Vienna Presbyterian Church
A Disciple-Making Community

Sermon Series: God’s Big Story

Our God of Great Surprises
Acts 12:1-17

August 9, 2009
Sunday Worship 8:00, 9:30 and 11:00

Prelude
How Can I Keep From Singing

Welcome

Worship Song
In the Secret

In the secret, in the quiet place, in the stillness You are there.
In the secret, in the quiet hour I wait only for You, ‘cause I want to know You more.

Chorus
I want to know You, I want to hear Your voice, I want to know You more.
I want to touch You, I want to see Your face, I want to know You more.

I am reaching for the highest goal, that I might receive the prize.
Pressing onward, pushing every hindrance aside, out of my way, ‘cause I want to know You more.

Chorus

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Hymn #341
Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine!

Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon

Glenda Simpkins Hoffman

Prayers of the People and The Lord’s Prayer (8:00)

Children in the Bridges Sunday School class are dismissed.

Children’s Message (9:30 & 11:00)

Baptisms
9:30
George Alexander Carson, child of Douglas Carson & Marnie Sturm
Kathryn Ward Carson, child of Douglas Carson & Marnie Sturm
Jasper Parker Carson, child of Douglas Carson & Marnie Sturm

11:00
Blakely Anne Van Nest, child of Jeffrey & Robin Van Nest

Please request large-print hymnals from ushers
Assistive listening devices are available in the balcony from the Sound Technician
Offertory
Hallelujahs

Scripture
Acts 12:1-17

Sermon
Sermon Series: God’s Big Story
Our God of Great Surprises

E. Stanley Ott

Worship Song
Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
In life inaccessible hid from our eyes.
Most holy, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious – Your great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
Nor wanting, nor wasting, You rule us in might;
Your justice like mountains, high soaring above
Your clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

Chorus
Most holy, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious – Your great name we praise.

All life comes from You, Lord – to both great and small;
In all life You live, Lord – the true life of all.
We blossom and flourish, but quickly grow frail.
We wither and perish, but You never fail. Chorus

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
Your angels adore You, all veiling their sight;
All praise we would render, O Father of grace,
‘Til one day in splendor we see face to face! Chorus

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Benediction

Postlude
Work In Progress
Intercessory Prayers

**Grieving:** The family of Mary Williams Shonerd Green (former member); Sally Mitchell (mother); Kerry Nikolich (mother); Wayne Talley (cousin); Patty Yoder (father)

**Hospitalized:** Barbara Carlson's father; Arayanna Darst's uncle; Michelle Lord's friend Rachel; Kurt Riegelman's father

**Facing Tests or Surgery:** Emily Anderson's friend Dwayne; Rick Baldwin's sister; Lisa Gibb's uncle and her friend Maddy (2); Betty & Jim Larson's friend Lisa; Lee & Pat Planakis's friend Opal

**Homebound:** Erling & Janette Rosholdt

**Ill or Convalescing:** David Cannon; Isabelle Davis; Anne Dunn; Marieke Ertel; Kate Fisher; Chuck Garland; Rae Harpe; Myrna Ives; Mary Kanady; Irma Kerr (Hospice); Charles Killion; Jeanne Larsen; Rita Lockwood; Jack Lotz (3); Tom Lyle; Alex Main; Mary Martin (Hospice); Sandi McLauchlin; Bob Miller; Laura Nickell (11); Helene Oliver (Hospice); Bill Phillips; Walt Potts; David & Virginia Russell; Jerry Schnell; Ellie Thomas (11); Mark Tracz; Kathy Van Meter (Hospice); Bill Windle

**Family and Friends:** Chip Bachmann's mother and father; Barbara Carlson's father; Pamela Crippen's mother; Beth Crowder's brother; Donna DeLanoy's mother; Bill Downer's friend Lynn; Nina Graves's brother-in-law; Tricia Hine's friend Fran; Sandy Hogge's son Bryan; Melissa Jensen's mother; Linda Kemple's stepmother and cousin; Phil Kratovil's mother; Amy Larsen's students, Santi (8) and Shannon (7); Kate Lund's son; Vicki McLaine's son-in-law; Debby Scozzie's sister-in-law; Skip Scozzie's mother; Mary Ann Singlaub's mother; Ele & Jim Woglom's friends, John, Ruby & Anne Louise Updegrove; Elaine Wright's friend Marion

**Other:** Greg Coats; all who are seeking jobs; Pastor Pete & Chris James on Sabbatical

**Congratulations to:** Andrew & Becky James on the birth of Luke Andrew James on August 4. The proud grandparents are Pete & Chris James.

**Please keep in prayer this week** our Middle School youth who are on a retreat (OTE) at Camp Ligonier (PA) today thru Thursday, and for their leaders, Liz Foskey, Michael Lee and Kim Snyder.


**Need Prayer for Yourself or Someone You Love?**

USE the cards in the Friendship Pad in your pew, or at the rear of the church, and place them in the collection plate or the wooden box in the lobby/narthex; or

CALL the church office at 703.938.9050, x 301; or

SEND an email to david.jordan-haas@viennapres.org or enter a prayer request via the website www.viennapres.org

Please make sure that you have permission before submitting a prayer request on behalf of someone else. Confidentiality requests are strictly honored.

If requested for the weekly bulletin, prayer notices will be made for up to four weeks but can certainly be extended upon request.
End of Summer Service and Celebration
Sunday of Labor Day Weekend

SERVICE
10 am. WORSHIP – SANCTUARY
(No 8, 9:30 or 11 am service)

SUNDAY
12 N. GO & SERVE – COMMUNITY
(Signup in advance so we can plan for you)

COMMUNITY
4 pm. GATHER & CELEBRATE – GREAT HALL
(Music, food, fun, and fellowship)

Everyone is encouraged – small groups Sunday School classes teens men, women, singles, families, young and young-at-heart – to participate in this faith-in-action event. A full list of opportunities is available on the website www.viennapres.org/ESS or Sundays at the ESS table across from the Grapevine bookstore.

Questions? Contact sheila.breuer@viennapres.org or x113.
**WELCOME VISITORS AND GUESTS**

VPC cordially welcomes our visitors and guests. We are delighted you are here! Please stop by the Welcome Table in the narthex for a special gift, then join us for Coffee Connection held between services in the Great Hall. We hope you will visit with us again.

For more information about these events and announcements plus much more, visit [www.viennapres.org](http://www.viennapres.org).

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**ATTENTION**—there will be ONE worship service Labor Day weekend, September 6 at 10 am. For more details about the day, see page 5.

Are you planning a wedding within the next six months and thinking about attending the Marriage Prep classes at VPC? Contact Linda Kemple 703.938.9050, by August 14.

Widows and Widowers will meet for lunch on August 22, 12N, at the Olive Garden Restaurant (Leesburg Pike, Vienna). Contact Hanna Jadick, 703.938.0854.

ESS Outreach Opportunity: Do you have an unchurched friend you’d like to reach out to? Invite him or her to join you for lunch during the ESS Outreach Opportunity, Sept. 6. Doris McMillon will speak on “The Search for Significance” from 11:30 am-1:00 pm at Anita’s Restaurant in Vienna. Cost is $15 and FREE for unchurched guests. For information and to register with Phil Kratovil, [phil.kratovil@viennapres.org](mailto:phil.kratovil@viennapres.org) or x115.

Small Group Leader Training. Jesus led a small group to equip his disciples to become servant-leaders. Pastor Glenda invites you to a 4-week study to become a Small Group servant-leader Tuesdays, 7-9 pm, Sept. 8-29. Contact Ginni Richards at x123 or [ginni.richards@viennapres.org](mailto:ginni.richards@viennapres.org).

**Next New Member Seminar** will be September 26-27. Contact Linda Kemple, 703.938.9050.

**Mark your 2010 calendar for the Sacred Rhythms Retreat:** Exploring the practices and relationships that form us, March 12 & 13. Led by Ruth Haley Barton, author of *Sacred Rhythms*.


**GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Looking for summer beach reading that will lift you up, not bring you down? Check out the window display and “New Titles” section in Grapevine Books today for high quality Christian fiction and non-fiction.

New CD by Work In Progress: “Pressing Forward” goes on sale today! Please stop by the bookstore after the service to get your copy. Thank you to all our supportive fans that made this recording possible.

VPCP Weekday Preschool has openings in its 2s and 3s programs. Call Bonnie Downs for information at 703.255.1419.

**MUSIC MINISTRIES**

Annual Youth Worship Ministry Workshop, August 29, 9:00 am–1:00 pm in the sanctuary. The Youth Choir and Orchestra will also lead worship at all three services on Sunday, August 30. For more information and to register contact Kerry Wilkerson at x133 or [kerry.wilkerson@viennapres.org](mailto:kerry.wilkerson@viennapres.org).

Sanctuary Choir Fall Retreat. Saturday, Sept. 12, 8:15 am-1:00 pm at VPC marks the beginning of our choir ministry year—a time to regroup and for interested singers to give us a try, meet other choir members and become part of the “family.” Breakfast and lunch will be served. Call Lance Vining, 703.938.9050 x132.
Announcements

HIGHPOINT (Children’s Ministries)

Summer Sunday School for elementary-aged children has finished. Children are invited to join their parents in the sanctuary until Fall Kickoff on September 13. Please see the back cover for preschool and nursery class details.

the UNDERGROUND (Student Ministries)

All middle and high school students: Look for all new programs in the Underground for the 2009-2010 school year. Both the Underground AM (Sunday School) and the Underground PM (Youth Group) will kick off Sunday, Sept. 13.

CARE AND SUPPORT

A Great Way to Help a Hurting Friend: Know someone going through a difficult time? Stephen Ministers are members of our congregation trained to provide emotional and spiritual care to people who are hurting. It’s confidential, free and helpful.

Christian Cancer Companions are VPC members who are cancer survivors, who reach out to individuals newly diagnosed with cancer. Please contact Rita Lockwood, 703.573.6168 or luckylister3@cox.net.

GriefShare, a weekly seminar and support group for those grieving the death of a loved one, meets Sundays at 6 pm in room 205. (No meeting on 9/6.) Information brochures are available on the Gathering Space wall, or contact Inajo Cox, 703.624.1747, or Bill & Sherrie Steinbach, 703.938.3106.

STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

"Pilgrim's Progress" will begin Sunday, August 16 in the Beyond Basics Sunday School class Room 203/204. Jon Lochhaas will lead us in these age old lessons but in a modern text.


Women’s Intergenerational Bible Study coming in September on Tuesday mornings. Information/registration: Shannon Jordan, 703.956.6533, or shannonjordan1@verizon.net.

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Work has resumed at Maple Ridge, Habitat’s 9-unit condominium in Fairfax. Volunteers are needed for Saturday, August 15. No experience is required! You will be taught the skill for the day. For more information, and/or to sign up, contact Barbara Kneeland 703.255.7235 or bskneeland@verizon.net.

Cornerstone School in D.C., with whom VPC partners financially, is looking for help to prepare for the opening of school: classroom clean-up, library prep, playground prep, painting, signage installation, computer lab prep. Also in need of supplies and equipment for the school. Contact Candice if you can help: csantomauro@cornerstone-schools.org.

Sunday Morning Volunteer Administrators Needed for Fall. If you’re well-organized, have some money sense and enjoy talking to people, we’re looking for some extra help in Children’s Ministries on Sunday mornings. For more information, contact clare.maynard@viennapres.org or x127.

Do You Have a Heart for Multicultural Missions 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! Information: Bonnie Grouge, bonnie.grouge@viennapres.org or x102.

More Service Opportunities are listed at www.viennapres.org/serve.
Room Assignments — Summer 2009

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age/Class</th>
<th>8 am</th>
<th>9:30 am</th>
<th>11 am</th>
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<tr>
<td>Childcare ages 0-2</td>
<td>207-210</td>
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<tr>
<td>3s-rising K</td>
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<td>117-118</td>
<td>n/a</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bridges (4s-rising 2nd grade)</td>
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<td>Friendship Club</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>311</td>
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Adult Education Classes

9:30 am

**Beyond Basics:** “I Believe: An Introduction to the PC(USA) Book of Confessions” with the Rev. Chris Hammond. Copies available online or via Grapevine Books. All are welcome. Rooms 203/204. Coordinator: Kate Lund.

**Friendship Class:** For adults with intellectual disabilities. Room 108C. Teachers: Emmy Parker, Helen Neely & Beth Gourley.

**Lightseekers:** An in-depth discussion of this morning’s scripture text. Attendance at 8 am service not required. Room Parlor.

**Searchers in the Word:** An in-depth study of Jesus’ ministry in the Gospel of Mark, an action-filled narrative for practical living. The Bible is the main text, plus written and audio commentaries. Room 312. Leader: Marion Billington.

**Partners With Christ:** Class resumes Sept. 13. If you have any questions, please contact Martha Strauss, 703.319.7050.

11:00 am

**Berean:** “Through the Bible in 48 Sessions.” Class sessions include a 30-minute video lecture followed by discussion. Drop-ins welcome! Rooms 203/204. Coordinators: Esther and Duane Harder.

**Apprentices:** Currently, we are studying and discussing the scripture and questions from the VPC daily devotional book, Acts of a Disciple. Please join us. Room 205. Coordinator: Connie Edens.