

Christus Victor Lutheran Church and Student Center

1010 S. Lumpkin St.
Athens, GA 30605
www.christusvictor.net

Rev. Greg Michael, Pastor
pastor@christusvictor.net
706-543-3801

February 28, 2010: Second Sunday in Lent

Welcome to Christus Victor! We are gathered together again this Sunday to hear God's Word and to rejoice in his forgiveness. In our lessons we realize how hard it can be to hear words of forgiveness. Jeremiah and Jesus call Israel to repentance; the people reject their words. Words aimed at forgiveness could not be seen because the people could not see their need for repentance. As a result they missed their gracious God. As you worship today, may you rejoice anew in God's gracious word and celebrate his forgiveness!
For those of you who are visiting with us, we rejoice in your presence. We pray your visit with us will not only be a blessing to us but also that you would rejoice in Christ's faithfulness! Information concerning our monthly activities is available in the back of the church and at our website www.christusvictor.net. We also encourage you to contact Pastor Michael at 706.543.3801 or pastor@christusvictor.net if you have any questions about our church, our church body, the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, or our confession of faith. Thank you for worshipping with us. We look forward to hearing from you and seeing you again.

For those intending to commune: The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, in the Sacrament Christ gives His true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation to all who receive the bread and wine. The Sacrament also unites us with God and each other in our common faith and points us forward to our future hope, the last day when we commune with God and all the saints in perfect fellowship. In addition to the great blessings of the Sacrament, the Bible also teaches that those who eat without recognizing the Lord's body, eat and drink to their harm (I Corinthians 11:27-29). As a result, we view the Sacrament with great joy and seriousness.

With great joy we invite all those baptized Christians who share our confession of faith and who come forth repentant and in need of the forgiveness Christ gives at the Altar to join us in celebrating the Lord's Supper. If you have any questions concerning our faith or practice, the pastor would be glad to speak with you.

In our Prayers: We add to our prayers the spring break mission trip to Panama and all those who travel over the break. We pray for those facing health challenges: Dick Schermerhorn, Lois Mack, Jessikah Love, Ray Bower, Bearet Chapman and his family, Doris Nuss; those battling cancer: Maryann Gentzel, Alma Lukrafka, and Wilma Glienke; Robbie Casten as she continues to battle cystic fibrosis; and David Orthman as he faces the challenges of hereditary pancreatitis; those in the military especially those serving in distant places: Mike Capps, Ross George, Gregg Koester, and Sean Johnston.

Sunday Morning Bible Study: Sunday mornings in Lent we are growing in our understanding of Christian vocation and how we live life in such vocation. The study will consider what it means to be called and how that plays out in different aspects of life. We will not have Bible study March 7 or 14, but will resume our study on March 21 and conclude it on March 28. If you missed the first two studies, you can still jump in on March 21; each study addresses a different aspect of our vocation. We meet at 9:15am on the porch. We hope to see you there!

Thank you!: Special thanks to all those who contributed to our most recent food drive. Thanks also to all those who helped out with it. Thanks to those who helped organize our trivia night, got the Souper Bowl of Caring display up, distributed flyers, collected non-perishable food items door to door, and those who brought the cans to the Rural Outreach Center. The results of our efforts were a collection of 339 non-perishable food items and \$30 for the Rural Outreach Center of Oglethorpe County; in addition, we had over fifteen people facilitating the effort. Thank you for helping raise awareness of the hunger problems in our society and for working to help address the issue!

Life 173: There will be no Life 173 during the season of Lent. We will resume our gatherings to study God's word, sing his praises and grow in the life God intends for us following Easter on April 7. Until then join us each Wednesday at 7pm for our Lenten services as we travel to the cross united to Christ in his passion.

Lenten Services: During Lent we gather each Wednesday for Lenten worship. This Lenten season we are focusing on the joy of being united to Christ in his passion. We follow him to the cross each Wednesday at 7pm and grow in what it means to journey with him in discipleship. We hope you can join us!

Rent a Student: We will be starting up Rent-a-Student again to raise funds for our spring break trips! If you need any assistance around the house or special projects that need to be accomplished, we can help! Just call or e-mail Jenn Smith at (410)733-7742 or jsmith49@uga.edu.

Helping Haiti: There are many ways to help the people of Haiti as they recover from the recent earthquakes. We encourage you to keep the people in your prayers; learn about the needs of the people at www.lcms.org/worldrelief; and donate to LCMS World Relief and Human Care noting "Haiti Earthquake Relief" (donations may be mailed to LCMS World Relief and Human Care, P.O. Box 66861, St. Louis, MO 63166-6861; called in to 1-888-930-4438; or contributed online at <http://givenowlcms.org>). If you are a Thrivent member, gifts given through Thrivent may be matched; please ask Pastor Michael if you have any questions.

Your Place in God's Plan: *Your Place in God's Plan* is one of the many Project Connect booklets produced by Lutheran Hour Ministries aimed at connecting with people at their point of need. It reminds us of how God uses us to do what we do and how that is a significant piece in the puzzle of God's plan. Consider utilizing this book for yourself or others as you/they question what they should do with their lives and/or how God is using them. Take a look at the other books that are on the rack in the back of the church as well as they may be of benefit for your own personal needs or the needs of a friend to whom you could give the booklet.

Student Fellowship: We will have our regular student fellowship dinner tonight (February 28) at 6pm. Come join us for a meal, fellowship, devotion, and fun.

No Student Fellowship: There will be no student fellowship during spring break. This affects Sunday March 7 and 14. We will resume our regular fellowship March 21.

Lenten Devotions: Two Lutheran Hour Ministry Lenten devotions are available in the back: *Walking with Jesus* and *From the Mount of Transfiguration to Mount Calvary*. We invite you to take one. Electronic copies are also available. Please contact Pastor Michael for more information.

Notes on the Service: The sermon is an extension of the highpoint of the service of the Word, namely the Gospel lesson. The sermon interprets an appointed lesson for the day and applies what God has done in history to our daily lives, namely what God is doing now and the promises made about our future.

Christian Growth Committee: The Christian Growth Committee seeks to facilitate and encourage the spiritual growth of the individual and community here at Christus Victor. It does so by ensuring the smooth running of the worship service and its related elements; by facilitating opportunities to gather and share in common experiences; and by seeing to the provision of Bible study opportunities and the encouragement of devotional life in the congregation. If you have suggestions or questions about the committee please talk with the committee's chair Emily Goff or contact her at emgoff@uga.edu.

Small Groups: We encourage you to participate in small groups; there are men and women's Bible study groups. There is also always an opportunity to get another group started. Contact Emily Goff (emgoff@uga.edu) or Pastor Michael if you have ideas or questions.

Pastor out: Pastor will be out of the country with the students on their annual spring break mission trip. He will be gone March 6-13. Rev. Dr. Thomas Artelt will preside over services on Sunday March 7. If you have an emergency while pastor is out, please contact our spiritual lay leader Steve Messner (706.613.6177).

Announcements: If you have any announcements for the bulletin please contact secretary@christusvictor.net with the announcement by Wednesdays at noon. If you have something for our website, please contact webmaster@christusvictor.net. Thank you for helping us keep others updated!

Sign up to serve: There are opportunities to serve each week as reader, greeter, and nursery, as well as baking bread, supplying goodies for after the service, and bringing flowers. The sign-up sheet is in the back.

Portals of Prayer: Portals of Prayer are available in the back of the sanctuary for personal use. Please pick one up if you would like an easy tool for daily devotions.