

MARCH  
2025

# VANDEBURG METHODIST CHURCH CARRYING THE CROSS

“Christ with me; Christ before me; Christ behind me; Christ in Me, Christ in me; Christ beneath me; Christ above me; Christ on my right; Christ on my left...”

excerpt of St. Patrick's Breastplate Prayer

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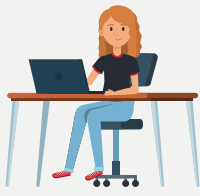


### THE SEASON OF LENT

On Wed. March 5th, we will hold a special Ash Wednesday service to open the season of Lent. Lent is the 40 days (not including Sundays) from Ash Wednesday to the Saturday before Easter.

Many often focus on this time period to grow closer to God and prepare our hearts in anticipation of what is to come Easter weekend. Some choose to fast to allow more time to spend in prayer or reflection, others may choose to give up something like going out to eat or limiting shopping using that money to donate to a worthy cause. They take some extra time to serve the church or another local mission as a reminder of Jesus' sacrifice.

Whatever you choose, we hope this time as we reflect on what Jesus did at the cross enables you to grow into a deeper relationship with the Father and the Son.



# From The Pastor's Study

by Pastor Melanie Nichols

Brothers and Sisters,

We are in our third month, the month that begins the Christian season of Lent, Saint Patrick's Day, and Spring (March 20). If you are like me this is one of my favorite seasons. It is a time of searching, renewal, and expectation.



The passage that comes to mind for me today is Luke 15:1-7 Jesus shares the parable about a man who has 100 sheep and one goes missing. Jesus asks, "what will he do?" Then He says will he not go and search until he finds that one sheep? The story continues with once found the man will joyfully

carrying it home on his shoulders.

I think this is perhaps one of my favorite images of Jesus carrying us on His shoulders to bring us home to the flock, and folks, there is so much more because then Jesus says,

*"In the same way, there is more joy in heaven over one lost sinner who repents and returns to God than over ninety-nine others who are righteous and haven't strayed away!"*

This teaching always brings tears to my eyes because I see faces of people I love who have spiritually been carried home on God's shoulders. People I know who were living without hope, held in the shackles of sin and lost to eternity. Praise the Lord for loving us sinners!

As we travel through Lent ask God to help us remember where we were before Christ forgave us. Let God remind you of how far you have come and let Him show you something new that He wants to clean up

Grace and Peace of Christ to You All,  
*Pastor Melanie*



## VANDEBURG METHODIST CHURCH

1809 Charlotte Hwy  
Mooresville, NC 28115



Alternate:  
P. O. Box 4772  
Mooresville, NC 28117

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



Pastor Melanie Nichols  
828.448.2660 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 early in the week on our website.

# JOIN US FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL

## NEW YOUNG ADULT CLASS

Our new young adult is growing! Noah Fogleman leads the class and they will begin a new series, Christ is Risen in March.

The class meets in room 103, and all young adult singles and couples are invited.

**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!**

What a blessing to see our young adults stepping out to grow in their walk with Christ. We want to continue to encourage them to come and enjoy fellowship while they study the Word!



All Young Adult singles & couples are welcome each Sunday during the 9:00 AM Sunday School Hour!

## 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.

## CHILDREN & PRE-TEEN



Beginning in March, the children will begin using the series All-in-One Sunday School. It is designed for preschool-12 yrs old.

The group will be meeting 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!

## 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

The Circle of Friends met for their monthly meeting on Mon. Feb. 3rd. It was good to see approximately 12 in attendance, and we extended our thoughts and prayers for many who were dealing with sickness. Minutes were read by Jeannie Miller and approved. Lottie Freeze presented a program and refreshments were enjoyed by all.



The vice-president and card coordinator positions are still open. Please consider filling those offices. During the Feb. meeting, cards to various individuals were signed by the group.

A new meeting time of 6:30 was voted on and approved, and there was open discussion about plans for future fundraisers.

Thank you to everyone that came. They look forward to seeing everyone again for the March meeting.

**NEXT MEETING**  
Mon. Mar. 3rd at 6:30 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

Chair - David Edmonds

Due to lack of need or use, a decision was made to sell the church van. After reaching out to several dealerships, the Trustees chose the top offer and it was sold in late February.



Among many projects completed, such as heaters in the gym bathrooms, replacing damaged siding on the main building, repairing crawlspace doors on Scout Hut and Gym, we are pleased to share that the 2nd floor men's bathroom is finished. Take a trip upstairs to check it out!

Future projects include renovation to the 2nd floor women's bathroom and removal and trimming of trees by the gym.

The next Trustee meeting will be held on Tues. Mar. 11th 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](mailto:edmonds5@twc.com).

## Vanderburg Methodist Men

by Bradley Mills, VMM President

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.

Recently the group voted at their last meeting to donate the following:

\$500 to Samaritan's Purse: Hurricane Helene Relief

\$100 to St. Jude's

\$100 to Christian Mission

\$100 to Feed NC

\$100 to Special Olympics

They will be offering Boston Butts again on April 12 and plan to cook a scrumptious breakfast for Easter Sunrise.

Next meeting: Sun. March 9th | 7:00AM

# 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!



Our weekly Bible Study, offered by Pastors Melanie & Keith continues on a new day & time. Back to the Beginning: A study of the first 11 Chapters in the book Genesis! This Bible Study is now offered on Thursdays at 10:30 am, combining both sessions. It's not too late to join us for this foundational teaching.

3

The Circle of Friends Women's Ministry meet Mon. Mar. 3 at 6:30PM in the Jack Overcash Fellowship Hall. If you've never attended, this is a great time to get started!

6

The Scholarship Comm. will meet on Thur. Mar. 6 at 6:30PM in the Library. All members are encouraged to attend.

9

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

11

The Trustees will meet on Tue. Mar. 11 at 6:30PM. All members are encouraged to attend.

15

Community Breakfast Mar. 15th from 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM Hands & Feet are needed to help!

30

The Worship Comm. will meet immediately after service on Sun. Mar. 30 to continue preparations for Lenten Season.

Preparing for the Season of Lent  
Drawing closer to the Lord through prayer, service & reflection

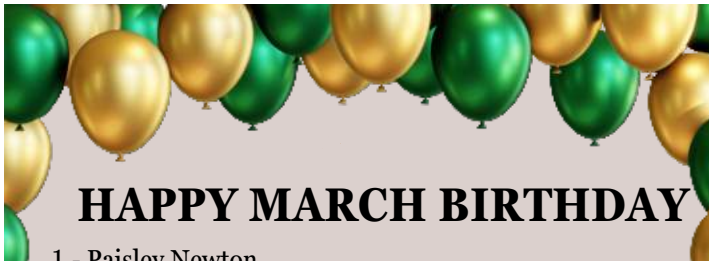
**Special Ash  
wednesday Service**

**Wed. March 5  
6:30PM**

Vanderburg Methodist Church  
1809 Charlotte Hwy  
 Mooresville

vanderburgchurch.org 

# SPECIAL EVENTS



## HAPPY MARCH BIRTHDAY

- 1 - Paisley Newton
- 5 - Jack Kaufman, Morgan Ketchie & Joey Neill
- 6 - Megan Smith & Chloe Winecuff
- 7 - Kevin Winecuff
- 6 - Rebekah Josey & Roger Walker
- 8 - Laurie Furr
- 9 - Austin Dagenhart & Alexander Jones
- 10 - Jeremy Ervin & Tom Pierce
- 12 - Payne Edmonds
- 13 - Adam Neill
- 15 - Susan McCarter
- 17 - James Bush & Terry Corson
- 19 - Trevor Crisp & Kristine Ann Hedrick
- 20 - Charles Snyder
- 24 - Beverly Mayhew
- 26 - Bubby Furr, Katy Smith, Dena Younts, Jessica Trantham & Tyler Peltier
- 27-Ruth Doherty
- 28-Lynn Neill & Zach Meadows
- 29-Susan Fogleman
- 31-Darlene Setzer

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- |                           |                       |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Mar. 3                    | Mar. 27               |
| Ronald & Sherry Armstrong | Jimmy & Vickie Brooks |
| Mar. 16                   |                       |
| Billy & Morgan Newton     |                       |
| Mar. 22                   |                       |
| Bradley & Megan Smith     |                       |
| Mar. 25                   |                       |
| Robert & Debra Compton    |                       |
| Barry & Karla Winecuff    |                       |



## Community Breakfast Mar. 15

All are welcome for the Community Breakfast to be held Sat. Mar. 15th from 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM in the Jack Overcash Fellowship Hall. Pancakes, sausage, Biscuits & Gravy, along with Orange Juice & Coffee is on the menu.

John Freeze invites all pickers to come for a fun jam session during the breakfast!

Make plans to drop in and invite a friend to join you! Donations are accepted for the meal, with proceeds supporting Mission Outreach.

VANDERBURG WELCOMES YOU  
**community**  
BREAKFAST

**SAT. MARCH 15**  
8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

- Biscuits & Gravy
- Pancakes & Sausage
- Coffee & Juice

  
Vanderburg Methodist Church  
1809 Charlotte Hwy  
 Mooresville

DONATIONS ACCEPTED TO  
SUPPORT OUTREACH  
[vanderburgchurch.org](http://vanderburgchurch.org)



Calling All Pickers!  
All are invited to come for a jam session during the breakfast! Contact the church office for more information!  
704.663.1690

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

## 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 - 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.

**The Administrative Council  
meets again on  
Tues. April 22nd | 6:30 PM**

## ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING FEB. 11, 2025



The Administrative Council met Tues. Feb. 11th at 6:30PM in the Jack Overcash Fellowship Hall. Due to a previously scheduled meeting, Chair Greg Whitfield was unable to preside. Former Council Chair, Bradley Mills led the meeting. Following an opening prayer by Melanie Nichols, and approval of the December minutes, the following committees reported and are summarized below.

### **Youth reported by Mandy Bowers**

Due to lack of age appropriate youth, weekly meetings have ceased, but it's an area for growth.

### **Vanderburg Methodist Men reported by Bradley Mills**

Boston Butt Fundraiser will be held on April 12. The men will cook for the Sunrise Service on April 20.

### **Circle of Friends reported by Lottie Freeze**

A new time of 6:30PM was implemented during the Feb. meeting.

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

Enrollment for 2025-26 is going well, and they look forward to welcoming back a former teacher. Also, 2 upcoming fundraisers were announced for March and May.

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

A new Young Adult Class began Feb. 2 and is doing well. Many of the other classes utilize Lifeway Curriculum or find studies on their own.

### **SPRC reported by John Freeze**

A good reminder that if we can't solve the problems in the church, the Holy Spirit can.

### **Bereavement No report**

### **Membership reported by Kay Edmonds**

A new computer is needed to hold Membership software. Total Membership is 342; losing 2 to death.

### **Scholarship reported by Cindy Rodden**

Discussed moving money from the United Methodist Foundation. Will discuss in March when next statement arrives.

### **Trustees reported by David Edmonds**

It was reported that the church van needed to be sold. The old sound system was sold with funds to benefit the choir. HVAC repairs were made at the church & parsonage. Other heaters were repaired in Gym. There was discussion about outdoor signage by the playground. The trustees have identified tree work that needed to be scheduled.

### **Outreach reported by Pastor Melanie & John Freeze**

The Outreach team met to begin planning for the community Easter Egg Hunt. See potential to growing our children's ministry with additional activities.

### **Parsonage reported by Mandy Bowers**

It's been reported that the Parsonage is in need of new HVAC.

### **Finance reported by Cindy Rodden**

Our accountant looked over our books and we are in good shape. Sending remaining funds in mission to Samaritan's purse for Hurricane Relief.

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

The sale of old sound system will go to purchase monitors for Choir. Hanging mics will also be replaced. Exploring upgrading computers used by Worship Team.

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

Would like to do an Ash Wednesday program for the Preschool. Is looking for a Lenten Study for the church to do together. If you find one, let her know. Continuing to preach from 1Peter.



# FINANCES



## GIFTS MADE TO VANDERBURG

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

In Honor of:

- Kathy Neel to the General Fund by Stacey Pierce

## January Financial Snapshot

Income	\$ 24, 304
Expenses	\$ 20, 583
Budgeted per Month	\$ 22, 323

If mailing your Tithes and Offerings, please send to:



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







# Vanderburg Church Preschool

vumcpreschool@gmail.com

704.664.1625

Directors: Susan Fogleman & Angelene Nelson



## SWEETHEART DANCE



The children had a blast at our Sweetheart Dance on Friday 14th . They had a special snack, played games, created crafts and, of course, danced. We were happy to have parents and grandparents present to join in the fun!

**WHO WANTS PIZZA**

ENJOY A DELICIOUS MEAL WHILE SUPPORTING THE VANDERBURG PRESCHOOL FUNDRAISER

**THURS. MARCH 27 | 4:00 - 8:00 PM**

VILLAGE INN PIZZA | 539M E. PLAZA DR. | MOORESVILLE

MENTION THE PRESCHOOL SO THEY RECEIVE 10% OF THE TOTAL SALES DURING THE FUNDRAISER DINE-IN, TAKE-OUT OR DELIVERY

VANDERBURGCHURCH.ORG/PRESCHOOL  
VUMCPRESCHOOL@GMAIL.COM

We will be having a fundraiser at Village Inn Pizza in Mooresville on Thursday, March 27th from 4pm-8pm. The preschool will receive a portion of all sales when you dine in, carryout, or have delivered. Remember to mention the preschool!

**VANDERBURG METHODIST PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION**

CALL TODAY! 704-664-1625

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  
vumcpreschool@gmail.com  
Vanderburg Methodist Preschool  
1809 Charlotte Hwy | Mooresville, NC 28115

Enrollment for the 2025-2026 school year is going well. We will continue to enroll children until spaces are full. If you know someone in need of a great preschool, send them our way.

## IMPORTANT DATES



March 10-14:  
School closed for Spring Break



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

## UPCOMING FUNDRAISERS



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

# Looking Ahead to Easter



The Worship Comm. met on Sun. Feb. 23 to begin preparations for the Lenten Season. This is a very special time for the church, and we look forward to our growing closer to the Lord as we approach Easter Sunday.

Please save the dates for these upcoming events:

- Ash Wednesday | March 5
- Holy Thursday | April 17
- Good Friday | April 18
- Easter Sunrise & Service | April 18



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

TO: