

# Connect, Grow & Go

To Glorify God as a Disciple-Making Outpost of Kingdom Life

## Summer at VPC

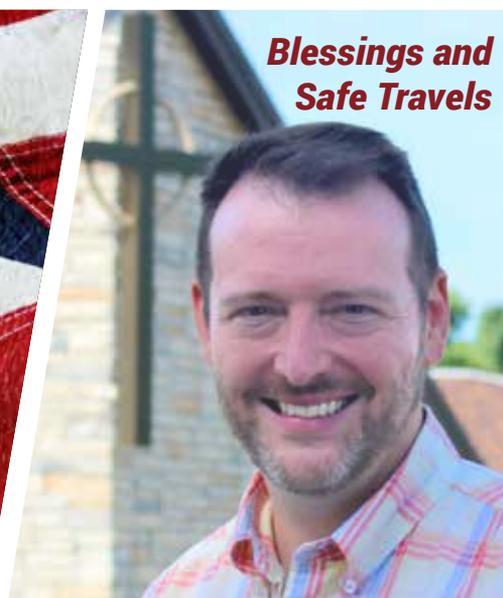


## Here's What's Going on at VPC in June 2018

*Independence  
Day Picnic &  
Worship*



*Blessings and  
Safe Travels*



# ***Our Vision in Action***

## ***To Glorify God as a Disciple-Making Outpost of Kingdom Life***

### **Worship Service Hours**

Sunday, 10:00am

**Memorial Day**

**Church office will be closed**

### **Regular Office Hours**

Monday - Thursday, 9:00am - 4:00pm

Friday, 9:00am - 12:00pm

**Phone** 941-488-2258

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***“Don’t be afraid of change, be afraid of not changing”***

We are very excited to announce the rollover from Church Life/My VPC to REALM, our new Church Management Software! We made the move to REALM for many reasons:



- A more secure platform for your information, not that your information was not secure before, but now you have more control over what the congregation can see because you can edit your own profile!
- A lower cost to the church to manage and maintain the software
- Clear financial statements for staff and the leadership teams who view them frequently
- More information for you on your contribution and pledge status not to mention your very own up-to-date Church Directory always at your fingertips!
- And more!

Anyone who used Church Life/My VPC received an email to sign up for REALM. It requires your email and a new password. Currently, not everyone is able to log on at this time. That is ok! You will receive a second email in the near future.

We have some bugs to work out because we are in the learning and testing phase of this new software. Church Life/My VPC will be available until August! We have time! Be watching for more information!! We are excited for you to come along with us to the world of REALM!!!

*Christine Bruin*

## Letter from Pastor Chris Romig

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Thank you for your prayers and encouragement as I enjoy a sabbatical. Following the model of many churches and Presbyteries, the VPC Session established a sabbatical policy in 2008 so that the church's Senior Pastor could – once every seven years – devote time for spiritual renewal, personal reflection, and family life. My first sabbatical was in 2010 – my seventh year of ministry at VPC – and it brought greater personal transformation and spiritual growth than I could have ever imagined! I again look forward to renewal that God will bring to my life, to my family, and to our church through this gift of sabbath. In addition to traveling with my family, I will be spending these months praying, reading, reflecting, exercising, resting, and discerning how to manage the work of ministry in sustainable, healthy ways. I will also be inviting God to direct any projects that would be life-giving for me during this time—whether it's preparing future sermons or Bible studies, or simply sorting through files that have accumulated over nearly 15 years of ministry at VPC!



The church is in excellent hands. Of course, it's God's hands that hold us all every day. The Session and Staff will be meeting regularly for prayer. Our Executive Director, Chris O'Brien, already manages our staff and leads most of the church's day-to-day operations. Carolyn Wilson and Burke Johnson will be joined by Nick Clemmer and Stephen Ministers in providing pastoral care. Jamal Sarikoki and members of the Worship Committee have planned for an exciting Festival of Worship through the summer. It will be a great season of ministry.

I look forward to returning to full-time ministry with you on Sunday, September 30. We will remain deeply connected through this sabbatical time through the power of prayer. I ask you to pray passionately for our church, for my family, and for me during this time of sabbatical. May this be a time when we all remember that the church belongs to Jesus Christ, who gives us the strength, wisdom, and energy to accomplish ministry and mission in His name.

In Christ's love,  
Pastor Chris

*Christopher Romig*

# Festival of Worship



## **June 3, Dr. Paul Eckel**

Born in Kobe, Japan to a family of teachers and missionaries, Dr. Paul Eckel's ministry has been shaped by mission and evangelism over the past sixty years.

Following thirty years of pastoral service, he preached for fifteen more years in a national ministry of Spiritual renewal, followed by another twelve years as an Interim Pastor.

In the financial crises of 2008 Paul formed BIBLE MISSION USA, a non-profit ministry freely giving God's Word to the homeless and hopeless among us.

Dr. Eckel has translated all the Gospels from Greek into 'Conversational English.' His Spanish Gospel of John has just been published, and is now in use among Latinos who are being introduced to the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

*BIBLE MISSION USA welcomes prayers, gifts, and volunteer services in support of our mission, because we believe in the God who promised:*

*"My word shall accomplish my purpose everywhere I send it."*

*(Isaiah 55:11)*



## **June 10, Cal Thomas**

Cal Thomas began his career working as a reporter for NBC News in 1960 and stayed with the network till 1970. He became a Tribune Media Services syndicated columnist in 1984.

Thomas joined Fox News in 1997 as a political contributor. He was a panel member of the Fox News Watch, a show on Fox News which criticized the media.

Thomas hosted the show for Fox News Channel 'After Hours with Cal Thomas' until 2005. The same year, he also served as a commentator on a daily radio program heard on more than 300 stations.

Thomas has worked as a columnist for the USA today, an American daily Newspaper, from 2005 to late 2015 where he collaborated with Bob Beckel.

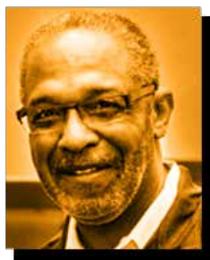
Apart from his journalism career, Cal Thomas is also known as an author. Some of his books are Blinded By Might (1999), The things that matter most (1994), What Works: Common Sense Solutions for a Stronger America (2014) among others.

Thomas received several awards in his career including 'Associated Press and United Press International Award' and 'George Foster Peabody Award.'

# June 2018 Schedule

## June 17, Hymn Festival

Join us as we worship our God through Hymns, Psalms, and Spiritual Songs. We will hear readings from God's word, sing great hymns of the faith, and a special testimony from Jamal Sarikoki, our Minister of Music and Worship, on how music changed his life, and how God used a 92 year old organist to change the path of his faith and calling.



## June 24, Arthur Jackson

In the fall of 2016 Arthur joined the PastorServe team after serving for 28 years on 3 pastoral teams in the Chicago-area including serving as Senior Pastor at Judson Baptist Church. His ministry experience includes mentoring and coaching pastors nationally and internationally. Arthur is a native of Kansas City and holds degrees from Park University (BA) and Dallas Theological Seminary (Th. M). He and his wife Shirley have been married for over 48 years and are the parents of 5 adult children.

# July & August 2018 Schedule

**July 1, Joshua Rasdall**

**July 8, Victoria Millar**

**July 15, Brian Gurl**

**July 29, Carolyn Wilson**

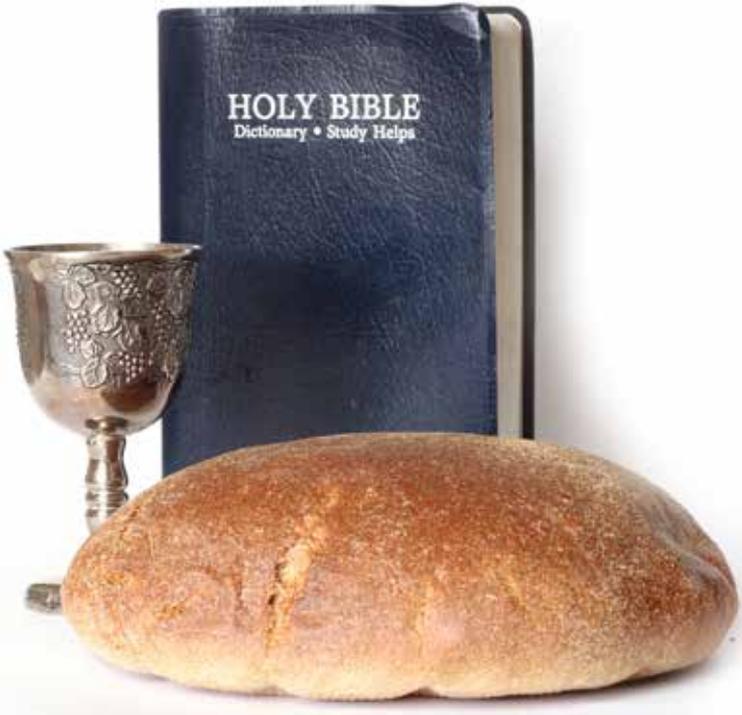
**August 5, Winfred Neely**

**August 12, Jennifer Speer**

**August 19, Steve McConnell**

**August 26, Music of the African American Church**

# Worship Ministry



## **Communion Sunday, June 3**

### **10am Service**

*Served by intinction.*

Please come forward as directed by the ushers. Gluten-free bread is available at the stations between the center and outer aisles. If unable to come forward, please raise your hand and a server will bring communion to you.

*Wednesday morning communion will resume in September.*



## **Sound Installation**

We are happy to announce the completed installation of our new sound system. This system is designed specifically for our space and is meant to deliver sound at an even, pleasant level throughout the room. Along with the speakers, came with a new upgraded soundboard that enhances our ability to refine our recordings and livestream to a professional level.

★ ★ ★ VENICE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ★ ★ ★  
*Presents*

**INDEPENDENCE DAY**

**PICNIC & WORSHIP**

*Sunday, July 1<sup>st</sup>*  
*immediately following the 10am worship service*

**LIVE MUSIC | FOOD | FAMILY FUN | FREE PARKING**

**825 THE RIALTO, VENICE, FLORIDA 34285**

[www.facebook.com/venicepres](https://www.facebook.com/venicepres)

941-488-2258

[www.venicepres.org](http://www.venicepres.org)

# Children's Ministry

## Cedarkirk Day Camp Volunteers Needed

**Monday, June 11th thru the 15th starting at 8:30 until 5:30**

- Volunteers may sign up to do the entire week from 8:30 until 5:30 or half days 8:30 until 12:30 or 12:30 until 5:30
- Volunteers may do a partial week either full time or half days
- Volunteers must be 14 years of age and if between the ages of 14 and 18 need to fill out an application
- Each volunteer will be assigned a "Family Group" with a Cedarkirk counselor
- The volunteers will be playing, teaching and directly involved with the kids
- Snacks and lunches will be provided

All volunteers will need to attend a dinner meeting Sunday, June 10th at the church. Dinner will be provided.

**Contact:**

**Bonnie Parlette** ([btparlette@comcast.net](mailto:btparlette@comcast.net))  
**Bobbie Gilbert** ([richbobbiegil@comcast.net](mailto:richbobbiegil@comcast.net))

We provide Children's Church for children ages K - 5th Grade. Register your child/children in the Narthex before 10AM service. Children will sit with their parents for a portion of worship and will be dismissed at a specific time to join their teachers at the back of the church for Biblically-based teaching. Immediately following worship, parents pick up their children in the Library.

**We are so excited to see the Children's Ministry of VPC start to get some new life!** Our Easter Egg Hunt had over 20 volunteers who welcomed 25 families to our campus to enjoy a day of fun!

When the families arrived, we welcomed them with some time of reflecting on Christ, whose sacrifice is the reason for our Easter Celebration. Then the hunt



began! Around 1000 eggs were hidden by our very own Easter Bunny (Jamal Sarikoki) and his helpers (youth group members) all over campus!! After the hunt was over, families enjoyed being able to have pictures taken with the Easter Bunny, playing games, eating snacks, and doing crafts.

A highlight was the presentation of prize baskets filled with toys and gifts for the kids donated by VPC church groups and individuals. We ended up with over 20 baskets!! Children were thrilled with their princess crowns, water guns, super hero actions figures and more.

More than the success of the event, we are excited to see that there is a lot of potential in Venice to bring in children and families who need the light of Christ in their lives.

# Youth Ministry

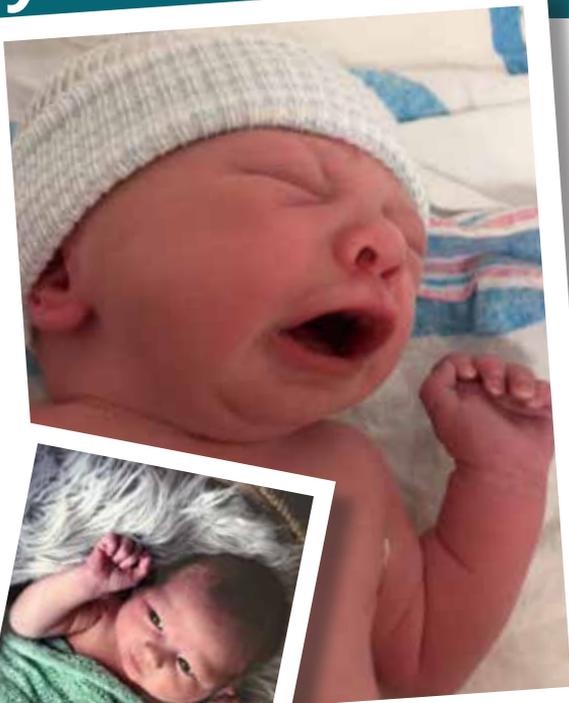
## **Meet Declan...The Red-Haired Wonder**

Congratulations Conrad and Courtney on the birth of your new son, Declan Robert Knepp. His middle name is Robert after his grandfather who is buried at VPC.

Declan was born May 22, just before 8:00 am.

He weighed in at 7 lbs 4 oz. and is 20 inches long. He outweighed his brother, Jameson by almost a pound and was 1 inch shorter.

Conrad is the Director of Youth and A/V at Venice Presbyterian Church and Courtney works in the VPC nursery on Sundays.



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## **The Hub Goes to Camp Anderson**

Camp Anderson is a Christian Retreat and Summer Camp that is centrally located in North Florida on the incredibly beautiful Suwannee River. Programming and Facilities include rustic yet modern, climate controlled accommodations, epically fun activities, exceptional food service and a staff that consists of skilled ministry professionals. What really makes Camp Anderson unique is that the team members have the heart of a missionary and are passionate about partnering to help meet the spiritual needs of our teens. Cost is \$100 pp.

**CAMP  
ANDERSON**

**[www.campanderson.com](http://www.campanderson.com)  
Old Town, FL 32680**

**For more information,  
contact Conrad Knepp  
at [cknepp@venicepres.org](mailto:cknepp@venicepres.org)**

**July 8th at 5:30pm-** Meet at youth room to go over final details for Camp Anderson

**July 9th-13th -** Camp Anderson Trip

# AMERICA

*the beautiful*

## Independence Day Celebration

Tuesday - July 3rd • 7:00 Pm

*Starring*

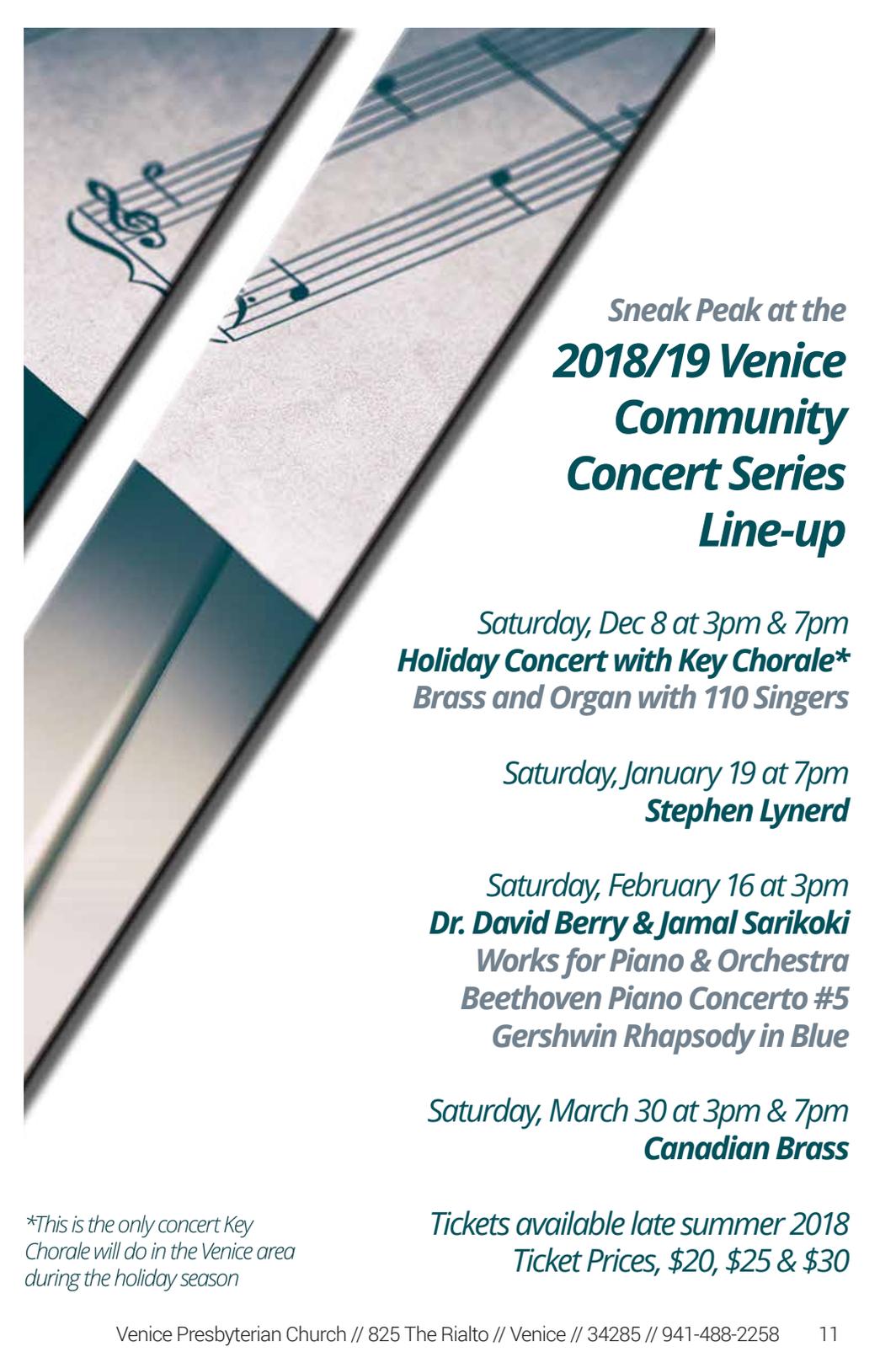
- ★ BRIAN GURL
- ★ KATHERINE ALEXANDRA
- ★ MICHELE PRUYN  
& BAND

Gorgeous voices & exhilarating  
arrangements of songs by Irving Berlin,  
Woody Guthrie,  
Lee Greenwood,  
George M Cohan,  
Elvis and Elton!  
Plus Dueling Pianos!



Venice  
Presbyterian Church  
825 The Rialto

Tickets: At Door  
[BrianGurl.com](http://BrianGurl.com)  
(828) 284-2953  
\$20 per person  
Sundays @ VPC 11-noon.

The background of the entire page is a close-up, angled view of a musical score. It shows several staves with notes, a treble clef, and a key signature of one flat. The paper has a slightly textured, off-white appearance. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

*Sneak Peak at the*  
**2018/19 Venice  
Community  
Concert Series  
Line-up**

*Saturday, Dec 8 at 3pm & 7pm*  
**Holiday Concert with Key Chorale\***  
*Brass and Organ with 110 Singers*

*Saturday, January 19 at 7pm*  
**Stephen Lynerd**

*Saturday, February 16 at 3pm*  
**Dr. David Berry & Jamal Sarikoki**  
*Works for Piano & Orchestra*  
**Beethoven Piano Concerto #5**  
**Gershwin Rhapsody in Blue**

*Saturday, March 30 at 3pm & 7pm*  
**Canadian Brass**

*\*This is the only concert Key  
Chorale will do in the Venice area  
during the holiday season*

*Tickets available late summer 2018*  
**Ticket Prices, \$20, \$25 & \$30**

# Missions

## June 'Moment for Mission' June 10

### Agape Flights

Agape Flight's mission is to provide excellent aviation service delivering cargo, mail and humanitarian aid to missionary partners serving Christ and carrying hope to the nations of the Caribbean.

### MMP ReCap

#### February

The February Monthly Mission partner was the Guatemala Clinic and the Estrada Orphans. A total of \$6,202 was donated by our very generous congregation. The Estradas thank you so very much for this support which will enable them to carry the message of Jesus to those they serve in Guatemala.



#### March

On behalf of 150 very special kids who will be assisted during our July 28 Day 4 Hope, the Mission Team would like to thank the very generous VPC congregation for donating \$12,628 toward this wonderful event. This will enable these precious children to walk into the first day of school with a much better self esteem thereby leveling the field. We hope to see many of you that special day so please volunteer through the VPC web site or by filling out a form available at the welcome center.

#### April

The April Monthly Mission partner, Center of Hope, would like to thank VPC's congregation for the very generous donation of \$5,078. This will enable them to continue to help those less fortunate children of God in the north Venice and Nokomis area get over some very rough patches in their life. Unfortunately, in this area, there is a considerable need and VPC continues to help fill that need.



June 16, 10am - 1pm  
Fellowship Hall  
3rd Sat. of the Month  
There will be no Buddy  
Break in July.



### 3 Cents A Meal

On the last Sunday of every month, your spare change is collected and distributed evenly to our four local food pantries. Through your donations Center of Hope, Community Assistance Ministries, South County Food Pantry, and All Faith's Food Bank have received over 17,000 pounds of food to local families in need. On **Sunday, June 24**, please visit Christine Hart at the table in the Narthex and exchange or pick up a food container. Every penny counts.

# VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

JULY 28, 2018

VENICE  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH  
825 The Rialto  
Venice, FL



## DAY 4 HOPE

Community Outreach Program

Volunteers needed to make this day a success!

Be a part of this amazing outreach program by serving as a Day 4 Hope ambassador. Ambassadors are a pivotal part of the success of Day 4 Hope as they greet the children and parents, lead them through the process and interact with the families in a warm and friendly manner. We are currently in need of over 200 adult volunteers. This is a rewarding and fulfilling opportunity for all involved. Mandatory training with dinner will be provided one week prior.

Carolyn Wilson  
Director of Connection  
and Outreach  
cwilson@venicepres.org  
941-488-2258  
ext 124



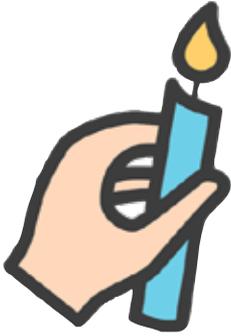
DENTAL CHECK-UP

MEDICAL EXAM



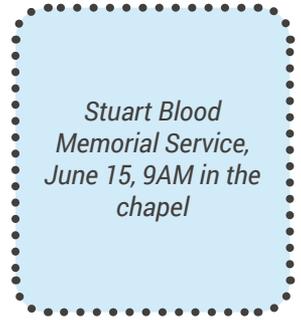
HAIRCUT

# Care & Compassion .....



## **Prayer Groups**

Please submit any special prayer requests to our prayer groups through the website, [www.venicepres.org](http://www.venicepres.org). We have active groups that meet on a regular basis and hold your needs in their hearts and minds during prayer.



## **Memorial Service/Receptions**

Memorial Services are a special way to remember those we love. After services, it is common for the family to want to spend time visiting and reminiscing with each other. VPC offers a reception serving cookies and coffee after each memorial service so that families are able to visit with their loved ones. Volunteers are currently needed to assist in the reception area.

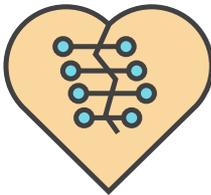
**Connie Sayers, [csayers@venicepres.org](mailto:csayers@venicepres.org)**

## **Planning the Party**

Pre-planning your Christian funeral or memorial service is one of the best ways to help your family during their difficult time of grief and loss. By leaving them specific information regarding your own personal desires, you will greatly ease your family's burden of making decisions and trying to guess what you would have wanted.

**Connie Sayers, [csayers@venicepres.org](mailto:csayers@venicepres.org)**

## **Stephen Ministers**



Will you ever overcome these feelings of pain and sorrow? A trained Stephen Minister would like to be there for you, to listen and care as you sort through your feelings. Please call *Lois Armstrong 496-9414, Marcia Bickmore 488-9379, Laura Saye 269-339-5907, or Pastor Burke Johnson 488-2258*

## **Knit One, Pray Too**

Shawls and baby hats are knit by a group of ladies. Upon completion, a final blessing is offered before the items are sent on their way. The blessing ripples from person-to-person, with both the giver and receiver feeling the unconditional embrace of a sheltering, mothering God!

**Mondays, 12pm - 2pm, Room 9**



***New Member Class Dates Announced  
Tuesday's October 16th through November 13th***

VENICE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*Beginning the*  
**JOURNEY**

5 WEEK NEW MEMBER CLASS

**2018 FALL SESSION**

October 16      November 6  
October 23      November 13  
October 30

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one-time cost

— • **\$10** • —

*for the entire five week series including dinner*

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5:30PM - 7PM  
FELLOWSHIP HALL

SAVE THE DATES  
REGISTRATION WILL OPEN LATE SUMMER

825 THE RIALTO | VENICE, FLORIDA 34275 | WWW.VENICEPRES.ORG

**Connection** .....

***Monday Night Men (MnM)***

All men welcome  
*6pm - 7pm, Glass House*

***Working Women's Bible Study***

For women of the church and  
friends who work during the  
day.  
*Tues, 7pm - 9pm, Room 11A*

***Men's Discussion Group***

Informal discussion of recent  
church activities and current  
events. All men attending VPC and  
their guests are welcome. Includes  
coffee and breakfast pastry.

*Walt Stewart  
(wahastewart@gmail.com)  
Tues, 8am - 9am, Room 11*

*Save the Dates!*

COMING SUMMER 2018 **VENICE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**



# *Festival of* **WORSHIP**

June 3, Paul Eckel  
June 10, Cal Thomas  
June 17, Hymn Festival  
June 24, Arthur Jackson  
July 1, Joshua Rasdall

July 8, Victoria Millar  
July 15, Brian Gurl  
July 22, Christmas in July  
July 29, Carolyn Wilson  
August 5, Winfred Neely

August 12, Jennifer Speer  
August 19, Steve McConnell  
August 26, Music of the  
African American  
Church

**825 THE RIALTO, VENICE, FLORIDA 34285**

Service Time, Sundays at 10:00am