Vanderbilt
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Welcome to Vanderbilt! We rejoice that you are here to worship God with us.
Children are important members of our faith community and are welcome in worship. Nursery ministry is also available. Please ask an usher if assistance is needed. As a courtesy to others, please turn off cell phones during the service. The asterisk (*) in the bulletin indicates that the congregation is asked to stand as able. We use responsive or unison readings and prayers at different times. The leader will read the words in *italics*, the congregation reads words in **bold print**.

VPC MISSION

Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church is called by God and empowered by the Holy Spirit to live like Christ in a broken world.

To Proclaim the Gospel
To Glorify God in worship and deed
To Equip our congregation for ministry
To Serve others in Christ's name.

VPC VISION

A congregation...
...so grounded in scripture and sustained by prayer,
...so committed to spiritual growth and faithful discipleship,
...so inviting, welcoming and inclusive,
...so nurturing and healing,
...so mission-minded,
...so vibrant, energetic and open to opportunities to share the Gospel that lives are transformed by the love of Christ.

Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church is a safe place for all people to worship regardless of race, creed, age, cultural background or sexual orientation.

We invite you, members and visitors, to sign our Green Friendship Pads and pass it down your pew and back, to welcome those with whom you are worshipping. If you are visiting, please fill out the blue card and leave it in the green pad.

STEPHEN MINISTRY

1225 Piper Blvd., Naples, Florida 34110 — www.vpcnaples.org
Office: 239-597-5410 — Learning Center: 239-594-9557
The church is a member of the Peace River Presbytery, the Synod of South Atlantic, and the Presbyterian Church (USA) — OneLicense.net # A-719387

Vanderbilt Learning Center
Growing, Caring, Sharing

November 8, 2026—10:00 am
The Twenty-fourth Sunday After Pentecost

The flowers on the Chancel are sponsored by Lynn Thomas & Michael Richard in honor of our parents, Jean & Howard Holsinger and in memory of Elaine & Norman Richard and all veterans.

The Fellowship Hour is in honor of all veterans. Thank you for your service.

Worship Participants

The Rev. Robert J. Marrow, *Pastor*
Dr. Augustine Sobeng, *Director of Music & Organist* playing the **Richard & Patricia Fors Organ** given to the glory of God
Heather Mikes, *Director of Christian Education*
James Cochran, *Director of Music Emeritus*
Ellen Tanner, *Liturgist*

The Chancel Choir
Julie Carver, *Pianist*
Victoria Bonavita, *Audio/Visual Technician*
Greeters: Pat Gagliano & Carol Lindsay
Ushers: Ron & Linda Addaman (Head Ushers), Steve Blad, Dick Clark, Mike Swain, Gisela Yingst

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Psalm 70

[1] Be pleased, O God, to deliver me. O LORD, make haste to help me!
[2] Let those be put to shame and confusion who seek my life.
Let those be turned back and brought to dishonor who desire to hurt me.
[3] Let those who say, "Aha, Aha!" turn back because of their shame.
[4] Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you.
Let those who love your salvation say evermore, "God is great!"
[5] But I am poor and needy; hasten to me, O God!
You are my help and my deliverer; O LORD, do not delay!

Prelude: Scherzo, Op. 2 — Maurice Duruflé (1902–1986)

Announcements

Moment for Stewardship — Susie Hilton

Passing of the Peace

*** The Call to Worship**

Rejoice and be glad!
For God is our salvation.
Rejoice and be glad!
For God is great.
Let us worship God.

*** Hymn #562:** "Eternal Father, Strong to Save" — MELITA

1. **Eternal Father, strong to save,**
   Whose arm has bound the restless wave,
   Who bade the mighty ocean deep
   Its own appointed limits keep:
   O hear us when we cry to Thee
   For those in peril on the sea.

2. **O Savior, whose almighty word**
   The wind and waves submissive heard,
   Who walked upon the foaming deep,
   And calm amid its rage did sleep:
   O hear us when we cry to Thee
   For those in peril on the sea.

3. **O Holy Spirit, who did brood**
   Upon the chaos wild and rude,
   And bade its angry tumult cease,
   And gave, for fierce confusion, peace:
   O hear us when we cry to Thee
   For those in peril on the sea.

4. **O Trinity of love and power,**
   All travelers guard in danger's hour;
   From rock and tempest, fire and foe,
   Protect them wheresoe'er they go;
   Thus evermore shall rise to Thee
   Glad praise from air and land and sea.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession & Silent Personal Confession

Loving God, we confess that we have sinned against you by not honoring you or loving one another. When we ignore injustice in the world, our worship brings you no delight. Make haste to help us, that we may stand in right relationship with you and the whole of your creation and sing your praises through the mercy of Christ, our resurrected Savior. *(silence)*
Amen.

Affirmation of Forgiveness

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God!

*** Gloria Patri** Henry Greatorex (1816-1858)

Glory be to the Father,
and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end.
Amen, Amen.

A Moment for Children Heather Mikes

We invite children to gather up front for a special children's message. After we sing "Jesus Loves Me," children and youth ages PreK-3 through High School may go to Sunday school or families may choose to worship together in the Sanctuary.

Jesus loves me, this I know, For the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to Him belong, They are weak but He is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me, yes, Jesus loves me.
Yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so.

Prayer of Illumination

The First Reading 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

13 But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. 14 For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. 15 For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. 16 For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ

will rise first. [17] Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will be with the Lord forever. [18] Therefore encourage one another with these words.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Reading Matthew 25:1-13

"Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten young women took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. [2] Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. [3] When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, [4] but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. [5] As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. [6] But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' [7] Then all those young women got up and trimmed their lamps. [8] The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' [9] But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' [10] And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet, and the door was shut. [11] Later the other young women came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' [12] But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' [13] Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Message: "Time to Trim the Lamps" The Rev. Robert J. Marrow

*** The Affirmation of Faith** From the Confession of 1967

Already God's reign is present as a ferment in the world, stirring hope in all people and preparing the world to receive its ultimate judgment and redemption. With an urgency born of this hope, the church applies itself to present tasks and strives for a better world. It does not identify limited progress with the kingdom of God on earth, nor does it despair in the face of disappointment and defeat. In steadfast hope, the church looks beyond all partial achievement to the final triumph of God. Amen.

Offering

Let us with gladness present our gifts and offerings to the Lord.
Gifts may be placed in the offering plates, given online, or by scanning the QR code.

Offertory: "The Lord Bless you and Keep You" John Rutter (b. 1945)

The Chancel Choir

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon you. And give you peace. Amen.

*** Doxology** OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*** Offertory Prayer**

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

***Hymn #561:** "My Country, 'Tis of Thee" AMERICA

1. **My country, 'tis of thee,**
   Sweet land of liberty,
   Of thee I sing;
   Land where my fathers died,
   Land of the pilgrims' pride,
   From every mountainside,
   Let freedom ring!

2. **My native country, thee,**
   Land of the noble free,
   Thy name I love;
   I love thy rocks and rills,
   Thy woods and templed hills;
   My heart with rapture thrills,
   Like that above.

3. **Let music swell the breeze,**
   And ring from all the trees
   Sweet freedom's song;
   Let mortal tongues awake
   Let all that breathe partake
   Let rocks their silence break,
   The sound prolong.

4. **Our fathers' God, to Thee,**
   Author of liberty,
   To Thee we sing;
   Long may our land be bright
   With freedom's holy light;
   Protect us by Thy might,
   Great God, our King.

*** Commission and Blessing**

Sisters and brothers, be swift to listen, make haste to be kind.
Let justice roll down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.
Alleluia.
Amen.

*** Benediction Response:** "Let There Be Peace on Earth" (Copyright 1955 by Jan-Lee Music. Renewed 1983. Used by permission.)

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me. Let there be peace on earth the peace that was meant to be. With God as our Father, children all are we; Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony. Let peace begin with me let this be the moment now. With every step I take let this be my solemn vow. To take each moment and live each moment in peace, eternally. Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.

Postlude: Trumpet Tune in D major David N. Johnson(1922-1987)

Please remain seated until the end of the postlude.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK

November 15, 2026—10:00 a.m.

Sermon: "America's Got Talent…..or Not"

First Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Gospel Reading: Matthew 25:14-30

REMINDERS

- The Deacon's Sunday Letters are in the Narthex for your participation.
- Order your Vanderbilt polo or "Live by Faith" shirts in the Narthex.



November 8, 2026 — 4 p.m.

Dr. Augustine Sobeng, Organist



The newly appointed Director of Music at Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church, Dr. Augustine Sobeng, will open the concert series with an exciting tour de force on the Lively Fulcher organ. Come and hear a selection of some of his absolute favorite, great organ works - the luminous Sixth Trio Sonata of J. S. Bach, the sparkling Scherzo of Duruflé, the riveting Imperial March of Edward Elgar, and more. You are in for a truly memorable experience!

Music Under the Spire!

WHO IS GOD CALLING?

VPC Congregational Nominations Committee is seeking nominations for leaders to serve three-year terms commencing June of 2027:

RULING ELDERS

(Leading • Discernment • Governance • Vision)

DEACONS

(Compassion • Care • Service • Hospitality)

- Help us identify gifted leaders for the future of our congregation.
- Self-nominations are encouraged. Provide your recommendations to a CNC member or send an email to sfhilton@aol.com ASAP.
- CNC members are: Steve Blad, Jeff Berger, Karen Chappler, Susie Hilton, Jan Fern, Priscilla Kutler, Price Lindsay, and Jane Repp.

Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church

2027 ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP

growing OUR FAITH THROUGH Generosity

The 2027 Stewardship packets are available! They were mailed the second week of October. If you need one, extra copies are in the Narthex, Office or on the website under Stewardship. Thank you for your prayerful consideration.

Growing our Faith through Generosity

"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace" (ESV).

- 1 Peter 4:10

ROOTED AND READY OPPORTUNITIES!

Book Study

Slightly Bad Girls of the Bible:

Sundays after worship in Harp Hall at 11:30 a.m.

Jane Higdon, higdonj@msn.com

Pastor's Bible Study:

Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. in the Library



A memorial service for ***Joseph "Joe" Feddern*** *will be held on Saturday, November 14, 2026 at 11 a.m. at Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church.*

A bereavement reception will be held in Fellowship Hall following worship.

Stop by the Book Fair in Fellowship Hall!

The VLC Scholastic Book Fair is in Fellowship Hall. You can get books for your family, friends or the VLC!



Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church IS A CHURCH ON A MISSION

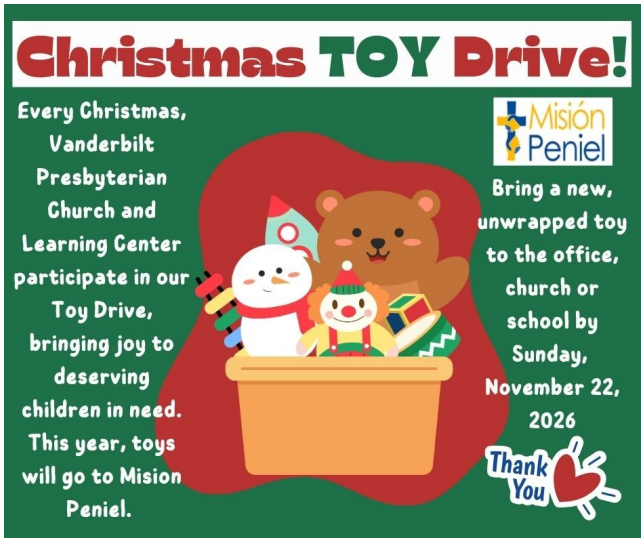
BE A PART OF OUR MATCHING MISSION CHALLENGE!

October 1 - November 15, 2026

We are requesting donations for 3 of our mission partners - Cafe of Life, Immokalee Fair Housing Alliance and Mision Peniel. Every dollar raised will be matched, up to $4000 per mission partner. Let's do our best to meet the challenge and help our neighbors!

Café of Life – Caring... Sharing... Serving | Misión Peniel | Immokalee Fair Housing Alliance, Inc.

To make a donation, go to www.vpcnaples.org and click GIVE.
Go to the Mission section and mark "Challenge" in the memo - or specify a mission.



Join the VPC Book Club!

Monday, November 16, 2026
at 1:30pm in Harp Hall.
We will be discussing
The Mango Tree
by Annabelle Tometich.
Bring your ideas for other books to share!

BOOK CLUB

For more information, email Peggy Landon mlandon711@gmail.com



Collier Harvest

Email Pete Rodino - pvrodino@aol.com to volunteer!

Monday, November 16, 2026

4pm - unloading van (heavy lifting)

4:30-6pm - bagging food

at 4451 Mercantile Ave.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Please continue to hold in prayer our church family and friends facing illness, injury and hardship. Also, if you have any joys or concerns, let us know. Prayer requests will be kept in the bulletin for **30 days**.

Justin Aquino & Family
Ridley Baird & Family
Chuck & Kristi Beattie
Peg Black
Carol, Marsha Bennett's Sister
Adriana Caruso
Sonja Cookson
Ron Davis
Joyce Dersch
Joe & Mary Lou Eddy
The Glase & Lefkow Families
Pat Gould
Jim & Mary Hart
Liz Hart
Joyce Hickmon
Charles Irbin
Sandra Johnson
Vanessa Lobban
Justin Loeffler
Kenneth Loeffler
Carolyn & George Mackie
Bob & Doris Martin
Paul J. Moore
Margaret Mosser
Sally Muir
Tom Nale
Ivana Novelli
Audrey Olsen
Jane Passi
Peggy Paulsen
Bill Payne
Jan Pomerico
Marsha Reed
Pat Rogge
Pat Rose
Twila Rowe
Sam & Marilyn Schellar
Bill Shouldice
Mary Jane Stoner
Linda Surowiak
Barbara Thomas
Ulysses, Suzanne & Roger Eastman's grandson
Margaret Waters
Dianne Westerlund
Yana & family in Ukraine





Happy Anniversary!

**Charles & Caitlin Whittington	11/10
William & Gillian Raymond	11/14

Happy Birthday!

Linda Firestone	11/8
Linda Teti	11/8
Lynne Gratton	11/8
Lily Halpin	11/8
Myrna Carew	11/9
*Bill Payne	11/10
*Jim Hawkins	11/10
*Michael Bevilacqua	11/10
Capriana Davies	11/11
Patti Runkel	11/12
Jack Trittler	11/12
Martha Broeker	11/13
Tarie Curtiss	11/13

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

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE MEN AND WOMEN SERVING OUR COUNTRY

If you have any additions or corrections to the list below, please email Michele Byrd (mbyrd@vpcnaples.org). Thank you for your continued prayers for these military personnel.

LT CDR Wyatt R. Dawley
US Navy Intel
(Debbie Dawley's grandson)

PVT E2 Joshua Fowler,
US Army, Columbus, GA
(Joe & Sharon Doggett's grandson)

E4 Brian Guzman
USAF - Colorado
(Cesar Guzman's son)

Staff SGT Jacob Guzman
US Army-Ft. Campbell, KY
(Cesar Guzman's son)

Staff SGT Wesley Kennedy
USMC - Ft. Myers, FL

CPT Tyler Olbrich
US Army - South Carolina
(friend of Karen Hiller)

LCPL Michael Russell
USMC - Camp Lejeune, NC
(Heather Anderson's son)