


Connections

Recognize a Place for Your SHAPE?

Summer 2009

Connect by Worshipping Continually


-  **Labor Day?? The End of Summer Service!** On Sunday, September 6th there will be **one worship service at 10 am**. We will join together in worship and then afterwards we will send everyone out to serve in various activities throughout the community. Everyone is encouraged to participate in the intergenerational event. At 4 pm that day everyone will return to the church for food, fun and fellowship.
- **So what's the story?** Sundays until November 2009, we are studying the Acts of the apostles. As we discover more about how the early church and followers of Jesus lived their lives, we can discover how the Bible is relevant to how we live our lives today.





*Sunday Worship Services at 8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 AM
(Except September 6th – 10 am Only)*

Join us for Coffee and Connection in the Great Hall between services

- **We missed you on Sunday!** – But you don't have to miss worship. You can hear an audio recording of the entire service by going to <http://www.viennapres.org/worship/sermons> Listen to the service on your computer, or – for the teens and techies among you – download it to your iPod/MP3 player and take it with you!
- **Inspirational Reading** – Keep up with the Acts of the Disciples daily devotional readings this summer. Pick up a copy of the booklet in the Narthex or visit www.viennapres.org/devotionals to read each day's offering on the site or sign up to receive the devotional each day by email. For the techies out there, you can even follow us on Twitter at "ViennaPres."

Connect by Studying Diligently



-  **What Do Presbyterians Believe?** Starting on July 19, Rev. Chris Hammond, VPC's Parish Associate, will lead a 4-week series, "I Believe: An Introduction to the PC(USA) Book of Confessions." Copies of the Book are available online and through VPC's Grapevine Bookstore. All are welcome to the Beyond Basics Sunday School class at the 9:30 hour in Room 203-204.

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Calling All Women! Consider joining a 14-week study of Luke, launching in September on Tuesdays, 9:30-11:30 am. This is a fun, intergenerational group with an exciting format that goes beyond lecture and includes many interactive activities. Childcare will be available. (Information/registration: Shannon Jordan, shannonjordan1@verizon.net or 703.956.6533)
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Be equipped to lead – Jesus led a small group to equip his disciples to become servant-leaders. Pastor Glenda Simpkins Hoffman invites you to a 4-week study to become a small group servant-leader. Tuesdays, 7-9 pm from September 8-29.
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Pastor Stan Ott says . . . subscribe to his free weekly email letter of encouragement called “Building One Another.” Simply go to www.BuildingOneAnother.com to sign-up.
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“Survival of the Fastest – Living Sanely When Life is Fired Point Blank” – Own your own copy of this insightful presentation recorded here at VPC in May. Visit Grapevine Books and purchase the CD for only \$3.
- What a deal!** – We have a huge selection of gently used books for sale and there’s something for the whole family! Check them out on the second floor hallway, outside the Perkins Memorial library. Your choice: \$2.00 hardcover, \$1.00 paperback. \$.50 special items. Proceeds support the library.
- Want to get plugged in on Sunday mornings?** - Join us for ‘Discovery’, a discussion-oriented class designed to examine what the Bible says about Jesus Christ, what he said about himself and how we can know him today in a personal way. Going on now, during the 11:00 hour in the second floor conference room. (Phil Kratovil, phil.kratovil@viennapres.org or 703.938.9050, x115)
- Beach Reading** - Stop by Grapevine Books across from the VPC Great Hall to check out the great selection of Christian fiction and non-fiction. Perhaps you’ve been meaning to read *The Shack* by William P. Young, but haven’t gotten around to it, or perhaps you want to be ahead of everyone else in reading *The Noticer* by Andy Andrews. Either way the friendly and knowledgeable staff at Grapevine is ready to help you find your summer picks! (Anna Whiston-Donaldson, anna.whiston-donaldson@viennapres.org or 703.938.9050, x135)
- Have a free evening mid-week?** – Want to connect with other young adults at VPC? Young Adult Bible Study meets every Wednesday at 7:30 pm at the home of Bert and Gerri Webb. (For questions or directions: kelly.gould@viennapres.org or 703.938.9050 x112)

- **ESOL Bible Study** – Adults from every country are welcome to join this study of God’s word in the Bible. Intermediate and advanced students (levels 2 and 3) will improve their English skills by learning vocabulary words, practicing pronunciation, reading Bible verses aloud and discussing the meaning and application of verses studied. Class will meet Sunday mornings at 11am in room 317. (*Bonnie Grouge: 703.938.9050 x102 or bonnie.grouge@viennapres.org; Pam Gissendanner: pam.gissendanner@viennapres.org*)

Connect by Living Faithfully

INVITATIONAL EVENTS

-  **Want to network with Christian business people in the Vienna/Tysons area?** - Come to the recently formed *Bridgepoint Luncheons* for business professionals. The next lunch will be held at Anita’s Restaurant on Friday, July 17th at noon. Becky Dunlop, VP of the Heritage Foundation will speak on “Leadership and Communication.” (*Phil Kratovil: phil.kratovil@viennapres.org or 703.938.9050, x115*)
-  **They’ve gone MAD (Music and Drama)!** Come see the fruits of the labor of our Music and Drama campers – LIVE! VPC MAD Camp will present a lively full length musical on Friday, July 17th, at 7 pm in the Sanctuary.

FOR KIDS & YOUTH ONLY


-  **OTE** – Middle School students, ever wonder what happens when Youth Group goes to summer camp? Consider Camp Ligonier’s On The Edge Adventure Camp for Youth Groups from August 9th – 13th. (*Kim Snyder: kim.snyder@viennapres.org*)
-  **Be. Love. Serve. Repeat.** – DCLA 2009 is an evangelism conference for high school students held every 2 years. If you’re looking for great things to do this summer, please consider attending. Conference dates: July 10- 13, 2009. More details at www.dcla2009.com. (*Liz Foskey: liz.foskey@viennapres.org*)
- **Are your little ones up early?** - We're pleased to announce the introduction of a Bridges class for children aged 4 through 2nd grade at 8 am. Children will attend the first part of the service with their parents and be dismissed to room 320 about 20 minutes into the service. (*Clare Maynard: 703.938.9050 x127 or clare.maynard@viennapres.org*)

- **Want a whole family activity?** Check out “Communion Preparation” below!

FOR CARE AND SUPPORT

- **Support in Loss and Grief** – GriefShare is a weekly video seminar and support group for people grieving the death of someone close. It’s a place where you can be with people who understand the feelings and pain of loss. GriefShare gathers every Sunday night at 6pm in room 205. (Inajo Cox: 703.624.1747; Bill & Sherrie Steinbach: 703.938.3106 or griefshare@viennapres.org)
- **A new shape for you?** – The Lose It For Life workshop is for women who want to get to the bottom of their inability to lose weight and keep it off. Contact www.newlife.com or Alexandra MacCracken at viol328@mindspring.com.
- **A way to help a hurting friend** - Do you have a friend, neighbor, co-worker, or relative going through a difficult time? How about you? A Stephen Minister may be able to offer much needed support. Stephen Ministers are members of our church trained to provide emotional and spiritual care to people who are hurting. It’s confidential, free and very helpful. (David Jordan-Haas: 703.938.9050 X116)
- **Christian Cancer Companions** – This group was formed a few years ago by members of VPC who are all cancer survivors and felt called to outreach to individuals newly diagnosed with cancer. If you know of others who would benefit from this support, feel free to invite them. (Rita Lockwood: 703.573.6168 or luckylist3@cox.net)






Connect by Giving Generously

-  **What’s regular, generous and automatic?** Giving by automatic bank draft. Visit www.viennapres.org and click on the “giving” button at the top of the page. Then, select “ACH Authorization Form” from the right hand column and follow the instructions. (Rob McLallen, rob.mclallen@viennapres.org or 703.938.9050 x119)
- **“Lord, when did we see you hungry?”** - Bethany Women’s Center is a shelter for the homeless which regularly needs our food support. VPC has provided meals twice a month for over 20 years. Recipes and a sign-up sheet are available in the narthex. Simply place off a meal in the VPC kitchen freezer, label it “BWC”, and we’ll make sure it gets to Bethany. (Cindy Alls: 703.222.3657)

- **Van Drive** - As our Transportation "Steering Committee" gets up and running, VPC has the need for gently used vans to help transport VPC members back and forth to various Ministry activities, such as Summer Mission Projects, local work projects, small group activities, etc. If you have a van to donate or would like to contribute in any way, please contact Barry Hill at 703.938.9050 or barry.hill@viennapres.org)
- **Hands and Feet for Christ** – Do you have an hour or two, once a month; once a quarter? Can you make phone calls? Can you bake or buy cookies/brownies? Can you set a table or serve punch? Can you read a Bible verse or a sermon to someone? Can you visit a homebound person or offer a ride to church? Can you cook and deliver a meal? If you answered "yes" to *any* of these, you could be a part of the Deacon Volunteer Care Ministries. (Lee Taylor: 703.938.9050 x103 or David Jordan-Haas: david.jordan-haas@viennapres.org)
- **Clothes, Food & Furniture** – The Committee for Helping Others will receive items for the clothes closet in the VPC condo. Donations are accepted on the first Wednesday of each month (July 1, Aug 5, Sept 2), between 9:30am and noon. Drop off items for the food pantry, also at the condo, via building 133's side door between 9am and 5pm weekdays (descend the stairs and look for the bin). Furniture donations should be scheduled for a Saturday morning pick-up. (www.cho-va.com or 703.281.7614)
- **Leave a Christian Legacy** – The VPC Endowment Board can help! Including VPC in your estate plans is a statement of faith and provides ongoing support for church programs far into the future. Not sure how to get started with planning your legacy? The Endowment Board can help. Call 703.938.9050, x 311, or endowment@viennapres.org.
- **WANTED: Fiction, Travel & Cookbooks** – The Perkins Memorial Library and Resource Center needs your gently-used books in these or any other categories for our used book carts in front of the second floor library. Please place them at the door. Proceed go to support the library. (George Marling: 703.893.5243)
- **Are those old frames still in the back of your drawer?** - An eyeglass recycle box is on the sign-up table in the Narthex. Old eyeglasses can be deposited there and will be taken to a recycling center, where they will be cleaned, sorted and sent to a number of Third World countries as well as some impoverished areas here in the United States. (Deborah Brehony: brehony@cox.net)
- **Snacks and beyond** - Our growing Student Ministries program has several needs beyond volunteers. If you would like to donate snacks, items for the lounge and Street Room, or purchase a memorial Bible for student use, please check out how you can help at www.vpcstudents.org under 'get involved'. (Melissa Jensen: 703.938.9050 x155 or melissa.jensen@viennapres.org)


- **Are you upgrading?** – If you're planning to replace your computer, put your old (functioning) computer to good use in the ESOL ministry. We can use Pentium 4 or newer for our students, and other worthy projects. Pentium 3 laptops are also useable. (*Bill Steinbach: banjo9cg@cox.net*)
- **A License to Give** - Wondering what to do with all those old license plates in the garage? Consider donating them to Student Ministries. We need more license plates for our ceilings in the Underground. (*Melissa Jensen: melissa.jensen@viennapres.org*)
- **Stop - don't throw that away!** - Before you toss your old inkjet cartridge, please bring it to the church office so it may be recycled. (*Kim Jackson: 703.298.8050*)

Connect by Serving Creatively

-  **Our Daily Bread:** Please return filled grocery bags to the narthex July 5th. Volunteers are needed to SORT donated food items on Saturday, July 11 and DELIVER them on July 12. (*Matt Stockburger: mstockw@yahoo.com*)
-  **Do You Have a Heart for Multicultural Mission Work** right here in Vienna? Our ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) Ministry would love to have you on our fall volunteer team of teachers, substitutes, helpers and tutors! (*Bonnie Grouge: bonnie.grouge@viennapres.org or 703.938.9050 x102*)
-  **Sunday Morning Administrators Needed This Fall.** If you're well organized, have some money sense and enjoy talking with people, we're looking for some extra help in Children's Ministries on a Sunday morning. (*Clare Maynard: clare.maynard@viennapres.org or 703.938.9050 x127*)
-  **Praise Band and Worship Team Auditions** - Praise Band members provide contemporary instrumentation for our Sunday morning services. They and the Worship Team (our lead singers) are selected after a brief interview and musical audition. A commitment of two Sundays per month is expected. (*Lance Vining: lance.vining@viennapres.org or 703.938.9050 x132*)
-  **Praise Brass/Winds Auditions** - The Praise Brass group is three-horn ensemble that plays with the Praise Band. We also use the flute as a solo and accompaniment instrument. Both of these roles are auditioned musicians. (*Lance Vining: lance.vining@viennapres.org or 703.938.9050 x132*)

- **Communion Preparation** – The Deacons' Communion Coordinator is looking for assistance to prepare or reset the elements before communion services. Help is also needed to collect empty cups and refill the serving trays after services. The clean-up portion (noon to 12:40pm) is a great activity for families - children really enjoy resetting the serving trays with clean cups! (Sarah Jones: sarahsjones@yahoo.com or 703.323.3662)
- **Library Assistants** – Volunteers are needed to cover the Perkins Memorial Library and Resource Center on the second floor main hallway on Sunday mornings from 9–11 am. You will be trained on what is involved. (George Marling: 703.281.2025 or gmarling@cox.net)
- **Pick-up and Delivery** – Drivers are needed to take food marked "BWC" from the VPC freezer and deliver it to the Bethany Women's Center located in Washington, D.C. Deliveries can be made between Tuesday and Friday, depending on your availability, on scheduled weeks. (Cindy Allis: 703.222.3657)

HAVE A HEART FOR CHILDREN OR YOUTH?

-  **Lead the Children** – Sunday teachers needed this fall! If you enjoy working with children and have some teaching skills, or you just want to share God's love, the following classes need your gifts:
 - 9:30: Young 3s and 4s classes (leaders and assistants)
 - 11:00: 3s and 4s classes (leaders and assistants)

If you would like to know more, please contact (Clare Maynard: clare.maynard@viennapres.org or 703.938.9050 x127)

SPECIFIC SKILLS NEEDED

- **New Member Ministry Team** – This group plans and implements three new member seminars each year. This includes cookies and coffee for receptions, working with the custodial staff to set up rooms, inviting ministry leaders to speak, pulling together information notebooks for the seminar attendees, etc. This group has strong leadership but is looking for team members that are interested in "equipping" our potential new members. (Barb Jones: 703.938.9050 x111 or barb.jones@viennapres.org)

HOW GRACIOUS OF YOU!

- **Could you help extend God's love to our congregation?** - VPC's Call and Care Ministry needs about two dozen new callers/note writers to phone or send notes saying, "Hello, how are you?" Will you help us? We'll supply you with a script, guidelines and a list of 10 families to call. (Lisa Baltzer: 703.560.9398 or lisa@thebaltzers.com)

- **Are you a morning person?** – Do you love meeting and greeting people? Could you be the face of welcome at the doors of VPC? If you feel called to extend a warm and radical welcome to guests and others in the VPC community on Sunday mornings, this could be for you. Commitment is one worship service, once a month. *(Jane Ann Satterfield: jane.satterfield@verizon.net or Jane Sams 703.758.9286 or janesams@cox.net)*

- **Parent and Baby Greeters!** Would you like to help young families, many of whom are first time visitors, experience the warm welcome at VPC? From the childcare reception area you can assist parents in finding Sunday school classes for their older child, point out the rest rooms or sanctuary, and make them feel at home. If you have the gift of welcome and have some general knowledge of the church, this small but important commitment could be for you! If you don't know the church building but want to serve, we'll give you all the training you need. Openings every Sunday morning from 9:15 - 9:30 and 10:45 - 11:00. *(Elaine Wright: 703.938.9050 x351 or lainey1109@cox.net)*

- **45 minutes per month** – Could you spare this short amount of time to help the Coffee Connection between services? Coffee in the Great Hall after worship is an integral part of our Sunday fellowship. This hospitality provides an excellent place for people to meet each other and be exposed to the many mission and ministry opportunities at VPC. *(Ken Workman: 703.860.1452 or kworkman@aol.com)*

- **Welcome Ministry Team** – This team coordinates and performs the welcoming functions of VPC including, Greeters, Coffee Hour, the Welcome Table in the Narthex and Parking. Do you enjoy welcoming newcomers to VPC? Do you have a heart for hospitality? This team has many job functions – upfront, behind the scenes, leadership, follower-ship, weekly, monthly – you name it! If you have ideas or the heart and personality for this ministry, jump in and reach out! *(Jim Thomas: 703.255.5094 or jpthomassr@cox.net)*

WILLING HEART,
TRAINING PROVIDED!

- **Can you offer some time behind the wheel?** – VPC has a small 30+ passenger bus that is used for church outings. Who'd have thought that one could use all that valuable Beltway experience in God's service? We'd like to develop a standing team of drivers for groups to draw from when planning an event. Are you a responsible, behind-the-scenes, service-oriented person? This could be for you! *(Bryan Troutman: 703.790.5270 or btroutman@cox.net)*

PLEASE LET ME KNOW...

- **Passionate Entrepreneur** – Is it on your heart to initiate a ministry or mission that is not currently active at VPC? We can support you in the process of discovering, developing and recruiting to your initiative. (*Barb Jones: 703.938.9050 x111 or barb.jones@viennapres.org*)
- **Ministry Leaders** – Have I missed an opportunity that is available on your team? Email me for inclusion in the September issue. (*Barb Jones: 703.938.9050 x111 or barb.jones@viennapres.org*)

Connect by Praying Daily

- **Men's Prayer Fellowship** - Tuesday mornings from 6:30 – 7:15 am, in the Parlor. Drop in before work for a spiritual workout.
- **Prayer Team** – The needs of our congregation, community, nation and world are deep *and* we have much for which we are thankful. VPC Prayer Team is a consistent behind-the-scenes prayer force. You will be provided with a list of prayer requests which you can incorporate into your daily prayer ritual. If you enjoy praying for others or want to further develop this spiritual practice, we'll help you! (*Paula Lohrmann: 703.281.7640 or newallover@aol.com*)

Connect by Witnessing Boldly

Missions, Near and Far

- **"When I was sent to jail, it was like God was rescuing me."** - These words represent part of the story of one of the hundreds of Hispanic men incarcerated at the Fairfax County Detention Center. Every year we hope these men can develop a relationship with Jesus Christ through our partner in missions, the Good News Jail Ministry. Opportunities to volunteer include Bible study as well as one-on-one mentoring, both while the men are incarcerated and after release. If you feel you can serve in this area, contact Chaplain Whitmore at billwhitmore@goodnewsjail.org or 703.246.4383.

How to Connect to an Opportunity

1. **Pray and Explore!**

Seeking and searching for God's direction is an integral part of this process. We will be praying for you and for the ministries and missions of VPC. Attend ministry meetings; take a class; investigate a service or fellowship opportunity. Try on some different "hats". Keep praying about where God is leading you. Listen for his call.

2. **Observe or Talk to Others about Programs and/or Missions Opportunities**

If you know where you wish to make a commitment, skip to Step 6! However if you are unsure about making a commitment and need more information, go on to Step 2.

3. **Express Interest in Serving**

You may have an interest, or be ready to serve, but are unsure of where you fit at VPC. Or, you may wish to find out more about one of the opportunities listed in this booklet or in the Sunday Worship Bulletin. Talk with someone in the church who knows you well; discuss opportunities of which both of you are aware. Or simply, contact the Connections Coordinator – bring your curiosity.

4. **Initial Contact by Connections Coordinator**

This is an opportunity for us to briefly get to know each other and to discover your gifts, passions, and abilities. We will discuss the next steps in your spiritual journey and possible opportunities that may be of interest to you. With your permission, I will provide your contact information to Ministry team leaders in the church so that they can provide you with more detailed information about opportunities we have discussed.

5. **Contacts by Missions and Ministry Leaders**

Team leaders will contact you by phone to get to know you and tell you more about the ministry, its vision or purpose, its goals, and where you to become a part of that ministry team.

6. **Jump In!**

Sometimes you'll know that you're in the right place; sometimes you won't. It often takes time for God to get us past our own humanness to be fully committed to something new. If you find that once you've connected somewhere, it's not a good fit or that God is calling you elsewhere, complete any commitments that you've made, assist in the transfer of your responsibilities to someone else, and move on.

Barb Jones, Connections Coordinator
(703) 938-9050 x 111
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