

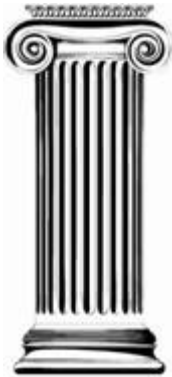


VILLAGE VOICES



STRAIGHT FROM THE HART

By Rev. Dr. Robert Hartwell



Ministry Clarity Co-Directors, Chris Gleason and Kim Zwisdak, and their team (along with Consultant Rev. Billy Brath from LCEF), continue to lead the congregation through a Ministry Clarity Process (strategic plan) designed to help our church and ministries come out strong after the pandemic.

This fall we will be walking through the "Mission Pillars" of our plan. These are areas of stability that help hold up the mission and they are the solid foundation on which we wish to build.

Pillar #2 Worship: Through the Divine Service, personal and corporate prayer and Church Rites, we are brought to know Christ and know Christ deeper through the means of grace.

Going to church may mean different things to different people. For Village Lutheran Church, we hope to always understand it as the place God promises to meet us with His grace through His word and the Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper. The Word of God and the Sacraments were identified by Jesus as the way that He has chosen to work faith in our hearts. When we meet God, it is not because we make a personal decision to accept Him. Faith is not about getting information (as if knowing God was studying for a test). Once we hear God's Word, it often motivates us to commit or recommit our hearts to Him. We are eager to grow wiser in God's Word as we journey in life—these are the results of God working through His Word and the Sacraments. That's why our second pillar is such a strong foundation and motivation. It is also a challenge.

Modern trends in the USA reveal that people are spending less time in church than in the recent past. Busy lives and many demands make it difficult for many families and individuals. The pandemic has made this even more true as people (rightly so) have been reluctant to gather in person for fear of the disease. The pandemic will wane, and it is more important than ever to lift up this truth. Our worship needs to be accessible, encouraging and engaging, and we must invite and welcome newcomers to join us. We must also remember those who have been absent from worship, and invite them back to their church home. It's not about meeting numerical goals; it's about fulfilling the need that all people have to receive God's grace.

Imagine how weak a person would become from fasting from physical food for weeks on end. Pillar #2 reminds us that we also hunger for God's Word, and that a primary purpose of our ministry is to welcome hungry souls to be nourished through the Word, Baptism and the Lord's Table.

How might this pillar help you reflect on your worship life? How might it encourage you to invite a friend or colleague to worship? How might it motivate you to be a volunteer to assist in worship as a way of helping others receive God's Word and the Sacraments?

A thought about our second Mission Pillar that is Straight from the Hart.

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP

- Saturdays at 5:30 p.m. and Sundays at 9 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.
- For those who can't join us in-person, live stream worship at VLC-NY.org. or on FaceBook Live.
- Prayer Conference call is held on the last Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. The call-in number is (1) 732-434-3982.

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BIBLE STUDY/PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY/ LWML

3rd Saturday of the month

9:00 – 10:30 a.m.

You are invited and encouraged to come study the good news of the Gospels and spend some time with other women of faith. Come enjoy fellowship and prayer on Saturday 10/16 at 9 a.m. in the Friendship Room. We will discuss the birth of John. Please read Luke 1:1-25, 36-45 and 57-80 in advance, and bring your Bible and your own food/beverage for breakfast. Due to the COVID-19 Delta variant, all participants are asked to wear a mask except when eating (even if you are vaccinated). Each month is a stand-alone study that is not dependent on the previous lessons, so please join even if you cannot make every meeting.

If there is a change in circumstances that requires us to meet via Zoom or a hybrid option rather than in-person, you will receive an email and/or phone call with the contact information. If you have any questions please contact Deacon Wendy at 914-391-9356 or Terry Vidal at terry.n.vidal@gmail.com.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Wednesdays 10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

We are back! Picking up where we left off when the pandemic hit, we are looking at the "Hallel" psalms. These were used for the major worship festivals, including the last Passover meal that Jesus shared with His disciples. Coffee, tea and light refreshments will be available each week as we study God's word and keep up our prayers for our community.

PRAYER CONFERENCE CALL

Let's keep the prayers coming for pandemic and all needs. The Prayer Conference call will be held on the last Tuesday of each month at **6:00 p.m.** **The call-in number is (1) 732-434-3982.** If you have a specific prayer request, please fill out the backside of the Attendance Form or contact Kim Rapillo in the church office at 914-337-0207 x1003 or KRapillo@VLC-NY.org. The prayer conference call is open to everyone – all you need is a phone and a heart open to receiving God's blessings for the prayer needs of yourself and your loved ones. **Please join us on 10/26.**

GODCONNECTS

A COURSE IN CHRISTIANITY

Join us for an introductory class that connects you to God's love!

Would you like to...

- explore the basics of the Christian faith?
- learn more about the faith background of The Chapel School?
- prepare for adult baptism or confirmation?
- join the church?

This fall, join Pastor Hartwell for *God Connects: A Course in Christianity*. Classes will be held on **Thursdays 10/21, 11/4, and 11/18 from 7-8:30 p.m. via Zoom** (no class on 10/28 or Veterans' Day, 11/11). Sign up by contacting 914-337-0207 x1003 or VLCMAIL@VLC-NY.ORG.



Did you know Lutheran World Relief is working in Haiti? Right now, your gift to our emergency fund will send help to women, men and children in Haiti devastated by the earthquake.

LWR staff are reporting extensive damage, and injuries and casualties are feared to be high. Please pray for the people of Haiti and please help LWR respond immediately. Give online at LWR.org or call 1-800-597-5972 to make your secure credit card donation. To donate by mail, please make checks payable to Lutheran World Relief and mail to: **Lutheran World Relief, PO Box 17061, Baltimore, MD 21297-1061.** VLC member Jean Hanson is chair of the LWR Board.

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

Lend A Helping Hand With Love

THE MOUNT VERNON SOUP KITCHEN: We will be providing the entire meal on the second Wednesday of each month. **Our next date is 10/13.** Please sign up on Signup Genius in advance at <https://tinyurl.com/Cooking2021>. Choose your volunteer date and food item and then pick up an aluminum tray (from the back of the church or Reception Area), prepare the food at home, and drop off at church between 12:00 and 1:00 p.m. on the assigned day. To volunteer or get more information, please contact Nelly Palumbo at 347-538-2909 or NPalumbo@TheChapelSchool.org.

ECAP: Collection of non-perishable food items is an ongoing outreach ministry. You can join in the effort by picking up non-perishable items while you do your own shopping (look for sales!) and bringing them to the church. There are Blessing Baskets located in the Friendship Room under the piano, or you may leave food donations with the receptionist during the week. Food insecurity remains a serious issue, and every little bit helps. Thank you!

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY: Prayer Shawls are hand



made and bring solace to anyone that has been injured, or is recovering from surgery. A prayer shawl brings cheer to the recipient because it lets them know they are remembered in prayer. If you know someone who could use the comfort and warmth a prayer shawl provides, please contact Kim Rapillo at 914-337-0207 x1003 or KRapillo@VLC-NY.org.



"CATCH A LIFT" is an initiative at VLC/TCS that offers free rides to church worship through **The Bronxville Taxi Company (1 Depot Plaza, Bronxville, NY 10708; 914-337-8311).**

Participants can simply stop by the Taxi Company at the Bronxville Train Station or call and arrange a lift to church. **Tell the dispatcher or taxi driver that this is a Village Lutheran Church "Catch a Lift" ride and there is no cost.** The cost of "Catch a Lift" is covered by the grant directed by a generous church family.

VLC FELLOWSHIP

*Lunch Bunch
Welcome Back
Luncheon*



Leewood Golf Club
1 Leewood Drive
Eastchester, NY 10709

**THURSDAY
OCTOBER 14
12 NOON**

Plated luncheon and cocktail. \$20

**QUESTIONS?
CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE
914-337-0207 (1003)**

**ALL VACCINATED GUESTS ARE
WELCOME TO JOIN US FOR
INTERESTING FELLOWSHIP AND FINE FOOD.**



Sunday Coffee hour hosts are needed to prepare coffee and bring light refreshments after the 9 a.m. service. Please consider signing up on the bulletin board by the church entrance or by contacting Nelly Palumbo at NPalumbo@TheChapelSchool.org or 347-538-2909.

Christian Coffee House

There is no Coffee House scheduled for October. Watch the bulletin and Village Voices for future dates.

FOCUS ON WORSHIP

By Deborah Reiss

October always sends my liturgical thoughts towards Lutheran history in the Reformation and especially the worship contributions of Martin Luther. His love of music and exploring the Bible created a legacy that resonate with me and which I am grateful we have. Luther created a number of hymns and canticles that are still familiar and in use. One that was added to Lutheran Service Book is a canticle I would like to have us become more familiar with: **Grant Peace, We Pray** (LSB 777 and 778)

The text for this canticle, as with many of Luther's verses, is adapted from ancient church liturgy and highly scriptural in essence. The first half of the prayer is a plea for peace: "Grant peace, we pray, in mercy, Lord; peace in our time, O send us!" One passage cited in LSB is 2 Thessalonians 3:16: *Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times and in every way.* Luther was living through some turbulent times, both politically and in the church. When confronted with turmoil like this, we pray to God for the true peace that only He can create for us.

The second half of the prayer looks to God as our defender in the face of any threat: "For there is none on earth but You, none other to defend us. You only, Lord, can fight for us." There are countless stories in the Old Testament of God fighting on behalf of the Israelites – just think of the walls of Jericho. We also know that the angels in heaven stand guard to fight our spiritual battles. Psalm 72:4 affirms that God will *defend the afflicted among the people and save the children of the needy; he will crush the oppressor.* Jesus has already won the battle (as we sing in "A Mighty Fortress"). We can put our trust in God for all of the challenges that come at us.

There are two melodies for us to sing this prayer. One tune was developed in Germany from a Gregorian chant, an arrangement of which was made for LSB by Carl Schalk (#778). Bach also wrote a chorale version of this tune. Felix Mendelssohn later wrote a hymn melody in the majestic key of E-flat major, which he utilized in a beautiful choral setting (one of our choir favorites). We will be learning that setting (LSB 777) this month. Now, as then, it is a good reminder that God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

WORSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

OCT. 2-3: 19th Sunday after Pentecost

LWML Sunday

Celebration of missions and ways to serve the Lord with gladness!

OCT. 30-31: Reformation Sunday

Special Confirmation service on Saturday at 2:00 p.m.

Festive worship with Hymnic Communion

VLC MUSIC MINISTRY 2021



Rehearsals for year-round ensembles are now in full swing on the following schedule:

Village Belles: Wednesdays 7:00–8:00 p.m. in the chancel

Youth Choir: Thursdays 6:30–7:00 p.m. in the chancel

Chancel Choir: Thursdays 7:30–8:30 p.m. in the MPR

High School Choir: Sundays 10:15–10:45 a.m. in the chancel

FaithWalk will plan to participate in worship on Sunday 10/24. Our target dates for rehearsing will be Tuesday 10/12 and Monday 10/18, from 7:00–8:00 p.m.

All choirs will be off for the Columbus Day weekend (October 9-10). Please be sure to confirm specific rehearsal and service dates with the directors.

Deb Reiss: 914-337-0207, x1018 or DReiss@VLC-NY.org

George Heath: 914-337-0207, x1012 or GHeath@VLC-NY.org

VLC YOUTH 2021

VOYAGERS Grades 3-6

We are excited to announce that we are planning to resume in-person meetings this fall! We will meet outside on the playground on Thursdays 10/7, 10/21 and 10/28. At this time, masks must be worn in the building. Voyagers is open to any student in grades 3-6, and friends are always welcome. We meet three times per month. At the end of the meeting, Youth going to choir will be dropped off there and everyone else will be escorted to the school doors and dismissed to their cars. If you have any questions, please email Erika Schultz at tyandbash@aol.com.

LIFERS Grades 7-8

Confirmation is a two-year program that equips our youth to understand the Christian faith and live out the faith that we believe. Classes are held Thursday evenings at 6 p.m. at VLC and taught by Sarah Nunes (snunes@vlc-ny.org).

CRUSADERS Grades 9-12

This month we will be exploring unity and team building! What does it mean to be a part of a team? How does Jesus "fit" into that team?

Donuts & Discussion-The Unit: Building Community and Unity: 10/3, 10/17, 10/24 and 10/31

10/29: October Youth Activity-Scared by the Sound! Tickets can be purchased at the door! More information coming soon in the bulletin!

11/13: Youth Unity Building Event-Boundless Adventures, Purchase NY. More information coming soon!



Please join us for Sunday School during the 9 a.m. service where children from 3-year-olds to 6th graders are invited into small group classes to learn more about Jesus' love for them. We are working with church and community safety guidelines to make sure that we can be together and also keep everyone healthy and safe. For more information, feel free to contact Sunday School Superintendent Sarah Gleason at ChrisnySarah@Netscape.net.

9/11 BLOOD DRIVE AT VLC & TCS

On Saturday 9/11, Village Lutheran Church and The Chapel School partnered with New York Blood Center to hold a blood drive. Members of the community came together to donate during a time when the blood supply was already critically low. "On this somber day, donating blood or participating in another act of kindness is a fitting way to honor the victims and heroes of Sept. 11," stated one donor. "It is a way to keep alive the spirit of unity and compassion that arose in the immediate aftermath." Our sincerest thank you to our donors, volunteers, and members of the community for helping us to host a phenomenal blood drive. **Our drive generated 49 lifesaving donations, which has the potential to save 147 lives!** This is such a great turnout and will truly help so many in need.



THE CHAPEL SCHOOL NEWS

By Principal Michael Schultz

Reflect, Renew, Rejoice! TCS (October 2021)



TCS's 2021 SUMMER PROGRAM HAS RECORD ENROLLMENT!

The numbers are in! TCS Summer Program Director **Anthony Vaglica**, Assistant Director **Chrissy Colagrande** and Program Assistant **James Mastrangelo** led a team of fantastic instructors and counselors who provided **9 Full**

Weeks of DOH-Approved Summer Programming. Registration for both Care Bear and Explorer Programs were record setting, and gross income exceeded \$530,000. COVID protocols provided for a safe and uninterrupted experience for the second straight year. Planning has already begun for Summer 2022!

WELCOME NEW TCS PROGRAMS and NEW TCS TEACHERS!

Welcome to TCS Ms. **Caitlin Thomspson** (left), Preschool 3s 3-Day and K-8 Art Teacher, and welcome back to Preschool-Grade 2 Spanish, Ms. **Liz Arizmendi** (2nd from left)! God Bless Mrs. **Monique Brown** (2nd from right) who has moved from 5th Grade to become TCS's Librarian/Literacy Specialist, and Mrs. **Lynn McAloon** (right) who has moved up to teach 4th Grade! We are also excited to share that 5th Grade has again joined The Chapel Middle School. We are truly blessed to have such a wonderful and dedicated Team here at TCS!



TCS Serves

After an exciting month of supporting Chelsea's Charity, we are excited for October's Student Leader Service Learning initiative for Gilda's Club, led by 7th Grader Lucy Caltabiano.



Return of Band, Choirs and After-School Sports for Fall 2021!

The Chapel School Chargers Athletics Program is proud to announce the return of CYO Cross Country, Club Volleyball and Golf this fall! TCS's Music and Drama Programs are also preparing for the return of Prep Choir, Select Choir and Band... and a production of Disney's **101 Dalmatians Kids** by Grades 1-3! **#Reflect, Renew, Rejoice!**

October Open House Dates... JOIN US!

Preschool (2s-4s) will be held on Tuesday 10/12 at 7 p.m.

Lower School and Middle School (Grades K-8) will be held on Sunday 10/17 at 1 p.m.



"... so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was according to the eternal purpose that He has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in Him" (Eph. 3:10-12).

What is the goal of our stewardship? This is really the WHY question of stewardship. Human beings were created for the task of being stewards. We see this in Genesis chapters one and two. We were created to have dominion and subdue creation in a way that reflects the image of God, in which we were created. This takes place in the way that we work and keep the creation entrusted to us by God.

The only problem we have with stewardship is found in Genesis chapter three. There, in an act of rebellion and sin, stewards named Eve and Adam claimed ownership over that which God had created them to steward. They were usurping God's place and God's glory! Ever since that fateful day in the garden, we have followed suit. What God has given us to steward, we have attempted to own.

So, God once again shows His glory in establishing the eternal purpose of Jesus Christ. In going to the cross, Jesus restores us in forgiveness to the task of once again stewarding what God has given us. Forgiven and restored in Jesus, we are once again stewards. Not just of creation, but of the Gospel as it is served by creation, including us!

Today we pray again that we would be able to recognize the simple gifts the Lord has given us to steward for the sake of the Gospel. In this we make known the manifold wisdom of God. As we faithfully steward the simple gifts God has entrusted to us, we point people to the redemption and restoration of our stewardship through Jesus Christ. Remember, the world sees Jesus through your stewardship. **What are you showing the world in how you steward God's simple gifts?**

Simple Gifts: A series of devotions on stewardship
lcms.org/stewardship

CONCORDIA LEGACY AT VLC

At the closing of Concordia College, several items were designated to be transferred to the care and keeping of VLC and TCS. This month we are highlighting the Concordia Cornerstone that was previously located in the circle drive in front of Feth Hall at Concordia College and has now been lovingly placed near the exit to the MAC lot on the northeast side of our VLC/TCS campus. The stone was found in Hawthorne, on the site of the location originally planned to be the permanent home of Concordia College. It was engraved with the year 1893, when Concordia Collegiate Institute (which became Concordia College) moved from New York City to Hawthorne. The cornerstone was crafted into a beautiful memorial of Concordia's history (with a handsome bronze plaque) by the Concordia Prep Class of 1956 at their 50th anniversary reunion. The relocation to our campus comes 15 years later, on the 65th anniversary of the class. Special thanks to Kenneth Werring and the Concordia Prep Class of 1956 for underwriting the cost of the move across White Plains Road to its new home. It is marked with a scripture passage that is fitting for the mission of Concordia and for the ministry of VLC/TCS: *"I will teach you the good and the right way"* (1 Samuel 12:23).



TEAM CHAPEL



The Chapel School is thrilled to once again partner with the TCS New York City Marathon as an official charity partner.

This year the dedicated members of Team Chapel will be running the **TCS New York City Marathon on Sunday 11/7** on behalf of The Chapel School's Scholarship Fund. **For more information or to donate please visit: www.TeamChapel.com.** The Team is being coached by Pastor Hartwell and consists of the following runners:





Claudia Sadowski



Ralph Schoene

Dick Forliano History Presentation

The Connection between the Ward House
and the Success of the United States
in the American Revolution.

Monday, October 25, 2021
6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Cost: Free

Questions call the Church Office at 914-337-0207 (1003)

Village Lutheran Church
172 White Plains Rd.
Bronxville, NY 10708

*VLC encourages vaccinated
individuals to join
unvaccinated guests in
masking up for safety.*

**Village Lutheran Church &
The Chapel School**

172 White Plains Road
Bronxville, NY 10708

VLC-NY.org

TheChapelSchool.org

Return Service Requested



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Permit No. 7793**

**TO KNOW, LIVE AND SHARE
THE LOVE OF CHRIST**

Under the blessing of God, the mission of Village Lutheran Church is a ministry of the Word and Sacraments. This ministry gives opportunities for mission, witness, nurture, fellowship, stewardship and service. It focuses on the specific needs of individuals and groups within the congregation and extends to the church-at-large, the community and the world.

The Chapel School is an integral part of the congregation's ministry directed specifically to children. It provides a distinctive Christian education enabling children to evidence a Christian lifestyle and to achieve academic success.

TO GOD ALONE BE GLORY

MEMORIAL/HONORED VOICES

Gifts Were Given By:

Walter Naughton, Jr.
In Honor of the Ministry of
Concordia College

Peter & Vera Voges
In Thankfulness to the
Ministry of Village Voices

Richard & Lynda Eggers
In Thankfulness for the
Legacy of Concordia College

Kevin & Debbie Cook
In Honor of
Rev. Dr. Thomas Sluberski

Constance Conway
In Memory of
Pastor Hartwell's parents,
Robert & Lyndal Hartwell

Joshua Geiling
In Thankfulness for
God's Blessings

Joyce Holz
In Memory of
Carol Leone

