

GOOD NEWS AT VPC



June 2023

GLAD TIDINGS FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN

VIDALIA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

As we turn the page to June, we are almost already halfway through 2023! Time flies when you are having fun. We are finishing May, as I write this, with Eastertide now past. The last worship service in May is Pentecost Sunday and the liturgical color is RED! This is the only time red is used in our liturgical calendar year. The first worship service in June is Trinity Sunday and the color is white. This is the sermon I have been rummaging around in my brain, and especially in my heart, for nearly a year. I want to speak of the Trinity as quite different from what I, and most pastors and theologians, have been trained from the 4th century until now. I hope you can be with us on June 4th.

This will take us into ordinary time where the liturgical color is green until Advent except Christ the King Sunday and communion Sundays. White is always the color for The Lord's Supper.

I hope, while most of us will be with our families on trips and vacations this summer, we will not forget that our church will still be at work. Please remember your offerings of time and talent when you are here or away.

I also hope you will seek God in your prayers, however it is that you pray. The most important way as you pray is to continue to listen for God's reply.

There is so much turmoil in our world, but particularly in our own country we need to seek God's presence with us. Our country is divided as never before, in my lifetime. Our politics are off the rails from as ugly as they have always been, to unthinkable division. The secular world has left The Church out of its conversations and civility. Many of the issues, is non-existent. Many of us, who profess Christianity, have become silent, as the extreme right and extreme left fan the flames. So, I am seeking, as many others are, a way to pour water 'like a mighty stream' and put out the fires that threaten God's world.

O God our help in ages past...be now our hope and show us where you would have us be in this time and place. Amen.

Grace and Peace,

Russell



Birthday's

Robert Foerster	2
Dianne Holland	3
Jack Downie	4
Bailey Zeigler	11
Tyler Dean	12
Glenn Mixon	14
Nathan Toole	14
James Thompson	17
Chloe Beck	17
Andrew Davis	20
Cissy Alderman	22
Rose Pratt	22
Jansen Killian	23
Adelyn Evans	28
Mac McIntyre	30

Anniversaries

Jimmy and Julia Musgrove	8th	53yrs
Cole and Susan Hill-Saldivar	8th	10yrs
Dwight and Sarah Montford	14th	42yrs
Donnie and Cissy Alderman	16th	49yrs
David and Carol Rice	17th	51yrs
Mac and Marcia Suber	17th	51yrs
Ben and Mary Ellen Davis	22nd	40yrs
Elizabeth and Jimmy Wilkes	22nd	10yrs
Otha and Pat Dixon	23rd	16yrs
John and Sharon Achenbach	23rd	9yrs

Congratulations to all of you who are celebration birthdays and anniversaries this month . . .

May God Bless you on your special day!

If your birthday or anniversary is not listed please contact Danielle in the church office at (912) 537-3500 so that we can correct our records.

SECOND SUNDAY LUNCH

We will resume our Second Sunday Lunches in September. Have a safe and enjoyable summer!

Prayer List

Our College Students

Bess Wilcox - Georgia Southern University

Jansen Killian - University of Georgia School of Law - 107 Cherrywood Dr., Vidalia, GA 30474

Our Friends and Family

Melba Claxton - Home

Elizabeth Killian-Wilkes

Carol Anne Claxton Baker

Melissa Branch

Judy Rhodes

James & Peggy Thompson

Ozeas Silva

Vicki Mixon

SERMONS FOR JUNE

4th	"All My Life's A Circle"	Matthew 28:16-20
11th	"Do We Desire Mercy?"	Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26
18th	"Can We Get the Job Done?"	Matthew 9:35-10:8 (9-23)
25th	"Shaking Things Up"	Matthew 10:24-39

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The Wednesday evening Book and Bible Study Group will not meet during the summer but will resume in September. We look forward to seeing you then! Happy summer and enjoy your adventures!

LADIES LUNCH GROUP

Due to Memorial Day and 4th of July, Ladies Lunch for June and July have been moved to the second Wednesday so those holidays will not affect us this year.

LITURGISTS SPRING SCHEDULE

A liturgist schedule is posted on the bulletin board outside of the Sanctuary. This is for April through June. A new liturgist schedule will be posted for July through September. If you are interested in becoming a Liturgist, please contact Pastor Russell.

BE A GREETER

Would you like to serve as a greeter at the front door of the church, welcoming members and visitors as they arrive? To sign up, just go to signup.com and choose a date, or simply call the church office. It takes only minutes and it's a fun way to welcome people to church.

STEWARDSHIP AS A LIFESTYLE

With Memorial Day in the rearview mirror, summer is officially upon us - and this year, let's celebrate the Summer of Stewardship! How can you? Here are a few suggestions:

- * Join or start a Summer Bible Study Group
- * Plan an outing with your Family
- * Help a neighbor who is physically unable to clean their yard
- * Make a Blood Donation
- * Go outside and get some exercise
- * Drive courteously
- * Take time to Pray each day
- * Volunteer to participate in a community cleanup effort

Enjoy & Celebrate Your Summer of Stewardship!

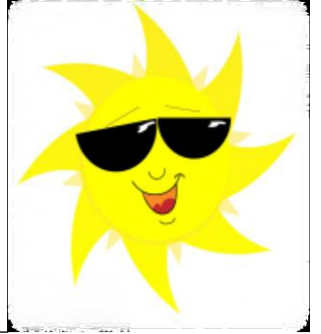
FINANCE

Income and expenses are still generally tracking close to the budgeted amounts but income is trending lower as summer arrives. Income is normally lower during the summer months as many of us are gone on vacations. Please keep VPC in mind and try to keep up your normal level of giving during the summer. As always, thank you for your support of the ministry of our church. Contact the church office if questions.



Vidalia Presbyterian Church along with Iglesia Latina celebrated a time of family fun and fellowship.

Our Spring Picnic was a success!
Thank you to everyone who helped make this event possible.











2023 Graduation

VPC SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

The Doug Wilkes Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$750.00 has been awarded to Vidalia High School Senior, Anevy Vann. This scholarship was established by Mr. Gaston Wilkes with the Vidalia Presbyterian Church in the spring of 1992 in memory of his son, Doug Wilkes. Anevy will be attending Valdosta State University majoring in Nursing. Angela Lane will represent VPC at VHS Honors night and present Anevy her award.

The Julia P. Musgrove Presbyterian Youth Fellowship Scholarship in the amount of \$250.00 has been awarded to Southeastern Technical College student, Sabrina McCloud. This scholarship honors the faithful and loving leadership that Julia Musgrove gave to our youth from 1990-1995. The recipient was selected by Blythe Wilcox. Sabrina lives in Vidalia and is in the Early Childhood Care and Education program. She is on the STC Government Association and does a lot of volunteer work in the community.



Katherine Marin Bennett, granddaughter of Kathy and Russell Gladding, graduated on May 6, 2023, from Georgia College and State University in Milledgeville, Georgia. She majored in Mass Communications. During her four years at Georgia College, Kate was a very active volunteer with the Animal Rescue Foundation (ARF).



Spotlight on MICHAEL BRAND

Have you noticed a new face in the choir loft? Well, this face is not new to our church because he serves in MANY ways whether as a greeter, the liturgist, hosting one of our monthly church dinners, building and installing hand rails in our sanctuary and countless other ways! But, Michael Brand has recently joined our choir, and we are so excited to add another tenor to our mix!

Michael was born in Dawson, Georgia. He started school in Cuthbert and moved to Vidalia in 1981 where he attended high school. He also attended Brewton Parker College and Southeastern Technical College. Although retired now, Michael started his career in the furniture business, at times working, managing and owning stores with Badcock Furniture and Farmers Furniture. He also owned and managed a pool business and home and garden business in Baxley. His next pathway was working at the Optim Medical Center-Tattnall in Reidsville as an Indigent Care Account Manager and has experience with SouthernCare Hospice in Vidalia and Spanish Oaks Hospice in Claxton.

Michael has two children, Jonathan who serves our country in the Navy and Heather who is the office manager at Lovins Realty & Investment Company, and three grandsons, Mason, Dawson, and Nolan. On November 16, 2019, Michael married our very own Kelly Weber and joined our church family. I asked Michael about his favorite travel experience and he told the story of he and Kelly trying to decide where to go for their honeymoon. He showed me a beautiful large picture of the Neuschwanstein Castle in Germany that Kelly's mom Lynn had hanging over their fireplace. This picture was the inspiration for Kelly and Michael's honeymoon trip to Germany, and, yes, they saw the "Cinderella" Castle among many other beautiful sights!

When I asked Michael about his musical training, I was surprised to hear him say that he had no formal training. He loved to hear the choir sing in his childhood church, Pleasant Hill Baptist Church in Dawson, especially the song "I'll Meet You in the Morning," and one Sunday morning when he was about 5 years old, he stood up in the pew and sang along with the choir while they were singing. The choir director, Mr. Delmer, invited Michael to come on up and join them! He sang in the youth choir at Vidalia First Baptist Church and mentioned John Morgan, who was an intern there at the time, as having a profound influence on him. He also sang in the choir at Baxley First United Methodist Church for 9 years and led the Children's Choir there for 4 years.

Michael says that he likes the community that we have in our church and how we take care of each other. "We are a pretty close-knit family and really care about one another." Thanks, Mike, for sharing with us, and for giving your time and talent to the Lord!

-----Sarah

VIDALIA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



400 Church Street
Vidalia, Georgia 30474
Phone: 912-537-3500
Fax: 912-537-8252

E-mail:
Vpcoffice1@GMAIL.COM
Web Address:
www.vidaliapres.org

Office Hours:
Monday-Friday
9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

The Session

Kelly Brand-Class of 2023
Kyle Montford-Class of 2023
Mike Walton-Class of 2023
Angela Lane-Class of 2024
Cissy Alderman-Class of 2024
Ben Davis-Class of 2024
Angela Cloud-Class of 2025
Glenn Goode-Class of 2025
Ethan Gray-Class of 2025

Officer & Associates reporting to the Session

Cissy Alderman (2024) - Clerk of Session
James Thompson - Treasurer
Mike Walton - Associate Treasurer

Staff

Rev. Russell B. Gladding, Jr., Pastor
Sarah Montford, Director of Music
Danielle Cannady, Office Administrator
Samuel L. Dixon, Sexton

Publication Deadlines:

Articles for Good News at VPC are due by 1:00 pm on the day before the publication date. The next *Newsletter*

will be published on:
July 3, 2023

Bulletin Insert information is due by
1:00 pm on

Thursdays.

Email: vpcoffice1@gmail.com or call
Danielle at (912) 537-3500

