

JULY
2026

VANDERBURG METHODIST CHURCH CARRYING THE CROSS



America's
Birthday

Our 1976 Bicentennial Parade

Compiled from Videos, Photographs and Newspaper Articles

In celebration of America's 250th birthday, how fitting to recollect on Vanderburg's Bicentennial celebration held August 7-8, 1976.

The following was published in the Mooresville Tribune Aug. 12, 1976. Please note, some grammatical errors might be attributed to quality of the microfilm copy.

Cannon, Food Vanderburg Homecoming Co-Stars

There was something for everyone at Vanderburg United Methodist Church during its weekend combination homecoming - bicentennial salute. If you had to pick one favorite thing you couldn't eat, though, you'd probably vote for Bill Sugg's Cannon. Suggs, a Catawba College professor, is an American history buff whose special interest is early firearms. He is also a friend of Dick Lowder, a Vanderburg member. Lowder talked Suggs into contributing his and his cannon's services to the Saturday afternoon mock battle that was a highlight of the bicentennial part of the two-day celebration at the church at Shepherd.

A three-inch Napoleon, the carriage-mounted piece was capable of slamming an eight-pound ball through two feet of brick and of slashing a company of infantry to ribbons with grapeshot. The gun did no more than bounce bystanders around with shockwaves from blank charges during its Vanderburg performance. The Revolutionary footnote on which Saturday's make-believe skirmish was based probably is more legend than fact. This much is fact: In the fall of 1780, British Major Patrick Ferguson got himself mousetrapped by Piedmont colonists.

continued on next page

Mooresville Tribune Mention - 1976

—Don't forget our bicentennial, August 7-8.

Church School and worship services will be at the regular time Sunday, August 8. You are invited to wear your bicentennial dress again this day. All the men and boys are to sit on one side of the sanctuary and the women and girls on the other side. The service is planned to continue the bicentennial theme through worship. The Rev. Carlton G. Alsbaugh, district superintendent of the Statesville District, will be the morning speaker. A picnic dinner will follow the service in the new fellowship hall. Invite your friends and family. Lets truly make this a time of real fellowship together in the Lord.

Our 1976 Bi-centennial Parade

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

He and his troops scrambled up Kings Mountain and waited for reinforcement and loyalists converged to his defense. The word around Shepherd is that a few loyalists on their way to help Ferguson were fired on by local militia in the vicinity of the Old Georgia Road, now Chandler Road near Vanderburg.

Harassment of the Tories by the locals was what the fun-fighting was about. The bad guys were Suggs, and his cannon. The good guys who sniped from some 200 yards away with the muzzle-loading replicas were such as Lowder, Doug Lawing, Bill Harwell, Adrian Evans, Mike Parker and Joe Crabb, rugged backwoodsmen all. At one point, they charged from the corn patch toward the mouth of the cannon, but shockwaves drove them back.

The mock battle at 2:30 p.m. Saturday provided relaxation for everyone but the combatants. Church families, many in colonial-day costumes, gathered behind the church's fellowship hall to watch and hear the re-enactment.



Before and after the battle, Vanderburg people had their guests focused more on gastronomical delights, such as home-churned ice cream and fresh-squeezed apple juice straight from Ed Carriker's press.

Butter churning, quilting and other old-but-lost domestic arts of past church generations were demonstrated during the Saturday program that also included a late-afternoon group sing.

In the fellowship hall, the congregation shared an exhibit of old-timey everything. A centerpiece of the display was three feet by five feet painting of the Mooresville depot as Bob Brawley imagined it in the beginning. This scene has an ironic side in that Shepherd Crossroad first was considered for the rail siding that became Mooresville, but the town's founder. John Moore lured the railroad south with an offer of land.

Central to the celebration was Vanderburg's traditional homecoming, held each second Sunday in August. Sunday's program was built around food with the usual cornucopia of Vanderburg's finest spread before the congregation following the morning worship service. ###

Special thanks to Tommy Carriker for the photos, and Sara McKee, Library Services Specialist for locating the Tribune articles in the Archives. Other photos were taken from a video shared by Michael Harwell via Facebook.



VANDEBURGCHURCH



1776 - 2026
Vacation Bible School

VBS HELD JUNE 11-14

To Honor our Country's 250th Birthday, this Year's Theme was G.R.A.C.E.

♥ God ♡ Respect 💙 America 🤝 Community 📖 Education

Praise God for such a wonderful week at Vanderburg for "One Nation Under God" Vacation Bible School! As you may know, this year is special as we celebrated our faith and our Country for America's 250th Anniversary.

The children learned to trust God, love their neighbors, and that God loves them like family! They also felt God's love through the work of our wonderful volunteers. It warmed my heart seeing everyone support, motivate, and care for the children. The kids had such a good time that they were sad VBS was over!

This year we welcomed 36 children and 26 volunteers; and our "Let Freedom Ring" fundraiser raised \$40 toward the Church's chimes. Thank you again to everyone who volunteered, donated, cooked meals, prayed, and supported this ministry. I am so grateful for our church family and excited to see what God has in store for VBS next year!



Love,
Sherridan

CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

The Circle of Friends met on Monday June 1 with 13 ladies attending. Marguerite did a wonderful devotion on sheep and shepherds. Very thought provoking. We also enjoyed delicious goodies from Lottie.

- Sherry advised the BBQ with Methodist Men was successful with 80 sales and total proceeds in excess of \$525 for Chimes. Officer reports were given by Jeannie and Sherry and approved.
- We are looking forward to providing a meal for the VBS on Thursday June 11 with Pizza, fruit, desserts and drinks.
- We are also planning a Craft Fair, Bake Sale and Breakfast on October 17 as well as a Senior Appreciation Lunch in September as well.

Our next meeting is on Monday July 13 at 6:30. The date is adjusted due to the Independence Day Holiday. All ladies of all ages and walks of life are invited to come for a visit. We have a wonderful group of ladies that feeds our souls each time we meet.

Blessings,
Stacey Pierce



Mon. July 13 | 6:30 PM
Jack Overcash Fellowship Hall

The Circle of Friends women's group that meets monthly to enjoy a time of fellowship, ministry and prayer. They are integral to the mission of the church, and you will find them at work at most every church event.

Vendors Needed!

Oct. 17 will be here before we know it, so help us fill the house with participants and vendors! Vendor tables are available for \$30. (non-refundable), which is an 8-foot table and 2 chairs per vendor. Additional tables are available for \$15 each.

Vendor requests are approved on a first come, first served basis. Duplicate vendor businesses will not be permitted. Set up for the event will begin at 7:00 am in the Jack Overcash Fellowship Hall. Registration forms are available online at vanderburgchurch.org and in the church Narthex.



GMC Annual Conference June 17-20



Held in Winston Salem, NC at the Benton Convention Center, Preacher Buddy and Monte, along with our

Conference Delegate, Brenda Byrd represented Vanderburg and returned home encouraged by the event!

The mission of the conference was SENT: Called, Equipped, Commissioned. Attendees were called to be renewed in their mission as one sent to share the Good news of Jesus Christ.

Main speakers included NC Conference Bishop, Jeff Greenway, SC & AL Bishop, Carolyn Moore, along with Senior Pastor of Shady Grove GMC, Tom Mabry.

The Conference Schedule was filled with corporate worship, break-out sessions with small groups, Memorials, Holy Communion, Committee Reports and ended on the final day with an Ordination service. During the conference, special offerings were received for He Cares and Global Partnerships. Conference videos via YouTube can be found at ncglobalmethodist.org.

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.



Have a Heart to Sing?

All are welcome to join the the Vanderburg Choir for rehearsals on Wednesdays at 6:30 PM!



A new ministry, "Friendly Voices" is being formed to reach out to members by phone regularly and volunteers are needed! Please let Preacher

Buddy if you are able to participate or you are interested learning more. He can give you all the details! This is a wonderful opportunity to serve Vanderburg from the comfort of your own home!



1

The Outreach Team will meet on Wed. July 1 at 5:00 PM in the Adult Bible Classroom to plan activites for the remainder of 2026.

12

The Vanderburg Methodist Men meet Sun. July 12 at 7:00AM in the Jack Overcash Fellowship Hall.

13

The Circle of Friends Women's Ministry meets Mon. June 1 at 6:30PM in the Jack Overcash Fellowship Hall.

19

Everyone is invited for the annual Ice Cream Supper starting at 4:00 PM.

28

The Administrative Council will meet for their scheduled meeting on Tue. July 28 at 6:30 PM.

JOIN THE OUTREACH TEAM FOR *Vanderburg's Ice Cream Supper*



JULY 19TH | 4 PM
IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL

Celebrate **National Ice Cream Day**
with *FREE* Ice Cream & Fellowship!

SPECIAL CELEBRATIONS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- 1 - Tyler Hill
- 2 - Justin Davis & Savannah Bailey
- 3 - Marley Neill
- 4 - Patrick McCarter
- 5 - Darka Kaufman
- 9 - Mike Freeze & Jonathan Evans
- 11 - Joe Setzer
- 12 - Kristian Belk Mullins
- 13 - Jake Merkel
- 14 - Gail West
- 15 - Cindy Brotherton
- 17 - Kathleen Murphy
- 18 - Marie Bowers, Maggie Redling, Mathew Crisp,
Abram Johnson & William (Dub) Newton
- 19 - Brad Christenberry
- 22 - Devon Ludwick & Lori McDaniels
- 23 - Abigail Newton
- 24 - Thomas Ritchie
- 25 - Jason Overcash
- 26 - Ray Taylor
- 28 - Teresa Moose
- 29 - Kathy Evans
- 30 - Greg Whitfield
- 31 - Noah Fogleman

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

July 1

Dwight & Judy Neill

July 10

Eric & Kathy Evans

July 27

David & Kay Edmonds

July 30

Mark & Nancy Brawley

Genesis 2:24

*"Therefore, a man shall leave his father
and his mother and hold fast to his wife,
and they shall become one flesh."*

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

Graduation Sunday!

On Sunday June 7, during a special combined service, Vanderburg honored our 2025 & 2026 graduates during Graduation Sunday!



We were pleased to honor 5 individuals for their accomplishments!
Recognizing the Class of 2025:

Jamie Winecoff who earned a Bachelor of Science in Business management with a minor in Criminal Justice from Carolina University, Winston Salem, NC.

Recognizing the Class of 2026:

Adam Stephenson who earned a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering Technology from Old Dominion University in Norfolk, VA.

Noah Fogleman who earned an Associates of Arts from Mitchell Community College in Statesville, NC.

Cashion Fulbright who earned a Bachelor of Science Cum Laude in Business Administration in Communication Systems from Appalachian State University in Boone, NC.

Sherridan Fulbright who earned a Master of Arts in Integrated Marketing Communication (IMC) from the University of North Carolina in Wilmington, NC.

Honoring the Stephenson Family



Also on June 7, the church took the opportunity to honor Adam and Sara Stephenson as they relocate to Texas for Adam's new job. Preacher Buddy shared a beautiful prayer, as the congregation joined them at the altar.

After the service, the Young Adult Sunday School Class hosted a goodbye luncheon for the their class and other friends. All of us at Vanderburg pray for them as they embark on a new life in Texas!

Tuesday Study of Acts

Preacher Buddy continues a Bible Study on one of his favorite books, Acts. All are welcome to meet on Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. He has the material so there is no cost and it's not too late to participate.

REMEMBERING IN PRAYER



Thank you for remembering the following individuals in prayer. You will find a complete list of names posted in our Prayer Room (room 108) each month.

All are invited to use the prayer room to pray for these and others. If you need to add someone for prayer, please contact the church office.

Buzzy Benfield
Gene & Janice Brawley
Ezra Brawley
Virginia Brown
Don Byrd
Laura Carriker
Doris Cockrell
The Family of Phil Coleman
The Family of Vickie Cook
David Edmonds
Laquita Edmonds
Mike & Lottie Freeze
Sarah Grady
Marie Hedrick
Brenda Huffman
Shirley Key
Brenda Keyser
Susan Koury
Dwight Neill
Christine Osborne
Linda Overcash
Terry & Cindy Pardew
Rev. Robert Pierre
Stacey Robinette
Wayne & Sandra Sherrill
Cathy West
The Family of Greg Whitfield
Patsy Zeggert



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!



We need volunteers to help us meet our Ministry Safe Guidelines in the kids Sunday School class. We just need your presence. You will not have to help with the class or prepare a lesson. If enough are willing to serve, a schedule will be made.



As a church, we need to have a nursery available for visitors as well as church members. See Susan Fogleman if you are interested in helping with this ministry. The service is streamed live, for nursery workers to enjoy.

CHILDREN & PRE-TEEN



Our children use the series All-in-One Sunday School, designed for preschool-12 yrs old and beginning January 4, they will start a road trip through the Bible. Let's invite others to join them in room 111.

Anyone is welcome to stop by any Sunday to give the leaders a hand! We know they would appreciate it!

YOUNG ADULT CLASS

Vanderburg's Young Adult class is reaching out to the community and planning events and get togethers as they grow closer to Christ. Can't wait to see all the great things that they will be doing!

The class meets in room 107, and all young adult singles and couples are invited.

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 looking for people to serve as leaders for our weekly lesson on Sunday morning. Prayerfully consider joining us as we worship together.

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.



FINANCES

Gifts Made to Vanderburg

Thank you to the donors who made gifts to Vanderburg during the month of June:

In Honor

A gift was given to the General Fund in honor of Frankie Sue, Andy & Nathan Coleman by Luke Brown.

In Memory

A gift was given to the Chime Upgrade Project in memory of Tim Brawley by Gene & Janice Brawley.

Gifts were given to the General Fund in memory of Steve Harwell & Phil Coleman by Marshall & Katherine Schutt.

June Financial Snapshot

Income	\$ 17,713
Expenses	\$ 15,235
Budgeted per Month	\$ 21,996

Monthly Finance Reports can be found in the Narthex the first Sunday of each month. All questions can be directed to the Finance Chair, Linda Wilhelm.

If mailing your Tithes and Offerings, please send to:
Vanderburg Methodist Church
P.O. Box 294 | Mooresville, NC 28115



IT IS MORE BLESSED
TO *give*
THAN TO
receive

Acts 20:35

Vanderburg Methodist Church Building Model



Excerpt from the display.

In 1984, Roger Ketchie had knee surgery that required a two month recovery. During this time, Ketchie, a skilled carpenter wanted to at least put his hands to use while he couldn't use his legs on a full-scale construction job, so he decided to build a church. Roger also called on his brother, Cotton Ketchie to paint his finished product.

The carpentry and painting are labors of love reflecting the talent of both artisans. Roger produced the pews, choir loft and pulpit in intricate detail. The model was presented to the church in October, 1984.

Today, you can find the model, complete with lights, on display at the Mooresville Museum located at 132 E. Center Ave in Mooresville. Visit their website at www.mooresvillemuseum.org for their hours of operation. It's a must see!



Vanderburg Methodist Church
P.O. Box 294
Mooresville, NC 28115

TO:

