



Christus Victor Lutheran Church

"Fearlessly trusting God, we accept all others, ourselves, and our calling to give comfort."

The VENTURE *Since 1968*

JANUARY 2024

9AM Sunday Coffee Chat

10AM Sunday Worship



1615 E. NC Highway 54, Durham, NC 27713

www.christus-victor.org

[facebook.com/christusvictorlutherandurham](https://www.facebook.com/christusvictorlutherandurham)

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cvlc.durham@gmail.com

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Introducing Pastor David Kilde



Dear Members and Friends of Christus Victor Lutheran Church, I am delighted to spend the month of January with you as we continue to celebrate the arrival of Jesus, the light of the world, and as work begins on the long awaited new construction at CVLC to help our building be more welcoming and accessible to all. It is an exciting time! CVLC and Pr. Ben have been gifted by the North Carolina Synod with

about 6 weeks away for him to recharge and plan for the opportunities and possibilities this work will bring. My presence during this time is part of that gift.

I have gotten to know Pr. Ben over the past 5 years or so, and have come to appreciate his passion for ministry and his eagerness, in partnership with you all, to grow into what God has in store for this congregation. Since I have been ordained for 52 years and participated in at least 10 rejuvenation and construction projects, Pr. Ben asked if I could be with you for this month, sharing some of that experience. I am honored to be asked.

My wife Sandi and I are about to celebrate our 58th wedding anniversary. We have 2 adult children, 7 grandchildren, and as of this past April, our first great grandchild. Keeping up with them is a big part of our lives at this time and they keep us on our toes! We live in Cary and are members of Christ the King Lutheran Church.

I am looking forward to our time together and the chance to meet many of you!

~Pastor David



December 2023 Memories



LEADERSHIP AND DISCERNMENT

Discernment is about listening for God's guidance regularly - something each of us can do. It is about learning to hear with your heart. Think of it as God's invitation to you to help in His work — not just once in a while, but ALL the time.

Discernment is a big word that we mostly associate with making decisions dealing with issues facing the church. We don't usually go around asking each other, "So, how is your discerning with God going today?" But that might not be a bad idea because discernment is not just for those decisions facing the church but also for the big decisions in our lives.

We are called to faithfully make decisions and actions with the many gifts God daily abundantly provides to each of us. Each of us is called to use those gifts - our time, our talents, and our treasures - to love and serve Him and our neighbors, both inside and outside the walls of the church, and in our homes.

We have the opportunity to discuss the future of CVLC in two discussion sessions. The first one is on Sunday, January 14th, following our worship service. Our second session will be Sunday, February 4th, following that worship service. Our facilitator will be Heidi Kleine, of Heidi Kleine Coaching. Many of you may be acquainted with Heidi through other events. At each of the sessions we will have a light lunch available that will be funded by Thrivent Action Team cards so there is no cost to you or CVLC.

Please plan on joining the discussion of where you and others see as the next steps in God's plans for CVLC. Each person's input and prayers are important so we can determine God's Mission that we will follow into the future.



PRAYER FOR NEW BEGINNINGS

O God of new beginnings, like years past, the year ahead will bring its own experiences of success and joy, as well as failures and losses. Help us meet the unwritten pages with deep abiding faith in You and the assurance of your presence. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2024 offering envelopes are available in the narthex for pick up. If you would like a set and you did not have one last year, please contact Jay Stolzenthaler at jaystolzen@gmail.com or call 919-694-5533 or contact the church office.

Thank you,

Jay Stolzenthaler

(919)-694-5533

FRIENDS WITH WISDOM

Plans are for those interested in a light lunch and a fellowship opportunity to gather at noon on Wednesday, January 17th, in the Fellowship Hall. No decision has been made regarding lunch, but, don't worry, we will have something to eat. Lutherans never gather without food being served.

Several people have expressed an interest in playing or learn to play a card game called **Euchre**. If you would like to join the four players or just watch those playing, come join us. If you have a favorite card or board game, bring it so we can have another option to play.

See you on Wednesday, the 17th, at noon.



January 14th and February 4th after the worship service, Heidi Kleine Coaching~to discuss the future of CVLC

If you are a ministry leader, please begin to write your annual report and then when it is finished, send it in to the church office. Thanks!

COUNCIL CORNER

Recognition and Thanks to Larry Santeramo, Neil Frank, Evelyn Martin, Fay Fredrick and Renee Carol for their contributions and commitment during their time on Council.

Welcome New Council Members!!

Here's the Ministry Team Liasons for 2024:

- Outreach: Kay Wardell
- Property: Nancy Griffin
- Resource: Corky Camin
- Congregational Life: Ken Hopson
- Worship: Andrea Boehme-Hernandez
- Christian Ed: Debra Godboldt

Council Actions:

- Staff gift distribution has been changed to 30% Pastor, 30% Secretary, 30% Minister of Music. Resource Team will design policy.
- Council will be meeting the third Tuesday of the month - next meeting January 16th.
- Council Retreat will be February 17th at Camp Agape.
- Welcome new council members; Kay Wardell, Daniel Toton, Deb Godbolt, David Krebs, and Andrea Hernandez.

Discuss 3yr terms, 2yr term and 1yr term. Discussion followed, Kay Wardell 1yr, Andera Hernandez 2yr. Daniel Toton, Deb Godbolt, and David Krebs serve 3 yr. terms.

Election of new Officers; ecclesiastical election held, President, David Krebs, Vice President, Daniel Toton, Secretary, Barb Trapp-Moen.

RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

A wise friend reminded me that prayer is about talking to God. When you are in a relationship, you need to communicate with each other to share your difficulties and what is happening in your life. In a good conversation, you listen as well. Instead of making God into an emergency first responder I decided to deepen my relationship with Him, to speak to Him more often, and patiently wait for His response rather than dictate the response I want on my timetable.



For me, prayer has now become more of a resting time away from the maddening pace of this world. It is a trusting and dwelling time with someone I know loves me (and all the world) beyond man's comprehension. It isn't always easy, but seeing prayer as a conversation with someone I love and who loves me allows me to hear and dwell in the words of the psalmist, "Be still, and know that I am God" (Psalm 46:10).

The above is a devotion from Ann L. Fritschel and it outlines the way she is seeing her relationship with God changing. Re-read her words again and "hear what she is saying" rather than just reading two short paragraphs about prayer. What do you hear differently?

Around the end of January, we will have the opportunity to tell our 2024 Ministry Team Leaders how we want to serve God. Again we will offer an on-line version of the Time and Talent Survey. Paper copies can be obtained from Sarah in the office. Just email or call her with your request. The forms need to be returned to Sarah for entry into the database.

The first section will ask questions about your time spent in worship and prayer and hours you volunteered to CVLC and other organizations in 2023. Next you will see opportunities for your service in 2024. Please review each item in each section and check the ones which are of interest to you. No information or names from last year's survey will be retained and forwarded to 2024 Ministry Team Leaders. Please be sure to mark all areas you want to contribute your God-given talents.

Thank you for completing the 2024 Time and Talent Survey.

~ The Generosity Team

BEING A COMMUNITY

Think of it: A sermon becomes a sermon when listeners in the pew take it to heart. Baptism becomes real as the unbaptized are brought to the font, and the church community commits itself to nurture the new believers. The Eucharist takes effect as open hands receive the bread and the wine. And so all of us come together drawn by faith to the Word and Sacraments. We are an inseparable communion of saints. We build together and we treasure what had been built - a community. It has been that way since the first Pentecost and will continue to be that until Jesus comes again.

~ Daily Grace Devotion by Mark Leegard on July 14, 2019.

WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

The celebrations, gatherings, and holidays have come and gone and we are now settling into our usual daily, weekly, and monthly routines. Rather than try to meet physically in the church building, the Women of the Church leadership decided to cancel the January meeting. We understand that the beginning of the removal and installation of the heating and air ducts may be underway next week.



Mark your calendar for our February meeting which will be on the 14th. We plan to meet in the Fellowship Hall at 10 AM. Come join us for Bible Study and fellowship. See you then.

I AM GOD WITH YOU

Learn to enjoy life more. Relax remembering that I am God with you. I crafted you with enormous capacity to know Me and enjoy My presence. When My people wear sour faces and walk through their lives with resigned rigidity, I am displeased. When you walk through a day with delight, savoring every blessing, you proclaim your trust in Me, your ever-present Shepherd. The more you focus on My presence with you, the more fully you can enjoy life. Glorify Me through your pleasure in Me. Thus you proclaim My Presence to the watching world.

~ Jesus Calling, entry for August 13, 2023.

January Birthdays

1 Sarah Rodríguez
10 Bryan Chappell
15 Mario Scott
16 Michelle Merritt
17 JoAnn Scott
17 Joshua Miller
18 Barbara Sappefield
18 Alex Moen
29 Shannon Trantas
29 Kinsey Green

February Birthdays

3 David Ernsthausen
23 Holly Zemke
24 Gerry Butler
27 Jack Weidman

Don't see your date? Contact Sarah in the church office to add it. If you know of any names that should be removed from our list, please let the church office know.

January Anniversaries

2 John & Ann Redick

As of 11/30/23

General Fund	\$30,226
Renovation Fund	\$361,936
All other funds	\$48,064
 Total all funds	 \$440,226

MINISTRY LEADERS

Pastor	Rev. Ben Krey	215-738-5739
Director of Music	Simon Zaleski	919-717-8900
Office Administrator	Sarah Rodríguez	919-544-7195
President	David Krebs	919-321-5248
Vice President	Daniel Toton	704-779-0352
Treasurer	Corky Camin	919-341-8048
Secretary	Barb Trapp-Moen	919-949-9970
Quilters	Joleen Propst	919-596-7534
Community Garden	Barb Trapp-Moen	919-949-9970
Property Ministry Team	Jim Goodwin	978-664-5866
Worship Ministry Team	Cristen Chappell	919-724-8528
Outreach Ministry Team	Ken & Kathy Hopson; Linda Puente	
Cong. Life Ministry Team	Judy Camin	919-341-5692
Women's Group	Faye Fredrick	734-306-5972
Men's Group	Jeff Scott	984-219-7039
Youth Group	Mike Green	919-740-6872
Resource Ministry Team	Barbara Sappenfield	919-627-3952
Christ. Ed Ministry Team	Carla Stolzenthaler	919-694-5533
Website	John Moen	919-949-6910



Congregational Council

David Krebs (President)919-321-5248
Daniel Toton (V President).....704-779-0352
Corky Camin (Treasurer)..... 919-341-8048
Barb Trapp-Moen(Secretary).....919-949-9970

Kay Wardell (Liaison Outreach Ministry)
208-277-5720

Corky Camin (Liaison Resource Ministry)
919-341-8048

Ken Hopson (Liaison Congregational Life)
919-971-2884

Deb Godbolt (Liaison Christian Education)
919-482-5330

Andrea Boehme-Hernandez
(Liaison Worship Ministry) 919-358-6069

Nancy Griffin (Liaison Property Ministry)
919-619-1165

Bookkeeper:

Corky Camin 919-341-8048

Jay Stolzenhaller (Financial Secretary)
919-694-5533



Community Group

Missio Church

Ministerio Alcance y Reconciliación

CVLC Contacts

Jim Goodwin

Luis & Nora Olivieri