

Voice of Victory

Volume 25, Issue 10 October 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)

Faith Formation for All

10:30 am

Fellowship Time 10:30 am in the
Gathering Space

WEDNESDAY

CHILDREN & YOUTH ACTIVITIES

6:00 pm GLOW & Confirmation

7:20 pm ReCharge Worship

7:50 pm Youth Group



A Time and Season for Everything

*"For everything there is a season, and a time for every
purpose under heaven;*

A time to be born, and a time to die...

A time to break down, and a time to build up;

A time to weep, and a time to laugh;

A time to mourn, and a time to dance..."

-selected verses from Ecclesiastes 3

Dear Friends in Christ,

This scripture has been sticking with me this summer here at Christus Victor, through so many unexpected deaths, unexpected changes, and challenges. We have experienced what it means that there is a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance. Grief, loss, laughter, happy memories, sad good-byes, and through it all, God is with us. And as the high school kids who went to Christikon this summer learned and experienced, **"Wherever you go, Christ goes with you"** especially in the difficult and challenging times of life.

There is also time to retire, as our beloved Anne Nyquist, who for over 40 years has given so much of herself to the music ministry of CV, has announced her retirement at the end of the school year (possibly before). There is a time for new life, as our CYF Director, Josh and his wife Lydia Svenulski, announced the coming of a new baby. A time to get married. A time to be Baptized. A time to receive your first Bible. A time to Affirm your Faith during Confirmation. A time to rest and heal from sickness and surgery. A time to work out, practice, or rehearse, or perhaps just go for a quiet walk.

In all of these seasons of life, in good times and in bad, we are reminded that God through Christ Jesus in the Holy Spirit is with us. To give us strength and comfort, courage and peace, love and hope; to give us God's presence in everything we are going through. I was reminded this summer that God's presence is made clear to us in the love, care, and support of other people, especially those in our Christian community. I am so grateful to so many people who made the loving presence of Christ come alive to me, especially through so many challenges this summer.

May we continue to walk alongside one another, helping us to know and experience God's loving presence in the many seasons of life we all go through.

Yours in Christ,

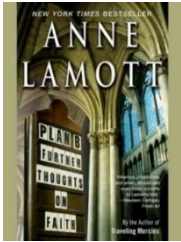
Pastor Kent Claussen Gubrud



ADULT SPIRITUAL/FAITH GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday Morning Faith Formation for Adults

Monday Morning Book Study Our next book will be



“Plan B: Further Thoughts on Faith” by Anne Lamott. Join us for weekly reflections Monday mornings at 9am on Facebook.

We will also be having a Zoom Book Discussion Group at 9:30am for those who are interested.

Contact Pastor Kent for the Zoom link – pastor.kent@christusvictor.org

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 Weekly Bible study on Thursdays at 1pm in the Gathering Space. Join us for a rousing and interesting discussion of the Bible texts and the intersections with our own faith and life journey.

Young Adult Dinner Church – Tuesday, October 4 at 6:30pm!



The next Young Adult Dinner Church will be Tuesday, October 4 at 6:30pm. This is a ministry experience where everyone participates and takes turns

leading different aspects of the evening. Some take the lead in developing a menu and buying groceries, while others come in to help make the meal. Some take the lead in putting together the worship theme, scripture readings, music, prayers, and discussion questions, but everyone participates. There is a small cost to cover the food, which changes depending on the menu. Contact Pastor Kent or Josh for more information.

MEN’S GROUP – Fire, Fellowship, and Faith – Thursday, Oct. 13 at 7pm

There is nothing like gathering around a fire with your friends. A time for reflection. A time for stories. A time to connect with your brothers in Christ. A time to discern where God is calling the men’s ministry at CV next. Bring a beverage and a snack to share. Bring a willingness to share and to listen to one another and to God. Bring a friend.



SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP ASSISTANTS NEEDED!

Every Sunday we rely on a team of worship assistants to make everything happen. People of all ages can help with worship. A great way for families to serve together!

Greeters, Ushers, and Communion Assistants - Sign up Genius Link

- <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c094faba92aa5f58-sunday>

Lectors and Prayer Assistants - Sign up Genius Link

- <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c094faba92aa5f58-scripture4>

Coffee Crew Sign Up (coffee set up and clean up) - Sign up Genius Link

- <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c094faba92aa5f58-coffee>

Screen, Stream, and Sound Team needs your help. We need your help sharing the Good News of the Gospel with streaming our Sunday morning worship! Help us share the hope, grace, and love of the Gospel with people across the state and country who would otherwise not be able to attend worship. Contact Pastor Kent for more information regarding training and signing up to help - pastor.kent@christusvictor.org.



EMBRACING OUR FUTURE TOGETHER

In our first capital campaign, we started the process of opening our arms wider, and now have a beautiful gathering space that welcomes us on Sundays and for special events throughout the year. While opening our arms wider is a continual part of our mission as a church, after 2.5 years of a global pandemic, many ups, downs, joys, changes, and challenges, we can now start to embrace our future together as a church. Our second capital campaign, Embracing Our Future Together, will allow us as a church and congregation to finish what we have started in the first capital campaign, and begin to plan for the future of our church.

In order to embrace our future together we need to consider both the needs of our church and congregation, as well as some of our wants. Our needs are the necessary maintenance and financial projects that without addressing, could have a negative effect on both our church building and congregation, and the wants are the interior and exterior building updates that will make our church a more welcoming and inclusive place. The needs include retirement of existing construction debt and needed capital improvements, with our wants being a refresh and renewal in the sanctuary and strengthening our exterior visual identity.



Kicking off on Sunday, October 9 and spanning a six-week period, you will receive more information outlining the projects that our second capital campaign will cover, as well as how much we will need to raise in order to complete these projects. The campaign will culminate on Sunday, November 13, Harvest Sunday, when we will have the totals received from pledges that have been made.

Please take time to reflect on what it means to embrace our future together at Christus Victor, pray for the success of this campaign and the leaders working behind the scenes, and consider your pledges to the second capital campaign. Thank you in advance for your generous giving. With your help we will continue to open our arms wider and embrace our future together.

Retirement and Music Ministry Task Force

After over 40 years of creative, faithful, energetic leadership of the music ministries of our church, Anne Nyquist has announced her retirement in the spring of 2023.

Anne has been a powerhouse of musical creativity and hard work. Senior Choir, Upward Call, Spirit Bound, B.O.P.S., Christmas Band, Musical Ensembles involving every kind of instrument and skill level, Vacation Bible School, Dinner and Dessert Theater nights, the list of music groups and activities goes on. All created, directed, and led by Anne with her indomitable spirit and style. We are so incredibly grateful for the impact she has made in the lives of so many people and in the music and worship life of this congregation!

A Music Ministry Task Force has been formed to review our needs, hopes, and dreams for the future of our music ministry here at CV. They will then gather feedback from the congregation to create a new job description that will guide a search committee. While the plan is for Anne to retire in the spring of 2023, if an exceptional candidate is found prior to that, the timing may change.

Please keep Anne in your prayers and let her know how much she has meant to you. But probably the best way to show her your gratitude is to get involved in the music ministries of the church.

Yours in Christ's Service,
Pastor Kent Claussen Gubrud and the Music Ministry Task Force Members –
Julie Colin, Andrea Dobberman, Claudia Glinski, Doug Klein, Stephanie Lundquist, David McMayer, Jen Radke, Sarah Youngner



CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY

Bible Sunday, October 2

Faith Formation For All's first large group activity is Bible Sunday. 3-yr-olds and 3rd graders will receive Bibles during worship, and everyone is invited to the Gathering Space following worship for Bingo, games, prizes, and more!

Service Sunday, October 9

Faith Formation has a BONUS large group Sunday in October where we will be going out to local members' homes to help with outdoor yard cleanup. We will leave right after worship and head out until 11:30 AM. Make sure to bring work gloves, rakes, clippers, and dress accordingly.

Fall Festival @ Sever's Corn Maze and Fall Festival, October 9

High school youth will be heading to Sever's in Shakopee for their Fall Festival. Corn maze challenges, zip lines, pumpkin cannons, food, and MUCH more! Tickets are \$20. We will leave from church together at 12 PM and return by 3 PM.

MEA Weekend

NO Wednesday ministries on October 19.

Confirmation Sunday, October 30

Join us for the Rite of Confirmation worship at 9:30, followed by a reception in the Gathering Space. We are celebrating both Christian Case and Gabe Jordan as they affirm their baptisms with friends, family and our Christus Victor community.



A LOOK AT LAST YEAR'S CYF FALL ACTIVITIES – TO GET YOU IN THE MOOD FOR THIS YEAR!!!

MILESTONES at CHRISTUS VICTOR



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

DEATH:

August 23: Malisa Kreutzmann

BIBLE SUNDAY – OCTOBER 2

The following children will receive their Bibles on **Sunday, Oct. 2:**

Preschoolers:

Liam Betchwars, Thomas Klein, Connor Klein

First-grader:

Eddie Ritchie

Third-graders:

Maggie Case, Nathan Philpy, Oliver Tvedt

Fourth-grader:

Orion Ess

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY – OCTOBER 30

(Affirmation of Baptism)

Blessing & Thanks - Our prayers are with the following young people as they publicly profess their faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and commit to continued growth in faith, love, and service as disciples of Jesus.

Confirmands

Christian Case Gabe Jordan

In thanksgiving for the committed volunteers who have nurtured these Confirmands on their journey of faith:

Confirmation Group Guides

Shane Colin Jennie Rice



From the WELCOMING TEAM:



A church funeral service honors the faith life of a loved one and proclaims our hope of the resurrection to eternal life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. It is also a ministry of hospitality and outreach to the family and friends, many of whom may not have been in church for a long time, if ever.

The funeral reception provides an opportunity to offer condolences to the family and celebrate the life of the departed. This emotional support is very important after a loss. It is a physical sign of God's loving presence and provides a place and time to help people to deal with their grief and process their feelings with one another.

Christus Victor has recently opened its arms five times to receive and care for grieving families and their friends. A large group of Christus Victor volunteers have repeatedly come forward to assist with the receptions - to set up, bake treats, serve, and clean up. They show compassion and caring by creating a welcoming environment with warm hospitality. Families and friends very frequently express their gratitude for this kindness.

It is our hope that all grieving families, and all visitors, would leave our church warmed by this ministry reflecting the love of God. Thank you to everyone who gives of their time, energy, and baking talents in this crucial ministry.

BACKPACK FOOD PROGRAM

Thank you sponsors and volunteers who have supported the Greenleaf Backpack Food Program over the years. Social Ministries will again partner with Lily of the Valley to contribute funds and volunteers so students will have weekend food through the Every Meal Program to bring home to their families. Any monetary donation is greatly appreciated. Please make out your check to Christus Victor with "backpack food" in the memo line and drop it in the church office. More information on volunteer opportunities will be coming later this fall.

CV Contact: Cindy Baubie (cindybaubie@charter.net or 952-715-2080)

From SOCIAL MINISTRIES TEAM:

FUNERAL THANKS

Thank you to the many volunteers who have helped set up tables and chairs, baked bars and cookies, plated food, made coffee and juice, arranged flowers, tidied up the church, served beverages, bussed dirty dishes, washed and dried dishes, vacuumed the floors, cleaned table cloths, put away chairs and other equipment, taken out the trash, boxed up food for the family, brought leftover food to the Lewis House and for being welcoming, caring hosts to all the guests at the five funerals this summer. You were the hands and feet of Christ each time you helped families honor their loved one. You are very appreciated!

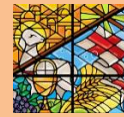


SCHOOL SUPPLIES THANKS



Many thanks for the generous donations of school supplies for the students at Greenleaf Elementary School. Everything has been distributed and very appreciated. New students come into school all year long so if you find items on clearance during the fall and winter, that would also be appreciated. Just bring them to the church office and the items will be delivered. Again, many thanks for thinking of the students.





RACIAL JUSTICE



Indigenous People’s Day is a new federal holiday that was formally recognized for the first time on October 11, 2021.

Minnesota has been inhabited by indigenous people since 1000-200 BC and continues to be home to eleven federally recognized Ojibwe and Dakota reservations. The history and stories of the Dakota and Ojibwe are important for us to get familiar with for a more complete understanding of our Minnesota and Christian heritage. This summer we watched Pope Francis beg forgiveness from Canadian Indigenous people for the evil Christians inflicted on Indigenous people.

While it is more comfortable to look at the inequities of other countries or states, we, too, have a history of oppression and wrongful practices in Minnesota. Racial disparities exist in many Minnesota communities - as evidenced by outcomes in healthcare, education, employment, and income to name a few. Many years of injustices and complicity have contributed to those gaps. It is important for us as Christians to pay attention, listen with our hearts, resist the temptation of willful ignorance, acknowledge wrongful practices and disparities in our communities, and consider how we can stand up for justice and live with love as Jesus showed us – to be God’s love in the world.

This month we invite you to hear the voices of persons of color about their experiences living in Minnesota.

- 1. Minnesota History Center exhibit titled, “Our Home: Native Minnesota.”** The History Center is located at 345 Kellogg Blvd. W. in St. Paul. This exhibit shares stories of Indigenous people, their enduring presence and deep connection to the land.
- 2. Historic Fort Snelling** at 200 Tower Avenue in St. Paul has many stories to tell that include Native peoples, trade, soldiers and veterans, enslaved people, and immigrants.
- 3. A Good Time For the Truth, Race in Minnesota,** edited by Sun Yung Shin. Sixteen of Minnesota's best writers provide a range of perspectives on what it is like to live as a person of color in Minnesota.

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.](#)



WOMEN'S RETREAT 2022



Calling all women of Christus Victor: you, your mothers, daughters, and girlfriends. You are all invited to the Women's Retreat 2022 on Nov. 11th–

13th at Camp WAPO. Join us as we once again enjoy the beauty and relaxation of Camp WAPO and explore ways of "Loving Our Neighbors As Ourselves." We invite you to join your fellow women to explore themes of racism as a system, how to interrupt it, and how to best love our neighbors with faith, love, and open arms. One specific focus will be food justice, and the impact of food deserts on nutrition. We welcome you into a weekend of learning and growth, as well as relaxation and community.

The cost will be \$114 for the full weekend or \$30 for Saturday only. Sign up [WITH THIS LINK](#) or at church at the information desk. Any questions can be directed to Elizabeth Manning or Sarah Youngner.

FROM THE GREEN TEAM

Happy Fall! Isn't it great that we are getting to use our new gathering space? You might have noticed the new trash and recycling bins around church. As a way to help you become a more confident recycler, and to improve the usefulness of Christus Victor's recycling program, look here for a series of hints and tips that you can use every day and everywhere in Dakota County. This month the topic is cartons. Enjoy! —The Green Team

CARTONS

- ✓ Cartons from milk, dairy alternatives and half-n-half
- ✓ Soup and broth cartons
- ✓ Juice boxes

EMPTY + DRY

CAPS ON

Sunflower Project Update

The building for the sunflower press project is almost complete! Doors, windows, and electricity have been installed. Thank you for your generous contributions and support! Please continue to pray for the next steps in this project, that this would be a blessing to the Mlowa Parish and all of the surrounding communities! ASANTE SANA (Thank You) for your support and prayers!!



EUREKA! RECYCLING TWIN CITIES

Where does my recycling go?

INSULATION