



# Village Voices



SEPTEMBER

A PLACE FOR YOU

THE YEAR OF OUR LORD 2005

## *Straight from the Hart*

By Rev. Dr. Robert Hartwell

Did you go to your summer place this past summer? Many college students are moving into their new place, a dorm room or apartment. I, and many others, spent a great deal of time working on their place. Perhaps you painted or gardened or did some intense cleaning?

The places we live and rest are important to us. One very important place is our Village Lutheran Church and Chapel School. It's a place where people have come to faith through baptism and Christian education for generations. It's a place where the grieving have heard the Gospel and those entering the holy state of marriage have received a blessing. Souls are fed at this place with the body and blood of Christ in the Sacrament of Communion. It is also a place where we serve God and others and have fun with people we call friends. Truly the VLC is a very special place.

Many in our community need a place such as ours. Perhaps they have never known Christ and His forgiveness. This place can be the salvation of their souls. Perhaps they need a caring place to call home or would benefit from God's word and His strengthening sacraments. Our theme this year is "A Place for You". The theme celebrates the place we have here and motivates us to invite others to make this place their home.

Won't you consider inviting a co-worker, neighbor, relative or friend to this place? Here are some great events and happenings that would be a perfect opportunity to invite someone to our place.

**The Good News Gourmet Coffee House** on Saturday, September 10. Coffee House opens at 6 pm and Warrior Poetes, a female Christian band, begins their concert at 7 pm. Green Mountain Coffees will be served and fresh delicious baked goods. Cost is \$5 per adult, \$2 per child and high school, college students and seniors get in free with a valid Id.

**September 11 Memorial service:** Join us for prayers for peace as Pastor Taylor shares a message of hope on the 4<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of that difficult day.

**Jesus Blueprint for Prayer Bible Study:** I will be looking at Jesus' prayer and the way that we can become more fervent pray-ers in our lives. Wednesdays from 7:30 -9:00 pm from September 21-October 19.

**New Member Class:** Pastor Taylor and I will lead as we learn more about the VLC and The Lutheran Faith. Great for perspective members, seekers or school families who wish to become more knowledgeable about the church. Classes meet Sundays from 10:45-12 Noon on October 9-November 6. Daycare is provided.

**And of course worship.** Remember our new permanent schedule begins the weekend of September 10/11 with an informal service of communion at 5:30 pm and two services on Sunday, 9 and 10:45 am.

The VLC is indeed a Place for you. May God bless you and this spiritual place we call home. That's a thought that's straight from the Hart.

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *Focus on Worship*
- *New Members class*
- *Thrivent Seminars*
- *September 11 Prayer Service*
- *Arthritis Foundation Hike*
- *The Good News Coffee House*

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Bible Study Opportunities	2
Memorial/Honored Voices	8
Fellowship Opportunities	6
Music Ministry	4
Parish Health	6
Seniors	6
Youth News	5

## VLC Bible Study / Prayer Opportunities

### Jesus Blueprint for Prayer Bible

#### Study:

Pastor Hartwell will be looking at Jesus' prayer and the way that we can become more fervent pray-ers in our lives. Wednesdays from 7:30-9:00 pm from September 21-October 19.

### Daytime Bible Study

Join VLC Adjunct Pastor Allen Keschull for an informative look at the Scriptures. The study meets on Wednesdays at 10:45 a.m. in the Friendship Room. This fall, Bible Study will resume on Wednesday September 14.

### The New VLC (Victorious Ladies of the Cross) Bible Study

begins on Saturday, September 17 at 8:30 am. Pastor Hartwell will begin the Bible study with communion and prayer. Please bring something to share (ie. bagels, fruit, muffins, orange juice) Coffee is provided. The lesson for the day is "**Fruit of the Spirit-Peace.**" The October meeting will be on October 15 with the theme "**Why Are You So**

### SEPTEMBER 11 PRAYER SERVICE- 5:30 p.m.

On the 4<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the events of September 11, 2001, violence and fear continue to spread and it seems that no where is safe--but we have the assurance that God is with us at all times. Please join us for a memorial service at 5:30 p.m. on the 11<sup>th</sup> as we remember those who have suffered and pray for peace in our world.

## WORSHIP ASSISTANT OPPORTUNITIES

As St. Paul reminds us in 1 Corinthians 12, each of us has been given gifts and those gifts are to be used together to build up the "body of Christ"--that is, the Church. You may not even realize that your natural abilities are gifts that can be used in worship. Are you friendly and outgoing? Do you know how to give directions? Are you good with your hands? Do you enjoy preparing a table? Are you an articulate speaker? We invite you to consider serving as a worship assistant in any of the following ways:

**Altar Attendant** (formerly Altar Guild) – prepare wine and bread, maintain altar and paraments

**Communion Assistant** – help with distribution of Holy Communion

**Lector** – read the lessons

**Usher** – hand out bulletins, collect offering, direct movement during distribution

Orientation and training will be provided. Sign up on the tear-off in the weekly bulletin or contact the church office at 914-337-0207, ext. 1003.

### - Save the Date -

#### Women's Retreat

Saturday, October 15.

Time: 9:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Christ Lutheran Church, Woodside, NY is conducting a 1-day retreat called "**Healthy Women of God.**"

Dr. Elaine Eng will be the keynote speaker. Also, experts in mental, physical, family, and spiritual health will be breakout leaders. Cost: \$15. Includes: Coffee, breakfast treats and a healthy lunch.

### Help Wanted

Jesus is seeking a willing volunteer to serve as Sunday School Assistant Superintendent to work with Lilann Skeckowski. Duties Include:

- Arrive 8:50 a.m. each Sunday to see if we are in need on any last minute substitute teachers and fill in.
- Fill in for Lilann when absent
- Help with the Christmas Pageant rehearsal on Saturday.
- Make phone calls to parents of children receiving Faithful Attendance Awards and then help distribute attendance awards in Church second Sunday of December and March and on Total Family Sunday in June.
- Help with the coffee hours that the Sunday school administration provides.

This volunteer position will impact hundreds of children with Christ's love.

Please call Pastor Hartwell for more information.

## FOCUS ON WORSHIP

### “Coming Home”

September provides us with a sense of homecoming, a time of year when we reconnect with friends and our church family. Sunday School classes begin, Concordia students and faculty flock back to campus, choirs resume their activities and Chapel School gets into full swing. There are also new things, one of which is that the worship schedule will change to three services per weekend: Saturday at 5:30 p.m. and Sunday at 9:00 and 10:45 a.m. This schedule will begin the week of September 10-11 and continue year-round.

Just so you are not caught by surprise, please note all of the special worship events that are taking place and be a part of them as you are able. Better yet, tell someone else who might be interested and invite them to share your church home.

#### SEPTEMBER 4 – 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

- Final week of summer schedule
- Worship at 8:30 a.m. on the porch or 10:30 a.m. in the sanctuary

Listen to *Stories You Need to Hear* about Deborah the judge

#### SEPTEMBER 10-11 – 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

- New year-round schedule begins with Saturday informal Communion Service at 5:30 p.m. and Sunday services at 9:00 and 10:45 a.m.
- Rally Day Sunday at 9:00 am with blessing of the 3-year-olds, Bibles for 3<sup>rd</sup> graders and teacher installation.

Dedication of Chapel School faculty and staff

#### SEPTEMBER 11 PRAYER SERVICE

- 5:30 p.m. Prayers of Peace for the World
- Message by Pastor Taylor

#### SEPTEMBER 17-18 – 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

#### SEPTEMBER 24-25 – 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Choir Dedication

#### OCTOBER 1-2 – 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

- Concordia Homecoming Weekend
- Pastor *Emeritus* James Zwernemann preaching at all services

## NEW WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Beginning the weekend of September 10-11, we will institute a new year-round schedule of three services per weekend: **Saturday at 5:30 p.m. and Sunday at 9:00 and 10:45 a.m.** Sunday School classes will continue to be held in conjunction with the 9:00 a.m. service and periodic teen/adult Bible studies will be offered on Sunday mornings and/or weekdays. Each service will share the same core elements—including Scripture readings, hymns and prayers—but each will also have its own unique characteristics.

**Saturday 5:30 p.m.** – This service, which had been using a hymnic liturgy, will become more informal. Worshipers are encouraged to wear casual clothing and join together at the front of the church. As with the 8:30 service over the past summer, there will be no pre-printed liturgy. The pastor will lead worship using the pew hymnals or other materials and music will be led by the organ and/or piano. Communion will be offered every week.

**Sunday 9:00 a.m.** – This service will use a blend of traditional and contemporary liturgies and is especially designed for family worship. Children in Grades 3-6 will attend the opening part of worship and stay for a children’s message, after which they will move to their individual Sunday School classes. The Chancel, Youth and Cherub Choirs will sing primarily at this service and Communion will be offered on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month. Childcare will be available for young children.

**Sunday 10:45 a.m.** – This more traditional service will follow the liturgy of Divine Service II in *Lutheran Worship*. Special music will be provided occasionally by soloists or choirs and Communion will be offered every week.

Throughout the year, there will be periodic Total Family Worship services (e.g. Christmas, Easter, Mother’s Day) when no Sunday School classes are held. We will also take the opportunity on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month to introduce parts of the new hymnal coming out in 2007 so that the congregation has time to evaluate it.

Worship binds us together as a community and replenishes our souls for the journey ahead. Please be sure to set aside time each week for the Sabbath rest which God provides for us.



## MUSIC MINISTRY AT VLC

### **TO THANK AND PRAISE THE LORD**

#### *Your Place in the VLC Music Ministry*

For the early Israelites, their place of worship was the place where the ark of the covenant rested. After the ark had been brought back to Jerusalem, King David “appointed certain of the Levites as ministers before the ark of the Lord, to invoke, to thank, and to praise the Lord, the God of Israel” (1 Chronicles 16:4). This charge extends to our music ministry today, as we continue to thank and praise the Lord. Not just the physical descendants of the Levites, but all who love music and have been given the gift of musical expression are called to help lead worship in this house of God. We invite all you modern-day Levites to take your place in the VLC music ministry.

**CHERUB CHOIR** – Grades N-2, directed by Betty Geiling – Rehearsals take place on Sunday mornings as part of Sunday School. These young singers learn favorite Bible songs and how to share them with the congregation, singing about five times per year in worship.

**YOUTH CHOIR** – Grades 3-8, directed by George Heath – Rehearsals are on Thursday evenings from 7 to 7:50 p.m. and on Sunday mornings from 8:15 to 8:50 a.m. These singers enjoy learning both classical and contemporary music and expand their musical abilities through part-singing and solo work. The first rehearsal will be **Thursday, Sept. 22**, in the multi-purpose room.

**CHANCEL CHOIR** – Teens to Adults, directed by Debbie Reiss – Rehearsals are on Thursday evenings from 8 to 9:30 p.m. This group sings a wide variety of SATB literature and manages to have a lot of fun in the process. The first rehearsal will be **Thursday, Sept. 8**, in preparation for the September 11 Prayer Service at 5:30 p.m.

**FAITHWALK** – Teens to adults, director TBD – Plans are still being evaluated for this contemporary music ensemble. Please watch for further details in the Sunday bulletin and next edition of *Village Voices*.

**THE VILLAGE BELLES** – Teens to adults, directed by Debbie Reiss – Rehearsals are Wednesday evenings from 7:15 to 8:15 p.m. and, for the first time in 25 years, the handbell choir will have a new director. This group plays approximately once a month in worship and is perfect for anyone with a good sense of rhythm. The first rehearsal will be **Wednesday, Sept. 14**.

**THE VILLAGE BRASS** – Junior Brass for younger musicians and Senior Brass for experienced players, directed by George Heath. Marking its second year of festive music-making, the Senior Brass meet on Wednesday evenings at the discretion of the director (Junior Brass rehearsals TBD). The first rehearsal will be **Wednesday, Sept. 21**, from 6 to 7 pm.

For more information contact Debbie Reiss, Minister of Music, at [DREISS@vlc-ny.org](mailto:DREISS@vlc-ny.org) or call 914-337-0207,

### Free Thrivent

#### Financial Education Seminars

**Thursday, September 15th at 6 p.m.**

at Ciao’s Restaurant.

“What’s Keeping You from Your Financial Goals”.

**Wednesday, October 19th at 6 p.m.**

at Ciao’s Restaurant,

Economic and Investment Outlook update.

Call 1-800-838-1159 for more information or to sign-up.

#### New Member Class:

Pastor Taylor and Pastor Hartwell will lead as participants learn more about the VLC and The Lutheran Faith. Great for perspective members, seekers or school families who wish to become more knowledgeable about the church.

Classes meet Sundays from 10:45-12 Noon on October 9-November 6. Daycare will be provided.



Village Lutheran Church & Chapel School  
172 White Plains Road - Bronxville, NY 10708

Erika & Michael Schultz  
(914) 395.1954  
tyandbash@aol.com

# Village Youth

Voyagers ~ Grades 3-6  
Lifers ~ Grades 7-8  
Crusaders ~ Grades 9-12

JOURNEY of FAITH



September  
2005

**This year the Youth Groups remain unchanged.**

The Voyagers Youth Group consists of 3 - 6 grade and is run primarily by Erika.

The Confirmation II (7th Grade) and Confirmation III (8th Grade) constitute the Lifers Youth Group. Michael Schultz and Pastor Hartwell will be the primary leaders for this group.

Finally, the Crusader Youth Group is 9 - 12 grade, and will be lead by Erika and Michael.

## VOYAGERS: GRADES 3 – 6

**Meetings:** Voyagers will meet Thursday nights from 6:00-7:00 p.m. We will usually meet in the Multi-Purpose Room. Our usual meeting place in the Multi-Purpose Room. Please enter the building through the main school doors. In September we will meet on the 15th, 22nd and 29th. Please feel free to call Erika at anytime through-out the year with any questions.

## LIFERS: GRADES 7 – 8

**Meetings:** We will usually meet in the Art Room. The first meeting in September is on the 15th from 6:00 - 7:00 pm and will be in the Lunch Room. For this orientation meeting, parents are also asked to attend. Regular meetings in September will be held on the 22nd and 29th.

## CRUSADERS: GRADES 9 – 12

**Meetings:** The Crusaders regular meetings will be held on Sundays. Sometimes after the 9:00 am service and sometimes on Sunday evenings. In September we will meet on the 18th for a regular meeting at 10:15 am in the Youth Room. On the 25th we will have “*Pizza and Game*” night from 5:30 - 7:00 pm.

Next we are hoping to bring Crusader Youth on a Mission Trip. We plan to have an informational meeting on September 12th at 7:00 pm. You should also be receiving information in the mail about this meeting. Please plan to attend!

**PLEASE REMEMBER  
YOUR FRIENDS ARE ALWAYS  
WELCOME!!**

## Parish Health News

**Yoga classes** are on Monday at 7 p.m. in the Multi-purpose room. Drop in. Cost is \$10. Call the church office at 914-337-0207 for more information.

**The Village Lutheran Church is a proud member of the Lutheran Counseling Center (LCC) Membership Assistance Program (MAP).** Through this partnership, VLC members and friends can access professional counseling at the rate of only \$25 per session (for up to 4 sessions). LCC also takes major health insurances and uses a sliding scale. Call Pastor Hartwell to arrange for the MAP sessions. Isn't your mental health and happiness worth the time? LCC provides individual, couple, and family counseling, professional, yet Christian. Call (914) 337-0207 (ext. 1022) for details.

### Arthritis Foundation Hike - September 17, 2005



The **Arthritis Foundation** and **Eastern Mountain Sports** have partnered up for a day hike in your area. Join your family and friends for a scenic 5-mile hike and raise vital dollars to support the 70 million Americans with arthritis.

Introduction to **Hiking Clinic** - Wednesday September 7, 2005 7 pm-9pm.

**Hike** - Saturday September 17, 2005 10 am-1pm.

Contact your local Eastern Mountain Sports store for further details and to register:

Manhattan - Shawn/Chris at 212-397-4860 or Chuck at 212-966-8730.

Scarsdale - Catherine at 914-725-0024

Go out and exercise those joints, and show your support by hiking for a cure on **Saturday September 17.**

### The "Village" Seniors

We have been invited by The Wartburg to join them with a barbecue on Tuesday, Sept. 13 at 11:45am. We will be under the outdoor Pavilion, weather permitting, and in the Conference Center if raining. Please invite your friends who may enjoy a wonderful luncheon and day together with our group. Reservations must be made in advance by either completing the tear off slip in the Sunday Bulletin or by calling the church office at (914) 7337-0207. Hope to see you there.

### Fellowship Opportunities:

**The Good News Gourmet Coffee House** will be held on Saturday, September 10. Coffee House opens at 6 pm and Warrior Poetes, a female Christian band, begins their concert at 7 pm. Green Mountain Coffees will be served and fresh delicious baked goods.

Cost is \$5 per adult, \$2 per child and high school, college students and seniors get in free with a valid Id.



September 7, 2005 marks the 59<sup>th</sup> year that Village Lutheran Church and Chapel School will provide Quality Christian education to our community. We will begin this school year with more than 325 students in grades Pre-K 3 year old through grade 8. Our students will come from as far north as Greenburgh, as far south as the Bronx and from many places in between. The theme for our academic year is taken from 1 Peter 2:21 *“To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in His steps.”*

We are quite pleased to announce that we are welcoming some new people to our faculty this year. **Anne Clarke-Raysor** will be teaching middle school science and grade 6 homeroom. She comes to us with fifth and sixth grade teaching experience in the NYC, New Rochelle school systems, and early education at Mount Tom Day School. Anne received her BA from Clark University in Worcester, MA, a Master of Science in Education – Elementary Ed from City College and a Master of Science in Education – Reading Teacher from Lehman College. **Catherine Schulz and Liz Arizmendi** are teaching two of our pre-K four-year-old classes. Both received their Bachelor of Arts in Early Childhood Education from Concordia College. **Joanne O’Connor** will be teaching Art in grades 1-8. Joanne has worked at Chapel School as a teacher aide from 2000 through last year. She received her Bachelor in Fine Arts in Art and Education from the College of New Rochelle.

As an integral part of our Christian ministry, The Chapel School conducts morning worship each Wednesday in the church sanctuary for our kindergarten through grade 8 students. It is our joy and our opportunity to bring an offering to God in each worship service, as a way of saying “Thank you, Lord” for all the great gifts of life and love which we receive from Him every day. Each month we choose another ministry to support with these offerings. The first quarter of the year we will be sponsoring the following missions:

**September:** Food for the Poor provides relief assistance in 16 impoverished countries in the Caribbean and Latin America, distributing food, housing materials and specifically requested items through a network of churches.

**October:** Casa de la Misericordia, a hot lunch program for more than 500 children in Guayas, Ecuador. This mission is part of our Hispanic Heritage focus and is a project of the United Nations Women’s Guild this year.

**November:** ECAP/Eastchester Community Action Program. Every year The Chapel School contributes more than 1500 canned and boxed food items for local distribution.

*CONCORDIA HOMECOMING/FAMILY  
WEEKEND*

Parents, alumni and friends of Concordia will join students on campus Sept. 30-Oct. 2 for fun and fellowship. Pastor Emeritus James Zwernemann, a long-time Concordia supporter and member of the Board of Regents, will preach at the VLC. For more information on all homecoming activities, contact Mindy Warnken, Director of Alumni Relations, at 914-337-9300, x2198, or go to [www.concordia-ny.edu](http://www.concordia-ny.edu).



*Memorial/Honored Voices*

**A Gift of Remembrance**

A donation in someone's honor or memory makes a very special gift when the occasion calls for a special gift (perhaps the death of a friend or loved one, or someone's anniversary or special birthday).

A gift of support for Christian ministry is a gift that lasts forever.

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
Permit No. 7793  
Bronxville, NY 10708

THE VILLAGE LUTHERAN CHURCH  
CHAPEL SCHOOL  
172 White Plains Road  
Bronxville, New York 10708