

Voice of Victory

Volume 25, Issue 5 May 2022

Christus Victor Lutheran Church

7510 Palomino Drive
Apple Valley, MN 55124
952-454-6927 www.christusvictor.org



SUNDAY WORSHIP

In-Person

OR

Live Stream on Facebook

9:30 am

[https://www.facebook.com/
ChristusVictorChurch](https://www.facebook.com/ChristusVictorChurch)

WEDNESDAY WORSHIP

Recharge 7:30 pm



EASTER IS A WAY OF LIFE, NOT JUST A SUNDAY IN SPRING

*"Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so **that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.**"*

John 20: 30-31

Dear Friends in Christ,
Christ is risen! He is risen, indeed!

What a joy to see so many people in worship on Easter morning, celebrating the Resurrection of Christ Jesus, our Savior and Lord. What a joy to have the Gathering Space overflowing with people after worship, even opening the garage door into the Youth Room! This was the vision for our congregation and community, that drove our first building campaign, and after two years of Covid, we finally experienced the joy and excitement of Christian community, gathering together to celebrate Easter, to celebrate our shared faith in Jesus Christ. What a joyful day it was! Christ is risen! He is risen, indeed!

It is tempting, however, to think that Easter is just a special Sunday in the spring. One special Sunday in the year, rather than understanding that Easter is a WAY OF LIFE! The purpose of the Gospels, the purpose of worship, the purpose of the ministries of the church, are that **"you may come to believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name."** Easter faith is a way of life. It is LIFE in and through Jesus Christ our Lord. It is not only **"believing,"** it is having **"faith"** and **"trusting"** in Jesus the Christ.

Easter faith is a way of life, lived each day. Daily growing in faith, growing in our understanding, our knowledge, and our relationship with Jesus Christ. That is not something that happens one Sunday a year, it is a daily walk with Christ, and regular gathering with other Christians for worship, learning, serving, and fellowship, growing together in faith and love of God and our neighbors.

Each and every Sunday is a celebration of Easter, a coming together to receive the gift of life in the name of Jesus Christ that comes through the gifts of forgiveness, God's Word, and the Body and Blood of Christ. Come receive and grow in believing, faith, and trust in Christ Jesus!

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Kent Claussen Gubrud



ADULT SPIRITUAL/FAITH GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES

THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES...



9am Bible Reflection on the CV Facebook Page.

Have your Bibles and morning beverages ready as we dig into the scriptures for the

coming Sunday worship.

10am Bible Study at the Apple Valley Villas Due to the ongoing Covid situation, this is only open to residents of the Villas.

1pm Seniors Bible Study Join us in the Gathering Space for an engaging discussion and study of the texts for Sunday morning.

SUNDAY MORNING FAITH FORMATION

FOR ALL is for all adults of all ages! The first Sunday of the month is for all ages learning, having fun, and growing in faith together. The second and third Sundays, each age group meets separately. Adults meet in room 112 for Bible study and discussion on the scriptures for the day.



Saturday Men's Lunch with Lily of the Valley Saturday, May 21 at 12:30pm

The men of Christus Victor and Lily of the Valley are getting together for lunch, fellowship, and a time of devotion and sharing (location to be determined). RSVP by Sunday, May 15, and we need some men to help with the food. Contact Pastor Kent to help – pastor.kent@christusvictor.org.

Monday Morning at 9am

“WHOLEHEARTED FAITH”

Wholehearted Faith is a collection of essays by Rachel Held Evans, published after her tragic death in 2019. Wholehearted Faith is an inspiring collection of thoughts, reflections, and deep questions about what it means to live out our faith Wholeheartedly, with all we are and with all we have?

2 Options on Monday Morning...

- 9am Live Book Reflections on the CV Facebook Page - <https://www.facebook.com/ChristusVictorChurch>
- 9:30am Book Discussion on Zoom! Join with others who are reading “Wholehearted Faith” for an enlightening discussion and sharing our responses and wonderings. Contact Pastor Kent for the zoom link at pastor.kent@christusvictor.org.

Please purchase a copy to read along (consider ordering through the CV Amazon Smiles <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/41-6092867>) Each week we will discuss a different chapter from her book.





Don't
worry
be
happy.

2022 Girls Of All Ages Tea Party



Returning this year, the ever-popular Girls of All Ages Tea Party. **Saturday May 7, 2022, 1:00pm** in the CLVC

Gathering Space. Once again there will be entertainment, food and of course Tea! Donations will be accepted for the B. Robert Lewis House. Tickets are on sale now after service and in the church office.



MILESTONES at CHRISTUS VICTOR

*Christus Victor Congregation Members
Birth, Death, Marriage, New Member, Faith Formation milestones*

FIRST COMMUNION: April 14

Olivia Belz, Dax Schulz, Olivia Rylander

BAPTISM: April 17

Mayor Louis Carlson

Parents: Janeia and Jesse Carlson

Sponsors: Chesley Murphy and Noel Opare-Addo

Social Ministries is excited to announce its newest project: **A Diaper Drive!!**

Our diaper drive is in honor of upcoming Mother's and Father's Days. Beginning on Mother's Day, Sunday May 8th, thru Sunday June 5th there will be a playpen in the Narthex that you can put diapers in. We are looking for all sizes of diapers including size 6. We are also looking for all sizes of pull-up's (all brands welcome). In addition to diapers, we will collect diaper cream such as Desitin and baby wipes.

We are having the diaper drive to benefit our local community partners: Rosemount Community Resource Center, Burnsville Community Resource Center, Lewis House, and Dakota Woodlands. If you are not able to make it to church or would rather donate money that will work too. Please make checks out to Christus Victor with diaper drive in the memo line. Social Ministries members will go shopping for the products still in need with all monetary donations.

We are excited to have the Diaper Drive because 1/3 of families in MN struggle to provide enough clean and dry diapers for their baby.

We can look at how many diapers a baby might go thru in a day to see how this statistic rings true for many families. On average a baby up to 4 months old can go thru 8-10 diapers per day, a 4-8-month-old baby can go thru 8-9 diapers per day and then at 8 months and older babies can go thru 6-7 diapers per day. Thus, the range can be anywhere from 42-70 diapers per WEEK! This could average \$30 per week, thus \$120 per month just in diapers.

We look forward to seeing how Christus Victor can bless many families in our surrounding community!



If you have questions, you can reach out to Carla B at carlafromcv@gmail.com

Stay tuned to the weekly announcements to learn more about our diaper drive and how your participation is helpful to these families.



RACIAL JUSTICE

We hold up Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month in May, giving thanks for the contributions of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders to the United States. This past year has been another year of many physical and spiritual assaults on members of this community. Explore the resources below to learn more about Asian American and Pacific Islander heritage and learn how you can help stop harassment in all forms. Two resources we recommend this month include the following.

1. *Right To Be*

Right To Be is the people-powered movement formerly known as Hollaback! While continuing to support Asian Americans, they have expanded their mission to end harassment in all its forms.

“We want to build a world where everyone has the Right To Be who they are, wherever they are. A world that’s free of harassment and filled with humanity.”

Right To Be continues to offer excellent free training for the public and organizations. Their tools can help people learn how to respond, intervene, and heal from harassment. You can find more information and sign up at <https://righttobe.org>.

2. *Astrid and Apollo* – (series of children’s books)

These books are fun and educational, and the stories are set in Minnesota! This series for children is written by St. Paul author, V.T. Bidania. Astrid and Apollo are fun-loving 8-year-old twins that live in St. Paul, MN. Along with their Hmong American family, they explore popular events and activities in the Twin Cities and outstate MN. These beautifully illustrated books take us on Minnesota adventures while subtly introducing us to many Hmong traditions, including but not limited to foods, clothing, and Hmong names. The themes of family, friendship, exploration, and tradition are loving and universal.

Please feel free to reach out to any of us on the Racial Justice Committee with any and all questions or comments. We are here for you

Diana Buffie, Kristin Schulz, Nancy Erler, Alana Thureen, Alice McCammon, Dawn Youngner, Kevin Philpy, Sarah Youngner

As identified in our constitution,

“The Racial Justice Committee of Christus Victor commits to listening, informing, and empowering our community to serve Christ by working for justice across racial boundaries. We will educate ourselves and our community about how God’s Word and Christ’s teachings will lead us to better understand and interrupt systems of racism.”

For further information, please see the Social and Racial Justice Statement as posted on our website:

[RACIAL JUSTICE | Christus Victor Lutheran Church.](#)



CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY

End of Year BBQ

Wednesday May 4th will be our End of Year BBQ Celebration! Church will provide brats and burgers, and all children and families are invited to bring a side or dessert to share at 6:30, followed by our final ReCharge at 7:30!

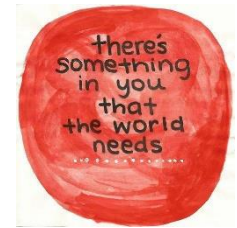
Summer Sign Ups

Vacation Bible School will be the week of August 7! Camp Counselors from Good Earth Village will be joining us this summer to help lead VBS. Registration information will be coming out soon. **Summer Stretch** will also be returning on Thursdays this summer for jr. high youth. More information is coming soon. Please remember that scholarships are available, and fundraisers have begun!



HOPE BELONGING PURPOSE UNIQUENESS

According to Lyle Griner in All In Relational Ministry: **Uniqueness** is being specially gifted by God, and then valued and needed by others. We are all created special with different talents. Celebrate the fact that you have a **unique** contribution to make to our church. Your skills might fit in with one of the worship teams, working with one of the many committees, relating to children or young people, leadership, or any number of ministry opportunities. If you utilize your **unique** talents, you can and will inevitably make an impact in our church, community, and the world. Others will be affected by your life, your actions, and your presence on this earth, whether you realize it or not.



SUNFLOWERS FOR TANZANIA!

We have an opportunity to partner with our brothers and sisters in Mlowa, Tanzania to help them purchase a Sunflower press. They have put together a business plan to purchase land to grow sunflowers and to purchase a press to produce sunflower oil. The sale of the oil will provide income to the parish and to the village of Mlowa. They are asking for our partnership to help raise funds for the purchase of the sunflower press. So, we are asking you to please join us in supporting this exciting opportunity.

Still time to join us by making a donation. Please do so now!