

MAY 2021 NEWSLETTER

May, 2021
Volume XL, Issue 5

First Presbyterian Church IN VICTOR

**WHOEVER YOU ARE.
HOWEVER YOU HAVE COME.
YOU ARE WELCOME HERE.**

“So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us;”

2 Corinthians 5:17-20

Beloved people of God, our missional nature as the church has been on my heart a lot recently, and so has this scripture passage. We all have our favorite scripture passages, our ‘canon within the canon of Scripture’ as one of my professors so aptly put it, and for me this passage from 2 Corinthians is one of those favorites of mine. When I run through the repertoire of scriptures that are meaningful, challenging, and continue to speak to me this always rises to the surface. When I mention our missional nature as the church I mean something very specific that I want to expand on a bit here. When I use the term missional I mean by it what has been popularized by the Gospel in our Culture network authors and theologians when they speak of the mission of God to the world (the overarching plan and purpose of God) and I am not meaning missionaries (the people we campaign for and send money to) called to specific service in the world.

Mission—these authors, theologians, and myself suggest—is about understanding what God’s plan and purpose are for the world; God’s mission to the world that God so loves. So to be missional in this sense is to recognize what God’s mission to the world is, and as the church join in that mission where God has already been showing up. We might say that God’s mission was to create life and humanity ‘to serve God and enjoy God continually’ as Westminster Confession says, or we could say that God was about blessing the particular for the sake of the whole much like the covenant blessing and promise given to Abraham when God says “I will make you an ancestor of many nations; I will set up my covenant with you and with your descendants after you.”

(cont. pg. 2)



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MUSIC

If you have any requests for preludes or postludes, please let the office know. Courtney will pass the information onto Ayn.

Thank you!

(Cont. from pg. 1)

For me the clearest expression of the mission of God, and our missional nature of the church comes from this passage in 2 Corinthians. Especially the last part above, “that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us...” God’s plan here is one of reconciliation, of making relationships right and whole. I believe God’s intention in the beginning of time was always relationship with the creation God made, and even when it goes wrong because of sin; God’s plan is still to have relationship with all God has made.

Friends I believe this means we as God’s people must take up that ministry of reconciliation. We are God’s ambassadors. I like that notion. An ambassador is someone who is an official representative; as Christ’s followers I like to think that we are those official representatives of God’s love and God’s plan for humanity. As an ambassador we show up and represent the best of God’s love and care for the world. I believe we can agree that an ambassador who stays at home isn’t a very good ambassador. Bob Goff became a consulate for Uganda, and as such he had to be able to show up and be a representative for human rights and God in

“This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. ~1 John 1:5

STAY CONNECTED



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

<https://www.facebook.com/firstvictorpres/>



WATCH SERVICES ON YOUTUBE

First Presbyterian Church in Victor



VISIT OUR WEBSITE

victorpres.org



EMAIL US

PASTOR- pastor@victorpres.org

OFFICE- office@victorpres.org

585.924.2289

the country. Through the book *Love Does* that we are starting the book study on, Bob was able to provide education by building schools, and stop certain practices that were leading to the trafficking and death of children by witch doctors in Uganda. It is and was an act of reconciliation and work towards justice in the world.

How are we willing as the church in America to be ‘ministers of reconciliation’ in the world? How are we willing to be ambassadors for God and for the Gospel of God’s love and forgiveness? What small step could you take today to make one relationship in your life better and more healthy? The challenge for us joining in God’s mission is less about knowing what to do, and more about having the courage to show up and let our love be shown in action. Our love cannot remain a stated and stagnant card on the wall, but must be proved in our lives by the things we do. God showed up in the person of Jesus and reconciled us by a profound action of death and resurrection; we must be willing to show up in profound ways to bring about love for the world.

A fellow servant of the Lord,
Pastor Nick

Pastor Nick’s Office Hours

Tues, Wed, Fri 9-4

pastor@victorpres.org

585-924-2289 Church Office
585-698-9064 Pastoral emergencies

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Sundays, 10 am
*YouTube Livestream & In-person**
Sunday Service

MAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

May 2nd~ 10am Sunday Worship (Communion)

May 9th~ 10am Sunday Worship

May 16th~ 10am Sunday Worship

May 23rd~ 10am Sunday Worship (Day of Pentecost)

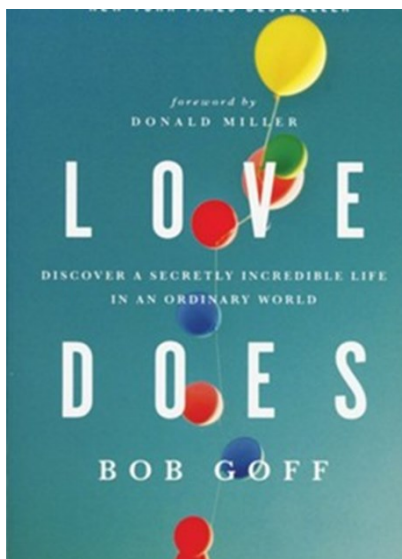
May 30th~ 10am Sunday Worship

Grab your coffee, bible, and gather your family around your computer for Virtual services or come worship in-person!



*"Those of steadfast mind you keep in peace—
in peace because they trust in you." ~ Isaiah 26:3*

NEW BOOK STUDY GROUP



*"Love Does: Discover a
Secretly Incredible Life
in an Ordinary World",
By: Bob Goff*

May 9th – June 6th
*5-week study with study
guide and videos

In-person after worship each
Sunday, led by Pastor Nick

-Or-

On ZOOM on Thursday evenings,
led by Clay Girouard



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Do you have an announcement you would like to share with the congregation and would like to be included in the Sunday morning worship slideshow? Please send to Courtney in the office office@victorpres.org by Wednesday at 10am, even earlier is welcome and appreciated.

Please email the office at office@victorpres.org and let us know which session you would like to join, if you need a book ordered or if you have any questions.



FPCV CHRISTIAN ED. PRESENTS:

Intentional Growth of Your Personal Faith

An opportunity to intentionally grow your personal faith through independent study, fun audio and video, and group discussions - totally flexible to fit YOUR schedule!

We warmly invite you to join us!

As we approach Lent and a time of transition for our church, it is more important than ever that we continue our personal faith journeys and maintain our cohesiveness as a congregation. Using the Bible Project*

(read more about it here: <https://bibleproject.com/about/>), bi-monthly we will explore topics relevant to today to help all of us "experience the Bible in a way that is approachable, engaging, and transformative."

"For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—" ~Ephesians 5:8

You will explore each topic by listening to a short audio (~6 min), watching a short video (~6 min), doing scripture reading (~10 min) and answering 3-4 discussion questions. Then we will come together for a 1 hour zoom session to discuss our answers to the questions and support each other as we all deepen our understanding of our own faith.

The invitation is open to all, no sign-up is required, and your participation is welcome in one or all of the sessions, or anything in between.

ZOOM:

Meeting ID: 815 3631 4089

Passcode: 277723

UPCOMING SESSIONS

WEB LINK

Session 7 May 3, 7-8pm

Holiness

In this week's bible study we take A deeper look at God's holiness.

[BibleProject: Holiness](#)

Session 8 May 17, 7-8pm

Witness

For this week's study, we're exploring the word witness.

[BibleProject: Witness](#)

TREASURER'S REPORT, MARCH 2021

| TREASURER'S REPORT (EXECUTIVE SUMMARY) | | | | |
|---|--------------------|---------------|-------------------|--|
| For Month of March 2021 | | | | |
| TOTAL GENERAL FUND: | | | | |
| Beginning Balance | \$41,437.12 | | | |
| Income | 14,958.70 | | | |
| Expenses | 19,635.97 | | | |
| Ending Balance | \$36,759.85 | | | |
| Offering | Actual | Budget | Difference | |
| | \$13,427.00 | \$15,000.00 | \$(1,573.00) | |
| Year-to-Date: | <u>Actual</u> | <u>Budget</u> | <u>Difference</u> | |
| Total Operating Income | \$59,417.87 | \$56,400.00 | \$3,017.87 | |
| Total Operating Expenses | 54,298.17 | 52,214.39 | \$2,083.78 | |
| Operating Income (Loss) | \$5,119.70 | \$4,185.61 | \$934.09 | |
| Adult Pledges Year-to-Date: | | | | |
| Actual | \$46,961.70 | | | |
| Budget | 45,000.00 | | | |
| Surplus/(Shortfall) | \$1,961.70 | | | |
| | 4.36% | | | |
| | | Emily Wojcik | | |
| | | Treasurer | | |



PER CAPITA 2021

Per capita for 2021 is \$35.14 per member. Per capita is a fixed annual expense of our church to support the work of our Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church USA. If possible, we ask you to please make a contribution to support these important works. Member support for this cost is greatly appreciated any time in 2021.





FROM THE WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Beautifying the sanctuary for worship:

The Worship Committee knows that most folks enjoy having the sanctuary look beautiful for worship and part of that is the floral arrangements that we have had over the years. For that reason we would like to offer everyone the opportunity to provide flowers on any given Sunday and that can be done in honor or memory of someone special in your life.

For each communion Sunday, the first Sunday of each month, we would like to have living arrangements or plants provided. To do that we would ask that any interested person sign up using our online “Signup Genius” platform. You can click on [this link](#) and it will take you directly to the website to sign up for any given Sunday. While our goal is to have live arrangements on the first Sunday of each month, if you would like to provide them for any other Sunday, that request would not be refused.

“But the word of God continued to advance and gain adherents.” ~Acts 12:24



If you do sign up, please indicate in the comments section of SignUp Genius what you would like done with the arrangement after the service is over. For example: “I will be in church to take the arrangement home with me.” Or, “Please donate my arrangement to a ‘shut in’ person.” We also can accept up to 2 floral arrangements per Sunday if someone else has already signed up on a particularly special Sunday that you would like to have flowers in church.

As an alternative, we would like to purchase some different “silk” arrangements to have for the Sundays that there are no live arrangements given. For that we would ask anyone willing to please offer a donation of whatever amount you may feel called to give and send that into through your favorite giving medium earmarked for “silk floral arrangements.”

Thank you in advance,
The Worship Committee

FROM THE WORSHIP COMMITTEE (CONT.)

Have you noticed the praise banners on each side of the pulpit?



Liturgical colors signify a time or event in the life of the church. The worship committee has been displaying these colors regularly and would like to express their meaning more formally with banners. We are hoping that YOU, members of the congregation would like to sponsor one banner or a set of banners. Call a friend and you can each buy one to make a set. Right now we are looking to fulfill the yearly Liturgical calendar. As of now we have the Lenten season (displayed right now) in the stained glass series which works well with our church architecture. We also have a set for the ordinary WW times which is the green stained glass set in the series. We hope to round the year out with sponsorship of (2) Advent, (2) Christmas, (2) Palm Sunday, and (2) Easter banners. In the future we look forward to offering more opportunities of sponsorship to celebrate church life.

*The banners are \$39.00 each and right now the company is offering 20% discount and free shipping. *If you would like to sponsor a set of banners or one banner please contact the church office.

Banners are 18"x5" long skinny version is what we are using.

Palms left and right side options for Palm Sunday

Candle(2) needed for advent

Poinsettia (2) needed for Christmas Eve/day.

Manger and Angel set for up to Epiphany Sunday

Crown of Thorns left and right Easter Sunday up to Pentecost.

We're looking forward to your help to freshening up our sanctuary.

Thank you,

The Worship Committee

BANNER SPONSORS

Thank you to **Brian and Many Wiser** for sponsoring the Lenten banner set and the Ordinary time banner set.



*"We must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters, as is right, because your faith is growing abundantly, and the love of every one of you for one another is increasing."
~2 Thessalonians 1:3*

Thank you to **Jeff and Jan Astles** for sponsoring the Pentecost banner set.



Thank you to **Dean and Phidelia Cornwell** for sponsoring the Communion banner.



BANNERS AVAILABLE TO BE SPONSORED



*The banners are \$39.00 each and right now the company is offering 20% discount and free shipping.

*If you would like to sponsor a set of banners or one banner please contact Courtney in the church office.

MAY

BIRTHDAYS!

| | |
|------|----------------------|
| 1st | Wayne Hulbert |
| 3rd | Melissa Whipple |
| 4th | Cindy Scoda |
| 5th | Larry Jacobs |
| 6th | Steve Mowers |
| 11th | Doug Reed |
| 16th | Brandon Bellefeuille |
| 18th | Kathryn Sturn |
| 19th | Lynn Holter |
| 23rd | Nancy Olson |
| 25th | Marjorie Damaske |
| 25th | Scott Ferguson |
| 25th | Lindsey Praino |
| 25th | Kathy Purdie |
| 26th | Ruth Dreeste |
| 28th | Lauren Holmes |
| 31st | Susan George |

MAY

ANNIVERSARIES!

| | |
|------|-----------------------------|
| 4th | David & Donna Schake |
| 7th | Marjorie & Edward Damaske |
| 10th | Dan & Diane Miles |
| 11th | Craig & Kelsey Bright |
| 13th | Joanne & James Bellefeuille |
| 16th | Phidelia & Dean Cornwell |
| 27th | Florence & Larry Cook |

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Sunday School is now in-person. There will be three classes to promote social distancing. The classes will PreK –1, 2-3, and 4-6. All children will be seated at least 3ft apart in assigned seats. In addition, proper mask wearing will be required by students and teachers. Classrooms and shared items will be sanitized before and after every class. The children are dismissed for class after the Moment for All Ages and are to be picked up by 1 parent at their classrooms following service.



SUNDAY SCHOOL CALENDAR

| Date | PreK-3 Topic | 4-6 Topic |
|--------|--------------------|------------------------|
| May 2 | Believers Share | God Helps Us Get Along |
| May 9 | Choosing the Seven | The Bible is True |
| May 16 | Peter and Tabitha | Why Are Things Unfair |
| May 23 | The Church Grows | Do Pets Go to Heaven |
| May 30 | Pentecost | Sins |
| June 6 | Love in Action | God is Always with You |

Important Dates

- May 1st- May Day
- May 2nd- National Brothers and Sisters Day
- May 4th- May the 4th be with you
- May 5th- Cinco de Mayo
- May 9th- Mother's Day
- May 10th- National Clean Your Room Day
- May 31st- Memorial Day
- June 6th- Last Day of Regular Sunday school

FAMILY PROMISE



Gather your teams, rev your engines,
THE 5TH ANNUAL

FAMILY PROMISE OF ONTARIO COUNTY

BED RACE

is coming

July 24 - 31

Don't be caught flatfooted,
get your team ready NOW!



Mission: Unite the faith community, volunteer organizations and existing agencies in Ontario County to provide a pathway for homeless children and their families to secure reliable housing and self-sufficiency.

"so that you may lead lives worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God." ~ Colossians 1:10

PANERA BREAD



Don't forget! Panera bread donations are at the church on Wednesdays, usually around 10am until gone. Panera Bread graciously donates bread and baked goods for our community to receive at the church. Tables are set up in the back entrance of the First Presbyterian Church in Victor for those to drive up and grab whatever is needed. This is first come, first served Please come and take whatever you need. There are many loaves of bread, dozens of bagels, and a table full of other baked goods! God is good!! Please reach out to anyone you know that may benefit from this donation, as we do not want any of this to go to waste!

FROM THE PROPERTY COMMITTEE

The Property Committee is looking for help through the Summer with landscaping around the church grounds. Would you be willing to volunteer your time? Contact Bill Martz at williamlmartz1@gmail.com





ONLINE GIVING PLATFORMS

Your continued generous financial support over this past year of closure and re-opening is graciously appreciated. A continued thanks to the many families that continue to give by ACH and send in checks, with your support we have been able to continue to serve our community and God's ministry here.

Did you know that we now offer an *online giving platform*? Head over to the website and look through the [Giving](#) page for instructions on how to give from your computer via Vanco Payment Solutions or your smartphone with the **GivePlus** mobile app!



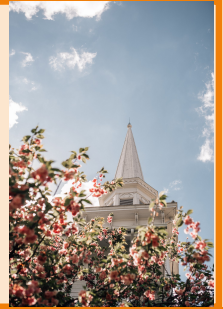
*“But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.”
~2 Peter 3:18*



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May 2021

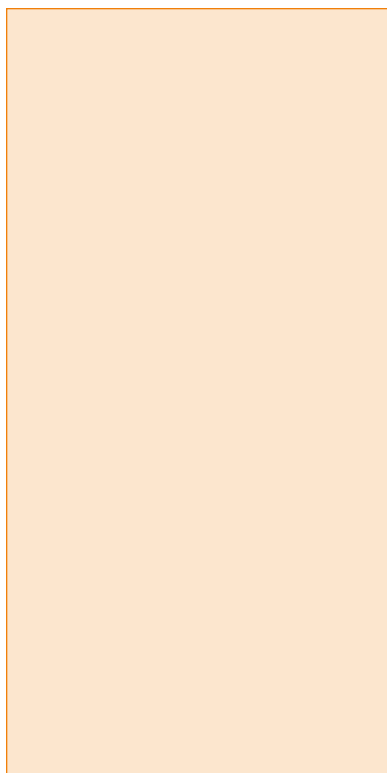


| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|---|---------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 2 Communion Worship 10am w/ Sunday School, 11:10 Coffee Hour- ZOOM , Mom's Group 7 pm AA meeting | 3 Christian Ed. Study group 7pm—ZOOM | 4 Administrative Committee Meeting 7pm | 5 Panera | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 Mother's Day Worship 10am w/ Sunday School, 11:10 Coffee Hour- ZOOM , Mom's Group & Book Study Group 7 pm AA meeting | 10 | 11 Session Meeting- ZOOM 7pm | 12 Panera | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 Worship 10am w/ Sunday School, 11:10 Coffee Hour- ZOOM , Mom's Group & Book Study Group 7 pm AA meeting | 17 Christian Ed. Study group 7pm—ZOOM | 18 Deacon Meeting- ZOOM 6pm Worship Committee meeting— 7pm | 19 Panera | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 Day of Pentecost Worship 10am w/ Sunday School, 11:10 Coffee Hour- ZOOM , Mom's Group & Book Study Group 7 pm AA meeting | 24 | 25 | 26 Panera | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 Worship 10am w/ Sunday School, 11:10 Coffee Hour- ZOOM , Mom's Group & Book Study Group 7 pm AA meeting | 31 Memorial Day | 1 | 2 Panera | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| | | | | | | |

Visit our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/firstvictorpres/
Give us a like!

Livestream services can be watched now on our [YouTube Channel](#):
Search "[First Presbyterian Church in Victor](#)" and Subscribe!

Visit our website for News: victorpres.org



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PLEASE
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