



# 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*

February 2026

Volume 41, No. 2

## ⊕ WORSHIP SCHEDULE ⊕

### **Sunday, February 1**

*Fourth Sunday after Epiphany*

Breakfast, 8:45am

In-Person/Virtual Worship, 9:30am

Faith Formation, 10:45am

### **Sunday, February 8**

*Fifth Sunday after Epiphany*

In-Person/Virtual Worship, 9:30am

Faith Formation, 10:45am

### **Sunday, February 15**

*Transfiguration of Our Lord*

In-Person/Virtual Worship, 9:30am

Faith Formation, 10:45am

### **Wednesday, February 18**

*Ash Wednesday*

In-Person/Virtual Worship, 7:00pm

Worship with Holy Communion and

Imposition of Ashes

### **Sunday, February 22**

*First Sunday in Lent*

In-Person/Virtual Worship, 9:30am

Faith Formation, 10:45am



Supper at 5:45pm

Service at 6:30pm

February 25

March 4

March 11

March 18

March 25

### Upcoming Events

- ⊕ Choir Practice every Wednesday
- ⊕ Breakfast, 2/1
- ⊕ CBS, 2/3, 10, 17 and 24
- ⊕ Girl Scouts, 2/8 and 15
- ⊕ Souper Bowl of Caring, 2/8
- ⊕ Church Council, 2/10
- ⊕ Lunch Bunch, 2/10
- ⊕ Clergy Spiritual Group, 2/12
- ⊕ Coffee and Games, 2/15
- ⊕ Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, 2/17
- ⊕ LMM, 2/21 and 24
- ⊕ WELCA, 2/16, 17 and 23
- ⊕ March Newsletter deadline, 2/20



Hi there church,

From the start of Jesus' story onward, we hear story after story and moment after moment of Jesus giving himself away, or those around them giving themselves away, for the sake of the gospel or for the sake of their neighbors. Jesus' story culminates of course with his life-giving death and resurrection, the heartbeat of our faith together.

Lent is coming, when we swim in the deep end of Jesus giving himself away, and by extension, how we, as Christ's church, give ourselves away for the sake of the good news to the world.

At the beginning of the year, we set goals for ourselves to make prayer more central in our lives together. Underneath that goal is a strong belief and real-life stories we've witnessed where prayer builds community. Prayer is a giving of ourselves to God and for the sake of the neighbor. Prayer is an exercise of turning our hearts towards those we desire to love more, be it God or our neighbors through God.

This Lent, beginning on Ash Wednesday, I invite you to consider ways that prayer can build connection, strengthen relationships, and build community wherever we go. Consider the joy of human connection inspired by a loving God in Jesus whose story is giving himself away. How can your prayer and our prayer together be an act of love for everyone around us? How can prayer invite more into experiencing Christ together?

Peace,  
*Pastor Michael*



Greetings from your 2026 CVLC Congregational Council.

One of the first matters that Council took on was the election of new officers. Tony Kochert was elected President; Brenda Counts was elected Vice President; Len Lesslie remains our Treasurer; Marie Bracanovich was elected Secretary.

Another matter addressed is assignments of council members as liaisons to ministry teams:

Worship and Music - Tony Kochert  
Gifts/Finance/Stewardship/Tech - Brenda Counts  
Finance - Christine Meade  
Witness/Outreach - Marie Bracanovich  
Parish Life/Member Care - Becky Cannon  
Youth Ministry - Peyton Cannon  
Property - Nathan Stalbaum  
Mutual Ministry - Katrina Davis  
Christian Education - Don Fairbanks

Lastly, you may have already heard some mention of this, but I thought I would touch on the topic again because you'll likely hear more about it in the future. Pastor Michael, Lane, Edna Anderson, & I (Tony) attended a conference regarding a new(ish) program named Fresh Expressions, which is designed to reimagine how people experience/attend church. It's about bringing church to people, rather than inviting people to church, which to some might seem intimidating/uncomfortable. In this manifestation of church, we try to help people meet God in spaces where they are already comfortable, familiar settings, places they are going to anyway, instead of asking them to come to church, which may not fit their schedules. It's the ultimate in meeting people where they are. So, if you're interested in learning more about this program, you'd like to get involved, or if you have questions, please get in touch with one of us.

In Christ,  
CVLC Council



Greetings!

February brings with it the beginning of Lent. Starting on Ash Wednesday (February 18) we will change our Liturgy to ELW Setting Five which will feature a lot of chant (Pastor and I had a great time nerding out over this). It is not the most familiar setting, so if you would like to learn the music ahead of time, I will be leading Faith Formation on Sunday, February 15 in the sanctuary to go over the music for this setting. We will keep this setting throughout the season of Lent and then on Easter Sunday we'll change settings again.

We will also be having our midweek Lenten service on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm in the Sanctuary starting on February 25 using our modified version of the ACS Setting Twelve. Please join us and stick around for choir practice immediately following the service in the choir room. We would love to have you sing with us!

Blessings,  
Robert



All women of Christus Victor (and guests) are welcome to join us on **Monday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> at noon** in the Fellowship Hall for study and fellowship. Everyone is invited to bring their own lunch and beverage. For more information, please see Edna Anderson.

Our women's **Zoom book group** has begun a new book – **No Cure for Being Human (And Other Truths I Need to Hear)** by Kate Bowler. We meet on the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. **Our next meeting will be on February 17<sup>th</sup>** and we will discuss Chapters 5 and 6. Copies of the book are available on Amazon in Kindle, audiobook, hardcover and paperback formats and there are some used copies available. If you plan to attend, please contact Patti at [patti.addison@gmail.com](mailto:patti.addison@gmail.com) or (803) 331-6066 and she will send a Zoom link several days in advance of the meeting.

Our **women's book club** typically meets in person in the church fellowship hall on the third Monday of each month at 6:30 pm. Everyone brings an appetizer, dessert, or (non-alcoholic) beverage to share, and we have an assigned book and facilitator each month. **Our next meeting will be Monday, February 16<sup>th</sup>**. The book selection for February is **The Stone Necklace** by Carla Damron. Edna Anderson has a book club set from the library and will gladly share a copy with you. If you are interested in joining this group or would like more information, please contact Patti or Edna or Sheryl Myers.

Unfortunately, our annual women's beach retreat was cancelled due to concerns about the winter storm. Our deposit was transferred to next year and we have scheduled the retreat for January 15-17, 2027.



**SOUPER BOWL OF CARING:** Come enjoy some time together, share some soup, and give for our Snack Packs! We will have a Souper Bowl of Caring lunch/brunch following our worship service on Sunday, **February 8**. Youth and families will be bringing a soup to share, and you are invited to bring a soup to share as well! During that time, we will have a special offering that will benefit our Snack Pack ministry. "



**LUNCH BUNCH:** The Lunch Bunch will meet at the Irmo Cracker Barrel at **11:30am on February 10**. Please join us for fellowship, fun and good food.



**COFFEE & GAMES!** - Come join us for coffee & games on Sunday, **February 15 at 6pm** at the church. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall.



**Shrove Tuesday  
Pancake Supper**

On **February 17**, the youth will be cooking and serving a pancake supper from 6-7:30pm. The free-will offering donations given will go toward the next ELCA National Youth Gathering. Please join us and help support our Youth!



During Lent, we will be having supper in the Fellowship Hall at 5:45pm on Wednesday evenings before the worship service at 6:30pm. If you would like to prepare or help with one of the suppers, please sign up on the sign-in sheet on the bulletin board in the Narthex. Suppers are needed on **February 25, March 4, 11, 18 and 25**. Some ideas are pizza, subs, salads, chicken tenders, chili, soups, tacos, sloppy joes....something easy.

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

1/1/25 – 12/31/25

General Fund Receipts: \$286,372  
General Fund Disbursements: \$276,463  
Year-to-date surplus: \$9,909

December 2025

General Fund Receipts: \$18,660  
General Fund Disbursements: \$21,029  
Monthly deficit: (\$2,369)



## CURRENT

Cathy Arrowood, co-work of Randy Cannon, who is undergoing treatment for Melanoma  
Bonnie, friend of Judy Rowe, who suffered a stroke  
Dave Campbell, high school friend of Don Fairbanks, who is undergoing cancer treatment  
Tim Davis, friend of Mot Caulder, who is struggling with throat cancer  
Lindsey Hoyle, daughter of Don Fairbanks, who is getting her life in order  
Elizabeth Meade, a measure of grace as she prepares to move to Egypt  
Sean Meade, for guidance on finding a new job  
Wil Meade, who broke his arm in two places  
Tracy Moore, daughter of Donna Brown, who is recovering from breast cancer and a recent fall  
Joanna Murphy, sister-in-law of Don Fairbanks, who is undergoing cancer treatment  
Shirley Nix, sister of Randy Cannon, who is having some medical issues  
Fred Stalbaum, Beth's son and Nathan's brother, who is recovering from surgery  
Marie Stapleton, friend of Janet Robinson, who is recovering from surgery

## HOMEBOUND

Marie Marszalek, Eddy Mae Murphy, Lana Rosenbeck, Joe and Bee Stoudenmire

## CONTINUING

Nancy Hulon, Mary E. Swanson, Laura Vinson and family

## IN PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

For the birth of Robert Allen Wilbur IV "Robby", son of Marianna and Allen Wilbur

## A SPECIAL MEASURE OF YOUR GRACE

For family and friends of Rusty Attaway, brother of Judy Rowe's sister-in-law, who passed away  
Connie Fleming and family, music teacher friend of Mot Caulder, whose 45 year old daughter, Ebony, passed away

For veterans and those serving in the military

For law enforcement and first responders



2	Sheryl Myers	18	Lexi Fairbanks
6	Christian Meetze	23	Patti Addison
12	Randy Cannon	23	Mike Metzler
18	Elliot Calvert	28	Joe Stoudenmire
18	Rhiannon Weidensee	28	Chad Thomas

# **SERVING FEBRUARY 2026**

## February 1 - 4 Epiphany

Council Member – Tony Kochert  
Altar Guild – Emily House and Lily Downs  
Lay Reader /Communion Assistant – Katrina Davis  
Usher - Scott Johnson  
Tellers – Mark Lybrand and Nathan Stalbaum  
A/V – Lane Kochert

## February 8 - 5 Epiphany

Council Member – Katrina Davis  
Altar Guild – Suzanne and Reagan Keller  
Lay Reader /Communion Assistant – Brenda Counts  
Usher - Tom McCoy  
Tellers – Suzanne Keller and Marie Hutchison  
A/V – Rick Bracanovich

## February 15 - Transfiguration of Our Lord

Council Member – Don Fairbanks  
Altar Guild – Lane Kochert  
Lay Reader /Communion Assistant – Mike Metzler  
Usher – Nathan Stalbaum  
Tellers – Robyn Westphal and Rich Burke  
A/V – Tom Counts

## February 18 - Ash Wednesday

Council Member – Brenda Counts  
Altar Guild – Tom McCoy  
Lay Reader /Communion Assistant -  
Usher -  
Tellers -  
A/V – Scott Johnson

## February 22 - 1 Lent

Council Member – Nathan Stalbaum  
Altar Guild – Christine Meade  
Lay Reader/Communion Assistant – Len Lesslie  
Usher – Rick Bracanovich  
Tellers – Suzanne Keller and Nathan Stalbaum  
A/V – Lane Kochert

## February 25 - Lenten Mid-Week Service

A/V – Rick Bracanovich

◀ January		February 2026					March ▶	
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat		
<b>1</b> 4 Epiphany 8:45am Breakfast 9:30am In person/ online service 10:45am Faith Forma- tion	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> CBS, 8:15-11:45am (Fellowship Hall, Nursery, Classroom 8, Library, Youth Music);	<b>4</b> Choir Practice, 7pm	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Becky Cannon 9-5 (Fellowship Hall)		
<b>8</b> 5 Epiphany 9:30am In person/ online service 10:45am Souper Bowl of Caring lunch/ brunch  Girl Scouts 2-3:30pm	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> CBS, 8:15-11:45am (Fellowship Hall, Nursery, Classroom 8, Library, Youth Music); Lunch Bunch, 11:30am; Church Council, 6:30pm	<b>11</b> Choir Practice, 7pm	<b>12</b> Clergy Spiritual Group, 9:30am- 12:30pm (Library)	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Valentine's Day 		
<b>15</b> Transfiguration of Our Lord 9:30am In person/ online service 10:45am Faith Forma- tion Coffee & Games, 6pm  Girl Scouts 2-3:30pm	<b>16</b> WELCA Book Club, 6:30pm (Fellowship Hall)	<b>17</b> CBS, 8:15am-2pm (Fellowship Hall, Nursery, Classroom 8, Library, Youth Music); WELCA Zoom, 6:30pm  Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, 6-7:30pm	<b>18</b> Ash Wednesday 7pm in person/ online service  	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 	<b>21</b> LMM, 8am		
<b>22</b> 1 Lent 9:30am In person/ online service 10:45am Faith Forma- tion	<b>23</b> WELCA, noon	<b>24</b> CBS, 8:15-11:45am (Fellowship Hall, Nursery, Classroom 8, Library, Youth Music); LMM, 6:30pm	<b>25</b> Dinner, 5:45pm Service, 6:30pm Choir Practice, 7pm	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>		



## 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 weekly at 9:30am with Holy Communion received each Sunday; 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