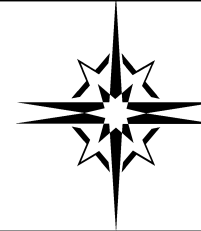


Christus Victor Lutheran Church
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Christus Victor Lutheran Church

THE VENTURE

January 2007

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

Why Believe in Him?

Why Trust Him?

- * We trust him because others have trusted him before us.
- * We trust him because he is trustworthy.
- * We trust him because he died for us.
- * We trust him because he has demonstrated his love for us.
- * We trust him because his word is true.

**Your nose may lead you many places, but let your heart lead to a place of uncommon peace, uncommon trust, uncommon assurance and uncommon courage.
Jesus is Someone you can trust.**



-1 Corinthians 3:11

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

Music Director..... Linda Kay Stone

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
544-2201

Resource...Robyn Sipe
544-7755

Worship...Eileen Morgan
403-7933

Church Council

Carrie Butler..... 484-2984

Gerry Butler..... 484-2984

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

Kathy Hopson..... 544-5197

Bob Lewis (Vice President)..... 274-3537

Harry Propst..... 596-7534

John Redick..... 361-5522

Lydia Scott..... 405-2017

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

Treasurer

Ann Redick..... 361-5522

Office Phone 919-544-7195

FAX 919-572-9147

E-Mail - cvlc @ verizon.net

Web Site: www.christus-victor.org



Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

This Advent and Christmas season was wonderful. There were a wide variety of events, something for everybody. Some of the events were the result of a long tradition and some were brand new to CVLC. It was exciting to see all the events come together and so many of you involved in so many ways. New members were integrated and long time members took on new roles and tasks. Traditions were built upon and adapted, while new programs and events gave birth to creativity and imagination. As a family of faith, we not only inspired and renewed the importance of the birth of our Lord, but shared that wondrous gift of God's Word made flesh with so many others. Now we enter the season of Epiphany and the lessons guide us to recognize how Christ was revealed to the world and how he is revealed anew to us.

January is the month the new boards and the new council spring into action. Our mission statement clearly states "We are the children of God called to be the light for others to know the Grace of God through Jesus Christ" and points us in an Epiphany direction. We become a means of revealing Jesus Christ to others. The council retreat this month will pick up on what we started three years ago and build new, and hopefully exciting, approaches to embrace and effectively continue this mission. I am enthusiastic about the possibilities that were revealed to us in what we did together this past Advent and Christmas season. It could be that this Advent and Christmas are leading us to an Epiphany that enables us to be an Epiphany for others.

All too often we get comfortable with the seasons of the church year as part of our calendar. This year I'm hopeful that we will look for Epiphany throughout the year as Christ is revealed to us and we reveal him to others.

SHALOM - Pastor Huffman



Many thanks to all who helped make the Living Nativity come alive again this year. The number of people who baked, sewed, hammered, lighted, directed, froze, drove through or otherwise supported this year's effort was phenomenal. Each and everyone helped Christus Victor share the message of hope that is embodied in the birth of Jesus Christ with the community. Thank you to all! Nancy-Anne Potts

Ministers in God's House /January 2007

8:00 am Schedule

Acolytes & Crucifer

- 7 A Betty Lyles
- 14 A Jordan Dye
- 21 A Malina Scott
- 28 A Jason Seibert

Lay Readers/Comm. Assistants & Assisting Ministers

- 7 **LR** Eileen Morgan
CA Kathy Huffman **AM** Vicki Vincenti
- 14 **LR** Lydia Scott
CA Betty Lyles **AM** Vicki Vincenti
- 21 **LR** Calista Stevens
CA Eileen Morgan **AM** Holly Zemke
- 28 **LR** Gary Zemke
CA David Seibert **AM** Eileen Morgan

Altar Guild: 7, 14, 21, 28 Barbara & Mike Green

Ushers

- 7 U Gary Zemke
- 14 U David Seibert
- 21 U Betty Lyles
- 28 U Ken Hopson

Offering Stewards

- 7 Carrie Butler
- 14 Polly Quinn-Miller
- 21 Carrie Butler, Elizabeth Webster
- 28 Polly Quinn-Miller

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

- 7 A Thomas Herring
- 14 A Alex Moen
- 21 A Jacob Chappell
- 28 A Kim Coughenour

Lay Readers/Comm. Assistants & Assisting Ministers

- 7 **LR** JoAnn Scott
CA Kim Coughenour **AM** Diana Hicks
- 14 **LR** Robyn Sipe
CA Diana Hicks **AM** Cristen Chappell
- 21 **LR** Kathleen St. Lawrence
CA Virginia Leese **AM** Kelsey Bennett
- 28 **LR** Pam Stevens
CA Jennifer Maddocks, Kate Martin
CANTOR Ben Coughenour

Altar Guild: 7, 14, 21, 28 Diana Hicks

Nursery

- 7 Rocky & Joyce Visconti
- 14 Virginia Leese, Robyn Sipe
- 21 Jeff & Pam Stevens
- 28 Nancy-Anne Potts, Laura Reid

Ushers

- 7 Helen Frederick, Bryan Chappell
- 14 Barbara Hallan, JoAnn Scott
- 21 Harry & Joleen Propst
- 28 Jeff & Pam Stevens

Greeters

- 7 Nancy Pollard
- 14 Nancy-Anne Potts
- 21 JoAnn Scott
- 28 Harry & Joleen Propst

Hosts After Worship

- 7 Mary Bateman, Judy Meade
- 14 Pat Canada
- 21 Bryan & Cristen Chappell
- 28 Ben & Kim Coughenour

Keeping Your Resolutions

Stephanie Grantham
LFS Carolinas

The start of the New Year brings with it anticipation of new beginnings, a fresh start and change. Many people have already begun to take steps toward those changes through New Year's Resolutions. With the New Year behind us, many people set well-intentioned resolutions. However, not all people are able to keep them.

The key to keeping resolutions is to develop a plan to achieve them. After developing a plan, a person must have confidence that he or she can make the necessary changes to achieve results. Change is an evolutionary process that requires people to manage their behavior through the years.

To be successful with your own resolutions, you should:

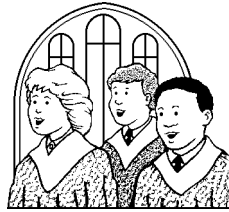
- Develop resolutions that require you to have a strong commitment to change
- Create ways to cope with problems that come up while changing
- Monitor your progress
- Take credit for small successes, but do not blame yourself if you fail. Analyze why you failed and create a better plan for future success, start over and feel good about it

To avoid failure, you should avoid:

- Making last minute resolutions without thinking them through
- Making your resolutions because of something that is bothering you at the time
- Saying, "I will never do ___ again"

Whether you succeed or fail at your New Year's resolutions, it is important to develop a plan and track your progress. And remember, you can try to change behaviors any time throughout the year, not only on New Year's. For additional tips on how to keep your New Year's resolutions, please visit <http://www.cignabehavioral.com/web/basic/site/bulletinBoard/happyNewYear.jsp>.

Nordic Choir to Perform



The Luther College Nordic Choir will present a concert of sacred music at Chapel Hill Bible Church on Wednesday, January 17, 2007, at 7:30 PM. This performance will feature

works by Tallis; Finzi; Clausen; F.M. Christiansen; Bach; Durufle; and Brahms. This concert will also feature the Triangle Youth Chorus and Cantique. For tickets and additional information, visit <http://music.luther.edu> or call TicketWorks.com at 1-866-420-1234.



Faith Practices — Invite

The experience of God's loving touch in one's life is a gift the maturing disciple feels compelled to share with others. One way our faith becomes active is when we put into words what God has done for us. Words of witness and acts of genuine hospitality directed toward our friends, relatives and neighbors create the opportunity through which the Holy Spirit brings others into a relationship with Christ and his church.

The biblical model for evangelism is relational; friends bring friends to Jesus. "Come and see" are the operative words and find frequent expression in the Gospels, the story of the early church, and in the tradition of the church over the centuries. The disciple plants seeds and invites; the Holy Spirit works the miracle of faith and conversion.

Part of a disciple's job description is to invite others often.

Grace Notes

From the Director of Music . . .



I hope that your Advent and Christmas season was full of the glory of God brought forth in music, from our little ones singing "Happy Birthday, Jesus" to the choir's "Magnificat". Our Christus Victor Boy's Choir outdid themselves on Christmas Eve with "Huddle Close" and the duet by Jim and Kate reminded us that "Winter's Coming Home" even if it was in the 70's that day!

Kelsey with her harp, all the soloists Christmas Eve, the congregational hymns of praise, the drum, piano, organ, and French horn all added to the glorious season.

And now the season of Epiphany is on us and we will start that with teaching the younger children a song during the Sunday School opening (*I Got a Frog in My Coat Pocket*), and starting a new song with the boys during the coffee hour (*Did Noah take a Boa When He Went into the Ark?*) – of course girls are always welcome too.

I think we can say that though we are small, we are full of praise and have been gifted by God with many talents. Think of all the wonderful songs we can sing this year. Will you join us?

Choir practice will begin at 7:00 on Wednesday evenings starting the first Wednesday of January, hoping that some of you will be able to join us if you can get home a little sooner.

So "sing a new song to the Lord, all you people!"

Grace happens, Linda Kay



From the Worship Board . . .

The Christmas Decorations/Tree will remain in the church until Epiphany. On Saturday, January 6 we will have an informal Epiphany celebration/hymn sing at 10:00 AM before we pack the Chrismons and remove the tree.

Women Of The ELCA Are Moving Forward In 2007 . . .



We are looking forward to another exciting year. In 2007, we will continue using the theme Act Boldly in the Fruit of the Spirit. Our first meeting will be on Monday, January 8, 2006 at 7:00 pm. We meet at the church in the Sunday school room on the left. All women of the church are invited.

Sixteen women enjoyed our annual Christmas Dinner. JoAnn Scott prepared the best turkey, dressing and gravy you have ever eaten. After dinner, we went to Spring Arbor of Durham and sang Christmas carols with the residents. Robyn Sipe, Riley and Turner met us there. Riley

enjoyed giving hugs and talking to each of the residents. This really made their day. We then visited with the residents and gave each a crocheted cross bookmark. We went back to the church and enjoyed dessert. Secret Sister gifts were exchanged and some of the women exchanged names for Secret Sister for 2007. Each person then was given an ornament from under the tree. Special thanks goes to Barbara Hallan and Mary Bateman for making the fellowship hall so special for our dinner and providing the ladies with a special take home token.


We plan to continue with Happy Bucks Room, Ronald McDonald House , Campbell Soup Labels, Aluminum Tabs, the ASK Program, and Crossnore School.

WELCA will purchase two new hymnals, 20 phone cards for the Ronald McDonald House, and gloves and hats for the Durham Rescue Mission with the extra money in the WELCA treasury.

Our new officers for 2007 will be President - Pat Canada, Vice-President - JoAnn Scott, Treasurer - Polly Quinn Miller, Secretary - Joleen Propst. We would like to thank the out-going officers for their dedication and service for the past three years. You did a great job. We are looking forward to an exciting new year and hope to see more women join the WELCA group next year.

Come join us in January. The first meeting will be January 8, 2007 at 7:00 at the church. Hope to see you there.

Nancy Pollard-President, Betty Lyles-Vice President, Joleen Propst-Secretary, Pat Canada-Treasurer



Jump on the Bus — Give Blood — Save Lives
January 21 — 8:30 AM — 1:00 PM Bloodmobile
Here in our Parking Lot
Let's See How Many Lives We Can Save On One Day

Around the Parish . . .



Prayers & Sympathy:

☐ **Calista Stevens and family**, on the death of her mother, Clarice Stevens on November 9.



To: Christus Victor Lutheran Church

From the bottom of our hearts we are so grateful for your thoughtful expressions of sympathy regarding the passing of our mother. Although the days to come won't get any easier for a while, we will always be mindful of the kind acts extended to us during this painfully difficult time. Thank you for your outpouring of love and compassion in whatever form it was expressed. It has been and will continue to be a great source of strength and comfort to us in the days ahead.

With Sincere Appreciation,
 Calista and April Stevens



Congratulations to Alan White, grandson of Mary Bateman, who graduated in December from North Carolina State in the two-year Agricultural Program.

Council Meeting Highlights
December 10, 2006



✓ The council welcomed our new members: John Redick and Lydia Scott for 3 year terms, Gerry Butler and Bob Lewis for 2 year terms. We also bid farewell to our "retiring" members: Pat Canada, Cristen Chappell, Paul Sipe and Holly Zemke.

✓ We elected new officers for 2007 as follows: Ben Coughenour, President; Bob Lewis, Vice President; Pam Stevens, Secretary; Ann Redick, Treasurer.



Thank You!

Thanks go to everyone who remembered my family and me with cards and prayers during the passing of my dad. It meant so much during this time.

Blessings,
 Carrie Butler

November Record of Giving			
	Nov. Actual	Nov. YTD	Eleventh Month Budget
Monies Given	\$10,123	138,753	148,973
Monies Used for Ministry	<u>\$12,291</u>	<u>151,669</u>	148,973
Surplus (Deficit)	\$ (2,168)	(12,916)	

Agape +Kure Beach News

Summer is coming! We are searching for quality Christian young adults to serve as counselors on our 2007 summer staff. Applicants must be 19 years minimum, love kids, and want a fun and exciting challenge. Contact us for an application.

* Saturday Safari February 17, 2007. Spring Surprises! Hiking the trails of Agapé discovering the wonders of spring. Cost \$5. pp

* Summer brochure will be arriving at your church soon. Contact the office if you need more brochures.

* Our ministry is in need of a 4 x 4 pickup for Camp Agapé.

* Building Youth Groups is for grades 3-5. This is a growing part of our ministry to your church. Space available for the January 19-21 and February 9-11. Contact Amanda if you are interested or want more info about this program.

Contact Camp Agapé: Telephone: 919-552-9421

E-mail: agape@agapekurebeach.org

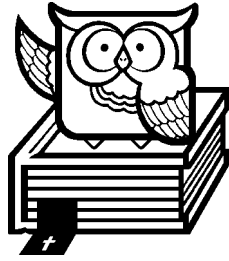
Contact Kure Beach: Telephone 910-458-0783

E-mail: kurebeach@agapekurebeach.org

Web site: www.agapekurebeach.org

Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 21, at 9:30 AM to approve the Annual Report.

Library News



As we begin a new calendar year, now is the time to be considering habits, both old and new. Instead of just trying to break bad ones, consider also adding a good one! One wonderful habit to have is that of regular prayer and devotion. It is a time of peace in a busy world, a time to grow, and a time that we as children of God can set aside to spend in closer communication with our loving Father. For those who already have a prayer and devotional time as part of their daily life, now is a good time to look at ways to enrich that experience, strengthening what is already there. To help with both of these goals, the library will be focusing on prayer and devotion as a theme for this month. Highlighted will be books for both individuals and families to use to help them start their own new habits, or to enrich the ones they already have. Come by and find something to take home today!



From the Altar Guild

The Altar Guild gives thanks to Kathy Huffman for baking the Communion bread for December and to Virginia Leese for supplying the Communion wine. Thanks also go to Joan Wilson and Holly Zemke for their years of service in setting the Lord's table for the early service. They have been good and faithful stewards in the church.

Sunday Church School Corner



Another year has ended, a year that saw many exciting things in Sunday Church School at CVLC. Last year we began using a new curriculum, Akaloo, which has been an amazing success. The two adult classes have done well, with interesting discussions and fellowship for all who have attended. The Heifer project began and is now well under way, with each class working hard to reach their goal. We had special lessons for Advent, and a Christmas program that was a time of sharing for the whole congregation. We also had a St. Lucia celebration, which will hopefully become a wonderful new tradition at Christus Victor.

Now, as we begin the New Year, we have much to look forward to doing. Our journey with Akaloo will continue, bringing new units and seasonal lessons as time goes by. The Adult classes will continue to be a place of lively discussion, covering new topics and hopefully welcoming new students! We will also be beginning a program to encourage children to bring their friends with them to Sunday Church School, and it is my hope that the adults will also accept this challenge, inviting their friends and neighbors to join them in both Sunday Church School and in worship at CVLC.

As we all move forward into a new year, consider making the time for the learning and fellowship opportunities available in Sunday Church School a part of your Sunday morning. There is a place for everyone at Sunday Church School, and all are welcome to join us as we learn and grow in faith together.

In other exciting news, a special recognition is deserved by all those with perfect attendance for the month of November. Even with all that was going on, we had several who were here every Sunday. Congratulations to each of you!

Owen Maddocks
Sophia Maddocks

Phillip Moen
Grace Maddocks

Malina Scott
Mario Scott



"What's Color Got to Do With It?"

You are invited to the World Premier of "What's Color Got to Do With It? - African American Youth Talk About Racism in the Lutheran Church." This is a production by the youth of the The Church of the Abiding Savior, Lutheran, in Durham. There is a reception at 7:00 p.m. and the screening and panel presentation at 7:30 p.m., at the Concourse and Auditorium at the NC Mutual Life Insurance Company, 411 W Chapel Hill St., Durham. **Please RSVP to (919-682-7497).**



January Birthdays

- 1 Dominic Silha
- 2 Lyn Huffman
- 2 Heidi Chikmath
- 5 Daniel Potts
- 7 Jim Pollard
- 8 Nick Mendyka
- 10 Bryan Chappell
- 10 Jack Martin
- 12 Kathleen St. Lawrence
- 15 Mario Scott
- 17 JoAnn Scott
- 17 Mark Herring
- 18 Alex Moen
- 20 Niles Leese
- 26 Bill Mendyka
- 31 Georgeann Thompson

January Anniversaries

- 2 John & Ann Redick
- 6 Rich & Kathy Le Sesne
- 15 Walt & Donna James
- 27 Bill & Carol Mendyka

