

GOOD NEWS AT VPC



May 2023

GLAD TIDINGS FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN

Finally, Spring has come as May arrives with warmer weather, and even some high 80's so Summer is on the way. We are completing the season of Easter this month in the church. The Day of Pentecost will close the month with the birthday of the Church!

On Saturday, May 13th we will gather together for our second annual Spring Picnic with our friends from Iglesia Latina Presbyterian Church. We are excited to be with our new friends, and particularly to welcome their pastor, Ozeas Silva, who is cancer free! I hope you will come out to welcome our neighbors, have a hamburger or hotdog from Master Chef Kyle Montford's grill, and thank Angela Lane and Kelly Weber Brand for organizing this event. Those of you who are very brave may also join the children on the water slide.

There will not be a second Sunday lunch in May. With vacations on the horizon, we will take a break on lunches for the Summer. Our lunches will resume in September. Remember to sign up to host one of these gatherings.

The Session has also voted to join with other PCUSA congregations in Georgia to join hands in support of the Caring Hands Fund of Presbyterian Homes of Georgia. With homes in Athens, Austell, Swainsboro, and Quitman, PHGA will provide more than \$3 million to provide exceptional care services and enhanced quality of life for their residents. Many of these people have outlived their savings and have no one to whom they can turn for their financial support. Contributions to the Caring Hands Fund allow for these people to never have to leave Presbyterian Homes. Kathy and I have seen the care this organization gives to all of their patients regardless of their finances, as Kathy's sister is one of these people at the Austell facility. Please consider giving to this wonderful organization. You will be seeing more information in the coming days.

Grace and Peace,

Russell



Birthday's

Hope Murphy	3
Howard Kaufold, Jr.	4
Sarah Montford	4
Glenn Goode, Jr.	5
Leba Goode	10
Tim Dixon	10
Melba Claxton	16
Jamie Cloud	18
Howard Kaufold, III	19
Annette Ewing	22
Kathy Gladding	23

Anniversaries

Frank and Olivia Pratt 25th 22 years

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.

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

SERMONS FOR MAY

7th	" The Way ..."	John 14:1-14
14th	"Can We Discern God's Truth?"	John 14:15-21
21st	"Before the World Existed"	John 17:1-11
28th	"Living Water"	John 7:37-39

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The Wednesday evening Book and Bible Study Group will meet through May. We will not meet during the summer but will resume in September. We meet in the Ewell Nelson Room from 5:30pm-6:45pm. Our book is Enduring Grace by Scott Black Johnston. Books are available, contact Pastor Russell. Please join us!

LADIES LUNCH GROUP

Come join your fellow church ladies as we gather on the second Wednesday of each month at a local restaurant for food and fellowship. This month, the group will meet on May 10th at 11:30am at Equipped on Main St in Vidalia near Clark's Appliances for homemade spaghetti. Please reach out to Elizabeth @ 912-293-536 if you would like to join.



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.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sarah Montford is teaching our children on Sundays, with additional help from Kathy Gladding and Blythe Wilcox. We can always use more help, so please consider volunteering for approximately 20-25 minutes once or twice a month.



STEWARDSHIP AS A LIFESTYLE

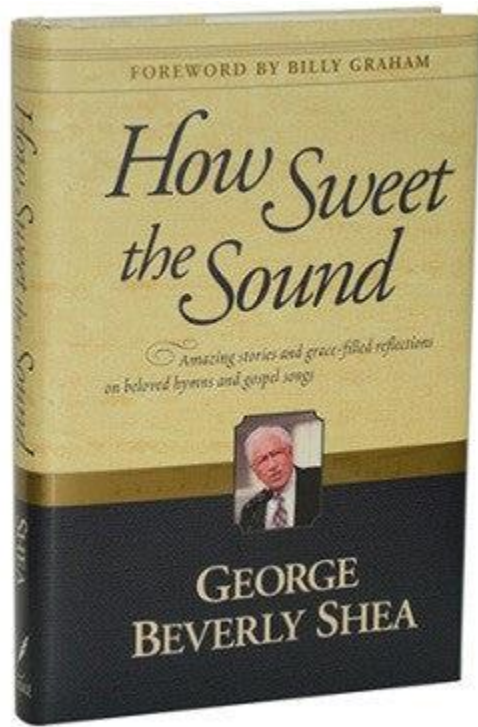
During May, we honor and remember not just our own moms, but Mary, the Mother of Jesus. We see her as the great symbol of motherhood and as our role model. At her knee, Jesus learned his prayers and the faith of his ancestors. At her hearth, Jesus grew in wisdom and grace and developed his sense of manhood and destiny. Mothers should resist comparing themselves to Mary. It's tough enough being a mom without setting the barrier that high, but we all should ask Mary's intercession, so that in our endeavors to be good stewards and to raise good stewards, to nurture in the faith those entrusted to us, she might come to our assistance and guide us with her motherly understanding.

FINANCE

Through the first three months of this year our income is above the budgeted amount and expenses are less than the budgeted amount. Our budget includes an expected shortfall which we will make up from our savings but our current shortfall is less than expected for the year to date. Our church is blessed to have faithful and regular donations. Thank you again for your stewardship of Vidalia Presbyterian Church.

LITURGISTS SPRING SCHEDULE

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



MUSIC

I picked up a paperback book written by George Beverly Shea in a thrift store recently. Some of you may remember the Billy Graham Crusades that were televised for almost 60 years and brought the message to millions of people all over the world. George Beverly Shea joined Billy Graham's team in 1947 as the "gospel singer" and was well known for his rendition of "How Great Thou Art." He would sing a solo immediately preceding Billy Graham's message at each crusade meeting.

His book, "How Sweet the Sound," shares memories and stories of his time with Billy Graham while recounting some of the history of the old hymns and gospel songs. I have enjoyed reading this book and learning more about the old hymns through the words of George Beverly Shea. He passed away at the age of 104 in Asheville, NC in 2013. Mr. Shea and Mr. Graham both had homes in Montreat, NC, where I attend the Worship and Music Conference every summer. Mr. Shea's music touched many lives over the years of his service. I'll be glad to share his book with you if you are interested!

"Praising my Savior all the day long!"

Sarah

VIDALIA PRESBYTRIAN 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:
May 31, 2023

Bulletin Insert information is due by 1:00 pm on
Thursdays.

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

