

Christus Victor Lutheran Church

The Voice September 2026



**Please check the
Prayer List!!**

**Mission Statement: "To bring the Life, Love and Teachings of Jesus Christ
to today's world"**



Hello Christus Victor Family and Friends,

Recently the church council met for an extended period to look ahead at the calendar and activities that we do as a congregation. What we have realized is that, while we are holding our own financially and growing little by little as a congregation, there are activities that we don't feel we can continue to do. There is this issue of attendance and there is the reality that we believe that we do not have the people who will organize and follow through with making these things happen.

The first activity that we "have always done" but will not be doing this year is the Advent Soup Suppers and Worship Services. I am not sure there is anyone who has enjoyed the Wednesday evenings during Advent more than me. I like making soup. I really enjoy the Holden Evening Prayer Service. But it just doesn't make sense for us to have a program that few if any attend. We know that December is a busy time for people with programs and parties and family gatherings. This was reflected in the lack of attendance during last year's Advent supper and services. Our plan is to have Soup Suppers and Services for Lent, but we will be paying close attention to the attendance of this as well.

Questions came up as to whether or not we would have the German dinner on Reformation Sunday. This was halted when Faith Lutheran was worshiping in our facility, but we have not had much response to putting it all together again. If there is someone who wants to work at getting this program going again, please let me know. It was a great fellowship opportunity for our congregation.

We have had people step up to help with the audio-visual needs we have and that is great. However, we really need people who will greet/usher each Sunday. We have had more visitors in recent years than we have had in quite a while. That has been wonderful. Most of these people have had a positive experience here and I have seen various members making sure they talk to people who are unfamiliar. This is all great. However, we need to have someone meeting people as they come in so that they will know they are welcome, give them the gift we have for them (the wooden cross) and have them sign our guest book so we can have information on them. We have asked folks to volunteer but have had little response.

There is room for people on our Church council. In October, Council will meet in order to put together our budget and to consider how the church council will look for the year ahead. We have meetings once a month that take about an hour. Twice a year we have a longer, retreat style meeting in order to do some in-depth planning. Each person is asked to focus on a specific area of ministry. If you are at all willing to be the eyes and ears and voice for the congregation and work to grow the ministry at Christus Victor Lutheran Church, please let me or one of our current council members know. If we don't hear from any of you, you just might be contacted by one of us and encouraged to consider a leadership position.

You have heard that “it takes a village to raise a child”. I believe that “it takes an entire community of faith to do the work God has called us to do.” We don’t want 20 percent of the congregation doing 80 percent of the work. We need 100 percent of the people to each do a small percent of the work of ministry. God has called us all. I am asking each of you to consider what ministry task you feel God has called you to? What talents do you have to share with the ministry of this congregation?

Please join us in the joy of sharing the love and grace of God which we have received with the world. I can’t wait to see what God will do through all of us in the coming year!

God Bless you all,
Pastor Tammy

UPCOMING EVENTS



We will have a meeting to discuss and plan the pumpkin patch on September 6th after church. Please join us if you have ideas or want to help.

In last month's Voice, Pastor Tammy invited everyone to join Quilt and Stitch on Saturday, September 19th at 9:00. Bring whatever you are working on- knitting, beading, crafting- help with quilts, or help make rosaries for Pastor Tammy to use with her Seafarers ministry. You don't need to know what you are doing, someone will happily help! Everyone is invited!



Mark your calendar! Our pumpkin patch will be Friday, October 9th and Saturday, October 10th from 9am- 7pm. We will need volunteers to help set up and take down the pumpkin patch and help man the patch while it is open. Sign up to volunteer at <https://tinyurl.com/CVLCpatch26>

On Friday evening, October 9th, the school will host a hot dog dinner from 5:15-5:45, and it will be followed by story time and s'mores. Our church and school families are invited!

Trunk or Treat will be October 24th. Set up is from 9:00-9:45 am and the event is from 10:00-12:00. If you would like to decorate your trunk, please sign up in the Narthex or go to <https://tinyurl.com/CVLCtrunk26>



CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING

Save the date! Our Congregational Meeting will be November 8th after our service. We will be presenting the budget and have nominations for new council members, among other things.

We will be collecting items to go in Christmas boxes to support Pastor Tammy's work with the Seafarers Center. We have created an Amazon wishlist with items that will be delivered to the church. If you would like to get them somewhere else, please do! We will have a potluck after church on November 15th to put the boxes together. Everyone is invited, and there will be something for everyone to do! On Monday November 23rd, we will deliver the boxes to the Seafarers Center with Pastor Tammy.



UPCOMING EVENTS



Our fall service project at Lutherhill will be November 21st-22nd. We never know what we will be doing when we go, but we always have a ton of fun. Thank you, Dana Gazda, for setting up our service project! Let Lisa know if you'd like to come.

We will be hosting a Pancake Supper with Santa on December 2nd at 6:00pm to help off-set the cost of the parking lot repairs. Our own Santa and Mrs. Clause will be there! This event will be open to the community. Details to come!



On December 12th, we will have a Grubber's Day to get the church ready for the Christmas season. Many hands make light work, and we can use all the hands we can get!

Our Christmas Eve candlelight service will be at 7:00pm.





Christus Victor Children's School

September News

We had an awesome, fun-filled summer at CVCS! Our children have moved into their new classes and have adjusted to their new routines. We are looking forward to fall and hopefully cooler weather.

This month, we will be learning about feelings and manners, five senses and people in the community.

Our Bible verse is “Treat others as you want them to treat you.” Matthew 7:12

A special thank you to Karl & Maty Klug for the purchase and donation of an AED to our building!



The Worship Committee took a break over the summer months. Our Sunday Worship continued as usual. There were no special events nor business items to plan over the summer.

Next Committee Meeting will be following Bible Study on **Wednesday September 16**. Fall is nearly upon us and it is not too early to begin planning for Fall and Winter special events. All are welcome to attend the Committee meetings.

Worship Servants

We are happy to announce that we have several new volunteers to serve on our technical crew and as assisting minister. Thank you to each and every one of you for your service on Sunday morning and throughout the week in preparation for worship.

We can always use more participation in all areas of worship including Chancel Choir, Bell Choir, Altar Guild, Assisting Minister, Technical Crew, Main Street Messengers, Children's Church and Ushers/Greeters.

We are especially in need of Ushers/Greeters. We have not been scheduling Ushers/Greeters because we have had only 6 persons volunteer for this service and we need to schedule two persons per Sunday. Thank you to several persons who have been stepping up to pass the offering plates. But, this is not the most important role of an Usher/Greeter. Greeting visitors and members alike at the door is very important. Sharing a little bit about our morning worship, offering a bulletin and showing new folks to a seat makes them feel special and welcome (and maybe want to return). Pastor and other worship assistants can't always do this due to other responsibilities. If we could get several more volunteers, one would be scheduled no more than once a month or once every two months.

If God is nudging you and you want to learn more of the details, please ask Karen or someone already participating. We'd love to hear from you.

Submitted by Karen Cconnelly, Worship Chair

Procedures and Guidelines for Greeters & Ushers

Christus Victor Lutheran Church

On the Sunday that you are assigned to serve as a Greeter/Usher you should arrive at least twenty (20) minutes prior to the start of the service. Your duties as Greeter/Usher are very important and involve multiple tasks. The following checklist should assist you in carrying out your responsibilities.

BEFORE THE SERVICE

- ❖ Check that printed bulletins are on the designated table in the Narthex.
- ❖ Wear your nametag
- ❖ Welcome all arrivals warmly, explain to visitors that we use screens for the service, but if they want a printed bulletin provide one from the table.
- ❖ Encourage **first time visitors** to sign the guest register and fill out a visitor card.
- ❖ Introduce visitors to some of our members if the opportunity arises.
- ❖ Give **first time visitors** a welcome packet.

DURING EACH SERVICE

- ❖ Allow late comers to be seated during the announcements or entrance hymn, but not during the Confession.
- ❖ Close the doors to the sanctuary after the pastor and assisting minister are at the altar.
- ❖ Following the Sharing of the Peace, both ushers come forward to the altar and receive the offering plates. Pass the plates starting at the front pews and moving to the back pews, place the plates on the little table at the back of the Sanctuary.
- ❖ Open the sanctuary doors at the end of the service.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Ushers should be seated in the rear pew near the sanctuary door. This allows you to help any latecomers and to keep an eye on the children that leave the sanctuary and do not return in a reasonable amount of time or adult individuals that may feel ill or need assistance.

AFTER EACH SERVICE

- ❖ Generally, "tidy up" the sanctuary.

Music

The Best In Me

Somewhere deep inside me there played a simple song. But only I could hear it; only I could sing along.

Then one sunny morning someone set it free,
And all the notes from deep inside came pouring out of me.

Who would believe that this song was in me?
Who would conceive that it would set me free?
All I needed was a chance, one opportunity.
A person just like you who saw the very best in me.

Oh now you hear me singing and I can hear you too.
I can hear that melody that there's inside of you.
We can share our music and brings our dreams along.
Come and we'll make harmony while singing our own song!

Who would believe that this song was in me?
Who could conceive that it would set me free?
All I needed was a chance, one opportunity.
A person just like you who saw the very best in me.

Come join finding the music in you! Choir practice Mondays at 5:30 p.m. Bells Mondays at 6:15!

QUILT AND STITCH



Next Meeting September 19, 9am to Noon + Lunch

Last month Pastor announced a special meeting of Quilt and Stitch for September. We are asking everyone, adults and children alike, to give it a try. We will, of course, have quilts to work on, but we will also be featuring other crafts such as knitting, crochet, beading, etc. We will follow the fun with lunch at the church

September LUNCH: Please bring a salad, dessert, or sandwiches to share.

We will continue to open the church every third Saturday of the month to work on quilts for baptism, H.S. graduations and Lutheran World Relief. We invite anyone to come from 9 am to noon. **NO SEWING IS NEEDED** (unless you want to) and it's a great opportunity for fellowship with other friends of Christus Victor. If you want to join the group and work on your own craft or sewing projects that's OK too. Bring a friend.

Do you knit or crochet? We have an abundance of yarn that can be used for prayer shawls or blankets. Quilt and Stitch is not just for quilters. We need all kinds of "stitchers" and "crafters". The more the merrier.

Remember that Quilt and Stitch meets every third Saturday of the month unless of a conflict with a holiday or other Christus Victor event.

For questions or information contact Karen Connelly at 281-546-5450 or kjconnelly@verizon.net.





Main Street Messengers

The September songs for Praise Sunday (3rd Sunday of the month) are as follows:

Wait For Me	CCLI 7269106	Prelude
Lord You Are /I Exalt Thee (Medley)	CCLI 11335	Gathering
Grace Like Rain	CCLI 3689877	Hymn of the Day
Less Like Me	CCLI 7136017	Offertory
Great are You Lord	CCLI 6460220	Communion
Go My Children, With My Blessing	ELW 543	Recessional

The “Main Street Messengers” have their own YouTube channel. We use that to record our rehearsals to upcoming service songs. You are welcome to take a listen to those, too, to familiarize yourself with upcoming songs. As a fair warning, these are only in the rehearsal stages and can be a bit rough.

Main St. Messenger's

If you are interested in singing praise songs,
please come to practice on Sunday
mornings at 9:15 am

Everyone welcome!

Christmas Shoeboxes



2025
STATS



8,901

SHOEBOXES
DISTRIBUTED



68

NATIONALITIES
REPRESENTED



150+

PARTICIPATING ORGS
AND DONORS



385

VESSELS GIFTED

2026
SEASON

ABOUT

Every year, the Houston International Seafarers Center delivers between 8,000 and 11,000 shoeboxes filled with essential items, treats, and small gifts to the hardworking seafarers visiting the Port of Houston. Many of these men and women spend months at sea, far from home and family—especially during the holiday season.

These special shoeboxes are hand-delivered directly to ships by our Chaplains, ship visitors, and staff—sharing not just gifts, but kindness, gratitude, and holiday spirit.

TAKE ACTION



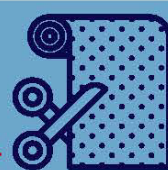
GATHER YOUR
TEAM



COLLECT ITEMS
& SHOEBOXES



PACK YOUR
BOXES



WRAP YOUR
BOXES



DELIVER TO
THE CENTER

RECOMMENDED ITEMS

PERSONAL CARE ITEMS

BAND-AIDS (FABRIC)
BODY WASH (LIQUID)
DENTAL FLOSS
DEODORANT
DISPOSABLE RAZORS
GOLD BOND CREAM
GOLD BOND POWDER
HAIRBRUSH / COMB
HAND WIPES
LIP BALM
LOTION
NAIL CLIPPERS
Q-TIPS
SHAMPOO / CONDITIONER
SHAVING CREAM
TISSUES
TOOTHBRUSH / PASTE

RECREATIONAL ITEMS

BASEBALL CAPS (NEW)
CHEWING GUM / HARD CANDY
EARBUDS / HEADPHONES
FLASHLIGHTS W/ BATTERIES
HANDKERCHIEFS
KEY CHAINS
MAGNETS
MECHANICAL PENCILS / PENS
NEEDLE & THREAD
NON-PERISHABLE SNACKS
PLAYING CARDS
POCKET-SIZED NOTEBOOKS
POCKET CALENDARS
SOCKS
TEXAS SOUVENIRS
T-SHIRTS (NEW)
WORD-SEARCHES / SUDOKUS

GUIDELINES / OTHER THINGS TO CONSIDER:

- Set up and share an Amazon Wishlist with your team to help collect items.
- Purchase plastic shoeboxes: they will become an extra gift for seafarers.
- Pack only new, unopened/unused items.
- Include full-sized items (preferred over travel-sized items).
- Wrap securely as one unit, please DO NOT wrap lids and boxes separately.
- Add a personal note or card to make each box a special, one-of-a-kind gift.
- Fill boxes to the brim!
- Use holiday themed paper to wrap boxes

UNABLE TO GATHER A TEAM AND ASSEMBLE BOXES?

- Purchase and send shoebox items directly to the Center via our Amazon Wishlist. Use your smartphone's camera to scan our QR code, and you'll be taken directly to our wishlist.



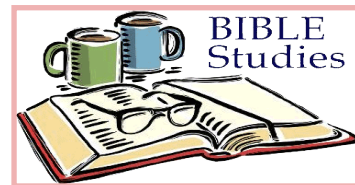
THANK
YOU

FOR HELPING US
CONTINUE OUR MISSION
SERVING SEAFARERS

Shoeboxes can be delivered to the Houston International Seafarers Center, 9750 High Level Road, Houston Texas.
Please call ahead to coordinate a drop off time with Center staff 713-672-0511.



JoBeth Collins	09/01
Kari Towner	09/03
Brianna Towner	09/04
Trevor Zambrana	09/15
Robert Collins	09/18
Ian Tieman	09/27
Paul Davis	09/28
Koda Kuhlman	09/28



Bible Study Wednesdays at 11:00 am

We are currently studying the book of **John** from the **Together By Grace** Series from Augsburg Fortress upon its completion we will begin **Psalms**.

FLOWERS

There is a flower chart on the bulletin board in the hallway next to the office. If you would like to honor or remember someone by purchasing flowers for worship on a special date, please consider signing up on the Flower Chart. Each floral bouquet is \$50 and may be taken home after the service.





Did you know that you can link your Kroger Plus Shopper's Card to Christus Victor Lutheran Church and a percentage of your purchase will be donated to the church?

Login to <http://www.kroger.com>

If you already have a Kroger account log on. If not, create a new account.

Once you're logged on, you will need to link your Kroger Plus Shopper's Card to your account. Select Community Rewards and search for CHRISTUS VICTOR LUTHERAN CHURCH either by name or XM834 and then click Enroll.

Now, Christus Victor Lutheran Church will benefit every time you use your Kroger Plus Shopper's card when you shop at Kroger.



Are you a Thrivent member? If so, you can direct Thrivent Choice Dollars to support activities and events here at Christus Victor! Let Sandie or Lisa know if you'd like to be added to our list of members to talk to when we are planning events.

Let's fill the Interfaith Caring Ministries (ICM) basket in the narthex each month!

September





Health Concerns

(removed after 30 days)

Cathy Tull

Personal Needs

(removed after 30 days)

-
-

Bereavement

The Family of Troy Nguyen
The Family of Candice Kernion

Serving in our Military

Parker Campbell
Kyra Derr
Dezmon (DJ) Deyon
Brandon Geiger

Long Term Care/Medical Treatments

(remains until requested to be
removed)

Raymond Aguilera (08/23)
Earl Armstrong (04/20)
David Bonen (12/25)
Diana Bredeson
Lynn Carey (03/24)
Ashlynn Coury-Moseley
Elissa Gould-Schaudt
Ruby Hinton (01/24)
Ann Horvath (03/24)
Marcia Jones (03/24)
Bill Long (03/26)
Scott Massey (09/23)
Merl Matthewman (04/22)
Mylah Merritt (10/25)
Kay Paine (02/25)
Kathy Pulliam (03/21)
Patricia Meyer Schalla
Carol Schaudt
Ken Schaudt
Scott Short (11/24)
Kevin Thompson (04/26)
Khloe Thompson (09/25)
Martha Ukno (08/24)
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”

9:15 am Main St Messengers Practice

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 & Wednesday. [Friday...out of office.]

Church Office Hours: 8:30 am until 3:00 pm M—T [Friday Closed]

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

Church Office E-mail - cvlctx@comcast.net

Website- www.christusvictor.us

Choir Director, Trish Fowzer

Worship Committee Chairperson, Karen Connelly

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

OFFERING REPORT YEAR-TO-DATE (08/31/2026)

2026 Offering Needed: \$109,392.00

Current Offerings Received: \$ 90,254.68

Shortfall: \$19,137.32

Building Fund Offerings ytd: \$4,860.00

Council President: Sara Smart

Council Vice President:

Council Secretary: Lisa Kutinac

Church Treasurer: Carol Vykukal

Property: Johnny Vykukal

School Board President: Lisa Kutinac

Outreach:

Education:

Worship: Karen Connelly

Parish Life: Judy Hembd

Youth: Tebertha Henderson

Youth Liason: Emilia Smart