



Vernon Park Church of God

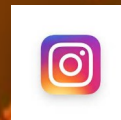
October 2017

Committed to loving God, loving others and serving others!

A Church with Purpose



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Vernon Park *Church of God*

The Corner of Hope & Possibilities

A monthly reminder of what's possible!

Greetings Family,

In the Bible water represents different things. From an uncontrollable force, the power to clean as well as the relieving of thirst. Water is a necessity of life. Water has been used as an element for miracles. Moses and the people were supplied water from a rock and Jesus even turned water into wine.

Last year at this time we occupied a church building without running water. The cost to bring water into our building from Joe Orr Road was far too much for our budget. But God allowed us to forge a wonderful relationship with a brother who owns a company that was willing to complete our sewer system at a reduced rate. And then our brother prayerfully decided to complete the water line connection even though he knew we didn't have adequate funds during the winter months if it didn't snow. Miraculously for the first time in a century Chicago received less than 2-inches of snow during the months of January and February. Because the snow didn't fall the water system was completed!

When our brother sacrificed to help VPCOG, God had a ram in the bush for him. Within days of completing our water line he received an unexpected payment from a customer that had long owed him. Just like the story of Abraham and Isaac, favor follows sacrifices of obedience.

Whatever your need is today, you can be sure your Heavenly Father knows all about it. It may seem impossible, but you can be assured that God will supply all your needs according to His riches in Heaven.

*My Pen is Positioned,
Pastor J*



PASTOR OF POSSIBILITIES



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Announcements

Do you ever wonder what to say or what to do; what not to say or do when you are attempting to console a family member, church member or a friend in the mist of grief and loss? While grief and loss is something that we will all experience at some point and time in our lives, how we comfort those we love during these situations is not something that comes easily to us or that we necessarily understand.

In an effort to bridge the gap of understanding, Vitas Healthcare, a leading provider of grief and hospice care, will be providing three grief training sessions for Vernon Park Church of God. This training is required for VPCOG Ministers, Deacons, Chaplains, and Comfort Ministry participants. We are also inviting those in the congregation that are interested in learning more about the grief process, to take advantage of this training.

The first general grief training session will be November 18, 2017 in the main sanctuary at VPCOG from the hours of 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM. A continental breakfast will be provided from 8:00 AM to 8:45 AM.

While there is no cost to take advantage of this valuable training, it is **ABSOLUTELY MANDATORY** that all participants register ***in advance*** of the training session. **Registration will be held immediately following Sunday Services beginning on October 1st and continue on the 8th-15th- 22nd and ,29th and will end on November 5th.**

If you are interested, please add this important date to your calendar and be sure and register on one of the dates listed above. **If you have specific questions, you may see Pastor RoyEtta.**

Future sessions (specific grief/loss and hospice techniques) will be announced well in advance and will also require prior registration. Upon completion of all three sessions, participants will receive a ***Certificate of Achievement*** outlining the material that has been covered.

Presented by the
Life Enrichment Institute

Life
In the WORD
On Sunday

Group Studies Begin
October 2017

For questions, e-mail
LifeInTheWord.VPCOG@gmail.com



Vernon Park *Church of God*

Responsive Readings

October 1, 2017, John 16:33, John 17:1-11, “Jesus Prays”

Lead: “I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.”

Cong: After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed: “Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you. For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him.

Lead: Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. I have brought you glory on earth by finishing the work you gave me to do.

Cong: And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began. “I have revealed you to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me and they have obeyed your word.

Lead: Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. For I gave them the words you gave me and they accepted them. They knew with certainty that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me. I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours.

Together: All I have is yours, and all you have is mine. And glory has come to me through them. I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name, the name you gave me, so that they may be one as we are one.

October 8, 2017, Psalm 111, “Holy and Awesome is His Name”

Lead: Praise the LORD. I will extol the LORD with all my heart in the council of the upright and in the assembly.

Cong: Great are the works of the LORD; they are pondered by all who delight in them. Glorious and majestic are his deeds, and his righteousness endures forever.

Lead: He has caused his wonders to be remembered; the LORD is gracious and compassionate. He provides food for those who fear him; he remembers his covenant forever.

Cong: He has shown his people the power of his works, giving them the lands of other nations. The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy.

Lead: They are established forever and ever, enacted in faithfulness and uprightness. He provided redemption for his people; he ordained his covenant forever— holy and awesome is his name.

Together: The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all who follow his precepts have good understanding. To him belongs eternal praise.



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Responsive Readings

October 15, 2017, John 10:9-18 “Abundant Life”

Lead: I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture.

Cong: For this reason I kneel before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have *it* more abundantly.

Lead: “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep. But a hireling, *he who is* not the shepherd, one who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees; and the wolf catches the sheep and scatters them.

Cong: The hireling flees because he is a hireling and does not care about the sheep. I am the good shepherd; and I know My *sheep*, and am known by My own. As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep.

Lead: And other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they will hear My voice; and there will be one flock *and* one shepherd.

Together: “Therefore My Father loves Me, because I lay down My life that I may take it again. No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This command I have received from My Father.”

October 22, 2017, Psalm 113, “Who is Like Our God?”

Lead: Praise the LORD. Praise the LORD, you his servants; praise the name of the LORD.

Cong: Let the name of the LORD be praised, both now and forevermore.

Lead: From the rising of the sun to the place where it sets, the name of the LORD is to be praised.
The LORD is exalted over all the nations, his glory above the heavens.

Cong: Who is like the LORD our God, the One who sits enthroned on high, who stoops down to look on the heavens and the earth?

Lead: He raises the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the ash heap; he seats them with princes, with the princes of his people.

Together: He settles the childless woman in her home as a happy mother of children. Praise the LORD.



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Responsive Readings

October 29, 2017, Hebrews 10:35-39, 11:1-6, "A Call to Persevere in Faith"

Lead: "So do not throw away your confidence; it will be richly rewarded. You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised.

Cong: For, in just a little while, he who is coming will come and will not delay. But my righteous one will live by faith. And I take no pleasure in the one who shrinks back. But we do not belong to those who shrink back and are destroyed, but to those who have faith and are saved.

Lead: Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. This is what the ancients were commended for.

Cong: By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.

Lead: By faith Abel brought God a better offering than Cain did. By faith he was commended as righteous, when God spoke well of his offerings. And by faith Abel still speaks, even though he is dead.

Together: By faith Enoch was taken from this life, so that he did not experience death: He could not be found, because God had taken him away. For before he was taken, he was commended as one who pleased God. And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him."

Wedding Anniversaries



William & Alice Dise - 69 years, October 3rd

Freddie & Tondelayo Nelson - 24 years, October 4th

Corey & Priscilla Guthrie - 1 year, October 14th

Nathaniel & Cozetta Bates - 48 years, October 26th





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Speaker:

Sermon:

Date: October 1, 2017

Speaker:

Sermon:

Date: October 8, 2017

Speaker:

Sermon:

Date: October 15, 2017

Speaker:

Sermon:

Date: October 22, 2017

Speaker:

Sermon:

Date: October 29, 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

