

Connect, Grow & Go

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



Thanksgiving Food Drive

Here's What's Going on at VPC in November 2019

Alternative Gift Market

2019 ALTERNATIVE GIFT
MARKET & FESTIVAL

*Journey to
Bethlehem*

CHRISTMAS 2019
DECEMBER 8 & DECEMBER 15
VERICE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*Operation
Shoe Box*



VPC Staff

Senior Pastor

Rev. Chris Romig
[Cromig@venicepres.org](mailto: Cromig@venicepres.org)

Executive Director

Chris O'Brien
[cobrien@venicepres.org](mailto: cobrien@venicepres.org)

Pastor of Connection & Outreach

Rev. Carolyn Wilson
[cwilson@venicepres.org](mailto: cwilson@venicepres.org)

Pastor of Member Care

Rev. Burke Johnson
[bjohnson@venicepres.com](mailto: bjohnson@venicepres.com)

Children's Director

Genna Sarikoki
[gsarikoki@venicepres.org](mailto: gsarikoki@venicepres.org)

Communication Director

Kelly Wensley
[kwensley@venicepres.org](mailto: kwensley@venicepres.org)

Facility Management

Nick Clemmer
[nclemmer@venicepres.org](mailto: nclemmer@venicepres.org)

Financial Director

Kim Curran
[kcurran@venicepres.org](mailto: kcurran@venicepres.org)

Bookkeeper

Megan Lechlitner
[mlechlitner@venicepres.org](mailto: mlechlitner@venicepres.org)

Minister of Music & Worship Arts

Jamal Sarikoki
[jsarikoki@venicepres.org](mailto: jsarikoki@venicepres.org)

Office Manager

May Williams
[mwilliams@venicepres.org](mailto: mwilliams@venicepres.org)

Receptionist

Connie Sayers
[csayers@venicepres.org](mailto: csayers@venicepres.org)

Facility & A/V

Gary Youngberg
[gyoungberg@venicepres.org](mailto: gyoungberg@venicepres.org)

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, 9am & 11am

Office Phone

941-488-2258

Library Hours

Monday - Thurs, 10-12pm
Sunday, 8:30-11:30am
[apinner@venicepres.org](mailto: apinner@venicepres.org)
[jchaplin@gmail.com](mailto: jchaplin@gmail.com)

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 Chaplin

Carolyn Stephens

Jim Weeks

Shelly Wharton

Board of Trustees

Bob Allen (Chair)

Skip Sayers

Richard Gilbert

Ann Stark

Mary Gregory

Fred Francis

Human Resources

Dick Edmunds (Chair)

Carlene Painter

David Schoenthaler

Anna Marie Brummett

Bob Jelenchick

Sydna Zeliff

Nick Clemmer

Diane Sharp

Carol Dickinson

Volunteers needed in many areas!

Contact May Williams at
[mwilliams@venicepres.org](mailto: mwilliams@venicepres.org)





Your Lasting Legacy: A Promise for the Future

I love poetry. It speaks to me in imagery that touches my soul. I collect poems to help me move forward since the death of my husband. One, entitled "Promise" concludes with the image of a fresh new day whose blue skies stretch out and dandelions glitter "in the lawn like a handful of golden change".

For those of us from the north, dandelions were a happy harbinger of spring. As children, we collected them in bouquets for our mothers and when the blooms aged, we delighted in blowing their white-headed seeds into the wind where they would plant themselves ensuring a legacy of golden heads in the next spring's lawns.

I've been thinking a lot about the meaning of that word "legacy"

since I received the VPC brochure "**Your Lasting Legacy: A Promise for the Future.**" The word itself causes me to deeply reflect on what will be my own legacy. What is golden in me that I can cast into the future for the benefit and renewal of others?

As a Christian, my legacy is my response to the presence of the living Christ in my life that gives it meaning and purpose. It is the pathway through which I share my deepest beliefs and my blessings with others. It will linger long after I am gone through what I have given.

In the beautifully created brochure, two verses from Corinthians 1 and 2 remind me that my abundance and blessings are legacies that can build the future for Christians

to come. Many ways of legacy giving are suggested there and remarkably, in the lower corner of the brochure, there is a most wonderful image of a dandelion whose golden days are gone, but whose white-headed seeds are being blown into the world to spread its promise – a symbol of the legacy of giving for future members of VPC.

If you haven't looked at the brochure, you may want to do so and to consider the ways that you can ensure your legacy of belief and love for Christ well into the future – beyond your golden days. It can be the most important legacy of all.

Mary Gregory
Member, Board of Trustees

(Poem cited: "Promise" by
Barbara Crooker)

Get to know VPC's Ruling Elders

Jim Weeks



I was raised for the most part in Wheaton, Illinois. After college and medical school at the University of Illinois, Lois and I moved to Florida for the first time in 1971 for surgical residency in Gainesville. Though we returned to the north and family, those six years left a good impression of Florida ultimately leading to our return in 2007 close to my parents.

This is our 50th anniversary year. We have three sons and a daughter living in Minnesota, Texas, Oregon, and Thailand. They cumulatively have added seven grandkids.

We first attended VPC in the Fall of 2006 and joined in 2008. Though not from a Presbyterian background, we were impressed by our first service and the number of new members being welcomed that day. One week led to the next in a comfortable way for us to evaluate the church we progressively grew to appreciate and love.

I like to get to know people not just programs. The influence of fellow Session and staff members brings out a better me. They energize me and foster greater thoughtfulness of the various considerations regarding our individual and corporate physical and spiritual health and vitality. All of these feed into one of my life traits which is to find satisfaction in connecting people to other people or projects that bring out meaning, purpose, and joy for them through the release of their gifts and talents.

30 years ago I first went to Guatemala on a short term medical mission team. Little did I know how that would morph into other opportunities including the VPC Stove teams which have now given several hundred of our congregants the opportunity to experience the joy of being a literal answer to prayers as they deliver health and hope to Guatemalans in the form of stoves and water filters in Jesus' name.

Lois and I enjoy two very different life settings. One is in Venice that we love for it's wonderful weather, abundant entertainment

options, and opportunities to serve.

Our second life is on a small private island accessible only by boat on the edge of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area (Minnesota) where the silence is broken by loons and grandkids and God's creation is the entertainment.

I have gradually learned that many of my accomplishments and disappointments were not as consequential as I once imagined. What remains satisfying is the recognition that God in his great love has given me everything I need to participate with Him in a joyous life and beyond.

I like to wake up with a sense of purpose and go to bed with a sense of accomplishment. Much of my free time is spent in my garage shop envisioning, planning, and accomplishing wood turning projects either alone or while instructing others as VP of Sarasota Woodturners. Not everything works out but something is learned in the process. It is particularly satisfying when people complement or choose to purchase one of the pieces I have in a local gallery.

Music Ministry



Christmas Joy

*Michelle Kuhl &
Jamal Sarikoki*
FRIDAY, December 6, 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 at venicepres.org/vccs-concert.

Also, see Jamal perform as the Baritone Soloist for Handel's Messiah with the Sarasota Choral Society. December 7 at 4pm, Church of the Palms.



Choir Practice
Wednesday,
7-8:30pm, choir room

Handbells Practice
Tuesday, 3-5pm

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)*

TICKETS

Four (4) Easy ways to buy

\$25*

ONLINE at venicecommunityconcertseries.com

Hymn Festival
is \$30

CALL 941-488-5525 during box office hours

BOX OFFICE in the Narthex is open on Sundays after each service and Thursday from 11am-2pm.

MAIL this form with either a check (made out to *Venice Presbyterian Church*) or credit card. Please include \$1.50 processing fee **per transaction, not ticket**. Tickets will be held in the Welcome Center.

ATTENTION: Concert Series Tickets
Venice Presbyterian Church
825 the Rialto, Venice, Florida 34285

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Credit Card Type Master Card Visa

CC# _____

Exp.Date _____ Security Code _____

Please select the concert and number of tickets below with total:

— December 6, 7:00pm
CHRISTMAS JOY
Michelle Kuhl &
Jamal Sarikoki

— January 20, 7:00pm
JAZZ MASTERS

— February 8, 3:00pm
MASTERWORKS:
Two Flutes & Orchestra
Karen Romig & Luis Diaz

— February 20, 7:00pm
DUO BEAUX ARTS:
A Two Piano Performance
Steinway artist, Toa Lin &
Catherine Lan

— March 8th 4:00pm, **\$30**
Hymn Festival:
THE FAITH WE SING
with Craig Williams

TOTAL: \$ _____ + \$1.50

**Please add an additional \$1.50 processing fee per transaction*

Care & Compassion

Do You Know Someone Going through a Difficult Time?

Do you have a friend, neighbor, co-worker, or relative who has been struggling with the loss of a loved one, loneliness, cancer, a layoff, relocation, divorce, a spiritual crisis, recuperation, single parenthood, or any of countless other life challenges? Our Stephen Ministers can provide them with the focused care, encouragement, and support they need to make it through the crisis. If you know of someone who is hurting, talk with one of our Stephen Leaders.



Become a Stephen Minister

GOD MAY BE CALLING YOU

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.

If you feel drawn to serve in our Stephen Ministry, we would like to talk with you about it. Stephen Leaders can talk with you and answer your questions about the process taken to become a Stephen Minister.

Stephen Minister Leaders

Marcia Bickmore 488-9379, Richard Gilbert 941-468-9174 or Laura Saye 269-339-5907



"Knit One, Pray Too" Prayer Shawl Dedication Nov. 24

Shawls and baby hats are knit by a group of ladies. Upon completion, a final blessing is offered before the items are sent on their way. The blessing ripples from person-to-person, with both the giver and receiver feeling the unconditional embrace of a sheltering, mothering God. Monday, 12pm - 2pm Rm 9

Planning the Party

Pre-planning your Christian funeral or memorial service is one of the best ways to help your family during their difficult time of grief and loss. By leaving them specific information regarding your own personal desires, you will greatly ease your family's burden of making decisions and trying to guess what you would have wanted. We have a booklet available to make your preferences known and preplanning easy for both you and your loved ones. Contact May Williams at mwilliams@venicepres.org

Worship Ministry



Communion: First Sunday of the Month

9am & 11am 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

Join us on Wednesdays for a 30-minute worship service of prayer and the Lord's Supper at 9am for this midweek time of quiet worship and communion with God.

Retirement Community Communion

with Rev. Burke Johnson

Village on the Isle

Nov. 14 @ 11am
(2nd Thursday)

Aston Gardens

Nov. 15 @ 9:45 am
(2nd Friday)

Jacaranda Trace

Nov. 15 @ 1pm
(2nd Friday)

Ushers Needed for 11am Service

If you enjoy greeting and meeting friends, new and old, consider being an usher for our 11am service.

It's easy and fun!

Help people find a seat, give special consideration to those with walkers and wheelchairs, collect offering.

Training is provided.

Contact Jane Clemmer at
grandysj@yahoo.com



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Current Events Through the Eyes of Faith

Each week we will discuss a current event in order to see how the news fits into a biblical context. This will give us practice applying Scripture to our contemporary, everyday lives and the issues with which we struggle. Come and enjoy thought-provoking discussion, Bible study and prayer. No need to sign-up, just attend as you are called. Following 9am service.



ADVENT SERMON SERIES

Carols of Christmas

Learning To Worship The Newborn King

Many of us have attended church our whole lives and have countless stories and memories of singing our favorite Christmas carols in church throughout advent and on Christmas Eve. How many of us know the

stories and the theology behind them? We invite you for a sermon series that take us deep into the meaning of our favorite Christmas carols such as; O Come O Come Emmanuel, Hark the Herald Angels Sing, Joy to the World, and O Holy Night. May this sermon series give you a new perspective on worshipping the Newborn king.

Save the Dates for 3 Unique Christmas Eve Services

Christmas Eve Services Lessons and Carols Service, 4pm

We invite you to join us for a Traditional Lessons and Carols service on Christmas Eve at 4:00pm. This service, through its music, prayers, and scripture readings, reminds us of the fall of humanity, the promise of the Messiah, and the birth of Jesus Christ. This service will be interspersed with the singing of Christmas hymns, choral anthems, along with scripture readings from both the prophetic books and the Gospels. Finally, we will join our voices and sing Silent Night by candlelight. Accompanying us will be our chancel choir, and organ. Join us for the festive and awe-inspiring service as we sing, pray, and thank God for sending His Son to save mankind.

"The Night Before Christmas" 6pm

Join Us for a traditional service with hymns led by the organ, beautiful music for Flute performed by Karen Romig, reading of the birth narrative, and a presentation of "The Night before Christmas" by our Rev. Christopher Romig.

Jazz Communion Service 8:00pm

We invite you for a relaxed and contemplative communion service. This service will feature Jazz music arranged by VPC'S jazz trombonist, Mike Treni. This service, although simple in order, will allow us to hear a presentation "The Night Before Christmas" from Chris Romig, clap our hands, and maybe even dance, to the joyous Jazz rhythms of our favorite Christmas hymns, and also remember the sacrifice of our Lord

Jesus Christ through the Lord's supper. This service will also feature Silent Night sung by candlelight. If you're looking for a more relaxed atmosphere, please join us for a Jazz Communion service.



Hanging of the Greens

Enjoy cider and donuts as we prepare the sanctuary for the Christmas season. Saturday, Nov 30 at 9:30pm, sanctuary

Sanctuary Decor Luncheon

Nov. 5th at 12pm
Contact Sheryl Morford,
sherylmorford@aol.com

Family Ministry



VPC Buddy Break Parent Breakfast

We already LOVE your kids. We want to get to know YOU, too!

Before you head off next month, stop in for some breakfast and a quick chat with other parents and a few of our staff.

Join the Buddy Break parents on November 16, 2019 at the VPC Glasshouse, 10AM. No RSVP Necessary.

Kid's Corner Thanksgiving



On Sunday, November 24th, during the 11am service, Kid's Corner will meet for the **entire hour** to celebrate Thanksgiving. They will eat breakfast, have activities and crafts, and pray to thank God for many blessings! This is always a fun Sunday as all of the teachers gather together to spend the morning with the kids.

Children will sign-in as usual with their teachers in the narthex and then will walk with their teachers to the Fellowship Hall before the 11:00 service starts.

Children's Ministry Updates

Kid's Corner Painting Night

On October 4th, our regular attending Kid's Corner kids attended a party to paint new artwork for Room 7. We had 7 kids in Grades PreK-5 in attendance representing 5 VPC families.

When the kids arrived, they chose what they wanted their art to say. The choices were 'Love is kind', 'Jesus Saves', 'God is Good' and similar quotes.

They used stickers to add the saying to their canvas and then started painting. There are some beautiful pieces of art now hanging on our Kid's Corner walls.

The kids enjoyed eating pizza from Joey D's. They also loved the opportunity to play the Nintendo Wii and spend time hanging out together. A great time was had by all!

VPC Brought Lunch to Teachers at VES

On Monday, October 14th, the staff at Venice Elementary School had a professional day (a learning day without students). Venice

Presbyterian Church was glad to cater Darrel's Barbecue to brighten their day. It worked out perfectly that their Professional Learning time ended as lunch began.

If you would like to be involved in further outreach to Venice Elementary School, we can lend a helping hand (hopefully many helping hands!) at their upcoming fundraising event. **Friday, November 8** from 4-8pm, we are sending helpers to the VES Pow-Wow to help teachers and staff with their booths. To help, contact Genna Sarikoki.



Family Christmas Party

Families with children up to 5th grade are welcome to join us for a Christmas Party on December 13 at 5pm!

We look forward to celebrating the birth of Christ and the merriment of the season together!

Dinner will be served.
This is a free event.



Marika Fries

Marika serves in Kid's Corner, Moppets, and so much more! We are so thankful for how her love for the Lord shines through in her love for the kids at VPC!

Birthday: July 2nd

Place of Birth: Bethlehem, PA

Favorite food: Seafood

Favorite color: Blue

Favorite hobby: Gardening

Favorite Movie: The Blind Side

Favorite Holiday: Easter

SUPER thing that happened in Marika's life: I took a 600 mile canoe trip in Alaska, starting in the Brook's Range - 100 miles above the Artic Circle and completing the trip at the Yukon River.

SUPER thing coming up this next year for Marika: I'm planning to take my granddaughter on my fifth trip to Guatemala.

SUPER power Bible verse: I was glad when they said, "Let us go to the house of the Lord." Psalm 122:1

Uncommon SUPER power: Diplomatic Child Negotiator (*Baby Whisperer*)



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

OPERATION SHOEBOX CELEBRATION



- DINNER
- PRAY OVER BOXES
- PICTURES AND NOTES TO ADD TO BOXES
- FAMILY GAMES
- FOR ALL AGES 0-100

This will be a fun night for the whole family centered around sending gifts to children in need! Pick up a box in the Narthex between now and the event to start packing. On the night of the celebration, we will bring the boxes to the Fellowship Hall and pray over them. We will have instant cameras on hand to take pictures of you and your family as we tell the children we're sending these and that we are praying for them.

*EXPECT A FABULOUS NIGHT OF FELLOWSHIP
CENTERED AROUND SHOEBOXES!*

**BRING YOUR PACKED BOXES
AND \$9 FOR SHIPPING**

*IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP WITH HOSTING THIS EVENT
PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE,
VENICE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 825 THE RIALTO*

How to Pack a Shoebox?

Pick a standard sized shoebox to pack for a boy or a girl.
Need a shoebox?
Pick it up right here in the VPC Narthex!

1

Select a quality "WOW" toy such as a doll, soccer ball with a pump, or stuffed animal.

2

Fill with other fun toys, hygiene items, and school supplies.

3

Bring your box to our Shoebox Celebration, November 15th at 6pm to pray for the children who receive these boxes.

4

A donation of \$9 is critical to cover shipping and other project costs.

5

If not attending the celebration, drop your box off in the office or Narthex by November 17th.

6

Traveling Thanksgiving Feast



The Hub youth will be having a **Traveling Thanksgiving Feast** on Sunday, November 17. Students should be in the van to leave the church at 5pm and will return to campus at 8:15pm.

We are looking forward to some fantastic cooking! There will be 5 stops on our route; appetizers, soup, salad, main dish, and dessert. Pray for traveling safety as we hop from house to house.

A Trip to the Big Apple

The VPC youth is planning a mission trip to New York City, June 6-13, 2020. Please pray with us as preparations are being made. You will be hearing more details about this trip in the coming months.



What we know so far is that accommodations are being made to stay in a church in Manhattan with the goal of hands-on service in soup kitchens and outreaches in the city. Serving daily, attending church on Sunday, and studying scripture throughout the week together will be an experience that will build our students' faith.

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

Confirmation Classes

We will be holding confirmation classes for our youth, grades 6 & 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 Dec. 14, Jan. 11, Feb. 22, March 28, and April 25. A sign up for classes is available at venicepres.org.

Connect & Grow

Group Gatherings



MONDAY

MnM Men's Group

6pm-7pm, Glass House

Year Round

Alan Penick, adpenick@comcast.net

Holy Yoga

9am-9:45am, Fellowship Hall

November 1-May 15

David Hill, davelhill@hotmail.com

Instructor: Lou

Line Dancing

10:30am-11:30am, Fellowship Hall

October 7-May 1

Jackie Wheeler, 941-493-2776

wheelerjacqueline@yahoo.com

Knit One, Pray Too!

12pm-2pm, Room 9

October 21-April 14

Pat Pitha, 605-957-4404

sunnypatpitha@aol.com

TUESDAY

Men's Bible Study

9:15am-10:15am, weekly

October 22-May 26

Glass House

Studying the Gospel of Luke

Dick Edmunds, 941-488-8949

kcid1961@gmail.com

Rachel Bible Study

10am-12pm

Monthly, 1st Tuesday

October-May 5

Shirley Blood, 941-493-4992

clarkesprinkle@gmail.com

Elizabeth Bible Study

9:30am-11:30am, 1st Tuesday

Member homes-brunch included

Irene Percy, Niki Steitz, Hope Gordon,

941-480-9393

hopecarroll12@yahoo.com

Dorcas Bible Study

10am-12pm, 3rd Tuesday, Room 7

Beth Tieman, 941-564-6304

bethtmn@comcast.net

Connie Householder, 941-882-3469

householder1282@gmail.com

Women's Tuesday Fellowship

7pm-9pm, Weekly, Room 6

Kim Jason, 941-806-9894

kljason@comcast.net

WEDNESDAY

Adult Coloring Crew

12pm, Library

Ardith Pinner, apinner@venicepres.org

Book Club

1pm-2pm in Room 8

1st Wednesday of the month

"A Walk in the Woods", November 6

Mary Gregory, 716-984-3613

Mgregorysmiles@gmail.com

THURSDAY

MOPS (*Mother's of Preschoolers*)

1st & 3rd Thursday, 9:30am-12pm

Fellowship Hall

FRIDAY

Holy Yoga

9am-9:45am, Fellowship Hall

November 1-May 15

David Hill, davelhill@hotmail.com

Instructor: Lou

Bible Study Fellowship

9:30am. entire campus

Karen Coleman

kcoleman37@comcast.net



**Saturday
December 7
2pm-4pm
Tickets are \$20**

Special Performance by:

MICHELE PRUYN

Presbyterian Women's Annual

Christmas tea

**Tickets go on sale Sundays after services
November 17th through December 1st**

Tickets are not available at the door

info: 941-492-4851 / email: kwood1221@comcast.net

CHRISTMAS TEA HOSTESSES NEEDED

Venice Presbyterian Church in Fellowship Hall / 825 The Rialto, Venice



November Monthly Mission Partner Helps Stove Team

VPC has partnered with Helps International and the people of Guatemala to foster hope and health through the placement of water filters and safe, efficient stoves in homes and schools.

For centuries, people in third world countries have cooked using open fires on the floors of their small homes. This is the cause of medical and environmental problems:

- burns
- severe respiratory problems
- air pollution
- rapid deforestation

The Onil stove was developed in recognition of these problems. Being raised off the floor, it drastically reduces the risk for burns and smoke inhalation. Ecologically, it is 70% more efficient

than an open fire thereby decreasing deforestation and greenhouse gases, and saving money or time spent in gathering firewood.

How can one help?

Team members pay their own expenses but you can help fund the stoves and water filters. To donate use the yellow envelopes in the pews or see us in the Glass House.

If you would like to join the stove team, travel dates for 2020 are March 14 - 23. In addition to the joy of installing stoves and water filters, we will deliver small gifts to the children at the Helps school supported by members of our congregation and knitted goods from Knit One Pray Too to the neighboring clinic. The team is almost full so don't delay.



For information about the stove project
contact Jim or Lois Weeks, jimloisweeks@yahoo.com

For information about sponsoring a student,
contact Cheryl Weeks-Rosten, cwrosten@gmail.com



Thanksgiving Food Drive

Hey folks! It's Thanksgiving season and time for our semi-annual food drive. On Sunday, Nov. 17 we will be distributing grocery bags for you to fill and return on Sunday, Nov. 24. We will have vehicles with balloons flying located at several places in the parking lot to unload your donations.

This food drive benefits four Venice food pantries who serve our local needy families! All donations distributed to: South County Food Pantry, Laurel Civic Center, CAM- (Trinity Community Assistance Ministry), and Center Of Hope.

Thank you for supporting these food banks!

Mission & Outreach



Family Promise Dream Walk

Saturday, November 9, 2019 at 9am
Venice Presbyterian, Fellowship Hall

How can you 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@nets-cape.com or venicepres.org



3 Cents A Meal

On the last Sunday of the month, November 24, 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.

Salvation Army Bell Ringers Needed

It is once again time to Ring Bells for the Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign from Friday, November 29 through Tuesday, December 24. Sign up will begin on the patio on Sunday, November 10 following both services.



**Oneblood at VPC:
Yes, you can donate blood!**

New rules open up this opportunity for so many more people. Oneblood Bloodmobile will be in the parking lot, Nov. 3, 9:30 to 1:30 for our members to donate blood. Sign up if you can or they will also take walk-ins.



**FAITH IN THE FOREST
Pregnancy Solutions
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, 11:00am

Dinner, 7:00pm

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

Register at venicepres.org/pregnancy-solutions



Buddy Break Christmas Pageant

December 21, 12pm

All welcome

Reception in the glass house

2019 Alternative Gift Market & Festival **Journey to Bethlehem**



Sunday
December 8 & 15
Booklet & Online
Gift Giving begins
November 24

The Alternative Gift Market & Festival is a fun-filled celebration of abundance and generosity! December 8 & 15, following both the 9am and 11am worship services, we celebrate VPC's Mission Partners with live music, refreshments, education and an opportunity to share our abundance with those who have little while honoring our loved ones for the holidays.

Give hope to local, national and international missions. Purchase a "gift"—no wrapping required—to honor or in-memoriam of a loved one, which will benefit those in need. Receive a beautiful Christmas card reflecting your contribution along with information about your chosen mission just in time for the holidays. Show your love and appreciation for the special people in your life while giving to those organizations that help better the lives of God's children.



On this All Saints Sunday, we lovingly remember the following members of our church family who have joined the Church Triumphant in the past year.

Harriet Albert
George Allen
Laury Allen
Peggy Beard
George Beaudry
Don Blair
Bill Boehm
Dick Bolender
Carol Carpenter
Ralph Cook
Jim Crandall
Dale Crockett
Stuart Crompton
Bob DeCook
Russ Duffey
Vern Duffy
Betty McMillin Fox
George Fram
Norma Garard
Fran Godley
Barbara Goebel
Don Green
Scott Grover
Lyle Hawkins

Bob Helmen
Colleen Herdrich
Ruth Joelson
Judy King
Doris Kunkel
Gary Kunkel
Cornelia Lawson
Jim MacCallum
Betty Murray
Rich Nicholas
William Orr
Jack Perkins
Dick Prince
Louie Pruden
Charlie Putnam
Nora Schumacher
Ken Smith
Shelagh Spencer
Jim Staley
Kevin Stearns
Adrian VandenBerg
Rosemary Vauzanges
Bill Walker
Bob Wienand

