



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.



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



August 16, 2026—10:00 am

The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost—Family Led Worship

The flowers on the Chancel are sponsored in cherished remembrance of my husband, William "Bill" Hebert, and in honor of his birthday, August 14th, by Barbara Hebert.

The Fellowship Hour is sponsored by the Education Ministry Team
in honor of our educators and back to school!

Worship Participants

The Rev. Robert J. Marrow, *Pastor*
James Cochran, *Director of Music Emeritus*
Julie Carver, *Organist & Pianist*
playing the **Richard & Patricia Fors Organ** given
to the glory of God and in honor of James
Cochran, Organist
Heather Mikes, *Director of Christian Education*
Evangeline Mikes, *Youth Liturgist*
Janie Ballurio, *Liturgist*

The Chancel Choir
Victoria Bonavita, *Audio/Visual Technician*
Greeters: Joan Butler & Joyce Hickmon
Ushers: Ron & Linda Addaman (Head Ushers),
Steve Blad, Greg Borden, Dick Clark,
Henry Gaylord
Youth Ushers: Riley Grider & Carter Mikes

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Psalm 67

¹ May God be gracious to us and bless us
and make his face to shine upon us,
² that your way may be known upon earth,
your saving power among all nations.
³ Let the peoples praise you,
O God; let all the peoples praise you.
⁴ Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide the nations upon earth.
⁵ Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
⁶ The earth has yielded its increase;
God, our God, has blessed us.
⁷ May God continue to bless us;
let all the ends of the earth revere him.

Prelude: "Variations on Simple Gifts"

Julie Carver

Announcements

Passing of the Peace

* The Call to Worship:

May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us, that your way may be known upon earth, your saving power among all nations.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

The earth has yielded its increase; God has blessed us.

May God continue to bless us; let all the ends of the earth revere him.

Let us worship God!

* Hymn #333: "Seek Ye First"

LAFFERTY

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Seek ye first the kingdom of God
And His righteousness;
And all these things shall be added unto you.
Allelu, Alleluia! | 2. Ask, and it shall be given unto you;
Seek, and you shall find.
Knock, and it shall be opened unto you.
Allelu, Alleluia! |
|---|--|

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession & Silent Personal Confession

Holy God, we confess we have not been obedient to your will for us. We have sought justice for ourselves but neglected justice for others. We have insisted on our rights but have not lived rightly in our relationships. We have desired mercy for our sins, but we have not offered mercy to those who have sinned against us. By the power of your Holy Spirit free us from the prison of our disobedience. Help us to love as you have loved us that our lives may testify to your abounding grace through Jesus Christ. *(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.

Back to School Blessing & Teacher Commissioning

**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

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

¹ I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ² God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. Do you not know what the scripture says of Elijah, how he pleads with God against Israel? ²⁹ For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰ Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now

received mercy because of their disobedience,³¹ so also they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they also may now receive mercy.³² For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Reading

Matthew 15:21-28

²¹ Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²² Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." ²³ But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." ²⁴ He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." ²⁵ But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." ²⁶ He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁷ She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." ²⁸ Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed from that moment.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message: "Faith and Fairness"

The Rev. Robert J. Marrow

*** Affirmation of Faith**

The Confession of 1967

God's sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of the human mind. Human thought ascribes to God superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness. But God reveals divine love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinful men and women. The power of God's love in Christ to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who made all things to serve the purpose of God's love. 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: "Blest are They"

David Haas (b. 1957)

The Chancel Choir

Blest are they, the poor in Spirit; theirs is the kingdom of God. Blest are they, full of sorrow; they shall be consoled. Rejoice and be glad! Blessed are you, holy are you. Rejoice and be glad! Yours is the kingdom of God! Blest are they, the lowly ones; they shall inherit the Earth. Blest are they, who hunger and thirst, they shall have their fill. Blest are they, who show mercy; mercy shall be theirs. Blest are they, the pure of heart; they shall see God. Blest are they, who seek peace; they are the children of God. Blest are they who suffer in faith; the glory of God is theirs. Blest are you, who suffer hate; all because of me. Rejoice and be glad, yours is the kingdom. Shine for all to see.

*** 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 #357: "O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee"**

MARYTON

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|---|---|
| 1. O Master, let me walk with Thee
In lowly paths of service free;
Tell me Thy secret; help me bear
The strain of toil, the fret of care. | 3. Teach me Thy patience; still with Thee
In closer, dearer company,
In work that keeps faith sweet and strong,
In trust that triumphs over wrong. |
| 2. Help me the slow of heart to move
By some clear, winning word of love;
Teach me the wayward feet to stay,
And guide them in the homeward way. | 4. In hope that sends a shining ray
Far down the future's broadening way;
In peace that only Thou canst give,
With Thee, O Master, let me live. |

*** Commission and Blessing**

By the power of the Holy Spirit go forth to serve your neighbor,
We will love our enemy, and embody God's mercy.
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: "Assurance"

arr. Mark Hayes (b. 1953)

Please remain seated until the end of the postlude.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK

August 23, 2026—10:00 a.m.

Sermon: "A Fair Question"

First Reading: Romans 12:1-8

Gospel Reading: Matthew 16:13-20



THE DOG DAYS OF SUMMER ARE HERE

HELP TO KEEP OUR BLOOD SUPPLIES AFLOAT

DONATE BLOOD!

BLOOD DRIVE
SUN. AUG. 16
9:00AM-12:00PM



BACK TO SCHOOL BLESSING
God's got your back!



Sunday, August 16 at 10am
"Be strong and courageous." - Joshua 1:9

TEACHER COMMISSIONING
Sunday, August 16 at 10am



Teaching is my + Ministry

"Whatever you do,
work at it with all your heart,
as working for the Lord."
- Colossians 3:23



REMINDERS

The Deacon's Sunday Letters are in the Narthex for your participation.



VPC
Summer Sunday School
Sundays, May 31 - September 6

CHURCH ON A MISSION

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

Join us to pack bags of healthy food for our hungry neighbors across Collier County.



Monday, August 24, 2026
4pm - unloading van (heavy lifting)
4:30-6pm - bagging food
at 4451 Mercantile Ave.



We are saddened to announce the death of **Tony Van Rooyen** on August 7, 2026 at the age of 88. He and his wife, Yvonne, have been members of VPC for over 16 years. Please keep his family in your prayers at this difficult time.

A card of condolence may be sent to Yvonne at
1710 SW Health Pkwy Apt 309
Naples, FL 34109

We are saddened to announce the death of **Gene Byrd** on August 11, 2026. He is the father of VPC staff member, Michele Byrd Gerlach. Please keep his family in your prayers during this tender time.

Condolences may be sent to his wife,
Marcia Byrd
1521 Weybridge Circle
Naples, FL 34110



Lord, as we start a new season, we ask that you guide our students, teachers, principals, and staff at our schools. Keep them safe and under your protective wing. Amen.



PRAY FOR

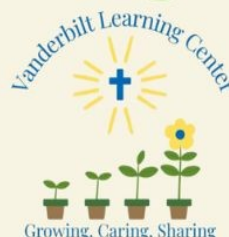
COLOMBIA

On August 10, 2026, a 7.4 magnitude earthquake hit Ecuador and Colombia, devastating a large region and impacting thousands of lives. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is working with the Presbyterian Church in Colombia and other partners to respond to emergency unmet needs and, eventually, long-term recovery.

DONATE AT WWW.PCUSA.ORG - DISASTER RELIEF

VANDERBILT LEARNING CENTER

Rooted & Ready



Growing in Wonder Together

Wednesday Night Lights

Meeting Schedule

5:30p-6:00p
Dinner in Student Center
6:00p-7:00p
Study/Serve/Pray
7:00p-7:15p
Play & Pick Up



**You're Invited
Wednesday Night Lights**

Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church
Children & Youth Groups

Children & Youth Groups

PK3 and PK4
Elementary School
Middle School
High School

Drop Off & Pick Up

Student Center
Use Door "L"

Meeting Dates

Every Other Wednesday
Starting Sept. 9, 2026
through May 12, 2027

**The James Cochran
Fund for Tuning and
Maintenance of the
Fors Lively Fulcher
Pipe Organ**

To donate online go to
www.vpcnaples.org
and GIVE in the
Endowment section.
Make checks payable
to Vanderbilt
Presbyterian. Add
"Cochran Endowment
Fund" to the note.

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	Joyce Dersch	Andy Lowry	Marsha Reed
Ridley Baird & Family	Joe & Mary Lou Eddy	Carolyn Mackie	Pat Rogge
Chuck & Kristi Beattie	Tom Falzone	Sr. Markolette Madden	Twila Rowe
Peg Black	Jim Folliard	Bob & Doris Martin	Sam & Marilyn Schellar
The Byrd & Gerlach Families	Lori Godwin	Sarah Martyniak	Bill Shouldice
	Pat Gould	Sally Muir	Mary Jane Stoner
Adriana Caruso	Sherry Hardgrove	David Nale	Larry Tatum
Tom Clark	Jim & Mary Hart	Ivana Novelli	Barbara Thomas
Molly Cochran	Jim Hofert	Audrey Olsen	Yana & family in Ukraine
Yvonne Corbin	Margaret Horstman	Peggy Paulsen	Yvonne Van Rooyen
Michael Coront	Kathy Huebner	Mary Ann Portman	Alexis Williams
Ron Davis	Sandra Johnson	Leah Ray	



Happy Birthday!

William Moore	8/16	*Thomas Hurley	8/19
Wyatt Gersch	8/16	*Carter Mikes	8/20
John Paalman	8/17	Chuck Holley	8/20
Brett Franklin	8/17	Barbara Elliott	8/21
David Walker	8/17	*Herb Newman	8/21
*Nancy Buchanan	8/17	Merle Wylie	8/22
*Mari-Bea Warnken	8/19		

Happy Anniversary!

Thomas & Kay Hurley	8/19
Daniel & Dianne Westerlund	8/20
Bruce & Roberta Hobbs	8/21
** Dianne & Bob Townsend	8/22

* **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 Wyatt R. Dawley US Navy Intel (Debbie Dawley's grandson)	COL Jessica D. Grasseti (Claudia Polzin's niece) E4 Brian Guzman USAF - Colorado (Cesar Guzman's son) Staff SGT Jacob Guzman US Army-Ft. Campbell, KY (Cesar Guzman's son)	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)
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