding than even 20 years ago.

But, no matter how different life seems, and no matter how much we think children have changed, one thing has never changed: the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Now more than ever before, our children need to hear the Good News of God’s love for them expressed through Jesus Christ. Now more than ever, our children need to know the security and protective embrace of a Christian community that looks out for them and encourages them in their faith – including all their questions about “this God stuff,” as my daughter once put it.

In a small way, we at VPC have begun to see some growth in this area. I’ll be honest, I thought I would give the “purple bag” children’s sermon a rest during summer because I wasn’t sure the kids would always be there during the holidays. I’m so delighted to have been proven wrong. What I think we’re doing right is that we are finding ways to reach children and youth with the unapologetic message of God’s never-failing and limitless love for them, in ways that speak to them where they are at, and in ways that connect with them.

In all of this, I’m reminded of a point I learned some time ago from a book my wife Dianne brought to my attention. This book proposes a different view of what curriculum means. The author suggests that everything we do as a church is our education curriculum – not just the resources we use for our Sunday school teachers. No matter what we do as a church, we are teaching our children what it is to be a Christian community in the world today.

(cont'd)

This is a radically different view of education in the Church. Suddenly, instead of Christian education being something that children might be dropped off for on a Sunday morning, it becomes a responsibility we all share as we go about our daily lives. When we highlight the plight of the less fortunate in our area by giving school supplies to those who can't afford them, or by participating in the RAMM food pantry, we are teaching our children and their friends about the presence of the church in the community. When we support ministries such Haven House, Ronald McDonald House, Shriners etc., we teach our children the importance of looking beyond our immediate surroundings into a world of hurt and pain and doing what we can to help those least able to help themselves.

By the same token, just as the many positive examples we set are educational opportunities, so our less-than-admirable behaviors are also ways in which we teach our children things about the church. When mom and dad argue on the way to church on Sunday morning – that's curriculum! When they notice – and they do – that adults in church are just as likely to speak ill about each other as adults outside the church, they get the message that church is no different from the rest of life. And that's a sad message for the church to be sending. And it's not one that I see being sent very often here at VPC, which is because there are shining examples in our midst of people who live out their Christian faith without the need to bad-mouth others.

Yours in the risen Christ,

Pastor Owen Derrick

¹ Harris, Marie, *Fashion Me A People* (Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 1989)

Ushers

1st Sunday	Youth Group	<i>Lee Steenken will call on usher volunteers according to this General Usher Schedule.</i>
2nd Sunday	Deacons	
3rd Sunday	Men of the Church	
4th Sunday	Women of the Church	

Worship Assistants

September		October	
01	Houston Tyrrell	06	Lee Steenken
08	Greg Young	13	Jan Krier
15	Dan Young	20	Gayla Young
22	Sue Pigg	27	Jerry Rohrer
29			

Communion Preparers

September 1st Greg Young
October 6th Jerry Rohrer (World Communion)

Trustee of the Month

September Becky Berling
October Pete Berling

Attendance

<u>June</u>	<u>July</u>
02.....	07.....67
09.....80	14.....76
16.....71	21.....80
23.....70	28.....48
30.....103	

Thankful for You!

Hello, September!



Please look below and on the following pages for opportunities to participate, serve, and have fun!

Deacon Meeting - Wednesday, **September 4th** at 6 p.m.-Annex

Dorcas Circle - Tuesday, **September 17th** at 10 a.m. at the home of Lois Beddard. Sharon Thompson will offer devotions.

Session Meeting - Thursday, **September 12th** at 7:00 p.m.-Annex

Togetherness Circle - Tuesday, **September 24th** at 1:30 p.m.-Annex

Parish Life

Potluck Luncheon - There will be a Potluck picnic after the outdoor worship service which is scheduled for Sunday, September 8th at 10:30 a.m. at Heritage Park. Chicken, drinks, and utensils will be provided. Please bring a dish to share. We hope you will join us for food, fun, and fellowship! See you there!

Just a reminder - If you received flowers in a vase from a Potluck Luncheon, please return the vase to Joy so they can be re-used. Thank you very much!

Deacons

Church Coffee Hour - *Thanks from the Deacons!*

We would like to thank everyone for their donations for our coffee hour. It's wonderful to see so many folks stay to socialize and enjoy the yummy treats provided. We are happy to set everything up, but we couldn't do it without your contributions. So, Thank You! Please remember the sign-up sheet is always on the table at the top of the stairs.



MISSIONS

As we head into Fall, look for some new mission opportunities in the coming months. VPC Session recently approved hosting QPR training at our church. This would be open to the public, free of charge. What is QPR training? Just as CPR training helps save a life in a medical emergency, QPR training teaches ordinary people to potentially save a life when an at-risk person is having a mental health emergency. Anxiety and depression are common among our youth and our elderly. Knowing how to react when a family member or friend is in a crisis could be life-saving. More information is coming soon! Your ideas for other kinds of programming and outreach in the community are also appreciated! Please see a member of the Mission Team or a Session member with your input.

September gets us back into our routine. If we all can routinely remember to pick up one item each week for the Mission bins, SO many people can be helped! Please remember Haven House—cleaning supplies/paper goods, RAMM—personal care items, VPC Pantry—food items. Also remember to collect plastic bags, gently used blankets, socks, shoes, and reusable plastic water bottles for community outreach. In addition, don't forget beverage tabs for Shriners Hospital and donations for Birthday Blessings. Thank you once again!

HELPING HAND



The Venice Presbyterian Church Pantry has had many visits throughout the year. We could not help this many families without your generosity and kindness. If you can bring just one item per week from our list of needed items, or would like to make a financial donation for “Venice pantry” to purchase needed items, it would be a great help.

1. Jelly & Peanut Butter
2. Cereal
3. Canned Meat (tuna, chicken)
4. Canned Pasta Meals and Soup
5. Spaghetti Sauce & Pasta
6. Ramen Noodles

Any questions, please see Dave Wheat or Rick Wepler.



RAMM
www.rammbutler.org

The RAMM meeting will be Thursday, **September 5th** at 6:00 p.m. at VPC Annex.

The RAMM monthly pantry is held the third Saturday of each month, from 10am to 11:30am at the Ross Intermediate School. If you would like to volunteer your time or have donations of perishable or non-perishable food items, personal care items, or cleaning supplies, please contact Greg Young at 513-212-7950.

Financial donations are greatly appreciated by cash, check or Venmo to @ RAMM-Ross and Morgan Ministries. Thank you for your continued generosity and support!

Sharing Closet

If anyone would like to help sort and hang clothing, we meet every Wednesday 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Please check with Carole Wheat for additional information.

OUTDOOR WORSHIP SERVICE AND POTLUCK PICNIC



The outdoor worship service and picnic are scheduled for **September 8, 2024** from 10 am until 3 pm at Heritage Park. The worship service will begin at 10:30 am at the park and will include baptism for Chloe and Joey Godbey and Addy Asher. We will have seating there, but if you have an extra camp chair you might throw it in your car.

A potluck picnic will follow the worship service. Chicken, drinks, and utensils will be provided, so just bring a dish to share.

After the picnic, Beth Ziepfel and the youth have some fun games for the kids. There will be a cornhole tournament, bingo and an amazing race scavenger hunt. It should be tons of fun.

If, for any reason, the weather does not cooperate, we will move the service back to the church. We hope you, your family and anyone else you want to bring are able to join us for food, fun, and fellowship. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to call Gayla at 513-836-0020 or email her at

gaylayoung@fuse.net

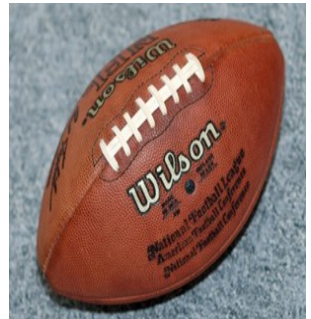
JOY (Just Older Youth) Group



Our next JOY Group outing will be held on Thursday, **September 19th**. Ben is having a trio show at Caffe Vivace showcasing all original compositions, many of which are going to be on his upcoming album. We have reserved 24 spots for the show. Our arrival time is 6:30 p.m. for the 7 pm set, so we will plan to meet at the church at 5:45 to carpool there. They have coffee, cocktails, beer, wine and light sandwich and flatbread offerings. We have purchased the 24 tickets for \$10 a piece, but there is a minimum requirement of drinks and/or food of \$15 on top of that. Space is limited, so make sure you sign up right away if you intend to go. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call at 513-836-0020 or email me at gavlayoung@fuse.net.

TAILGATE PARTY

The Venice Church is planning to host a tailgate party before the Ross Rams Varsity Football game on Friday, **September 20, 2024** in the parking lot by the football field. We will be setting up around 5:30 p.m. and handing out free hot dogs, chips, and water. We will have some cornhole games set up and some music playing! We would love to see as many of our Venice congregation there to help us cheer on the Rams and help reach out to the Ross community. Come stay the whole time or just stop by and say hello! We plan to attend the game afterwards and support the football team, the cheerleaders, and the band. Any questions or if you would like to help, call Gayla at 513-836-0020 or email gavlayoung@fuse.net.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWSLETTER

September 2024

YOUTH GROUP

(Sunday mornings 9:30-10:15 in the LOFT room of the annex)

L.O.F.T. = Living Our Faith Together through service, study, prayer, & fun!

Youth is meeting weekly and continuing with monthly service and fun! Check out our upcoming September events.

Contact Beth Ziepfel with questions 513-490-5048 or

givemeaz303@gmail.com.

LOFT Living Our Faith Together

SEPTEMBER

- Sunday, Sept. 1 LOFT 9:30-10 - Youth will usher/greet
- Sunday, Sept. 8
 - **NO LOFT** - Church picnic at Heritage Park
 - Youth will work the games for the youngest kids!
- Sunday, Sept. 15
 - LOFT 9:30-10 - Youth will setup/serve/clean up for Coffee Hour today!
- Sunday, Sept. 22: LOFT 9:30 - 10:15
- Sunday, Sept 29: LOFT 9:30 - 10:15
 - SUNDAY FUNDAY at Miami Whitewater Park (1-4)

JUNIOR CHURCH

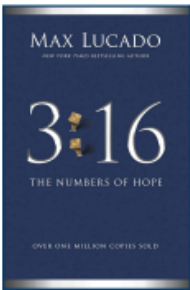
(Sunday mornings during worship)

Junior church continues meeting each Sunday during worship. In our *Grow Together Now* curriculum, we are learning about kindness.



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

(Sunday mornings @ 9 a.m. in the annex)



Adult Sunday School begins a new adventure on **September 15th** with Max Lucado's *3:16 The Numbers of Hope*. Regardless of our spiritual maturity or biblical knowledge, we all need to be reminded of John 3:16's promise and message of hope, life, and joy for eternity. Join us Sunday mornings in the annex at 9 a.m! All are welcomed! See Kim Young for more information.

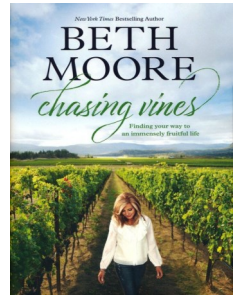
COFFEE CONVERSATIONS

(Thursday mornings @ 9:30 a.m. in the annex)

Coffee Conversations is back in September. Join us Thursday mornings starting **September 12th** at 9:30 a.m. in the annex. All are welcome! See Judy Bohne with questions.

There is a longing in every human soul to matter. The great relief is finding out that you do matter already without making one single change. But everything does change when you let your Maker show you how He can take all that concerns you and, sooner or later, here or there, subtly or astonishingly, make it matter too. God uses it - all of it. Nothing is wasted or doesn't matter.

In *Chasing Vines*, Beth Moore gives us fresh hope, revealing the abundant secrets of a fruitful, God-delighting life by tracing the images of vine, branch, and fruit through Scripture. God's brilliant design for us is to live a fruitful, abundant, meaningful life.



Youth Group Pictures

Stricker's Grove

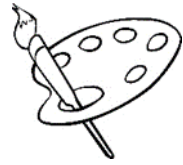
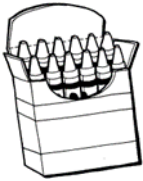


Ronald McDonald House



Preschool News

The preschool staff started back to work on August 19, and our students will be starting school on September 3 and 4. We are looking forward to a year of learning and fun!



We are very excited to welcome Tracy Ferneding as our aide this year. Her three children attended VPP and she has been a substitute teacher for us for several years.

In September, we will be getting to know all of our new friends and learning about rules and expectations at school. Students will practice recognizing and writing their name.

We are looking forward to a year full of learning and fun!



PRAYERS



**** Please pray for Brayden Bastin, Wilma Butterfield, Kenley Commins, David Garrett, Katie Gobin, Ruth Guenther, Dale Hanson, Pat Jackson, Kylee Phillips, Nancy Renner, Gail Richardson, Debbie Schwab, J.T. Swartzel, Audrey Vogerl, Rick and Candy Weppler, Rosemary Wisecup, Joan Wright, Jackie Yust, and Beth Ziepfel**

Pastor Owen's Birthday Celebration



SEPTEMBER



BIRTHDAYS

- | | | | |
|----|----------------------|----|---------------------|
| 01 | Sabreena Cherrington | 20 | Kevin Unwin |
| 03 | Julia Ziepfel | 23 | John Kahmann |
| 05 | Diana Vereker | 24 | Ben Tweedt |
| 06 | Eddie Guenther | 26 | Jody Asher |
| 13 | Nancy Bohne | 26 | Tom Licata |
| 13 | Garrett Boyle | 28 | Marcia Collisnworth |
| 13 | Michelle Schwab | 29 | Mari Courtney |
| 16 | Jennifer Guenther | 29 | Mike Tragesser |
| 18 | Kirk Hamilton | 30 | Gideon Davis |
| 18 | Monica Schwab | | |
| 19 | Karlana Boyle | | |

ANNIVERSARIES

- 08 Gary and Diane McBreen
11 Tad and Tami Adams



If we have missed your birthday or anniversary, please contact the church office at 513-738-1317. Thank you.

