

Christus Victor Lutheran
Church

October Voice 2021



Trunk or Treat

October 30, 2021

2:00 pm—4:00 pm





Hello Christus Victor Family and friends:

Matthew 18:19-20 “Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on Earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

The first of those two verses is one that I have struggled with and I think I have finally figured out why. Every three years Matthew 18:15-20 comes up in the Revised Common Lectionary. That means I preach on this text at least once every 3 years. That has never been an issue for me. But verse 19: “Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on Earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven”; has been misused in ways that made me uncomfortable. This verse has been used when there is something difficult going on in someone’s life, or when there is a particular job or ministry that a person wants to be a part of.

When our daughter was sick with cancer, and doing very poorly, I had one friend or another call me and say something to the effect of “I just feel that God is telling me that if we could get as many people as possible to all pray the same prayer at the very same time then Kelly could be healed. Well!!

First of all, I am always concerned when we imply that God is somehow manipulated to do the things we want done if we have “Enough” people who join us in that want, or if we pray at just the right time and in just the right way. I truly believe that God listens to and answers the prayers of the overwhelmed individual who cries out in desperation as much as, and maybe more than God pays attention to bunch of people trying to bend God to do what we think should be done.

I know that the people who came to me, or who go to anyone who is hurting and deeply in need, are not intending to try to manipulate God. Loving people have a great need to do something to “fix” the hurt. None of us is overly comfortable with simply sitting with someone in their struggle when we have no answer to share. However, I think we miss the point and the beauty of this text.

This verse is a part of Matthew 18:15-20. In this part of scripture Jesus talks about how to deal with a member of the community “sins against you”. As someone who has had to carefully execute this mandate, I know that it is not easy to lovingly and faithfully deal with someone who chooses not to work within the community. But, when we are able to come together as God’s people, listening to one another more than we are talking, we find the way to be the community of faith that God intends us to be. When we pay close attention to both verse 19 and 20 together, all of a sudden verse 19 doesn’t seem to be a way to bend God to our will. It is a way to draw on the collective gifts, talents and compassion of the community in order to face the very difficult things that are a part of this life.

Read these verses together - “Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on Earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.” Maybe we could say it like this: “When the community of faith is able to work together, anything is possible. When we work together and pray together and listen to one another, the Spirit intercedes to help us discover how each individual is a part of God’s great plan to care for all of God’s creation. Together we discover our differences are a great gift. We find that God works through each of us to bring God’s love and grace to all people.

We are the church. The Body of our Lord. (go to this link on your computer and you can hear a song with those lyrics from my days as a youth. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fcT9hf9rOxM>)

We are the Body of Christ for the world. We have the privilege and the responsibility as children of God of being a servant of all. It just doesn't seem that anything in what Jesus says or does tells us it is okay to say "What's in it for me" when it comes to the Christian faith. We ARE claimed children of God called and sent.

"Give me" should not be in our vocabulary. Together, with all the members of the Body of Christ, we provide what the world needs to know and understand the loving God we serve.

As Covid has put a big damper on our ability to be together, it is all the more important that we find ways of connecting with the other parts of Body so that we can continue to serve God completely.

This month we will be providing 2 opportunities for people to come together. We will do what we can to be as safe as possible. But we will come together for Trunk or Treat and for our Reformation dinner. I hope that you will help me in finding ways to keep the most vulnerable safe, while also allowing us to be the church together. I am looking forward to seeing all of you, but especially those who have been isolated for so long.

If you are still not comfortable being with people outside your home, please help me find ways to allow you to be with people so that you can be safe and not so isolated. From wherever we are, let us be the church together!

God bless you all
Pastor Tammy

Worship Committee News

Thank you for bearing with us on the audio/visual glitches we have been having with streaming the service. We should have those fixed now. Nothing is more frustrating than technology that does not work correctly. We want to make sure that those of you who choose to watch us online do not miss out on the experience.

The Bell Choir is already gearing up for Christmas. They have a few pieces that they are practicing that you will definitely enjoy. There is still room in the Bell Choir if anyone wants to join now. Practices are held on Mondays at 6:00 PM in the sanctuary.

The Chancel Choir has been providing some beautiful music already and is practicing a cantata for Christmas. The Chancel Choir needs more voices if you are interested in joining. Practices are held on Tuesdays at 6:00 PM in the sanctuary.

The Main Street Messengers are looking for more voices to help out with the praise songs they sing. If you like contemporary Christian music, this is the group to join. Practices are held on Sundays at 9:00 AM.

We need assisting minsters to help with the service. We also need altar guild members. If you are interested in providing this ministry, please let Sandie Price know so she can add you to the schedule. Training is provided for both positions.

This month we will remember Martin Luther posting his 95 theses on the church door which led to a revolution in the Christian Church. Martin Luther was voted the third most influential person behind Johannes Gutenberg who invented the printing press and Sir Isaac Newton who discovered the laws of motion. In fact, it was Gutenberg's printing press that helped spread the list of 95 theses to the people. According to Wikipedia, 300,000 copies of Luther's tracts were distributed throughout Germany and Europe in a span of two years. This was a major feat in the early 1500's. Remember to wear red on 10/31/2021 to commemorate the Reformation that Luther started with the help of the printing press.

Stacey Keener
Worship Committee Chair



Main St. Messenger's

If you are interested in singing praise songs, please come to
practice on Sunday
mornings at 9:00 am

Everyone welcome!



Christus Victor Children's School

We are moving along with our fall lessons. The children are enjoying the cooler weather outside, however briefly it stays. The children enjoy singing VBS songs in chapel and learning new Bible stories. This month, we have fall pictures on October 7th and our Fall Festival on October 29th. The school has a new Facebook page- www.facebook.com/CVCStx. Please like and follow our page.

October Bible Verse

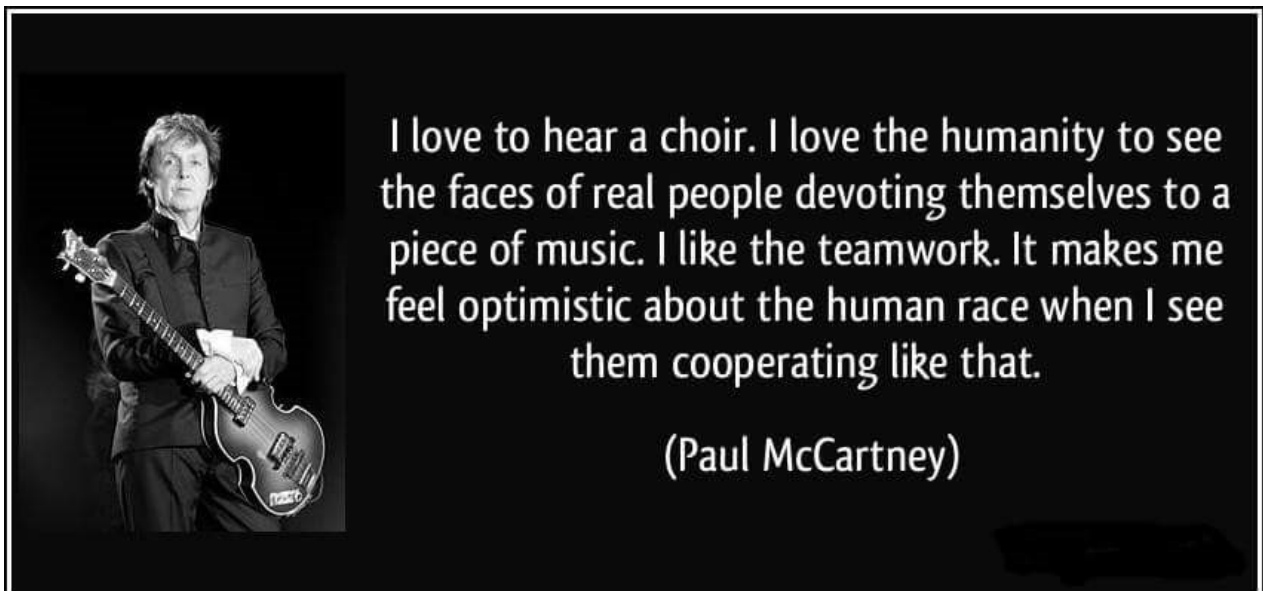
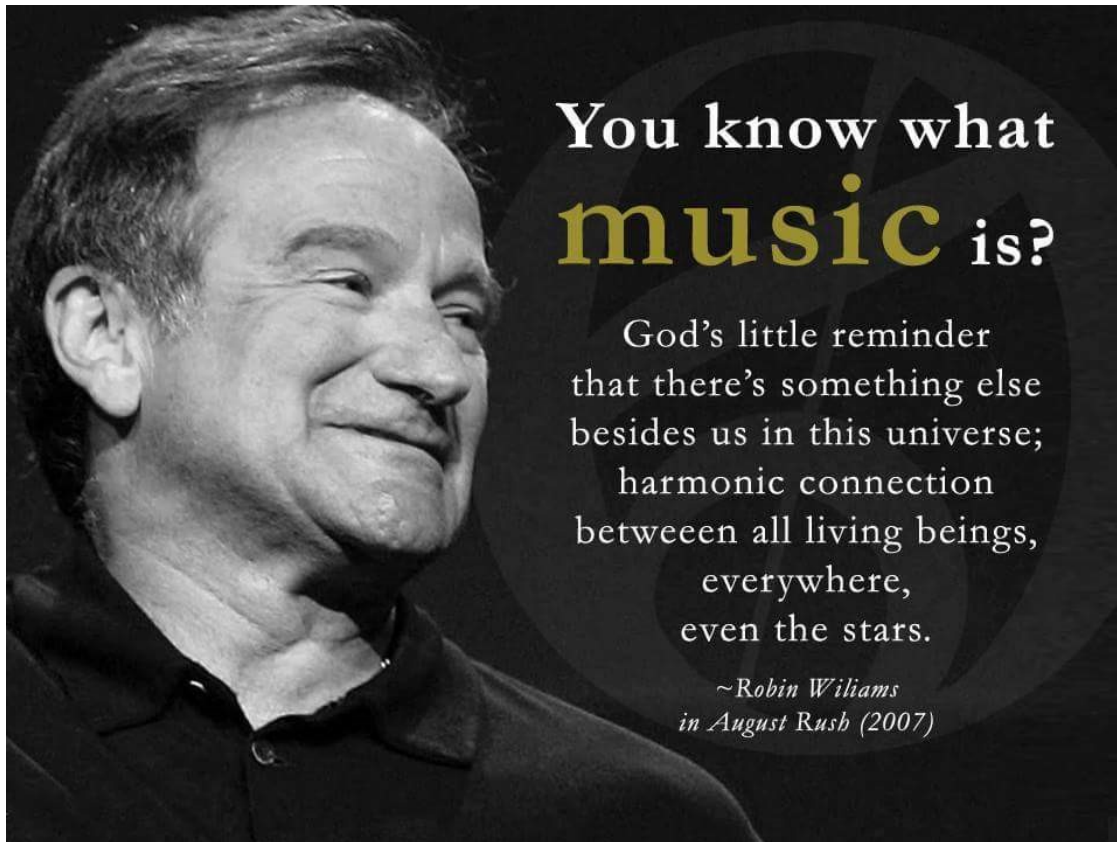
"Respect and obey the Lord. This is the beginning of knowledge." Psalm 1:7

Tebertha Henderson—Director
Lisa Kutinac—School Board President

MUSIC

I really want to say thank you to our vocal and handbell musicians for carrying on the tradition in spite of all odds. It warms my heart that several of you come early and prepare for upcoming song selections or just warm up and get your voices better in shape. We pray that Covid will go into remission sooner than later and we can see more of our beloved musicians in attendance. Just remember you can wear your masks and sit as far apart as makes you comfortable. Please know that you are loved and know that you are missed!

Trish



October Happenings



Join our Women, Wine, and Wisdom group on **Sunday, October 24th** following our service for lunch at Whiskey Cake. Let's have fun, fellowship, and good food! All women are welcome to join us, those who are members of our church and those who are not, so bring a friend! Please RSVP to Sara (281-702-7075) by Thursday, October 21st so she can make a reservation. We look forward to seeing you there!

Youth Group will meet on **Saturday, October 23rd** at 11:00. Join us as we make Boo Bags for a local nursing home. We will have the supplies and lunch; we just need your help to make the bags. Please let Jason know you are coming, 225-236-6786. We can't wait to see you!



Join us **Saturday, October 30** from 4:00-6:00 for Trunk or Treat! Come decorate your trunk and hand out candy to the little ghouls and goblins or bring your kids and have fun with us! If you would like to decorate your trunk, please be here by 3:00. Invite your friends and loved ones to come celebrate with us!

Reformation Sunday is **October 31st**. Join us for lunch after church! We will Meet in the Family Life Center after worship to enjoy fun, food, and fellowship.



Youth Update:

On Saturday September 18, 2021 we saw the largest gathering of our youth group. We had youth from our church as well as in the community gather. (I think it was the Gaga Ball Pit!) Unfortunately, we were unable to gather outside due to the amount of rain earlier in the week. So, we improvised and made a “pit” in the Family Life Center. It was a very “WILD” time. There was a lot of cheering and hearing, “it didn’t touch me!” But overall, it was great to see the future of the church all in one room.

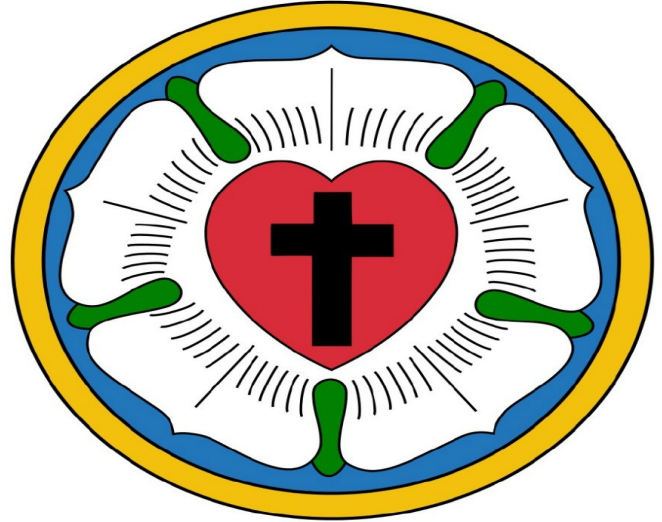
We had a nacho bar and lemonade. Thanks to Lisa for preparing the food. Our next event will be coming up in October. We plan on making “boo” bags for a local long-term care facility. More information to follow.

Stay well,
Jason Kutinac



REFORMATION SUNDAY October 31, 2021

If attending in person worship service, remember to wear **RED**.



The Five Solas

1. Sola Scriptura (by scripture alone)
2. Sola Fide (by faith alone)
3. Sola Gratia (by grace alone)
4. Solus Christus (Christ alone)
5. Soli Deo Gloria (glory to God alone)





Robin Hall	10/07
Jack Keener	10/08
Tracy Campbell	10/11
Caitlyn Towner	10/12
Justin Smart	10/13
Steph Morrision	10/17
Helen Goodwin	10/24
Dwight Dittmer	10/25
Tristen Cox	10/25
Marty Norton	10/26
Annaleigha Guajardo	10/30
Mary Ann Davis	10/30

Happy Anniversary!

John & Paula Towner 10/12





2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 9:00 am Main St. Messenger's Practice 10:30 am Worship Service Council Meeting	4 6:00 pm Bell Choir	5 6:00 pm Chancel Choir	6	7 6:00 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM Worship Committee	8	9
10 9:00 am Main St. Messenger's Practice 10:30 am Worship Service	11 6:00 pm Bell Choir	12 6:00 pm Chancel Choir	13	14 6:00 PM Bible Study	15	16
17 9:00 am Main St. Messenger's Practice 10:30 am Worship Service	18 6:00 pm Bell Choir	19 6:00 pm Chancel Choir	20	21 6:00 PM Bible Study	22	23 11:00 am Youth get together to make Boo bags
24 9:00am Main St. Messenger's Practice 10:30 am Worship Service Women's Lunch	25 6:00 pm Bell Choir	26 6:00 pm Chancel Choir	27	28 6:00 PM Bible Study	29	30 4:00 pm—6:00 pm Trunk or Treat
31 9:00 am Main St Messengers 10:30am Worship Service Reformation Lunch after church						



CHRISTUS VICTOR'S PRAYER LIST - FAMILY AND FRIENDS.....*List is updated weekly*

Health Concerns

(removed after 30 days)

Helen Goodwin (10/21)

Personal Needs

(removed after 30 days)

Bereavement

(removed after 2 weeks)

The Family of Rodney Rushing

Serving in our Military

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

Long Term Care/Medical Treatments

(remains until requested to be removed)

Earl Armstrong
Steve Bivens
Diana Bredeson
Ashlynn Coury-Moseley
Letha Frederick
Bobbie Gibson
Elissa Gould-Schaudt
Carolyn Hannum
Merl Matthewman
Ray Mitchell
Kathy Pulliam (03/21)
Irene Richmond
Yvette Rushing (10/21)
Marjorie Schaefman
Patricia Meyer Schalla
Carol Schaudt
Ken Schaudt
Tom Sharp
Wanda Toedter
Nate Tupper
Cathy Vaughn

Due to HIPPA regulations and pastoral confidentiality issues, we do not give specific details of prayer concerns in the bulletin. Please pray, however, for those who ask for our prayers for God knows and understands their needs. We pray that God's will be done.

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

Please obtain permission from the person or the family before adding them to the list.

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 3:00 pm M—T [Friday 8:30 am -1:30 pm]

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

Church Office E-mail - cvlctx@comcast.net

Website- www.christusvictor.us

Choir Director, Patricia Fowzer

Worship Committee Chairperson, Stacey Keener 281-797-6775

Children's School Director, Tebertha Henderson...281-332-2821 E-mail...cvcdirector@comcast.net

OFFERING REPORT YEAR-TO-DATE (09/30/2021)

2021 Offering Needed: \$

Current Offerings Received: \$

Shortfall: \$

Building Fund Offerings ytd: \$

**Building fund loan balance: \$ 23,140.06
(as of September 12, 2021)**

Church Council Members:

Council President: Sara Smart

Council Vice President:

Council Secretary: Lisa Kutinac

Church Treasurer: Carol Vykukal

Property:

School Board President: Lisa Kutinac

Outreach:

Education:

Worship:

Parish Life:

Stewardship: Brad Loucas