

# Connect, Grow & Go

To Glorify God as a Disciple-Making Outpost of Kingdom Life



*Fall Festival & Trunk or Treat*

*Here's What's Going on at VPC in October 2019*

*Beginning the Journey*



*Breaking Bread Together*



## VPC Staff

### Senior Pastor

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# Our Vision in Action

*To Glorify  
God As A  
Disciple-  
Making  
Outpost Of  
Kingdom Life*

### Regular Office Hours

Monday - Thursday  
9am - 4pm  
Friday, 9am - 12pm

### Worship Service Hours\*

Sunday, 10am  
\*beginning November 3, will  
will have two services:  
9am & 11am

### Office Phone

941-488-2258

### Library Hours

Monday - Thursday  
10-12pm  
Sunday, 8:30-11:30am

## Session

### Teaching Elders

Christopher Romig  
Carolyn Wilson

### Clerk of Session

Laurie Wright

Dick Edmunds

Tom Hoffman

Bob Painter

Bob Allen

Nick Clemmer

Sheryl Morford

Jamal Sarikoki

Jennie Chaplain

Carolyn Stephens

Jim Weeks

Shelly Wharton

## Human Resources

Dick Edmunds (*Chair*)

Carlene Painter

David Schoenthaler

Anna Marie Brummett

Bob Jelenchick

Sydna Zeliff

Nick Clemmer

Diane Sharp

Carol Dickinson

## Board of Trustees

Bob Allen (*Chair*)

Skip Sayers

Richard Gilbert

Ann Woody

Mary Gregory

Fred Francis

## Today's Act of Kindness

"For the Lord your God is living among you. He is a mighty savior. He will take delight in you with gladness. With his love, he will calm all your fears. He will rejoice over you with joyful songs." Zephaniah 3:17

Take time to thank God for all he has done and ask him to give you courage to continue to pursue the plans he has for you. Remember that he sees you through eyes of kindness.

## ***Did You Know?***

Did you know that you could contribute to the church directly from your IRA?

If you are 70½ and are taking your required minimum distribution (RMD), you can use all or part of it to contribute directly to Venice Presbyterian Church since VPC is a 501(c) (3) organization. In this way, you will not add to your gross taxable income and the amount will be considered a charitable contribution.

If you do this, you may not deduct the amount as an itemized contribution on your taxes but the amount will not be taxed as income either. Keeping your taxable income lower may help reduce other tax deductions such as Social Security and Medicare.

The maximum allowable amount is \$100,000 per year for couples filing jointly, \$200,000 if you and your spouse file separately and have separate IRAs.

The contribution must be made directly to the church; it cannot come to you first or it would be considered income and therefore taxable.

Some ROTH IRAs may qualify but you would need to clarify that with your tax adviser.

Since RMDs can be taken quarterly, you could use this as your church contribution instead of weekly or monthly giving.

Here's an example: Assume your RMD from your IRA is \$25,000. You decide to give \$5,000 directly to church from your IRA and you take the \$20,000 difference, you would pay taxes on the \$20K, not the entire \$25K RMD. So, you will get a \$5K tax deduction.

This is called a Qualified Charitable Distribution or QCD.

You need to complete a form available from your tax adviser and you must be 70½ . It must come out of your IRA before the December 31 deadline in any year.

Sounds like a great way to help VPC fulfill its Vision and save you some taxable income.

You should consult an adviser to help you and to ensure that you have specified VPC as the charity and that your name is on the contribution so that VPC knows it's from you.



## ***Safety Team***

What does it mean to be safe in church? Venice Presbyterian Church has taken steps to provide our congregation with an environment to feel and be safe. Each Sunday when you enter, you see our security guard, you see an AED on the wall, and new CINTAS First Aid boxes all over the campus. We want to take the next step in Church Safety by creating a team to help us in a Safety Ministry. If you are interested in being part of a Safety Ministry please contact [cobrien@venicepres.org](mailto:cobrien@venicepres.org) especially if you have a police or military background.

## ***Updates***

LED lights were installed in the Sanctuary – saving tons on wattage and electricity

Plants were planted outside of Fellowship Hall by some amazing volunteers!

An automatic door will be installed in the women's restroom in the sanctuary for safer entry and exiting.





## ***Get to know VPC's Ruling Elders***

**Tom Hoffman**

sitions as pool cleaner, landscape maintenance and sprinkler system technician, home handyman and organizer. I also enjoy golf and volunteer work as well as being a Guatemala stove team member.

We were initially drawn to VPC by the teaching of Pastor Chris and the wonderful music. Since joining the church in 2014 we have come to appreciate VPC as a caring, vibrant and giving Christian community.

It was an honor to be elected to the session in 2017. One of the great blessings of Session membership is the ability to join the others in prayer as we navigate the joys and sorrows of the VPC community and our lives together. Time and again I am reminded of God's faithfulness to us and how we are able to encourage one another. Our Lord is kind to us in every way and asks us to share that kindness with everyone we meet.

Pastor Chris has often mentioned that many in

the VPC community are in the "fourth quarter" of life. Reflecting on that I see that I am closer to the end of the game than I am to the beginning, Heaven is becoming more important - and real in my heart and mind than ever before. My life experiences have been lived-out in front of many different backdrops most have been wonderful, some not so much. But here in the fourth quarter the most important backdrops may be a cross, an empty tomb and really eternity itself. That backdrop changes everything. It gives me faith that I can get through anything with the promise of heaven in front of me.

Finally, many may not know my passion for music and its importance in worship ministry. Music slips into the heart (and soul) more easily than almost any other medium. As a choir member, I feel if we can reach just one person with the Lord's peace, comfort or joy, we have accomplished the goal of our music ministry.

I was born and raised in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Fifty years ago I married, Rae Ann. We have two children. Our oldest, Anne, lives with her family in Atlanta and is the mother of our only grandchild, Wayne, who is a perfect four year old (he takes after his grandmother). Our son, Andrew and his wife are both professionals and live in Indianapolis with their only child, Stella the dog. We lived and raised our family for many years in South Bend, Indiana... thus our fondness for the Fighting Irish!

After spending many vacations in Southwest Florida, we knew this is where we would like to retire. So after eleven moves during my professional career, we packed up once again and moved to Nokomis in 2012. I now have new po-

# Music Ministry



## Christmas Joy

**Michelle Kuhl & Jamal Sarikoki**  
**FRIDAY, December 6 at 7:00pm**  
**Meet the Artists reception to follow.**

Starting off the Christmas Season, we welcome back Michelle Kuhl and Jamal Sarikoki. Michelle, who has toured on keyboard with The King's Brass, will be joining us from Michigan before heading out on the Christmas tour once again. Kuhl's technical skill and exquisite interpretation will blend with the dynamic qualities of our own Jamal Sarikoki's playing and singing to bring an inspiring blend of musicianship. They will be collaborating in a concert featuring beloved Christmas Carols for piano and organ duet, organ for "four hands and four feet," as well as music for baritone solo. Join us for many well-loved classics to kick off your holiday season. Tickets at [venicepres.org/vccs-concert](http://venicepres.org/vccs-concert)

## American Roots: The Gospel Experience



Experience Jamal Sarikoki as he performs with the Key Choral Singers & West Coast Black Theater Troupe at VPC October 26, 7:30pm [keychorale.org](http://keychorale.org) for tickets

## Choir Practice

Wednesday, 7:00-8:30pm, choir room

# How Music Has Impacted My Life

Chris Wilson



When Jamal asked me to write about “how Music has affected/continues to affect my life,” I thought there’s never been a time when music hasn’t had an impact, been a part, and played a role in my life’s experiences, including dance, singing, celebrating a special occasion, helping to get me through a sad/difficult situation and it all started when...

I was a very young girl sitting on my mom’s piano bench listening to her sing, singing with her, dancing around her as she played from her Presbyterian Hymnal, Broadway sheet music, music from Chopin, Toscanini, Robert Shaw and so many others.

In the beginning it really started with my parents who sang and met in the Presbyterian Church Choir in Rochester, NY, which led them to marriage and moving to NYC. It is there that they began their musical career with Fred Waring, the First Robert Shaw Chorale, Toscanini, and Marble Collegiate Choir and so on.

For me I was born with less talent but

always had music going through my body, heart, mind and soul. There were so many times I would come home when our dining room was filled with musicians from one place or another, all gathered just to share their love of music. There were soloists from the Met and NYC Opera, who were paid soloists in Mom’s renowned Manhasset Congregational Choir under the direction of Robley Lawson.

How could I not be influenced by “music?” That said I could not read music but with a keen ear was able to sing on key and develop a rhythm in dance, both ballet and modern, sing in the PF Choir from the inspiration of music.

Later when I taught motivational classes at IBM, I always had music playing as students entered the classroom knowing that the music very often set the tone/mood for what would follow in my teaching.

The same is true today as I listen to Jamal play the organ or piano while directing the choir or singing along in his lovely tenor/baritone voice setting the stage, blending in, creating the mood for the Scripture and sermon to follow. In my mind and heart, what I hear is the symbiotic voices, playing all blending together to share God’s message over and over again.

I remember when I was teaching or counseling an employee or speaking to my team I used the technique of saying it again and then, saying it again from all different perspectives to get my message across. What I hear on Sunday’s when Chris or Carolyn or Jamal speak is their message being lifted up, expressed in the voices of



the choir or by the selection Karen has chosen to play on her flute. It all blends, supports and helps to bring the focus on the message of that morning.

All of what I see and hear and yes some of what I feel is from what I see them do. Does their message ring true...Is there the feeling that their heart is in their message...do they express themselves in a way that they "resonate?"

My resounding answer is an unequivocal "yes." I love every bit of what I hear and see every Sunday. I love everyone's united effort to deliver God's Message to all of us that it may lift up, fill our hearts, shed a tear, bring a smile, and bring us closer together to go forth eager to help others, to reach outside ourselves, to give

without bragging, to rejoice and show gratitude to our Lord Jesus Christ, our Savior who made the ultimate sacrifice for us.

Yes, music has influenced every part of my life. I am here now because God sent me to this place. There are no coincidences about that. My mom resides outside in the lovely Memorial Garden, where I will join her someday to listen to the voices that sing out to all of us the joy of loving the Lord. My dear mother has gone full circle whereas I am only just realizing that it is He who controls my destiny. It is God who carried me to this place to listen and learn about his life - to shout and sing the Glory of God in the Highest. May the grace of God reside in each of us - that would be my prayer.

## Exceptional Talent in a Sacred Space: VCCS Upcoming Schedule



January 18, 7:00pm

### **Jazz Masters**

Dicky Hyman  
Peter Baren Bregge  
Tom Jestadt  
Mark Neuenschwander  
Randy Sandke  
Michael Treni

**Meet the Artists reception to follow. \$25**

February 8, 3:00pm

### **Masterworks: Two Flutes & Orchestra**

Karen Romig and Luis Diaz, flutists

**Meet the Artists reception to follow. \$25**

February 21, 7:00pm

### **Duo Beaux Arts: A two piano performance**

Steinway artist, Toa Lin & Catherine Lan

**Meet the Artists reception to follow. \$25**

March 8th 4:00pm

### **The Faith We Sing: Hymn Festival featuring Craig Williams**

The Venice Presbyterian Church Choir will present a hymn festival centered on telling the biblical history of the Christian faith.

**Reception to follow. \*\$30 ticket entry (All proceeds benefit VPC Youth Ministry)**

[www.venicepres.org](http://www.venicepres.org) for tickets

# Worship Ministry



*October 6*  
**World Communion Day**

*October 27*  
**Reformation Sunday**

**10am Service**

Communion is served in the pews. Please hold the bread until all have been served so we may partake together. The bread is gluten-free.

## **Wednesday Morning Prayer and Communion**

This 30-minute worship service of prayer and the Lord's Supper resumes on Wednesday, October 2. You're invited to come on Wednesdays at 9 am for this midweek time of quiet worship and communion with God.

**Retirement  
Community  
Communion**  
with Rev. Chris Romig

Village on the Isle  
October 10 @ 11am  
(Second Thursday)

Aston Gardens  
Oct. 11 @ 9:45 am  
(Second Friday)

Jacaranda Trace  
Oct. 11 @ 1pm  
(Second Friday)



## **All Saints Worship Sunday, Nov. 3 (9 & 11 am)**

On the first Sunday in November, we will celebrate the Lord's Supper and light candles in memory of those from the VPC family who joined the Church Triumphant since last All Saints' Day. This year, we will also be remembering courageous saints around the world as we join with churches across the globe in commemorating the International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church.



**Dr. Isaac "Ike" McDonald** will be our special guest preacher on Sunday, October 20 – joining Pastor Chris, Pastor Carolyn, and Pastor Burke in leading worship on this Sunday. Ike has been preaching the Gospel since his youth. He has pastored churches in Kentucky, Alabama, and Florida, and we're glad that

this retired Baptist preacher loves worshipping with us Presbyterians in Venice! When Ike and his wife JoAnn are not enjoying Florida's warm sunshine, they live near their family in London, Kentucky. Many will remember a powerful sermon that Ike preached at VPC two years ago, and we welcome him back to the pulpit, looking forward to the message that God will inspire him to proclaim.

**NOTE:** This will be the first Sunday of our two worship service schedule (9 and 11 am). It also happens to be Daylight Savings Time.



# MEET & GREET

***VPC wants to welcome all new  
guests, frequent visitors and friends***

***We would like to extend an invitation to "meet" our pastors  
and leaders so we can get to know you and your family.***

**Sunday, October 6 following the 10am  
service in Fellowship Hall**



# Care & Compassion

## Become a Stephen Minister

VPC's Stephen Ministry Team has begun planning for a new training class for Stephen Ministers in early 2020. Participants will join 35 other men and women who have been trained to provide one-on-one confidential Christian care and support to people of our congregation and the community. These people may be facing difficulties in life such as illness, sadness, grief, hospitalization, divorce, loneliness, family issues and many other challenges.

The most significant thing we learn as Stephen Ministers is the power of prayer, caring, and listening. Our role is not to solve problems for people but to help them through prayer, trust and support. We hope to help them find the strength and courage to face their challenge and return to wellness.

Stephen Ministers are asked to commit to serving at least 2 years after an initial 50-hour training class. VPC training is set for, 01/14/20 to 03/20/20. Each class will last for 2 ½ hours and will take place every Tuesday and Friday from 9:30 till

noon. Wonderful training materials are supplied, and classes are taught by our Stephen Leaders and Pastors. Training focuses on the importance of prayer and listening. Stephen Ministers learn to provide support and encouragement without rushing in as an advisor or a problem solver. When people speak their concerns, they no longer shoulder that burden alone. Since this ministry is one on one, women to women and men to men, there is a need for men who feel called to serve in this way to join us.

Confidentiality is a cornerstone of Stephen Ministry. The only people who will know that a caring relationship even exists are the care receivers, the Stephen Minister, the Stephen Leaders and Pastors. VPC active Stephen Ministers also participate in monthly peer supervision and continuing education sessions supervised and taught by the leaders and pastors.

A letter from a former care receiver: "It's nice to know that you can count on someone like a Stephen Minister who will be there for you, who takes the time to listen and



wants to help. I know my Stephen Minister is listening to me when, at the end of the session, she summarizes what I said in a prayer and asks God for guidance and support. There is a sense of comfort and confidence knowing that you can talk about whatever is on your mind. I am thankful for my Stephen Ministry program and for my dear friend who referred me."

### **GOD MAY BE CALLING YOU.**

If, after prayerful consideration, you feel drawn to serve in our Stephen Ministry, we would like to talk with you about it. There will be a Stephen Ministry Recruitment Sunday on October 20th that will offer additional information. Stephen Leaders will be in the narthex on Oct 20th and 27th to talk with you and answer your questions about the process taken to become a Stephen Minister.

## Get to Know "Knit One, Pray Too"

The Prayer Shawl Ministry began in January 2007 thanks to the efforts of members Marian White and Peg Moffett. As we reached our sixth anniversary, the participants of the Prayer Shawl Ministry decided that we needed a new name. As our ministry has broadened, the products of that ministry now include much more than just prayer shawls. These products include prayer shawls, lap throws, chemo caps, hats, scarves, mittens, slippers, buntings and a few toys.

For those of you who are not familiar with anything to do with knitting, one of the main instructions is: "Knit 1, purl 2". Therefore, as of January 1, 2012, we now call ourselves "Knit One, Pray Too". We meet every Monday from noon until 1:30 when we meet to knit, crochet and pray. We usually meet from October through April or May – depending on how many ladies we have in town. As of this article, we have about 26 members.

Our recipients have included or now include: Members of Venice Presbyterian Church and their families, VPC Buddy

Break, VPC Presbyterian Women, Florida Cancer Specialists, Cancer Center of Sarasota-Manatee Counties, H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center, Recreational Therapy Department of our local hospital, Shriner's Children's Hospital in Tampa, Luke Haven of Village on the Isle, Center of Hope, The Wellness Community, Our Mother's House of Epiphany Catholic Cathedral, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel (soldier's helmet liners), Harbor Chase, Pregnancy Solutions and Habitat for Humanity.

Our international recipients have included or now include: Albanian Refugee Program; American Indians in South Dakota; Chinle, Arizona; Guatemala; and The Linus Project.

Periodically, we have a Prayer Shawl dedication in the sanctuary. On November 24th, tables will be set up in the Narthex where the gifts of our hands will be offered to the congregation.

We receive many thank-you notes with heartfelt messages. As an example, a thank-you note was received from an 11-year old boy who was going blind. He loves John Deere and we made him

a fleece blanket with a John Deere tractor in the middle of it. Here is the message from his homemade construction paper, glitter and markers thank you note. (He also drew a picture of himself on a John Deere tractor.)

"Thank you for the blanket. I love it...I use it eve(r)y night. Right now it is in my bed. I will use it tonight. It is so warm and fluffy. Thank you for all your prayers...love..."

As "Knit One, Pray Too" moves into its 12th year, we thank each of you for your contributions of yarn and money to support this ministry. We also thank you for keeping these ladies of mercy in your prayers. God Bless!

### Pray Shawl Dedication Nov. 24





# Children's Ministry

## Ministry SUPERHERO

### Diane Sharp

Diane serves faithfully in Kid's Corner, teaching our kids on Sunday mornings. She also works with the MOPS program as a mentor mom. Diane is always up for our Family Events and helps with everything from Fall Festival to delivering flyers to the school. We are thankful for her ministry at VPC!

**Birthday:** August 10

**Favorite Movie:** Pretty Woman

**Favorite Holiday:** Christmas

**Super Upcoming Event:** Seeing granddaughter play as a full scholarship tennis player for Xavier University.

**Super Event from 2019:** Celebrating being 80!

**Super Power Bible Verse:** 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."

**Diane's Uncommon Super Power:** A Positive Attitude



## Buddy Break Harmony Garden Dedication



On Saturday, October 19, all are invited to dedicate the Buddy Break Harmony Garden. We will have a brief dedication service followed by carnival type games and light snacks to celebrate the event. This garden is dedicated to all Buddies and children who have participated in the Buddy Break Mission, past and present. There has been love and growth for eleven years and, with God's help, Buddy Break will continue for many years to come.

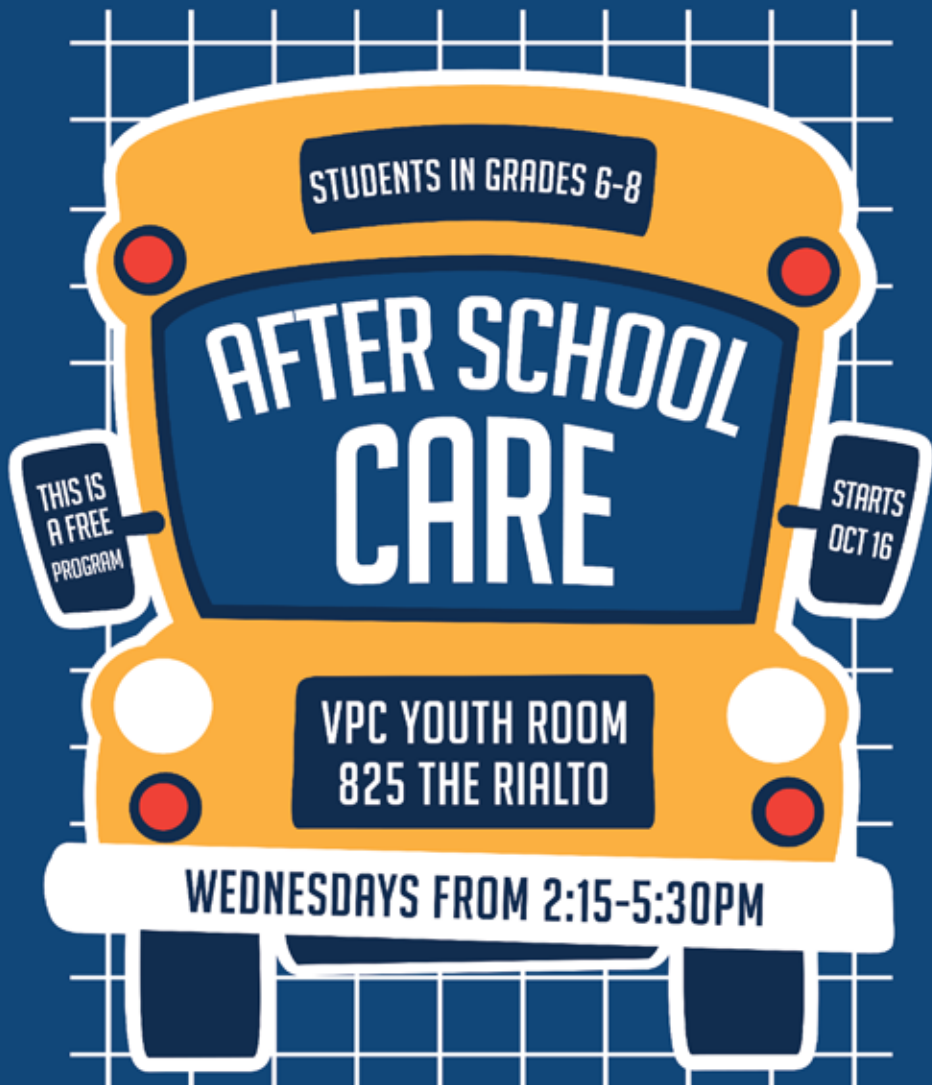


## SAVE THE DATE

### Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Collection

Shoeboxes and information will be available in the Narthex starting October 20. Plan on a collection party on November 15.

To volunteer or for more information on Children's Ministry, Youth Ministry and Family Development, contact Genna Sarikoki at [gsarikoki@venicepres.org](mailto:gsarikoki@venicepres.org)



Activities include: Snacks, Homework Help, Gaming, Foosball, Free Time, Open Basketball Court, Arts and Craft Center, and Group Building Activities.

Our goal is support middle school students socially, emotionally, and academically as they learn about Christ. Venice Presbyterian wants to partner with parents to provide a safe place for middle school students to ask questions and hang out with mentors. Our mentors are background checked, trained, and dedicated to helping your student succeed.

# Family & Youth Ministry

VENICE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# FALL Festival



**GAMES // CANDY // BOUNCY HOUSES  
SNOW CONES // CAKEWALK // POPCORN**

825 THE RIALTO, VENICE, FL 34285

**THIS IS A FREE EVENT // DINNER INCLUDED!**

LET US KNOW YOU'RE COMING AT [WWW.VENICEPRES.ORG](http://WWW.VENICEPRES.ORG)

DINNER SERVED UNTIL 7:30PM



## Youth All Nighter

Youth will begin with dinner and Bible Study as usual and then they will stay at the church all night long. We have planned an exciting night of hide and seek, flashlight tag, capture the flag, video games, and more. Want to join us? More youth and chaperones are welcome. October 13 at 8PM



### Power Drill Pumpkin Carving

October 27th at Kathy Wood's house. Youth families, see the weekly emails for her address and more details or contact Genna Sarikoki.

## Traveling Thanksgiving Feast

November 17th, the youth will have a Traveling Thanksgiving Feast. Genna Sarikoki is **looking for houses to host the youth** for one portion of the meal. We need houses for appetizers, soup, salad, main dish, and dessert. If you would be willing to open your home to the youth for approx. 30 minutes to serve a portion of the meal, let Genna know!



**FYI:** Our Youth are reading a daily bible reading plan from James called "Lessons from Jesus' Brother, James"

Youth Group is for students in 6-12 grade and meets every Sunday night from 6-8pm. For more information, contact Genna Sarikoki [gsarikoki@venicepres.org](mailto:gsarikoki@venicepres.org)



## Car Trunks & Candy!

It's that time of year again! We need Car Trunks & Candy! We also need volunteers to:

- run games
- assist with the cakewalk
- family check-in
- and more!

Stop by the Kid's Desk in the Narthex to sign up by Sunday, October 20 or drop off candy at the front office.

## Confirmation Classes

We will be holding confirmation classes for our youth, grades 6 and up. It is our intention to help our youth understand their faith and to plug into our congregation. There are 5 group classes to be held on December 14, January 11, February 22, March 28, and April 25. A sign up for classes is available at [venicepres.org](http://venicepres.org).

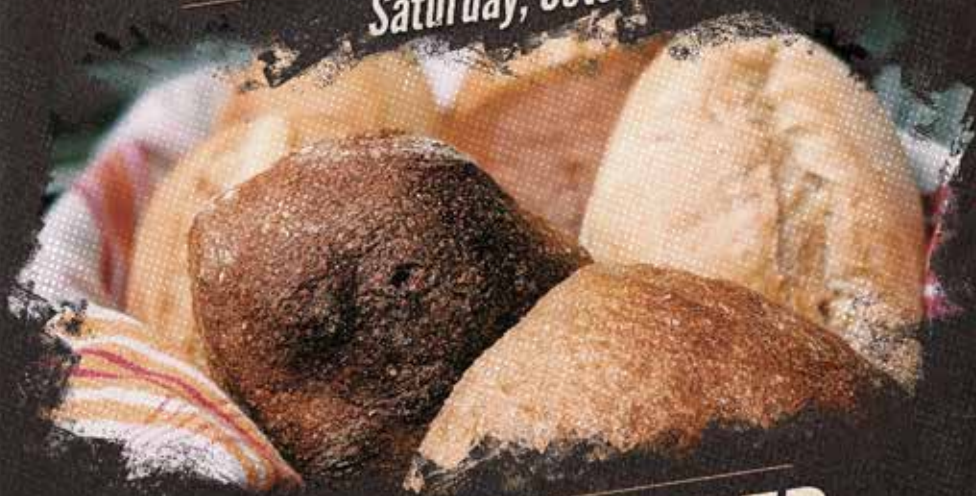
*Venice Presbyterian Church presents*

# *Breaking Bread Together*

Food, fun and fellowship with old friends and new over lunch and/or dinner.  
Two ways to connect with others and get to know people at VPC.!

## **LUNCH BUNCH**

Saturday, October 19, 1:00 PM



## **SUNDAY SUPPER**

Sunday, October 27, 5:00 PM

Host a meal for 6 people and provide the main food item,  
or attend a meal and bring an assigned food item.

Sign up for one or both in the Glass House, or on-line at [venicepres.org](http://venicepres.org)  
you can also call VPC (941-488-2258) or Jean (941-484-6333)



Join us for a  
Christmas Celebration  
of food, fashion & friends



tickets  
\$35

- PURCHASE TICKETS
1. on Realm
  2. after church service  
Sept. 29, & Oct 6
  3. Church Office

Thursday, November 7 at noon  
*Amish-owned* Carlisle Inn  
3727 Bahia Vista Street  
Sarasota, Florida 34232

TICKETS INCLUDE:

- ◆ Buffet meal prepared by Der Dutchman Restaurant
- ◆ Cooking Demo
- ◆ \$30 coupons towards Gift Shop purchases
- ◆ Presentation of fashion items, home goods, and Christian gifts



# Connect & Grow

## The Final Chapters of Acts

Pastor Chris resumes his in-depth Bible study beginning on October 2 at 6 pm in the sanctuary. We will be looking at the final chapters of the book of Acts (Acts 21-28). These chapters, which follow the exciting growth of the church in Jerusalem and the stories of Paul's missionary journeys, tend to be the least-studied section of Acts. But these accounts of Paul's return to Jerusalem, his arrest and trials, and his journey to Rome are wonderful chapters not-to-be-overlooked!

All are invited, and you're encouraged to bring a Bible to follow along. Even if you've missed the studies of the first 20 chapters of Acts, you'll be able to follow along as chapter 21 begins a new section of the story.

October 2	Acts 21	Oct. 30	Acts 25-26
October 9	Acts 22-23	Nov. 6	Acts 27
October 16	Acts 24	Nov. 13	Acts 28
October 23	No meeting	Nov. 20	Concluding Reflections/Recap



### PW Movie Matinee

Featuring "Ring the Bell"  
popcorn & sodas provided.

October 15, 2pm  
Fellowship Hall

### SAVE THE DATE PW Christmas Tea

December 7  
Fellowship Hall

**Hostesses Needed**  
Contact Kathy Wood at  
941-492-4851 to reserve  
your Christmas Tea Table.



## VPC Book Club

Join us Wednesday  
November 6 from 1:00 -  
2:00 in rm 8. Everyone is  
welcome to join in. Our  
discussions are usually  
lively and interesting.  
No need to register, just  
show up!  
Here's our list of books  
for 2019-2020:

*November 6*

### A Walk in the Woods

Rediscovering America  
on the Appalachian Trail  
by Bill Bryson

*December 4*

### The Amethyst Heart by

Penelope Stokes

*January 8*

### Before We Were Yours by

Lisa Wingate

*February 5*

### Becoming by Michelle

Obama

*March 4*

### My Dear Hamilton: A Novel of Elizabeth Schyl- er Hamilton by Stephanie

Dray and Laura Kamoie

*April 1*

### The Soul of America by

Jon Meacham

*May 6*

### Devil in the White City by

Erik Larson

March 20 is our social  
and movie night.

If you have any questions,  
please contact Mary  
Gregory at 716-984-3613  
or [mgregorysmiles@  
gmail.com](mailto:mgregorysmiles@gmail.com)

# Group Gatherings

## MONDAY

### MnM Men's Group

6pm - 7pm, Glass House

Year Round

Alan Penick, [adpenick@comcast.net](mailto:adpenick@comcast.net)

### Holy Yoga

Begins November 1

9 - 9:45am, Fellowship Hall

Dave Hill, [davelhill@hotmail.com](mailto:davelhill@hotmail.com)

### Line Dancing

10:30 am – 11:30 am, Fellowship Hall

Oct. 7, 2019 – May 1, 2020

Jackie Wheeler, 941-493-2776

\$3 donation goes to Buddy Break

[wheelerjacqueline@yahoo.com](mailto:wheelerjacqueline@yahoo.com)

## TUESDAY

### Men's Discussion Group

8 - 9am, rm 11

October 1-May 2020

Doug Brown, 486-5367

[village4252@gmail.com](mailto:village4252@gmail.com)

### Tuesday Morning Men's Bible study

9:15 am – 10:15 am, Weekly

Oct. 22, 2019 – May 26, 2020

Glass House

Dick Edmunds, 941-488-8949

[kcid1961@gmail.com](mailto:kcid1961@gmail.com)

Study of LUKE will continue from June

### Rachel Bible Study

10:00 am – 12:00 pm, 1st Tuesday

Oct. 1, 2019 – May 5, 2020

Room 5

Shirley Blood, 941-493-4992

[clarkesprinkle@gmail.com](mailto:clarkesprinkle@gmail.com)

### Elizabeth Bible Study

9:30 am – 11:30 am, 1st Tuesday

Member homes – brunch included

Irene Percy, Niki Steitz, Hope Gordon,

941-480-9393

[hopecarroll12@yahoo.com](mailto:hopecarroll12@yahoo.com)

### Dorcas Bible Study

10:00 am – 12:00 pm, 3rd Tuesday

Room 7

Beth Tieman, 941-564-6304

[bethtmn@comcast.net](mailto:bethtmn@comcast.net)

Connie Householder, 941-882-3469,

[connie1282@cs.com](mailto:connie1282@cs.com)

### Women's Tuesday Fellowship

7pm - 9pm, Weekly

Room 6

Kim Jason, 941-806-9894

[kljason@comcast.net](mailto:kljason@comcast.net)

## WEDNESDAY

### Adult Coloring Crew

12pm, Library

Ardith Pinner, [apinner@venicepres.org](mailto:apinner@venicepres.org)

### VPC Book Club

1:00pm – 2:30pm, 1st Wednesday

Nov. 6, 2019 – May 6, 2020

Room 8

Mary Gregory, 716-984-3613

[Mgregorysmiles@gmail.com](mailto:Mgregorysmiles@gmail.com)

## FRIDAY

### Holy Yoga

9 - 9:45am, Fellowship Hall

### Bible Study Fellowship

9:30am, entire campus

Karen Coleman

[kcoleman37@comcast.net](mailto:kcoleman37@comcast.net)

## Gift of Grace Bible Study

If you are seeking to grow in your knowledge, faith and love of God, prayerfully consider joining our Bible study group on Thursday, 2pm-3:30pm. Small group Bible Studies are a great place to develop deep friendships with other Christians. Please contact Sheila Cunningham, [4sheliac67@gmail.com](mailto:4sheliac67@gmail.com)



GRIEF ♦ SUPPORT ♦ RECOVERY  
**TRANSITIONS**

Begins Mondays, Starting October 14, 9:30 to 11:30  
Venice Presbyterian Church, 825 The Rialto, Room 6

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Transitions is a compassionate support group for people coping with the death of a loved one. Participation in a Transitions group is a special journey available to anyone who has lost a loved one. During the six week course, one travels through grief to a richer understanding, renewed personal purpose, deeper spirituality and total rebirth of self. Many in our community have found new life and new friends while their loved one remains always in their heart.

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**Call Venice Presbyterian Church at 941-488-2258**

In order to facilitate a small, supportive environment, classes are designed to be small & intimate, therefore, registration is required.



# Mission & Outreach



## **Mision Peniel, Immokalee, Florida**

Looking for ways to be the hands and feet of Christ? On Friday, October 18, VPC volunteers will carpool to Mision Peniel to distribute clothing and serve food to migrant farm workers. We will meet at VPC at 11am and return to the church at approximately 8pm. Previous volunteers have returned tired, but changed by the experience and grateful for the opportunity to show God's love to others. Please consider joining us! Sign up in the Glass House beginning October 1st, or contact Laura Saye, [sayet392@aol.com](mailto:sayet392@aol.com), 269-339-5907



## **Stove Team Sign-ups**

The dates for the stove team are March 14 - 23, 2020. Dates were chosen to sync with the Sarasota County school vacation schedule so that interested students will only miss one day of school. The trip will be very similar to last year in terms of location, housing, and cost of approximately \$1000 plus airfare (\$600 plus or minus). Although March seems a long way away we need to have the team formed by the end of November. For more information, contact Lois or Jim Weeks at [jimloisweeks@yahoo.com](mailto:jimloisweeks@yahoo.com)



## **Passion Play**

A few spots have opened up for the upcoming Passion Play trip planned for June 24 – July 4, 2020! Pastor Chris will be the spiritual leader of the trip. Pastor Carolyn is joining the trip as well! **There will be an informational meeting October 13th** after worship in the Choir Suite for anyone who is interested. The final cut-off is November 1.

## **3 Cents A Meal**



On the last Sunday of the month, October 27, please visit Christine Hart at the table in the narthex and exchange or pick up a food container. All money collected supports the local food banks. Every penny counts

## October Monthly Mission Partner (MMP)

### Pregnancy Solutions

Pregnancy Solutions provides free, confidential, high-quality, and compassionate care to women facing unplanned pregnancies, with the ultimate goal of reducing the number of abortions in the Venice area.

We are committed to empowering women to uphold the sanctity of human life, achieve sexual integrity and wholeness and embrace a biblical view of life, sex, marriage and family. We provide life-affirming support, education, referrals, and material assistance in times of need.



#### What We Do

- **Free Pregnancy Testing & Ultrasounds** - For pregnancy verification and determination of gestational age.
- **Information about Pregnancy Options** - Non-judgmental, medically accurate information.
- **Adoption Referrals for Birth Mothers**
- **Post-Abortion Support Groups** - Caring, confidential small groups that go through a study called "Surrendering the Secret".
- **"Earn While You Learn"** Program - education & resources through pregnancy and 1st year of motherhood.
- **"Rookie Dads" Mentoring Program** - To prepare young men for their important new role of fatherhood.
- **Sexual Risk Avoidance Education** - Helping youth understand healthy relationships and make positive choices.

#### How to help

##### VOLUNTEER

Administrative/Event Volunteers – detail-oriented and available on an as-needed basis in the office or at our special events.

Client Advocates – meet with clients once a week to listen and encourage.

##### DONATE

Baby bathtubs  
Baby hats  
Baby wipes

Blankets  
Diaper bag  
Diaper cream  
Diapers  
Feminine hygiene items  
Grocery store gift cards  
Potty training diapers  
Razors  
Shampoo/conditioner  
Shoes  
Strollers  
Toddler clothing  
Child Toothbrushes  
Parent Toothbrushes  
Toothpaste and floss

##### GIVE

We receive no government funding and rely entirely upon the generosity of our community to continue our work. As a 501(C)3 organization, all gifts are tax-deductible.

##### GO TO

[www.venicepres.org/pregnancy-solutions](http://www.venicepres.org/pregnancy-solutions) to donate today.

## **Frank's Upcoming Trip to Guatemala**

Frank Ebetino and his nephew will be travelling to Guatemala from October 12 until October 19 and will be hosted at the home of Dr. Erick and Cynthia Estrada. They will be assisting at clinics and examining the new surgical wing now under construction for equipment needs.

If anyone wants to experience a Guatemalan family's mission of love, please contact Frank Ebetino at 715-600-4275, 941-218-5424 or [febet@aol.com](mailto:febet@aol.com).



## **Family Promise Dream Walk**

Saturday, November 9,  
2019 at 9am  
Venice Presbyterian,  
Fellowship Hall  
825 The Rialto

How you can help families from homelessness to independence

- Join the walk
- Be a team captain
- Find businesses interested in being involved with sponsorships and/or walk teams

Please contact Gail Thompson at [gaylecat@netscape.com](mailto:gaylecat@netscape.com) or [venice-pres.org](http://venice-pres.org)



## **Oneblood Bloodmobile**

will be at VPC Nov. 3rd from 9:30 - 1:30. This blood is used by Venice hospital and essential in health care. To sign up go to [Oneblood.org](http://Oneblood.org), enter November 3rd and zip code 34285 to sign up, or just show up! They will find space for you.



## **FAITH IN THE FOREST**

### **Pregnancy Solutions 17th Annual Fundraising Banquet, Tuesday, Nov. 12th**

Pregnancy Solutions will be celebrating families who have chosen to walk with faith through pregnancy decisions, adoption, parenting and healing after an abortion experience. They are excited to have guest speakers, Reppard and Summer Gordon as guest speakers. They were featured on the Joy FM's Joy Stories series and have a faith filled testimony of how God met them when they lost their son, Sawyer. You can also expect a silent auction, amazing emcees and an incredibly powerful performance by a local vocal artist. You do not want to miss it! Free, donations gratefully collected.

#### **LUNCH**

Doors open at 10:30am  
Lunch is served at  
11:00am

#### **DINNER**

Doors open at 6:30pm  
Dinner is served at  
7:00pm

Plantation Golf and Country Club  
500 Rockely Drive, Venice, FL

Register at [venicepres.org/pregnancy-solutions](http://venicepres.org/pregnancy-solutions)



Venice Presbyterian Church

# Beginning the Journey



## 2019 Fall Session

- October 15
- October 22
- October 29
- November 5
- November 12
- November 19

**5:30 - 7pm**

**Fellowship Hall**

**6 WEEK NEW  
MEMBER CLASS  
STARTS OCT. 15**

**One Time  
\$10**

for the entire  
five-week series  
including dinner

Register online at [www.venicepres.org](http://www.venicepres.org) or  
Email Carolyn Wilson at [cwilson@venicepres.org](mailto:cwilson@venicepres.org) or  
Call the church office at 941-488-2258

**825 the Rialto, Venice, Florida 34275**