

FEBRUARY
2025

VANDEBURG METHODIST CHURCH CARRYING THE CROSS



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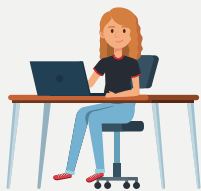


COMMUNITY & MISSION OUTREACH

As we continue to move into 2025, let us be thinking and praying about how God wants us to serve our community through Mission & Outreach. Matthews' gospel reveals "Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit," (Matthew 28:18-19)

If you have a heart to serve others, we invite you to make plans to attend the upcoming Outreach meeting on Tues. Mar. 11. Whether planning events to expand our community outreach, or donating to meet the needs of other local organizations and ministries, we want your ideas!

Please see Pastor Melanie if you have questions or to let her know you want to attend!



From The Pastor's Study

by Pastor Melanie Nichols

February is the month of love.

Some look forward to our secular celebration of the greatest trait the human genome carries – the ability to love others, pets, and the universe. Did you notice that in speaking of Valentines Day I left out the most important aspect of love - the love of God. All of the people of the Jewish faith know what is called “the Shema”. The Shema stands at the center of daily morning and evening prayer services. It is considered by some the most essential prayer in all of Judaism. The Shema affirms God’s infinity and kingship, its daily recitation is regarded by observant Jews as a commandment. We all know this as Jesus’ golden rule...but for the Jews the Shema is found in Deuteronomy 6:4-9

Hear, O Israel: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead, and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

Obviously, this prayer is very important for the people of God. I sense that the reason this “love of God” is so important stems from the truth- all true love begins with God. So important that God commanded His people to love Him and to teach the children to love God with all our heart, soul and with all our might. What we often miss as Protestants is the importance of the spoken word. You see God taught His people to pray this outloud daily! Why? Because God is a god who proclaims to all the world who He is and how great is His love. He is also a God of commitment - He writes a contract with Abraham declaring He has promised to bless Abraham and his descendants. When the Jews proclaim this in their prayers each day they are declaring submission to the King of kings and the Lord of lords. A declaration and promise that goes before the court of heaven! Can you see why God is determined to rescue the Israelite nation? Why God again and again forgives them? Just as He again and again forgives us. And why again and again He shares in His word to forgive and love one another - by this the world will know we are Christians by our love.

Can you see the progression of loving God with all our heart, soul and strength brings about the greatest love from us and extends to others? For if Christ can love us in our sin so much so -that He gives up His life for us - then in response we can give up our life for Him. That is real love. The kind of love that God is looking for that conquers all evil. Let us declare our love of God out loud as often as we can! Happy Valentine’s Day to you all! Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and all your soul and all your strength and love you neighbor (even if they are your enemy) as yourself.

Peace,
Pastor Melanie



VANDEBURG METHODIST CHURCH

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Staff:

Jill Lowe - Office Manager
vanderburgchurch1870@gmail.com
Worship Leader - Lisa Zeggert



@vanderburgofmooreville



Watch our 10:00am services each week on our YouTube channel
[@vanderburgchurch1809](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvanderburgchurch1809) or early in the week on our website.

JOIN US FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Sunday School 9:00 AM hour offers classes for all ages! Choose from any of these classes geared to help you dig deeper in the Word!

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

By Susan Fogleman - Sunday School Superintendent

If the Sunday school attendance book is not in your classroom on Sunday morning, please get it from the secretary's box in the hall. Please return it to the box after Sunday school.

At least two adults per class are needed each Sunday for our children's ministry. Please prayerfully consider volunteering in the following areas:

Nursery (Beginning February 2)

Preschool/Upper Elementary Age - At least 2 more to serve the 2nd & 4th Sunday

Middle School/High School- At least 1 more to serve with Ivan Bowers

Please contact Susan Fogleman if you have questions about serving Vanderburg in this capacity or to sign-up.

CHILDREN & YOUTH



Children ages 5-11 engage in a fun environment to help them grow in God's Word. Leaders Cindy Rodden & Mandy Bowers use SuperBook Academy, a curriculum that uses a

cute robot named Gizmo with his friends as they go on fun adventures and learn valuable lessons from the Bible. The children meet upstairs in room 201.



Our small but growing youth class is led by Ivan Bowers. The class discussion focuses on Bible Scriptures, and Trivia to help aid in discussion. All youth ages 12-18 are welcome on Sunday

mornings in room 202, and also, during their weeknight meetings on Wednesdays at 6:00pm.

NEW YOUNG ADULT CLASS

A new young adult (couples & singles) class will start on Sunday, February 2. Noah Fogleman will lead the class in the 4-week series, *The Power of a Whisper: Hearing God, Having the Guts to Respond* by Bill Hybels. The class will meet in Room 103.

BOB COMBS CLASS

The Bob Combs Class offers a quarterly curriculum for older adults 60+. Dig deeper into Scripture with the Bible Studies for Life, a resource featuring in-depth Bible exposition on the passages studied in this book.

They are led by Mark & Nancy Brawley & Susan Fogleman and meet in room 102.

CHRISTIAN OUTREACH

The Christian Outreach Class chooses a variety of topics; from Word studies on Bible Books or deciding on a study by a respected teacher. The group is made up of all age Adults.

They are lead by Marguerite Beyerle and Bradley Mills and meet in room 110.

ADULT BIBLE CLASS

The Adult Bible Class offers a quarterly curriculum for adult men and women. The study offers opportunities to deeper explore the truths found in God's Word.

Many help facilitate the weekly discussions and lessons. You can find them in room 104.

CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

Thank you for your understanding as weather concerns required canceling our January meeting. Please come and join us for our next meeting which will be on Monday, February 3, 2025.

We plan on nominating a vice-president and a card manager. We will plan our 2025 year and set goals for enabling ways to fund needy organizations in December, 2025.

We share prayer concerns, hear God's Message and share refreshments. God's assistance in this Circle is sincerely appreciated and your gifts and talents would be sincerely appreciated, also. Hope to see you there!

God's blessings,
Sandra Sherrill

NEXT MEETING

Mon. Feb. 3rd at 7:00 pm

2025 OFFICERS:

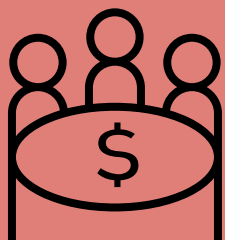
President - Sandra Sherrill

Vice President - Open

Treasurer - Lottie Freeze

Card Coordinator - Open

The card coordinator sends out monthly cards to our members as way to say hello and share kindness. If you are interested in serving, please see Sandra Sherrill.



News from the Trustees

The new 2025 Board of Trustees have met and are busy learning the facilities and checking to make sure everything is in good working order.

Chair, David Edmonds, has assumed his role to work along with the Board identifying pressing needs of the church. Other members are as follows: Beverly Mayhew, Kevin Winecoff, Phil Coleman, Harley Naas, Keith Nichols, Rusty Benfield, Paul Neill & Sandra Smith.

The next Trustee meeting will be held on Tues. Feb. 25th at 6:30PM. If you have any concerns, or need to bring an issue to the attention of the Trustees, please contact David at edmonds5@twc.com



FROM THE CHURCH CALENDAR

WEEKLY WORSHIP

Vanderburg offers 2 weekly worship services on Sunday.

8:00 A.M.

A more relaxed service with contemporary worship songs.

10:00 AM

A blended service enjoys worship with traditional hymns & contemporary worship songs.

CHOIR



Our choir rehearses each Wednesday evening at 6:30pm. Anyone with an interest in joining the choir, should reach out to our worship leader, Lisa Zeggert. We have a place for you!

YOUTH

Youth ages 12-18 meet on Wednesdays at 6:00 pm. Leading the group are Stacey Robinette, Mandy & Ivan Bowers. The group enjoys fun indoor and outdoor activities and games. The evening wraps up with a Bible Devotion and time of prayer. All are welcome!

Back to the Beginning - A New Weekly Bible Study

A new Bible Study, offered by Pastors Melanie & Keith begins Feb. 7th. Back to the Beginning: A study of the first 11 Chapters in the book Genesis! This Bible Study will be offered on Friday evenings at 6:30 pm (Pastor Keith) and also on Tuesdays beginning Feb. 11th at 10:30 am (Pastor Melanie). Choose either day that works with your schedule. We hope you will make plans to join us for this foundational teaching.



The Circle of Friends Women's Ministry meet Mon. Feb. 3 at 7:00PM in the Jack Overcash Fellowship Hall. If you've never attended, this is a great time to get started!



The Vanderburg Methodist Men meet for their scheduled breakfast meeting on Sun. Feb. 9 at 7:00AM in the Jack Overcash Fellowship Hall. All are welcome!



The Administrative Council will meet on Tues. Feb. 11 at 6:30PM in the Jack Overcash Fellowship Hall. Serving for 2025 are the following:

Chair - Greg Whitfield, Vice Chair - Dwight Neill
Pastor - Melanie Nichols, Lay Leader - John Beyerle, Lay Annual Conf. Delegate - Brenda Byrd, Council & Finance Secretary (non-voting) - Jill Lowe, Trustee Chair - David Edmonds, SPRC Chair - John Freeze, Finance Chair - Cindy Rodden, Treasurer - Lottie Freeze, Parsonage Chair - TBD, Sunday School Superintendent - Susan Fogleman, Membership Secretary - Kay Edmonds, Circle of Friends President - Sandra Sherrill, Methodist Men President - Bradley Mills, Youth Representative - Dylan Bowers, At Large Members - Frankie Sue Coleman, Mandy Bowers & Ivan Bowers.

SPECIAL EVENTS

HAPPY *February* BIRTHDAY

- 1 - Joey Peltier
- 2 - Clyde Bailey, Kelly McMillan & Johnathan Erwin
- 3 - Brian Freeze
- 4 - Kathy Neel
- 6 - Rebekah Josey & Roger Walker
- 7 - Jacob Belk
- 8 - John Beyerle, Caroline Haley, Justin Harwell & Julie Corson
- 9 - Keith Harwood & Paulette Turner
- 10 - Madelyn Lomangino & Brenda Smith
- 12 - Angela Edmonds, Henry Redling & Brandon Freeze
- 13 - Allison Schleede
- 16 - Rex Edmonds
- 17 - Kody Armstrong & Emma Conder
- 19 - Roy Mawwhinney & Julia Williams
- 20 - Bradley Smith & Debra Smith
- 21 - Scott Walker
- 24 - Jacob Beaver
- 29 - Jonathan Erwin



Feb. 12
Richard & Wanda Sheets

Feb. 13
Lloyd & Sandra Smith

Feb. 15
Mike & Amy Crisp

Valentine's Fellowship Meal Feb. 12th

Come enjoy a delicious meal of spaghetti, salad and dessert, hosted by the Adult Sunday School Classes.

The dinner will be held on Wed. Feb. 12th at 6:30PM in the Jack Overcash Fellowship Hall.

Come out and enjoy a fun night of fellowship!



**TOMMY CARRIKER'S
FISH FRY
SAT. FEB. 22
6:00PM**

Come and enjoy the fruits of Tommy's labor! A variety of tasty fish will be fried up for a Fish Fry Feast! Complimentary sides will round out the meal.

Tea will be available, but feel free to bring other beverages and desserts are requested.

The dinner will be held on Sat. Feb. 22 at 6:00PM in the Jack Overcash Fellowship Hall.

Thank you for being God's guiding light, transforming the world
through God's unconditional love.



FINANCES



GIFTS MADE TO VANDERBURG

The following gifts were made to Vanderburg during the month of January:

In Honor of:

- Stacey Pierce to the Compassion Fund by Sonja Beaver.
- John & Emma Sherrill to the Sherrill Scholarship Fund by Loyce Davis & Joyce Hight.
- Those celebrating a January Birthday & Anniversary to the Budget by Sandra Sherrill:
Joyce Cannon, Shannon Waggoner, Richard Whitfield, Kay Edmonds, Matt Fulbright, Sue Taylor, Jimmy Brooks, Avery Neel, Cameron Waggoner, Robert Miller and Mike and Lottie Freeze

In Memory of Emily Overcash:

- To the Budget by Dwight Neill, Lloyd Smith, Alice Freeze & Jerry Smith. To the Compassion Fund by Sonja Beaver & Ron & Sherry Armstrong.

In Memory of Eleanor Rinehart:

- To the Budget by Sandra Smith & Jerry Smith

December Financial Snapshot

Income	\$ 23, 023
Expenses	\$ 19, 472
Budgeted per Month	\$ 22, 323

If mailing your Tithes and Offerings, please send to:



Vanderburg Methodist Church
P.O. Box 4772
Mooresville, NC 28117

**WE
WALK
BY FAITH
NOT BY SIGHT**

2 CORINTHIANS 5:7

www.bethanyhills.com



Vanderburg Church Preschool

vumcpreschool@gmail.com

704.664.1625

Directors: Susan Fogleman & Angelene Nelson



THE STUDY OF ARTIC ANIMALS



Our children are learning about Arctic Animals. They have learned about blubber and how the animals stay warm.

Mrs. Phoebe did an experiment to demonstrate the way that blubber keeps them warm.



At the beginning of the school year the teachers created a STEAM room.

Steam education is an approach to teaching and learning that integrates science, technology, engineering, the arts, and math as pathways to guide student inquiry.



The room is used by all age groups; however, the older children use the room daily.



Part of the daily classroom routine is the opportunity to come together to recite the Pledge of Allegiance and spend time together in morning prayer.

Thank you for helping these children grow in their relationship with the Lord!

IMPORTANT DATES



2/7: Teacher Work Day



2/14 - Sweetheart Dance in Jack Overcash Fellowship Hall



Registration is now open for the upcoming 2025-26 year.

UPCOMING FUNDRAISERS

Save the date for these upcoming fundraisers benefiting the Preschool Details to follow.



March 27 from 4PM - 8PM at Village Inn in Mooresville Pizza.



Coming in April or May, Nothing Bundt Cakes! Yummy!