



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 30, 2026—10:00 am

The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

The flowers on the Chancel are given in loving memory of my husband, Joe, by Pat Gagliano.

Join us for Fellowship Hour after worship in Fellowship Hall.

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

Mary Lynn Myers, Liturgist
The Chancel Choir
Victoria Bonavita, Audio/Visual Technician
Greeters: Dick Clark & Carol Lindsay
Ushers: Greg & Julie Borden (Head Ushers),
Bill & Geri Payne, Jack & Ellen Tanner

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Psalm 26:1-8

- ¹ Vindicate me, O LORD, for I have walked in my integrity,
and I have trusted in the LORD without wavering.
² Prove me, O LORD, and try me; test my heart and mind.
³ For your steadfast love is before my eyes, and I walk in faithfulness to you.
⁴ I do not sit with the worthless, nor do I consort with hypocrites;
⁵ I hate the company of evildoers and will not sit with the wicked.
⁶ I wash my hands in innocence and go around your altar, O LORD,
⁷ singing aloud a song of thanksgiving and telling all your wondrous deeds.
⁸ O LORD, I love the house in which you dwell and the place where your glory abides.

Prelude: "Offertoire"

Léon Boëllmann (1862-1897)

Announcements

Passing of the Peace

* The Call to Worship:

Sing a song of thanksgiving.

Declare God's wondrous deeds.

For the Lord dwells among the people.

The glory of God abides with us.

Let us worship God!

* Hymn #288: "I Sing the Mighty Power of God"

ELLACOMBE

1. I sing the mighty power of God
That made the mountains rise;
That spread the flowing seas abroad
And built the lofty skies.
I sing the wisdom that ordained
The sun to rule the day;
The moon shines full at God's command,
And all the stars obey.
2. I sing the goodness of the Lord
That filled the earth with food;
God formed the creatures with a word
And then pronounced them good.

Lord, how Thy wonders are displayed,
Where'er I turn my eyes;
If I survey the ground I tread,
Or gaze upon the skies!

3. There's not a plant or flower below
But makes Thy glories known;
And clouds arise, and tempests blow,
By order from Thy throne;
While all that borrows life from Thee
Is ever in Thy care,
And everywhere that we can be,
Thou, God, art present there.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession & Silent Personal Confession

Holy God, we confess that our love for you and for others has not been genuine. We have not held fast to what is good, and we have lagged in affection for our brothers and sisters. We have not been patient in suffering, nor have we persevered in prayer. We have repaid evil for evil and have failed to live peaceably with all. Forgive us our sin, free us from fear of the power of evil, and help us trust in the power of your everlasting goodness; through Jesus Christ. *(silence)* Amen.

Affirmation of Forgiveness

In the name of 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

Romans 12:9-21

⁹ Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰ love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹ Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. ¹² Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. ¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers. ¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are.

17 Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. 18 If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. 19 Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord." 20 Instead, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink, for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." 21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Reading

Matthew 16:21-28

21 From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised. 22 And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." 23 But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." 24 Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. 25 For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. 26 For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life? 27 "For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. 28 Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message: "Living in Harmony"

The Rev. Robert J. Marrow

*** Affirmation of Faith**

Adapted from the Confession of 1967

God's sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of our minds. We believe that God has created the world of space and time to be the sphere of God's dealings with humankind. In its beauty and vastness, transcendence and awe-fulness, order and disorder, the world reflects to the eye of faith the majesty and mystery of its Creator. We believe that God has created us for a personal relationship in which we may respond to the love of the Creator. Life is a gift to be received with gratitude and a task to be pursued with courage. 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.

The Chancel Choir

They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength. They that wait upon the Lord shall mount up with wings as eagles. They that wait on the Lord, they shall run and not be weary. They shall walk and not faint. They that wait shall be renewed.

*** 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 #276: "Great is Thy Faithfulness"**

FAITHFULNESS

**1. Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not,
Thy compassions they fail not;
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.**

Refrain:

**Great is Thy faithfulness!
Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided;
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!**

**2. Summer and winter
and springtime and harvest,**

**Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.**
Refrain

**3. Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence
to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today
and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine,
with ten thousand beside!**
Refrain

*** Commission and Blessing**

Go in peace to love and serve.

We take up our cross to follow in the way of Jesus, our Lord.

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: "DUKE STREET"

George E. Whiting (1840-1923)

Please remain seated until the end of the postlude.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK

September 6, 2026—10:00 a.m.

Sermon: "Being Community"

First Reading: Romans 13:8-14

Gospel Reading: Matthew 18:15-20

REMINDERS

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

Rooted & Ready

Growing Together as God's Family



"Blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord... They will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream."

JEREMIAH 17:7-8

A SEASON OF FAITH — FOR EVERY AGE

SEP

■ Fall Education Kick Off!

Pastor's Bible Study meets weekly (9/9) · Wednesday Night Lights meets every other week (9/9) · Pediatric Mental Health Seminar (9/17)

OCT

🔑 Seminars, Small Groups & Adult Sunday School

Identity Theft Seminar (10/8) · Book Club (10/19) · Friends in Faith (10/21) · Chili Cook-Off & Trunk or Treat (10/21) · Bad Girls of the Bible

JAN

📍 Holocaust Museum Tour

Guided tour (1/22) · Traveling exhibit visits Fellowship Hall (1/31)

FEB

📍 Craig Lecture Series

February 26-28, 2027

MAY

🎉 Celebrations

Friends in Faith closes the season together · Graduation Sunday (5/23)

Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church & Learning Center

Full schedule & sign-ups coming — everyone welcome!

The church office and Learning Center at
Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church will be closed on
Monday, September 7, 2026
in observance of Labor Day.



THE ALLELUIA CHOIR NEEDS YOU!

Alleluia Choir will rehearse
on Wednesdays in the
Sanctuary from 5-5:30pm.
Join us! – **September 9th**



Pastor's Bible Study

**WILL RESUME ON
WEDNESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 9, 2026 AT
6PM IN THE LIBRARY.**



**DO YOU LIKE TO SING?
JOIN THE
CHANCEL CHOIR!**

OUR MID-WEEK REHEARSALS BEGIN ON
SEPTEMBER 9TH. JOIN US ON
WEDNESDAYS AT 7PM IN COCHRAN HALL.

QUESTIONS?
EMAIL MICHELE AT MBYRD@VPCNAPLES.ORG.

Wednesday Night Lights

**You're Invited
Wednesday Night Lights**

Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church
Children & Youth Groups

Meeting Schedule 5:30p-6:00p Dinner in Student Center 6:00p-7:00p Study/Serve/Pray 7:00p-7:15p Play & Pick Up	Children & Youth Groups PK3 and PK4 Elementary School Middle School High School	Meeting Dates Every Other Wednesday Starting Sept. 9, 2026 through May 12, 2027 Drop Off & Pick Up Student Center Use Door "L"
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**Help us help others
by serving this
important mission!**

Friday, September 11 at 1pm
**We carpool from the church
returning around 7pm**

Join us! Email Karen Chappler
kchappler@aol.com

FALL EDUCATION SERIES: PEDIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH SEMINAR

Supporting Emotional Development, Health and Wellness
With Jamie Crossan-Debres, LCSW, QS
Director at Community Health Partners
specializes in treating adults,
first responders, families and children of all ages

**THURSDAY,
SEPTEMBER 17, 2026**
Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church
Harp Hall
1225 Piper Blvd, Naples, FL 34110
6:00 p.m. Seminar | 7:00 p.m. Q&A

Scan the QR Code or
Call the Church office
to Register:
239.597.5410

Childcare available
upon request

Vanderbilt Learning Center
Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church
VPC youth
Adult Education

**VPC
Summer
Sunday School**

Sundays, May 31 - September 6

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.

PRAYER list

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

Happy Birthday!

*Pete Schwiers	8/30	Vicki Walker	9/1
Barbara McElwaine	8/30	Mark McElwaine	9/2
Beth Lee	8/31	*Brooklyn Paciello	9/2
Anna Borden	9/1	Henry Riddick	9/2
Brooke Borden	9/1	Nancy Ruppert	9/3
Joan Elliott	9/1	*Martha Gordon	9/4
Nancy Guthy	9/1	Jane Repp	9/4
Addison Acx	9/1	*Linda Addaman	9/4
Avery Acx	9/1	*Joseph Riashi	9/5

HAPPY Anniversary

Happy Anniversary!

**Steve & Rebecca Acx	8/31
Bill & Harriet Shouldice	8/31
Clark & Kathryn Leaming	9/1
Bill & Geri Payne	9/4
John & Maveilyn Millard	9/5
Ed & Pat Kirby	9/5

*** 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)
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)
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)