

# Venice View

A monthly newsletter of Venice Presbyterian Church

January 2020

Established 1828



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

## Venice Presbyterian Church

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Ross, Ohio 45061

Phone: (513) 738-1317

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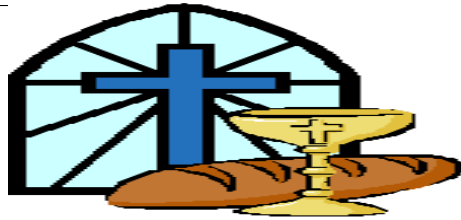
[www.thevenicechurch.com](http://www.thevenicechurch.com)

Sunday School 9:15a

Worship Service - 10:30a

Junior Church - during worship

Youth Group - during worship



*The Sacrament of Holy Communion*  
will be celebrated on:  
**Sunday, January 5, 2020**

***Inside this issue . . .***

Important Info .....	2
Dear Friends.....	3-4
Boards/Events.....	5-17
Calendar.....	18-19

**Attendance**

<b><u>October</u></b>	<b><u>November</u></b>
6.....87	3..... 73
13.....65	10.....74
20.....63	17.....75
27.....80	24.....84

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



**Venice Presbyterian Church**  
4244 Layhigh Road  
P.O. Box 41  
Ross, OH 45061

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

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**STAFF**

**Administrative Assistant**  
Debbie Schwab

**Music Director**  
Ben Tweedt

**Choir Director**  
Sterling Finkbine

**Nursery Attendant**  
Nancy Renner

**Interim Youth Leader**  
Jennifer Lee

**Custodian**  
Mike Schwab

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

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Thank you for a wonderful year!

May God bless you each and everyone and our beloved Venice Presbyterian Church as we begin 2020 and live into the abundant life Jesus Christ brings to us.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

*Pastor David*

Dear Members and Friends of Venice Presbyterian Church,

Our time with David and Brenda Choate is coming to a close. It has been a wonderful year getting to know them and having David lead us in worship. His last Sunday of preaching will be on January 5<sup>th</sup>. We hope you will plan to attend and then join us for a potluck luncheon in their honor after the service. Since his contract ends before we have called a new pastor, we will be having pulpit supply during the months of January and February. Below is a list of the dates and ministers who will be leading worship.

January 12, Rev. John Specht (He will be presenting a play entitled "Regifted")

January 19, Rev. John Specht

January 26, Rev. Amy Arnold

February 2, Rev. Monnie Caine (she will lead us in communion and conduct our annual meeting)

February 9, Rev. John Specht

February 16, Rev. John Specht

February 23, Rev. Amy Arnold

Our schedule for the rest of 2020 will depend on the timing of the hiring of a fulltime pastor. Continue to keep the committee and the church in your prayers as we allow God to lead us in the calling of a pastor. If anyone has a need or has questions during this transition period, please call the church office or one of the Deacons or Elders.

Sincerely and With Christ's Love,

Gayla Young  
Worship Committee

### **Thanks to the Sanctuary Decorating Team**

A big “Thank You” to the team that helped to decorate the Sanctuary for the Advent/Christmas season! Sharon Thompson, Emily Eberwine, Melanie Hanson, Carol Shelton and Richard Bohne all graciously “pitched in”. Special thanks to Jan Krier for creating the beautiful stained glass Nativity scene displayed on the Communion Table as well as for supplying lots of time and “elbow grease”. A special mention goes out to both Dave Toler and Dale Hanson for their “uplifting” assistance without which things would not have gotten off the ground. Thanks to you all for contributing to the joy of this season!

*Lee Steenken*

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### **SHOE BOX CHRISTMAS**

Thank you to everyone that donated shoeboxes for the annual Haven House Shoe Box Christmas! We collected 52 boxes!

The Women’s Group and Candy Weppler greatly appreciate your generosity!

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### **Giving Tree**

We want to thank everyone that gave to the Giving Tree this year. We were able to purchase (27) \$50.00 gift cards to give to families in our community! Thank you for your kindness and generosity!



## JOY (Just Older Youth) Group

A huge thank you to Ruth Guenther for hosting our Christmas potluck get together again this year. We had a wonderful time sharing good food and fellowship! Next month we will be heading to lunch and a movie. We will plan to leave the church at 11 am on Thursday, January 16<sup>th</sup>. I will let you know the movie and restaurant as we get closer to the 16<sup>th</sup>. Our movie selection and time of the movie will determine where we go for lunch. There will be a sign-up sheet for this event and also for people interested in going to see the play “Nunsense” at La Comedia in February. Hope you will plan on joining us for both events. Happy New Year and God’s richest blessing in 2020.

In Christ, Gayla Young (513-836-0020 or  
gaylayoung@fuse.net)

## **Ushers**

### **January**

5th - Youth Group  
12th - Deacons  
19th - Men's Group  
26th - Women's Group

### **February**

2nd - Youth Group  
9th - Deacons  
16th - Men's Group  
23rd - Women's Group

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## **Deacons**

The Deacons will be meeting on January 8th at 6:30pm.

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## **Noisy Offering**

The Noisy Offering is being collected each week as follows:

1st & 4th Sunday - Youth Group  
2nd & 5th Sunday - Church food pantry  
3rd Sunday - School Lunch Program

## **January Preschool News**

Happy New Year! It is hard to believe that it is 2020 already!

### **What are we Learning this Month?**

We will be focusing on Nursery Rhymes this month. Nursery Rhymes are an important part of a child's education. Nursery Rhymes teach preschoolers early reading skills and language development, including rhyming and vocabulary. Repetition of rhymes and stories is good for brain and speech development. Many of the nursery rhymes can be used as short stories, perfect for talking about beginning, middle and end. There is a lot of information available online about the importance of nursery rhymes if you are interested in learning more.

**Blue Class (Mrs. Baker)** – For handwriting, we will work on Jj, Kk and Rr. We will continue to work on counting and identifying those tricky teen numbers. Some of my students are still working on identifying letters and sounds while other students will be working on simple sight words (such as see, like, the) and CVC words (such as dog, cat, sun).

**Red Class (Mrs. Fathman)** – We will learn about the letters K, R and J and the teen numbers. We will work on visual discrimination, clapping syllables in words, and continue to practice patterns.

**Yellow Class (Mrs. Bohne)** – We will explore the letters J, K, and R. We will continue working on shapes and numbers 1-10.

We will be having pajama days at the preschool on January 16 and 17!







Potluck Luncheon on Sunday, January 5th after church. Please bring a covered dish to share. As always, great food and fellowship. We will be celebrating the new year, as well as, the year that Pastor David and Brenda have been here and wishing them well as they end their time with us.

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Dear People of Venice Presbyterian Church,

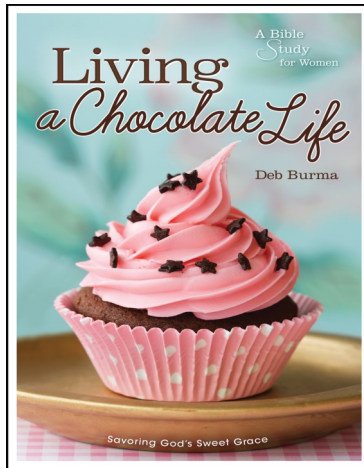
I want to thank Kim and all of you for the gift and the recognition on December 22nd at church. It was so thoughtful of you and the kind words mean so much to me. I am blessed to be a part of this church family and community. However, so many times the things I do are viewed by many and there are so many of you who are the behind the scenes people doing so much work! Thank you to each of you for all you do to make Venice Presbyterian Church what it is. It takes all of us working together to show God's love. I pray for continued strength and cohesiveness during this time of transition. We all need to continue to support each other and pray for God's guidance as we move forward in the coming year. Much love to each of you and Happy New Year!

*With love, Gayla Young*

## **Christian Education**

### **Thursday Morning Bible Study**

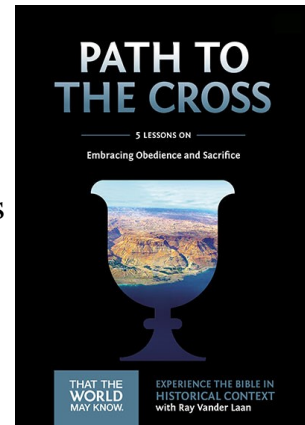
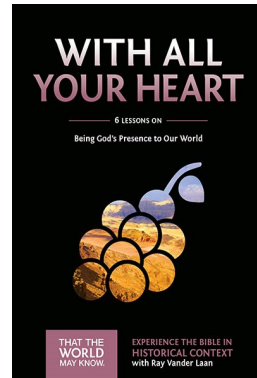
Judy Bohne will begin her next study on Thursday, January 9<sup>th</sup> and is called *Living a Chocolate Life* by Deb Burma. Fun, friendly, and engaging, Burma's study invites women to savor God's rich and endless supply of grace in Christ. Whether they're sampling everything from bitter nuggets of pain to sweet morsels of joy, this study reminds readers that the Holy Spirit fills them with sweet faith in the Savior and it is only He who can truly satisfy. Written with a fun chocolate theme, each session focuses on one aspect of life as a Christian woman, encouraging readers toward introspection and personal reflection.



## ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

### **Adult Sunday school.**

The adult class is continuing with Ray Vander Laan's *With All My Heart, Being God's Presence to Our World*. This video series has been one of the best received by the great teacher, Ray Vander Laan. We are going to repeat the first section on January 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> because several attendees were out of town. It is the single best video on the Ark of the Covenant and we encourage many to attend these two Sundays. Kim is having shoulder surgery so we will be off the rest of January. She will try to be back by February 3<sup>rd</sup> and we will be starting Ray Vander Laan's series *Path to the Cross*. We'll discover how the passionate faith of followers prepared the way for Jesus and his sacrifice on the cross. Then, be challenged in your own life to live as they did.



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## CHILDREN'S CHURCH

*Deep Blue* will continue through the winter and spring for Junior Church. The children enjoy the curriculum that has videos, activities and Bible lessons. Thank you to all our volunteers who teach!



The Venice Presbyterian Church pantry has had **245** visits this year. Your donations are serving 20-25 families a month at the church. 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. Pork & Beans
6. Spaghetti Sauce & Pasta



Any questions, please see Dave Wheat or Rick Wepler.

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### **RAMM**

RAMM meetings are held the first Saturday of each month at Venice Presbyterian church annex at 9:00am. All are welcome! Please join us!



The RAMM monthly open pantry is held the third Saturday of each month, from 10am to 12pm, at the Ross Schools Administration Building, room 101. The monthly fresh market open pantry has had **385** visitors through December 2019. If you would like to volunteer your time or have donations of perishable or non-perishable food items, or personal care items, please contact Greg Young at 513-212-7950. Thank you for your continued generosity!

We thank everyone that sponsored families for Christmas and the many donations to help provide meals. We helped provide Christmas for 75 families this year!

RAMM now has a website! **[www.rammbutler.org](http://www.rammbutler.org)**



We presented a check on Christmas Eve to the Asher family for \$1,150.00! We will be continuing the “Love Offering” for Jody and Becca Asher and family the next few weeks. Please place donation in a pew envelope and write “Asher”. Please place with regular offering. Thank you for your generosity.

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#### **Charitable Giving for 2019:**

Throughout the year, our church members and friends give beyond their normal Sunday offering to various activities and individuals. It is surprising the amount of support that our church gives in a year. The following is a summary of that support that goes through checking account. This does not include all the food, clothing, household items, and other financial support that is given by individuals and organizations within the church.

Apportionment: \$4,270  
Evangelism Events: \$890  
Giving Tree: \$884  
RAMM: \$1,352  
Ross School Lunches: \$353

Back to School Event: \$225  
Food Pantry: \$331  
Love Offerings: \$4,139  
Rescue Me Ministries: \$408  
Youth Group: \$901



### Children's Christmas Play 2019 The Inn Crowd

Characters: Inn Keeper: Will Lee, Inn Keeper's son: Nicholas Meyer,  
Guests at Inn: Addison Asher, Kaylee Gray, Jasmine Ross, Kaylee Meyer  
and Ellie Boyle

Celebrity: Grace Lee, Wool Salesman: Lisa Brandenburg, Tax Collector:  
Amy Brandenburg

Mary: Emma Asher, Joseph: Dyllan Brandenburg

Shepherds: Aubree Guenther, Aubree Spille, Kyler Gray, Emmilou Easter,  
and Drake Miller

Sheep: Eddie Guenther and Zoey Guenther

The children's musical, *The Inn Crowd* directed by Gayla Young, was absolutely adorable. We had a packed house and everyone loved the effort by all the youth from teenagers to our little lambs. We had 20 children participate! Thank you to all who helped with scenery too.

## **Youth Group**

December was full of lots of fun and many memories were made. Our youth had our Christmas party at church and then went to the Festival of Lights at the Cincinnati Zoo. They all participated in our Children's Christmas Play that Gayla put on. The kids love to be a part of the play each year!

January will be busy with volunteering at Matthew 25 Ministries and having a Lock In with other youth from the Ross area!

Our youth has decided on what they want to do in 2020! Their list includes volunteer work, fundraising and of course fun activities! They are also wanting to repaint our youth room and update our logo (while keeping the meaning - Living Our Faith Together).

In Christ's Love,  
Jen Lee

## PRAYER LIST

Please continue prayers for Ray and Millie. You may send a card or note to: **Ray & Millie Miller**: PO Box 172, Ross OH 45061

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Please keep **Patty Wurzelbacher** in your prayers as she continues to recover. You may send a card to: 60 Robert Dr, Hamilton OH 45013

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Please keep **Debbie Siekerman and family** in your prayers. You may send a card to: 4104 Hamilton Scipio Rd, Hamilton OH 45013

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Please continue to keep **Donna Marsh** in your thoughts and prayers for healing. Please send a card to: 3217 Morgan Ross Rd, Hamilton OH 45013

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Please keep **Vern Tragesser** in your thoughts. He has moved to Berkley Square. You may send a card to: 100 Capitol Crescent, Apt 111, Hamilton OH 45013

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Please keep **LaVerne Mehl** in your thoughts. She has moved to Fairfield Pavilion. You may send a card to: 5251 Dixie Hwy, Apt. 1115, Fairfield OH 45014

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Please keep **Missy Jo Peacock** in your thoughts and prayers for healing from spinal surgery. You may send a card to: 2220 Morgan Ross Rd, Hamilton OH 45013

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Please keep **Christopher Guenther** in your prayers for healing after being hit by a car on his bike. You may send a card to him at: c/o Ruth Guenther, PO Box 175, Ross OH 45061

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Please keep RHS student **Lyla Brinck and her family** in your prayers. Lyla is now home! You can receive updates on the Facebook page "Lou Lou's Army".

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Please keep **David Schrimper** in your thoughts and prayers. He has been dealing with some medical issues. You may send a card to: 1119 Blackwell Dr, Fairfield OH 45014



# JANUARY

1-1 Barb Ross  
1-4 Bernice Roop  
1-5 Tami Adams  
1-6 Rick Schwoeppe  
1-22 Melanie Hanson  
1-26 Bob Young  
1-26 Donna Marsh  
1-31 Alan Marsh



1-6 Rick and Sally Schwoeppe  
1-14 Keith and Deloris Eby



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