

MAY  
2025

# VANDEBURG METHODIST CHURCH CARRYING THE CROSS



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Mother's Day
- New Post Office Address!
- Easter at Vanderburg
- Church News
- May 14 Fellowship Dinner
- GriefShare Resumes
- Vanderburg Preschool News

## MOTHER'S DAY CELEBRATION

by Pastor Melanie Nichols



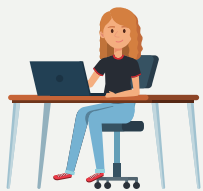
Thank God for our Mothers and  
Thank God I was blessed to be a mother!

*Proverbs 1:8-9 My child, listen when your father corrects you. Don't neglect your mother's instruction. What you learn from them will crown you with grace and be a chain of honor around your neck. NLT*

May is the month about Mother's. Most of us think of our mothers and a great well of love fills our soul. Thanks be to Mothers and Grandmothers! It is often our mother who points us to Jesus. If we are truly blessed it is both our mother and father who points us to Jesus and salvation. There are many in the world today who have not been as blessed as many of us.

They are the modern day Oliver Twists who are ever searching for the nurture and training that we have been blessed with. That is truly evidence of our broken world that Jesus had to come for. Perhaps your mother is still living, our verse stresses the value of listening and retaining the instruction of your mother. Just as the scripture says, "What you learn from them will crown you with grace and be a chain of honor around your neck". For those of us whose mother has entered into her rest, living in the presence of God Almighty, we hold within our memories rich training that continues to be a resource for a good life- crown of grace and chain of honor!

*continued on next page*



# From The Pastor's Study

Folks, even though my Mom made mistakes, she taught me to not make those same mistakes. I have benefitted from her wisdom and foolishness! That is a treasure indeed. Perhaps you were not blessed with a biological mother who blessed you in this way— or you wanted to be a mother but circumstances in this world hindered that possibility. God is able to give you what you need if you will just ask. I had a disease growing in me that kept me from having any more children. I am very thankful for the one God gave me. However, I had always wanted lots of children...God has blessed me with many over the years in ministry. Now, I look at your children and grandchildren as God's blessings. Often, the things that we most hope for are where God calls us into ministry. I will be blessed to attend a wedding of one of my precious "children" from my former youth ministry in October! I will get to see her wed a gentleman that I have prayed for just as I prayed for my son Matt to find that special person. What a joy for my soul! God will enlarge your territory just as He enlarged Jabez!

We are in need of a few folks to serve one Sunday a month as a teacher or as the safe sanctuary person in Sunday School. Please consider serving God in this role. Talk with Susan Fogleman if you are feeling this is where God wants you to serve.

In addition, if you still have the treasure of your mother and grandmothers with you here on earth, let their lives teach you. Honor them as God teaches us to do. Jesus on the cross looked down at his mother and took care of her even in His most painful moments by entrusting her to the Apostle John. In adulthood my mother became my closest friend and confidant. Those are my favorite memories. Hopefully, I will live a long life satisfied (if Jesus tarries)! For this is the promise God gives us in regards to our parents Ex. 20:12 "Honor your father and mother. Then you will live a long, full life in the land the Lord your God is giving you. Happy Mother's Day!

May God's peace be with you all,

*Pastor Melanie*



## VANDERBURG METHODIST CHURCH

1809 Charlotte Hwy  
Mooresville, NC 28115



Alternate:  
P. O. Box 294  
Mooresville, NC 28115

**NEW!**

[www.vanderburgchurch.org](http://www.vanderburgchurch.org)  
704.663.1690  
[vanderburgchurch1870@gmail.com](mailto:vanderburgchurch1870@gmail.com)



Pastor Melanie Nichols  
828.448.2690 call/text  
[pastormelanie18@gmail.com](mailto:pastormelanie18@gmail.com)

### Staff:

Jill Lowe - Church and Finance Secretary  
Worship Leader - Lisa Zeggert



Follow Us on Facebook!  
[@vanderburgofmooreville](https://www.facebook.com/vanderburgofmooreville)



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



# EASTER AT VANDERBURG!



## HOLY WEEK

Holy Week was filled with opportunities for worship as we reflected and honored Jesus Christ for His work at the cross! Beginning with services that started on Palm Sunday, a traditional Maundy Thursday service was held, along with

Stations of the Cross, a drop-in event held all day Friday.

The Holy Thursday service, held in the Jack Overcash Fellowship Hall incorporated readings and elements of the Seder Meal that Jesus and His disciples would have partaken the night of Passover. Many who attended shared how meaningful the service was on the eve of the Crucifixion. Many thanks to our worship leader, Lisa Zeggert for the incorporation of the Seder Meal elements.

On Fri. April 18, Pastor Melanie, Lisa Zeggert & Stacey Robinette setup the Stations of the Cross. At 14 stations, the participant was set on a journey that began at the Garden of Gethsemane and traveled through to the Crucifixion. Each station had scripture and a summary of what was happening at the time. This was a solemn occasion, and 39 adults and children took the opportunity to go through.

On Sun. April 20, more than 100 individuals joined in celebration of Jesus' Resurrection during both the 8:00AM & 10:00AM services. Special Easter music was enjoyed, that included Resurrection Medley by our Vanderburg Church Choir. Following the service, many took the opportunity to get family pictures at the beautiful cross adorned with fresh flowers in celebration of Jesus' Resurrection!



## EASTER EGG FEST

On Sat. Apr. 12, we welcomed children from Vanderburg and the community to celebrate Easter with a traditional Easter Egg Fest! Games, activities and food added to the festivities! Children, and adults, too had a fun afternoon celebrating Jesus, and each child took home a Goodie Bag filled with prizes and candy to enjoy later!



## EASTER SUNRISE

Early on Sun. April 20, approximately 45 individuals gathered by the picnic shelter to celebrate the Risen Savior! Stacey Robinette worked hard to setup the sound system to be sure everyone could participate. Despite some technical difficulties, a meaningful service was enjoyed, which was followed by a delicious breakfast by the Vanderburg Methodist Men.

## Welcome Dennis Family



We were pleased to have in attendance on Easter Sunday, Mrs. Sue Dennis, wife of our former pastor Rev. Bob Dennis who served Vanderburg from 1975-79, along with their daughter, Beth (John) Birks, and son, Keith (Sheri) Dennis.

Pictured with the Dennis family is Greg, Leigh & Michael Whitfield.

# 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!**



Please prayerfully consider helping with our children's Sunday school class. Teachers and helpers are needed. We especially need another adult to volunteer each Sunday to meet safe sanctuary guidelines.

See Susan Fogleman if your God given gifts and talents lead you to be a blessing to these children. They are such a great group of kids, and you will be amazed by their knowledge. You may even learn something from them!



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. The teachers have enjoyed combining the classes and learning together.

All children are welcome each Sunday. You will find them in room 115 on the Pre-school Hall.

Susan Fogleman and Sarah Davis will be joining the team to rotate teachers. This will allow for teachers to have the opportunity to enjoy being a part of a Sunday School class or take some needed time of rest. If you feel led to stop by and give the leaders a hand, they would appreciate it!

## YOUNG ADULT CLASS

It is such a blessing to see that our new Young Adult class is going well. They are using the Lifeway Bible Study.

We have seven that have been attending. Please invite others.

The class meets in room 103, 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 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.



# CHURCH NEWS

## Vanderburg Scholarship



Scholarship applications are now available for any High School graduate enrolled, or soon to be enrolled, in a 2-year or 4-year course of study at an accredited College or University.

Applicants must be a member of Vanderburg Methodist Church.

Application forms can be found in the Scholarship mailbox located on the main church hall. Deadline to return the completed application is June 1, 2025. If you have questions about the scholarship, please see the Scholarship Committee Chair, Greg Whitfield.



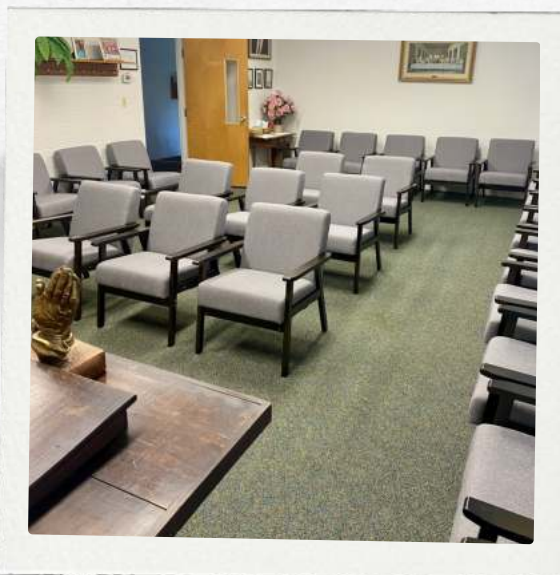
## Vanderburg Columbarium



The Vanderburg Church Columbarium was placed to accommodate those who choose cremation but desired a safe location where they can be memorialized and receive visitors.

Vanderburg church members have the opportunity to choose either the Columbarium or the Cemetery for burial.

If you have questions about the Vanderburg Church Cemetery, the Blue Door Cemetery or the Columbarium, please see Mark Brawley, Cemetery Committee Chair. Maintenance and improvements at all these facilities are managed by a 9 member committee.



## Memorial Day Recognition



We will be honoring our former military on Sun. May 25. The congregation is encouraged to bring in framed photos of their loved ones who served in the armed forces and who have gone on to Glory. There will be special recognition during both our 8:00AM & 10:00AM Worship Services.

## Adult Bible Class Receives New Chairs

Recently, the Adult Bible Class decided it was time to retire their chairs. Discussion followed, and they entrusted Tommy Carriker with “shopping around” to find the best price and design.

The chairs arrived in mid-April, just in time for Easter, and they look great! You can still find many of the orange barrel chairs repurposed throughout the building.

# 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!



This year, Vanderburg invites all the women to come together on Sun. May 11 to be honored. Whether you are a biological mom, a single mom, a grieving mom, a grandmom, an adoptive mom, a step-mom or a spiritual mom, we want to recognize you. Thank you for all you do for your family and community! This special recognition will be held at both the 8:00AM & 10:00AM services.

5

The Circle of Friends Women's Ministry meet Mon. May 5 at 6:30PM in the Jack Overcash Fellowship Hall.

7

A new GriefShare Group begins weekly starting May 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30PM.

11

The Vanderburg Methodist Men meet for their scheduled breakfast meeting on Sun. May 11 at 7:00AM in the Jack Overcash Fellowship Hall. All are welcome!

14

All are welcome to come together as a church family to enjoy a Fellowship Meal on Wed. May 14<sup>th</sup> starting at 5:30PM.

26

The Church Office will be closed on Mon. May 26 in Observance of the Memorial Day Holiday.

Our weekly Bible Study continues on Thursday mornings at 10:30AM in the Bob Combs Classroom. It's not too late to join the group!



JOIN US

## FELLOWSHIP DINNER

ENJOY SPAGHETTI, SALAD,  
GARLIC BREAD & DESSERT

DONATIONS ACCEPTED

WED. MAY 14 | 5:30-7:00 PM  
JACK OVERCASH FELLOWSHIP HALL

HOSTED BY:  
THE ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

[vanderburgchurch.org](http://vanderburgchurch.org)



# SPECIAL CELEBRATIONS



Celebrating in



- 1 - Dean Robinson & Butch Bailey
- 3 - Nancy Brawley & Kody Neill
- 6 - Sara Grady, Alexander Black, Alexis Jones & Harley Naas
- 8 - Shawn Lautner
- 9 - Christopher Beaver
- 10 - David Edmonds, Zack Hayes & Wanda Rust
- 11 - Cathy West
- 12 - Michelle Christenberry & Jeanne Miller
- 13 - Annabelle Black
- 14 - Bo Shinn
- 15 - Dawn Bailey
- 16 - Becky Insogna
- 22 - Debbie Bowers
- 25 - Wayne Moore & Haley Freeze
- 26 - Phil Hampton
- 28 - Laura Carriker & Veronica Naas
- 29 - Barry Winecoff
- 30 - Isabella Pulver
- 31 - Mitchell Mayhew, Madison Dagenhart & Caleb Weddington

## Birthday Celebration!



Recently, many friends and family were invited to the home of Mrs. Christine Osborne to celebrate her birthday! We appreciate Sherry Armstrong for capturing this photo reflecting several of Vanderburg's longest serving members!

Shown left to right is Mrs. Christine, Mrs. Sonja Beaver and Mrs. Marie Hedrick.



Happy Anniversary

### May 1

Chris & Amber Church

### May 2

Bob & Jeanne Miller

### May 3

John & Alice Freeze

Daniel & Jessica Trantham

### May 7

Kevin & Heather Hunsucker

### May 9

John & Marguerite Beyerle

### May 11

Jeff & Christine Merkel

### May 12

Justin & Katherine West

### May 13

John & Julia Williams

### May 17

John & Mary Waugh

### May 18

Jerry & Cynthia Lyman

### May 21

Jack & Darla Kaufman

### May 23

Michael & Susan Koury

Scott & Sarah Walker

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

## CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

The April Meeting of Circle of Friends was held on Monday April 7 at 6:30pm.

The meeting was opened, and Marguerite Beyerle shared a touching Bible teaching and Sherry Armstrong served delicious food for all to enjoy. We discussed the changes to the leadership of the Circle. Sandra Sherrill will continue to oversee the card ministry. If anyone has extra joyful cards for birthdays or thinking of you Sandra can use them. Sherry Armstrong was voted as our Financial Officer. The Secretary remains Jeanne Miller and Stacey Pierce is the newly elected president with Sandra Sherrill's resignation. We changed our September meeting to September 8 due to Labor Day.

We brainstormed fundraising ideas and settled on a few to pursue. We are investigating doing a brunch/lunch on fifth Sundays as well as offer themed baskets for sale. These would be in May, August and December. We are considering a yard sale in the fall as well. We also discussed utilizing social media to spread our Circle's work.

All women are invited to join us on Monday May 5 at 6:30pm in the Jack Overcash Fellowship Hall for wonderful fellowship and delicious treats!

### MEETING

Mon. May 5th | 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.

## GRIEF SHARE

Know someone going through a difficult time with grief? A GriefShare support group is a safe, welcoming place where people understand the difficult emotions of grief. Through this 13-week group, you'll discover what to expect in the days ahead and what's "normal" in grief. Since there are no neat, orderly stages of grief, you'll learn helpful ways of coping with grief, in all its unpredictability—and gain solid support each step of the way.

All are welcome to join the group beginning Wed. May 7 at 6:30PM and continue weekly through the end of July.



GRIEF SHARE

Grief Recovery Groups

A new 13 week session of GriefShare will begin on Wed. May 7 at 6:30PM at Vanderburg Methodist Church. All are Welcome!

## Vanderburg Methodist Men

VMM President - Bradley Mills

Next meeting  
Sun. May 11th  
7:00AM



All men are invited to join the Vanderburg Methodist Men. The group meets each 2nd Sunday for breakfast, followed by a time of devotion and planning.

Their recent Boston Butt Fundraiser was a success, and thanks to the support of the the church, a total of \$865 was raised! Those funds were used to bless FeedNC, Special Olympics, St. Jude's Children Hospital and western NC Flood Recovery.

If you have any questions about the VMM, see or contact Bradley Mills or John Beyerle. They would love to have you join the group!



## UPCOMING MEETINGS

The Administrative Council meets bi-monthly during the even months. Anyone is welcome to attend the meetings, but only members are allowed to vote.

If you have any questions or concerns you would like to pass on to the council, please reach out to Pastor Melanie Nichols or Chair, Greg Whitfield.

## Administrative Council Members

The following individuals serve Vanderburg as a member of the Administrative Council. Their service to the church is greatly appreciated!

Pastor - Melanie Nichols  
Chair - Greg Whitfield  
Vice Chair - Dwight Neill  
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 - Terry Pardew  
Treasurer - Linda Wilhelm  
Parsonage Chair - Jeanne Miller  
Sunday School Superintendent - Susan Fogleman  
Scholarship Chair - Greg Whitfield  
Membership Secretary - Kay Edmonds  
Circle of Friends President - Stacey Pierce  
Methodist Men President - Bradley Mills  
At Large Member - Frankie Sue Coleman  
At Large Member - vacant

**The Administrative Council  
meets again on  
Tues. June 24th | 6:30 PM**

## ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING APR. 22, 2025



The Administrative Council met Tues. April 22nd at 6:30PM in the Jack Overcash Fellowship Hall. There were 8 members present. Following an opening prayer by Pastor Melanie, and approval/corrections of the February/March minutes, the following committees reported.

### **Trustees reported by Melanie Nichols**

The Trustee and Parsonage funds have both been depleted due to the expenses related to the HVAC at the church and parsonage. Signs have been ordered to be placed at the playground that say "Play at Your Own Risk". It also states that a parent/guardian needs to be present. They will be installed as soon as they arrive.

### **Outreach/Hospitality reported by Pastor Melanie**

There will be a fellowship dinner on May 14<sup>th</sup> hosted by the adult Sunday School classes. The community breakfast was great with the added musical group. GriefShare resumes on May 7.

### **Parsonage No report.**

### **Finance reported by Terry Pardew**

There are CDs up for renewal at Truist Bank. The committee has learned that rates are going down, and the current 5 month term is no longer available. It was decided that when the window of renewal opens, Terry should use his discretion to choose the best rate/term.

### **Worship reported by Pastor Melanie**

Plans should start being made for Homecoming the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in August. It was suggested to invite a musical group, who also shares their personal testimony.

### **Pastor's Report reported by Pastor Melanie**

Pastor Melanie shared that news visitors are attending regularly. Please continue to make them feel welcome. Also, the Bible Study is still going well as they continue through the book of Genesis.

### **Vanderburg Methodist Men No report.**

### **Circle of Friends reported by Stacey Pierce**

The group continues to meet at the new time of 6:30PM. Sherry Armstrong was elected as Finance Officer, Sandra Sherrill, card coordinator and Jeanne Miller continues to serve as Secretary. It was discussed to pursue fundraising opportunities in the summer/fall.

### **Vanderburg Preschool reported by Susan Fogleman**

For the 2025-26 school year, there are 23+ children registered. The two's and three's classes are full. Thanks to everyone who supported the Village Inn Pizza Fundraiser. A new banner has been ordered for the road.

### **Sunday School reported by Susan Fogleman**

The new children's class needs a teacher to alternate Sundays, as well as adult volunteers to help and serve as safe sanctuary. The Young Adult Sunday School class is going well and Noah Fogleman is loving serving as the teacher.

### **SPRC No report.**

### **Membership No report.**

### **Scholarship reported by Susan Fogleman**

The committee discussed where to invest the funds retrieved by the United Methodist Foundation that offer the best rate.



# FINANCES



## GIFTS MADE TO VANDERBURG

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

In Honor of:

- Stacey Robinette & Eric Brawley to the General Fund by Jerry & Katy Smith

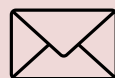
In Memory of:

- Odessa Overcash to the Trustee Fund by Jeanette Overcash

## March Financial Snapshot

Income	\$ 23,175
Expenses	\$ 28,258
Budgeted per Month	\$ 22,323

If mailing your Tithes and Offerings, please send to:



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

\*Please note the new Post Office address!

God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

—  
*2 Corinthians 9:8*







# Vanderburg Church Preschool

vumcpreschool@gmail.com

704.664.1625

Directors: Susan Fogleman & Angelene Nelson



## CELEBRATING PRESCHOOL GRADUATION!

It is hard to believe that I am writing the final newsletter of our preschool year. Our four/five-year-olds are prepared and ready to start kindergarten in August. Graduation will be held in the sanctuary on Friday, May 16th at 9:30am. All are welcome to come and help us celebrate.



Easter was a special time in April as we celebrated Jesus' Resurrection with a variety of fun! From yummy food to the annual Easter Egg Hunt, our children had so much fun!

Our Village Inn fundraiser in March was a huge success. Thank you to everyone who supported the preschool. We appreciate you!



## IMPORTANT DATES



May 2:  
Field Trip to  
Troutman ESC Park  
(preschool closed)



May 9:  
Nothing Bundt  
Cakes Fundraiser  
Pick-up in the Jack  
Overcash  
Fellowship Hall



May 16:  
Preschool  
Graduation 9:30AM  
in the Sanctuary.  
All are welcome!

## A SWEET WAY TO SUPPORT VANDERBURG METHODIST PRESCHOOL

Preorder a mini-Bundt cake for \$7 and the Preschool will receive a portion of the sale.

CHOOSE FROM THE FOLLOWING FLAVORS:

RED VELVET

CHOCOLATE CHOCOLATE CHIP

WHITE CHOCOLATE RASPBERRY

LEMON

GF CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIE

ORDER  
NOW

ORDER FORM IS  
AVAILABLE IN THE  
CHURCH NARTHEX OR  
AT THE PRESCHOOL



VANDERBURGCHURCH.ORG/PRESCHOOL  
VUMCPRESCHOOL@GMAIL.COM



PLACE YOUR ORDER  
APRIL 23 - MAY 1  
PICK-UP FRIDAY MAY 9



## VANDERBURG METHODIST PRESCHOOL



## REGISTRATION

A Christian based program for ages 2-5 years old designed to provide a quality early childhood education experience.

- ✓ Competitive Rates
- ✓ Extra-curricular Activities
- ✓ Outdoor Playground
- ✓ Monthly Holiday/Family Events

Learn More:

[vanderburgchurch.org/preschool](http://vanderburgchurch.org/preschool)

[vumcpreschool@gmail.com](mailto:vumcpreschool@gmail.com)

Vanderburg Methodist Preschool

1809 Charlotte Hwy | Mooresville, NC 28115

CALL TODAY!  
704-664-1625



Enrollment for the 2025-2026 school year wraps up soon. Currently, both of our three-year-old classes and our two-year-old class are full. Space is still available in our four-year-old class. Please send anyone our way that may be interested in joining our preschool family.



**May 26, 2025**

**This day is dedicated to honoring the  
men and women who have given their  
lives in service to the U.S. military.**



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

**TO:**