



Voice of Victory

**Christus Victor
Lutheran Church**
7510 Palomino Drive
Apple Valley, MN 55124
P: 952-454-6927
www.christusvictor.org

Volume 21 Issue 5 May 2018

WORSHIP AT CHRISTUS VICTOR Sundays

Worship & Education

Worship at 8:30am & 11:00am
Through May 20th

SUMMER ONE SERVICE BEGINS SUNDAY MAY 27TH

Wednesdays

Worship & Education

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY GLOW

Through May 9th

6:00pm - grades 1-5

CONFIRMATION

6:00pm - Middle School Youth,
grades 6-8

RECHARGE WORSHIP

7:30pm

HS YOUTH GROUP

8:00pm

High School Youth, grades 9-12

SENIOR CHOIR

8:00pm

From Pastor Steve... to CVLC family,

As you have probably read and heard, I am accepting a new call to Zion Lutheran Church in Cottage Grove MN. I will be starting there in the middle of June. My last Sunday here will be May 13th. I will try my best to say goodbye to you all before I go. I want to do everything I can while I am here to make sure we are able to end things on good terms. I not good at goodbyes; they are something I am still learning to do. I feel awkward hugging my own mom and dad when we say goodbye, so please bear with me as I try my best to transition from one thing to the next as gracefully as possible.

I think this quote by Winnie the Pooh says it best, *"How lucky I am to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard."*

I have been truly blessed to have CVLC as my first call. As you already know Pastor Kent is an amazing Senior Pastor. CVLC has an incredible staff, volunteers, committed families and great programs for children and youth. This place feels like home and I will miss you all.

Why am I seeking a new call then? Through lots of thought and prayer, my family and I have come to trust that God is calling us to do something new. It is an odd feeling, to be called away from a place. In prayer, I've asked God many times "are you sure?" And the answer every single time is "yes." It is a risky thing, taking a new call, but I have to trust that God is calling me to do the right thing. Please know that I am not leaving for any negative reasons. This new call is a result of me and my family doing our best to follow where God is trying to lead us. I hope, and I pray that God is working behind the scenes to bring someone new to CVLC. And I pray that God is calling me to the right ministry setting at Zion.

I'm going to especially miss the children and youth at CVLC. I've had a ton of fun with the kids at this church and it will be weird not doing summer ministry/confirmation/Summer Stretch/youth group/Cross Gen etc. this next year.

You may have many "what about" questions. Please know that PK, myself, and other staff/leaders in the church are working behind the scenes to make sure all key ministries of the church keep going without any big issues. We will be doing our best to take time to process all your questions in the weeks ahead.

Lindsay, Alice and I will still be living in Eagan for now, so it is likely we may still bump into people from CVLC. Out of respect for the next person who fills my position I will do my best to relate to people as "friend" and not as "Pastor" after May 13. I know it may be hard, but understand that I will no longer be your Pastor, as I will be the Pastor for a new congregation and focused on ministering with them. So, I will not be able to return to perform any ministry functions like Baptisms, weddings, or funerals. You will need to look to Pastor Kent, your Interim Pastor, and any future Pastor you will Call, to minister with you in these ways. Thank you for honoring me, the work I do and the office I hold, by understanding this change in role and relationship.

Is there anything else you can do to support me in this transition? Yes. Be faithful in prayer, for me and for you. Pray for Pastor Kent, CV leadership and the synod as they find a good new leader to help do ministry here. If you want to talk before I go, let me know. I have some open time. We can meet for lunch or coffee most weekday mornings or afternoons April 24-May 11. I'll be setting up time to say goodbye to confirmation, senior high, Cross+Gen, etc. Wednesdays and Sundays the next few weeks. Please join us if you can for the Wednesday May 9th family potluck/BBQ and for my final Sunday at CV on May 13th.

I am truly blessed to have served as your Pastor, which makes it so hard for me to leave.

In Christ,
Pastor Steve

THANK YOU AND GODSPEED

To the members of Christus Victor Lutheran Church
From the Church Council

So Long
Farewell
GOODBYE!
Adios
Godspeed

Four years ago, we were incredibly blessed when Pastor Steve Biedermann accepted the Call to serve as our Associate Pastor. It has been a wonderful four years learning, growing, and serving together in faith,

hope, and love. He has been a faithful pastor and servant leader among us. And so, it is with heavy hearts that we announce that Pastor Steve has accepted a different Call to serve as the solo Pastor to Zion Lutheran Church in Cottage Grove.

We are sad to see Pastor Steve, Lindsay, and Alice leave us, but are at the same time very excited for them to be taking this significant step in ministry and mission. He will be taking what he has learned and developed while here at Christus Victor with him to Zion and have the opportunity to spread his wings even more in serving and leading their congregation. We wish him all of God's blessings as we thank him for everything he has done and all the ways he has touched our lives and faith these past years.

There will be two official opportunities to say "thank you and Godspeed" to Pastor Steve, Lindsay, and Alice. For the families and kids involved in our Wednesday evening ministries, there will be a special Recharge worship after the end of year BBQ/Potluck on Wednesday, May 9 at 7:30pm. We will also have a reception between services at 9:45am, on Sunday, May 13, with a time of "blessing, thanksgiving, and Godspeed" during each worship service.

If you would like to set up an individual or small group time with Pastor Steve, he has indicated dates when he is available in his own letter. Your calls, cards, and personal visits would be much appreciated.

In the meanwhile, keep praying for Pastor Steve, for Lindsay and Alice, as they make this difficult yet exciting transition.

In partnership with the Mutual Ministry Committee, Pastor Kent, and the St. Paul Synod staff, we are coming up with both a short-term and long-term plan to cover the ministries that Pastor Steve has organized and led, as well as preaching, worship leadership, and the pastoral care needs of the congregation. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact any of the members of the Church Council, who would be glad to talk with you.

Yours in Christ's Service,

Pastor Kent Claussen Gubrud, Sarah Thomson (Council President), Shane Colin (Vice President), Barb Damlo (Secretary), Mike Radke (Financial Secretary), Mike Orman (Treasurer), Karl Dobberman, Dawn Glewwe, Ron Hansen, Heidi Horgen, Lori Olson, Kristin Schulz

GIVING THANKS AND WISHING GODSPEED for Pastor Steve, Lindsay, and Alice!

We want to celebrate Pastor Steve's ministry among us these



past four years, to show him our appreciation, to give thanks to God, and to wish he, Lindsay, and Alice all of God's blessings as they embark on a new adventure, a new ministry and Call to Zion Lutheran in Cottage Grove.

We will be planning two opportunities to celebrate and give thanks to Pastor Steve and his family. The first will be on **Wednesday, May 9** at the end of year BBQ-Potluck, during the closing Recharge Worship Service.

The second will be during both worship services on **Sunday, May 13**, with a **Special Reception in the Fellowship Hall between services at 9:45am**. If you would like to help plan and organize these special events, please contact Pastor Kent at (952) 454-6927 or pastor.kent@christusvictor.org

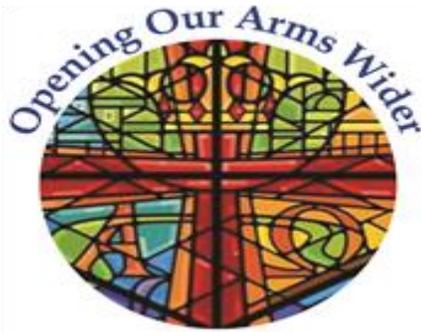
A Note About Summer Ministries from Pastor Kent...

We're not actually saying "goodbye" to Pastor Steve. We are going to be saying, "Thank you, God bless you, and Godspeed." It's still hard but helps us to remember to be thankful as we bless and send Pastor Steve, Lindsay, and Alice on to the next steps of their life and ministry serving the Lord!

Pastor Steve has been working hard with teams of parents and adult leaders preparing for our new **WAPO VBS/Day Camp, Summer Stretch, Camp WAPO, and Wilderness Canoe Base Mission Trip**. I will be spending time with our SEEDS Campers at WAPO and during the week with the WAPO Campers and T.I.M. Teamers. I will also be going with the Mission Trip to the BWCA!

We are finalizing the plan for pastoral coverage for the summer, transitioning to an Interim Call in August. More information will be coming out later in May, so be paying attention to the announcements in worship, bulletins, website, and CV Facebook page, as well as your mail box. Continue to hold Pastor Steve, Lindsay, and Alice in your prayers during this transition, and pray for the staff and church leaders who are working together to keep moving forward as we continue to serve Christ and our community with Faith, Love, and Open Arms. If you have any questions, concerns, or just want talk, please give me a call or drop me an email.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Kent



*Each one should use
whatever gift he has
received to serve others,
faithfully administering
God's grace in its
various forms.
- 1 Peter 4:10*

Sunday, May 6

Opening Our Arms Wider

Capital Campaign

Invitation to Prayer Emphasis

There will be an Invitation-to-Prayer beginning Sunday, May 6, and your personal *Opening Our Arms Wider* Commitment Packet will be given out following each service. For those who are unable to attend, you will be receiving yours in the mail the week following.

The emphasis for the two weeks following our worship is on prayer, specifically to ask the Holy Spirit for guidance in making your financial commitment to the Capital Fund. In your packet you will find a 14-day devotional written by Michelle Vrieze, a member of our congregation. Please use this booklet to enrich your prayer time as we prepare to bring our gifts to Commitment Week. Plan on being with us!

If you have questions, please add them to our Comment Box on the Information Desk.

Leaders of our capital campaign, Opening Our Arms Wider, have been asked to write a short piece on what their faith, Christus Victor Lutheran Church and this campaign means to them.

"This church is my rock. It is where I was born, baptized, married, had my kids baptized and is the majority of my social group. It keeps me tethered to my faith and everything that is important to me." - Cassi McMayer

"What does my church mean to me? This church represents strong community, opportunity, and a place that resonates kindness through faith; within or outside the building itself." - Kirsten Buffie

THINGS TO REMEMBER

- Pray for God's Guidance and Provision
- Participate by giving some of your time and talents to help communicate about our Campaign
- Attend and participate in campaign activities
- Share your excitement and support for the campaign with your family and friends
- Continue to support the ongoing ministry of Christus Victor with your time, talents and treasures
- Pray for God's guidance and support as you make your commitment to the *Opening Our Arms Wider* Campaign.

Adult Learning and Discipleship

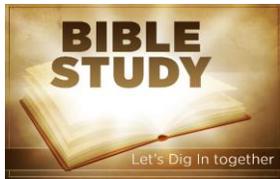
Bible & Brew –



A gathering for men to share life's highs and lows as we grow in faith and knowledge of God's Word together. Next gathering – **May 3, 7:00pm at the Angry Inch Brewery in Lakeville! Bring a friend!**

Thursday Morning Adult Bible Study – 10:00am

at the Apple Valley Villas in the basement meeting room. We are learning through the Gospel of Mark. Come whenever can. No experience necessary!! Bring your Bible, coffee provided!



in
you

“Hello Dolly”

Girls of All Ages Tea Party...

will be held **Saturday, May 12, 2018, 1:00 – 2:30 pm**. Cost will be \$3.00 per person. Tickets are on sale NOW. Bring your favorite doll! Donations will be collected for the B. Robert Lewis House.



Social Ministries would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to all who contributed to the Minnesota Food Share

Challenge in March. Because of your generosity, Christus Victor raised \$2,145.00. This amount plus MN Food Share's 5 to 1 financial matching will be used to feed our neighbors in need. A heart felt thank you to all who provided funds and food items!

Summer Book Group



Christian Leadership and Ministry in Uncharted Territory!

Have you noticed that things are rapidly changing in our culture and society regarding religion, the Church, and Christian faith? Change itself is changing at an accelerated pace that most of us have a hard time keeping up with. The changing world around us, and in us, has brought the Church in America into uncharted territory, which includes Christus Victor as well. As Tod Bolsinger writes, in his book, **Canoeing the Mountains: Christian Leadership in Uncharted Territory**, “*The world in front of you is nothing like the world behind you.*”

If you are passionate, concerned, and interested about learning, growing, and changing together for the sake of God's mission and ministry in a rapidly changing world, then this Book Group is for you!

Join Pastor Kent, members of the Church Council, and other committed church leaders for this summer book group. We will be reading and discussing Tod Bolsinger's book, **Canoeing the Mountains: Christian Leadership in Uncharted Territory**. **Sign up by May 20, at the information desk (\$13 per book)**. Books will be distributed in early June, and we will be planning monthly discussion groups and setting up an on-line discussion group as well.

COMING THIS SUMMER!



“CV All Stars Garage Sale”
Sunday, August 5, 2018 thru
Saturday, August 11, 2018

MISSION TRIP – DOMINICAN REPUBLIC



#Godstime..... And that is was! The team has returned safely and feeling very blessed with many great stories and memories. We look forward to sharing them with you in the coming weeks. In the meantime, you can find pictures and postings made during the trip on Facebook, and here is a small peek:



Hi, Brian here. I helped doing vision screening for the kids in the school that is on site here at the Kids Alive Campus here in Constanza. Later today we also tested a few of the teachers. There were a few that had bad



vision. It was good to see we are really making a difference here. My favorite part of the week is when we help out in the English speaking class. The class this time was a few guys from the baseball ministry that our host Fred has been doing for several years. I was paired up with a really smart young man named Brian. He has been learning English for about 6 months. I was very impressed with him. We were reading verses from the Bible, and he was really good. I would read first, then he would repeat it word for word. I corrected him on several words, but I only had to do it a few times for the words he had trouble with. Then I had him read all 5 verses in a row. I think he did that 5 times in a row with no mistakes. Fred and his wife are doing so much ministry I don't see where they have much time for themselves and family. It



makes me feel a little selfish with all the extra time that I waste.

See more at:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/726782971042775/>

Watch for details coming soon...



MILESTONES at CHRISTUS VICTOR

Births:

Church Milestones:

- 3rd Grade Bibles
- 1st Communion
- Confirmation

Marriages:

Deaths: LaVern "Vern" Kohlhof, April 8, 2018 / Funeral Service held on April 20, 2018



WAPO Day Camp VBS 2018

June 10th 4-5:30pm – Opening Sunday

June 11-14, 9 am – 12 pm – Day Camp

Preschool-5th grade

Price starts around \$42. Discounts for bringing a friend or siblings. Register on our website or in person NOW. Talk to Kristin Schulz, Lia Ess or Pastor Kent if you have any questions

Counselors from WAPO will help lead music, devotions and skits, games, creative/interactive Bible study, and crafts. MOST IMPORTANTLY – the WAPO VBS team offers FIVE ENERGETIC YOUNG PEOPLE WHO LOVE JESUS AND LOVE KIDS!

Relationship Ministry



We are excited about our current building campaign and with the renewed faith, commitment and energy for our mission and ministries. Relationships that help us all grow in faith and love are key to fulfilling our mission.

You will be hearing more about relationship ministry in the months ahead as relationship ministry begins with each one of us living our purpose as the body of Christ. The simple exercise outlined below is an easy first step to strengthen our core, improve our comfort level and help us grow.

Begin by setting your intentions for your interactions with others. Reflect on the qualities you want to be more intentional about in your interactions. Perhaps it is to be a good listener or to share a thankful and joyful spirit.

Intentionality is especially important when meeting someone new and/or welcoming a visitor to CVLC.

When you have the opportunity to welcome someone new, try the following.

1. **Greet the visitor and introduce yourself**
2. **Tell them you are glad they are here**
3. **Listen**
4. **Share one thing you would like them to know about our community of faith. Try to respond with something that responds to a need they may have just shared with you. (People are oftentimes looking for purpose, belonging, uniqueness, and hope.)**
5. **Share the reason you worship here**
6. **Invite them back.**

Many studies call out the importance of belonging to a community with meaningful relationships. We have the opportunity every day to be the hands and feet of Christ living out our purpose for being here. Thank you for your partnership in ministry and for accepting the challenge to grow!



Got news to share?

- Weekly bulletin announcement page: Items due on Wednesday (submit to deb@christusvictor.org)
- Monthly Newsletter: items due on the 3rd Thursday of each month (submit to dluke@christusvictor.org)

Check out the NEW Christus Victor website!

www.christusvictor.org

FULL CHURCH CALENDAR: www.christusvictor.org

Announcements and Upcoming Events

Are you receiving the church Email Announcements and Newsletter? You can sign up on the church website: www.christusvictor.org – select Weekly Email from the News menu option.

Has your contact information changed, switched to cell phones? **Please notify the church office so we can update the church database.** office@christusvictor.org Thank you.



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 LUTHERAN CHURCH

7510 PALOMINO DRIVE ✚ APPLE VALLEY, MN 55124 ✚ 952-454-6927

www.christusvictor.org

Christus Victor Staff

Ministers	ALL MEMBERS OF CV	
Pastor.....	KENT CLAUSSEN GUBRUD	PASTOR.KENT@CHRISTUSVICTOR.ORG
Associate Pastor.....	STEVE BIEDERMANN	PASTOR.STEVE@CHRISTUSVICTOR.ORG
Office Manager.....	DEANNA LUKE	DLUKE@CHRISTUSVICTOR.ORG
Administrative Assistant.....	DEB GORCZYCKI	DEB@CHRISTUSVICTOR.ORG
Director of Music & Traditional Worship	ANNE NYQUIST	
Contemporary Worship & Music Director ...	COURTNIE DEGRAND	
Wednesday Children’s Ministry Co-Directors...	STACEY KLEIN & COURTNIE DEGRAND	
Traditional Worship Accompanist.....	JULIE McDONALD	
Contemporary Worship Accompanist.....	JULIE McDONALD	
Senior Choir Accompanist.....	JULIE McDONALD	
Nursery Attendant.....	CHARMAINE HARRELL	

CHRISTUS VICTOR COUNCIL MEMBERS

Pastor Steve Biedermann	Pastor Kent Claussen Gubrud	Shane Colin
Barb Damlo	Karl Dobberman	Dawn Glewwe
Ron Hansen	Heidi Horgen	Lori Olson
Mike Orman	Mike Radke	Kristin Schulz
Sarah Thomson		