

# Welcome to Christus Victor Lutheran Church

Sunday, January 29, 2012

We are a friendly, Christian community. Our purpose is to celebrate God's love and help people to know Jesus through worship, fellowship, discipleship, ministry and evangelism.

## Upcoming Events

Monday, January 30th—Council Meeting—7:00 pm

Wednesday—Feb 1st— Bowling—7:00 pm

Sunday—Feb 5th—Thank you Pastors Mary & Wayne –noon

Wednesday Feb 22nd—Ash Wednesday Svc—7:00 pm

Sunday—March 4th—Welcome Our New Pastor



## Join us at the Lord's Table....

**If you believe in Jesus Christ and are baptized**, you are invited to join us at the Lord's Table. When invited forward by the ushers, proceed up the center aisle and form a short line in front of the first pew beginning from the far left (if you are seated on the left side) or far right (if you are seated on the right side) and ending at the middle aisle.

To include both of the elements of bread and wine, we practice intinction, which is the dipping of the wafer into the cup of wine. Pastor will give you the wafer. The Lay Communion Assistant will then offer you the cup. Dip the wafer into the cup and then consume the wafer.

When all present at the same table have communed, the pastor will say a brief dismissal. After dismissal, exit to nearest side aisle back to your seat. Adults who do not feel ready to commune and children who are not yet baptized or who have not yet received instruction in communion are invited to come forward to receive a blessing from the Pastor. Gluten free wafers are available upon request.



**Like our Facebook  
page at  
“The Red Brick  
Church”**

**We will be publishing inspirational  
and thought-provoking items,  
quotes and observations that will  
challenge you while on your indi-  
vidual Faith Journeys!**



**Saturday  
March 24th**

We will be having another yard sale starting at 8 am. Bring all your “Too Good To Throw Away Items” as you clean out your closets and garage. Storage space available anytime.



Average Attendance	
Through 1/9/11	41.7
Through 1/15/12	40.6

Finances	
Bank Bal. 1/2012	\$ 4,731.83
Total Income 2011	9,407.00
Total Exp. 2011	8,135.16
Total in Operating	\$ 6,003.67

## FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

January 29, 2012

### Authority and Grace

What is this outburst that interrupts Jesus' teaching in the synagogue? "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth?" the man rages. "Have you come to destroy us?" And who, exactly, does this man mean by "us"? Mark makes it clear that this is not the senseless raving of a madman but rather the perceptive observation of someone who is demon-possessed. The man's language tells Jesus precisely who he is dealing with. This is spiritual warfare, and "us" is none other than the devil and his angels (Matt. 25:41; Rev. 12:9). Here, in Mark's first chapter, Satan has wasted little time in getting back to work after his failure to defeat Jesus in the wilderness.

Jesus does not answer the question directly, but his authoritative response to God's enemies speaks for itself and proclaims the reality we encounter throughout the New Testament: Yes! Jesus *has* come to destroy you!

The gospel message takes us one step further. Being cured of demons does not just free persons who were possessed; it frees them to *be with Jesus*. This is beautifully articulated in the story of the Gerasene demoniac later in Mark. As Jesus prepares to leave after sending the unclean spirits (again plural) into the herd of swine, the man who had been possessed "begged [Jesus] that he might be with him" (Mark 5:18).

We all wrestle with demons of various sizes, shapes, and degrees. They manifest themselves as harmful habits, obsessive attachments, and destructive addictions. They sap our yearning for God, that most poignant quality of our humanity, and keep us chained to the myth of self-sufficiency.

Our first task is to name these addictions for what they are. Then we may call upon God's transformative power and, with the grace that is ours through the love of Christ available to us in full measure in every circumstance of life, walk freely into Jesus' arms.

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Sunday Feb. 5th

Join us in celebrating  
our time with  
Pastor Mary &  
Pastor Wayne  
Bring a dish to Share!

Thank-You to those serving today!

Worship Leaders	Mary Kieser & Wayne Ralston
Acolyte	Volunteer
Altar Guild	Donna O'Mahony
Coffee Pot	Volunteer
Communion Assistant	Sandy Carpenter
Greeter	Debbie Thompson
Nursery	Cady O'Mahony
Projectionist	May Ellen Garduno
Reader	Marissa Cameron
Ushers	Chuck & Mason Cameron
Welcome	Mary Ellen Garduno