

# Venice View

A monthly newsletter of Venice Presbyterian Church

May 2016



*“Reaching God through:  
Enrichment, Education and Extending Our Hands”*

## Venice Presbyterian Church

4244 Layhigh Road

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Ross, Ohio 45061

Phone: (513) 738-1317

email: [churchoffice@thevenicechurch.com](mailto:churchoffice@thevenicechurch.com)

[www.thevenicechurch.com](http://www.thevenicechurch.com)

**Pastor Janet Dillaman**

Sunday School 9:15a

Worship Service - 10:30a

Junior Church - during worship service

Youth Group - during worship except 1st Sunday: 12-2



*The Sacrament of Holy Communion*  
will be celebrated on:  
**Sunday, May 1, 2016**

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**Attendance**

February	March
7.....95	6.....71
10.....24	13.....70
14.....59	20.....72
21.....71	24.....26
28.....78	25.....80
	27.....139



**Venice Presbyterian Church**

4244 Layhigh Road  
P.O. Box 41  
Ross, OH 45061

*Office Hours*  
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9:00a-1:00p

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**STAFF**

**Pastor**

Janet Dillaman  
**Cell (513-477-7746)**

**Administrative Assistant**

Debbie Schwab

**Music Director**

Kwi-im Kim

**Nursery Attendants**

Nancy Renner  
Monica Schwab

**Youth Director**

James Dillaman

**Custodian**

Mike Schwab

Venice View is published monthly.  
All items should be submitted by the  
third Tuesday of each month.

Dear Friends,

Have you ever wondered what I am doing when I pause in front of the cross when I step up on the chancel?

This is a time of prayer. Prayer is a place of divine encounter with God. It is coming face to face with a God who is now very near. In that moment, there are not questions. Without asking, we know and we say, “surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.”

We cannot make God come and yet we must be prepared for His coming. In other words, we all experience times in prayer where no matter how long we have prayed, we get up feeling we’ve just been talking to ourselves. There was no experience of encountering God. If we are not in the habit of praying, we will not know when God’s presence is manifest to us.

Prayer is the place of experiencing God. It is the method by which we make our way to the temple of quiet within our own spirit and the activity of our spirit within ourselves. Prayer is not only the participation in communication with God, it is the “readying” of the spirit for itself and for the experience.

Beginning on Pentecost Sunday, I invite all of us to be a part of this “readying.” As God will not compete with the many noises in our lives, we are all invited to create a quiet place and stand up to “encounter God.” If we want to experience God, we must choose to get quiet and remove the noise. We must turn inward, away from the things that divide and scatter our thoughts and our spirit.

Be patient, something will happen. God will come. When we practice the discipline of being present to God together—that is to have a quiet place and appointed time of being there with God and one another—a strange thing happens. The initiative to create fellowship slips out of our hand and into the hands of God. We move toward God and become the body of Christ.

As the Holy Spirit stirred a flame within the disciples and created the church, we are invited to experience a fundamental stirring that may challenge us, but we don't resist it for we know that "it" is God. Within worship we boldly enter the presence of our faithful God who will stimulate, inspire, convict, renew, and fill us during our worship.

I am excited that we can prepare to experience God in a new way together in worship.

Sincerely in Christ,  
Pastor Jan

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### **One Great Hour of Sharing**

Thank you to everyone for your donations to One Great Hour of Sharing. VPC will be sending a check for \$428.76 to the Presbytery as our donation for this year's campaign.

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### **Noisy Offering**

The Youth Group would like to thank the congregation for their generous support through the Sunday Noisy Offering. Since the beginning of the year, \$760.00 has been collected in Noisy Offering. Your small contributions add up to big dollars and ensure that our Youth Group is well funded.

Thank you again for your generosity.



**James Dillaman**  
Youth Director of VPC

## Time to Update Your Kroger Community Rewards



**All Participants must re-enroll, or enroll, online by May 31  
(in order for our Church to get credit  
for your purchases)**

**To re-enroll:** Update your account online at [www.KrogerCommunityRewards.com](http://www.KrogerCommunityRewards.com). Select Venice Presbyterian Church, Org # 82261 as your Community Rewards Organization.

**To Enroll:** Log on to [www.KrogerCommunityRewards.com](http://www.KrogerCommunityRewards.com) and select Enroll Now to set up My Account. Then select Venice Presbyterian Church, Org # 82261 as your Community Rewards Organization.

Then, just swipe your Kroger Plus Card every time you shop, and you'll earn \$\$\$ for VPC. Thank you for supporting the church!

**VPC received \$1,817.82 last year from this  
program, thanks to the enrollees!**

**Have questions about your enrollment, call Melanie Hanson  
at 868-7288.**

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### Preschool Opening - Administrator

Jennifer Strube (our current administrator) has informed the Preschool Board of her plans to retire at the end of the 2016-2017 school year. College courses in early childhood development with either a certificate or a degree are required. If you are interested, or know of someone who might be interested, please contact the Preschool Board through the Church office or any of the following members: **Donna Marsh, Sue Toler, Eunice Maynard, Martha Young, or Bob Young**

# Spring Women's Banquet

## Thursday, May 5, 6:30 p.m.



**It's for you ladies and your lady family and friends...a special evening for fellowship and entertainment.**

- **SPECIAL GUESTS** will provide their music talent.
- **Bring a covered dish.**
- **Mission project: Bring cleaning items for Haven House.**

### WOMEN'S GROUP

*Let your light shine so they may see your good works...Matthew 5:16*

May 19, Thursday	7:00 pm Dorcas Circle at the home of Sharon Thompson
May 31, Tuesday	1:30 pm Togetherness Circle at the Church Annex





Save your items to  
donate to the  
Women's fundraiser

### June 11

If you would like to help during the week of June 6-11, contact  
Melanie at 868-7288. You can sort stuff, sticker stuff, and organize  
stuff.

We work from:

9-11am & 6-8pm Mon-Thurs

9am- 7pm Friday

8am- 3pm Saturday

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### GRADUATE SUNDAY

The Deacons would like to honor our graduates for 2016. If you  
know of a graduate in our church, whether it be High School,  
College, or beyond, please call or email the church office and leave  
their information. We are interested in knowing their plans for the  
future.

**Graduate Sunday will be held on June 5th, 2016.  
The Deadline for this information is May 29th.**

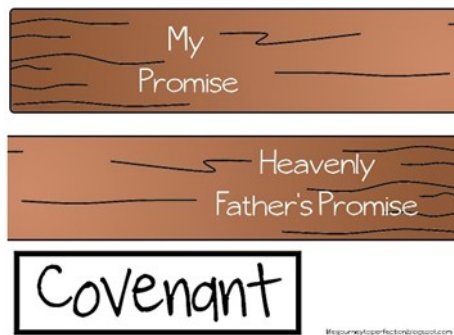




On Tuesday, May 17 the JOY (Just Older Youth) Group will be going to the movies! Mark your calendars and plan to join us for lunch and a matinee. Please watch your bulletins or contact Gayla Young (738-3708) as we draw closer to that date. The times of departure and which movie we see will be determined just a few days before we go. I would estimate that we would leave somewhere around 11 a.m. and return around 4 p.m. Plan to join us for a fun time of food, fellowship and a good movie!

On a side note, our BUNCO gathering was so much fun with Ruth Guenther taking home the prize for the most Buncos and a three way tie for the most wins between Ruth, Patti Wurzelbacher and Sharon Thompson. It was definitely a good time and Sharon's Peanut Butter Cake topped off the afternoon!





### **FOCUS ON PRAYER**

For the month of May and nine extra days our Focus on Prayer will be a 40 Day Prayer Covenant. On May 1st, each person (there are special cards for youth) will be given a prayer card to use during this period of time. It will give information on the vision, the mission, brief instructions and “the 40 day prayer.” It also has a website link where there are additional videos and resources available to help with your covenant. It is a focus on God’s Grace and His Love and helps to make prayer a daily conversation with Him. We need to get in the habit of talking to God and letting Him guide us on our daily walk with Him. Select that quiet place and time to pray and feel the power of His Love. If you have any questions or will not be able to be there on May 1st, please call me at 738-3708.

Thank you, Gayla Young



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# Preschool News

## Venice Preschool News

It is the end of the school year!  
Wow, 9 months has flown by so quickly!

We have a few learning concepts to cover this month: the letters Y & Z; and we will continue to review the numbers 1-20, the basic shapes and colors. The bible story this month is Zacchaeus and the tree.

The Ross Township Fire Department is going to visit and teach the children about fire safety.

The children will be making "hand print" t-shirts to wear to the annual graduation picnic at Harbin Park where they will graduate.

We are still accepting registrations for the 2016-2017 school year for the 3 day afternoon class. Please contact our office for more info: 738-0158, [vpcpreschool@thevenicechurch.com](mailto:vpcpreschool@thevenicechurch.com),





Our deepest sympathy to **Bob and Martha Young and Family** on the passing of Bob's Uncle Richard Bosse.

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Thanks to everyone for the thoughts and prayers and cards to wish me well with my brother's death. **Jan Krier**



I would like to give my thanks and gratitude for all the prayers, calls and cards during my recovery from knee surgery. My appreciation to church family and friends who have been so thoughtful and supportive.

**Donna Marsh**

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## Small Group Studies

Wednesday 10:00am The Story Continues

Thursday 9:30am What Love Is by Kelly Minter

What Love Is, a 7 session study of 1, 2, & 3 John, encourages you to remain faithful to the truth. You will be challenged to look at contrasting themes such as walking in the light instead of darkness, truth versus lies and deception, loving God more than loving the world, and the meaning of true fellowship and community rather than shallowness.

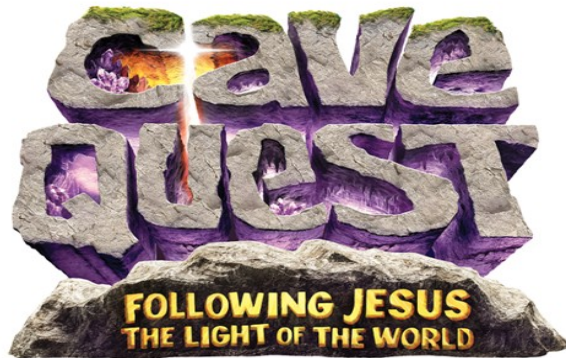


**THRIVE  
AT  
VPC  
PENTECOST 2016  
MAY 15 worship**

*"The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ. For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink." 1 Corinthians 12: 12-13*

*As the gift of the Holy Spirit caused the disciples to become afire with the message and building up of the Church, we come together to celebrate and explore where we can thrive, not just survive. Each person within the body at Venice is a precious part of God's calling and purpose. Join us as we proclaim:*

***This is God's Church. Because of God's grace I can say This is my Church. It is composed of people just like me. We make it what it is. It will be friendly if I am friendly. The pews will be filled if I help fill them. It will do great work if I labor with God's help to accomplish His tasks here. It will make good gifts to great causes if I give as God wants me to give. It will be a church of loyalty and love, of fearlessness and faith, and a church of a noble spirit, if I who help to make it what it is, am filled with these things. Therefore, by faith in Christ who calls me into His service, I dedicate myself to all the things God wants the Church to be. Then truly, I can say that this is my Church, Christ's Church, the Church that I love. Amen.***



## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Venice Presbyterian Church will be hosting Bible School the week of **July 25-29 from 9 – 11:45 am**. Bible school is for children ages 4 years old to kids going into the sixth grade. Junior and senior high youth are encouraged to help as leaders. At Cave Quest, kids explore what it means to follow Jesus through dark times. Kids participate in memorable Bible-learning activities, sing catchy songs, play teamwork-building games, make and dig into yummy treats, experience one-of-a-kind Bible adventures, make fun cave-crafts, see Bible Memory Buddies to remind them of Jesus' love, and test out Sciency-Fun Gizmos. Plus, kids will learn to look for evidence of God all around them through something called God Sightings. Each day concludes with a Cave Quest Closing that gets everyone involved in living what they've learned.

On-line registration began on April 20th and forms will be available in the church office to register also. If you are willing to help or have any questions, please contact **Gayla Young at 738-3708**. Bible School is an awesome mission outreach to the children of our area. Please plan to be a part of the excitement.



RAMM has been reorganizing and planning all winter on events we will be hosting this year. We have a new Board of Directors in place and are excited about the coming year. RAMM is in the process of becoming a 501c3 organization and donations will be tax deductible. RAMM has provided **10** local families this year with rent and utility assistance. Your donations make a huge difference.

We will be looking for volunteers to help out with these events, and for our first events are asking for single serve donations of bottled water, juice boxes, popcorn, chips, fruit snacks, etc. We will have a bin outside the Sanctuary marked “RAMM”. You may also donate money to RAMM to purchase these items.

If you would like to volunteer for any RAMM events, please contact Pastor Jan, Debbie Schwab or Michelle Schwab

Thank you for your continued support of RAMM!

**Upcoming RAMM events:**

**June - Party in the Park at Venice Gardens and Town & Country**

**August 6 - Back to School Event**

**October 15 - Dare to Care at Brown's Farm**

## **Deacons Activity**

**Sunshine** – Shirley Hamilton sent 6 Easter, 2 Get Well, 1 Sympathy, and 2 Thinking of You cards to members of our congregation. Judy Bohne sent flowers and visited several members.

**Community Needs** – The Deacons provided 1 food basket to a needy family this month. Also, Dave Wheat provided Easter baskets to 18 community members. The Deacons decided to include a \$25 IGA gift card in each basket. These gift cards were funded from surplus money in the Deacons savings account. Since food baskets have been provided to 30 families already this year, we are running low on all items except canned goods. Please consider donating the following items to rebuild the inventory in our food pantry:

- **Breakfast Foods (cereals, oatmeal, granola bars)**
- **Peanut Butter & Jelly**
- **Pasta and Rice Dishes**
- **Spaghetti Sauce/Chili Sauce**
- **Condiments (ketchup, mustard, salad dressing)**
- **Healthy Snacks (raisins, fruit snacks, fruit cups)**



**Ushers/Greeters** –The Deacons served as ushers/greeters the first Sunday of each month. Carole Wheat solicited other church members to fill the slots the rest of the Sundays. We want to thank all the members who have volunteered to serve as ushers/greeters this month.

**Coffee Hour** – Deacon members supplied goodies the first Sunday of the month. Martha Young solicited other church members to bring in snacks the rest of the Sundays. We also want to thank all the members who have provided snacks this month.

**Upcoming Events** – This year's Graduation Sunday will be June 5, and we will honor graduates with a special recognition during church and a cake during coffee hour. We will soon be soliciting information on this year's graduates.



## **Trustees Report**

Trustees meeting for April:

- 1) Completed the installation of new locks for the Church and Annex.
- 2) Completed bids to clean the drapery in the Sanctuary.
- 3) Bids for sidewalk completion will be taken.
- 4) Plans to complete sidewalk in parking lot made.
- 5) Plans for future development of landscaping discussed.
- 6) Plugs in the hallways downstairs in Church replaced.
- 7) Clean-up day for Church set for May 7 at 9:00am.
- 8) Special thanks to Debbie Schwab for coordinating the new keys for the Church and Annex.





## **Session Report**

Session Meeting for April:

The Session did not have a regular meeting in April.

There were (2) Special meetings held on March 13 and March 27.

March 13: Complete the initial process of Confirmation for four students in this year's class.

1. Andrew Brown
2. Grace Lee
3. Jasmine Ross
4. Jennifer Schwab

March 27: Moderator presented a new member to Session.  
Sandy Peters requests membership at Venice by transfer of membership from Salem Presbyterian Church.





Step up and shoulder your responsibilities. Don't expect others to handle them for you.

Shared by:  
***Lee Steenken***

You are 18,  
time to move  
out!

Shared by:  
***Dave Toler***

You're never too poor that  
you can't afford a bar of  
soap.

Shared by:  
***Sharon Thompson***

- \*Family is everything.
- \*A lady always carries a hanky.
- \*It's not toilet paper, it's bathroom tissue.
- \*Pull up your boot straps and go on.
- \*Never wear white before May 1st or after Labor Day. Easter is the only exception.

Shared by: **Debbie Schwab**

Keep cool-whatever happens,  
falling apart is never helpful.

Shared by:

***Pastor Jan***

Nuture and support  
your children. Read,  
learn, and get a good  
education.

Shared by:

***Sue Pigg***

When Debbie asked us to write something about “words of advice” from our Moms, I really couldn’t think of words. My dad was more the talker in the family and I guess Mom was more the person of action. She has shown her family what it means to sacrifice by giving of her time, her talents, and her love. She is always the first to show up at a time of need. She also has always loved Christmas and I can’t think of that holiday without thinking how special she makes it for the whole family. She spends all year buying “just the right gifts” for everyone, but starts the present opening with the scripture of Jesus’ birth. About a month ago, I got a card from a lady that she works with at the “jail ministry” that she does, that said “Iris was her hero.” A little 85 year old woman who has 17 prison inmates bowing their heads in prayer and attempting to lead them to Christ has to be everyone’s hero. I am so proud to be her daughter. Happy Mother’s Day Momma!

Shared by: ***Gayla Young***



Please keep the following people in your prayers. Let them know we are thinking of them by sending a card, making a phone call, or a visit.

Please keep **Ray and Mildred Miller** in your prayers. PO Box 172, Ross OH 45061

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Please let **Russell “Gene” Oder** know we are thinking of him. Doverwood Village, Room 24, 4195 Hamilton Mason Rd, Fairfield Township OH 45011

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Please keep **Ruth King** in your thoughts and prayers. 4137 Hamilton Cleves Rd, Hamilton OH 45013

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Please keep **Jean Wagonfield** in your prayers. She is currently at Bradford Place in Hamilton. Mailing address: PO Box 703, Ross OH 45061.

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Please keep the prayers going for **Greg and Kim Young**. 3908 Ficus Ct, Hamilton OH 45013

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**Gary Butterfield**, nephew of Wilma Butterfield could use prayers as he battles multiple health issues. 7452 New York Way, Dayton OH 45414

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Please keep **Viola Powell** in your thoughts and prayers. 2135 Noble Ave, Hamilton OH 45015

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Please keep **Ginny Schradin** in your thoughts and prayers. 2993 Acer Ct, Hamilton OH 45013

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Please keep **Becca Asher**, daughter of Sue Pigg in your prayers for good health. 2861 Minton Rd, Hamilton OH 45013

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Please keep **Clydene Spangler** in your prayers for recovery from surgery. Send a card to: 2256 Bella Vista, Fairfield OH 45014



2 - Tina Ozias  
7 - Tad Adams  
9 - Shirley Hamilton  
10 - Rick Wepler  
13 - James Dillaman  
14 - Ellie Boyle  
15 - Carole Wheat  
15 - Kim Young  
15 - Jennifer Strube  
17 - Kara Brandenburg  
21 - Ralph Guenther  
30 - Chris Young

**May 9**  
**John & Sue**  
**Pigg**

**May 17**  
**Clarence & Nancy**  
**Bohne**

**May 22**  
**Rick & Candy**  
**Wepler**

**May 30**  
**Jody & Becca**  
**Asher**

If we have missed your birthday or anniversary, please contact the church office. Thank you.