

Christus Victor Lutheran Church  
 1615 E NC 54 Hwy.  
 Durham, NC 27713-2105

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*Christus Victor Lutheran Church*

***THE VENTURE***

June 2006

**Mission Statement:** We are children of God called to be the light for others to know the Grace of God through Jesus Christ.

**The picture of the church in Acts 2:24-27** is such a powerful picture that it makes a great stand-alone text for a message. This passage can be used to reflect on how we can be, and become, more faithful in the expressions of the qualities of Disciples.

One favorite parable related to this picture of the church is one in which the abbot of a dying monastery and a local Jewish rabbi meet regularly in the woods to commune and commiserate. Both are discouraged with the lack of faith and practice in their worlds. The elderly abbot complains about the crusty feistiness of the remaining four monks under his care — all old, all crotchety, all difficult. On one of these meetings the Jewish rabbi brings a prophetic message that he himself is mystified by. He tells the abbot that he doesn't know why, but he feels compelled to inform his friend that one among those at the monastery is the Messiah. Both feel embarrassed by this obviously inappropriate declaration, and soon part to return to their homes.

At supper that evening, the abbot hesitantly tells of the rabbi's strange message. All five men laugh self-consciously and quickly move on to other conversation. But in the days that follow, the atmosphere in the monastery begins to change. Could Brother John be the Messiah? Does Brother Elred speak with divine wisdom? Is the tenacious care that the abbot gives a reflection of his holy office?

Within a month the quality of life in the monastery has changed. Those who live in the neighborhood notice it, and begin attending worship services in the monastery chapel. Families enjoy picnics on the lawns of the monastery, just to be near the older men who are wiser and kinder than any seemed to remember. Then several young men asked to take vows to join the monastery, and before long, the monastery became the thriving center of a new city. They no longer call it a monastery. Instead, they have posted signs at every entrance, welcoming all to come and join "Christ's Community." Indeed, Messiah is among them!

*Sunday School 9:15 a.m. .... Holy Communion 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.*

*The Venture is published monthly by Christus Victor Lutheran Church.*

**Ministers**..... *All the members of CVLC*

**Church Staff**

**Pastor**..... The Rev. James Huffman

**Vicar**..... Denise Tilden

**Music Director**..... Tim Johnson

**Parish Secretary**..... Pat Nestler

**Sextons**..... Rocky & Joyce Visconti

**Board Chairs**

**Christian Education**... Jennifer Maddocks  
 379-0978

**Outreach**... Ken Hopson & Kim Coughenour  
 544-5197 544-9318

**Parish Life**... Virginia Leese 544-2374

**Property**... Judy Meade 572-2201

**Resource**... Robyn Sipe 544-7755

**Worship**... Eileen Morgan 403-7933

**Church Council**

Carrie Butler..... 484-2984

Pat Canada..... 596-1560

Cristen Chappell..... 419-0707

Ben Coughenour (Vice-President)..... 544-9318

Kathy Hopson..... 544-5197

Harry Propst..... 596-7534

Paul Sipe..... 544-7755

Pam Stevens (Secretary)..... 567-0139

Holly Zemke (President)..... 806-0665

**Treasurer**

Jeff Scott..... 405-2017

**Office Phone 919-544-7195**

**FAX 919-572-9147**

**E-Mail - cvlc @ verizon.net**

**Web Site: www.christus-victor.org**

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK—

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,



Two years ago I started a compost pile. For about six months I had collected all sorts of biodegradable materials far enough away from the back door so as to not be seen or smelled. A little lime was added, and it was covered with leaves and the potting soil from Kathy's flower pots was put on top. I wet it down well and then let it alone till this May. Since a compost pile was a part of my formative years in my family I was not surprised at what I found. After I pulled the weeds and turned the pile over, there was some of the darkest and richest soil a gardener could hope for. After I planted my tomatoes and peppers there was still a good pile of that rich soil left. What

should I do with it?

I observed that the leftover compost was on the edge of an area that was tree-line and shaded, early and late in the day. The area was well drained. It would be a shame to not plant something there. Kathy and I love zucchini and cucumbers so I bought some seeds, not plants. For fifty cents I planted the little plot. I've been keeping an eye on this little plot and some little sprouts have broken ground. If I thin them out a bit, give them a little water and the deer don't eat them, by the end of July there will be vegetables to harvest. All this from some garbage, a little lime and fifty cents worth of seeds. Sometimes it is truly amazing what God can do.

This month we are reminded of God's power to create and form a new thing on Pentecost in the gift of the Holy Spirit and birth of the church. In Christ's life, ministry, death and resurrection all the ingredients are available for God to do something new. The disciples are witnesses to it all but are struggling to understand, and are afraid of what might happen to them. The gift of the Holy Spirit provides the power to stir the disciples from their fear and lack of understanding to become "the living body of Christ" on earth. Whether we are talking about seeds and soil or disciples who are afraid and confused God makes new things grow. As we celebrate Pentecost let's be reminded of what God can do and does in our midst every day.

As God empowers us with the Holy Spirit and presents us with the opportunity to do ministry, we need to remember my compost pile and Pentecost. We need to let God's creative power work with us.

SHALOM,

*Pastor Huffman*

## Ministers in God's House /June 2006

### 8:00 am Schedule

#### Acolytes

- 4 A Malina Scott
- 11 A Jason Seibert
- 18 A Kathy Huffman
- 25 A Church In the Park

#### Lay Readers/Communion Assistants

- 4 LR Gary Zemke CA Holly Zemke
- 11 LR Holly Zemke CA Kathy Hopson
- 18 LR Kathy Huffman CA Ken Hopson
- 25 Church In the Park

Altar Guild: 4, 11, 18, 25 Holly Zemke

#### Ushers & Greeters

- 4 U Ken Hopson G Kathy Hopson
- 11 U Betty Lyles G Ken Hopson
- 18 U Gary Zemke G Betty Lyles
- 25 Church In the Park

#### Offering Stewards

- 4 Pam Stevens, Pat Canada
- 11 Pam Stevens, Pat Canada
- 18 Paul Sipe
- 25 Carrie Butler

#### **RE: MINISTERS IN GOD'S HOUSE**

If you cannot serve on the date scheduled, please find a substitute and call the church office the *Tuesday* before you are to serve for the change to be published in the Sunday bulletin.

### 10:30 am Schedule

#### Acolytes

- 4 A Thomas Herring
- 11 A Jacob Chappell
- 18 A Kim Coughenour
- 25 A Church In the Park

#### Lay Readers/Communion Assistants

- 4 LR Joyce Visconti CA Kathleen St. Lawrence
- 11 LR Carrie Butler CA Hillary Thompson
- 18 LR Bryan Chappell CA Barb Trapp-Moen
- 25 LR Ben Coughenour CA Church In the Park

Altar Guild: 4, 11, 18, 25 Judy Meade

#### Nursery

4, 11, 18 & 25 Closed for Renovations

#### Ushers

- 4 Helen Frederick, Barbara Hallan
- 11 Harry & Joleen Propst
- 18 JoAnn Scott, Kathleen St. Lawrence
- 25 Jeff & Pam Stevens

#### Greeters

- 4 Harry & Joleen Propst
- 11 JoAnn Scott, Kathleen St. Lawrence
- 18 Paul & Robyn Sipe
- 25 Church In the Park

#### Hosts After Worship

- 4 Henry & Polly Miller
- 11 JoAnn Scott
- 18 Paul & Robyn Sipe
- 25 Church In the Park

## The History of Sanctuary Paraments



The use of color in worship began in the ninth century. At first, the newest or most magnificent vestments and paraments were used on great festival days, irrespective of color, in much the same way we like to 'dress up' at Easter or Christmas. In 1570, an accepted pattern of color was formally defined in the reformed missal under Pope Pious V. The churches of the Reformation rejected the use of color in worship at that time. Where the Calvinist or puritan spirit prevailed, clergy wore plain black gowns.

Liturgical color came into renewed use in the Church of England in the mid-nineteenth century and spread to other Protestant churches. Today, many churches use the traditional liturgical colors at specific times to help express the mood and meaning of the various seasons in the church year. It is natural to associate red with blood, passion, fire, and Pentecost; violet with dignity, majesty, Advent, and Lent; white with celebration, purity, Christmas, and Easter; and green with growth and renewal.

— First Congregational Church,  
Manchester, VT —

## Choir Rehearsal Schedule

Summer is a great time to join choir! You can join the combo choir for a short time to do special music, and/or you can be part of the early service choir or the late service choir. The combo choir combines both choirs to do music on particular Sundays. All choirs rehearse, whether or not they are performing the next Sunday. The only exception is July 5<sup>th</sup>, when there will be no choir rehearsal.

Rehearsals are on Wednesdays, as follows:

- 6:00-6:45 P.M. Early service choir
- 6:45-7:30 P.M. Combo choir
- 7:15-8:15 P.M. Late service choir

The combo choir will sing at 10:15 on June 25<sup>th</sup> for Church in the Park and at both services on July 23<sup>rd</sup>. As our music program develops, there will be additional opportunities to sing. If you have ideas or questions, contact [vicardenise@bellsouth.net](mailto:vicardenise@bellsouth.net).

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## Christus Victor's 40th Anniversary Celebration



Please put Sept 9 and 10<sup>th</sup> on your calendar as a date to celebrate the 1<sup>st</sup> service held at CVLC. There will be a dinner on the 9<sup>th</sup> at the

church and the 10<sup>th</sup> a special service and reception following. Also, anyone having addresses of former members please either email them or give them to Nancy Pollard. Her email address is [nanap@mindspring.com](mailto:nanap@mindspring.com) You can also give them to Joleen Propst or email to [phjpropst@aol.com](mailto:phjpropst@aol.com)

## Vicar's Voice . . .

### *Inspiration in Creation*

Ah, the beauty of summer! Whether it's the cool evening breeze during a softball game or the mountain vista on a summer vacation, experiencing God's creation is inspiring. A sunrise over the ocean, the graceful flight of the blue herring, and the beauty of flowers blooming in our summer garden all remind us of our Creator, who made us and gives us these things to care for and enjoy.

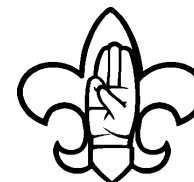
We know creation is of God because the Word tells us this and more. In Genesis 1:1, we read, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth," but the creation story goes on to explain not only God as Creator but us as stewards of creation. Genesis 1:26 quotes God: "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air... and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth." Notice God says for humanity to have *dominion* over the earth, *not domination*. In other words, God gives us creation to tend to and nurture. It belongs to *God* and not to us.

When we view God's creation through the lens of Scripture, we are inspired to be good stewards not only of creation but within our church community, where we learn through Scripture and the creeds that we have been redeemed. We are not our own because Jesus has paid for us with his blood. Creation belongs to the Lord, and *we belong to the Lord*.

What do we do with the fact that we don't belong to us? That we are to care for the gifts we are given—to have dominion and not domination? The very creation that we enjoy and the salvation message we hear in church inspire us to care for creation and to respond to God's gifts with our time, talents, and treasures. Even if we have vacations planned, we make sure that our giving is constant because God's love and grace for us is steadfast. So, enjoy the summer and all the gifts it brings and give thank offerings in response to our Creator and Redeemer. "God saw everything that God had made and indeed, it was very good" (Gen. 1:31a). May the Lord's good creation inspire us to be good stewards.

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## An Eagle Scout . . .



Our adult scout leaders are always proud when scouts advance in rank, but we are especially proud of those scouts who earn their Eagle rank. Andrew Lucas is one of those scouts! The Eagle Scout ceremony will be held on August 13 from 3-4:30 pm here at Christus Victor.

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## From the Altar Guild . . .



Thanks goes to Kathy Huffman and the Chappell family for supplying the bread for Communion these past months. And, thanks goes to Kate and Jim Martin and Judy Meade for supplying the Communion wine. If you would like to contribute a month's supply of Communion wine, please call Judy Meade at 544-2201.

**From the Worship Board . . .**



**Worship**

“Rejoice in the Lord, always...and again I say rejoice.” We are beginning long-range Worship Planning and will be asking for input from everyone in the congregation.

1st Step: a one-page Congregational Survey form will be distributed at Church in the Park on Sunday, June 25th. We will also have the survey forms available on two Sundays in July (the 9th and 16th).

2nd Step: Collation of results with review in August by the Worship Board and a Worship Task Force.

3rd Step: Discussion of survey results with opportunity for more detailed input at a Sunday FORUM in September.

4th Step: Task Force recommendations. All recommendations may not be implemented right away. We want to think into the future and set some long-term goals which will help us grow and minister to each other and new members in new ways as the Lord provides. We are looking for volunteers for the Task Force...if you'd be interested in serving (2-4 meeting commitment), please give your name to Eileen Morgan or Pastor Jim.

**From the Parish Life Board . . .**

The Parish Life Board chair and committee members would like to say thank you everyone for helping with the reception on Sunday, May 14. Thank you also to the committee!!

**Don't forget June 9**, Let's Go Out To The Ball game and have a great time rooting for the home team!!

**On June 18**, we will have a guest from Habitat for Humanity visiting during Intergenerational Sunday School.

**Worship in the Park will be at Solite Park on June 25.** GET ALL YOUR GOODIES READY THE NIGHT BEFORE, AND COME HAVE A GOOD TIME!!! Many thanks to David Seibert who has graciously accepted to bring his grill and be chef of the hour. Everyone is asked to bring a side, and a liter of tea. Parish Life Board will bring plates, cups, napkins, plastic ware and ice. The hamburgers, hot dogs, rolls, and condiments are supplied!! There will be a guest speaking about the Food Bank at 10:00 am. The Service will begin at 10:30. If the guest speaker cannot be there, we will have that person to speak at church some time.

Respectfully, PLB

**Around the Parish . . .**



Congratulations to:

— **Jamie & Rianne Pollard** on the birth of a daughter, **Isabella** on May 10. Jim and Nancy are the proud grandparents.

Address Change:

— **Barbara Carruthers**, 86 Sylvan Lane, Harpers Ferry, WV 25425.  
 — **Ocricia Berry**, PO Box 11715, Minneapolis, MN 55411.  
 — **Ralph & Jen Maddocks**, 101 Boltstone Court, Cary, NC 27513. Phone: 379-0978



**REMINDER!** Through life's joyous milestones and difficult hurdles, we sometimes need support! We want you to remember to rely on your Brothers & Sisters in Christ at Christus Victor. If you need phone calls made on your behalf, or on the behalf of a loved one or family member, don't forget to call Polly Quinn-Miller at her home number, listed in the Annual Report. She will make sure phone calls are made to appropriate congregation members and 'the word is spread'.

**Goodbye All**

Soon our family will be relocating to the Blacksburg, Virginia area for Mark to begin work at Virginia Tech. We are looking forward to the move. However, we are disappointed to be leaving such a warm and loving congregation. We wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for opening your hearts and accepting us into your family with open arms. Your spirit and encouragement helped us through a difficult time, and inspires us daily. We will miss you and will keep all of you in our thoughts and prayers. Goodbye and many thanks. God bless you.

Mark, Krista & Connor Rogers



**Message from the Treasurer:**

In order to save a little on our resources (paper, toner, envelopes and postal costs), I will skip printing the Statements of Giving every quarter. I will print the year-end reports in January 2007, in time for your annual tax filing.

Can not wait until year end to see your progress against your pledge? If you need a report of contributions, feel free to send me an e-mail ([jlscott@nc.rr.com](mailto:jlscott@nc.rr.com)) or drop a note in the offering plate and I will get a report out to you within a week.

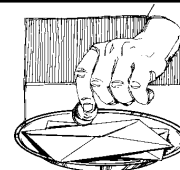
Jeff Scott

*Thank You!*

Dear CVLC Members,  
 Thank you for a wonderful lunch at the Cheesecake Factory, flowers and candy for Administrative Professional Day. You certainly made the day very special! Pat Nestler

**April Record of Giving**

	Apr. Actual	Apr. YTD	Four Month Budget
Monies Given	\$17,278	59,634	54,172
Monies Used for Ministry	<u>\$14,595</u>	<u>56,466</u>	54,172
Surplus (Deficit)	\$ 2,683	3,168	



## Library News

The library has recently added a number of new books. The General (non-religious) section has expanded with the addition of several children's books. Other new books are scattered throughout the library, mainly in General Religion and Christian Living. Come by the sacristy and take a look. There is sure to be something for everybody!

Here are a few of the new books that can now be found in the library:

**The Book of Concord** -Theodore Tappert, translator.

This book contains the basic confessions of Lutheran belief. It is composed of the three Creeds of the early church that we still use today as well as the basic writings of Martin Luther and Philip Melancthon, including the Small and Large Catechisms and the Augsburg Confession.

**Prodigals and Those Who Love Them** - Ruth Bell Graham

This moving work offers hope and encouragement for those who are praying for a loved one who has turned away from God. It recounts the stories of both the prodigals and those who waited for their return as well as the author's personal insights and experiences.

**Here I Stand: A Life of Martin Luther** - Roland H. Bainton

Considered by many to be one of the best biographies of Martin Luther ever written, this book offers a balanced and reasoned look at Luther himself as well as the theological issues of the time, all placed in a historical context.

## Congratulations To the following Graduates!

- **Jordan Dye**  
Parkwood Elementary School.
- **Victoria Miller**  
Fuquay-Varina High School.
- **Brian Miller**  
Fuquay-Varina Elementary School.
- **Laura Beth White**, Mary Bateman's  
granddaughter, UNC-Wilmington.



**THANK YOU** very much to everyone who completed and returned their Time & Talent packages. We, the Resource Board, have compiled the data we received and have created a database of congregation members willing to serve in various capacities. As an opportunity arises for you to serve, the person(s) in charge of the event will contact you for your participation. Thank you again! Without the resources of the many talented members of our congregation, we could not work toward our mission of being children of God called to be the light for others to know the Grace of God through Jesus Christ.

Faithfully,  
The Resource Board

## WELCA PRAY BOLDLY, ACT BOLDLY



The WELCA group of Christus Victor hosted the Triangle Conference Spring Gathering on Saturday, May 6, 2006. We had twenty-eight ladies from the Triangle District to attend the Gathering. We began with registration and breakfast and then convened in the sanctuary for the program "**PRAY BOLDLY, ACT BOLDLY**" written by Vicki Fink. This was about five biblical women and one contemporary woman with biblical references as to how they prayed boldly and acted boldly. **Very interesting and very well organized.** Next was the election and installation of the Conference Leaders. The elected leaders were President - Jan Street (Abiding Savior Lutheran Church, Durham), Director of Communications - Joy Cook (St. Phillips Lutheran Church, Raleigh), Treasurer Assistant -Betty Lyles (CVLC, Durham). Over \$300 was collected for Camp Noah and Living Waters, Cherokee Expansion Project. Everyone enjoyed the ham, potato salad, cranberry salad and desserts before adjourning from the very meaningful event.

Jenna Morgenroth presented the program "**Act Boldly with Gentleness**" at the May 8<sup>th</sup> meeting of the WELCA. This was a very interesting program with discussion and interaction from the group of ladies. Our Bible study came from Mark 5:25-34. Beautiful salmon colored roses were given to each person as a reminder for us to act boldly with gentleness. Mary Bateman served the delicious refreshments.

We had a discussion on the **CROSSNORE SCHOOL TOUR** which will be on Friday, September 29, 2006. **Please check the WELCA Bulletin Board in the Fellowship Hall for items needed to take to the school.** Let's don't wait till the last minute to have to go out and buy things for these children. We would like to make their birthdays and holidays extra special. Thanks for all your help with this project.

The Nineteenth Annual Gathering of the North Carolina Synodical Women's Organization of the Women of the ELCA will be on June 9-11, 2006 at Lenoir-Rhyne College in Hickory, North Carolina. A Schedule of Events and more information is posted on the WELCA bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. If you are interested, please contact Nancy Pollard or Betty Lyles.

### ALL LADIES - PLEASE MARK THIS DATE ON YOUR CALENDAR MONDAY, JUNE 12, 2006-6:30PM

All ladies and friends of the church are invited to attend the annual spring dinner. This will be a salad and dessert event. Please sign the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Narthex for the item you plan to bring.

RSVP by June 4, 2006 to one of the officers.

President - Nancy Pollard (544-3071) Vice-President- Betty Lyles (544-7995)

Secretary - Joleen Propst (596-7534) Treasurer - Pat Canada (596-1560)



### **June Birthdays**

- 2 Mary Bateman
- 3 Will Burger
- 5 Connor Rogers
- 7 Suse Bradshaw
- 11 Virginia Leese
- 16 Kyli Trull
- 20 Whitney Gilbert
- 22 Jeremy Arnold
- 24 Alexis Thompson
- 26 Grace Maddocks
- 26 Jason Seibert
- 27 Sophia Maddocks
- 28 Stephanie Johnson
- 28 Cristina Ovid
- 28 Jeff Scott
- 28 Jennifer Maddocks
- 28 Michael Green II

### **June Anniversaries**

- 7 Harry & Joleen Propst
- 12 Henry Miller & Polly Quinn-Miller
- 15 Andy & Sherry Knights
- 26 Jim & Nancy Pollard
- 29 Jeff & Pam Stevens

***Are You Moving, Changing Your e-mail Address, Phone Number?*** Please contact the church office so we can update our records. Thank you!

## Who Should Teach Sunday Morning Education?

# To Believe Is To Teach

Throughout the month of June you will be given the opportunity to volunteer as a teacher for the 2006-2007 Sunday Morning Education school year.

Teaching makes you a role - model who sees the importance of Christian study. Teaching a Sunday Morning Education class can be a very rewarding experience! Engaging children in learning, watching their faith develop and building relationships with the children are just some of the joys of leading a class.

Teaching is a way of giving to the children while growing in our own faith. Several studies have shown that the one thing that children remember most from their Sunday School day is their teachers!

Some of the obstacles to committing to teaching Sunday Morning Education might be:

- Thinking you have to be there every Sunday. Co-teaching a class allows for flexibility in schedules and provides guests/parents the opportunity to come into the class.
- Thinking you don't know how to handle kids these days. This is again why we support co-teaching.
- Thinking your biblical knowledge is not strong enough. This is a great opportunity to have more intentional Bible study and material/curriculum is provided.

While there might be a few obstacles for you to overcome in co-teaching a Sunday School class I strongly believe the benefits and joy greatly overcome any obstacles. The most important qualification for a Sunday Morning Education teacher is a caring heart and the willingness to build a relationship to connect with the children while they travel down the path of their faith formation.

Please prayerfully consider where your gifts and talents are best utilized here at CVLC.



The following was adopted by the CVLC Church Council as clarification to section 15 of our Constitution, and communicated in a letter mailed to members' households.

**Christus Victor Lutheran Church  
April 23, 2006**

### The Continuing Resolution

*As members of Christus Victor Lutheran Church, we are expected to conduct ourselves in a manner consistent with the teachings of Jesus Christ. Abusive behavior directed towards church staff, members or visitors of this congregation, will not be tolerated. Abusive behavior can take many forms, including verbal, emotional, psychological and physical. However, "bullying" best sums it up. For clarification, this congregation defines "bullying" as: persistent action, criticism, or personal abuse (either in public or private), which humiliates, patronizes, threatens, intimidates, undermines or demeans the recipient. Members of this congregation who conduct themselves in a fashion consistent with the definition of "bullying" can face potential discipline as outlined in Section 15 of our Congregational Constitution.*

## Summer Day Camp



St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Durham is hosting a Summer Day Camp July 31-August 4, 2006. The Day Camp will be run by Camp Agape, part

of Agape-Kure Beach Ministries of the ELCA. Counselors from the camp will be on site all week long to work and play with children throughout the day, which runs from 9:00 am-3:00 pm. St. Paul's will offer childcare and activities from 3:00-5:30pm for those who need it.

Cost for a week of Day Camp is \$90, after-camp care an additional \$25 per child. Scholarships are available.

The Day Camp is for rising 1st grade-rising 5th grade to participate in a full day of fun. St. Paul's is the hosting site.

To register a child, contact St. Paul's church office, 489-3214; or e-mail Diane Archer, dm.archer@verizon.net for more information.

From  
"God Speaks" Billboards . . .

That "Love Thy Neighbor"  
thing . . . I meant it.

—God—

## CVLC Council Update to the Congregation May 2006

This letter from your Church Council members is to update everyone on the work we've been doing.

### **Transformational Ministry – an Update from Your Council:**

Your Council is focused on making sure that all the work that we do as a council and as a congregation is Christ-centered and grounded in Scripture. Our mission statement is an example of this direction: We are children of God, called to be the light for others to know the grace of God through Jesus Christ. As your elected leaders, our guidance is for everything we do as a congregation to support that mission.

The starting point for our Transformational Ministry journey was to decide if we wanted to be a “membership” or a “discipleship” congregation. The membership, or consumer church is little more than a dispenser of religious services where people come to have their religious needs met. A discipleship, or missional church is a body of people who gather in community for worship, encouragement and teaching from the Word that supplements what they are feeding themselves throughout the week. Our choice for the CVLC congregation is to be a missional congregation.

We are ambassadors of Jesus, and are redeemed. Our mission is to go and make disciples, and baptize them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. We do this by 1) Knowing the word to tell it, 2) Living the word to teach it, 3) Representing Jesus Christ, 4) Being dependent on prayer, 5) Being the family of God, 6) Being accountable for what we do, and 7) Equipping all to do the same.

This is the beginning of a journey the whole congregation will take together. If you have any questions about the work Council has been doing in this area, please feel free to ask any of us, or Pastor Jim. Our monthly business meetings are also open for anyone to attend.

## Healthy Living Prayer Group

The Healthy Living Prayer Group is now meeting monthly. Even if you were not part of the original group, you are invited to join in fellowship, group prayer, and work on individual healthy living goals. Join us!

### **Sunday, June 4, 2:00 pm**

Meet at church; wear comfortable walking clothes & shoes. Walk the tobacco trail and pray for those on the corporate and personal prayer lists. In case of inclement weather - we'll walk in the mall.

### **Sunday, July 9, 2:00 pm**

Meet at church; wear comfortable, light weight clothes and supportive shoes so we can Warm Up - Exercise - and Stretch

### **Sunday, August 6th, 2:00 pm**

Guest speaker on the topic of becoming and remaining MOTIVATED!

"On the whole, I do not find Christians, outside of the catacombs, sufficiently sensible of conditions. Does anyone have the foggiest idea what sort of power we so blithely invoke? Or, as I suspect, does no one believe a word of it? The churches are children playing on the floor with chemistry sets, mixing up a batch of TNT to kill a Sunday morning. It is madness to wear ladies' straw hats and velvet hats to church; we should all be wearing crash helmets. Ushers should issue life preservers and signal flares; they should lash us to our pews. For the sleeping god may wake someday and take offense, or the waking god may draw us out to where we can never return."

(Annie Dillard, *Teaching a Stone to Talk* New York: Harper and Row, Publishers, 1982, pp. 40-41.)

### **Please Note:**

**From June 3rd until further notice, the nursery is closed while it is being renovated.**

### **July & August Venture**

There will be a summer edition of *The Venture*, so all articles you need published for July and August need to be in the office by **June 19**.