



CHRISTUS VICTOR LUTHERAN CHURCH



January / February 2012



*Pastor Mary's
Page*

The choice: The young teenager looked carefully at his hand and the contents they held – three crisp twenty dollar bills. The eyes focused again and again on the bills, the lad's mind spinning, calculating, considering. And then, with a great grin on his face, he joyfully and carefully placed one of the bills, one third of his total finances, in the offering plate.

His decision was made. He beamed. He smiled. He beamed again. He knew he had done the right thing, the generous thing, the gracious and grateful thing befitting his Lord.

Long before the boy's gift, three Wise Men also brought gifts to the Christ Child. Soon after Jesus was born, astrologers from the East sought out Jesus to worship Him and just as you or I would take a "baby gift", so too, those visitors brought gifts to the new born babe. But, they hadn't shopped the sales, or recycled a gift, or held back. Their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh, were of the finest caliber. Treasures. Treasures demonstrating their love and devotion for the King of the Jews whose star they had followed. And they laid their gifts at His feet.

We, too, have focused our attentions on offering our gifts to the Christ. We have prayed. Thought and pondered. Joined with others in identifying our gifts and talents. Considered the gift of our time. Contemplated the gift of our treasures. Knelt at church and at home in devotion to our Lord and offered Him our gifts.

Those gifts identify, first of all, that we know Who created us, filling and empowering us with particular gifts with which to serve. Those gifts show what we really think about the One to whom we offer them. We, too, are presented with **the choice**. We can choose to hold back, giving just a little and keeping the rest for ourselves, or we can give generously in recognition of all that He has so generously given us. Our actions reflect our belief that Jesus is our Savior. Or they don't.

As we begin a new calendar year, what resolutions do we make about what is important? What do we need to change and what do we need to improve in order to give of ourselves to the One who gave all of Himself for us? How would God want us to improve the health of our bodies, minds and souls in order to more faithfully reflect the abundant life He yearns to give us?

In this New Year, what choices will we make and how will we decide? Fortunately, the Holy Spirit will prod us with the remembrance of the One we acknowledge as Lord. Just as the Spirit did prodding the teenager. May we also offer our Lord gifts worthy of the Gift we received in Holy Baptism and continue to receive in Holy Communion.

With gratitude for all who inspire and lead us, Mary K. Kieser, Pastor

Congregational Meeting



Congregational Meeting Follow-up

For those who could not attend on November 6th, we unanimously approved two important motions on the future direction of our church. We approved to accept assistance from the Metropolitan Washington DC Synod and we adopted our 2012 operating budget. The motions were as follows.

Motion 1

That Christus Victor Lutheran Church accepts the Metropolitan Washington DC Synod's proposal for the future of its ministry, including but not limited to:

- Extending the current council members' term until the synod council calls a new pastor
- Agreeing to Synodical administration
- Dissolving the current rostered, elected, and lay congregational leadership upon the new pastor's arrival, and forming new leadership team at the direction of the new pastor
- Welcoming a new pastor called by the synod council on Christus Victor's behalf
- Working from a budget funded through a combination of the following:
 - Congregational giving
 - Synod support
 - ELCA grant money
- Partnering with St. Matthew's Lutheran Church. (We will not be merging with St. Matthew's, but they have graciously agreed to help with office duties).

Motion 2

To adopt the 2012 budget for ministry as it is currently lived out at Christus Victor.

Income:	\$134,050
Expenses:	\$151,389
Balance:	(\$17,339)

The Metropolitan Washington DC Synod has been making progress on their search for our new pastor and funding for our ministry. As soon as any information is available we will certainly pass it on.

Please keep our church, mission, members, and leadership in your prayers through these transitional times. These next few months will elicit a wide variety of feelings and emotions from all of us, from worry through excitement as we prepare for changes.

So keep praying, attending, inviting, and giving; remember we are being led by God to do great things and He obviously is not finished with us or our church yet.

Welcome to Christus Victor



We welcome Terry Kunneman as a new member of Christus Victor.

We are sorry to report that our friend and member of Christus Victor, Janet Horrocks, passed away on Friday, December 16th. A Memorial Service was held at the church on December 22nd. We pray for her son Joe, and all who loved Janet. She was very special to us all.



Our sympathy and prayers go out to Marnay Cameron and her family at the unexpected loss of her mother on December 27th.

From the “Hanging of the Greens”, all the way through to the Christmas Eve service, the Advent Season at Christus Victor was a very special one. A huge thank you goes out to all who helped in so many ways to make this a Christmas season to remember. We especially thank Mary Ellen Garduno for the wonderful and unique children’s Christmas pageant which we all enjoyed.



We had 100 people in attendance at our Christmas Eve Service!

Pastor Mary and Pastor Wayne would like to thank everyone for the many thoughtful Christmas gifts the congregation so generously gave them. Pastor Mary and John would also like everyone to know they are very grateful for the warm spirit of Christmas joy which has permeated our souls during these truly “holy days” shared with Christus Victor Lutheran Church!





“HOW TO SHARE YOUR FAITH
Methods of witnessing vary from person to person. But these general guidelines may help.

Sharing your faith means **WITNESSING** -- telling others what Jesus means to you.

Become a living example of faith.

Avoid “preaching” -- people are more readily convinced by actions and attitudes than by words. Acquaintances will respond to your openness, friendliness and good will, as signs of your faith.

Establish honest relationships.

Really listen, and get to know others by taking advantage of “common ground” -- activities and interests you can enjoy together. People resent insincere interest.

Be positive.

Follow Christ’s example, by showing compassion, understanding and forgiveness when faced with the faults of others. A helping hand, a pat on the back and a listening ear are preferable to a put-down.

Offer fellowship.

Invite a friend or acquaintance to share something special with you -- a church activity, worship service or a social gathering of fellow church members. It’s a great way to show that you care!

Share your time and attention.

If your friend or acquaintance decides to attend a church-related function, make it a point to accompany him or her. This way you can help calm feelings of nervousness, and answer questions.

Follow up on involvement.

Be sure to ask for reactions (both positive and negative) to the Gospel and the church. This gives you a chance to answer questions, eliminate confusion and learn from your own experience.

SHARE YOUR FAITH TODAY!

New Year, New Ways

“Give careful thought to your ways.”

Haggai 1:5

Making New Year’s resolutions and not keeping them is a universal experience. We may be sincere when we make them but then we find them too hard to keep, or perhaps we forget all about them.

Let me give you two reasons why it can be good to make resolutions at the beginning of a new year. First, it forces us to look at ourselves -- to be honest about our failures and our need to change. Many New Year’s resolutions are unrealistic or only wishful thinking, but the exercise of examining ourselves -- with God’s help -- and seeing where we fall short is important.

Second, making a list of resolutions can turn us to God. If we are honest, we know we fall far short of being what we ought to be -- and because of that, we need God’s forgiveness. We’ll also realize that we can’t live the way we should in our own strength. We need God’s help.

Begin this year by making resolutions -- especially the resolution to open your heart and life to Jesus Christ more than you ever have before.

By Billy Graham

A New Year

**Another fresh new year is here ...
Another year to live!
To banish worry, doubt, and fear,
To love and laugh and give!**

**This bright new year is given me
To live each day with zest ...
To daily grow and try to be
My highest and my best!**

**I have the opportunity
Once more to right some wrongs,
To pray for peace, to plant a tree,
And sing more joyful songs!**

by William Arthur Ward



Jan. 2 Marisa Stevenson
Jan. 3 Wayne Ralston
Jan. 5 Kathryn Symolon
Jan. 25 Traci Brasher
Jan. 28 Pastor Dave Wasemann

Feb. 2 Michael Mundt
Feb. 12 John Kieser
Feb. 12 Mike Tervo
Feb. 13 Chris Scholl
Feb. 27 Daniel Herman
Feb. 27 Randi Miller
Feb. 28 Kevin Noone



Feb. 29 Gene and Rebecca Brown

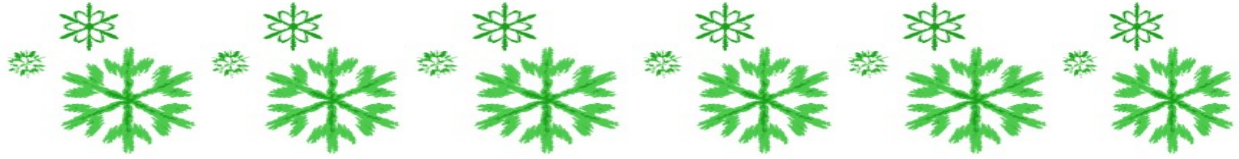


January Calendar

- Jan. 1 Adult Bible Study 9 AM. , Wiggle & Worship 9:30 AM., Worship Service 10:30 AM.
- Jan. 4 Bowling League -- AMF Dale City, 7 PM.
- Jan. 5 Choir Practice 7 PM.
- Jan. 8 Adult Bible Study 9 AM. , Wiggle & Worship 9:30 AM., Worship Service 10:30 AM.
- Jan. 9 **Council Meeting 7 PM.**
- Jan. 11 Bowling League -- AMF Dale City, 7 PM.
- Jan. 12 Choir Practice 7 PM.
- Jan. 15 Adult Bible Study 9AM. , Wiggle & Worship 9:30 AM., Worship Service 10:30 AM.
- Jan. 18 Bowling League -- AMF Dale City, 7 PM.
- Jan. 19 Choir Practice 7 PM.
- Jan. 21 Men's Breakfast 8 AM. -- Church Workday 10 AM.
- Jan. 22 Adult Bible Study 9 AM. , Wiggle & Worship 9:30 AM., Worship Service 10:30 AM.
- Jan. 25 Bowling League -- AMF Dale City, 7 PM.
- Jan. 26 Choir Practice 7 PM.
- Jan. 29 Adult Bible Study 9 AM. , Wiggle & Worship 9:30 AM., Worship Service 10:30 AM.

REMINDER

Another scheduled church workday will be held on Saturday, January, 21, immediately following the Men's Breakfast at 8 AM. Anyone who would like to help spruce up the church are welcome. If you'd like to know what duties we will be concentrating on that day a Constant Contact notice of the punch list will be sent out before the workday.



February Calendar

- Feb. 1 Bowling League -- AMF Dale City, 7 PM.
- Feb. 2 Choir Practice 7 PM. **Groundhog Day**
- Feb. 5 Adult Bible Study 9 AM., Wiggle & Worship 9:30 AM., Worship Service 10:30 AM.
- Feb. 8 Bowling League -- AMF Dale City, 7 PM.
- Feb. 9 Choir Practice 7 PM.
- Feb. 12 Adult Bible Study 9 AM., Wiggle & Worship 9:30 AM., Worship Service 10:30 AM.
Lincoln's Birthday
- Feb. 13 **Council Meeting 7 PM.**
- Feb. 14 **Valentine's Day**
- Feb. 15 Bowling League -- AMF Dale City, 7 PM.
- Feb. 16 Choir Practice 7 PM.
- Feb. 18 Men's Breakfast 8 AM.
- Feb. 19 Adult Bible Study 9 AM., Wiggle & Worship 9:30 AM., Worship Service 10:30 AM.
- Feb. 20 **Presidents Day**
- Feb. 22 **Ash Wednesday Service 7:30 PM.** No Bowling.
- Feb. 23 Choir Practice 7 PM.
- Feb. 26 Adult Bible Study 9 AM., Wiggle & Worship 9:30 AM., Worship Service 10:30 AM.



at Christus Victor

Christus Victor Lutheran Church
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Manassas, VA 20112

703-680-1058 Email: christusvictor2@verizon.net

www.cvlc.org

Facebook: *The Red Brick Church*

“The Red Brick Church”
At Minnieville Road on Route 234 (south)

Sunday Worship Service: 10:30 AM
Wiggle & Worship 9:30 AM
(for Children 5th grade and younger and their families)
Adult Bible Class 9:00 AM

Our purpose is to celebrate God’s love and help people
To know Jesus through:

WORSHIP FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY
EVANGELISM DISCIPLESHIP