



THE CURRENT

CHRISTUS VICTOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

The People of Christus Victor, ministers
Rev. Michael Price, Pastor

"Whoever believes in Me, streams of living water will flow from his heart." John 7:38

May 2024

Volume 40, No. 5

Worship Schedule

Sunday, May 5

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Outdoor Worship Service at Saluda
Shoals, 11:00am (In-Person/Virtual)
Picnic Lunch after Worship

Sunday, May 12

Seventh Sunday of Easter

In-Person/Virtual Worship, 9:30am
Faith Formation, 10:30am

Sunday, May 19

Pentecost

In-Person/Virtual Worship, 9:30am
Faith Formation, 10:30am

Sunday, May 26

The Holy Trinity

In-Person/Virtual Worship, 9:30am
Faith Formation, 10:30am



MEMORIAL DAY

"Only two defining forces
have ever offered to die for
you; Jesus Christ and the
American soldier. One
died for your soul; the other
for your freedom."



Outdoor Worship Service, May 5, 2024

Worship at Saluda Shoals - Redbud Shelter -
11:00am

Potluck Picnic follows Worship

Service and picnic will be held in the shelter

Please bring a side dish or dessert

Main dish, drinks and paper products will be provided

There will be **no** worship services at the church.

Upcoming Events

- + Choir practice every Wednesday
- + Outdoor Worship Service at Saluda Shoals, 5/5
- + Girl Scouts, 5/5, 19
- + Clergy Spiritual Group, 5/9
- + Wine & Word, 5/13
- + Lunch Bunch, 5/14
- + Church Council meeting, 5/14
- + LMM, 5/18, 21
- + Laura Sturgeon Piano Recital, 5/19
- + Newsletter Articles Deadline, 5/20
- + Memorial Day, 5/27 - Office Closed

FROM THE



Hi there church,

Throughout the building, you'll see framed words of the promises made at baptisms and confirmations. Parents, guardians, and sponsors make promises on behalf of children at infant or child baptisms, and candidates themselves make their own promises at adult baptisms or confirmations. These promises are rooted in ancient liturgies that have always been connected to the sacrament of baptism and the baptized life.

- to live among God's faithful people.
- to hear the Word of God and share in the Lord's Supper
- to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed
- to serve all people, following the example of Jesus
- to strive for justice and peace in all the earth

To live, hear, share, proclaim, serve, and strive. As the council reflects on our core values as a congregation, and on a focused mission statement, a daring vision, and more specific goals, I pause to reflect on these promises we make as individuals and families. I hadn't really ever thought about my own personal mission statement, daring vision, and more specific goals, but these promises are a good start for me, and probably for you too.

On Pentecost, our confirmands will make those promises for themselves. I encourage each of you to hold those promises close for yourself as well. It might even be a good idea to let confirmands know that their promises inspire your own and remind you that you are continually called to live out those promises too. When we can inspire one another, the Holy Spirit has a real chance of making things happen.

May we all make those promises together on Pentecost.

Peace,
Pastor Michael



OPEN HANDS

Liturgical scholar Balthasar Fischer (1912-2001) shared an “a-ha” realization about the significance of praying with open, outstretched hands, an ancient practice. The opposite gesture, a closed fist, is used to threaten others or even inflict violence. We also grasp things in closed fists, refusing to let go, to share, to hold gently or loosely.

When we pray with open hands, Fischer explained, we're saying before God that we renounce “all highhandedness, all pride in [our] own sufficiency, all violence.” We hold up our empty hands to God, saying, “I have nothing that I have not received from you, nothing that you have not placed in my empty hands. Therefore I do not keep a frantic hold on anything you have given me; therefore, too, I desire not to strike and hurt but only to give and to spread happiness and joy.”



Greetings!

We would like to get the handbell choir up and running again. I already have several people who have let me know that they are interested in ringing! If you would like to join our ranks, please let me know! No experience is necessary and I really feel that this ensemble can add a lot to our worship at Christus Victor.

The choir has been working hard (as always) and I would like to commend them once again on their ability to provide quality musical leadership regardless of the circumstance. It is a busy time and many of our choir members have had to be absent for a variety of reasons, but it never fails that whoever is in the room steps up and accounts for the absences. I am extremely fortunate to work with such a fine group of individuals.

In May we have our outdoor service and Mother's Day, as well as Pentecost and Holy Trinity Sunday, so look for music to reflect this rich season!

Blessings,
Robert

GENERAL FUND STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES ENDING MARCH 31:

1/1/24 – 3/31/24

General Fund Receipts: \$56,410
General Fund Disbursements: \$70,676
Year to date deficit: \$(14,266)

March 2024

General Fund Receipts: \$20,698
General Fund Disbursements: \$19,787
Monthly deficit: \$910



Happy Easter, Alleluia,
He is risen:

Time and Talent responses that were received have been compiled. A Council liaison or committee member should be contacting folks soon about opportunities to use our gifts on various teams.

In Pastor Michael's sermon on 4/21/2024, he discussed that, through Council training, members of Council have been learning to ask 'why' we do things the way we do. He also mentioned that it may be necessary that we stop doing so many things in order to focus on doing a few things very well. Council welcomes input from members as we try to refine our mission, vision, core values, goals, and objectives.

We continue our search for a replacement for Len Leslie as our church treasurer. If you are interested in the opportunity to help our church or know of someone who is or have another idea for how to fulfill the treasurer role, speak with a council member.

2024 Council



Vacation Bible School will be held Monday, June 24 - Thursday, June 27. Hosted at Scott and Emily's gym. More details to come.



LUNCH BUNCH: The Lunch Bunch will meet Tuesday, May 14 at **11:30am** at Miyo's (former M Kitchen), 340 Columbiana Dr. Anyone interested in participating, please contact Joe Stoudenmire at 803-381-8962.

Women^{of the} ELCA

We have booked the dates for next year's beach retreat so hold the dates – February 7-9, 2025. More information will be coming later in the year.

Due to scheduling conflicts, WELCA activities will not be held in May. Please note the June dates for each meeting.

All women of Christus Victor (and guests) are welcome to join us on the 4th Monday of each month at noon in the Fellowship Hall for study and fellowship. Meetings are BYOL (Bring Your Own Lunch and beverage) and are limited to one hour to allow those who work to squeeze it into their lunch hours. (Feel free to come a few minutes late or leave early if you need to.) **The next meeting will be Monday, June 24.** Program content is to be announced.

Our next monthly Zoom meeting will be on Tuesday, June 18 at 6:30pm. We are using the book entitled 50 Women Every Christian Should Know: Learning from Heroines of the Faith by Michelle DeRusha. If you are interested in joining us and have not been receiving the Zoom link each month, please let Patti know at patti.addison@gmail.com or 803-331-6066.

Our women's book club (separate from the WELCA group in the previous paragraph) meets in person at a member's home or a local restaurant on the third Monday of each month at 6:30pm. Everyone brings an appetizer, dessert, or beverage to share and we have an assigned book and facilitator each month. **The next meeting will be on Monday, June 17 at 6:30pm.** The June book selection is West With Giraffes by Lynda Rutledge. If you are interested in joining this group, please contact Patti, Edna Anderson or Jean Sox.

We are looking for a new President to lead WELCA at Christus Victor. Patti has been President for several years, despite not living in Columbia full-time, and feels it is time to give someone else the opportunity. There are many women willing to help with meetings, projects and events but we need a leader. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Patti at patti.addison@gmail.com or 803-331-6066.



LUTHERAN MEN IN MISSION BBQ SALE

Saturday, May 18, 2024

Pick up between 10:00 am and 12:00 noon
at

Christus Victor Lutheran Church
400 Harbison Boulevard

The last day to order is May 12, so order now before it's too late!

Pulled Pork – 2 pound container - \$22

Hash – pint container - \$6

OR

**Three 2 pound containers of Pulled Pork
(6 lbs) and 1 quart of hash - \$60**

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayers.....



CURRENT

Wanda Barchit, Megan Schroeder's friend, who is recovering from surgery after suffering several strokes

Lita Hendrick, friend of Janet Robinson, who has multiple health issues

Marie Hutchison, who is recovering from a broken leg/knee

Mil Ivory, Megan Schroeder's friend, who is struggling after the death of her son and another family member

Judy Lemrick, friend of Doni Schroeder, who has suffered several strokes as a result of a head injury

HOMEBOUND

Eileen Dean, Marie Marszalek, Eddy Mae Murphy, Lana Rosenbeck

CONTINUING

Dale Bryant, Rich Burke, Kelly Danias, Kynslee Davis, Nancy Hulon, Emily Lyles, Laurie McGraw, Nolan McKinley, Mercedes Moody, Amy Morrison, Elena Price, Bee Stoudenmire, Joe Stoudenmire

A SPECIAL MEASURE OF YOUR GRACE

For veterans and those serving in the military

FOR OUR ENEMIES AND FOR RECONCILIATION



6 Mike Stoudenmire
7 Mark Lybrand
8 Johnna Metzler
9 Judy Rowe
11 Lacey Chapman
15 Patrick Keaton

24 Tracy Shealy
25 Jennifer Johnson
25 Carson Atkins
27 Grayson Weidensee
30 Aden Johnson

SERVING MAY 2024

May 5 - 6 Easter - Outdoor Worship

Council Member - Jennifer Johnson
11:00am Lay Reader/Communion Assistant - Rachel Kaiser
11:00am Usher - Rick Bracanovich
Tellers - Rich Burke and Suzanne Keller

May 12 - 7 Easter

Council Member - Peyton Cannon
Altar Guild - Tom McCoy
Lay Reader/Communion Assistant - Jean Sox
Usher - Scott Johnson
Acolyte -
Tellers - Rich Burke and Steve Westphal
A/V - Lane Kochert

May 19 - Day of Pentecost

Council Member - Laura Vinson
Altar Guild - Mary Ellis
Lay Reader/Communion Assistant - Dermon Sox
Usher - Tony Kochert
Acolyte -
Tellers - Suzanne Keller and Nathan Stalbaum
A/V - Tom Counts

May 26 - The Holy Trinity

Council Member - Marianna Wilbur
Altar Guild - Suzanne Keller
Lay Reader/Communion Assistant - Brenda Counts
Usher - Nathan Stalbaum
Acolyte -
Tellers - Mark Lybrand and Peyton Cannon
A/V - Scott Johnson

<div> <div>◀ April</div> <div>May 2024</div> <div>June ▶</div> </div>						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Choir Practice, 7:00pm	2	3	4
5 6 Easter Outdoor Worship at Saluda Shoals 11am; Girl Scouts, 2-3:30pm	6	7	8 Choir Practice, 7:00pm	9 Clergy Spiritual Group, 9:30am-12:30pm (Library)	10	11
12 7 Easter 9:30am in person/online service 10:45am Faith Formation <i>Mother's Day</i>	13 Wine & Word, 6:30pm	14 Lunch Bunch, 11:30am; Church Council, 6:30pm	15 Choir Practice, 7:00pm	16	17	18 LMM, 8:00am BBQ Pickup 10am-12noon
19 Day of Pentecost 9:30am in person/online service 10:45am Faith Formation; Laura Sturgeon, 1:30-6pm (Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall); Girl Scouts, 2-3:30pm	20 Christian Ed, 6:30pm;	21 LMM, 6:30pm;	22 Choir Practice, 7:00pm	23	24	25
26 The Holy Trinity 9:30am in person/online service 10:45am Faith Formation	27 Memorial Day Office Closed	28	29 Choir Practice, 7:00pm	30	31	

CHRISTUS VICTOR LUTHERAN CHURCH



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Secretary email: cvlc@bellsouth.net



Christus Victor Lutheran Church is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. There are many opportunities for spiritual growth and nurture at Christus Victor. Our ministry programs provide opportunities for worship, learning, service and fellowship so that all might be strengthened in faith and might grow in Christian discipleship. If you are looking for a meaningful relationship with Jesus Christ in a lively congregational setting, we invite you to make Christus Victor your church home. Lutherans are Christians who comprise the largest Protestant denomination in the world. As Lutheran Christians, we believe and teach:

- + *Jesus Christ is Lord of all life.*
- + *We are all sinners in need of God's love and grace.*
- + *We are saved by the grace of God through faith in Christ alone, apart from our works.*
- + *The Bible is the inspired Word of God and the authoritative source and norm of the church's proclamation, faith and life.*
- + *The church is the fellowship of those who confess Jesus Christ as Lord, and is the primary expression of God's love on earth. It is a people created by God, empowered by the Holy Spirit, called and sent to bear witness to God's creative and redeeming work in the world.*
- + *We celebrate two sacraments, Baptism and Holy Communion, as the God-given means for penetrating our lives with love and grace.*

Worship - Worship service with Holy Communion each Sunday at 9:30am; Children's sermons and children's church each Sunday; Mid-week services during Lent and Advent

Learning - Sunday School for all ages; Vacation Bible School; Confirmation instruction; Adult Bible Study

Fellowship - Congregational fellowship events; Groups for men, women and youth; Neighborhood shepherding groups for care and nurture; Small groups for personal growth in faith and fellowship