



Vernon Park Church of God

August 2017

Committed to loving God, loving others and serving others!

Pastor's 18th Anniversary



Rev. Jerald January, Sr. - Senior Pastor
1975 E. Joe Orr Road, Lynwood, Illinois 60411
Phone: 708.753.1975 - Fax: 708.753.1977
Website: www.vpcog.org





Vernon Park *Church of God*

The Corner of Hope & Possibilities

(A monthly reminder of what's possible)

Greetings Family,

This marks a new and exciting chapter for VPCOG. We've turned another corner and even marked it with a cornerstone.

We're in a corridor called the *tabernacle*, which means *temporary dwelling place*. At one time the vestibule was merely a possibility. **Possibility** means *something that is able to happen, able to be or become*.

What started with an idea, a pen and some paper, now serves a purpose. Yes family, GOD enabled us to do this, and even more!

As I share reminders of what's possible as a form of additional encouragement to you, I want you to ignite your *imagination*, *dream* daringly, and always be willing to write your *visions* down. Truly, all things are possible...I learned to love again.

My Pen is Positioned,
Pastor J
The Pastor of Possibilities



Pastor Jerald & Mrs. Maura January



Pastor of Possibilities



Announcements



Mother Carr's Farm

A Community Supported Agriculture Project of Vernon Park Church of God



Full Share - \$350.00

For the Harvest Season

*SHAREHOLDERS WILL RECEIVE ALL NATURAL
PESTICIDE-FREE PRODUCE EVERY OTHER
WEEK DURING THE 2017 HARVEST SEASON*



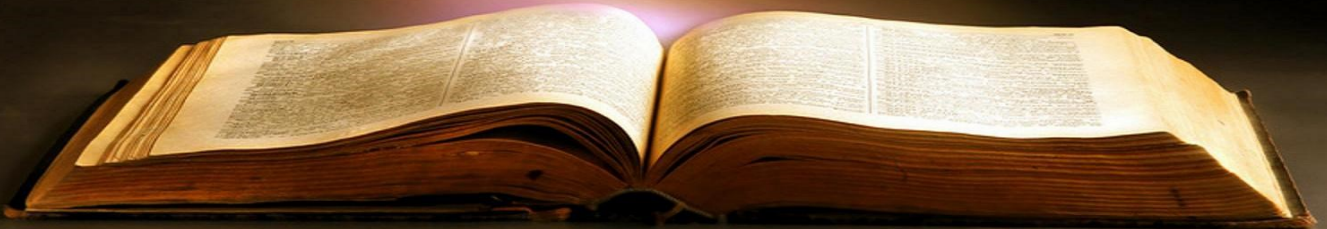
Half Share - \$175.00

For the Harvest Season

*For more information on the Mother Carr's
Farm Project, please contact the church office
at 708.753.1975 or visit our website at*

vpcog.org

Get ready for
Sunday School
Coming soon!





Responsive Readings

August 6, 2017, Revelation 19:1-10, "Hallelujah"

- Lead:** "Hallelujah! Salvation and glory and power belong to our God, for true and just are his judgments. He has condemned the great prostitute who corrupted the earth by her adulteries. He has avenged on her the blood of his servants."
- Cong:** And again they shouted: "Hallelujah! The smoke from her goes up for ever and ever." The twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshiped God, who was seated on the throne. And they cried: "Amen, Hallelujah!"
- Lead:** Then a voice came from the throne, saying: "Praise our God, all you his servants, you who fear him, both great and small!" Then I heard what sounded like a great multitude, like the roar of rushing waters and like loud peals of thunder, shouting: "Hallelujah! For our Lord God Almighty reigns."
- Cong:** Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory! For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready. Fine linen, bright and clean, was given her to wear."
- Lead:** Then the angel said to me, "Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!" And he added, "These are the true words of God."
- Together:** At this I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, "Don't do that! I am a fellow servant with you and with your brothers and sisters who hold to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For it is the Spirit of prophecy who bears testimony to Jesus."

August 13, 2017, Genesis 32:24-32, "Jacob Wrestled With God"

- Lead:** So Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him till daybreak. When the man saw that he could not overpower him, he touched the socket of Jacob's hip so that his hip was wrenched as he wrestled with the man.
- Cong:** Then the man said, "Let me go, for it is daybreak." But Jacob replied, "I will not let you go unless you bless me." The man asked him, "What is your name?" "Jacob," he answered.
- Lead:** Then the man said, "Your name will no longer be Jacob, but Israel, because you have struggled with God and with humans and have overcome."
- Cong:** Jacob said, "Please tell me your name." But he replied, "Why do you ask my name?" Then he blessed him there.
- Lead:** So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "It is because I saw God face to face, and yet my life was spared."
- Together:** The sun rose above him as he passed Peniel, and he was limping because of his hip. Therefore to this day the Israelites do not eat the tendon attached to the socket of the hip, because the socket of Jacob's hip was touched near the tendon.



Responsive Readings

August 20, 2017, Psalm 24:1-10, "The King of Glory"

Lead: The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it; for he founded it on the seas and established it on the waters.

Cong: Who may ascend the mountain of the Lord? Who may stand in his holy place? The one who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not trust in an idol or swear by a false god.

Lead: They will receive blessing from the Lord and vindication from God their Savior. Such is the generation of those who seek him, who seek your face, God of Jacob.

Cong: Lift up your heads, you gates; be lifted up, you ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. Who is this King of glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle.

Lead: Lift up your heads, you gates; lift them up, you ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.

Together: Who is he, this King of glory? The Lord Almighty— he is the King of glory.

August 27, 2017, 1 John 5:1-11, "Faith in God's Son"

Lead: Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves the father loves his child as well. This is how we know that we love the children of God: by loving God and carrying out his commands.

Cong: In fact, this is love for God: to keep his commands. And his commands are not burdensome, for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith.

Lead: Who is it that overcomes the world? Only the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God. This is the one who came by water and blood - Jesus Christ. He did not come by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth.

Cong: For there are three that testify: the Spirit, the water and the blood; and the three are in agreement. We accept human testimony, but God's testimony is greater because it is the testimony of God, which he has given about his Son.

Lead: Whoever believes in the Son of God accepts this testimony. Whoever does not believe God has made him out to be a liar, because they have not believed the testimony God has given about his Son.

Together: And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life.



Vernon Park *Church of God*

Vernon Park Welcomes First Lady Maura

The following is an exclusive interview
with our new **First Lady Maura Gale January**

*Share with us your thoughts on becoming the First Lady of
Vernon Park Church of God.*



Becoming Lady Maura, the First Lady of Vernon Park Church of God has been such a blessing. The members at VP have opened their arms and hearts so wide; I feel their support in each embrace, every smile and the well wishes. I'm grateful to know that so many people were praying for me (indirectly) as they prayed for my husband their Pastor. It warms my heart.

*Give us your first impression of the church and its property here
in Lynwood.*

I was in sheer awe of God and His favor. I love what He accomplishes through us, when we are obedient. I'd seen pictures, but they couldn't prepare me for the sheer magnitude of the structure. After noticing the physical building, I began to see VP as a well spring. There's a tremendous amount of growth taking place inside and outside that reflects God's beauty. Mother Carr's farm is a really rich and welcoming sight. The medicinal properties the vegetables and fruits hold can heal and cure our bodies...while the seed of God's Word and the thirst and hunger the people have for the truth of His Word is mending minds and healing hearts.

Based on the commitment of those I see who faithfully serve and those who attend every Sunday, I believe they're fully aware of the fertility of this place. Both the property and ministry are bursting with possibilities and hope. It's so exciting to witness Daddy God, co-creating with Vernon Park and all who labored to write and run with the vision according to Habakkuk 2:2.

Was there anything that has surprised you so far?

Yes, the Dunamis (power) that exists in the people. Also, the instant connections I've experienced with a few of the ladies. And I've been equally surprised and blessed by the praise and worship team. I love praising God and VPCOG isn't afraid to lift His Holy name!





Vernon Park *Church of God*

Vernon Park Welcomes First Lady Maura

Do you have any personal goals as First Lady?



Yes, I do. My number #1 goal is to ensure that I am a “good thing” (PV 31 wife) to my husband Pastor J, and settle in as a wife and new member. Number “next” (as Pastor would say) is be uniquely me, I am an expert at being Maura Gale. I have no desire to take on any commitments at VP, I will serve when and where I am called upon. However, for now I’m perfectly at home standing to my feet to praise Daddy (God) during praise and worship. My God has been too good to me, to sit down on Him or my praise!

What happens to your career as an artist?

My artist career will continue to bloom and blossom! As an actress, author, evangelist and producer, I will continue traveling to the west coast and Atlanta for TV, Film, Radio and ministry commitments. I currently have a lot of different things going on. I produce and host a weekly radio show called **OMG** Oh Maura Gale Show, I’m also the co-producer and co-star in a faith based film entitled “**STEM The Movement**” it was recently selected for a few film festivals and red carpet screenings. So I’ll be at VPCOG when in town but if you don’t see me, just know I’m taking care of Daddy’s (God’s) business.





Vernon Park *Church of God*

Vernon Park Welcomes First Lady Maura

Finally, based on what you've learned about our church, where do you see Vernon Park in the next five years?

This is a wonderful question and a great note to end on. I see VP moving into the “promise land” – the main sanctuary. I envision more laborers serving to lighten the load of those currently serving. I see Vernon Park as a filling station, a place where people come to get filled on Sundays. Vernon Park will be ready to welcome those who are coming, those that have talents and gifts here will be operating in them, and those with a heart for serving will do what they can whenever called upon. I see Mother Carr’s farm as a viable and reliable healthy choice, supplying organic food to at least 40% of the South Suburbs. I really hope the members order their shares because once the community and other’s realize the price of shares is a fraction of the cost of some of the other chains that sell organic produce – they might not have an opportunity to buy in. All of it’s going to be a sight to behold.

Here’s what else she had to say.

I’d like to extend a heartfelt thank you Vernon Park, the staff and the ones who serve. I appreciate the prayers, support and love you’ve shown Pastor January and I, – God has a strange way of opening, healing and connecting hearts. I know it was your prayers that caused love to lead Pastor J and I to one another. Our love is intertwined and laced with your prayers. You are forever etched on my heart





Announcement



Wedding Anniversaries

Sidney L. & Adrienne Hill - 62 years, August 8th

Peter & Rene Mullings - 10 years, August 11th

Robert & Carmen Banks - 22 years, August 12th

Travis & Venita Poindexter - 24 years, August 13th

Roy & Katrice Burns - 23 years, August 14th

Kevin & Jacque Harris - 11 years, August 18th

William & Relda Jackson - 15 years, August 24th

Paul & Veronica Dark - 32 years, August 24th

William & Sharron Fowler - 19 years, August 29th





Vernon Park *Church of God*

Speaker:

Sermon:

Date: August 6, 2017

Speaker:

Sermon:

Date: August 13, 2017

Speaker:

Sermon:

Date: August 20, 2017

Speaker:

Sermon:

Date: August 27, 2017



Souvenir Journal



There's still time to get your ad into the Souvenir Journal ... a collector's item that will commemorate the opening of our new main sanctuary.

Full Page Color - \$250 Full Page Black & White - \$200

Half Page Color - \$175 Half Page Black & White - \$125

Quarter Page Black & White - \$75 Patron - \$25

For more information, contact the church office at 708.753.1975

