

Venice View

A monthly newsletter of Venice Presbyterian Church

September 2026

Established 1828



“Love God, Love Others, Make Disciples of Jesus”

Venice Presbyterian Church

4244 Layhigh Road

PO Box 41

Ross, Ohio 45061

Phone: (513) 738-1317

email: churchoffice@thevenicechurch.com

www.thevenicechurch.com

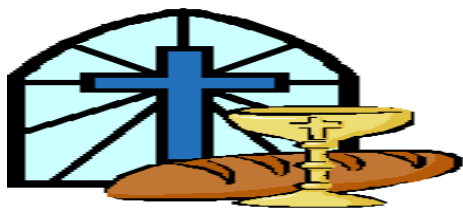
Adult Sunday School - 9:00 am

LOFT - 9:30 am

Worship Service- 10:30 am

Junior Church - during worship

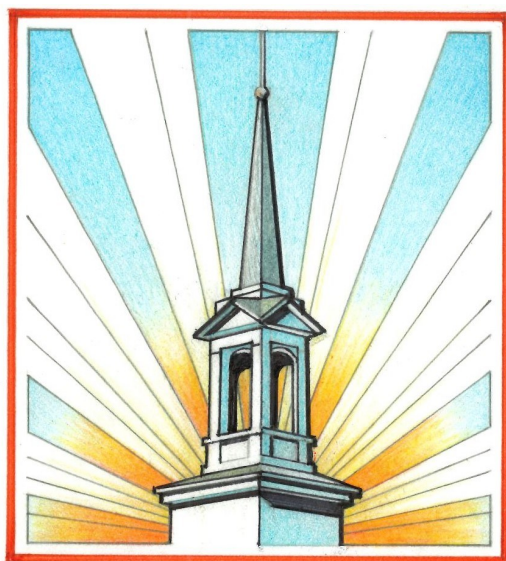




The Sacrament of Holy Communion
will be celebrated on:

September 6

Please “Like” our
Facebook page.
Venice Presbyterian



Instagram
venicepresbyterianchurch

Venice Presbyterian Church
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Pastor
Rev. Owen Derrick

Administrative Assistant
Carol Gilmore

Youth Director
Beth Ziepfel

Choir Director
Theresa Bailey

Music Accompanist
Max Kreeger

Audio/Visual
Owen Ziepfel

Custodian
Larry Hayes

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

HAPPY
September

MAY YOU EXPERIENCE THE
UNFAILING LOVE OF GOD,
COMFORTING AND SUSTAINING
YOU IN EVERY SITUATION.

THINKABOUTSUCHTHINGS.COM



Pastor's Musings

Language is always moving. Words that once meant one thing may take on a new meaning over time. We see this in everyday conversation, in the news, on social media, and even in the church. Sometimes these changes are small and harmless. Other times, they reveal deeper shifts in what people value, fear, or hope for.

For example, some shifts can be confusing: a word like “bad” may be used to mean impressive, “literally” may be used for emphasis rather than exact fact, and “follow” may now mean subscribing to someone online rather than walking behind them, as the illustration at the end of this article playfully reminds us. Other shifts can sound harsh: words such as “judgment” or “sin” may carry a tone of condemnation to modern ears even when Christians intend discernment, accountability, or the hope of repentance and forgiveness. Still other shifts can be humorous: “awful” once suggested being full of awe, “nice” once carried meanings closer to foolish or overly particular, and “tablet” may bring to mind stone commandments, medicine, a writing pad, or an electronic device depending on the listener. One youngster was particularly impressed that Moses descended from Mount Sinai having been given two iPads by God!

For followers of Christ, this reminds us that communication is not merely about choosing the right words. It is about seeking understanding, speaking truthfully, and listening with love. Scripture calls us to use speech that builds up rather than tears down. Ephesians 4:29 teaches that our words should be “good for building up,” giving grace to those who hear. That instruction is especially important in a time when words can travel quickly and be misunderstood just as quickly.

Changing language can also challenge the church to pay attention. If our neighbors understand certain words differently than we do, we may need to explain ourselves more clearly. Words such as grace, sin, justice, truth, love, and freedom carry rich biblical meaning, but they may also carry assumptions shaped by culture. Rather than becoming frustrated, we can see this as an opportunity to speak the gospel with patience and clarity.

The early church faced a similar challenge. At Pentecost, people from many nations heard the good news in languages they could understand. The miracle was not only that words were spoken, but that meaning was received. That is still our calling today: not to win arguments with clever language, but to bear witness so that others may hear, understand, and be drawn toward Christ.

Of course, some meanings should not be changed lightly. The church is entrusted with words that point beyond fashion and opinion: God’s mercy, Christ’s resurrection, forgiveness, repentance, holiness, and hope. We may find fresh ways to explain these truths, but we do not improve them by emptying them of their substance. Faithful communication holds together both compassion and conviction.



So as language changes around us, let us be neither careless nor fearful. Let us listen well. Let us ask what people mean before assuming the worst. Let us choose words that are truthful, gracious, and understandable. Above all, let us remember that the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, is the meaning we proclaim. In Him, God has spoken clearly, lovingly, and faithfully to the world.



Ushers

1st Sunday Youth Group
2nd Sunday Deacons
3rd Sunday Men of the Church
4th Sunday Women of the Church

*Lee Steenken will call on usher
volunteers according to this
General Usher Schedule.*

Worship Assistants

September

06 Emily Eberwine
13 Dan Young
20 Jerry Lutterbie
27 Sue Pigg

October

04 Lee Steenken
11 Jan Krier
18 Gayla Young
25 Jerry Rohrer

Communion Preparers

September 6 Joy Minks
October 4 (World Communion) Kim Young

Trustee of the Month

September Becky Berling
October Pete Berling

Attendance

July

02..... .73
12..... .72
19..... .63
26..... .61

August

02..... .64
09..... .61
16..... .86
23..... .48
30..... .74

Thankful for You!

Hello, September!



Please look below and on the following pages for opportunities to participate, serve, and have fun!

Preschool Orientation - Tuesday & Wednesday, **September 1st & 2nd**

Deacons Meeting - Tuesday, **September 1st**, 6pm, Annex

VPP Board - Wednesday, **September 2nd**, 12:30pm, Annex

Choir Practice - Wednesday, **September 2nd**, 5:45 pm
(Every Wednesday)

Communication Meeting - Wednesday, **September 2nd**, 6:30pm, Annex

RAMM - Thursday, **September 3rd**, 6pm, Annex

Trustees Meeting - Tuesday, **September 8th**, 5:30pm, Annex

1st Day of Preschool - Thursday, **September 9th**

Outdoor Worship/Picnic - Sunday, **September 13th**, 10:30 am - 3pm
Heritage Park

Session Meeting - Tuesday, **September 15th**, 7pm, Annex

Coffee Conversation - Thursday, **September 17th**, 9:30am, Annex
(Every Thursday)

JOY Group - Thursday, **September 17th**, Location to be determined

RAMM Food Pantry - Saturday, **September 19th**, 10am-11:30am,
Ross Administration Building

Adult Sunday School - Sunday, **September 20th**, Adult Sunday School, 9am
(Every Sunday)

Bob Evans Fundraiser - Monday, **September 21st**, 7am - 9pm
(Main Street Location, Hamilton)

Dorcas Meeting - Monday, **September 21st**, 1pm, Judy Bohne

Togetherness Meeting - Tuesday, **September 29th**, 1:30pm, Annex

The Venice Presbyterian Church pantry has had many visits throughout the year. We could not help this many families without your generosity and kindness. If you can bring just one item per week from our list of needed items, or would like to make a financial donation for “Venice pantry” to purchase needed items, it would be a great help.



1. Jelly & Peanut Butter
2. Cereal
3. Canned Meat (tuna, chicken)
4. Canned Pasta Meals and Soup
5. Spaghetti Sauce & Pasta
6. Ramen Noodles

Any questions, please see Dave Wheat or Rick Weppeler.

RAMM
www.rammbutler.org

The next RAMM meeting will be on **Thursday, September 3rd**, 6pm in the Annex.

The RAMM monthly pantry is held the third Saturday of each month, from 10am to 11:30am at the Ross Administration Building. If you would like to volunteer your time or have donations of perishable or non-perishable food items, personal care items, or cleaning supplies, please contact Greg Young at 513-212-7950.

Financial donations are greatly appreciated by cash, check or Venmo to @ RAMM-Ross and Morgan Ministries. Thank you for your continued generosity and support!

Sharing Closet

If anyone would like to help sort and hang clothing, we meet every Wednesday 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Please check with Carole Wheat for additional information.

MISSIONS

The Noisy Offering on Mission Sunday (**4th Sunday**) will be supporting Haven House for the months of **August, September, and October**. On August 23rd, the Noisy Offering totaled over \$91! We rounded that up and sent a check to Haven House for \$100 to purchase ground beef.

Thank you to the congregation for their overwhelming generosity!

There is also a new list of non-food items needed for Haven House:

Baby wipes

Size 5-6 diapers **ONLY**

Size 4-5 pullups **ONLY**

Conditioner: VO5 or Suave, please

Toilet paper

Paper towels

Liquid laundry detergent

Your donations are VERY much appreciated!

Full size (4 oz.) toothpaste is also being collected. The goal is to save at least \$125 toward the cost of packing next year's hygiene bags for Back-to-School. Kroger shoppers are encouraged to take advantage of the \$.99 digital deals on either Crest or Colgate toothpaste (limit 5) that the grocery has been offering one week each month so far this year. If you are not a Kroger shopper, any similar size toothpaste at a good price is certainly welcome! There is a collection box on the side table above the bins in the narthex.

Many, many thanks to all the volunteers from VPC who helped at the Back-to-School Event on August 8th. A huge thank you to Kim Young, who was in charge of backpacks, Tami Adams, who once again facilitated and organized the assembling of the hygiene bags, Carole Wheat and her crew, who organized all the clothing, and Greg Young, who was in charge of games, food, and general set-up.

Collection continues for gently used blankets, socks, and shoes, as well as sorted and flattened plastic bags for community outreach. VPC appreciates non-perishable food items. RAMM also appreciates donations of non-perishable food and personal care items. Beverage tabs may still be donated to Shriners.

Honor a September birthday with a small donation to the Birthday Blessings church. Growing our Birthday Blessings fund will help us spread some love and blessings to children by supporting Harts for Hope this Christmas.



Sept

SUN 30	MON 31	TUE Sep 1	
Youth Sundae Sunday 10:30am Worship 11am Junior Church	Preschool Teacher Setup	Preschool Orientation 6pm Deacons Mtg 7pm Boy Scouts	Preschool Orientation 12:30pm VPP Bo 5:45pm Choir Pr 6:30pm Comm M
6 10:30am Worship 11am Junior Church	7 - No Preschool - Labor Day	8 9am 1st Day Preschool 5:30pm Trustees Meeting Annex 7pm Boy Scouts	9am 1st Day Pre 5:45pm Choir Pr
13 - Heritage Park (Outdoor) 10:30am Worship/Picnic	14 6pm Girl Scouts	15 7pm Boy Scouts 7pm Session Meeting	5:45pm Choir Pr
20 9am Adult Sunday School 10:30am Worship 11am Junior Church 3pm Youth Funday Sunday	21 7am Bob Evans Fundraiser 1pm Dorcas-Judy Bohne	22 7pm Boy Scouts	5:45pm Choir Pr
27 9am Adult Sunday School 10:30am Worship 11am Junior Church	28	29 1:30pm Togetherness Mtg 7pm Boy Scouts	5:45pm Choir Pr

REMINDER: Anytime there are changes or cancellations to our church calendar, changes can be made to the office hard copy and the website calendar. Thank you!

Office Number: 51
Email: churchoffice@theyes.org

ember

VED 2 tion board Meeting practice Meeting	THU 3 6pm RAMM - Annex	FRI 4	SAT 5
9 school practice	10 10:30am Grief Counseling 5:30pm Grief Counseling	11	12
16 practice	17 JOY Group Event 9:30am Coffee Conversation 6pm Girl Scouts	18	19 RAMM Food Pantry
23 practice	24 9:30am Coffee Conversation	25	26
30 practice	Oct 1 Ross Homecoming 9:30am Coffee Conversation 6pm RAMM - Annex	2	3

alendar, please remember to call or email the church office so that the
nks so much!

3-738-1317
venicechurch.com

Preschool News

The preschool staff started back to work on August 18th, and our orientations are September 1st and 2nd. Our students will be starting school on September 8th and 9th. We are looking forward to a year of learning and fun!



In September, we will be getting to know all of our new friends and learning about rules and expectations at school. Students will practice recognizing and writing their names.

We are looking forward to a year full of learning and fun!

Barb, Anna, Tracy and Dana



Parish Life

The next Bob Evans Fundraiser is **Monday, September 21st** at the Hamilton Main Street location, 7am-9pm. Eat in or carryout. Just be sure you let them know when paying.

Thanks to everyone for participating in this Fundraiser. The total for June was \$47, for July \$45, and for August \$44.

Deacons

The next Deacons Meeting will be on **September 1st** at **6pm** in the Annex.

Greetings from your Financial Secretary!

It is hard to believe that we are approaching the last quarter of the year. With that in mind, if you have any questions concerning the status of your 2026 pledge, please contact me either by phone (513-616-1924) or email (hlwro707@yahoo.com) and I'll be happy to get the information to you.

Helen Rohrer



I'd like to thank everyone for their calls, care, concerns and prayers. These last weeks have been about the hardest time in my life. I have a road ahead where I would like to ask for your continued thoughts and prayers. Our prayers here are for a good outcome and a return to good health.

Thank You, Bob Young.

COFFEE CONVERSATIONS **(Thursday mornings @ 9:30 am in the annex)**

“Coffee Conversation” will resume **Thursday, September 17th**. Labor Day is later this year. We are working through ***The God of His Word***. The names of God will be explored and we will discover what those names reveal about God's nature and character. We will also learn that God's love, mercy and care for His creation never changes. The ***God of His Word*** always keeps His word and He promises to always care for you! We will review **Session 1 God of Creation** and begin **Session 2 God of Mercy**. Those of you who have your books, please read those lessons and those who would like to join us, I have books for you. Let me know if you have any questions.

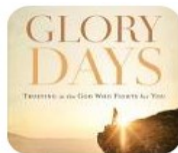


Judy Bohne (513)895-3079

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL **(Sunday mornings @9:00 am)**

Our Adult Sunday School class will start on **Sunday, September 20th at 9:00 am**. We will be doing Max Lucado's ***Glory Days Living Your Promised Land Life Now***.

Synopsis: Life has a way of taking the life out of us. Often we go through situations where the challenge seems so much greater than our strength. During such times, we can find hope and inspiration from the story of Joshua. God is telling us that our best days - our "glory days" - are still ahead of us. We only need to grasp that truth and live in faith to realize the promise.



NOW WHY THE 20TH? Greg and I will be out of town from **September 5 to September 13**.

Kim Young



BOB EVANS FUNDRAISER: Thank you to everyone who participated in the Fundraiser at Bob Evans on Main Street in Hamilton. The next Bob Evans Fundraiser is on **Monday, September 21st**. Same as before: All day **7 am - 9 pm** at the Hamilton Main Street Bob Evans, dine-in or carry-out, show printed flyer, flyer on your phone, or tell them when paying at the register. We get 15%. Thank you for supporting this fundraiser.



CHURCH OUTDOOR WORSHIP AND PICNIC

Be sure to mark your calendar for the annual church outdoor worship and picnic to be held on **September 13, 2026** from **10:30 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.** It will be held at Heritage Park again this year. Chicken, drinks, and service ware will be provided, but each family is asked to bring a potluck dish to share. There will be more information as we get closer to September.

JOY (Just Older Youth) Group

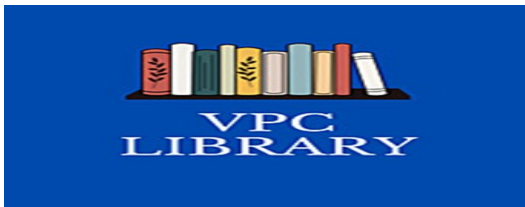


We truly enjoyed our breakfast at Toast and Berry and the Doscher Candy Factory tour in

Newtown, Ohio. Our food was delicious and the tour of the factory was interesting. It was amazing to watch the process of how those candy canes are made. As of this newsletter, the September event is not planned. I am trying to get a tour together of the Lavender and Blooms Event Center and Factory, but do not have that scheduled yet. Please watch your weekly bulletin and listen for announcements of the September JOY group outing. Mark your calendar for the 3rd

Thursday in **September** which is the 17th. We will plan to have good food, great fun, and wonderful fellowship





The Venice Church Library is open for business! First of all, thank you to everyone whose generosity has made the library possible. Over the past few months, donations of books, shelves, and money through the noisy offering have meant that our shelves are well stocked. There are some wonderful books available to be checked out. Feel free to come into the library and look around - and if you are not in a hurry, have a seat and read a book. We have a beautiful carpet for the wee ones.

Checking out books - there is a link to the library catalog on the Venice Presbyterian Church [website](http://www.thevenicechurch.com) www.thevenicechurch.com. Feel free to peruse the collection. To keep check out simple, there will be a 3-ring binder on the white table. Please write the title of the book, your name, and the date of checkout. When finished, please place the book in the basket below the table and enter the check-in date in the binder.

If you have questions, suggestions for books or other library related matters, please feel free to contact me - Dianne Derrick (dkhderrick@gmail.com).



BIRTHDAYS



01	Sabreena Cherrington	19	Karlana Boyle
03	Julia Ziepfel	20	Theresa Bailey
05	Diana Vereker	20	Kevin Unwin
06	Eddie Guenther	23	John Kahmann
07	Clif Bailey	24	Ben Tweedt
13	Nancy Bohne	25	Sharon Thompson
13	Garrett Boyle	26	Jody Asher
13	Michelle Schwab	26	Tom Licata
14	Robert Bailey	28	Marcia Collinsworth
16	Jennifer Guenther	29	Mari Courtney
18	Kirk Hamilton	29	Mike Tragesser
18	Monica Schwab	30	Gideon Davis



ANNIVERSARIES

- 02 Robert and Theresa Bailey
- 11 Tad and Tami Adams
- 13 Mike and Missy Jo Peacock

Anyone wishing to explore any of the following should let pastor know they are interested:

- **New members** - if you aren't a member at VPC but would like to find out what membership entails.
- **Confirmation** - anyone who hasn't been confirmed yet, or who wants to know what that means.
- **First Communion** - normally for children who haven't been taking communion. (Here at VPC, I work on the "open table" principle where anyone can take Communion, including children who have not received instruction yet. Nevertheless, even if a child has been taking Communion, learning about it and why we do it is still important.)

Classes will be arranged once we know who will be involved.

Prayers

**** Prayers for Kara Brandenburg, Wilma Butterfield, Marcia Collinsworth, Kenley Commins, David Garrett, Ruth Guenther, Pat Jackson, Jan Krier, Kylee Phillips, Nancy Renner, Carolyn Richardson, Bernice Roop, Debbie Schwab, J.T. Swartzel, Rick Wepler, Jane Wickert, Joan Wright, and Bob Young.**

****Ongoing Love offering** for Debbie Schwab and her family. If you would like to give, please write "Debbie" or "Schwabs" on your giving envelope. **Prayers and cards are especially needed at this time.**

