

Venice View

A monthly newsletter of Venice Presbyterian Church

May 2025

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:

May 4th

Please “Like” our
Facebook page.
Venice Presbyterian
Church!



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P.O. Box 41
Ross, OH 45061

Office Hours
Monday-Friday
9:00 am - 12:00 pm

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Website
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STAFF

Pastor
Rev. Owen Derrick

Administrative Assistant
Carol Gilmore

Intermediate Youth Director
Beth Ziepfel

Choir Director
Theresa Bailey

Music Director
Ben Tweedt

Audio/Visual
Owen Ziepfel

Custodian
Larry Hayes

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



Blessings
WELCOME
May

May You be *happy*.

May You be *well*.

May You be *safe*.

May You find *comfort*.

May You have *strength*.

May You have *courage*.

May You find *healing*.

May You have *peace*.

May You have *joy*.

May You be filled with loving

kindness.

MAY YOU BE BLESSED TODAY

~Babz

*&
Always.*



From the Manse

As I write this, the weather outside is sunny and warm (relatively speaking.) While that might not normally be all that remarkable as we enter the month of May, this year has already proven itself to be a bit unpredictable as far as weather goes. The uncertainty of winter has left us all, it would seem, keen to move on to embrace the new life of spring. And already I'm hearing people begin to anticipate the basking days of summer. Just a word of cautious wisdom to those going on the Scotland trip in June – Scottish weather is even less predictable than Ohio weather, so there might not be an abundance of basking! Anyhow, before we know it, it'll be Christmas!!

All of this seasonal uncertainty has made me think of the cycles we follow in the church year. There's some comfort in knowing that, no matter what the weather outside may be telling us, the liturgical patterns of the church seasons offer us a framework within which we tell the story of the Good News of how God sent Jesus Christ to redeem a fallen humanity. At the moment, we are in the season of Easter, during which time we hear again the awe-inspiring story of resurrection and new life. With each step we take through the church year, we discover again the boundless grace and mercy shown to us by God. There is never a day goes by that we cannot turn to God and know that there is Good News to be found in the story that is our walk with God.

This focus on the Good News is all the more important the more we realize how much we seem to be surrounded by bad news. It seems that the news media is fixated on bringing us as much of that stuff as it can get its hands on. And we, in turn, seem content to let them feed it to us. For example, I watched with dismay during the coverage of the events on New Years Day this year, when a Tesla Cybertruck was bombed outside a hotel in Vegas. The news outlet looped a 5 second piece of security footage showing the blast, over and over again without interruption, until I realized that I had watched the same truck being blown to smithereens at least a couple dozen times, and I was becoming desensitized to it. I had to snap myself out of it and change the channel.

I don't want to minimize the horror of such events. But I also feel that we are in danger of becoming over-exposed to horror, and as a result we're becoming numb to its effect.

As we begin to enjoy the change in the weather, may the coming of spring serve to remind us of the hope of the Gospel – the Good News that Jesus Christ is risen and that, even in the midst of the brokenness and dysfunction that we see around us in society, God's love extends farther than any bad news can, and God will have the final word – and it is good.

Blessings,

Pastor Owen Derrick

Ushers

1st Sunday	Youth Group	<i>Lee Steenken will call on usher</i>
2nd Sunday	Deacons	<i>volunteers according to this</i>
3rd Sunday	Men of the Church	<i>General Usher Schedule.</i>
4th Sunday	Women of the Church	

Worship Assistants

May		June	
04	Alan Marsh	01	Sue Pigg
11	Jan Krier	08	Kim Young
18	Kim Young	15	Dan Young
25	Jerry Rohrer	22	Brent Guenther
		29	Lee Steenken

Communion Preparers

May 4th	Karlana Boyle
June 1st	Sue Pigg
July 6th	Gayla Young

Trustee of the Month

May	Ron Mienheartt
June	Nancy Bohne

Attendance

March		April	
02.....	87	06.....	79
05.....	38 (Ash Wednesday)	13.....	82
09.....	81	17.....	41 (Maundy Thursday)
16.....	76	20.....	99
23.....	81	27.....	69
30.....	67		

Thankful for You!



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

RAMM Meeting - Thursday, **May 1st** at 6:00 pm

Trustee's Meeting - Tuesday, **May 6th** at 5:30 pm - Annex

Deacons Meeting - Wednesday, **May 7th** at 6:00 pm - Annex

Communications Meeting - Wednesday, **May 7th** at 6:30 pm

Grief Counseling - Thursday, **May 8th** at 10:30 am and 5:30 pm
At Shepherds Ground Coffee Shop

VPP Board Meeting - Tuesday, **May 13th** at 12:15 pm - Annex

Session Meeting - Tuesday, **May 13th** at 7:00 pm - Annex

Parish Life

Our next **Potluck Luncheon** after church is **Sunday, May 18th**. Please bring food to share. There will be a cake honoring the graduates, so please take this in consideration when deciding what food to bring. As always, great food and fellowship! Please mark your calendar and plan to attend.

We are getting closer to having an updated directory available. Please check your current listing to make sure no changes or additions need made. Call Carol at 513-738-1317 for updates to your listing.

If you are bringing bags to church to be made into mats for the homeless, they must **NOT** have any holes in the bags. Please, please check your bags before bringing them to church. Bags with holes need to be recycled. Thank you!

If you want a visit from Pastor Owen, please email him at pastorowen@thevenicechurch.com or call at 513-635-6585

MISSIONS

MISSIONS A huge thank you to everyone who so generously supported the **One Great Hour of Sharing!** As of this writing, just over \$750 has been donated! Your participation in this offering will help thousands of people here in the United States and around the world.

Thank You, Thank You!

Thanks also for your continued support of Haven House, RAMM, the VPC Pantry, Shriners, and community outreach. Your donations provide much-needed necessities in local communities.

If you or a loved one have a May Birthday, please consider honoring that special person with a small contribution to the Birthday Blessings church.

Another way to honor a loved one for a birthday, Mother's Day, or Father's Day, is by purchasing a gift in their name from the Presbyterian Giving Catalog. Take a look! Copies can be found on the side table in the Narthex. As little as \$10-40 can provide tools, seeds, a piglet, or tree seedlings for a family in need.

HELPING HAND



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 Wepler.



RAMM
www.rammbutler.org

RAMM Meeting will be held on Thursday, May 1st at 6pm in the annex.

The RAMM monthly pantry is held the third Saturday of each month, from 10:00 to 11:30 am at the Ross Intermediate School. 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 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. Please check with Carole Wheat for additional information.

MAY

Venice Presbyterian

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed
<div style="text-align: right;">27</div> 9am - Adult 9:30am - LOFT 10:30am - 11am - Junior	<div style="text-align: right;">28</div>	<div style="text-align: right;">29</div> 9am - Coffee with	5pm - Choir 6pm - Girl S 6:30pm -
<div style="text-align: right;">4</div> 9am - Adult 9:30am - LOFT 10:30am - 11am - Junior	<div style="text-align: right;">5</div>	<div style="text-align: right;">6</div> 9am - Coffee with 5:30pm - Trustees	5pm - Choir 6pm - Deaco 6:30pm - 6:30pm -
<div style="text-align: right;">11</div> 9am - Adult 9:30am - LOFT 10:30am - 11am - Junior	<div style="text-align: right;">12</div>	<div style="text-align: right;">13</div> 9am - Coffee with 12:15pm - VPP 7pm - Boy Scouts 7pm - Session	5pm - Choir 6pm - Girl S 6:30pm -
<div style="text-align: right;">18</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; margin-bottom: 5px;">Graduation</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; margin-bottom: 5px;">Potluck Luncheon</div> 9am - Last Adult 9:30am - LOFT 10:30am - 11am - Junior	<div style="text-align: right;">19</div>	<div style="text-align: right;">20</div> 9am - Coffee with 10am - Dorcas 7pm - Boy Scouts	5pm - Choir 6:30pm -
<div style="text-align: right;">25</div> 9:30am - LOFT 10:30am - 11am - Junior	<div style="text-align: right;">26</div>	<div style="text-align: right;">27</div> 9am - Coffee with 1:30pm -	6:30pm -

May 2025 (Eastern Time - New York)

Thu		Fri		Sat	
30	9:30am - Bible 6pm - RAMM-	1	2	3	
7	9:30am - Bible 6:30pm - Scotland	8	9	10	
14	9:30am - Bible 10:30am - JOY	15	16	17	RAMM
21	9:30am - Bible	22	23	24	
28	9:30am - Bible	29	30	31	

JOY (Just Older Youth) Group



JOY (Just Older Youth) Group
A huge thank you to Kim Young for organizing the trip to hear Ben's Trio play at Café Vivace! I heard that it all went well and that Ben was amazing!

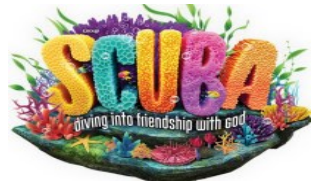
Our May outing will be on

Thursday, **May 15th**. We will be meeting at the church at 10:30 a.m. to go to the **American Sign Museum**. We will plan to spend about 1 and ½ hours in the museum and then go over to Camp Washington Chili for lunch. The cost is \$15 for seniors. If we have more than 15 sign up to go, I can arrange a tour guide. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex or you can email me at gaylyoungfuse.net. Hope you can join us for fun, food, and fellowship.

Supply Needs for Bible School Crafts

The craft department for Bible School is in need of the following items:

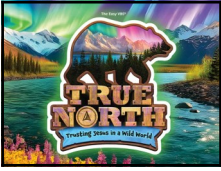
- Yarn (blue or green)
- Small bags of birdseed
- 2 boxes of sandwich bags



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWSLETTER

May 2025

Calling all VBS volunteers!

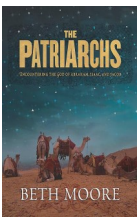


This year's VBS, TRUE NORTH - Trusting Jesus in a Wild World is quickly approaching and we need your help! VBS will take place June 2 - 6 from 9:00-11:45 am. We have station leaders, but are in need of lots of other helpers. Please contact Beth Ziepfel if you are able to help out. Beth: givemeaz303@gmail.com or 513-490-5048.

We could also use some help the week prior to transform the church into an Alaskan wilderness! Gayla Young is heading up the decoration and set up crew the week of May 25. Stay tuned for times.

Adult Sunday School

Adult Sunday School will continue to meet in the annex at 9am on May 4, 11, and 18th to finish up Ray Vander Laan's, *Clash of the Kingdoms*. See Kim Young for more Information.



Coffee Conversations

Coffee Conversations is continuing working through *The Patriarchs* by Beth Moore. Feel free to join us Thursday mornings at 9:30 in the annex. See Judy Bohne for more information.

Junior Church

The children did a fantastic job singing during worship on Palm Sunday. Thank you to Gayla Young for all her work in putting it together and to the kids and their parents for the extra practice. Our children are a real blessing! Junior church continues working through the *Character By God's Design* curriculum.

Youth Group L.O.F.T. = Living Our Faith Together through service, study, prayer & fun! Please contact Beth Ziepfel for more information about LOFT or if you have service project ideas. See below for this month's activities! Beth: 513-490-5408 givemeaz303@gmail.com

May

- **Saturday, May 3 - Wolf Creek Wolf Habitat**
 - Meet at VPC 10:15 am
- **Sunday, May 4 LOFT 9:30am**
 - Youth will usher/greet this week
- **Tuesday, May 6 - Service Night at the annex**
 - 6 - 7:30 - pizza and work on service projects
- **Sunday, May 11 LOFT 9:30am Mother's Day**
 - Cook, serve and clean up Coffee Hour: Mother's Day menu: casseroles, fruit, donut holes
- **Sunday, May 18: LOFT 9:30am**
- **Sunday, May 25: NO LOFT**

LOFT Living Our Faith Together



May Preschool News



We will be wrapping up the 2024-2025 school year at the end of this month. We are grateful for this year with our students and all of our wonderful families. We are proud of our students and how much they have all grown since September.

This month we will be reviewing what we have learned this year and getting ready for our parent conferences. We will be making the handprint t-shirts for our students to wear to our graduation ceremonies at Hanover Park on May 28 and 29. The last day for teachers is Friday, May 30. Have a great summer!



Deacons News



It's hard to believe that it is almost graduation time! We will be planning our graduation celebration on **Sunday, May 18th**. If you are a graduate or if you have a child or grandchild graduating, please let us know. Send a short bio to either Helen Rohrer's email (hlwro707@yahoo.com) email or to the church office churchoffice@thevenicechurch.com). Please submit this info by April 20. If you have any questions, please see any of the Deacons.

The Deacons next meeting will be **May 7th at 6 pm**.



PRAYERS

Please Pray for Brayden Bastin, Wilma Butterfield, Kenley Commins, David Garrett, Nick Guenther, Ruth Guenther, Dale Hanson, Pat Jackson, Donna Marsh, Kylee Phillips, Nancy Renner, Carolyn Richardson, Debbie Schwab, Monica Schwab, J.T. Swartzel, Rick Wepler, Rosemary Wisecup, Joan Wright, and Jackie Yust.

****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.**

Thanksgivings

Thank you very much for the prayers, cards, flowers, food and visits. I greatly appreciate my loving/caring church family for all you do. Love you all, Wilma Butterfield

ADDRESS CHANGE:

Mike and Sharon Tragesser
454 Millville Oxford Rd.
Hamilton, OH 45013

NOTE: They have discontinued rental of their previous
P.O. Box 1

HANDBELLS: There will be handbells practice on the following Wednesdays at 6:30 pm: April 30th, May 7th, May 14th, May 21st, and May 28th. All who are interested are encouraged to attend.



MAY

BIRTHDAYS

- 07 Tad Adams
- 08 Addison Asher
- 09 Shirley Hamilton
- 10 Rick Wepler
- 11 Winnie Ziepfel
- 14 Ellie Boyle
- 15 Andrew Bailey
- 15 Carole Wheat
- 15 Dianne Derrick
- 15 Kim Young
- 17 Kara Brandenburg
- 21 Ann Regan
- 23 Jenny Grubbs



ANNIVERSARIES

- 09 John and Sue Pigg
- 14 Brent and Mandy Guenther
- 17 Clarence and Nancy Bohne
- 22 Rick and Candy Wepler
- 30 Jody and Rebecca Asher



If we have missed your birthday or anniversary, please contact the church office at 513-738-1317. Thank you.

