

May/June 2024

# The Good News at VPC



Vidalia Presbyterian Church



## Special points of interest:

- \* Plans and work for Homecoming are underway!
- \* Homecoming volunteer opportunities are coming up!
- \* No scheduled Session meetings in June or July.
- \* Spring Picnic is June 15

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## Glad tidings from the Pastor's Pen

Welcome to our May/June newsletter. Our administrative guru was otherwise out of the loop with knee replacement surgery for several weeks in May with recovery and PT. Juanita is now back at nearly full speed so we are going to send this with news from the past, May, and what is upcoming as we soon enter June 2024.

The Session and its various committees along with great volunteers from the congregation are hard at work reaching folks who have been a part of this congregation in the past, with an invitation to join us in a Homecoming weekend on October 12 & 13<sup>th</sup> 2024. In preparation, we have lots of cleaning up to do, such as some pressure washing, carpentry work, and painting, along with throwing out stuff that needs to go. The larger jobs will require some professional help, but there is plenty of need for anyone to volunteer to help.

The Session will not meet in June or July unless there is a need for a called meeting. Many of the Session members and others in the congregation will be on vacation trips, but we will work, as we are able to, with some of the projects.

On June 15<sup>th</sup> we will gather for our Spring picnic and water sliding with our guests from Iglesia Latina Presbyterian Church. Lunch will be served with Hot Dogs, Hamburgers and all the picnic fixings. Plan to come 10 AM to 2 PM to celebrate this third year of joining together with our Latina fiends.

On June 17<sup>th</sup> I will finally have my surgery on my left knee, and hopefully including finding and re-attaching my ACL ligament. I will be out of the pulpit Sunday, June 23 and 30 and July 7<sup>th</sup>. Charles Webb will be preaching on the last two Sundays. We are working on filling the pulpit on June 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Blessings for you all and the happiest events of your summer season.

Grace and Peace,

Russell



# Congratulations



Tucker Herakovich, grandson of Hibby Bedingfield and son of Russ and Laura (Bedingfield) Herakovich, will be graduating from The Westminster Schools in Atlanta in late May. He will be attending The George Washington University in Washington, D.C., to study Graphic Design.



Meagan Millsaps is the daughter of Shannon Evans and Larry Millsaps. She is graduating from John Marshall Law School. She did her undergraduate work at the University of Georgia graduating with honors. She was awarded the John Marshall Scholarship and the Alumni Referral Scholarship. While at John Marshall, Meagan interned with an immigration attorney and completed certification in electronic discovery. She will be spending the summer studying for the bar exam for which she will sit in July.



# Congratulations



Cate Wilcox is a 2024 graduate of Vidalia High School. During high school, Cate played varsity tennis for 4 years, and she was a member of HOSA, Beta Club, and National Honor Society. During her senior year, she participated in the Greater Vidalia Youth Leadership Program, the Memorial Health Meadows Hospital Youth Advisory Board, and the Peoples Bank Youth Advisory Board. Cate is the daughter of Garrett and Blythe Wilcox, and she plans to attend Georgia Southern University in the Fall to major in Business Management.



Jansen Killian, daughter of Elizabeth and Jimmy Wilkes, is graduating from the University of Georgia School of Law! During law school, she has served as class president for two years, competed on the mock trial team, and participated in several internships - including with the Georgia Speaker of the House, Carl Vinson Institute of Government, and a federal judge in the Southern District of Georgia. After taking the bar exam, Jansen will be coming home to Vidalia and practicing at the Tillery Firm!

# More Memorable Moments...

- Congratulations to Jaime and Brook Simmons on their recent marriage. We are so happy for you both!
- Congratulations to Angela Lane for being named Vidalia's 2024 Lady of the Year. She has a heart full of love for our community and church. VPC is proud of you Angela!
- Congratulations, Ben Davis, on your retirement from Tumi Luggage! Enjoy the next adventures in store for you!
- Congratulations to Dr. Garrett Wilcox on his retirement from his position as Superintendent of Vidalia City Schools!
- John Casey Matheson, grandson of Peggy Matheson and son of Mark and Lisa Matheson, received multiple honors for his musical talent and acumen as he closed his Junior year. Well done, John Casey!
- Kensley Davis received academic honors at Toombs County High School, as well as earning 15 college credit hours! Kensley is the granddaughter of Jimmy and BJ Davis and the daughter of Trey and Jennifer Davis.
- Seventh grade academic honors went to Mary Frances Stanley, granddaughter of Jimmy and BJ Davis. Congratulations!
- Multiple Third Grade Honors were earned by Avery Montford,, including Honor roll for the year, Principal's award, and BRAVE award, to name a few. Avery is the daughter of Kyle and Amanda Montford and the granddaughter of Dwight and Sarah Montford.
- Rising second grader, Jett Montford, earned a place on this year's all-star baseball team. He is the son of Kyle and Amanda Montford and the grandson of Dwight and Sarah Montford.
- Ashton (Craft) O'Neil and her husband, Andrew participated in a photo shoot that was printed in Vogue magazine. Congratulations on such a unique honor! Ashton is the granddaughter of James and Peggy Thompson and the daughter of Ronald and Tammy (Thompson) Craft.

For more details...and photos....check out our Facebook page at [Vidalia Presbyterian Church](#).

## Children's Sunday School

After focusing on Mothers and Mothers in the Bible for a couple of Sundays, the children's Sunday School Class will continue their series on "Fidgets of Faith." The children will concentrate on various Bible stories that highlight faith and use items like fidget spinners, pop-its, tangles, and stretchy noodles to create connections to the lesson.



# Celebrations

## May & June Anniversaries

Frank & Olivia Pratt	May, 25	23 years
Cole & Susan Hill-Saldivar	June 8	11 years
Jimmy & Julia Musgrove	June 8	54 years
Dwight & Sarah Montford	June 14	43 years
Donnie & Cissy Alderman	June 16	50 years
Mac & Marcia Suber	June 17	52 years
David & Carol Rice	June 17	52 years
Jimmy & Elizabeth Wilkes	June 22	11 years
Ben & Mary Ellen Davis	June 22	41 years
John & Sharon Achenbach	June 23	17 years
Otha & Pat Dixon	June 23	17 years

## May & June Birthdays

Hope Sommers	May 3	Tyler Dean	June 12
Howard Kaufold, Jr.	May 3	Glenn Mixon	June 14
Sarah Montford	May 4	Nathan Toole	June 14
Glenn Goode	May 5	James Thompson	June 17
Leba Goode	May 10	Andrew Davis	June 20
Melba Claxton	May 16	Cissy Alderman	June 22
Jaime Cloud Simmons	May 18	Jansen Killian	June 23
Kathy Gladding	May 23	Mac McIntyre	June 30
Robert Foerster	June 2		
Dianne Holland	June 3		
Bailey Zeigler	June 11		



Coming alongside each other  
with celebration and caring.

## Updates, Please

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

## Prayer List

### Our Service Members:

Jonathan Brand — Navy  
Trace Thompson — Navy Special Operations

### Our College Students:

Bess Wilcox—Georgia Southern University

### Our Friends and Family:

Kathy Buder, Jimmy Carter, Melba Claxton, Angela Cloud, Charlotte Sisson, Stephen Sisson, James & Peggy Thompson



## Stewardship & Finance

Thank you for a strong income month for contributions to VPC. Through March 31, year-to-date, our income is \$35,956 which is above the budgeted \$32,250. Spending was \$49,550 which was \$76 above the budgeted \$49,474. The budgeted amounts do not include planned transfers. We are on track with our 2024 Budget.

The new table fund is at \$2,400 (as of May 5). There are several other donations planned so we are approaching our estimated cost (\$3000 - \$3500). If you plan to contribute, your donation would help us reach the target soon. Thanks!

## Genesis 28:20-22

Then Jacob made a vow, saying, "If God will be with me, and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat and clothing to wear, so that I come again to my father's house in peace, then the Lord shall be my God, and this stone, which I have set up for a pillar, shall be God's house; and of all that thou givest me I will give the tenth to thee."

## Facebook & Website Updates — What are you Missing?

Keep yourself up to date with what is happening at Vidalia Presbyterian. Visit our website and our Facebook page.

The Facebook page (Vidalia Presbyterian Church) will keep you up to date on recent and current events. There is always something new and enlightening. If you have something you would like included on the Facebook page, reach out to Elizabeth at [elizabethkillian@bellsouth.net](mailto:elizabethkillian@bellsouth.net).

The website (VidaliaPres.org) has a wealth of information about the church, upcoming events, projects, past and current newsletters, and a comprehensive church calendar. If you want to know what is coming up check out this link: [VPC Calendar](#). To submit information for the website, the newsletter, or for the weekly announcements page, contact Juanita at [vidaliapresofc@gmail.com](mailto:vidaliapresofc@gmail.com).

## Liturgists Schedule April—June 2024

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.



## Homecoming Prep—

So many special moments have happened here at Vidalia Presbyterian, we want to include those in our Homecoming Celebration. Do you have special memories, humorous anecdotes, and precious bonds with church family members? If it was a special moment for you, it probably was for someone else.

Whether they are funny, sweet, or of days gone by, share those memories as we gather for our Homecoming by sending them to Elizabeth Killian Wilkes at [elizabethkillian@bellsouth.net](mailto:elizabethkillian@bellsouth.net) or to the church office at [vidaliapresofc@gmail.com](mailto:vidaliapresofc@gmail.com).



## For the Beauty of the Earth...

One of my favorite hymns at this time of year is *For the Beauty of the Earth*. Folliot Pierpont wrote the words to this hymn at the age of 29 in 1864. The story goes that Pierpont was born in Bath, England, and went to school and then taught at Cambridge University. Upon returning to his hometown of Bath after several years, he was so inspired by the beauty of the countryside and the city that he penned eight verses of the hymn with each verse thanking God for a different kind of beauty.

Along with the hymn *For the Beauty of the Earth*, Psalm 96 reminds us to raise our voices in gratefulness and praise for the many blessings he has bestowed upon us.

"Sing to the LORD a new song;  
sing to the LORD, all the earth.  
Sing to the LORD, praise his name;  
proclaim his salvation day after day.  
Declare his glory among the nations,  
his marvelous deeds among all peoples."

"Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad;  
let the sea resound, and all that is in it.  
Let the fields be jubilant, and everything in them;  
let all the trees of the forest sing for joy.  
Let all creation rejoice before the LORD, for he comes,  
he comes to judge the earth."

-----Sarah

## Consider The School of the Laity to Learn More

If you are interested in learning more about the Bible and the Presbyterian denomination., consider the Savannah Presbytery's School of the Laity.

The School of the Laity equips the Layperson, Deacon, or Ruling Elder of a local church body with the tools and training needed to help and support the church in its ministry to the community. You can join a cohort that meets three days in June, and two days each in October and March for two years. You do not have to be a part of a cohort to take a class. There are also electives that can be taken by anyone, whether they have completed a cohort or just want to learn more about the subject.

To learn more about The School of the Laity, check out this link: [School of the Laity](#). To learn more about Michael and Kelly Brand's experience at the School of the Laity, [click here](#).

## Sermons for June

2nd	<i>"Jesus was Grieved"</i>	Mark 2:23-3:6
9th	<i>"He is Out of His Mind"</i>	Mark 3:20-35
16th	<i>"Do We Know How?"</i>	Mark 4:26-34
23rd	Pulpit Supply to be determined	

## Coming Up — Ladies Lunch at Kountry Kafe

This month, the VPC ladies gathered at Tappas in Vidalia. Together, they enjoyed the food, the fellowship and the friendships.

For June, we will share lunch on Wednesday, June 12, at the Kountry Kafe on Main Street in Vidalia.

We hope to see you there on the 12th at 11:30 a.m.



Lunch at Tappas, May 8, 2024

## Doug Wilkes Memorial Scholarship



Recipient: Cristal Franklin  
Presenter: Mrs. Angela Lane

Each year, Vidalia Presbyterian Church presents The Doug Wilkes scholarship to a high school senior. This year's recipient was Cristal Franklin. VPC elder, Angela Lane, presented the award to Cristal at VHS Honors Night. Congratulations, Cristal!



### SAVE THE DATE

JOIN US FOR HOMECOMING  
OCTOBER 12TH AND 13TH

IT'S GOING TO BE A GREAT TIME!  
PLEASE SPREAD THE WORD TO YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS!



Follow us on FB and check out the website: [Vidalia Presbyterian Church - Vidalia, GA\\_VidaliaPres.org](http://VidaliaPresbyterianChurch-Vidalia.GA_VidaliaPres.org)



# May 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
			Office Open: 9am-2pm Women's Exercise: 2:15pm Choir Practice: 7pm	Office Open: 9am-2pm NA: 7:30pm	Office Open: 9am-2pm Women's Exercise: 2:15pm	NA: 7:30pm
<u>Communion Sunday</u>	5	6	7	8	9	10
Sunday School: 10-10:45am Worship: 11am Live Stream Available	Office Open: 9am-2pm Women's Exercise: 2:15pm Twirling: 4:30pm-6pm NA/Narmon: 7:30pm	Office Open: 9am-2pm Twirling: 4:30pm-6pm NA: 7:30pm	Office Open: 9am-2pm Ladies Lunch: 11:30am Women's Exercise: 2:15pm Choir Practice: 7pm	Office Open: 9am-2pm NA: 7:30pm	Office Open: 9am-2pm Women's Exercise: 2:15pm	NA: 7:30pm
	12	13	14	15	16	17
Sunday School: 10-10:45am Worship: 11am Live Stream Available Followed by <u>Congregational Dinner</u>	Office Open: 9am-2pm Women's Exercise: 2:15pm Twirling: 4:30pm-6pm Session: 6pm NA/Narmon: 7:30pm	Office Open: 9am-2pm Twirling: 4:30pm-6pm NA: 7:30pm	Office Open: 9am-2pm Women's Exercise: 2:15pm Choir Practice: 7pm	Office Open: 9am-2pm NA: 7:30pm	Office Open: 9am-2pm Women's Exercise: 2:15pm	Excel Early Childhood Educators Training: 9am - 1:30 pm NA: 7:30pm
	19	20	21	22	23	24
Sunday School: 10-10:45am Worship: 11am Live Stream Available	Office Open: 9am-2pm Women's Exercise: 2:15pm Twirling: 4:30pm-6pm Investment Club: 6pm NA/Narmon: 7:30pm	Office Open: 9am-2pm Twirling: 4:30pm-6pm NA: 7:30pm	Office Open: 9am-2pm Women's Exercise: 2:15pm Choir Practice: 7pm	Office Open: 9am-2pm NA: 7:30pm	Office Open: 9am-2pm Women's Exercise: 2:15pm	NA: 7:30pm
	26	27	28	29	30	31
Sunday School: 10-10:45am Worship: 11am Live Stream Available	Memorial Day <i>Office Closed</i> Women's Exercise: 2:15pm Twirling: 4:30pm-6pm NA/Narmon: 7:30pm	Office Open: 9am-2pm Twirling: 4:30pm-6pm NA: 7:30pm	Office Open: 9am-2pm Women's Exercise: 2:15pm Choir Practice: 7pm	Office Open: 9am-2pm NA: 7:30pm	Office Open: 9am-2pm Women's Exercise: 2:15pm	

## June 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 NA: 7:30pm
<b>Communion Sunday</b> 2 Sunday School: 10-10:45am Worship: 11am Live Stream Available	3 Office Open: 9am-2pm Women's Exercise: 2:15pm Twirling: 4:30pm-6pm NA/Nanon: 7:30pm	4 Office Open: 9am-2pm Twirling: 4:30pm-6pm NA: 7:30pm	5 Office Open: 9am-2pm Women's Exercise: 2:15pm Choir Practice: 7pm	6 Office Open: 9am-2pm NA: 7:30pm	7 Office Open: 9am-2pm Women's Exercise: 2:15pm	8 NA: 7:30pm
9 Sunday School: 10-10:45am Worship: 11am Live Stream Available	10 Office Open: 9am-2pm Women's Exercise: 2:15pm Twirling: 4:30pm-6pm NA/Nanon: 7:30pm	11 Office Open: 9am-2pm Twirling: 4:30pm-6pm NA: 7:30pm	12 Office Open: 9am-2pm Ladies Lunch 11:30am Women's Exercise: 2:15pm Choir Practice: 7pm	13 Office Open: 9am-2pm NA: 7:30pm	14 Office Open: 9am-2pm Women's Exercise: 2:15pm	15 <b>SPRING PICNIC</b> 10am-2pm NA: 7:30pm
16 Sunday School: 10-10:45am Worship: 11am Live Stream Available	17 Office Open: 9am-2pm Women's Exercise: 2:15pm Twirling: 4:30pm-6pm Investment Club: 6pm NA/Nanon: 7:30pm	18 Office Open: 9am-2pm Twirling: 4:30pm-6pm NA: 7:30pm	19 Office Open: 9am-2pm Women's Exercise: 2:15pm Choir Practice: 7pm	20 Office Open: 9am-2pm NA: 7:30pm	21 Office Open: 9am-2pm Women's Exercise: 2:15pm	22 NA: 7:30pm
23 Sunday School: 10-10:45am Worship: 11am Live Stream Available Guest Preacher	24 Office Open: 9am-2pm Women's Exercise: 2:15pm Twirling: 4:30pm-6pm NA/Nanon: 7:30pm	25 Office Open: 9am-2pm Twirling: 4:30pm-6pm NA: 7:30pm	26 Office Open: 9am-2pm Women's Exercise: 2:15pm Choir Practice: 7pm	27 Office Open: 9am-2pm NA: 7:30pm	28 Office Open: 9am-2pm Women's Exercise: 2:15pm	29 NA: 7:30pm
30 Sunday School: 10-10:45am Worship: 11am Live Stream Available Charles Webb Preaching						

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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E-mail:  
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 July 1st.

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

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