Vienna Baptist Church

A people of faith on the journey of life

# The Worship of God
## May 18, 2014
## The Fifth Sunday of Easter

**Welcome to Vienna Baptist Church!**

We are glad that you are worshiping with us this morning! If you are visiting with us for the first time, you will find more information about our church in our church brochure and newsletter located on the tall table in the Foyer. We also invite everyone to visit our website, www.vbc-va.org, follow us on Twitter @ViennaBaptist, or find us on Facebook at www. facebook.com/ViennaBaptist.

**Music for Reflection**

*Variations on "O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing"* — Hobby

Mary Ann Christian, organ

You are encouraged to use this time for prayer and meditation.

**Reflection**

It is natural to speak of hymns as "poems," indiscriminately, for they have the same structure. But a hymn is not necessarily a poem, while a poem that can be sung as a hymn is something more than a poem. Imagination makes poems; devotion makes hymns. There can be poetry without emotion, but a hymn never. A poem may argue; a hymn must not. In short to be a hymn, what is written must express spiritual feelings and desires. The music of faith, hope and charity will be somewhere in its strain.

—Hezekiah Butterworth

**Welcome and Greeting** — CJ Redden-Liotta

***Processional Hymn, No. 7**

*When in Our Music God is Glorified* — Green

Please join in singing from your hymnal.

**Call to Worship** — Chancel Choir

*How Can I Keep from Singing?* — Robert Lowry, 1869, arr. Karen Thomas, 2009

**Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer** — Ben Wagener

**Response in Song** — Chancel Choir

*Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing* — NETTLETON, arr. Nathan Howe, 2006

**New Testament Lesson** — Ben Wagener

Revelation 7:9-12 (New Testament, p. 249)

One: This is the word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

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* Congregation stands if able.

Large-print hymnals and assisted listening devices are available in the back of the Worship Room.

***Hymn of Praise, No. 707**

*Marching to Zion* — Lowry

**Choral Anthem**

*Hallelujah* — William Walker, 1837

**Gospel Lesson** — Bets Thomas

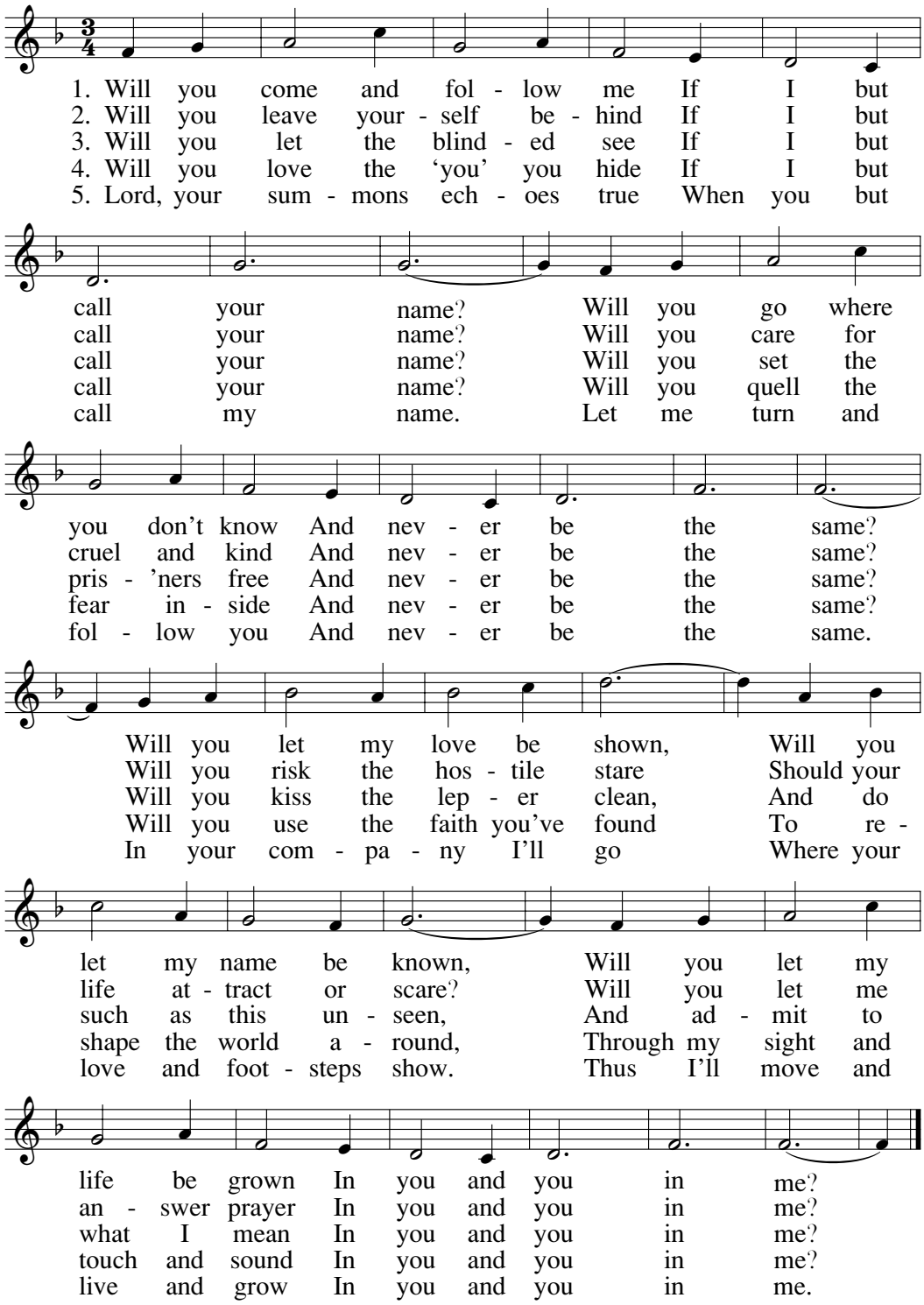
John 14:1-14 (New Testament, p. 108)
One: This is the word of the Lord.
**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Choral Offering** — Chancel Choir

*The Road Home* — PROSPECT, arr. Stephen Paulus, 2002

***Hymn of Praise**

*The Summons* Bell




**Children's Message** Ginny Richardson

All children are invited to participate in Children's Time.
Afterwards, grades 2 and above return to their seats and the younger children go to Children's Worship in Room 231.
Please print your name in the friendship register during the children's message.

**Stewardship Moment** Paula Dempsey, Alliance of Baptists

*Paula Dempsey is the Minister for Partnership Relations for the Alliance of Baptists. The Alliance of Baptists began in 1987 as a prophetic voice in Baptist life. Today, we are a faith community comprised of male and female laity and clergy, people of diverse sexual orientations, gender identities, theological beliefs, and ministry practices. For more information on the Alliance, one of our denominational affiliations, visit www.allianceofbaptists.org.*

**Hymn of Praise**

*From Wisdom Emerging (The Alliance Hymn)* Schultz

**Epistle Lesson** Ben Wagener

Romans 12:1-8 (New Testament, p. 161)
One: This is the word of the Lord.
**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Choral Anthem**
*When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* HAMBURG, arr. Gilbert Martin, 1970

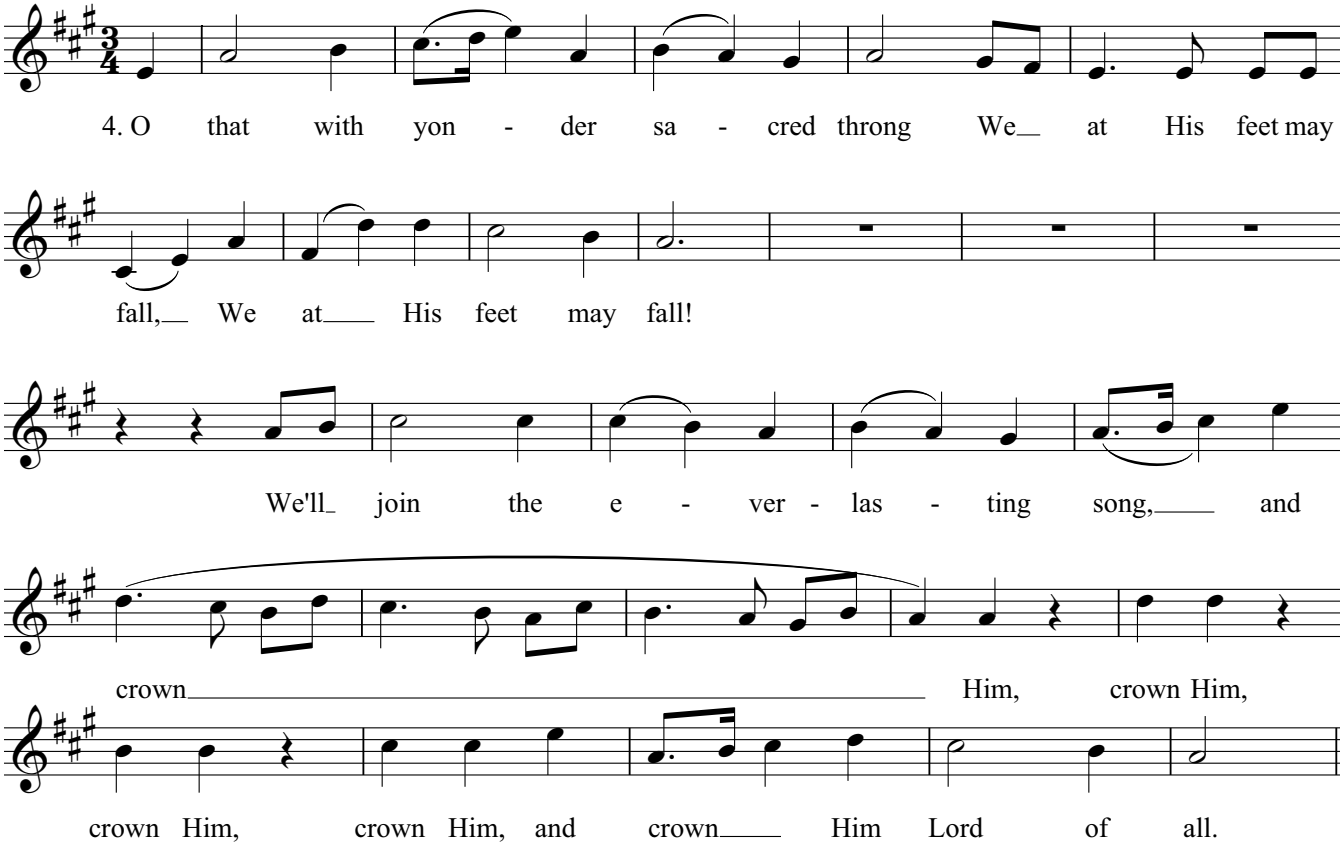
**Hymn of Worship, No. 606**
*God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending* Edwards

**Offertory Prayer**

**Giving our Tithes and Offerings** Chancel Choir
*All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name* DIADEM, arr. Hal Hopson, 2012

***Hymn of Offering Dedication**

*All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name* (*Please join the choir on verse 4*) DIADEM




**Invitation to Stewardship** Dorothy Wagener

***Stewardship Hymn, No. 86**

*Great Is Thy Faithfulness* Chisholm

Please join in singing from your hymnal.

Please bring forward your pledge cards at this time.
Our pledge is our promise to Vienna Baptist Church
that we will help tend and nurture all the seeds that
have been planted in the soil of our church.

**Psalm Lesson** Ginny Richardson

Psalm 121 (Old Testament, p. 571)
One: This is the word of the Lord.
**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Choral Anthem** Chancel Choir

*Total Praise* Richard Smallwood, arr. Dave Williamson

***Invitation to Discipleship** Ben Wagener

***Hymn of Invitation**

*For the Music of Creation* Murray

***Blessing** Ben Wagener

**Postlude** Mary Ann Christian

*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* arr. Manz

*We go, living out our discipleship in daily life being Christ's representatives to those whose lives ours touch.*

Pastor in the Interim Randy Ashcraft is away on vacation today.

**We thank our guest musicians for joining us in the choir today.**
Sara Martin and Cara Transtrom, Soprano
Purev Arslanbaatar, Baritone
Scott Donaldson and Andrew Ridgeway, Bass

Our special music today was made possible by gracious donations to the Music Ministry by members of our congregation. Thank you for supporting our ministry.

**Today's Ministry Helpers**
Nursery: Beth Cooke, Sara Keys, and Jeannie Mathews
Children's Worship: Pat Leighton, and Nancy McKnight

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Hymn typesetting files provided by Hymnary.org.

## Opportunities for Discipleship

**Generous Living at Vienna Baptist Church**
In a short few months, we will have a new pastor who will lead us in this renaissance, this renewal of life, vigor, and interest in the ministry of Vienna Baptist Church. We are getting ready. But there is one more seed that needs to be sown-one more way for everyone in the church to prepare the way. We need a renaissance of the spirit within, a growing awareness of how we are called to give back to our Creator a portion of the resources we've been entrusted with.

By committing ourselves to give sacrificially in faith, we will be ensuring that we have the financial security to be the church that God wants us to be. Then our new pastor will arrive at a church ready to burst forth.

On May 18, we will present our commitments for the next fiscal year, which starts on July 1. Our pledge is our promise to Vienna Baptist Church that we will help tend and nurture all the seeds that have been planted in the soil of our church. If you did not receive a pledge card at home, they are available in the foyer.

Consider with prayer how your pledge can be generous -perhaps a step up from last year. Be a part of the renaissance of Vienna Baptist Church.

**A Special Invitation**
You are cordially invited to attend and celebrate the ordination of Ginny Richardson on Saturday, May 24, at 11:00am, at Second Baptist Church in Richmond, Virginia. The service will meet in Second's Powell Chapel, with a reception following the service. Second Baptist is located at 9614 River Road, Richmond, VA 23229.

**Fair Trade — Last Chance Before Summer**
Stop by at the FAIR TRADE table today as it will be the last opportunity to purchase EQUAL EXCHANGE products - coffees, teas, chocolates, etc. - before the summer. Monthly sales resume in September.

# Opportunities for Discipleship

**Play Date Monday**
On Monday May 19th the second VBC 2014 Play Date will be held on the VBC playground from 1:00 - 2:00 pm, weather permitting. This will be an informal Play Date with a story time, singing, and lots of free play. All pre-schoolers and their parents/ caregivers are invited to attend.

**Men's Fellowship**
Calling all VBC men and their guests for tomorrow night's Men's Fellowship in the Curtis home. Following our light buffet, Pastor Ben Wagener and Hank Dunn will help us sense God's wisdom in our spiritual and emotional transitions at VBC. Contact Pastor Ben Wagener with any questions.

**50, More or Less Luncheon**
The flowers are blooming, the trees are growing new leaves, and it is time for our 50 More or Less Group to celebrate! Please join our group for a buffet luncheon on Sunday, June 8, 2014, at 12:45 p.m. right after morning worship. We will meet at Neighbor's Restaurant, 262 Cedar Lane SE. Vienna, VA in the Cedar Lane Shopping Center. We will be provided with a delicious buffet lunch at a cost of $15 per person.Thanks to Bill White who has reserved a separate room for us so that we can converse and fellowship in privacy.
Please RSVP by Thursday, June 5, to either Diana Amsbaugh at 703-938-3773 amsdiana@ hotmail.com or Andrea Harvey at 703-938-8299 dreaharvey@aol.com
Our 50 More or Less Group is open to all adults and we invite you to fellowship with us. Come and bring a friend!!

**Children's Camp**
VBC's Children's Camp (completed grades 2-6) is July 27-August 1 at Lost River Retreat Center. Our theme this year is "Workshop of Wonders," where children will spend time outdoors learning about the creative life of God. For more information, pick up a camp brochure and registration form in the Foyer. Camp is limited to the first 30 children to register. Please see Ginny if you would like to donate toward camp scholarships or want to serve as a camp staffer.

**Have U Herd? Join us for Vienna Baptist's Vacation Bible School, August 11-15!**
PassportMedia's Have U Herd? VBS introduces children to the idea of hearing, recognizing, and responding to God's voice in their lives. As the main focus is hearing and following the Good Shepherd, it's a sheep-themed VBS! To make the most of this experience for the children in our community, we need your help! Please consider joining our team of wonderful volunteers for Have U Herd? VBS by signing up at http://bit.ly/vbcvbsvol as soon as possible! Registration will begin soon!

**God of the Philosophers**
Much like the saints and thinkers of old, all thoughtful people through the ages have grappled with the God issue: Does he exist? What is his nature? Can we know about him both by reason and faith? How can we access him? (Nota bene: gender neutrality in referring to God is awkward and avoided in this course).

The course is taught for a general audience by Irmgard Scherer (member of VBC and retired philosophy professor emerita at Loyola University Maryland) during the month of July. The 5-week course is envisioned in a lecture-discussion format where students will think about and discuss these questions. We will study the classic arguments and reflections of famous thinkers, such as St. Anselm of Canterbury, St. Thomas Aquinas, but also looking at "design arguments" in the science of Isaac Newton and in the philosophy of David Hume. We will read the work of the American pragmatist and psychologist William James, whose essay "The Will to Believe" from *The Varieties of Religious Experience*, offers a convincing argument for the reasonableness of an attitude of faith.

The fee for the course will be $60, proceeds of which will go to Hope Tree Family Services, a VBC mission focus, as well as to cover copies of handouts. The course will start in the first week of July, the exact day and time still to be decided. If you are interested, please call CJ in the church office or simply sign your name on the sheet in the foyer to indicate your interest.

# Opportunities for Discipleship

**A Celebration of Ministry**

Dear friends,

We hope that you have marked your calendars and reserved Sunday, June 15 to join Vienna Baptist Church in paying tribute to Ben and Dorothy Wagener as they leave VBC and Ben retires from the active pastorate.

We invite you to join us for a special worship service at 11:00 am that day and then again that same afternoon at 4:00 pm for further celebrations, tributes - and maybe even a "roast" - followed by a reception in the Fellowship Hall.

In order to make this event truly memorable for the Wageners, you are invited to contribute to a gift/love offering and to submit a personal picture, card, letter or remembrance of some kind for a "Memory Book" of their 12 years at Vienna Baptist Church and Ben's 50 years of ministry. Please make any checks payable to Vienna Baptist Church with "Wagener gift" in the memo line. You may send articles for the Memory Book to the church at 541 Marshall Rd. SW, Vienna, VA 22180 or, if appropriate, you can e-mail it to wagenerfarewell@vbc-va.org.

The VERY BEST gift of all will be the gift of your presence on Sunday, June 15! We look forward to seeing you then.

The Personnel Committee
on behalf of Vienna Baptist Church

**New Pictoral Directory Coming Soon**

Mark your calendars! From June 12 to 14, we will have the opportunity for you and your family to be included in our new congregational directory. This directory will be an essential tool for our new pastor to get to know our congregation. More information will be available in the bulletin and weekly emails on how to sign up for a time. If you have any questions, please contact Lynn Collins or CJ in the office.

**Silent Retreat at Lost River**

May 23-26, Memorial Day weekend, affords us the time to spend 3 nights in silence amid the beauty of late spring at the Lost River Retreat Center. We will be contemplating the writings of Thich Nhat Hanh, a Vietnamese Buddhist teacher of great spiritual insight. His most famous work, Living Buddha, Living Christ looks at the common themes found in both traditions. We begin with a dutch-treat supper on Friday night and end after breakfast on Monday morning. These retreats fill up quickly so let us know as soon as possible if you want to join us. For more details contact Hank Dunn (hank@hankdunn.com) or visit http://myrabinnsbridgforth.wix.com/silent-retreat for more information on the retreat.

# Pastor Search Team Update

Our discernment process for our next Pastor is well underway. After half hour "get to know you" Skype conversations with seventeen applicants, we have continued to listen to sermons, gather materials, and have narrowed the list to ten. We have had additional ninety minute Skype interviews with some candidates. We continue to make assessments in order to discern the person who is the best fit for our congregation and the one being called by God to our church. We are very excited and encouraged that our next Pastor is among these wonderful candidates! As we plan church visits, check references, and discuss among ourselves, we continually pray for guidance. We are living and breathing this search process so much that it is showing up in our dreams! Though sometimes the burden of this discernment seems heavy, we trust that God is in our midst, and with your continued prayers, we will be guided to the candidate that God is calling to Vienna Baptist Church. Your prayers are vital to the outcome. Please pray for our discernment, for how we as a church will answer God's call to us, and for how you individually will respond in the coming days to Christ's invitation to discipleship and his invitation to be his church.

Seeking the Holy Spirit's guidance through your prayers,
Nancy Curtis, Pastor Search Team

# Prayer Concerns

*Members and friends of VBC want to pray with you in your concerns and joys. Please complete the blue prayer request card and place it in the offering plate during the service or in the wooden box outside the church office. To keep the prayer list current, most requests will be maintained for a month and then removed, but you may resubmit a request after that time. Thank you for your participation in VBC's prayer ministry.*

## Circle of Concern

Jim Vining, health
Mary and Bruce Burns and Family
Gaye Wymer, health, blindness
Nancy Sessions, recovery
Don Brightly, health
Jewell Donaldson, health
Henry Balser, health
Clarene Vickery, health
Paul Montacute, health, Parkinson's Disease
Mary Wiley, health

## In Service

Samuel Southern, San Diego, Navy
John Campos, Oklahoma, Air Force
Jimmy Flynn, U.S. Coast Guard

## Friends and Family

Diane Gardner's mother, health
Linda Gooding's brother-in-law, Colin Burch, cancer diagnosis
Diana Amsbaugh's friend, Ron Walterick, cancer
Rev. James Park's mother, Dae Sik Park, health
Melissa Jones' father-in-law, Bill Beach, cancer diagnosis
Kathy Price, health
The Grena's friend, Barbara King, cancer
Marshall Potter's niece, Beth Steele, cancer
Nic Morrow's stepfather, Mark Homan, cancer
Claire Davis' mother, Elizabeth, health
Wadi Haddad, health
Ward Kay's sister, Kathy Duckett, health
Glenn Fried, former VBC Seminary Intern, serious health issues
Keith Wymer's wife, Jill Cummings, cancer diagnosis
Mary Ann Christian's cousin, Sylvia Hollar, surgery complications
Susan Hall's sister, Connie Jernigan, cancer
Gladys Wiley's father, Charles Witter, health
The Grenas' friend, Bobby Waple, stroke
Joyce Salgado's sister-in-law, Dreama Puckett, health
Barbara Galindo, health, Parkinson's disease
Kira West's father, Duane Larson, prostate cancer

# This Week

**Sunday, May 18**
8:45-9:15 a.m. Intercessory Prayer Group (Parlor)
9:30-10:30 a.m. Bible Study Classes (Entire building)
11 a.m. Worship Service (Worship Room)
12 p.m. Fair Trade Sales (Foyer)

**Monday, May 19**
11 a.m.-3 p.m. Art Group (231/233)
1 p.m. Play Date (Playground)
7 p,m. Pathfinders Young Adults (Caffe Amouri)
7:15 p.m. Men's Fellowship (Curtis Residence)

**Tuesday, May 20**
7 p.m. Lost River Committee Meeting (Library)

**Wednesday, May 21**
7:30 p.m. Book Study Group (Adult Lounge)

**Thursday, May 22**
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**Friday, May 23**
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**Saturday, May 24**
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**Sunday, May 25**
8:45-9:15 a.m. Intercessory Prayer Group (Parlor)
9:30-10:30 a.m. Bible Study Classes (Entire building)
11 a.m. Worship Service (Worship Room)
2 p.m. Dave Natella Interment Service (Memorial Garden)

The **church office** is open Monday — Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
After hours pastoral care calls will be returned as soon as possible.

**Vienna Baptist Children's Center (VBCC)** is a ministry of Vienna Baptist Church.
VBCC is in session from 9:30-1 on Monday and 9:30-1:30 Tuesday — Friday.

Vienna Baptist Church • 541 Marshall Road SW • Vienna, Virginia 22180
Website: www.vbc-va.org • E-mail: OfficeManager@vbc-va.org
VBC Phone: 703-281-4400 • Fax: 703-281-3535

*We are affiliated with the American Baptist Churches/USA, the Alliance of Baptists, the Baptist General Association of Virginia, and the Baptist World Alliance.*

All members of the congregation are ministers of the church.

Rev. Dr. Randy Ashcraft, *Pastor in the Interim*
Rev. Dr. Ben Wagener, *Pastor for Spiritual Formation*
Ginny Richardson, *Pastor for Youth and Children*
CJ Redden-Liotta, *Music Minister and Office Manager*
Mary Ann Christian, *Music Ministry Assistant*
Dianne Hannum, *Financial Secretary*
Rev. Hank Dunn, Dr. Roy Woodruff, *Volunteer Pastoral Associates*

Vienna Baptist Children's Center
Phone: 703-281-2021 • E-mail: preschool@vbc-va.org
Jan Just, *Director* • Anne Daniel and Melissa Jones, *VBCC Office Staff*

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