



Christus Victor Lutheran Church

7510 Palomino Drive
Apple Valley, MN 55124

952-454-6927 www.christusvictor.org

Voice of Victory

Volume 23, Issue 1 January 2020



Sunday Worship

8:30am & 11:00am

Fellowship at 9:30am

Education at 9:45am

Wednesdays

Worship & Education

Wednesday Activities Resume January 8th

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY GLOW

6:00pm - grades 1-5

CONFIRMATION

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

RECHARGE WORSHIP

7:25pm

HS YOUTH GROUP

8:00pm

High School Youth, grades 9-12

SENIOR CHOIR

8:00pm

Epiphany – Spiritual A-Ha Moments

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Epiphany means "Revelation." It is the Church season of the revealing of Christ Jesus to the world, starting with the three Magi who came seeking the new born King of the Jews. The symbol of Epiphany is Light.

When I listen to your personal Epiphany moments, those Spiritual A-Ha moments in your life and faith, it seems that, just like the Magi, it came during a combination of seeking and surprising revelation. Your spiritual A-Ha moments came while you were seeking to know or understand God better, trying to get closer to Jesus, or simply wondering if God is actually there. But God also revealed Godself to you as a surprise, a breaking in of awareness and understanding, just like the Holy Spirit blowing into your life. The moment, when after on-going study or prayer or seeking or suffering, suddenly the Light goes on and you see, you know, you understand... you believe!

You need to know that the Magi would never have found the baby Jesus and had his true identity and divinity revealed to them if they stayed home, if they were not out seeking the Lord.

Ok, if you have read the newsletter to this point, we need to know. Why? Because it takes a lot of staff and volunteer time to put the monthly newsletter together, and the feedback we are getting is that people are not reading it. Therefore, we need to focus our time, energy, and resources on communication media that actually connects with the most people. So, if you are reading this newsletter, please contact the church office by email – pastor.kent@christusvictor.org, by phone 952-454-6927, personally tell someone in the office, or drop us a note in the offering plate on a Sunday or Wednesday. Thanks for your feedback! Now back to the article...

My purpose is not to guilt trip anyone, but to invite you to join the journey. Keep seeking, get involved, stay connected on a regular basis. That means regular worship, daily prayer and Bible reading/devotions, participating in learning and serving opportunities, getting together with other sisters and brothers in Christ on a weekly and monthly basis, and giving of your money, time, and talents to serve. If you want to go deeper, attend a retreat, go on a Mission Trip, meet with a spiritual director, join a small Faith Group for study and mutual support. The point is to be intentionally seeking God, seeking to grow closer to Jesus, seeking for the presence of the Spirit in your daily life. In the midst of all of that, I promise, Epiphany will happen!

Peace,

Pastor Kent Claussen Gubrud



Purpose. People want to belong to a church that is doing something. Jesus says, “Go and feed my sheep.” As a church responds to the needs that are most visible and concerning, individuals want to help. People want to be part of something that is making a difference in their community and in the world.

Purpose is found in responding to God’s love and grace.

- “I love it that we don’t just talk about service; we actually do it!”
- “I am making a difference for hungry children thru Feed My Starving Children”
- “I felt needed to help with Thanksgiving Baskets, Armful of Love, & Greenleaf projects”
- “They want me to be a leader.”
- “We are working on a mission trip.”



What gives me a sense of meaning and purpose in life is.....

My church has shaped and contributed to my life’s meaning and purpose by.....

MILESTONES at CHRISTUS VICTOR



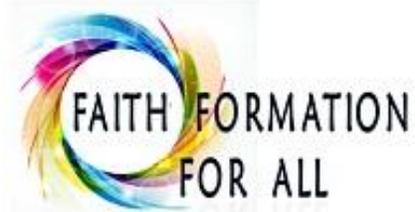
BAPTISM:

December 8, 2019

Michael Sergio Zoubi Thiono

Parents: Kelly & Serge Zoubi Thiono

Sponsors: Bob & Trudy Matthys



JANUARY 2020

JANUARY 5 - CAMP SUNDAY

Sunday Worship and Faith Formation For All will celebrate Camp Sunday with fun camp songs, information on summer activities for all ages and games too!

JANUARY 12TH & 19TH FFFA – Small group breakouts

JANUARY 26th – Fellowship Sunday



Lyle Griner is hosting two Peer Ministry Training sessions in January. One is **Saturday, January 11** at Mount Calvary in Excelsior, the other is **Saturday, January 25** at Paynesville Lutheran, in Paynesville. Contact Josh or Pastor Kent if interested!

Jr High Ultimate Lock-In! Friday night, January 24th into Saturday morning. This event is overnight at the Maple Grove Community Center, 10 PM - 6 AM. We will be meeting at CV at 9:15 to transport there, returning by 6:30, otherwise talk to Josh about getting your own ride. Event is \$30 due by January 15! Open to all 6-9th graders (high schoolers talk to Josh about being a helper).



FMSC South Metro Meal Pack
Jan. 26 – Feb. 1, 2020

At Hosanna Church, Lakeville, MN

Get ready to sign up to help pack meals, or help behind the scenes as a Certified Volunteer, Hospitality, Childcare, Greeters, etc. On **Sunday, January 12** we will kick off our registrations and fundraising! Kids will receive either an M&M tube or a Pringles Can. Adults will be encouraged to participate in “Try Tithing” Sunday (see below). Each person will be packing \$52 worth of food. That’s a BIG GROCERY BILL!! Spread the word! Invite your friends, neighbors, classmates, office team, sports team, Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Book Group, etc. etc. etc.

Help us pack 2 MILLION MEALS!!!

“Try Tithing” Sunday to Support the FMSC Meal Pack

Sunday, January 12!

A tithe is 10%. 10% of your income, given in gratitude and thanksgiving to God for all of your blessings.



On **Sunday, January 12**, we invite you to “Try Tithing,” giving a full 10% of your weekly income to support the South Metro

Feed My Starving Children Meal Pack Event. Determine what a 10% offering would be, subtract what you already give weekly, and the difference is your “Try Tithing.” (**Example** - \$1,000/week 10% is \$100. If you already give \$50, the difference would be \$50 to “Try Tithing.”)



While in El Salvador representatives of the South Metro MobilePack found out that many organizations use the MannaPacks to make different recipes. This allows the food to go further and feed more.





Facebook Bible Reflection

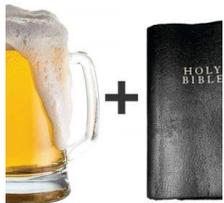


...with Pastor Kent

This month on Thursday, January 9 at 5pm, Pastor Kent will be Live Streaming a Bible Reflection and Questions for the upcoming Sunday Bible text. You will also be able to watch the video after it is posted at any time that works for you.

Bible & Brew – 2 Options!

(1) At the Angry Inch Brewery -Thursday,



January 9 at 7pm

WE NEED A HOST!! (Contact

Pastor Kent at

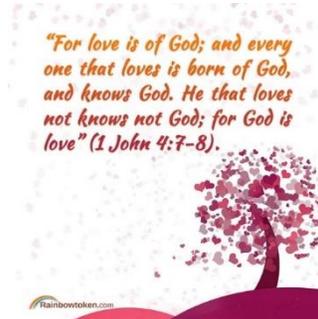
pastor.kent@christusvictor.org

to help). Bring your Bible, grab a

brew (or homemade root beer),

and come to learn, share, and grow together in faith!

- (2) On Facebook** – Log on to the Christus Victor Facebook page at **5pm** on **Thursday, January 9**, or anytime afterward, for an introduction and background to the text, along with some reflection questions by Pastor Kent.



Thursday Morning Adult Bible Study

10:00am at the Apple Valley Villas in the basement meeting room.

We are learning and growing in faith through the books of 1,2, & 3 John! Come whenever you can. No experience necessary!! Bring your Bible, coffee provided!

"We are never done learning and growing in our faith, and what it means to believe and follow Jesus. Once you stop learning and growing, maybe you are dead. Or maybe your faith is dead." (a Bible study participant)

RECHARGE WAPO MEN'S RETREAT

February 28 - March 01, 2020 - \$150 for a great weekend!



Led by Pastor and Artist, Paul Oman!

Theme: Hearing (and "Seeing") the Voice of the Good Shepherd in The Parables of Jesus

For more information, or to register, check out www.campwapo.org under events. Or, talk to Pastor Kent with questions.



The Dwelling Place

The Dwelling Place...

Next gathering will be January 20th, 6:30pm

Women of Christus Victor, Lily of the Valley and Casa de Oracion gather for a potluck meal and Bible study on the 4th Monday of the month at the church. All are welcome! No sign up needed, just come when you are able.



ARMFUL OF LOVE THANK YOU



Just take a minute to think of the joy and the love felt by those who received your gifts and prayers through the Armful of Love Program this Christmas season. This program would not be possible without generous giving like yours. Thank you

for realizing the mission of Christus Victor: Serving Christ and Community with Faith, Love, and Open Arms.

Christus Victor was one of hundreds of sponsors providing gifts of clothing, toys, household items and food gift certificates to needy Dakota County families. This year we sponsored 10 families providing more than 150 gifts and donated additional gifts for teens. The 2019 total number of families served through 360 Communities AOL was over 950 families! Yes – the need for assisting those in our immediate neighborhoods is sometimes hard to realize!

Hebrews 13:1 – “Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.”

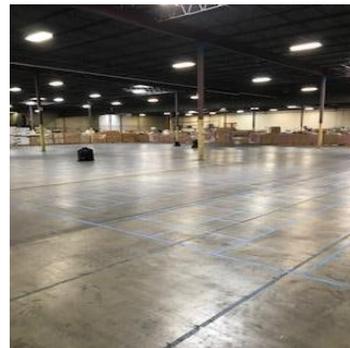
The Social Ministries Committee extends a special thanks to the confirmation group led by Shane Colin and Matt Kreutzman. These young confirmands sorted and bagged our huge assortment of presents as these donations got ready to make their way to the AOL warehouse site. Great job kids!

Thanks also to Shane Colin, Charlie Colin and Tom Iaria who delivered the gifts to the Armful of Love warehouse in Burnsville.

Shane & Matt’s confirmation group



AOL warehouse – day 1 and day before gift pick-up





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 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

CHRISTUS VICTOR STAFF

Ministers.....	ALL MEMBERS OF CV	
Pastor.....	KENT CLAUSSEN GUBRUD	PASTOR.KENT@CHRISTUSVICTOR.ORG
Director of Children, Youth, & Family.....	JOSH SVENULSKI	JOSH@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 Director.....	STACEY KLEIN	
Worship Accompanist.....	JULIE McDONALD	
Senior Choir Accompanist.....	JULIE McDONALD	
Nursery Attendant.....	CHARMAINE HARRELL	

CHRISTUS VICTOR COUNCIL MEMBERS

Pastor Kent Claussen Gubrud
 Shane Colin
 Karl Dobberman
 Dawn Glewwe

Ron Hansen
 Karri Holman
 Karin Ilg
 Jody McDermott-Baty

Lori Olson
 Mike Orman
 Kristin Schulz
 Sarah Thomson