

May 2020



30 Books of the Bible

There are 30 books of the Bible in this paragraph Can you find them?

This is a most remarkable puzzle. It was found by a gentleman in an airplane seat pocket on a flight from Los Angeles to Honolulu, keeping him occupied for hours.

He enjoyed it so much he passed it on to some friends. One friend from Illinois worked on this while fishing from his john boat. Another friend studied it while Playing his banjo. Elanie Taylor, a columnist friend, was so intrigued by it she mentioned it in her weekly newspaper column. Another friend judges the job of solving this puzzle so involving, she brews a cup of tea to help her nerves. There will be some names that are really easy to spot. That's a fact. Some people, however, will soon find themselves in a jam. Especially since the book names are not necessarily capitalized. Truthfully, from answers we get, we are forced to admit it usually takes a minister or a scholar to see some of them at the worst.

Research has shown that something in our genes is responsible for the difficulty we have in seeing the books in this paragraph. During a recent fundraising event, which featured this puzzle, the Alpha Delta Phi lemonade booth set a new record. The local paper, The Chronicle, surveyed over 200 patrons who reported that this puzzle was of the most difficult they had ever seen. As Daniel Humana humbly puts it, "The books are all right here in plain view hidden from sight." Those able to find all of them will hear great lamentations those who have to be shown. One revelation at may help is that books like Timothy and Samuel may occur without their numbers. Also, keep in mind, that punctuation and spaces in the middle are normal. A chipper attitude will help you compete really well against those who claim to know the answers. Remember, there is no need for a mad exodus; there really are 30 books of the Bible lurking somewhere in this paragraph waiting to be found.

God Bless...

(Answers will be in next month's The Voice)

May 10, 2020



We will have a special Mother's Day mug for our Christus Victor Mothers. They will be available to pickup in the Narthex beginning Friday May 8th. Please feel free to come by and get yours.

If you would like to purchase additional ones for someone else you may do so for \$5.00 each. The proceeds from sales will be used for youth activities.



Hello Christus Victor Family and friends!

May is upon us and it seems that uncertainty is still ever present! While the state seems to be working its way back to normal, we will be moving a little slower when it comes to worship. No one is more anxious than I am to get back to worshiping in the sanctuary together. Preaching to a camera is a weird thing. Watching myself on TV is even weirder. Please be sure to thank the people who have helped make this new way of worshiping possible: Trish Fowzer has been so gracious about recording the music for our worship from her home in Paris, Texas. She will be coming back to Galveston within the next week and I look forward to being able to record together. Sandie Price has been hard at work in so many ways. She has continued to work on the presentations for the sanctuary just to assure we have documentation of our worship and to help when we do record in the sanctuary. Not to mention her fine acting skills. Dick Danielson has been a HUGE help in making sure that we have the best sound we can. As I preach from various locations, that is a little more challenging, but he has helped us to make sure we do the best we can. (I just purchased a mic to use when not in the sanctuary). Peggy Bassett has helped with reading and running the sound system and video. Stacey Keener has been ready and willing to be Assisting Minister as well as provide music. Bri Towner, Karl and Mary Klug, Penny Dougherty, Marianne Citraro and Deb Davis, Letha Frederick and Brad Locuas have stepped up to provide music and readings for the various worship services. And I have to give a big shout out to my hubby, Rick, for encouraging and supporting me as I have had to learn to produce videos and upload them to YouTube, as well as stepping up to be the assisting minister a few times. I am completely afraid I have missed someone in this list but know that I am so very grateful for the way everyone is doing what they can to assure we can still worship "together". That includes all of you who are very quick to let us know that you appreciate that we have these services (and graciously ignore some of the booboos!)

Now it is time for us to be looking forward and begin to make plans for coming back together to worship in our sanctuary. This is NOT going to be an easy task. The three Texas/Louisiana Bishops have provided a joint letter that offers some guidelines for re-starting in person worship, but even those guidelines are a bit vague. At the center of anything we do moving forward will be the safety and care for all our members. It is my feeling that the soonest we would have worship in our sanctuary would be June 7th. This is not a hard answer to the big question, but what makes sense at this point. We will have a zoom meeting with the worship and music committee as well as the church council to address this specific issue. I will let you know when that is and then share with you what the plan moving forward is. Whenever we begin to worship together again, there will be a lot of modifications of seating as well as how we do various parts of the service. Again, as that is all determined, we will keep you informed.

Whenever we begin to worship in the sanctuary, we will also continue to record our services. As we have several members who more vulnerable to this nasty virus, it is likely they will not join us in person for a while beyond when we begin. However, they will still be able to worship with us as we will live stream the service. The most important thing we need to keep in mind is how we can keep people as safe as possible while assuring that we are able to take care of the spiritual needs!

The “Renovation Committee” has had it’s first meeting to begin to honor the wonderful donation that was given to enhance our worship. A list has been made of the various things that we feel need to be done in our worship space and we are beginning to get estimates on the cost of each thing. Once we have a good idea of the cost and how each thing will be prioritized, the plan will be sent to the congregation. While this is not something that is up for a vote, we will give a little time for people to express any concerns they may have about the plans. This will not be a long process because it is our hope to begin the work as soon as possible. Doing the work while we are not able to be together in worship will shorten the time that we will need to move our worship to the family life center. Had my mind not been overwhelmed with how to produce online worship, I may have thought of this sooner, but that is how things go. Please know that the committee is working hard to honor our tradition, as we also make our worship experience the best it can be. A big part of this plan is how to use our space in the most efficient way and in a way that is pleasing to see. This includes determining how we can manage the wires and equipment we need for worship. You would think this would be easy, but I assure you, it is not. Just know that we are enlisting the assistance of experts in all of this to be sure we get it right the first time. Again, as we have any sort of concrete plans, we will share them with all of you. I am so excited about how all of this will go and I believe we will all be moved by the ways that it will affect our worship.

This has been a challenging time for all of us. I would like to say that I have found this time to be restful for me, but honestly, learning all of this has kept me quite busy. However, I am excited that we have had to learn these things so that we will be able to provide worship in ways that we have often talked about, but always seem to put on the back burner.

I am also excited at the openness all of you have had to what we are doing. After this experience, it will be hard to say those dreaded words: “We have always done it this way”. We now know that worship can and does happen in many ways which opens us up to some exciting opportunities to share the Good News of Jesus Christ in many ways. I am excited about the way this has opened up the opportunity for all of us to be creative. I am excited at the way this time has once again, emphasized the many ways that we can care for one another and our community.

The pandemic has created a lot of challenges and hardships for so many and the loss of life has been devastating. But through it all the love of God continues to prevail and give us joy in the moments and a hope for the future. I look forward to being together again, but I continue to look for God at work in the present. Let us continue to be the hands and feet and heart of Christ to one another, and our community.

God Bless you all,
Pastor Tammy

Worship Committee

We have been recording services for over a month now and we are starting to get the hang of it. I am so glad we can still worship together even if it is remotely. It was nice to have special music not only from within our congregation, but from those that are outside our congregation as well. It was so nice to hear a sermon from the Bishop of our Synod. If any of you would like to record some special music, please send it to Pastor Tammy and she will add it to the appropriate Sunday worship. I don't know how long we will be in this stay at home state, but I have a feeling it will be at least another month. If you are interested in participating in the recording of a service, please let Pastor Tammy know that, too.

We are had a meeting this month to go over the changes we would like to see in our sanctuary. We will discuss the results of that meeting with you in email or a future Voice article. Pastor Tammy was thinking that if we could do the changes to the sanctuary now while we are still in stay at home status, we would not have to meet in the Family Life Center for services. These changes will provide better flexibility for our music groups to perform, but also make the space adaptable to our needs. The removal of the organ will also give us more space up front. I think you will like the new sanctuary when it is complete.

Scheduling the different worship assistants have been put on hold for now. If you would like to provide recordings of readings of the lessons or the assisting minister role from home, let Pastor Tammy know. We do not want anyone to feel left out, but we also understand if you do not want to leave your home. I know I tried to record myself using my phone and it was at a weird angle because I don't have a tripod and all my music stands are downstairs. I will have to figure out something different to do in the future. Who knew that we would have to become videographers? The one silver lining in this is that we are learning what to do for when we want to record the service after we get back from staying at home. This could be a good outreach tool and our congregation can watch services that they might have missed from being on vacation or being unable to come to church. There are so many possibilities that are open to us now that we have had to record our services. Continue to keep the Worship Committee in your prayers as we navigate this new way of worshipping.

I decided during Lent that I was going to turn off my car radio and just listen to God on the way to work and the way home. I don't have that opportunity anymore to be by myself and to be silent except in the shower. However, I am trying to find time to just be silent and listen to what God is trying to tell me. Just having that little bit of peace has been going a long way to making myself let go and let God take over. I wish all of you peace as well through this trying time.

Yours in Christ,

Stacey Keener

Worship Committee Chair

Music Department

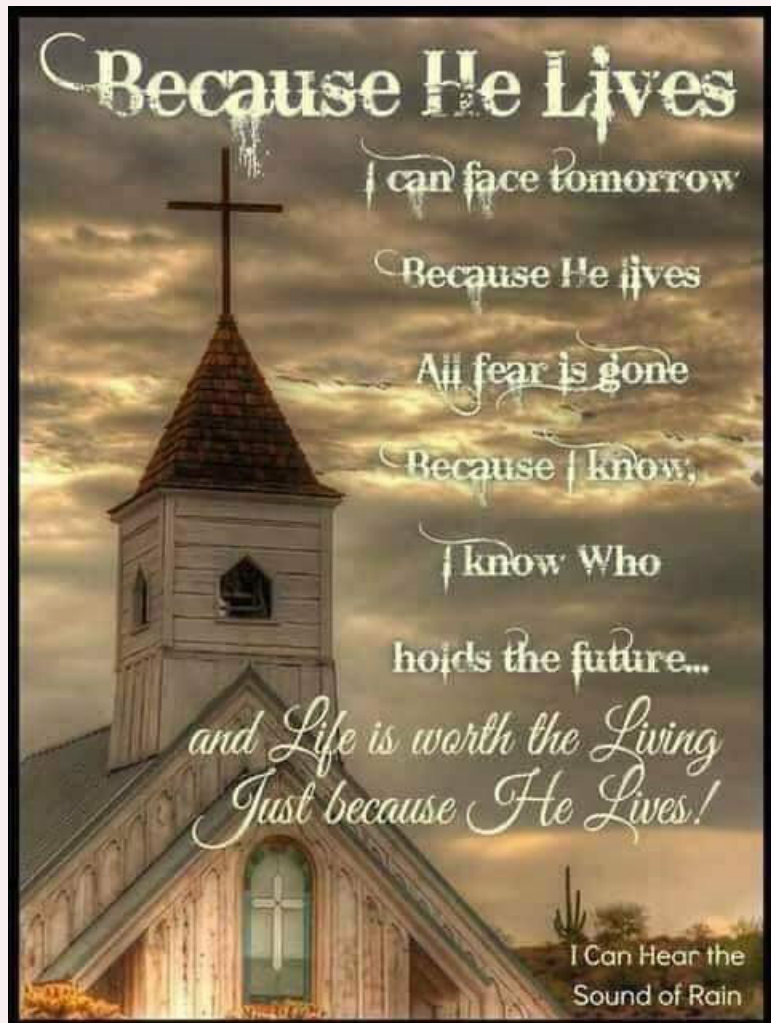
How much do I miss being with our church members and our church choir family?

I desperately miss all the faces, the music, and the joy of worshipping together. This time of isolation has torn away from us the sheer joy of human interaction. I miss all of you. I miss the hugs.

I am afraid it is still going to be some time before we can be together. I have seen many an article on how singing in particular can spread the virus. This is very disappointing to every choir director across the land. Please know that I am researching every aspect of when and how we can get back together safely.

Know that I think the world of each of you, and I pray you remain healthy and safe. We will be needing solos and duets in the weeks to come for offertories. Please let Tammy, Stacey, or me know when you would be available to sing. It is my intention to be back in Galveston this coming week so I could practice with anyone who wants to sing. May God's blessings be with you!!

Love,
Trish



Doris Chambers	05/04
Linden Brom	05/04
Elizabeth Blackman	05/05
Ruby Morrow	05/08
Pat Towner	05/09
Paula Towner	05/12
Sean Cowl	05/13
Sandie Price	05/16
Dan Cowl	05/19
Zechariah Short	05/23
Dura Dittmar	05/24
Xavier Hernandez	05/24
Xavier Hernandez, Jr	05/24
Andy Smith	05/24
Erin Smith	05/24
Connie Smith	05/24
Kyle Qualia	05/28
JoAnn Miller	05/29
Max & Seb Sessions	05/29
Sylvia Coursen	05/30



Happy Anniversary!

Dick & Laura Danielson	05/01
Karen & Xavier Hernandez	05/01
JoAnn & Wesley Miller	05/08
Don Birkelbach & Laurie Stockstill	05/13
Rick & Tammy Sharp	05/16

Christus Victor Children's School

May has arrived! I pray that everyone is still in good health and remaining safe. The coronavirus pandemic has created a crisis and challenging times for everyone. However, we will continue to stand together as we continue to move forward. Currently, CVCS has been open to essential worker's children only. It is anticipated that soon we will safely be opening back up to all our current families.

CVCS will be closed on Memorial Day Monday May 25th.

"Watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong. Let all that you do be done with love."

1 Corinthians 16:13-14



Hello all!

In light of everything going on right now, we will be postponing our VBS with new dates to come soon. We are very excited about VBS this year, and we have seen God's guidance while planning. If you would like to be a part of this wonderful outreach, we are still looking for a leader for our 4-6th grade group, a games/recreation leader, and possibly someone to do the kitchen/cooking. Please reach out to me if you would like to help, even if it is not in one of the positions listed.

Best,
Lisa Kutinac



Health Concern

Karen Connelly
Wesley Damgo
Tracy Wright-Hawkins
Meredith Landry
Keith Ozenberger
Rev. Diane Roth

Personal Needs

The Mallios Family
Elizabeth Blackman

Bereavement

The Family of Geoff Mogford
The Family of Herb Alexander

Serving in our Military

Michael Bredeson
Brandon Geiger
Spencer Karkosky
Noah Keener
Alysa Mann Meyer
Blake Meyer
Zach Wood

Long Term Care/Medical Treatments

Earl Armstrong
Steve Bivens
Kathy Carlson
Sylvia Coursen
Ashlynn Coury-Moseley
Rick Eckstrom
Letha Frederick
Bobbie Gibson
Elissa Gould-Schautd
Carolyn Hannum
Warren Harris
Victoria Jungnickel
Jeff Mallios
Merl Matthewman
Ray Mitchell
Irene Richmond
Marjorie Schaeffman
Patricia Meyer Schalla
Carol Schautd
Ken Schautd
Tom Sharp
Wanda Toedter
Nate Tupper
Cathy Vaughn
Marvin (brother of Marjorie Schaeffman) (6/19)

Please note!
When a prayer request arrives marked
confidential it is not placed on the published
prayer list.
Pastor Tammy will pray for the request.

May



2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10:30 am Worship						
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Happy Mother's Day 10:30 am Worship						
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
10:30 am Worship						
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
10:30 am Worship						
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
Pentecost 10:30 am Worship						

Christus Victor Lutheran Church....281-332-6847

Vision Statement: “To bring the Life, Love, and Teachings of Jesus Christ to Today’s World”

Sunday School: 9:00 am **Sunday Worship:** 10:30 am

Church and School Contact Information :

Contact info for Pastor Tammy Sharp - Cell # 281-924-1667

Tammy’s E-mail: pastortammy@comcast.net

Tammy’s Office Hours: 9 am until 4pm Monday thru Thursday. [Friday...out of office.]

Church Office Hours: 8:30 am until 3 pm

Church Secretary, Sandie Price Office# 281-332-6847

Church Office E-mail - cvlctx@comcast.net

Website- www.christusvictor.us

Choir Director, Vacant

Worship Committee Chairperson, Dick Danielson 281-996-0505

Children’s School Director, Tebertha Henderson...281-332-2821 **E-mail...**director@cves.cc

Church Council Members:

Council President: Sara Smart

Council Vice President: Karen Sebung

Council Secretary: Vanessa Zambrana

Church Treasurer: Carol Vykukal

Property:

School Board President: Sara Smart

Outreach: Diana Bredeson

Education: Lisa Kutinac

Worship: Ruby Morrow

Parish Life: Paula Towner

Stewardship: Brad Loucas

OFFERING REPORT YEAR-TO-DATE

2020 Offering Needed: 63,790.29

Current Offerings Received: 48,092.00

Shortfall: 15,598.29

Building Fund Offerings ytd: 3,281.00

Building fund loan balance: \$ 32,028.72
(as of April 12, 2020)