



Voice of Victory

Christus Victor Lutheran Church

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VOLUME 14 ISSUE 12

DECEMBER 2011



Sunday Morning

Worship

8:30 & 11:00 am

Education Hour

9:45 am

Fellowship Hour

9:45 am

Traditional worship on the
1st & 3rd Sundays
Contemporary worship on the
2nd & 4th Sundays

Wednesdays

Recharge

Mid-week Praise & Worship

7:22 pm

Dec. 7

&

Jan. 4, 11, 18 & 25

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The Real Gift and Promise of Christmas...

“And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth.” – John 1: 14

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Did you know that the season of Advent really started before Halloween this year? I was kind of embarrassed that I missed the memo as I walked into our local mega store to see the Christmas decorations already up next to the discounted Halloween candy and costumes. It was even more confusing when I went to look for any sign of the baby Jesus, the Christ child, and found only cute angels and stars, evidently advertising the coming of Santa Claus complete with laser blasters and heavy metal tattoo Barbie.

It is easy to get all sanctimonious and self-righteous; pointing fingers and complaining, isn't it? But then I remember – it isn't the responsibility of retail stores to do what we Christians are supposed to do, which is to join the angels in proclaiming the Good News of the birth of the Savior, who is the Messiah, Christ the Lord. The Real Gift and Promise of Christmas is that **“the Word became flesh and lived among us,”** and that is not something you can buy in a store, it is a free gift given in Word, Sacrament, and the lived-out faith of Christian people. God became Incarnate; meaning, that in Christ Jesus we see the glorious union of God and humanity, full of grace and truth. The Real Gift of Christmas has been entrusted to us, Christ Jesus, not to keep for ourselves, but for us to freely give to everyone!

Please join us as we celebrate and proclaim the Real Gift and Promise of Christmas, the birth of Christ Jesus, our Savior and Lord!



Christmas Schedule

- Christmas Play – Sunday, Dec. 11 at both services
- Christmas Band – Sunday, Dec. 18 at both services
- Christmas Eve Worship – Saturday, Dec. 24 at 5:30pm and 11:00pm
- Christmas Lessons and Carols – Sunday, Dec. 25 at 9:30am

Your Fellow Servant in Christ,

Pastor Kent Claussen Gubrud

Interim Pastor – Process and Time-Line

By the time you read this newsletter we hope to have found and welcomed to Christus Victor, an interim associate pastor to help and support our ministries in the coming year. The Interim Task Force that has been formed by the Church Council has been meeting to clarify our ministry needs and interview candidates for the interim position.

During this interim we will be reviewing our ministry and staffing needs and priorities. The Church Health Process will be a key component of our visioning and discernment process.

RECHARGE – A Mid-week Praise and Worship

Time for kids and adults of all ages! RECHARGE is a half-hour, high energy worship service on Wednesday nights at 7:22pm that offers kids, youth, and families a time to connect with God in the midst of their busy schedules. One of the primary foundations of a vibrant life of faith is weekly worship: gathering together with other believers to hear God’s Word, sing praises, pray, and worship the Lord.



RECHARGE is for EVERYONE! If you’re going to be gone one weekend and miss worship, we invite you to come to RECHARGE. If you’re having a tough week, we invite you to come to RECHARGE. If you just need a boost to your spirit and faith, we invite you to come to RECHARGE.

Upcoming RECHARGE Wednesday schedule: Nov. 2, 9, 16, 30 and Dec. 7. We start back up after Christmas on Jan. 4!



Food shelf items of the month for December are rice, canned meats, and tuna



Sunday, January 22

9:45am in the Sanctuary!

All of the active members of Christus Victor are invited and encouraged to attend the Annual Church Meeting between services on Sunday, January 22 at 9:45am. We will hear reports of accomplishments and goals from our many committees, vote for new Church Council members, and vote on the 2012 Budget.

Christus Victor On-Line Connections

CV Website, Facebook page, E-devotionals

Three ways to stay connected to the ministries, activities, and events happening at Christus Victor Lutheran Church.

Have you checked out the Christus Victor website lately? When you click on www.christusvictor.org you will find information about our many ministries, a calendar of events, an electronic version of the newsletter, links to our partner ministries and Pastor Kent’s blog, and daily Bible readings and devotions.



Are you on Facebook? Then check out and “friend” our Christus Victor facebook page!

This Social Networking site allows members and friends of CV to post ministry updates, special events, pictures, and other items of interest for everyone to consider.

[Christus Victor Facebook Page](#)

Do you get the daily E-Devotionals? If you have email, you can sign up with Pastor Kent at pastor.kent@christusvictor.org to receive a daily devotional along with announcements of upcoming events and activities at Christus Victor.



Adult Education and Discipleship



ADULT FORUM
3 Colors of Your Spirituality
 – “What is your spiritual type?”

This adult forum will help you discover your spiritual style, which is how you naturally connect with God, and ways to grow closer to God. Starting on **Sunday, January 15** at 9:45am in the Fellowship Hall. **Cost: \$12.00.** Sign-up at the information desk!

CHRISTUS VICTOR HAS A NEW FUNDRAISING POLICY... If you or your committee would like to have a fundraiser at church, you need to fill out and submit paperwork for approval by the church council. Please see Deanna in the church office for the new fundraising forms. Thank you!

MEN'S At WAPO – Feb. 17-19!
Cost: \$110
 (+\$25 if you play broomball!)



RETREAT
 Join us for a weekend of building friendships with other brothers in Christ, growing in our faith, playing broomball (or cheering the team on!), worship, good food, and great conversations! Watch for the sign-up sheet and registration forms at the information desk.



THURSDAY MORNING ADULT BIBLE STUDY

10:00am in the Art Room

Bring your Bible and join us for a rousing journey into God's Word and the life of faith. You don't need to know anything about the Bible, just a willingness to read, ask questions, and learn. Just show up at 10:00am on Thursday mornings, we'll provide the coffee!

Current Focus: the Gospel of Luke

SPECIAL EVENTS for YOUTH

2011-2012 Middle School Youth Events

Flash Mob/Christmas Carols
Salvation Army Bell Ringing – Saturday, Dec. 3
 (Check the Youth Board for more info!)
 Leaders: Steve and Claudia Glinski

Lock-In: Movies, Nerf War, Cooking Food, Rock Climbing, Beachball Dodgeball, Board Games, Wii/Xbox
 Leaders: Rick Buffie
 Stephanie Lundquist

Faith Walk/Mystery Dinner
 Leader: Anne Nyquist

Babysitting
 Leaders: Mary Flaata
 Angella Hanson
 Elizabeth Manning

Bonfire/Sledding/Food
 Leaders: Susan Jensen
 Warren Youngner

2011-2012 High School Youth Events

Feed My Starving Children/Movie Night
 Leaders: Brenda Fischer
 Patty Resvick

Beach Picnic/BBQ
 Leader: Ed Odden

Lock-In/Out: Brunswick, Mini Golf, Buffalo Wild Wings Challenge, Ping Pong Derby
 Leaders: Kristen Resvick
 Justeen Rylander
 Mark Rylander

Saint's Game/Tailgating
 Leader: Keith Resvick



YOUTH MINISTRY AT CV

Middle School

Confirmation – Wednesday nights at 6:00pm in the Youth Room! 6th, 7th, & 8th graders!

There is the large group learning, small groups for discussion, highs & lows, and prayer, not to forget service projects and fellowship events throughout the year. Pastor Kent is in charge of all the learning and the fun!

Dekaf – The fun and learning starts on Sunday Mornings at 9:45am in the Youth Room. Fun, friends, active learning, growing in faith, field trips, and food all rolled up in one! Warren Youngner and Dawn Glewwe will be your guides.

Senior High

Connections – Join other senior high you on Sunday mornings to hang-out, connect with God, connect with friends, connect faith and life issues through discussions, study, service, and other activities. Come and get connected **Sunday Mornings at 9:45am**, meet Dawn Youngner and the gang in Corey's old office.

Serving With An Awesome God (S.W.A.A.G)

The Wednesday night youth ministry will be led by a team of youth and adults trained in Peer Ministry Leadership, under the coaching and guidance of Peer Ministry Trainer and Youth Ministry Specialist (I'd call him an "expert," but he's too Lutheran to agree to that), Lyle Griner. Please join us and become a part of this fabulous opportunity to grow in your faith while having fun bonding with friends. We encourage you to bring your friends, from school or other areas of your life. We want to make this a place where all of our youth feel at home and welcomed!

Topics for the next three months – topics the Peer Ministry Team came up with – teens leading teens in ministry. Check out the CV Youth Group facebook page!

DECEMBER THEME IS "**Life**" One guest each night tells a story about a faith experience.

- 7 Living Faith as a Bus Driver
- 14 Living Faith after a Friend Dies
- 21 OFF – **Christmas**
- 28 OFF – **New Years**

JANUARY THEME IS "**Stress**" The world is full of stressful situations –how do we cope?

- 4from too much of everything, busy beyond busy
- 11 ... from conflict with others, relationships, breakups
- 18from making big decisions, college
- 25from making financial decisions, job changes

If you have any questions about this program or upcoming events, please feel free to contact Paula Nierengarten, Carrie Peterson, Pastor Kent, or any of the youth leaders. We will be happy to share our vision with you. The youth of our Peer Ministry Team includes: Justeen Rylander, Sarah Gwin, Jacob Perendy, Kristen Resvick, and Anthony Resvick.



PACK IT UP!

Once again we had a great response from the Christus Victor Congregation for our "PACK IT UP!" Project.

Fourteen boxes were filled to the brim with all kinds of goodies for our soldiers serving overseas ... puzzle books, candy, socks, playing cards, paperback books, beef jerky, popcorn - just to name a few. And to top them all off, each box contained several pictures and notes from our youngest church members. Those additions from the kids will surely bring a smile to our troops! A personalized, hand-written letter was also included in each care package. The letters reminded each soldier that people 'back home' were thinking and praying for them.

The Social Ministries Committee extends a sincere thank you for all those who cheerfully participated in this outreach program.

We hope that those who receive these packages not only enjoy the contents, but know that we care about them. We pray for the safe return for all our soldiers; may the good Lord bring them home to their families and loved ones soon.

Let's continue to keep these soldiers in our thoughts and prayers:

**TIMOTHY MASSINA
THOMAS NELSON
JEREMY DeGIER
TREVOR BEVING
CHRISTOPHER RESNIKOFF**

**MICHAEL McCUE
RICHARD ROONEY
CPL BAIN
KYLE HARLOW**

**BRANDON MOORE
ALLEN WYNTON
ETHAN KLEINER
MIKE LARSON
JOE KOKTAN**



**Save the Date – 6th Annual "Baskets of Love" is Coming
February 12, 2012**

Start thinking of Basket Theme ideas

&

Be there to bid!

More Details Coming Soon

CHURCH HEALTH PROCESS (NATURAL CHURCH DEVELOPMENT)
CHRISTUS VICTOR IN FIVE YEARS

“WORKING TOGETHER WITH GOD TO GROW GOD’S CHURCH”

What do you see, hear, experience?

What’s happening?

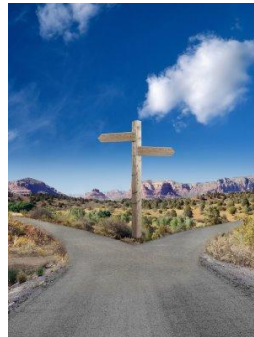
What is the same?

What is different?

These are the questions discussed by members attending one of the congregational meetings held to help our church to identify and clarify where we need to focus on improving the health and quality of our ministries. And what do members see along different paths for Christus Victor?

Some see building changes:

- Bigger Buildings
- More Classrooms
- Refurbished Sanctuary
- Larger common/gather areas
- Larger Fellowship area
- Interactive computers for Signups & Announcements
- New Piano



Some See People Changes:

- New Families/Young Families
- Youth growing & staying at CV
- Diversity/multi generations
- Larger, energetic Kids & Youth Programs
- Variety of Music Programs
- Growth of Church Partnerships

And some see:

- No changes
- Same buildings
- Same people
- Same everything

What is Natural Church Development? It is a process to identify the characteristics of a church in order to know where and what to focus on for growth and improvements. **How is it done?** A cross span of members, approximately 30, are selected to take a survey. The survey results will show where the church currently is. The results are categorized within 8 main characteristics of a church. One or two areas are identified that the church can focus on to improve in order to grow that Characteristic.

<i>Empowering</i>	<i>Leadership</i>	Church Leaders assist others to attain the spiritual potential God has for them.
<i>Gift-Based</i>	<i>Ministry</i>	Church Leaders help members identify their gifts and find or create ministries that match them.
<i>Passionate</i>	<i>Spirituality</i>	Develop faith that is lived out with commitment, passion, and enthusiasm
<i>Effective</i>	<i>Structures</i>	Develop effective structures that fit the churches specific goals, the size of their church, their history, and their identity
<i>Inspiring</i>	<i>Worship Service</i>	Atmosphere of gathering - constantly improve the quality in the areas of liturgy, teaching, and praise
<i>Holistic</i>	<i>Small Groups</i>	Create natural places for Christians to learn to serve others- both in and outside the group-with their spiritual gifts
<i>Need-Orientated</i>	<i>Evangelism</i>	Focus on questions and needs of non-Christians.
<i>Loving</i>	<i>Relationships</i>	Growing churches possess a high Love quotient – how much time members spend with one another outside of official church-sponsored events.

How does this get started? With Christus Victor members taking the lead. A team of at least five members is needed to get this started. The Team members include:

- **Team leader:** Senior leader who makes sure that progress is being made and the team is functioning in a healthy manner. This cannot be the pastor.
- **Strategic thinker:** Someone who understands system thinking sees the big picture and asks the right questions throughout the process.
- **Researcher:** Someone who loves working with data by collecting, processing and analyzing relevant information to guide the group.
- **Intercessor:** Someone who can mobilize a prayer team and fosters a spirit of humble dependence throughout the church.
- **Communicator:** Someone who can maintain healthy communication within the team, the larger leadership community and throughout the church.

If you have any questions about NCD, if you would like to be one of the Team members or know someone who would be a good fit for one of the positions, please contact anyone of the Church Health Task Force members: Barb Damlo, Malisa Kreutzmann, Ed Odden, or Pastor Kent Claussen Gubrud.

CHRISTUS VICTOR LUTHERAN CHURCH
 7510 PALOMINO DRIVE ✚ APPLE VALLEY, MN 55124 ✚ 952-454-6927
www.christusvictor.org

Christus Victor Office Staff

Ministers.....	ALL MEMBERS OF CV	
Pastor.....	KENT CLAUSSEN GUBRUD	PASTOR.KENT@CHRISTUSVICTOR.ORG
Administrative Assistant.....	ALISON BERG	ABERG@CHRISTUSVICTOR.ORG
Office Manager.....	DEANNA LUKE	DLUKE@CHRISTUSVICTOR.ORG
Nursery Care Provider.....	EMILY YOUNGNER	
Nursery Care Provider.....	SARAH YOUNGNER	
Nursery Care Provider.....	HAILEY GLEWWE	
Director of Music.....	Anne Nyquist	
Children's Music.....	NANCY ERLER	
Traditional Worship Accompanist.....	JULIE McDONALD	
Contemporary Worship Accompanist.....	JULIE McDONALD	
Senior Choir Accompanist.....	JULIE McDONALD	

Thursday, December 1, 2011

10:00AM Adult Bible Study
 6:00PM Children's Christmas Program Rehearsal
 6:30PM Lily of the Valley Bible Study
 7:00PM Alanon Mtg.
 7:00PM AA Mtg.

Friday, December 2, 2011

8:00AM AA Group Mtg.
 5:30PM Polar Express Night
 6:00 PM Peace of Mind NA Group

Saturday, December 3, 2011

10:30AM Lily of the Valley AME Church Mtg.
 5:00PM Children's Christmas Program Rehearsal

Sunday, December 4, 2011

8:30AM Worship
 9:45AM Education/Fellowship Hour
 11:00AM Worship
 12:30PM Casa de Oracion Church
 2:00PM Casa de Oracion SS
 3:30PM Lily of the Valley AME SS
 4:30PM Lily of the Valley AME Church
 4:30PM Casa de Oracion Fellowship Event
 6:00PM Lily of the Valley Fellowship Event
 6:30PM Rock Band Rehearsal

Monday, December 5, 2011

9:30AM Women's Big Book AA Group
 10:00AM Staff Mtg.
 7:00PM Monday Night Big Book AA Group

Tuesday, December 6, 2011

6:00PM Boy Scout Troop 345
 6:00PM Casa de Oracion Church
 6:00PM Cub Scout Pack 293-Den 5
 6:00PM Children's Christmas Program Rehearsal

Wednesday, December 7, 2011

10:00AM Women's Reflection AA Group
 11:00AM Women's Big Book Group
 6:00PM Confirmation
 6:00PM JIFY
 7:22PM RECHARGE!
 8:00PM Sr. Choir Rehearsal
 8:00PM Youth Group

Thursday, December 8, 2011

10:00AM Adult Bible Study
 6:00PM Lily of the Valley Bible Study
 7:00PM Alanon Mtg.
 7:00PM AA Mtg.

Friday, December 9, 2011

8:00AM AA Group Mtg.
 6:00 PM Peace of Mind NA Group

Saturday, December 10, 2011

8:30AM Men's Breakfast
 9:00AM Children's Christmas Program Rehearsal
 12:30PM Christmas Band Rehearsal

Sunday, December 11, 2011

8:30AM Children's Christmas Program
 9:45AM Education/Fellowship Hour
 11:00AM Children's Christmas Program
 12:00PM Christmas Band Rehearsal
 12:30PM Casa de Oracion Church
 2:00PM Casa de Oracion SS
 3:30PM Lily of the Valley AME SS
 4:30PM Lily of the Valley AME Church
 4:30PM Casa de Oracion Fellowship Event
 5:30PM Troop 298 Committee Mtg.
 6:00PM Troop PLC Mtg.
 6:30PM Rock Band Rehearsal
 7:00PM Troop 298 Mtg.

Monday, December 12, 2011

9:30AM Women's Big Book AA Group
 10:00AM Staff Mtg.
 7:00PM Monday Night Big Book AA Group

Tuesday, December 13, 2011

6:00PM Boy Scout Troop 345
 6:00PM Casa de Oracion Church
 6:00PM All Staff Mtg.
 7:00PM All Committee Night

Wednesday, December 14, 2011

10:00AM Women's Reflection AA Group
 11:00AM Women's Big Book Group
 5:30PM Confirmation Group Service Project
 6:00PM JIFY Christmas Party
 7:22PM RECHARGE!
 8:00PM Sr. Choir Rehearsal
 8:00PM Youth Group

Thursday, December 15, 2011

NEWSLETTER ARTICLE DEADLINE
 10:00AM Adult Bible Study
 6:00PM Lily of the Valley Bible Study
 7:00PM Alanon Mtg.
 7:00PM AA Mtg.

Friday, December 16, 2011

8:00AM AA Group Mtg.
 6:00 PM Peace of Mind NA Group

Saturday, December 17, 2011

10:00AM Christmas Band Rehearsal

Sunday, December 18, 2011

8:30AM Worship
 9:45AM Education/Fellowship Hour
 11:00AM Worship
 12:30PM Casa de Oracion Church
 2:00PM Casa de Oracion SS
 3:30PM Lily of the Valley AME SS
 4:30PM Lily of the Valley AME Church
 6:30PM Lily of the Valley AME Church Fellowship Event
 6:30PM Rock Band Christmas Party

Monday, December 19, 2011

9:30AM Women's Big Book AA Group
 10:00AM Staff Mtg.
 7:00PM Monday Night Big Book AA Group

Tuesday, December 20, 2011

6:00PM Boy Scout Troop 345
 6:00PM Casa de Oracion Church
 7:00PM Council Mtg.

Wednesday, December 21, 2011

9:30AM AV Mom's Club South
 10:00AM Women's Reflection AA Group
 11:00AM Women's Big Book Group
 8:00PM Sr. Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 22, 2011

10:00AM Adult Bible Study
 6:00PM Lily of the Valley Bible Study
 7:00PM Alanon Mtg.
 7:00PM AA Mtg.

Friday, December 23, 2011

8:00AM AA Group Mtg.
 6:00 PM Peace of Mind NA Group

Saturday, December 24, 2011

5:30PM Family Worship
 11:00PM Candlelight Worship

Sunday, December 25, 2011

9:30AM Worship
 12:30PM Casa de Oracion Church
 2:00PM Casa de Oracion SS
 3:30PM Lily of the Valley AME SS
 4:30PM Lily of the Valley AME Church

Monday, December 26, 2011

Church Office Closed
 9:30AM Women's Big Book AA Group
 7:00PM Monday Night Big Book AA Group

Tuesday, December 27, 2011

6:00PM Boy Scout Troop 345
 6:00PM Casa de Oracion Church
 6:00PM Cub Scout Pack 293-Den 5

Wednesday, December 28, 2011

10:00AM Women's Reflection AA Group
 11:00AM Women's Big Book Group
 8:00PM Sr. Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 29, 2011

10:00AM Adult Bible Study
 6:00PM Lily of the Valley Bible Study
 7:00PM Alanon Mtg.
 7:00PM AA Mtg.

Friday, December 30, 2011

8:00AM AA Group Mtg.
 6:00 PM Peace of Mind NA Group

Saturday, December 31, 2011

No Events Schedule

