

CHURCH ON A MISSION

Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church is a mission-minded congregation with opportunities for everyone to participate. For many people, living out their call to mission means seeking out a firsthand experience, expecting to produce a profound change in the lives of those they go to serve. Instead, they find Christ, and are ministered to by those they thought they were serving. Whether we are sharing our time, talent or treasure, many people feel transformed as they experience God's grace and the unity that comes through shared faith in Jesus Christ.



**Join us as we share the light and love of Christ
in our community and the world.**



Vanderbilt
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**1225 Piper Boulevard
Naples, Florida 34110
239-597-5410
www.vpcnaples.org**



The **Café of Life** is an organization believing in the teaching of all great religions that one must love and assist one's neighbor in time of need.

It's mission is to provide basic human needs to the very poor people of the Bonita Springs area in a manner that preserves the dignity of the client in a respectful environment and to enrich and empower people to be all that they can be.

www.cafeoflife.org.

The VPC Mission Team hosts a meal on the last Friday of the month at 9am at Leitner Park, 26724 Nomad Dr., Bonita Springs 34135. We collect donations of food and bring volunteers to serve and connect with those in need.



The **Collier Harvest Foundation** is dedicated to providing healthy and nutritious

food to our hungry neighbors across Collier County. www.collierharvest.org.

The VPC Mission Team provides volunteers to help at monthly packing events. Our team meets on certain Mondays at 4:45pm at 4451 Mercantile Ave., to help pack bags of groceries for students in need.



The **Presbyterian Church of Cuba** has a relationship with Vanderbilt Presbyterian

Church and other members of the Peace River Presbytery. We send Christian support by a direct partnership with the Perico church in Cuba. One of the most remarkable aspects of our partnership is the opportunity to learn from one another, embrace diverse cultures and expand our horizons. This unique opportunity allows us to forge stronger bonds, gain a deeper understanding of their traditions and exchange valuable insights that will enhance our global friendship. Volunteers take regular mission trips to Cuba to strengthen our bonds of Christian love. www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/global/cuba/.

Grace Place is an educational nonprofit organization guided by faith-based core values. Grace Place expresses the generosity of God as an educational center that provides pathways out of poverty through educating children and families. It's hope is that all families have access to education to break the cycle of poverty. Grace Place has many volunteer opportunities and is always looking for help. The VPC Mission Team supports this organization with volunteers and financial assistance. www.graceplacenaples.org.



Habitat for Humanity works in more than 70 countries and has helped more than 39 million people since 1976. Habitat works together with families, local communities, volunteers and partners so that more people are able to live in affordable and safe homes. Habitat's advocacy efforts focus on policy reform to remove systemic barriers preventing low-income and historically underserved families from accessing adequate, affordable shelter. www.habitat.org.



The VPC Mission Team has a group of volunteers who meet on Wednesdays and go to the work site to help build homes. March is Habitat month at VPC and our children and families raise funds by hosting an Annual Lego Build Challenge during Wednesday Night Lights. The congregation votes on the creations and all the proceeds go to Habitat. Our Vanderbilt Learning Center students bring in their "Coins for a Cause" to learn about generosity.

Heifer International is a non-profit organization that provides needy families around the world with animals, trees and education.



Families who receive animals are trained in their care and give offspring to other families, providing a sustainable gift that keeps giving. www.heifer.org.

Each December, Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church holds a Heifer Fair where funds are collected to purchase animals for those in need around the world.

HELPS OUTREACH

Helps Outreach is a Christian organization that works to proclaim the

Gospel of Jesus in deed and truth, while feeding the hungry, praying for the broken, and bringing hope to the lost by ministering to them. Helps Outreach has a storefront on J&C Boulevard where they serve the needy in our community www.helpsoutreach.org.

At least once a year, our Vanderbilt Learning Center joins with the congregation in a food drive that benefits Helps Outreach.



Humane Society Naples serves thousands of animals in the community each year through sheltering,

fostering and adoptions programs as well as with medical care through the Humane Society Naples Veterinary Clinic and the Patty and Jay Baker Mobile Veterinary Clinic. HSN also helps families with crisis boarding and behavioral training services, as well as a community pet food pantry. www.hsnaples.org.

In January, the Vanderbilt Learning Center celebrates Pet Week. Students and families join with VPC to collect items to benefit the animals of the Humane Society Naples.



The mission of the **Immokalee Fair Housing Alliance** is to eliminate substandard and overcrowded rental housing

for farmworker families and other residents of Immokalee. All residents of Immokalee should have access to secure, affordable, hurricane-resistant rental housing that strengthens the community by fostering health, education, dignity and financial stability. www.immokaleefairhousing.org.

Pastor Robert J. Marrow and church members serve on the board of this organization. The VPC Mission Team supports their efforts and makes financial contributions to further their cause.

The Mission of **Meals of Hope** is "To inspire and



empower communities to come together to end hunger." Meals of Hope began as a meal packing organization, and is the only one with a priority on keeping the food packed within the United States. The organization has developed five meals specifically designed for the American palate with added vitamins, minerals and proteins. Most of the packed meals are donated to the Feeding America Food Bank Network. www.mealsofhope.org.

The VPC Youth participate in the "Bowl Games" held at a local high school, where the volunteers pack thousands of meals in a few hours. This event is usually held in the Spring.

Beginning in 2013, **Misión Peniel** became a covenant ministry of Peace River Presbytery while continuing to be a way for



people of faith to respond to a call for service to complement the focus on social justice provided so aptly through the Coalition of Immokalee Workers. As spiritual and social advocates, Misión Peniel brings together people of faith and compassion to act with farmworkers to achieve fundamental change in their living and working conditions while increasing public awareness of the need for reconciliation and bridge building between sectors. www.misionpeniel.com.

VPC has workdays where we go to Immokalee and help where we can. We also have a costume drive in Fall and a toy drive in December for the VLC and VPC to give directly to the children of Immokalee.

New Horizons of Southwest Florida works to change the



lives of under-resourced students by providing tutoring, mentoring and faith-building programs at its clubs. They follow the FATHER principles (Faith-Accountability-Teamwork-Honesty-Education-Respect) to create a respectful and caring environment allowing students to grow. www.newhorizonsofswfl.org.

Each Spring, the New Horizons children's choir sings during a worship service to raise awareness.



The Salvation Army's annual summer camp programs give children from low-income families the chance to experience life outside their immediate neighborhood. Every year, thousands of kids get a fresh perspective on life as they meet new friends, discover new activities, and get a taste of the great outdoors. As campers learn to swim, play sports, create music, make art, and scout, their trained counselors help them navigate the complicated emotions and struggles often associated with their lives back home.

salvationarmyflorida.org/youth/.

We have a toy drive in December to give directly to the Salvation Army Angel Tree and we sponsor deserving students going to summer camp.

St. Matthew's House



has a mission to change lives in a spiritual environment that is

both compassionate and disciplined as they provide housing for those experiencing homelessness, food for those experiencing hunger, and comfort for those experiencing addiction and suffering. They strive to become a model agency to provide services and resources to serve the least of these while seeking to expand the capacity to meet present and future needs in the most effective and efficient manner. www.stmatthewshouse.org.

VPC supports St. Matthew's House with monetary contributions and encourages direct donations of household goods and clothing to their thrift store.



VPC's Back to School Backpack Drive

is an annual event held in June and July. We are given a list of school supplies and also

ask for monetary donations from members of our church family, including our Learning Center. Each year the gifts and donations go to children in need across Collier County via various organizations, including Pinecrest Elementary School, Misión Peniel and Grace Place.



Souper Bowl of Caring

is an opportunity for all of us to "Tackle Hunger" by organizing a food drive that coincides with the Super

Bowl. On Super Bowl Sunday, our children and youth collect non-perishable food items and monetary donations. All the donations go to a local charity. www.tacklehunger.org.

Weekend Power Pack



relies on volunteers to pack about 300 bags of food for children living at or below the poverty level that attend Sabal Palm Elementary School in Collier County. The children have told their guidance counselor that they are so excited to take their backpacks home for the weekend, since they contain their "power pack" bags. WPP depends solely on donations to cover the cost of the food which can be given via the VPC website or by check.

Packing days are Thursday mornings. Call the office to get the next date.

PCUSA Special Missions



Presbyterians are part of a remarkable tradition. The PC(USA)'s four church-wide Special Offerings help share Christ's love with millions of people around the world. www.specialofferings.pcusa.org.

VPC participates in three of the special offerings.

One Great Hour of Sharing in February, **Peace and Global Witness** in September and **Christmas Joy** in December. Information flyers and donation envelopes are available in the church during the appropriate month of each offering.



Join us!

Share the love of Christ with others!