

April 2024

# The Good News at VPC



Vidalia Presbyterian Church



## Special points of interest:

- \* Jesus appeared to his followers after his resurrection..
- \* They did not know him at first. Later his identity was revealed to them.
- \* How will he appear to you?
- \* Will you recognize him?

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## Glad tidings from the Pastor's Pen

Alleluia Christ is Risen Indeed! Yesterday we ended March with a celebration of the Resurrection and its empty tomb. Our Gospels differ in what happens to the disciples after the three days.

In Mark, the original scripture says the women were told by an angel to go tell the disciples, but the women were trembling and bewildered. They fled from the tomb and said nothing because they were afraid.

In Matthew's gospel, he props up what Mark wrote, saying the angel told the women, he is risen from the dead, go tell the disciples. So, the women left still afraid, but with joy as they ran to tell his disciples. So, they found Jesus in Galilee, and he gave them his marching orders, The Great Commission.

Luke's gospel is full of the stories of Jesus. After the resurrection, Jesus walks with two followers but they don't recognize him until he breaks bread with them and they saw him. Later he shows up walking through the locked door where the disciples were hiding out. He

says be at peace, I am not a ghost, have you anything to eat, I'm hungry. Then he opened their minds to scripture and told them to wait for the Holy Spirit to come. Jesus later Ascends into the heavens.

In John's gospel, Jesus incognito appears to Mary Magdeline, in the upper room, and on the beach. He shows the fishermen, Andrew, Peter, James and John where to catch fish. Jesus cooks some of the fish for breakfast and then has an important talk with Peter forgiving him and instructing him about what his discipleship will be like.

My friends, where might the resurrected Jesus find us in our daily tasks in 2024? Do we have the vision to see him as he really is? What might he tell us about what our discipleship will be like? An important key is to seek God's presence within ourselves and LISTEN!

Grace and Peace,

Russell

## From Uvalda, back to Vidalia, The April VPC Ladies Lunch is at Steeplechase



The Vidalia Presbyterian Ladies Lunch enjoyed fellowship and lunch together at Jan's Fried Chicken on March 13th. It was reported that both the food and comradery was worth the trip!

The VPC Ladies will meet at Steeplechase Grill & Tavern at 11:30 a.m., Wednesday, April 10th for this-month's event..

Join the ladies at 306 E 2nd Street in Vidalia for lively conversation , excellent fellowship, and a great selection of menu items.



### April Anniversaries

Steve & Judith Mort	14th	17 years	Mike & Claudia Walton	26th	49 years
Craig & Tracey Adams	17th	24 years	Charles & Linda Page	28th	41 years

### April Birthdays

Rebecca Davis	2nd	Britany Toole	14th
Nancy McDonald	5th	Bekah Hilton	21st
Otha Dixon	13th	Billie Jean Davis	22nd
John Achenbach	14th	Jaime Thompson	25th
Clay Davis	14th	Jett Montford	27th
Ellen Rice	14th		

*If your birthday or anniversary is not listed, please contact Juanita Carpenter in the church office via email at [VidaliaPresDPC@gmail.com](mailto:VidaliaPresDPC@gmail.com) or call 912-537-3500 so that we can correct our records.*

### Prayer List

#### Our Service Members:

Jonathan Brand — Navy  
Trace Thompson — Navy Special Operations

#### Our College Students:

Jansen Killian— University of Georgia School of Law  
Bess Wilcox—Georgia Southern University

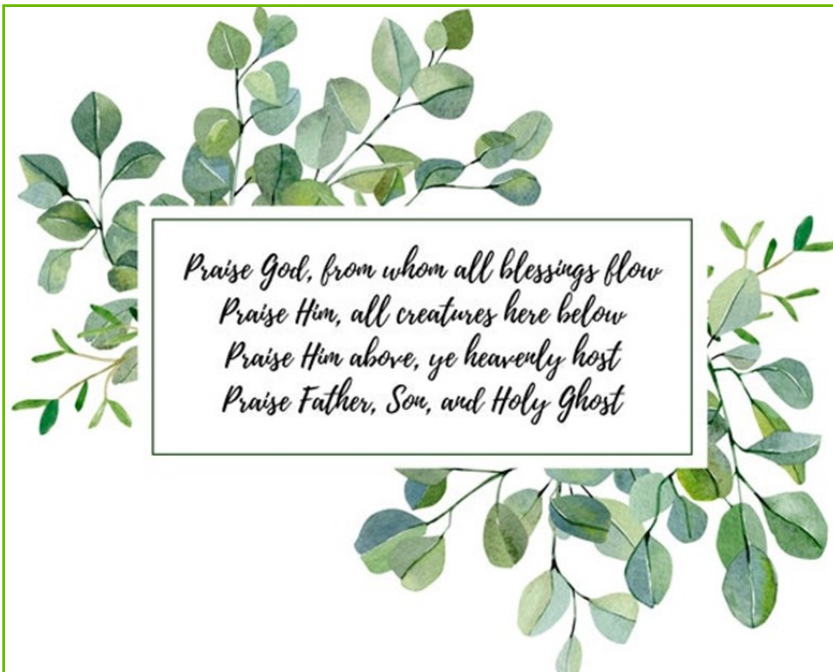
#### Our Friends and Family:

Kathy Buder, Jimmy Carter, Melba Claxton, Emory, Bart, Christy, & Andrew Davis, Angela Cloud, Tim Mixon, Charlotte Sisson, Stephen Sisson, James & Peggy Thompson,



Coming alongside each other with celebration and caring.

## *Notes from the Music Department...*



### **Speaking Glory and Honor**

As we continue to celebrate the Easter season throughout April, let us remember to praise God for the gift of Jesus and the forgiveness of our sins. One way our church gives praise is by singing the Doxology every Sunday. The word "Doxology" comes from the Greek words "doxa" meaning "honor" or "glory" and "logia" meaning "to speak."

How many of you knew that our Doxology also has verses? Fourteen verses to be exact! Bishop Thomas Ken wrote the hymn "Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun" for his students at Winchester College in England. Bishop Ken believed that singing a hymn first thing in the morning was an integral part of spiritual health

and well-being. His students may not have always appreciated singing all fourteen verses at one time, but the final verse of his hymn has endured for over 300 years. PRAISE GOD!

### **Only Four Opportunities Remaining for this year!**

Have you been thinking about helping with Second Sunday lunches? There are only four opportunities remaining for sign up this year. You can still choose a month that works for you, and know that you are serving your Vidalia Presbyterian family.

It's not hard. The church buys the chicken, you have fun with the drinks, decorations (if you want them), and clean up. You can even recruit a crew to help you. Add your name to the sign up sheet on the table under the bulletin board.

Make one month your special month!

### **Let us know if your information has changed**

Contact the church office at [VidaliaPresOFC@gmail.com](mailto:VidaliaPresOFC@gmail.com) or 912-537-3500 with updates to your address, phone number, or email address. Help us keep sending you good news from Vidalia Presbyterian!

### **Join us April 14th for our Congregational Dinner!**

Enjoy time with your church family over lunch.

Mark your calendars for the Second Sunday Lunch on April 14th. Garrett and Blythe Wilcox will be hosting. The church will provide the chicken. Bring a side dish or dessert to share.

### **Liturgists Schedule April – June**

A liturgist schedule for April, May, and June is posted on the bulletin board outside the Sanctuary. As a Liturgist, you serve in an important role in our Sunday services as we worship God.

We welcome others to join the group of individuals willing to serve in this role. If you are interested in becoming a Liturgist, please contact Pastor Russell.

## Sermons for April

7th	<i>"Believing Without Seeing"</i>	John 20:19-31
10th	<i>"Becoming a Witness"</i>	Luke 24:36b-48
17th	<i>"Being One Flock"</i>	John 10:11-18
24th	<i>"Abiding"</i>	John 15:1-8

## Shouldn't You Be a Greeter?

Would you like to see more of your fellow congregants? Does making visitors feel welcome give you a warm sense of purpose? If so, we have a great opportunity for you!

Join those of us who commit to be a greeter on Sundays that work for you. It's easy. Just go to [signup.com](https://signup.com) and choose a date, or simply call or email the church office.

## Finance & Stewardship Thoughts for April

Last month we noted that the 2024 income budget is higher than the 2023 budget. This was because of your strong giving in 2023. Just a gentle reminder that all our church does is enabled by your giving and your efforts. Thank you in advance for your continued financial support as well as your participation in the church's work and your prayers for God's direction in the ministry of Vidalia Presbyterian Church.

## Focus on Faith for April

The children's Sunday School Class will focus on FAITH in April. Using toys like pop-its, fidget spinners, and silly putty, this series of lessons will grab their attention, get them deep into the Bible and help them to connect with Jesus.



## Check Out Our Website — And Visit Often!

Our new website is up and active. Visit [VidaliaPres.org](https://VidaliaPres.org) to see what is new. Visit often as we are frequently updating and adding items of interest.



If you have something you would like added to the website, contact Juanita at [VidaliaPresDFC@gmail.com](mailto:VidaliaPresDFC@gmail.com) or call 912-537-3500.

## Don't forget our Facebook page!



Our Facebook page is always changing. Check it out. Be sure to like, comment, and share!

# April 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Office Open: 9am-2pm Women's Exercise: 2:15pm Twirling: 4:30pm-6pm NA/Narron: 7:30pm	2 Office Open: 9am-2pm Twirling: 4:30pm-6pm NA: 7:30pm	3 Office Open: 9am-2pm Women's Exercise: 2:15pm DAR: 3pm Choir Practice: 7pm	4 Office Open: 9am-2pm NA: 7:30pm	5 Office Open: 9am-2pm Women's Exercise: 2:15pm	6 NA: 7:30pm
<u>Communion Sunday</u> 7 Sunday School: 10-10:45am Worship: 11am Live Stream Available	8 Office Open: 9am-2pm Women's Exercise: 2:15pm Twirling: 4:30pm-6pm Session Meeting: 5:30pm NA/Narron: 7:30pm	9 Office Open: 9am-2pm Twirling: 4:30pm-6pm NA: 7:30pm	10 Office Open: 9am-2pm Ladies Lunch: 11:30am Women's Exercise: 2:15pm Choir Practice: 7pm	11 Office Open: 9am-2pm NA: 7:30pm	12 Office Open: 9am-2pm Women's Exercise: 2:15pm	13 NA: 7:30pm
14 Sunday School: 10-10:45am Worship: 11am Live Stream Available Followed by <u>Congregational Dinner</u>	15 Office Open: 9am-2pm Women's Exercise: 2:15pm Twirling: 4:30pm-6pm Investment Club: 6pm NA/Narron: 7:30pm	16 Office Open: 9am-2pm Twirling: 4:30pm-6pm NA: 7:30pm	17 Office Open: 9am-2pm Women's Exercise: 2:15pm Choir Practice: 7pm	18 Office Open: 9am-2pm NA: 7:30pm	19 Office Open: 9am-2pm Women's Exercise: 2:15pm	20 NA: 7:30pm
21 Sunday School: 10-10:45am Worship: 11am Live Stream Available	22 Office Open: 9am-2pm Women's Exercise: 2:15pm Twirling: 4:30pm-6pm NA/Narron: 7:30pm	23 Office Open: 9am-2pm Twirling: 4:30pm-6pm NA: 7:30pm	24 Office Open: 9am-2pm Women's Exercise: 2:15pm Choir Practice: 7pm	25 Office Open: 9am-2pm NA: 7:30pm	26 Office Open: 9am-2pm Women's Exercise: 2:15pm	27 NA: 7:30pm
28 Sunday School: 10-10:45am Worship: 11am Live Stream Available	29 Office Open: 9am-2pm Women's Exercise: 2:15pm Twirling: 4:30pm-6pm NA/Narron: 7:30pm	30 Office Open: 9am-2pm Twirling: 4:30pm-6pm NA: 7:30pm				



Find us on the web...

**VidaliaPres.org**



Find us on Facebook at Vidalia Presbyterian Church. Be sure to like, comment, and share!

### The Session

Cissy Alderman-Class of 2024  
Ben Davis-Class of 2024  
Angela Lane-Class of 2024  
Angela Cloud-Class of 2025  
Glenn Goode-Class of 2025  
Elizabeth Killian Wilkes-Class of 2025  
Michael Brand-Class of 2026  
Karen Hilton-Class of 2026  
Kyle Montford-Class of 2026

### Officer & Associates reporting to the Session

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

### Staff

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

Vidalia Presbyterian  
Church



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Vidalia, GA 30474

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VidaliaPresOFC@gmail.com

Office Hours:  
Monday through Friday  
9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

### **Publication Deadlines**

Articles for Good News at VPC are due by 1:00 p.m. on the 22nd of the month before the publication date. If the 22nd falls on a weekend, the due date is moved to the Friday before that weekend. The next newsletter will be published on or about May 1st.

Bulletin insert information is due by 1:00 p.m. on Thursdays.

Email:  
VidaliaPresOFC@gmail.com  
Or call Juanita at  
912-537-3500.