

# Venice View

A monthly newsletter of Venice Presbyterian Church

January 2021

Established 1828



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

## Venice Presbyterian Church

4244 Layhigh Road

PO Box 41

Ross, Ohio 45061

Phone: (513) 738-1317

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

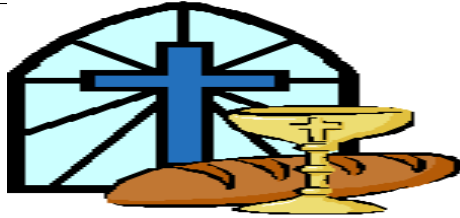
[www.thevenicechurch.com](http://www.thevenicechurch.com)

Adult 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:

**A date will be chosen based on when  
we return to in-person services**

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**Attendance**

<u>November</u>	<u>December</u>
1.....38	6.....33
8.....39	13.....38
15.....40	20.....49
22.....36	27.....42
29.....29	

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*

*Phone*  
(513) 738-1317

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**STAFF**

**Pastor**

Rev. Mary Hayes

**Administrative Assistant**

Debbie Schwab

**Music Director**

Ben Tweedt

**Choir Director**

Sterling Finkbine

**Nursery Attendants**

Nancy Renner  
Jen Guenther

**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.

Hello congregants of Venice Presbyterian Church! I hope that you are all doing well, staying safe, and having moments of joy each day. There are letters on the way to each of your homes. (Mc-Z I am still quickly writing your letters and they will be sent in the next couple of days.) (: I have responded to your information sheets with some of my own questions for you! If you enjoy pen-paling, please feel free to respond via letter! If you prefer texting, calling, or facetime, feel free to reach out those ways! My main free time specifically for pastoral care visits (a virtual office hour) is Tuesday and Thursday 1-5. I am also available by appointment. Please feel free to text or email me to set up an appointment. If there is an emergency, please call my cell phone. If I don't answer, please leave a voicemail and I will call back ASAP.

My first month has definitely not been like any of us expected, with me getting COVID, with the church closing in-person worship, with working mostly from home and virtually. However, over these zoom calls with the worship committee, with the trustees, with the session, and with some of you, the Spirit of God has been moving and bringing us all closer together. Since I have been able to get to know so many of Venice's congregants well over zoom, I am wanting to have a zoom Bible study after worship where whoever joins can ask questions of the prayers from service, the sermon in the service, or anything else that has been on their hearts and minds the past week. If you are interested in joining this new endeavor, please email or text me so I can send the zoom link to you! (:

As this is a new and strange time for worship, there is always changes to be done. Each week Debbie, Bob, and I meet to discuss how we are going to do worship the next Sunday. If you have thoughts, ideas, inspiration, please share them with one of us. We want to make sure worship can be as communal as possible during these days. While we are worshipping in a new way and being active members in a new way, God is still transforming us and our community to serve God as best as we can. Additionally, if you have any feedback for me, please feel free to reach out and share it! (:

All love, peace, and safety to you all!

Love, Pastor Mary



Due to the rapid increase in severity and following recommendations from the Cincinnati Presbytery we have decided to remain closed to “in person” church services until after the next Session meeting (February 11th) when we will examine the issue again.

You can find us on Youtube, under Virtual Services on our WEB page and follow us on Facebook each Sunday for a recorded message.

Donations may be dropped off at the church office, Monday thru Friday, 9:00am to 1:00pm, or you may mail your donation to VPC, PO Box 41, Ross, OH 45061.

# ANNUAL REPORT

The 2020 Church Annual Report has been completed. If you would like a copy emailed, or mailed to you, please contact the church office.

Thanks to all of those who sent many, many prayers, cards, phoned, dropped off food and goodies during my recent hospital stay and recovery afterwards. You are all truly a church family and are appreciated so much. Thanks again.



*Sharon Thompson*

Dear Venice Presbyterian Church,

Thank you for your donation to our Angel Fund accounts. We are serving all students for free until the end of the school year. Your generosity helps us to allow students who may not have the extra funds to purchase a second entrée item or milk.

Again, thank you for thinking of us and giving your support to our children of the Ross Community.

*Sincerely,  
Karen Trousdell  
Food Service Supervisor, Ross LSD*

Thank you so much for all the cards and prayers our family has received. Dad is doing okay. God bless all of you.

*Barb Ross*

Dear VPC Session,

We want to thank you for your kindness and generosity for the gift cards Mike and I received. We greatly appreciate it.

*Debbie and Mike Schwab*

The Venice Presbyterian Church pantry has had **16** visits through January. Your donations are serving 15-20 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. Spaghetti Sauce & Pasta



Any questions, please see Dave Wheat or Rick Wepler.

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### **Deacons**

The Deacons next meeting will be February 3rd. They will be communicating through email for this meeting.

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This will give you an update on the Income vs Expenses for December and the year. Thank you for your continued financial support of the church.

	<b>EXPECTED FOR JANUARY</b>	<b>ACTUAL FOR JANUARY</b>	<b>STATUS FOR THE YEAR vs EXPECTED</b>
<b>2020 PLEDG- ES</b>	0	1,366	+1,366
<b>INCOME</b>	\$12,017	\$11,283	+\$13,261*
<b>EXPENSES</b>	\$17,444	\$15,673**	-\$1,771

\*\$13,950 of 2021 pledges paid in 2020

\*\*Estimated for January

Our income in total for the year is more than our expenses by \$9,560.

Major projects that have been done at the church in January which were not included in the budget are:

Completion of attic cleaning:	\$16,008
Live streaming services:	\$2,214
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$18,222</b>

Anyone who would like to review our full financial report for the month, please contact me.

Dale Hanson  
Treasurer of VPC



### **Ushers**

#### **February**

7th	Youth Group
14th	Deacons
21st	Men's Group
28th	Women's Group

#### **March**

7th	Youth Group
14th	Deacons
21st	Men's Group
28th	Women's Group

### **Worship Assistants**

#### **February**

7th	Tami Adams
14th	Bill Steenken
21st	Greg Young
28th	Emily Young-Eberwine

#### **March**

7th	Dan Young
14th	Kim Young
21st	Jerry Rohrer
28th	Judy Bohne

### **Communion Preparer**

February 7: Alan Marsh

February 17: Jerry Rohrer  
(Ash Wednesday)

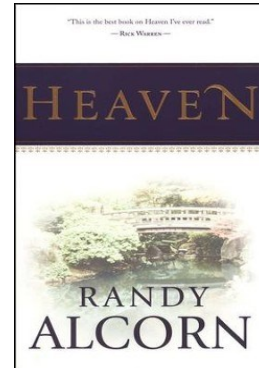
March 7: Bob Young

## **Christian Education**

### **Thursday Morning Bible Study**

Thursday Morning Bible Study will stop until further notice due to COVID.

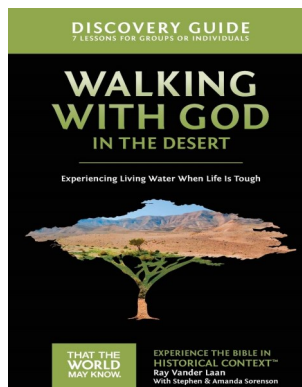
When the Bible Study starts back up, Judy Bohne will finish her study on *Heaven* by Randy Alcorn.



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### **Adult Sunday School.**

Adult Sunday School is on hold due to COVID. When it starts up, we will continue Ray Vander Laan's series *Walking with God in the Desert*.



## **Youth Group**

The Youth Group is meeting on Sundays from 4 – 5:30 at the manse. They have lessons, play a game and eat dinner. They are currently working on Goals in the 4 week series on Wisdom

- Big difficulties can inspire God-sized goals.
  - Goals that came out of our meeting:
  - Re-arrange our youth room, paint and buy LED lights
  - Get a desk for our room where Jen can hook up her computer to the TV so that we can use the TV for our lessons
  - Find other youth groups that we can do activities with.  
Oxford Presbyterian Church
  - You are designed for God-sized goals.
  - God gives us strength to pursue God-sized goals.
  - God-sized goals require God-sized gratitude.

Confirmation classes might begin in the future. Please let Jen Lee know if you're interested in being confirmed. All youth will be welcome to the classes, even if they have been confirmed.

## **Junior Church**

We still have Junior Church, but no attendees at this time.



To all the members of the Session and the members of Venice Presbyterian Church;

Dear Friends,

I just wanted to write to thank you all for the kind and wonderful gifts you presented with me as we prepare to draw to a close this interim time between full-time pastors at Venice Presbyterian. I also give thanks to God and all of you for the opportunity and privilege of sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ. Together with Pastor Amy, and in another week, Pastor Mary, we have been ministered to as well as ministering. I count it a joy to have been allowed to share in the life of many loving, caring, serving Christian communities, not least Venice Presbyterian.

And now I want to share with you one final, open secret! Many of you, as well as many in the congregation mentioned how much they've enjoyed the stories I've shared from my life and experience in the sermons I've preached. There has always been an ulterior motive in sharing these stories, and that is - to encourage all of you to look inside your own life experience to discover (sometimes surprisingly), where God has been active in each of your lives; where the gospel is still unfolding in, through, and around you; and how the Holy Spirit is manifesting in and among you.

Thanks once again, and may God continue to bless you and make of you, the church, a blessing.

*With much love,  
Pastor John Specht*



## **RAMM**

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. We have changed to a “drive-thru” pantry beginning in March, 2020 due to Coronavirus. The monthly fresh market open pantry had **64** visitors in January 2021. 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.

Financial donations are greatly appreciated! Thank you for your continued generosity and support!

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

Our next RAMM meeting will be on Saturday, February 6, 2021 at 9:00AM, at the Venice Presbyterian Church Annex. All are welcome!



## **February Preschool News**

### **2020-2021 Registration**

If you are interested in registering your child for the 2021-2022 school year, please contact us at 738-0158 or [preschool@thevenicechurch.com](mailto:preschool@thevenicechurch.com).

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

Our theme will be Construction this month. Our Bible story will be the Story of Creation.

**Blue Class (Mrs. Baker)** – For handwriting, we will work on Aa, Vv and Gg. 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 CVC words (such as dog, cat, sun).

**Red Class (Mrs. Fathman)** – We will learn about the letters Gg, Aa, and Vv and review the numbers 14, 15, 16. We will work on the colors pink and purple, the heart shape, rhyming and continue to practice patterns.

**Yellow Class (Mrs. Bohne)** – We will explore the letters G, A and V. We will continue working on number recognition 1-10. We will talk about the heart shape, and review the other shapes we have learned. We will also talk about how to be a good friend.

We will be having our Valentine's Day parties at the preschool on February 11 and 12!



2021-2022  
Venice Presbyterian Preschool  
4244 Layhigh Rd  
Ross, OH  
513-738-0158  
preschool@thevenicechurch.com

Ages 3 to 5 (must be potty trained)  
9:15 am - 11:45 am  
2 day morning (Tues and Thurs) \$110/month  
3 day morning (Mon, Wed, Fri) \$130/month  
\$20 non-refundable registration fee

\*Monthly tuition includes a daily snack



### **PRAYER LIST**

Please continue to keep **Ray Miller, Barb Ross and the Miller Family** in your prayers. You may send a card to Ray at: PO Box 172, Ross, OH 45061, to Barb at: 2233 Venice Blvd, Fairfield, OH 45014

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Please continue to keep **Nancy Beckman and Family** in your prayers. You may send a card to Nancy at 2412 Queen Mary Ln, Hamilton, OH 45013

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Please keep **Patty Wurzelbacher** in your prayers for healing. You may send a card to: 60 Robert Drive, Hamilton, OH 45013

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

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Please keep **Amanda Roberson and Nicara Wilson** in your prayers for healing.

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Please keep **Dyllan Brandenburg** in your prayers for healing from surgery. You may send a card to: 3091 Buell Rd, Hamilton, OH 45013

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# February

2-4 Alex Schwab  
2-11 Lee Steenken  
2-11 Amy Brandenburg  
2-12 Kyle Young  
2-12 Ron Mienheartt  
2-15 Dave Wheat  
2-16 Crystal Butterfield  
2-19 Nancy Renner  
2-21 Greg Young  
2-23 Trish Lutterbie  
2-23 Bettie Carmack  
2-25 Jennifer Rauen  
2-27 Deloris Eby  
2-27 Lisa Brandenburg  
2-28 Saralee Young



2-12 Denny and Sharon Thompson



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