

Christus Victor Lutheran  
Church

# November Voice 2021

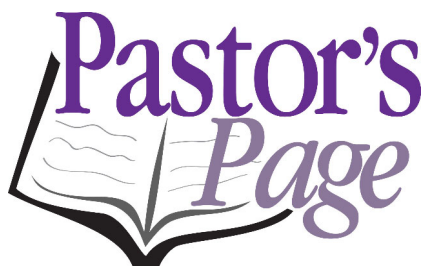
To bring the life, love and teachings of Jesus Christ to today's world..



FALL BACK

November 7, 2021





Dear Christus Victor Family and Friends:

I am already hearing Christmas music and the Hallmark channel has begun its season of Christmas movies but, I want to take some time to appreciate a time of Thanksgiving.

Recently I have been reminded of so many things I have to be Thankful for. Maybe if I share a few of them it will help you to think about what you have to be thankful for.

In the last couple of weeks, I have had several notices pop up on my newsfeed on Facebook from some of “my kids”. As a former Youth Director, Associate In Ministry and Synodically Authorized Minister, and now a pastor, I have been blessed to work with so many amazing kids. Well, they were kids at the time. Now they are moms, and dads and youth workers and writers and artists and dedicated students and the list goes on and on. Each time I see one of their posts I am reminded of moments in ministry when it wasn’t me teaching or guiding them but rather, they were the ones teaching me. They made me laugh. We cried together. We celebrated big days and we shared how God continued to be with us in the rough times. They asked questions that challenged me and then worked with me to find answers when there were answers. They taught me how to listen, and how to hold my tongue. They taught me that faith isn’t always expressed in traditional ways and that the Spirit moves in ways we never imagined. I am THANKFUL for all of the kids I have worked with over the years and the ways that God has touched my life through them.

I am grateful that God has taught me the ministry of Presence. As a person who seemed to speak before she thought through much of my youth, I have learned the importance of silent presence in ministry. There are circumstances in which there is very little that can be said and yet, there is a great need for a person to not be alone. Being able to sit with someone and allow them to respond however they need to without judgement or correction can make a world of difference.

I am grateful to be serving in a congregation that understands the challenges that I as the pastor have dealt with in the past year. When our worship services were done from my cell phone in my back yard, with a plane flying through the service (the noise not the actual plane), this congregation was still able to appreciate the chance to worship in spite of the odd distractions. This congregation has understood that while I wasn’t in the office all the time, I was working crazy hours trying to put together meaningful worship services while in quarantine. When we were able to gather in the sanctuary again but needed to wear masks to keep everyone safe, this congregation did what needed to be done with very little complaining. When we had to go back to wearing masks because of the new strain of Covid, no one was happy but everyone understood. You have been supportive and understanding and it still has worn out this pastor trying to learn how to be the best servant I can be in this new world we live in. So many of my colleagues have faced the same challenges without this understanding. Thank you for living the Gospel to your pastor.

I am so very grateful for my neighbors. As a child I knew all of the neighbors and they knew me. I also knew that none of them were worried about correcting me if I was doing something I shouldn’t. The parents in the neighborhood had an understanding... Treat them as if they were your own. I now have neighbors who feel like family. We share meals together. Our children (their children and our grandchildren) play together and fight like siblings. We gather in the our backyard to swim, and in our neighbors front yard to watch the kids play in the street. In a world in which most people are so busy with their own lives to have time for neighbors, we are blessed with neighbors who feel like family.

I am grateful for my family. Rick has come into his home as the grandpa and our grandchildren barely say hi to me before they ask where Papa is. He is the one to play hide and seek and not get weary. He is the one that will eat whatever meal they bring him from the play kitchen and tell them how delicious it was. He has become a far better house keeper than I am, but I am still the cook. Our son and daughter-in-law have worked so hard to start their own businesses and have encouraged and supported each other along the way, even when it has been tough. They are amazing parents to possibly the greatest blessing in our lives, the two sassy, beautiful girls who call us Mimi and Papa. Family truly is a gift.

Finally, it may sound strange for me to say, but I am grateful for the challenges I have faced in the last year. Oh, I would avoid them if I could. I don't like being pushed in ways I don't expect. But with every challenge and struggle, I have learned to rely on the strength that comes only from faith in God. I have learned to let go of things I really cannot change or control. That has not been fun. I have learned that when I think that nothing good is going to come out of a time of worship because I am a bit disjointed, I am forced to remember that worship isn't about me. Worship is about the body of Christ coming together to worship the God of love and grace. Worship happens when the people of God encounter the Spirit of God and sometimes, I get to be a part of that. Sometimes the Spirit bails me out! Challenge is not fun but it does us me to remember that God is doing God's work not me. For that, I am deeply grateful.

This list could go on for a lot longer but I think you get the point. Hold off jumping into the Christmas season and take a moment to simply give thanks. Take time to really think about what you are grateful for. Think of the little things we sometime take for granted or the relationships that are no longer central to our lives but had an impact on our lives of faith that is still significant. Your list will be different than mine. God knows our varied needs. And before we begin to prepare for the coming of the Christ Child, let us take some time to give thanks!

God Bless you all,  
Pastor Tammy



Even though we are still under a mask mandate for the time being, we are still worshiping in person and our musical groups are going well. November starts with honoring those that have passed on before us especially in the last year. The service is a very meaningful one of lighting candles and ringing the bell for each person we are remembering. Then we will start the first Sunday in Advent on November 28<sup>th</sup> and soup suppers and Advent services will start the first week in December. I am glad we are having those again because I miss getting together with everyone. I hope you will be able to join us for those. The Chancel Choir is practicing a cantata and the Bell Choir is practicing Christmas Carols. The Main Street Messengers will also have Christmas music to share with everyone. As I write this, we have not had Halloween, yet, and I am already thinking about Christmas. I blame it on all the stores trying to get a jump on things. The month of November goes by so fast and then December just flies by. Pretty soon it will be the new year. I hope everyone will think of things they are thankful for on Thanksgiving.

Bell Choir meets on Mondays at 6PM, Chancel Choir meets on Tuesdays at 6PM, and Main Street Messengers meets on Sundays at 9AM. Please join one of these or all of these groups to bring a joyful noise unto the Lord.

We need assisting ministers and altar guild members. Sandie Price is scheduling these groups so please let her know if you are interested.

Worship Committee will meet on 11/4/2021 at 7PM at the church. If you are interested in making decisions regarding worship, please attend.

Stacey Keener  
Worship Committee Chair

**“Music is one of life’s most important survival tools. It nourishes us, it gives us hope, helps us heal, and gives us the strength to keep going even in the toughest of times.”**

[www.musiciansunite.com](http://www.musiciansunite.com)

### **Music News**

First, I wish to thank the members of our Chancel Choir, the Messengers and Handbell Choir for continuing to attend rehearsals and bring our congregation songs of praise. There is joy occurring in every rehearsal, and I am so grateful for your willingness to serve, play, and sing!

Our musicians would love to have their friends and family join them in rehearsals. For the Choir and the Bells, the typical rehearsal is only 45 minutes long. During this time we practice, we laugh, and we pray. Everyone seems to leave rehearsal in a better and happier place than when they entered the church. After such a long quiet time of Covid isolation, wouldn't you like to bring more laughter and love into your life? Then try a trial offer of coming to one of our rehearsals for a mere two or three weeks. I think you might enjoy yourself especially as we approach Advent and Christmas when we will be sharing some of the church year's most beautiful selections. I will be keeping my fingers crossed and my heart in prayer.

Trish



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!

6:00 pm Thursdays

We are currently studying the book of  
Mark.



October was a fun month for us at Christus Victor Children's School! The children had fall pictures taken at the beginning of the month, and we ended the month with our fall parties.

In November, we have our Thanksgiving feast to enjoy. This year, we will have just our students and staff as we are still being cautious. Hopefully, we will have some cooler weather come, too! We have two new pieces of equipment that were added to our playground.

The children have enjoyed Pastor Tammy teaching Bible stories and singing during chapel. They certainly make a joyful noise!

November's Bible Verse

"I will praise the Lord God with a song and thankful heart."  
Psalm 69:30

Tebertha Henderson, Director  
Lisa Kutinac, School Board President



Join us on Saturday, November 13<sup>th</sup> as we try to escape! We will meet at Break Free Escape Room (803 E Nasa Pkwy, Webster) at 5:00. After we escape, we will enjoy dinner together. Please RSVP to Sara by Tuesday, November 9<sup>th</sup>. The escape room will be \$25 per person. In December, we will be doing a painting project!

On Saturday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, the youth group will meet to learn about Advent and make Advent wreaths. Join us from 11-1 pm in the Family Life Center. Please let Jason know if you are coming so we have enough supplies for everyone (225-236-8533 or [jasonrrt97@yahoo.com](mailto:jasonrrt97@yahoo.com)).



**VBS will be June 5<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup>!** Even though it is months away, we are already planning and preparing. We will soon have a donation board in the Narthex for VBS items. Thank you for all of your support for our VBS program. The kids (and adults) love it, and your support is essential.

Parents, mark your calendars! CVLC youth will be going to Lutherhill July 17<sup>th</sup>– 22<sup>nd</sup>. Registration is open now. You **DO NOT** need a group number. If you have any fundraising ideas, let Pastor Tammy or Lisa Kutinac know.



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Youth Gathering is July 24-28, 2022 in Minneapolis. It is open to youth in 8<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. We will leave on July 23<sup>rd</sup> and return on July 28<sup>th</sup> or 29<sup>th</sup>. Pastor Tammy will be sending an email with more information soon.





Christmas will be here before we know it! Christus Victor is going to team up with Bay Area Turning Point to help provide the magic of Christmas for the women and children BATP supports. There are a couple of ways we can help them.

BATP has a Christmas shop at the Webster Civic Center. It is a fun event where BATP clients can “shop” for gifts for their children. When they are done shopping, the clients can enjoy some Christmas treats while volunteers wrap the gifts. BATP will give us a wish list of items they stock the “store” with. They will also share a sign up if anyone would like to volunteer to wrap gifts.

We can adopt a family. BATP has families that have moved into independent housing. These families receive some assistance from BATP, but they live on their own. Christus Victor can adopt a family to provide Christmas for.

A representative from Bay Area Turning Point will come to our church service one Sunday soon to share more information with our congregation about how we can help.







**Time Changes November 7, 2021**

**Set your clocks back 1 hour before going to bed on Saturday night.**



Peggy Bassett	11/02
Conrad Schafman	11/03
Karen Sebung	11/03
John Dougherty	11/04
Katie Dougherty-Pitts	11/04
Catherine "Faith" Birkelbach	11/08
Mark Phillips	11/08
Andre Massey	11/09
Jay Citraro	11/10
Tyler Crowl	11/11
Hannah Hall	11/12
Wanda Toedter	11/12
Bill Boatwright	11/14
Marjorie Duffield	11/16
Jon Hall	11/17
Bobbie Gibson	11/18
Karen Connelly	11/24
Lorna Reed	11/24
Millie Geiger	11/27
Rick Sharp	11/27
Jordan Smith	11/30



Connie & Tom Smith	11/14
Carol & Johnny Vykukal	11/14



2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4 6 pm Bible Study 7 pm Worship Committee Meeting	5	6
7 9 am Main St. Messenger's Practice 10:30 am Worship Service Council Meeting	8 6pm Bell Choir	9 6 pm Chancel Choir	10	11 <b>Veterans Day</b> 6 pm Bible Study	12	13 5:00 pm Women, Wine and Wisdom Break Free Escape Room
14 9 am Main St. Messenger's Practice 10:30 am Worship Service	15 6pm Bell Choir	16 6 pm Chancel Choir	17	18 6 pm Bible Study	19	20 11 am—1 pm Youth to make Advent wreaths
21 9 am Main St. Messenger's Practice 10:30 am Worship Service	22	23	24	25 <b>Thanksgiving</b>	26	27
28 <b>First Sunday of Advent</b> 9 am Main St. Messenger's Practice 10:30 am Worship Service	29 6pm Bell Choir	30 6pm Chancel Choir				

**Health Concerns**

(removed after 30 days)

Peggy Bassett

**Personal Needs**

(removed after 30 days)

**Bereavement**

(removed after 2 weeks)

The Family of Pat Tower

**Serving in our Military**

Michael Bredeson  
Brandon Geiger  
Spencer Karkosky  
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  
Gary Coury (10/21)  
Letha Frederick  
Bobbie Gibson  
Elissa Gould-Schaudt  
Carolyn Hannum  
Merl Matthewman  
Ray Mitchell  
Kathy Pulliam (03/21)  
Irene Richmond  
Theresa Rios (10/21)  
Yvette Rushing (10/21)  
Marjorie Schaefman  
Patricia Meyer Schalla  
Carol Schaudt  
Ken Schaudt  
Tom Sharp  
Wanda Toedter  
Nate Tupper  
Cathy Vaughn  
Carol Warrington (10/21)  
Kathleen Womansong (10/21)

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](mailto: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 out of office]

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

**Church Office E-mail** - [cvlctx@comcast.net](mailto:cvlctx@comcast.net)

**Website-** [www.christusvictor.us](http://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...**[directorevcs@comcast.net](mailto:directorevcs@comcast.net)

#### **OFFERING REPORT YEAR-TO-DATE (10/31/2021)**

**2021 Offering Needed: \$ 178,094.40**

**Current Offerings Received: \$118,239.90**

**Shortfall: \$59,854.50**

**Building Fund Offerings ytd: \$8,886.00**

**Building fund loan balance: \$ 22,594.32  
(as of October 11, 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