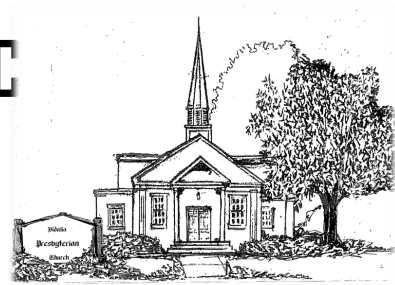


The Good News at VPC



Vidalia Presbyterian Church



Special points of interest:

- * Thank you for the care shown during the week Pastor Russell was out
- * Centering Prayer begins Wednesday evenings in February
- * Church Cleanup in preparation for October's 134th Anniversary
- * Spring Picnic in May
- * Fiesta in August

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Glad tidings from the Pastor's Pen

HAPPY NEW YEAR
2024 ??????????????????????
?????????!

Well, I don't mean it's not going to be. It's just stuck in my mind, how in the world did I manage to fall off of two steps, two days in a row, in two different places? I have one word for it, SCIATICA!

So, with that being said, I am grateful for so many of you who prayed, called, visited, and brought meals. I am back in the office part time and working at home as I continue to fight the sciatica.

So, in this New Year, we look forward with fresh thoughts, continuing to be the Church of the Christ in our community. We will be tackling a clean up of the church building and grounds, as we prepare for our 134th anniversary of VPC,

in October. The last two pastors will be here, Jay Warthen and Kevin Hicks will lead our worship on Sunday, October 13th, after Saturday's gathering for fun, food, and fellowship.

Iglesia Latina Presbyterian Church, our sister congregation, will be on our calendar for the Spring Picnic in May and a visit to their church for the annual Fiesta in August. We also may visit together in a time of worship.

Starting soon in February, all are invited to come and participate in "Centering Prayer" on Wednesday evenings. This group will take the place of our Book and Bible study. Peggy Davis will convene this group. There is certainly a need for us to pray in these days. Centering prayer is a remarkably

simple method that opens one to God's gift of contemplative prayer. I hope to see you there.

Your Session is active in these events. Please respond and be a part of bringing a new sense of life into our congregation.

Grace and Peace,
Russell

Thank You for Sharing Christmas Blessings

Twenty five children from Iglesias Latina were blessed with Christmas gifts from generous members at Vidalia Presbyterian. Vidalia members shopped and wrapped, or provided funds to be used for the children. Either way, the generosity was remarkable.

A huge thank you goes out to everyone who contributed to this effort. Thanks to you, 25 children have a warm spot in their hearts when they think of Christmas 2023. Most likely, your giving gave you an even greater lift. As Jesus is reported to have said (Acts 20:35), "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

Thank you for being such a caring church.



January Anniversary

Kyle & Amanda Montford 11th 10 years

Updates, Please

Congratulations to all of you who are celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this month! *May God bless you on your special day!*

If your birthday or anniversary is not listed, please contact Juanita Carpenter in the church office via email at VidaliaPresDFC@gmail.com, 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, Angela Cloud,
 Jordan Davis, Ozeas Silva, Charlotte Sisson, Stephen Sisson
 James & Peggy Thompson,

January Birthdays

Angela Cloud	1st	Allen Rice	14th
Lynn Addison	6th	Elizabeth Killian Wilkes	14th
Pat Dixon	6th	Bart Davis	19th
Howard Holman	6th	David Rice	19th
Emory Davis	9th		



Coming alongside each other
 with celebration and caring.

Finance

Thanks for your generous contributions and pledges to the ministry of Vidalia Presbyterian Church. The Stewardship campaign was very good; Church income for the year exceeded the budget projections. Expenses were close to the budgeted amount but were controlled even though we had some yard and building work which were necessary but expensive. A more detailed report is being prepared for the Session which will be available to anyone interested.

Other work due soon will be the 2024 budget and 2023 year end statements for your contributions. These reports will be ready in early February. If anyone needs their report sooner, or if any other questions, please contact Mike Walton.

Liturgists Schedule January—March

A liturgist schedule for January, February, and March 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.

Stewardship GPS

Remember the initials GPS.

Stewardship is more than just giving a regular donation to VPC. It is a way of living through our Giving, Prayer, and Service. Beginning the new year is a good time to consider your GPS efforts!

1 Peter 4:10 *"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms."*

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 *"Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."*

Matthew 25:40: *"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."*

Thank you again for your faithful Stewardship for the ministry of Vidalia Presbyterian Church!

Second Sunday Lunch

Please be sure to give a big thank you to Mike and Kelly Brand for all their efforts in coordinating our January congregational lunch! It is much appreciated and enjoyed by all who attended.

Mark your calendars for the February Lunch on the 12th. Leba Goode and Claudia Walton will be hosting. The church will provide fried chicken. Please bring a side dish or dessert.

See you there!



Children's Sunday School

Teaching our children in the "way they should go" is important and rewarding. Do you enjoy working with children as they learn? If so, consider helping with this critical ministry.

Sarah Montford and Kelly Brand are teaching our children on Sunday mornings. They could use your help. By giving 20 to 25 minutes of your time once or twice a month, you can make a positive impact on a child, and the future.

If you are interested in participating, please reach out to Sarah or Kelly, or contact the church office at 912-537-3500 or VidaliaPresOFC@gmail.com. You'll be glad you did.

Rejoice! Your Light Has Come!

I hope many of you were able to attend the Christmas music held at Vidalia Cornerstone Church on December 2nd and 3rd. We have been blessed to be a part of this special event for the last few years, and the beautiful combination of voices and instruments was the perfect start for the Christmas season. Members of the Vidalia Presbyterian Church Choir who participated were Peggy Matheson, Angela Lane, Angie Meredith, Angela Cloud, Jimmy Wilbanks, Michael Brand, and Mac Suber. Former Choir member Mike Walton also joined us. We would like to thank Mike for singing with us as we performed a few of the pieces as anthems for several Sundays in December. On December 10th, Christie Roller, Sherron Threlkeld, and Larry Threlkeld from the Episcopal Church of the Annunciation also joined our choir in singing "Angels Watching Over Me" for our service. Thank you to each of the choir members and our guests for going above and beyond to make the Christmas season special for our church and community.

We also appreciate the time, talents, and vision of John F. Morgan, pianist and choirmaster of the Cornerstone Church.

-----Sarah



Above: Vidalia Presbyterian Choir, Christmas 2023.



Right: The combined Cornerstone and Vidalia Presbyterian Choirs, Christmas 2023.

Sermons for January

7th	<i>"Being Uncomfortable with God's Spirit"</i>	Mark 1:4-11
14th	<i>"Bartholomew"</i>	John 1:43-51
21st	<i>"Good News Time"</i>	Mark 1:14-20
28th	<i>"Jesus is about Healing"</i>	Mark 1:21-28

Christian Education

The Book and Bible Study Group will begin meeting again in February as Peggy Davis leads us to better understand and enhance our contemplative prayer life.

Watch the announcements page in your weekly bulletin for the exact start date and time. We hope you can join us we grow in knowledge and grace.

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 and choose a date, or simply call or email the church office.


You can renew old acquaintances and start new friendships as you serve others.



Ladies Lunch at Tappas

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

Next month, we will share lunch on Wednesday, February 14th.

Be watching for an announcement about the restaurant we will visit! We hope to see you there on the 14th at 11:30 a.m. 

Find us on the web...
VidaliaPres.org

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



400 Church Street
Vidalia, GA 30474

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 day before the publication date. The next newsletter will be published on February 1st.

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

Email:
VidaliaPresOFC@gmail.com

Or call Juanita at
912-537-3500.

January 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Office Closed Women's Exercise: 2:15pm Twirling: 4:30pm-6pm NA/Narnon: 7:30pm	Office Open: 9am-2pm Twirling: 4:30pm-6pm NA: 7:30pm	Office Open: 9am-2pm Women's Exercise: 2:15pm DAR-3-4:30pm Choir Practice: 7pm	Office Open: 9am-2pm NA: 7:30pm	Office Open: 9am-2pm Women's Exercise: 2:15pm	NA: 7:30pm
Communion Sunday	7	8	9	10	11	12
Sunday School: 10-10:45am Worship:11am Live Stream Available	Office Open: 9am-2pm Women's Exercise: 2:15pm Twirling: 4:30pm-6pm Session Meeting: 5:30pm NA/Narnon: 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 DAR 3pm Choir Practice: 7pm	Office Open: 9am-2pm NA: 7:30pm	Office Open: 9am-2pm Women's Exercise: 2:15pm	NA: 7:30pm
	14	15	16	17	18	19
Sunday School: 10-10:45am Worship:11am Live Stream Available Followed by Congregational Dinner	MILK Jr. B'day Office Open: 9am-2pm Women's Exercise: 2:15pm Twirling: 4:30pm-6pm NA/Narnon: 7:30pm Investment Club 6pm-7pm	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
	21	22	23	24	25	26
Sunday School: 10-10:45am Worship:11am Live Stream Available	Office Open: 9am-2pm Women's Exercise: 2:15pm Twirling: 4:30pm-6pm NA/Narnon: 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
	28	29	30	31		
Sunday School: 10-10:45am Worship:11am Live Stream Available	Office Open: 9am-2pm Women's Exercise: 2:15pm Twirling: 4:30pm-6pm NA/Narnon: 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		