

# ***Connect, Grow & Go***

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

***Come Away For Awhile***



***Here's What's Going on at VPC in March 2020***

***Hymn Festival with  
Craig Williams***



***Family Olympics***



# Our Vision in Action

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

### VPC Staff

#### Senior Pastor

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#### Pastor of Member Care

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#### Minister of Music & Worship Arts

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#### Facility & A/V

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#### Regular Office Hours

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

#### Office Phone

941-488-2258

### 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

#### Worship Service Hours

Sunday, 9am & 11am

#### Library Hours

Monday - Thurs, 10-12pm

Sunday, 8:30-12:30am

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

### 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



### Put your event or group meeting in Connect, Grow & Go!

Want to promote your group, event or workshop? Simply go to [venicepres.org](http://venicepres.org) to **Connect, Grow and Go**, fill out the form (or get one from the office) and submit by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month. **Next Deadline is March 17**

## Executive Director's Desk

**Hello!** Welcome to the month of the Irish. As an O'Brien, I am celebrating March from start to finish. I am celebrating the blessings of VPC and the first quarter of the year.

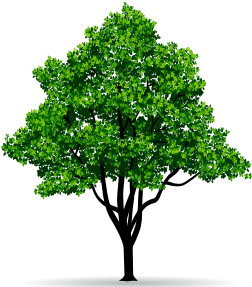


In Mid March you will see a new face at VPC. We've hired an Office Administrator who will be doing much more than managing the office. She comes to us with 20+ years of church experience, a heart for Christ, and a love for people. Her name is Cherie Loomis and she is moving from Pennsylvania. She currently works at the United Methodist Credit Union by day but by night and weekend she is the Youth Director and AV Tech for her church, Christ Community United Methodist. Cherie and her husband Kevin have led a youth program of some sort for the past 29 years! We are very excited for Cherie to join VPC. I think you will love her!

It is that time of year again! The Annual Meeting is scheduled for March 29th at 4PM in the sanctuary. If you are curious, we hear about and vote on members of Session and Trustees, discuss the business of the church and answer questions. This is a time for you to exercise your membership privileges as a voting member of the congregation; however, you do not have to be a member to attend! You do have to be a member to vote. Believe it or not, this is actually a fun meeting! Now I realize the words "fun" and "meeting" normally do not go together but in this case, they do!

I do not want to leave this letter without a huge thank you to all of the office volunteers. This group of men and women really stepped up to the plate and are serving VPC well in the absence of paid staff in the office area. They greet people at the door, answer phones, do their jobs, and learn new things all the time with huge smiles! If you stop in the office or call, please say thank you to them. In this time of transition, we could not get through without them!

## Where did the trees go?



You may have noticed some heavy tree trimming across the campus of VPC! Our landscaper and a few key leaders did a campus wide tour and made some tough decisions concerning the very overgrown trees, shrubs, and foliage. You will notice many areas are cleaned out and cleaned up! You will begin to see new trees and shrubs planted soon. Just as everything has a season, so do trees and plants. We hope to bring unity, color and beauty to really enhance the campus. Change is always hard. Please understand we have a professional landscaper who cares for our grounds.

If you are interested in helping to beautify our VPC property our landscaper is willing to work with us! He would like to set a day and time that he is here and enjoy the ministry with you! Please respond to [cobrien@venicepres.org](mailto:cobrien@venicepres.org) if you are interested in helping to plant the plants, weed or help in this area! We will get it set-up and you can dig in God's earth with others who love what they do!



## ***Big Staff News***

Kim Curren, our Chief Financial Officer, has been with us since 2001 and has just announced that **SHE IS RETIRING** at the end of March!

Please congratulate Kim on this major decision. May our Lord bless Kim and her husband in this new season of their lives.

## ***When I am afraid I put my trust in you. Psalm 56:3***

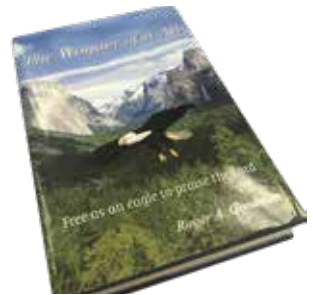
Read this scripture again.... Now read the scripture one more time and think about a word or phrase that stands out to you. What is God saying to you in this passage? How often do you feel FEAR? This four-letter word is so big in our lives. It consumes us more than we can even imagine. We are afraid we will not raise our kids well, afraid we will not have enough money, afraid we will get rear-ended as we drive on Rt. 41! We are afraid we aren't "doing enough" to get into heaven. Some are even afraid that heaven isn't real after living for Christ their entire life. Their fears overtake what they know in their heart to be the Holy.

Trust is the opposite of fear. Trust is larger than fear. In the context of this verse, David is asking what more can people do to him. They are "hounding" him, they are "boldly attacking" him, but David is putting his TRUST in the Lord because he knows no one can take away his soul and his belief in God. "When I am afraid, I put my trust in you". (God) Amen.

## ***Ways God Works In Our Lives***

As a teenage boy, I attended a small country church where we had a large youth group. It was at that time that I was subjected to a very profound spiritual disappointment. It resulted in a major spiritual problem which carried well into my adulthood. Life was very busy: marriage, family and jobs.

All through these years my attention to God was pushed aside. Then came retirement and the reward of freedom. I began to think very seriously about my creator and Jesus Christ's purpose in our lives. This was the beginning of the spiritual inspiration that led me to write 5 Christian books and 92 poems.



***The Wonder Of It All by Roger Goodman***

As a disciple of our Lord I am convinced that the spirit of Christ can indwell us and bring forth a transformation.

*Roger Goodman*

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



I grew up and lived in West Michigan until moving to Venice in 2014. After visiting my parents, who wintered in Port Charlotte for many years, how could we not pick the beautiful coastal town of Venice for our dwelling place!

I met Mark in 2014 after moving to Florida. He had recently moved to Florida from West Michigan as well! We married a year later. Marriage is a joy and Mark is a precious gift. We have no children, but beautiful families in our siblings, nieces and nephews. Plus, we have Tess and Willie, our elderly and well-loved long-haired dachshunds.

I enjoyed the in-depth teaching at my prior church. After we were married Mark voiced interest in finding a church which also had more passion for community service and mission work. We set out on a lengthy search and in 2016 agreed that VPC was the right fit for us with its wise teaching and passion for missions .

Being on Session immerses me more deeply into relationship with God and it causes me to do things I might not otherwise have done.

I have a personal passion for animal welfare. It's been a journey, but I see more and more how animals get the "short end of the stick". And I hurt for them.



### **Academic Scholarships Available**

Members of Venice Presbyterian Church, their immediate family members and mission partners approved by the Mission Committee are eligible for scholarships to be used for tuition to fully accredited colleges, universities and technical schools. Scholarships are granted on the basis of service to church, school & community; academic standing; justifiable financial need; extenuating circumstances. Go to [venicepres.org/scholarships](http://venicepres.org/scholarships) to apply. Deadline is March 15, 2020.



# *Holy Week Schedule*

Join us this Holy week as we walk through the Journey of Christ's last days. Holy week examines the culmination of Jesus' public ministry. During this week we celebrate his triumphal entry into Jerusalem, we examine our hearts as we take communion commemorating the Last Supper, we bow our heads in grief as we contemplate the Crucifixion of Christ, but most importantly, we rejoice in the resurrection of Jesus Christ, which assures us, the communion of saints, of our future resurrection.

## ***Palm Sunday***

***Sunday April 5th***

***9:00am and 11:00am***

As part of our Palm Sunday celebration, we welcome guest organist Dr. Pitagoras Goncalves and guest preacher, Jamal Sarikoki.

## ***Maundy Thursday***

***April 9th 7:00pm***

## ***Good Friday***

***April 10th***

***Beginning at 6:15pm,*** Jamal Sarikoki will present a voice recital of contemplative music focusing on the cross of Jesus Christ. This recital will feature The Crucifixion by Samuel Barber, Mache dich, mein Herze, rein by Johann Sebastian Bach, and spiritual settings by Moses Hogan

***At 7pm,*** this service will begin with music for organ and cello. We will journey through the very last moments of Christ's life. The story will be told through scripture readings, beautiful music supplied by our Chancel and Handbell Choirs, and a message from Pastor Chris.

## ***Easter Sunday***

***April 12***

***8:00am, 9:30am,  
11:15am***

***8:00am*** This service will be centered around God's word and holy communion and feature music by the VPC Piano Trio.

***9:30am and 11:15 am***

We will have a traditional service with music from the chancel choir, brass ensemble, and a message from Pastor Chris Romig.



# Worship Ministry



## **Wednesday Morning Prayer & Communion**

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

## **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.

## **Retirement Community Communion**

*Rev. Burke Johnson*

Thursday, March 12, 11am  
Village on the Isle

Friday, March 13, 9:45am  
Aston Gardens

Friday, March 13, 1pm  
Jacaranda Trace

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## **Fanny Crosby Sunday**

*March 22 – 9 & 11 am*



This month marks the 200th anniversary of the birth of Fanny Crosby, one of the greatest hymnwriters in history. Fanny Crosby penned more than 8000 hymns during her lifetime, overcoming the challenge of being blind. In addition to becoming a celebrated poet and Christian speaker, Fanny Crosby ministered in the slums of New York's Bowery

district, sharing Christ's love with the destitute and homeless. On Sunday, March 22, our choir, bell choir, and congregation will join Pastor Chris and Jamal Sarikoki in leading us all to praise God through the hymns of Fanny Crosby – which will include favorites like "Blessed Assurance," "Near the Cross," and "To God Be the Glory."

*Care & Compassion*



GRIEF ♦ SUPPORT ♦ RECOVERY  
**TRANSITIONS**

Starts March 23, Mondays at 9:30-11:30

Venice Presbyterian Church, 825 The Rialto

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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 Pat O’Gorman at 941-491-0317**

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





### ***Prayer Shawl Donation***

Come view the lovely knitted items donated graciously by Knit One, Pray Too ministry. The items will be blessed and displayed in the Narthex March 22 during both services.

### ***Knit One, Pray Too!***

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 sheltering, mothering God!

**Knit One, Pray Too!**, 12pm–2pm, Room 9  
October 21–April 14, Pat Pitha, [sunnypatpitha@aol.com](mailto:sunnypatpitha@aol.com)

### ***“Comfort Calls”***

There are many widows and widowers in our congregation and community. We are, as Christians, called to care for our widows. James 1:27 tells us to look after the orphans and widows. We think about our neighbors and friends who have lost a husband or wife and are now living alone and we are not sure what we can do to offer support and care. A simple phone call, text message or create a buddy system are some ideas that could help. Recently we heard stories of those living alone having accidents and no one finding them for hours, or in some cases, a couple of days. Creating a buddy system with those you care about helps prevent such occurrences. A quick daily check-in is not a nuisance but a way to say you care. Please consider making a difference in someone’s life, in this meaningful way, by picking up the phone and checking in on a friend!

### ***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.

### ***Memorial Service/Receptions***

Memorial Services are a special way to remember those we love. After services, it is common for the family to want to spend time visiting and reminiscing with each other. VPC offers a reception in the Glass House serving cookies and coffee after each memorial service so that families are able to visit with their loved ones.

*Volunteers are currently needed to assist in the reception area. Contact the church office for details.*

*Does your family have what it takes to be champions?*

# 2020 FAMILY OLYMPICS



**MARCH 6**

*Friday*

**6PM - 8PM**

**- VENICE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH -  
GAMES | DINNER | PRIZES  
FREE TO ALL**

Prizes for "most family-spirit", "best effort" and "winner of the most competitions"!

This event is open to children of all ages as parents or guardians will be on site the entire time.

**825 THE RIALTO, VENICE, FLORIDA 34285**

**WWW.VENICEPRES.ORG**



# Family Ministry

## *Retired Educators, we need your help!*

We are looking forward to hosting a Scholastic Book Fair on campus in order to collect books to give to our local foster care and Family Promise kids! The book fair/book drive will be held March 15 - 22. We need help setting up, organizing, tearing down, hosting, and helping people purchase books. Volunteer training will take place Saturday, March 14 at 10am.

If you love to read and want to encourage our next generation to read this is a great way to get involved! To volunteer contact Genna Sarikoki at [gsarikoki@venicepres.org](mailto:gsarikoki@venicepres.org) or by calling the church office.

## *March is Reading Month*

What better way to celebrate than giving a book to a kid?

The Scholastic Book Fair will be in the Glass House from March 15th-22nd.

We are collecting books to donate to kids in foster care through The Twig and Family Promise kids. You will have the opportunity to pick out a book, buy it, and write a personalized note in it for a child in need. There will be a donation box right there so that we can take your donated books. If you don't want to shop for a book, but would like to make a donation towards books for kids, please feel free to do so.

You are also welcome to shop for books for:

- Yourself
- Your neighbors
- Your grandkids
- Anyone you know!

We will be stocking cookbooks, seasonal books, Christian books, and books for Kindergarten through middle schoolers.

### **Book Fair Hours are:**

Sunday, March 15th 10-1pm

Tuesday, March 17th 10-1pm

Thursday, March 19th 10-1pm

Saturday, March 21st 12:30-1pm

Sunday, March 22nd 10-1pm





LEGO  
**EASTER**  
*Egg Hunt*



**SATURDAY, APRIL 4**

JOIN US FOR A MORNING FULL OF LEGO BUILDS & FINDING LEGOS IN EGGS

**SNACKS • CRAFTS • EASTER BUNNY**

EGG HUNT STARTS AT 10:30<sup>AM</sup> | FREE ENTRY  
SIGN UP ONLINE AT [WWW.VENICEPRES.ORG](http://WWW.VENICEPRES.ORG)

**VENICE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

825 THE RIALTO, VENICE, FLORIDA | CONTACT: 941-488-2258



# Family Ministry



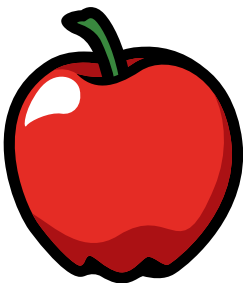
## ***Painting Trip to Immokolee***

The youth group will be taking a day trip to Immokalee during Spring Break. We are excited for the opportunity to help Mision Peniel paint their interior walls. If you love painting, you are welcome to join us for the day!

***Donations of gently used rollers or paint brushes would be welcomed.*** Please mark them to the attention of Genna Sarikoki and bring them to the Welcome Center or Church Office.

## ***Buddy Break Parent Breakfast***

We will be welcoming parents of our Buddy Break VIP's to join us in the Glasshouse this coming Buddy Break for breakfast. It is always a pleasure to sit down over breakfast, a cup of coffee, to talk and pray! Buddy Break is the 3rd Saturday of the month, March 21.



## ***Missions Trip Date Change***

The youth will be going to New York July 11th-18th. With the date change from June to July, our expenses have increased a little bit. We are thankful for your support through the Choral Festival and the Spaghetti Dinner! Please continue to support and pray for our youth as they have many outreach opportunities coming up this summer!

***The Hub (Youth Group) meets Sunday evenings from 6-8pm. For email updates about youth events, email Genna Sarikoki to be added to the list! 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)***

# Mission & Outreach

**MARCH MONTHLY MISSION PARTNER: Day 4 Hope, July 25, 2020**

**More than 130 children in the Venice area are homeless.** They don't have a nice home, can't visit a fine restaurant, or have travel possibilities. They live in a car, motel or homeless camp. They dine on scraps or fast food. They travel by bike or walk since they don't have any other means of travel. Their clothes are not clean or new but hand-me-downs or from Goodwill. They're not able to wash in a nice bathroom. And more than 1,000 people continue to move to Florida every day, some of whom are in these same circumstances. For the last four years, VPC with Day 4 Hope, has sponsored approximately 120 homeless children per year to prepare them to return to school with new clothes, new shoes, haircut, medical exam, eye exam, dental exam, new backpack filled with school supplies, books, hygiene products and groceries for them and their family – all at no cost to the child or family. Hope 4 Communities and Day 4 Hope started in 2010, serving 250 children in Sarasota.

Last year VPC served 116 children from four schools: Venice Elementary, Garden Elementary, Laurel Nokomis Elementary, and Taylor Ranch Elementary. County-wide, 2,865 children were served. This year we hope to serve 130 children here at VPC and over 3,000 county-wide. VPC will serve homeless children from eight schools, the same four from last year plus Englewood Elementary, Sky Academy Venice, Sky Academy Englewood and the Montessori school on Pinebrook. How can you help these less fortunate kids? Our Day 4 Hope event will be

held on Saturday, July 25th. Many of you have volunteered in the past and we need your help again. For this one-day event we need over 250 volunteers to help prepare the children, both homeless and those in the greatest need of assistance, for the first day of school. In one day, we attempt to raise their self-esteem so when they walk into school on the first, sometimes frightful day, they feel they are on an equal level with their peers. During the Day each child will be guided around the VPC campus by Ambassadors, so they receive the following:



- A physical exam by a doctor, and county records are checked to insure each child has the proper vaccinations.
- A dental exam by a dentist including a fluoride treatment.
- An eye exam including glasses if needed. Last year the doctor scheduled the most needy cases for a further appointment at no cost. All doctors, nurses and medical support staff donate all their time and resources.
- Haircut by hair stylists who donate their time to cut the child's hair, and maybe even mom's and dad's hair if time permits.
- A new backpack filled to the brim with all the necessary school supplies.
- A bag full of hygiene products.
- Two large bags of healthy, nutritious food.
- A bag of fresh produce from Detwiler's.
- Two hot meals are provided for the entire family, and of course the volunteers. Volunteers will prepare and serve over 600 meals

that day. Most of the food is donated by One Christ Won City, Salvation Army and local merchants.

- Another local vendor brings an ice cream truck with free ice cream.
- A free toy and books are provided to each child.
- The last three years we have given three \$25 gift cards for each child to purchase new clothes and shoes.

In addition, a prayer room for children and parents is available, staffed by Stephen Ministers, as well as a play corner where children can participate in fun activities such as face painting and crafts.

The City of Venice provides two police officers as well as a fire engine and emergency vehicle for the children to explore and enjoy.

Providing all this to these children less fortunate is truly a Day 4 Hope. Our goal is to serve 130 children. For those of you who will have returned up north, we



need your financial help to accomplish this event. It costs over \$100 per child to accomplish this day. For the last four years we have given each child three \$25 gift cards for clothes and shoes. One goal this year is to increase that amount to four \$25 gift cards. We all remember taking children to the store to buy clothes and shoes and even \$75 does not go very far, so we believe it is important to increase our gift card amount to \$100. Altogether we need to raise approximately \$16,000. The doctors, nurses, medical staff, hair stylists and photographer all donate their time, as do the ambassadors and other volunteers.

We hope to see you on Saturday, July 25th.



### **3 Cents A Meal: Giving your change to make a change!**

On the last Sunday of each month, faithful attendees of VPC bring in loose change they have accumulated and swap for an empty container. This change gets counted and distributed to the four outreach ministries: Center of Hope, Community Assistance Ministries, Venice Food Pantry and All Faith's Food Bank. Thank you to all who have given, your donations have enabled VPC to provide 10,000+ lbs of food. This program is continuing to grow each month. **Let's keep the momentum going!**

Please grab a container from the table in the Narthex on March 29 and give your loose change and dollar bills to help feed those who are hungry in our community.



**Congratulations to Karen Norwood** and her team of Salvation Army Bell Ringers! Venice Presbyterian Church won 1<sup>st</sup> prize for ringing our bells for hunger for 2019.

- Gross Total: \$151,893.25
- VPC Volunteers Total: \$16,419.55
- VPC Volunteer Hours: 217.3 Hrs.

**Pregnancy Solutions**

it takes a VILLAGE

we are the VILLAGE

**2020 WALK FOR LIFE**

➔

**MARCH 7**

**Venice Presbyterian Church**  
825 the Rialto, Venice  
Check-in 8am, Walk begins at 9am  
Register at [www.PSWalkforLife.org](http://www.PSWalkforLife.org)



## **Prayers Needed**



## **Family Promise Host Week**

**March 22-29**

Volunteers needed to take care of our young families while they are on our campus.

- Sunday afternoon set-up & tear down.
- Daily evening meal providers.
- Daily evening hosts w/dinner.
- Overnight hosts
- Laundry

Contact Gail Thompson (908) 415-4691  
[gaylecat@netscape.net](mailto:gaylecat@netscape.net) to volunteer.

## **HELP INTL Team**

VPC is sponsoring a team to assist rural Guatemalan families by installing life-saving stoves and water filters. Please keep this team in your prayers as they begin their journey.

Allen, Bob  
Allen, Marilyn  
Bowers, Jalen  
Chase, Doug  
Chronister, Sarah  
Craver, Bob  
Fries, Marika  
Hoffman, Tom  
Howarth, Deborah  
Jones, Brianna

Laird, Bob  
Nine, Kathy  
Norwood, Karen  
Norwood, Ryan  
Sale, Whitney  
Waldron, Ron  
Weeks, Jim  
Weeks, Lois  
Weeks, Nathan  
Weeks, Viggo



## **Clinica Medica Salvatore/Orphans - Guatemala**

Frank Ebetino is pleased to tell you that Jennifer Speer will accompany the team to Guatemala, along with Tessa and Jim Will and Bruce and Kate Smithson. Jennifer will be addressing 3 different groups of Guatemalan women, bringing the message of God's grace and forgiveness through her book, "Women of Grace", which has been translated into Spanish. Please pray for this ministry. Trip dates: March 22-28.



# Connect & Grow Group Gatherings

## MONDAY

### **MnM Men's Group**

6pm–7pm, Glass House

Year Round

Alan Penick, [adpenick@com-cast.net](mailto:adpenick@com-cast.net)

### **Holy Yoga**

9am–9:45am, Fellowship Hall

November 1–May 15

David Hill, [davelhill@hotmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:wheelerjacqueline@yahoo.com)

### **Knit One, Pray Too!**

12pm–2pm, Room 9

October 21–April 14

Pat Pitha, 605-957-4404  
[sunnypatpitha@aol.com](mailto:sunnypatpitha@aol.com)

## TUESDAY

### **Men's Discussion Group**

8:00 am – 9:00 am, Weekly

Oct. 2 – May 5, Room 11

Doug Brown, 941-486-5367,  
[village4252@gmail.com](mailto:village4252@gmail.com)

### **Men's Bible Study**

9:15am–10:15am, weekly

October 22–May 26

Glass House

Dick Edmunds, 941-488-8949  
[kcid1961@gmail.com](mailto:kcid1961@gmail.com)

### **Elizabeth Bible Study**

9:30am–11:30am, 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday

Member homes–*includes  
brunch*

Irene Percy, Niki Steitz, Hope  
Gordon, 941-480-9393  
[hopecarroll12@yahoo.com](mailto:hopecarroll12@yahoo.com)

### **Nomads Women's Bible Study**

9:30am – 11am, Room 8

Weekly, starts Jan 14 – Apr 14

Karen Langlais

[kolanglais@verizon.net](mailto:kolanglais@verizon.net)

Anna Marie Brummett

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



### **Rachel Bible Study,**

*Will not meet in March*

10am–12pm in Fellowship Hall  
Monthly, 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday  
October–May 5  
Shirley Blood, 941-493-4992  
[clarkesprinkle@gmail.com](mailto:clarkesprinkle@gmail.com)

### **Dorcas Bible Study**

10am–12pm, 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday, Room  
5 (*returns to Tuesdays in April in  
Room 6*)

Beth Tieman, 941-564-6304  
[bethtmn@comcast.net](mailto:bethtmn@comcast.net)  
Connie Householder  
941-882-3469  
[householder1282@gmail.com](mailto:householder1282@gmail.com)

### **Women's Tuesday Fellowship**

*Group for working women*  
7pm–9pm, Weekly, Room 6  
Kim Jason, 941-806-9894  
[kljason@comcast.net](mailto:kljason@comcast.net)

## **WEDNESDAY**

### **Adult Coloring Crew**

12pm, Library  
Jenny Chaplin  
[jchaplin9@gmail.com](mailto:jchaplin9@gmail.com)

### **Book Club**

1pm-2pm in Room 8  
1st Wednesday of the month  
February 5, "My Dear Hamilton",  
*Stephanie Dray & Laura Kamoie*  
Mary Gregory, 716-984-3613  
[Mgregorysmiles@gmail.com](mailto:Mgregorysmiles@gmail.com)

### **Sacred Rhythms**

*During Lent*  
6pm - 7pm, sanctuary  
Pastor Chris Romig

## **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](mailto:davelhill@hotmail.com)  
Instructor: Lou

### **Bible Study Fellowship**

9:30am. entire campus  
Karen Coleman  
[kcoleman37@comcast.net](mailto:kcoleman37@comcast.net)

## **SUNDAY**

### **ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL**

### **Current Events Through the Eyes of Faith**

Sundays, 10:30–11:30 am  
Ends April 26, 2020  
Room 9  
Pastor Carolyn  
[cwilson@venicepres.org](mailto:cwilson@venicepres.org)

# Connect & Grow

## Breaking Bread Together

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

### Lunch Bunch

Saturday, March 21, 1:00 PM

### Sunday Supper

Sunday, March 29, 5:00 PM



**Come** to a lunch or supper for 6 and bring an assigned food item or **host** a lunch or supper for 6 and assign items. Sign up for one or both in the Glass House, call VPC (941-488-2258) or Jean Peters (941-484-6333)

## Member Golf Outing & Lunch

Monday, May 4, 7:30 AM Sign-in / 8 AM Tee Time

Lake Venice Golf Club, followed by Lunch in Fellowship Hall

Best Ball Scramble

Open to All Members (Women, Men & Teenagers) –

Maximum, 10

Foursomes

\$28.00 per person (Golf, Lunch & Prizes)

Players will be asked to identify their average or expected score for 18 holes, allowing the makeup of foursomes

to be determined by a balanced mix of player ability on each team (all abilities are welcome).

Participants will be finalized to include the first 40 players who sign up and pay.

Signups begin on Sunday, March 17 (and each Sunday thereafter through April 27 as long as there are still openings) between services in The Glass House, and at the church office during the work week.



For more information or questions, please contact:

Dick Edmunds, [kcid1961@gmail.com](mailto:kcid1961@gmail.com)

Richard Gilbert, [richbobbiegil@comcast.net](mailto:richbobbiegil@comcast.net)

Bill O'Brien, [wobrien2021@gmail.com](mailto:wobrien2021@gmail.com)

## PW Upcoming Potluck Luncheon (12pm in Fellowship Hall)

April 23 "Antiques Show and Tell" with Brian King (bring two antiques to show) and installation of officers



## **Sacred Rhythms**

### *Wednesday Nights In Lent*

Lent is a season that invites us to reflect on our life with God, and to draw closer to Christ. Sacred Rhythms explores the practices that spiritual seekers and growing disciples have used throughout history to grow closer to God.

This six-session class will feature teaching from VPC pastors based on short video reflections from Dr. Ruth Haley Barton, founder of the Transforming Center. Each session will also offer opportunities to experience a taste of each discipline, with practical suggestions for incorporating these disciplines into our lives.

We offered this course a number of years ago at VPC, and participants commented that it was inspiring, practical, and very helpful in their spiritual growth as disciples of Jesus.

Join us each Wednesday during Lent at 6 pm in the Sanctuary. If you are not able to attend all six sessions, please come for as many as you can – you will still get the benefit of each individual session! These sessions will not be live-streamed or recorded, so you're encouraged to come in-person as often as you are able.

March 4 ***Desire: Longing for More in the Spiritual Life***

March 11 ***Solitude and Silence: Creating Space for God***

March 18 ***Lectio Divina: Encountering God in Scripture***

March 25 ***Honoring the Body: Flesh-and-Blood Spirituality***

April 1 ***The Examen: Bringing My Whole Self to God***

April 8 ***A Rule of Life: Cultivating Your Own Sacred Rhythms***



## **AN IRISH-CELTIC CELEBRATION!**

*Starring Brian Gurl, Carlann Evans, Michele Pruyn and Band, featuring Irish Dancers!*

Experience a dynamic panorama of Irish favorites, blazing jigs, gorgeous vocals, exciting Celtic Rock + humor & comedy.

Tuesday, March 17  
7:30PM

Tickets: \$25 per person available after each church service on the patio beginning Feb 23 or (828) 284-2953 or at the door or [www.BrianGurlProductions.com](http://www.BrianGurlProductions.com)

## **Men's Bar B Q**

March 31, 2020 in the Fellowship Hall

5-7pm \$6.00/person

Contact: Dick Edmunds  
[kcid1961@gmail.com](mailto:kcid1961@gmail.com)

941-488-8949

Venice Presbyterian Church  
2020 Women's Retreat

*Come away for  
awhile*

Just as Jesus invited his disciples to "Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest," you are invited to "Come Away for Awhile" for some time to nurture your relationship with Jesus.

- *Come away for awhile and find rest for your soul*
- *Come away for awhile and learn about the Power of Prayer*
- *Come away for awhile and learn New and Old Ways of Praying*

Our focus will be on going deeper in our knowledge and practice of prayer. We will have refreshing times of quiet worship, teaching and small group discussion as well as time for personal reflection and private prayer, and some fun and relaxing yoga flow. Come away for awhile...

**Carlisle Inn & Conference Center**  
3727 Bahia Vista St, Sarasota, FL 34232

**Friday, May 1**      *(Registration 3:00 – 5:00 pm)*  
5:00-9:30 pm

**Saturday, May 2**      *(Registration for Day Participants 8:00-8:30 am)*  
8:00 am – 4:00 pm

Double Occupancy	\$160
Single Occupancy	\$200
Commuters	\$80

For more information  
or to register online,  
go to [www.venicepres.org](http://www.venicepres.org)  
Deadline for registration is April 1



*Last Concert of the Season!*

# Music Ministry

*Hymn Festival*

SUNDAY, MARCH 8 AT 4:00PM



*featuring Craig Williams*

This concert will feature the Chancel Choir of Venice Presbyterian Church, 8 piece brass ensemble, guest pianist, Michelle Kuhl, and guest organist, Craig Williams of the West Point Cadet Chapel USMA. Craig Williams will perform Bach's mighty Prelude and Fugue in E Flat, the audience will join in singing some of the most treasured hymns of the Christian Church, the choir will present classical and sacred choral music, written by some of the most prolific and important American, English, and German composers. To add just another touch of flare,

our Minister of Music and Worship, Jamal Sarikoki will sing some of his favorite and most cherished spirituals. Please join us for an amazing night of music, but most importantly a night of worshipping God our creator and redeemer.

Tickets available online at [www.venicepres.org](http://www.venicepres.org), **\$30 ticket price** (proceeds of this concert will go to supporting the missions projects of Venice Presbyterian Church).

## Best Looking Choir



Have you noticed the lovely new choir robes? We have been blessed with a generous gift to supply these fresh robes. You'll notice that there are several vibrantly colored stoles which can be coordinated with the church calendar. We would like to thank our donor for their support of the choir as an integral part our worship ministry.



# Annual Garage SALE!



*Saturday*  
**MARCH 7**  
8AM-2PM

**ONSITE BAKE SALE**  
*benefits Buddy Break*



**VENICE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

825 THE RIALTO, VENICE FLORIDA 34285, 941-488-2258

