

JANUARY
2026

VANDERBURG METHODIST CHURCH CARRYING THE CROSS



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A NEW BEGINNING

By Dennis Lee, Senior Pastor at Living Waters Fellowship

Today, we're entering a brand-new year, and many of us are making resolutions about those things we know we have to do, like losing weight, exercising, eating healthier, and taking our vitamins. We also begin to list out what we need to do spiritually, like reading the Bible and praying every day, using our gifts and talents in God's service, to be more loving, Christ-like, and obedient to God's word.

The only problem is that while we resolve to do these things, our resolve soon fades because we really don't have the power to keep them. And it doesn't have to do with our will power, but rather because circumstances beyond our control happened. And so, as we enter this New Year, we need a new beginning, which starts with a new heart and new spirit. This promise is given to us by the Lord through the prophet Ezekiel.

"I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them." (Ezekiel 36:26-27)

A New Heart

The Lord is talking about a heart transplant, but not a physical transplant, but a spiritual one. The heart is more than a bodily organ that pumps life-giving blood to the rest of the body. The heart is symbolic of all that it means to be human.

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A NEW BEGINNING

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There are over 5,000 heart transplants done every year, and we are the first generation to understand how a new heart can replace an old one. But what we need is the type of heart the Lord wants us to have. Having such a new heart will give us the wondrous feeling that somebody else is inside us, Jesus Christ, and how grateful we are because beating inside of us is God's own heart.

Today, with all that is happening in our world, our hearts are becoming hardened. But God can give us a heart transplant, where He'll remove our stony heart and give us a heart of flesh, that is, a heart that is open to all God has.

Therefore, let's begin by asking God to do some cardio-vascular surgery to get our hearts pumping once again with that life giving and life saving blood of Jesus Christ. But beyond a new heart, God also wants to put a new spirit inside of us.

A New Spirit

God gives us the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of power. In the Old Testament that word for Spirit is "ruach," which means wind or breath. The Holy Spirit, therefore, is the breath of God.

Some people have a hard time catching their breath. And it's really hard to do something when we cannot breathe. But God gives us a new spirit, a new breath of life to assist us in our time of need.

Like the new heart, the new spirit begins when we come to faith in Jesus Christ. This is seen when the disciples first encountered the risen Jesus, and it says Jesus breathed on them, that is the very breath of God, the Holy Spirit, saying, "*Receive the Holy Spirit.*" (John 20:22)

Just as God breathed into Adam and made him into a living soul, so Jesus breathes into us and makes us into new creations in Him, spiritual beings ready for heaven once this life is over.

A New Beginning

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new."
(2 Corinthians 5:17)

We can change! But we cannot change on our own. Change comes from within. That's what transformation is all about, it's a change that takes place on the inside. And that's the beauty of the promise given by God through Ezekiel is that we've been given a new heart and a new spirit, that is, God's word written on our hearts, and the Holy Spirit being placed within us.

And so, as we look to start this New Year, let's do so by asking God to give to us a heart that is new, a heart that has been cleansed through confession and forgiveness, and then ask the Lord for a renewed spirit through a genuine Holy Spirit revival in our lives and in the life of the church.



VANDERBURG METHODIST CHURCH

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Mooresville, NC 28115



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Rev. Buddy Compton
704.791.1189 call/text

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 channel at  **YouTube** [@vanderburgchurch1809](https://www.youtube.com/vanderburgchurch1809) or stream it later in the week on our website.

CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

The Circle of Friends met for a Christmas celebration on Monday December 1. We all brought delicious appetizers to share as we fellowshiped. A short meeting was held to update the 2026 schedule and sign up for devotions and refreshments.



We gathered toys and food goods for Freedom Connections as well as deciding how to spread our money out to further our missions. We decided to gift \$2000 for various organizations. Sherry Armstrong provided a wonderful list of options. We decided on both hospice homes, as well as Community Pregnancy Center of LKN, Hope of Mooresville and Samaritans Purse.

All of us want to thank the congregation for their support for a successful 2025! We truly appreciate your support of our Blood Drive, Basket Raffle and Craft Fair breakfast plus bake sale. We donated proceeds to causes close to our heart for children and seniors. Wishing you all a blessed Christmas!

Our next meeting is January 5, 2026 at 6 pm in the Jack Overcash Fellowship Hall. All ladies are invited!

Blessings to all,

Stacy Pierce

MEETING

Mon. Jan. 5 | 6:00 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

Classes Begin: Wed. Jan. 14 | 6:30 PM

Grief Support Groups

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.

All are Welcome!

Vanderburg Methodist Church | 1809 Charlotte Hwy | Mooresville, NC 28115



vanderburgchurch.org



Christmas

AT VANDERBURG

Christmas...
Sing the Joyful Song!



A special Christmas Cantata was held on Sun. Dec. 14th during the 10:00 a.m. blended service. Featuring a medley of traditional Christmas songs, our Vanderburg choir ushered us into the Christmas spirit!



The Circle of Friends helped share Christmas joy through their annual Christmas Card Distribution. Names of members highlighted each bag, and everyone was encouraged to bring in signed Christmas Cards.

On the last Sunday of Advent, everyone could take their filled bags home to enjoy all the Christmas greetings inside! Thank you to the Circle of Friends for their efforts in coordinating the distribution.



Advent Readings

Each Sunday during Advent, families came together to share the meanings and lit each special candle of *Hope. Peace. Joy and Love.*

Thank you to everyone who participated in this meaningful and special tradition of the Christmas season.



NEWS & EVENTS

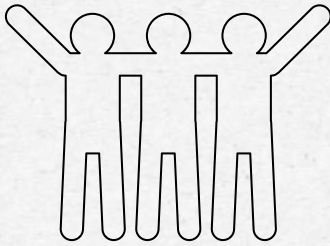


Outreach Team Meeting

The Outreach Team is planning to meet on Wed. Jan. 7th at 6:00 PM. This is an important meeting to help plan activities and events for 2026.

Outreach Team Members are as follows: Sheila Moore, Johnny Freeze, Sherry Armstrong, Sandra Sherrill, Melissa Fullbright, Sherridan Fullbright, and Preacher Buddy. Thank you to all who are serving Vanderburg and the outward community!

Leadership



As we start the new year, Vanderburg is thankful for everyone that has accepted a leadership role in the church. You can find the current Leadership list, along with mission outreach newsletters and documents on the bulletin board between the work room and the Pastor's Study, as you travel down the main hall.

If you would like a printed copy of the Leadership, please contact the church office.

Administrative Council

The first meeting of the Administrative Council will be held on Tue. Jan. 27th at 6:30 PM in the Jack Overcash Fellowship Hall. This is an important meeting as we start of the new year. Meetings will subsequently be held bi-monthly on the odd months. Thank you to everyone who has committed to serve.

2025 Average Attendance

Sunday School=42.8



8:00 AM Service=16.4



10:00 AM Service=57.4



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!

GriefShare

Luke Brown will be leading a new GriefShare Group starting Jan. 14th on Wednesdays at 6:30 PM. The classes will run for 13 weeks.

HELLO
January

5

The Circle of Friends Women's Ministry meets Mon. Jan. 5th at 6:00PM in the Jack Overcash Fellowship Hall.

7

Members of the Outreach Team will meet on Wed. Jan. 7 at 6:00PM.

8

All are invited to gather with other Global Methodist Churches in our area for a Worship Night on Thursday Jan. 8th at 7:00PM at Rocky Mount Methodist Church.

11

The Vanderburg Methodist Men meet for their scheduled breakfast meeting on Sun. Dec. 14th at 7:00AM in the Jack Overcash Fellowship Hall. All are welcome!

13

The Trustees will meet on Tue. Jan. 13th at 6:30PM. Current and newly elected Trustees should make plans to attend.

14

A new GriefShare group begins on Wed. Jan. 14 at 6:30 p.m. The group is facilitated by Luke Brown and all are welcome to attend this 13 week series.

21

The Preschool Committee will meet on Jan. 21st at 6:00 PM in the Library.

27

The Administrative Council will meet on Tue. Jan. 27th at 6:30PM in the Jack Overcash Fellowship Hall. All Council members please attend this important meeting for 2026.

SPECIAL CELEBRATIONS



- 1 - Alexis Dell, Ronald Armstrong & Patt Hampton
- 2 - Joyce Cannon & David Overcash
- 3 - Debra Compton
- 5 - Shannon Waggoner
- 6 - Richard Whitfield
- 8 - Kay Edmonds
- 9 - Matt Fulbright & Lisa Dayton
- 11 - Sue Taylor & Morgan Newton
- 12 - Jimmy Brooks
- 14 - Avery Neel & Mike Smith, Sr.
- 15 - Cameron Waggoner & Ella Hayes
- 17 - Morgan Evans, Courtney Jones & Melissa Parrish
- 24 - KC Iruka
- 26 - Robert Miller
- 28 - Lane Barker
- 29 - Jessica Brotherton, Kaci Brotherton & Marcus Evans
- 30 - Jared Settlemyre

HAPPY
Anniversary

January 6

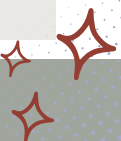
Mike & Debbie Bowers

January 28

Mike & Lottie Freeze



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



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 serve as the Safe Sanctuary person 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 115 on the Preschool Hall.

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.

MISSION & OUTREACH

Your gifts and donations are greatly appreciated as we continue to be the hands and feet of Jesus! May God bless you abundantly!

Vanderburg budget funds to annually support FeedNC, Christian Mission, Samaritan's Purse and WNC Hurricane Relief. We regularly receive newsletters highlighting the work they do in support of individuals and families. In addition to these regular Mission contributions, our Circle of Friends and the Vanderburg Methodist Men make contributions to other worthwhile organizations.



1 Supporting FeedNC

At FeedNC, everyone is welcome to enjoy lunch at Donoghue's Open Door. From 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. M-F, all are welcome to choose from their menu offerings and enjoy meals at community tables. There is no charge for the food, but donations are accepted. Last year alone, 50K meals were served.

2 Our Daily Bread

Did you know that because of your giving, we are able to support Our Daily Bread each quarter.

More than just the daily devotion, a recent letter highlighted the work they do in prison ministry. Last year, to help alleviate loneliness, Our Daily Bread sent 65,000 Christmas Hope Packets that included a Christmas Card, an Armor Book and snacks.

3 Supporting Samaritan's Purse

Recently, Samaritan's Purse shared that since 1998, well over 1 million gifts have been given to children in need in Jesus' Name through Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes. In addition to the shoeboxes, over 160,000 students have gone through the course "The Greatest Journey", a 12-lesson discipleship class.

4 Supporting Christian Mission



Thanks to your support, and the mission outreach of the Vanderburg Preschool, an abundance of non-perishable foods were donated to support our food insecure neighbors.



FINANCES

Gifts Made to Vanderburg

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

Gifts were given to the General Fund in memory of Brenda Waugh by the following individuals:

Jerry & Katy Smith
Tammy Safrit
Alice Freeze
Phil and Frankie Sue Coleman
Gene and Janice Brawley
Dwight and Judy Neill
Buzzy and Jean Benfield
Jerry Waugh
Lynda Ranson

Gifts were given to the Cemetery Fund in memory of Brenda Waugh by the following individuals:

Lloyd & Saundra Smith
John & Mary Waugh & Family
Larry Waugh & Teen Evans
Betty Waugh & Family

In Honor of:

A gift was given to the Vanderburg Preschool by George Brawley and Dale & Donna Brawley in honor of their grandchildren & great grandchildren.

A gift was given to the General Fund by Wayne & Sandra Sherill in honor of the Buckos Staff

A gift was given to the General Fund by Wayne & Sandra Sherill in honor of the Nov. and Dec. Birthdays and Anniversaries.

A gift was given to the General Fund by Stacey Pierce in honor of Lloyd & Sandra Sherrill.

Nov. Financial Snapshot

Income	\$ 20,020
Expenses	\$ 15,240
Budgeted per Month	\$ 22,323

Dec. Financial Snapshot*

Income	\$ 28,511
Expenses	\$ 15,997
Budgeted per Month	\$ 22,323

Monthly Finance Reports can be found in the Narthex the first Sunday of each month.
If you have any questions, you can always direct them 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

*because of the timing of this publication, we could include the most current month in the financial snapshot



Vanderburg Church Preschool

vumcpreschool@gmail.com

704.664.1625

Directors: Susan Fogleman & Angelene Nelson



Christmas Recap!



As 2025 ends, we would like to thank everyone for their love and support.

December was a very busy month. We started the month off with our Reverse Advent. Thank you for your donations. We were able to provide an abundance of nonperishable items to our local Christian Mission.



On December 5th we hosted a Parents' Night Out. We had 10 children attending ranging in age from 1 year to 2nd grade. I'm not sure who was more excited about dropping off, the children or the parents.



Our Christmas Celebration on December 19th was a huge success. Families gathered in the sanctuary to hear several selections sung by the preschool children. Crafts and cookie decorating followed in the Jack Overcash Fellowship Hall. Children also had a chance to share their Christmas list with Santa and Mrs. Claus.



January 5:

Children Return

January 19:

Martin Luther King Holiday

January 21:

Preschool Meeting - 6PM



If You Don't Want Church to Feel Routine...

Pray before you go.

Take notes.

Worship on the drive there.

Get there early.

Sing out loud.

Invite someone to join you.

Bring your Bible.

Apply the message to your week.

Talk to People.

Join a team and serve.



Vanderburg Methodist Church
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TO: