



THE CURRENT

CHRISTUS VICTOR LUTHERAN CHURCH
Experiencing Christ Together Through Love and Service

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

October 2025

Volume 41, No. 10

Worship Schedule

Sunday, October 5

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Outdoor Worship Service at Saluda Shoals,

11:00am

Picnic Lunch after Worship

Sunday, October 12

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

In-Person/Virtual Worship, 9:30am

Faith Formation, 10:45am

Sunday, October 19

Nineteenth after Pentecost

Lutheran Men Sunday

In-Person/Virtual Worship, 9:30am

Faith Formation, 10:45am

Sunday, October 26

Reformation Sunday

In-Person/Virtual Worship, 9:30am

Faith Formation, 10:45am



Outdoor Worship Service, October 5, 2025

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

Service and Potluck Picnic will be held in the shelter

Potluck Picnic follows Worship

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 and **no** online service available.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- + Choir practice every Wednesday
- + Outdoor Worship, 10/5
- + Girl Scouts, 10/5 and 19
- + CBS, 10/7, 14, 21, 28
- + Blessing of the Animals, 10/8
- + Faith & Blue, 10/11
- + Jesse Kaiser Ensemble, 10/13 and 14
- + Church Council, 10/14
- + Lunch Bunch, 10/14
- + LMM, 10/18 and 21
- + Lutheran Men Sunday, 10/19
- + WELCA, 10/20, 21, 27
- + November Newsletter articles due, 10/20
- + Trunk or Treat, 10/25



LUNCH BUNCH: The Lunch Bunch will gather at Lucky's, 7811 Broad River Rd, Irmo, at **11:30am** on **October 14**. Please join us for fellowship, fun and good food.



Hi there church,

There has seemed to be a running theme in my sermons the last few months or so. Maybe you've noticed, but I feel like I've been repeating something along the lines of: God's kingdom is so different from our human way of operating.

Through the parables and ministry of Jesus, in the last few months, we've been exploring how the kingdom of God differs from human economy, wealth, power, and mercy.

Whether it's a parable that Jesus teaches or an action of Jesus ministry for someone else, Something about the kingdom of God is revealed to be something completely different than our human instinct.

Underneath a lot of Lutheran theology is a foundational theological claim called the "theology of the cross." Just a few months after Luther posted the 95 theses on the Wittenberg Church door, his Augustinian monastic order invited him to lay the theological groundwork of the claims he made about indulgences. This friendly disputation happened in Heidelberg Germany. And so is titled the Heidelberg Disputations. Quite a few of the points that Luther debated had to do with what he called the "theology of the cross."

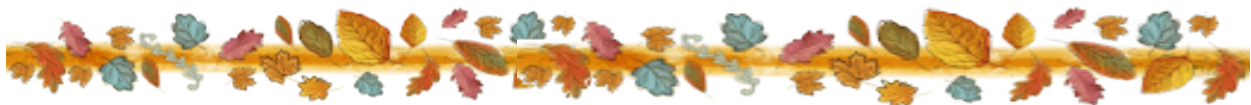
In short, the theology of the cross means that while the rest of the world thinks that God is more revealed in success, large numbers, or displays of might and power, the true revelation of God is made known in the things that we overlook or even dismiss. Namely God is revealed in suffering, failure, and loss.

It's a theology that allows for the mystery of God to continue as a mystery while also allowing God to continue to work real goodness, righteousness, justice, and mercy, even when we cannot see it. There is even a disputation point that Luther makes in Heidelberg, which says the work of theology is not to figure out where God is in human events that have already transpired.

For non-theology nerds, it really just translates to this: God tirelessly works for the good and never abandons victims, the oppressed, the hurting, or the least. In fact, through Jesus' cross, God remains closest to them, and is even mysteriously revealed more fully through such things.

A blessed month of Reformation celebration to you all. Keep your eyes open for those hidden ways in which God continues to work for all good

Peace,
Pastor Michael



**GENERAL FUND STATEMENT OF
ACTIVITIES ENDING AUGUST 31:**

1/1/25 – 8/31/25

General Fund Receipts: \$211,100

General Fund Disbursements: \$193,896

Year to date surplus: \$17,204

August 2025

General Fund Receipts: \$30,980

General Fund Disbursements: \$30,692

Monthly surplus: \$288



**FAITH & BLUE Community
Event** hosted by the Columbia Police Department will be held **Saturday, October 11, 2025, 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM** at Riverland Hills Baptist Church, 201 Lake Murray Blvd, Irmo. There will be a chili cook-off, kids zones, community vendors, food and fun.



Greetings!

Just a couple things to look out for in terms of music for the month of October. We have our outdoor service on October 5, Lutheran Men's Sunday on October 19, and Reformation on October 26. As always we will strive for the music to compliment the service.

We still have openings in the choir for any who are willing to lend their voice. We are starting to think about Christmas, so please prayerfully consider how you might be able to lend your talents to the music of the season, whether that's by participating in the Choral Cantata, the Handbell Choir, or the Prelude music on Christmas Eve. If you would like to be involved in any way, please let me know!

Blessings,
Robert



This past month's council meeting started off with an outpouring of "where have I seen God" moments. We talked about snack packs, faith formation, spending precious time with family, the work on the sanctuary carpet, and grandchildren. It was also amazing to hear the "where have I seen God" stories on Rally Sunday. I won't try to list all of those stories. Thanks to everyone who shared! There are so many places where God touches our lives when we look for them!

Telling stories is an important part of communicating our faith and sharing with each other. This past month at Wine and Word Pastor Michael led a story exchange and in the coming months we'll be using stories to create a narrative budget.

Yours in Christ,
CVLC Council

CHURCH COUNCIL NOMINATIONS

Christus Victor is seeking members to serve on council for the 2026-2027 term. We ask that you look at this as a blessed opportunity that we get to use the gifts God has given each of us, be part of something bigger than ourselves, and answer the call to be laborers in God's Kingdom.

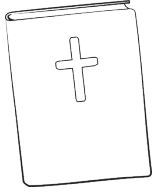
Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. (1 Peter 4:10)

For the body does not consist of one member but of many. (1 Corinthians 12:14)

Christus Victor is a body with many parts. Every member is needed, and we all work to serve one another and the church's mission. For those who may feel they do not have the spiritual gifts to be a member of council, we would like to assure you that all it takes to be on council is to make yourself available to make decisions that promote the mission of our church.

In one of the worship settings, during the offertory, we speak the words, "Merciful Father, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us -- ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

We ask every member of the congregation to prayerfully consider serving on council as a joyful and thankful opportunity to offer a little time each month to help us make decisions needed to carry out the mission of our church. Time commitment includes attending a monthly council meeting on the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30pm. Council has taken care to make meetings as efficient as possible and meetings usually last one hour and do not go beyond two hours. Attending by Zoom is also available. Each council member serves as a liaison for one of the committees, so there is an additional time commitment for committee meetings. If you are interested in the opportunity to be on council for a two-year term, please contact Marie Bracanovich.



UPCOMING FAITH FORMATION CLASSES

October 5 - Outdoor Worship - no class
October 12 - Story Exchange led by Pastor Michael
October 19 - Bible Study led by Pastor Michael
October 26 - Tom Counts leads a devotion

Coming in Advent: Jennifer Johnson will lead us in an exploration in *Handel's Messiah*

Jesse Kaiser Ensemble - Lux Aeterna

You are invited to attend Jesse's concert featuring works by: Kolby van Camp, William Walton, Rihards Dubra and Morten Lauridsen on Tuesday, October 14 at The Basilica of Saint Peter, 1529 Assembly Street, Columbia. The doors open at 7:00pm and the concert starts at 7:30pm. Admission is \$10 at the door.

From Knowing to Becoming

Get to know Jesus well because the more you know him, the more you'll love him. And the more you love him, the more you'll want to follow him. And the more you follow him, the more you'll become like him. And the more you become like him, the more you become yourself. —Ned Erickson



LMM NEWS

Please make plans to attend service on **October 19** when we will celebrate Lutheran Men in Mission Sunday where our men will lead the service including the sermon. Come join us as we celebrate the role that men play in our congregation's unit as well as statewide.



Have any plans for Halloween this year? We will have a Trunk-or-Treat event on Saturday, **October 25 from 5-7pm** for our member's children, grandchildren and neighbors. In order for this to be successful, we need to have great support from our CVLC members to have cars in the parking lot decorated and ready to go! If you would like to participate, please sign up in the Narthex.



On All Saints Sunday, **November 2**, we will remember in prayer our loved ones and friends we have lost this past year. There is a sheet posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex for you to write the names of those you would like to remember, or you can email the church office at cvlc@bellsouth.net.



CURRENT

Donna Barfield, *Erika Dominick's mother, who had successful spine surgery and is going to rehab*

Bonnie, *Judy Rowe's friend, who has multiple health issues*

Sandra Dickert, *recovering from surgery (please no visitors or calls)*

Jackie Hale, *Jack and Madie Taylor's friend, who has multiple health issues related to cancer*

Jack Horejsi, *former member, who is recovering from quadruple bypass surgery*

Richard Hulon, *who has multiple health issues*

Marie Hutchison, *for upcoming surgery*

Betsy Lybrand, *who is recovering from surgery*

Tracy Moore, *Donna Brown's daughter, who has been diagnosed with breast cancer*

Shirley Nix, *Randy Cannon's sister, who is recovering from surgery*

Susan Porth, *sister of Tom Counts and Sandra Dickert, who has multiple health problems*

Bear Schroeder, *who is recovering from surgery*

Dermon Sox, *who is recovering from shoulder replacement surgery*

Marie Stapleton, *friend of Janet Robinson, for upcoming surgery*

Alycia Volz, *friend of Megan Schroeder, who is suffering with chronic pain from a serious car accident*

HOMEBOUND

Marie Marszalek, Eddy Mae Murphy, Lana Rosenbeck

CONTINUING

Molly Chamberlain, Lita Hendrick, Nancy Hulon, Jack Malloy, Lisa Menard, John Ross, Bee and Joe Stoudenmire, Mary E. Swanson, Laura Vinson and family

A SPECIAL MEASURE OF YOUR GRACE

For family and friends of Helen Oyer, *Sue Fairbanks' mother, who passed away*

For family and friends of Judy Smith, *Dylon Smith's grandmother, who passed away*

For expectant parents, Marianna and Allen Wilbur

For veterans and those serving in the military



3 Jimmy Addison

6 Mot Caulder

10 April Hornsby

10 Suzy Noblet

13 Marie Marszalek

16 Matthew Vinson

17 Bee Stoudenmire

21 Ashley Dinney

21 Emily Calvert

22 Amanda Niles

27 JD Hacker

31 Sabrina VanPutten

SERVING OCTOBER 2025

October 5 - Pentecost 17 - Outdoor Worship

Council Member - Peyton Cannon
11:00am Lay Reader/Communion Assistant - Katrina Davis
Tellers - Mark Lybrand and Robyn Westphal

October 12 - Pentecost 18

Council Member - Lane Kochert
Altar Guild - Robyn Westphal
Lay Reader/Communion Assistant - Tom Counts
Usher - Rich Burke
Tellers - Suzanne Keller and Nathan Stalbaum
A/V - Rick Bracanovich

October 19 - Pentecost 19

Council Member - Jennifer Johnson
Altar Guild - Mary Ellis
Lay Reader/Communion Assistant - Randy Cannon
Usher - Nathan Stalbaum
Tellers - Robyn Westphal and Marie Hutchison
A/V - Tom Counts

October 26 - Reformation Sunday

Council Member - Mark Lybrand
Altar Guild - Emily House and Lily Downs
Lay Reader/Communion Assistant - Lora Price
Usher - Rick Bracanovich
Tellers - Mark Lybrand
A/V -

◀ September		October 2025					November ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
			1 Choir Practice, 7pm	2	3	4	
5 Pentecost 17 Outdoor Worship at Saluda Shoals, 11am  Girl Scouts 2-3:30pm	6	7 CBS, 8:15-11:45am (Fellowship Hall, Nursery, Classroom 8, Library, Youth Music);	8 Blessing of the Animals, 6:30pm; Choir Practice, 7pm	9 Clergy Spiritual Group 9:30am-12:30pm (Library)	10	11 Faith & Blue, 11am-2pm (Riverland Hills Baptist Church)	
12 Pentecost 18 9:30am In person/online service 10:45am Faith Formation	13 Jesse Kaiser Ensemble 5:30-10pm (Choir Room)	14 CBS, 8:15am-2pm (Fellowship Hall, Nursery, Classroom 8, Library, Youth Music); Jesse Kaiser Ensemble 9am-4pm (Choir Room); Lunch Bunch, 11:30am; Church Council, 6:30pm	15 Choir Practice, 7pm	16	17	18 LMM, 8am	
19 Pentecost 19 9:30am In person/online service 10:45am Faith Formation; Coffee & Games, 6pm Girl Scouts 2-3:30pm	20 Christian Ed, 6:30pm; WELCA Book Club, 6:30pm (Fellowship Hall) Newsletter Articles Due	21 CBS, 8:15-11:45am (Fellowship Hall, Nursery, Classroom 8, Library, Youth Music); LMM, 6:30pm; WELCA Zoom, 6:30pm	22 Choir Practice, 7pm	23	24	25 Trunk or Treat 5-7pm 	
26 Reformation Sunday 9:30am In person/online service 10:45am Faith Formation	27 WELCA, noon	28 CBS, 8:15-11:45am (Fellowship Hall, Nursery, Classroom 8, Library, Youth Music);	29 Choir Practice, 7pm	30	31		

CHRISTUS VICTOR LUTHERAN CHURCH



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Columbia, South Carolina 29212-1711
(803) 732-2668; website: cvlconline.com
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 received each Sunday at 9:30am; Children's sermons and children's church each Sunday; Mid-week Holden Evening Prayer 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