

"The Miracle of God's Favor" (Luke 1:26-38) Pastor Scott Hill

THIS WEEK AT VENICE BIBLE CHURCH

SUNDAY

9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Class.....Worship Center
 9:00 a.m. Youth Sunday School (MS & HS).....Shamrock House
 9:00 a.m. Children's Sunday School (K-5th gr).....Conference Rm
 10:30 a.m. WorshipWorship Center
 10:30 a.m. Nursery & Children's Church.....Nursery/Fellowship Hall
 5:00 p.m. Youth Group 6-12th grades.....Shamrock House

MONDAY—FRIDAY

9:00 a.m. MMO.....Nursery/Children's Wing

WEDNESDAY

6:30 p.m. Pioneer Clubs.....Fellowship Hall

THURSDAY

6:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting.....Fellowship Hall

6:30 p.m. Worship Team practice.....Worship Center

WEEKLY Small Groupscall the office for details

CHILDREN



9:00 am: Childcare & classes are available.
10:30 am: Childcare for Birth-age 3 in Room 104 Children's Wing.

Children's Church for age 4-5th grade. Children are dismissed before the message.



Wednesdays at 6:30 pm. Contact Kathy Smith to volunteer at 468-1874 or Jennifer Pry at 330-481-7121. Join us



for **Christmas Caroling in the neighborhood** Dec. 20th at 6:30 pm followed by fellowship back at VBC.

YOUTH

9:00 am Bible classes for 6th-12th grade meet in the Shamrock House.

5:00 pm Youth Group for 6th-12th grades in the SH. MS: Dec. 10th Lunch after church in SH at 1:00 pm see A Christmas Story at the Little Theater. Dec. 17th 9:00 am Christmas Party—bring a gift (\$5.00 or less) to exchange.

WOMEN



Catered Christmas Luncheon for **men & women**. Wednesday, December 13th 11:30 a.m. "Tell me the Story of Jesus". Catered lunch with special music by The Sunshine Dulcimer Bank. Cost is \$12.00 per person.

MEN

See details on luncheon 12/13 above.



Attendance and Current Giving

Attendance—Nov. 26th	117
Giving	\$7,524.00

OUR LEADERS

Our Elders: Pastor Scott Hill, Pastor Brett Brooks, Doug Finch, Dave Mattson, (Chairman) Jack McKellar, Jim Mohnkern, Stan Olson, Jerry Smith (Elders@vbcfl.com)

Our Deacons: Chris Browne, Dean Cooper, Dennis Dugan, Howard Flagler, Jim Uttermohlen, Jon Whiteley, Josh Wittman (Deacons@vbcfl.com)

Adult Bible Class

Sundays at 9:00 a.m. in the Worship Center. "Heaven" taught by Bob Crotts.

Together in Prayer

Prayer meetings: Thursdays at 6:00 pm in Fellowship Hall. If you would like to be added to the prayer email group send request to: Sheila@vbcfl.com.

Loving People

Our desire is that no one is missed.... Please reach out if you notice someone has missed a few weeks or let one of our leaders know and notify the office.



A special love offering...will be taken December 3rd, 10th and 17th to show our appreciation for our staff. Prayerfully consider how you would like to bless our staff. Mark your envelope "Staff love gift" and place in the offering boxes.

Quarterly Business Meeting

Sunday, December 17th at 6:00 pm to approve the 2018 budget. Copies are available in the foyer. We will also discuss the plans God has for the future of VBC.

Venice Community Outreach Opportunity

Baked goods needed for Habitat for Humanity Worker Breakfast on Saturday, December 9th. Please sign up in the foyer or contact Dennis Dugan at 856-701-4550. Everyone is welcome to join in.



OUR STAFF

Scott Hill, *Pastor* PastorScott@vbcfl.com
 Brett Brooks, *Pastor* Brett@vbcfl.com
 Sheila Papini, *Office Manager* Sheila@vbcfl.com
 Donna Laughlin, *Custodian*
 Kathy McKellar, *Early Childhood director*
 Jon Whiteley, *Children's Ministry director*
 Kathy Smith & Jennifer Pry, *Pioneer Clubs*
 Mai Banh & Lance Stubbs, *Youth*

Message: The Miracle of God's Favor

(Luke 1:26-38)

Big Idea: God's favor is His reward to those who humbly trust Him.

The privilege of being God's favored one (28)

We have God's approval (Exo. 33:12)

We have God's presence (28) "The Lord is with you"

"The Holy Spirit will come upon you" (Lu. 1:35)

"My presence will go with you" (Exo. 33:14-16)

We have God's power (1:37)

God's support (Ps. 90:17)

God's surprise (Num. 11:21-22)

We have God's joy, stamina and encouragement (Ps. 30:4-7)

Does God have favorites? (30)

God shows favor not favoritism (Rom. 2:9-11)

The backside of favor (Lu. 2:34-35)

Chosen for suffering (Lu. 9:35)

Chastisement is for every child of God (Heb. 12:6)

Favor is for the humble tremblers (Isa. 66:2)

How do we find favor with God? (38)

Trust God based on His promises (Ps. 119:58)

God blesses the righteous (Ps. 5:12)

Be righteous by faith (Phil. 3:8-9)

Seek his wisdom (Prov. 8:35)

Personal Application:

I confess I am right with God by faith in Christ without any goodness of my own.

I will memorize James 3:17 and ask God for His wisdom.

Discussion Guide for Luke 1:26-38

Ice Breaker: Who would you describe as the happiest mother you have known that was going to have a baby?

1. Why do you think Luke described Mary as a virgin to introduce her name? (27)
2. Why do you think Mary was troubled with the greeting of the Angel?
3. Have someone read Romans 2:11, Ephesians 6:9 and Colossians 3:25 and discuss what it means to show favoritism? (Maybe check a dictionary.)
4. What is the difference between showing favoritism for a person and giving favor to someone?
5. How does the Angel describe her baby and what he will do?
6. Would you like to have an angel explain to you what would happen in your life next year?
7. Mary doesn't ask any questions about the amazing prophesy of Jesus but only of her giving birth?
8. Do we tend to worry about our part in God's plan and miss the mystery in what he is doing around us?
9. How does Mary's actual experience in the life of her son compare with what the angel said?
10. Have you ever had a promise from God that turned out different from what you were expecting?
11. What are you struggling with right now that seems impossible?