



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

May 2026

Volume 42, No. 5

✝ WORSHIP SCHEDULE ✝

Sunday, May 3

Fifth Sunday of Easter

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

Sunday, May 10

Sixth Sunday of Easter

In-Person/Virtual Worship, 9:30am
Faith Formation, 10:45am

Sunday, May 17

Seventh Sunday of Easter

In-Person/Virtual Worship, 9:30am
Faith Formation, 10:45am

Sunday, May 24

Day of Pentecost

In-Person/Virtual Worship, 9:30am
Faith Formation, 10:45am

Sunday, May 31

The Holy Trinity

In-Person/Virtual Worship, 9:30am
Faith Formation, 10:45am



Outdoor Worship Service, May 3, 2026

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

Potluck Picnic follows Worship
Service and Potluck 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 service at the church and no
online service available.

Upcoming Events

- + Choir Practice every Wednesday
- + Dungeons & Dragons, 5/3
- + WELCA Retreat, 5/9
- + Lunch Bunch, 5/12
- + Church Council, 5/12
- + Clergy Spiritual Group, 5/14
- + LMM, 5/16 and 19
- + Coffee & Games, 5/17
- + Girl Scouts, 5/17
- + WELCA, 5/18, 19 and 24
- + Memorial Day, Office Closed, 5/25
- + June Newsletter Articles Due, 5/20



Hi there church,

The single best advice I've heard in the last year came from a pastor serving a Spanish-speaking congregation in Minneapolis, MN. As I'm sure you can appreciate and imagine, to be a Spanish-speaking person in Minneapolis during the most intense operations of ICE and the ensuing protests was an existence of constant tension, anxiety, and fear.

The pastor's advice was shocking in its tone and simplicity: schedule joy.

This particular congregation, although comprised of people scared to go to work or school, would schedule dances and music events. Food and festivities, dancing and laughter, good company, and mutual encouragement and support were deliberately scheduled in the midst of this congregation's most difficult season.

Church, we as individuals and as a country and as a world face serious problems. I personally wrestle with how much news I consume, how I interact with social media, and how do I faithfully respond to war, violence, or injustice.

But give joy its due. Joy is not ignoring any of that. And also, joy is not a product of naivety or foolishness or some form of unintelligence. Sometimes it feels like despair is romanticized as the smart person's characteristic. I think that's wrong. Joy is vital to your God-given spirit. Make time for it. Schedule it.

Play, creativity, music, sunshine, color are all gifts of a God whose story opens with the holy declaration, "It is good."

Schedule joy.

Peace,

Pastor Michael



We remember, O Lord, the men and women who have made the supreme sacrifice for our country. Help us never to breathe the air of freedom, claim the right to justice or enjoy the privilege of worship without deep gratitude for those who gave "the last full measure of devotion" for our sake. May they now know the peace of eternity and the joy of your presence. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

1/1/26 – 3/31/26

General Fund Receipts: \$56,752
General Fund Disbursements: \$69,175
Year to Date Deficit: (\$12,423)

March 2026

General Fund Receipts: \$22,772
General Fund Disbursements: \$19,444
Monthly Surplus: \$3,329



Greetings,

The weather is getting warmer and summer is in sight! May promises to be an eventful month at Christus Victor. We will have our outdoor service on May 3, which will feature some a cappella hymns as well as a couple accompanied by Pastor Michael on the guitar. We'll hope for beautiful weather and as always there will be a potluck following the service.

May also contains two festival days this year. May 24 is Pentecost and May 31 is Holy Trinity Sunday. We will have music and paraments to mark those days which will bring an end to the Easter Season and lead us into Ordinary Time. We will keep the current Liturgical Setting through this next season of the church year.

Please prayerfully consider singing with the choir this summer! There is no commitment to join and we would welcome singers of any voice type. If you're interested, please email me at rlarcovio@gmail.com or come find me after service.

Blessings,
Robert



Happy Easter from CVLC Council!

There are a few items we'd like to mention to you. First, the plans that were announced regarding a new Treasurer did not work out in the end. So, we are resuming our search for a new Treasurer. Please let a council member know if you are interested or have ideas about a potential replacement.

Next, CVLC's 40th Anniversary is in October, so if anyone is interested in helping plan/coordinate this celebration, let a member of council know.

Finally, we wanted to relay to you that we received a letter of thanks from the SC Synod of ELCA for our congregation's Mission Support.

Yours in Christ,
Members of CVLC Council

Women ^{of the} ELCA

We have a lot of exciting things going on so please mark your calendars for these events.

All women of Christus Victor (and guests) are invited to join us for a **half-day retreat** at the church on **Saturday, May 9th from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Lunch will be provided.** Our program will be a video study entitled "**Half Truths**" by **Adam Hamilton**. Becky Cannon will lead our group discussions. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex, or you can let Becky or Patti know that you will be attending.

Also, ladies, please join us on **Sunday, May 24th from 12:30 to 2:00 pm** in the Fellowship Hall for a potluck lunch. We will draw names for prayer partners/ secret sisters for the next year. The meeting is being held on Sunday so women who cannot attend our regular meeting on weekdays might be able to be there. **If you want to be included as prayer partners/secret sisters, please let Edna Anderson know before the meeting. Those currently in the program should bring a small gift for their secret sisters.**

Our women's **Zoom book group** is reading **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 pm. **Our next meeting will be on May 19th,** and we will discuss Chapters 9 and 10 and wrap up this book. If you plan to attend, please contact Patti at 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** 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, May 18th.** We will be discussing *The Last Ballad* by Wiley Cash. The book is historical fiction about worker rights and is set in NC. Please see Edna if you would like a copy of the book. If you are interested in joining this group or would like more information, please contact Patti or Edna or Sheryl Myers.

Our annual women's beach retreat is scheduled for January 15-17, 2027.



We have big plans for VBS. Come start the summer with a VBS splash. **June 1st and 2nd** all are welcome to All-Star Gymnastics from 10am-Noon. On **June 7th** we will have a summer carnival with water bounce houses at the church. Then we will return to the gym for **June 8th and 9th** from 10am-Noon. Come join the fun. We hope to have everyone at the carnival.



LUNCH BUNCH: The Lunch Bunch will meet at Outback, 252 F Harbison Blvd., at **11:30am** on **May 12**. Please join us for fellowship, fun and good food. All are welcome!



CURRENT

Cathy Arrowood, *co-worker of Randy Cannon, who is undergoing treatment for Melanoma*

Dave Campbell, *high school friend of Don Fairbanks, who is undergoing cancer treatment*

Josh Chambers, *former member, who is recovering from a motorcycle accident*

Lindsey Hoyle, *daughter of Don Fairbanks, who is getting her life in order*

Londa Delgado, *wife of Erika Dominick's friend/coworker, who suffered a stroke*

Sylvia Jackson

Sarah McDonald, *Janet Robinson's daughter, who was in a car accident and is recovering from surgery*

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*

Darla Soletto, *Suzanne Keller's mom, who needs to rebuild her strength after an infection*

Marie Stapleton, *friend of Janet Robinson, who has medical issues related to arthritis*

Mary Sundvold, *cousin of Doni Schroeder, who has been diagnosed with cancer*

HOMEBOUND

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

CONTINUING

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

IN PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

For Sean Meade, *who has found a new job*

A SPECIAL MEASURE OF YOUR GRACE

For expectant parents, Peyton Cannon and Sean Brooks

For veterans and those serving in the military

For law enforcement and first responders



6 Mike Stoudenmire

7 Mark Lybrand

8 Johnna Metzler

9 Judy Rowe

11 Lacey Chapman

15 Patrick Keaton

25 Jennifer Johnson

27 Grayson Weidensee

30 Aden Johnson

SERVING MAY 2026

May 3 - 5 Easter - Outdoor Worship 11:00am

Council Member - Tony Kochert
Lay Reader/Communion Assistant - Randy Cannon
Tellers - Mark Lybrand and Suzanne Keller

May 10 - 6 Easter

Council Member - Peyton Cannon
Altar Guild - Suzanne and Reagan Keller
Lay Reader/Communion Assistant - Sean Meade
Usher - Tom McCoy
Tellers - Suzanne Keller and Marie Hutchison
A/V - Rick Bracanovich

May 17 - 7 Easter

Council Member - Becky Cannon
Altar Guild - Robyn Westphal
Lay Reader/Communion Assistant - Lora Price
Usher - Emily House
Tellers - Robyn Westphal and Nathan Stalbaum
A/V - Tom Counts

May 24 - Day of Pentecost

Council Member - Katrina Davis
Altar Guild - Tom McCoy
Lay Reader/Communion Assistant - Len Lesslie
Usher - Rick Bracanovich
Tellers - Peyton Cannon and Marie Hutchison
A/V - Scott Johnson

May 31 - The Holy Trinity

Council Member - Brenda Counts
Altar Guild - Christine Meade
Lay Reader/Communion Assistant - Tom Counts
Usher - Scott Johnson
Tellers - Rich Burke and Mark Lybrand
A/V - Lane Kochert

May 2026

◀ April

June ▶

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|---|---|--|--|-----|--|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 5 Easter 11am Outdoor Worship at Saluda Shoals Girl Scouts 2-3:30pm  | 4 | 5 | 6 Choir Practice, 7pm | 7 | 8 | 9 WELCA Retreat, 10am-2pm (Fellowship Hall) |
| 10 6 Easter 9:30am In person/online service 10:45am Faith Formation  | 11 | 12 Lunch Bunch, 11:30am; Church Council, 6:30pm | 13 Choir Practice, 7pm | 14 Ascension of Our Lord Clergy Spiritual Group, 9:30am-12:30pm (Library) | 15 | 16 LMM, 8am |
| 17 7 Easter 9:30am In person/online service 10:45am Faith Formation; Laura Sturgeon, 2-6pm (Fellowship Hall & Sanctuary) Girl Scouts 2-3:30pm | 18 WELCA Book Club, 6:30pm (Fellowship Hall) | 19 LMM, 6:30pm; WELCA Zoom, 6:30pm | 20 Choir Practice, 7pm  | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 Day of Pentecost 9:30am In person/online service 10:45am Faith Formation WELCA, 12:30-2:30pm (Fellowship Hall) | 25 Office Closed  Memorial Day <i>Remember Those Who Gave Their Lives</i> | 26 | 27 Choir Practice, 7pm | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31 The Holy Trinity 9:30am In person/online service 10:45am Faith Formation | | | | | | |



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