



# VILLAGE VOICES



## Stewardship: Time, Talents, and Treasure

Stewardship is the responsible management of the gifts and resources entrusted to us. In the Parable of the Talents from the Gospel of Matthew: Chapter 25, Jesus reminds us that everything we have ultimately belongs to God. We are not owners, but caretakers, called to use our blessings wisely and generously.

First, stewardship of time means recognizing that each day is a gift. Time is limited and precious; once it is spent, it cannot be regained. Being a good steward of time involves prioritizing what truly matters—faith, family, service, and personal growth—rather than wasting hours on unproductive pursuits. When we dedicate time to prayer, community involvement, and helping others, we honor the One who entrusted it to us.

Second, stewardship of talents refers to the abilities and skills each person has been given. These talents may include teaching, leadership, creativity, kindness, or practical skills. Rather than hiding or neglecting our abilities, we are called to develop and use them for the benefit of others. When we share our talents in service—whether in our workplace, church, or community—we contribute to the common good and reflect gratitude for what we have received.

Finally, stewardship of treasure involves the responsible use of material resources and finances. Money and possessions are tools that can either serve selfish desires or support meaningful causes. Wise stewardship encourages generosity, careful planning, and a willingness to give to those in need. By managing our treasure with integrity and compassion, we demonstrate trust in God and faithfulness to Him.

I give thanks to God for the faithful Stewardship you all have displayed and pray that we each continue to search our hearts on how we can support our church and school both now and, in the years ahead.

Chris Gleason  
Stewardship Committee Chair

## WINTER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

- Sunday 9 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. in the sanctuary.
- For those who can't join us in-person, live stream worship at VLC-NY.org, on Facebook, or YouTube.
- Tuesday Evening Prayer Conference Call  
There is no Prayer Conference Call in March  
Join us for our next one on April 28<sup>th</sup> at 6pm.

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# VILLAGE LUTHERAN CHURCH

## Special Worship Services

### LENT & HOLY WEEK 2026

#### WEDNESDAYS IN LENT

Service of Evening Prayer with Holy Communion

February 25 through March 25 – 7:30pm

#### FIRST COMMUNION

Sunday, March 22 – 10:45a.m.



### Holy Week

Palm Sunday – March 29

Palms and Passion Reading / 9:00a.m. Family Service

Maundy Thursday – April 2

The Lord's Supper / Stripping of the Altar 7:30 p.m.

Good Friday – April 3

Tenebrae Service 12:00 & 7:30p.m.

Easter Sunday – April 5

Festival Worship 9:00 & 10:45a.m.

Continental Breakfast

## Soup Kitchen Partnership

VLC and TCS provide the ENTIRE meal for the Mount Vernon Soup Kitchen on the third Wednesday of each month.

**Our Next Date Is: March 18th**

We need volunteers to prepare enough food to feed 80 people.



Please pick up a small aluminum tray from the reception desk, available after church services and during VLC & TCS hours.

Bring the cooked food trays to the VLC parking lot, between 12:00-1:00PM, on the third Wednesday for collection. The food will be delivered to the soup kitchen by our VLC volunteers.

**Sign up today at:**  
[www.tinyurl.com/MealCooking](http://www.tinyurl.com/MealCooking)

For more information, please contact  
VLC Soup Kitchen Coordinator, Katie Bukofzer  
at: [ETAKWHIT@aol.com](mailto:ETAKWHIT@aol.com)



A menu is developed and coordinated by the Soup Kitchen, which includes a meat (or casserole), vegetable, and dessert.

## Blessing Basket Food for ECAP



We continue to collect non-perishable food. As costs go up, it is even harder for families to keep food on the table. If you can pick up a few items to donate, please drop them off in the Friendship Room or at the Reception Desk.

NON-PERISHABLE  
ITEMS ONLY

**Basket under Piano in  
Friendship Room**  
172 White Plains Road  
Bronxville, NY 10708

## ADULT BIBLE STUDY



**Wednesdays 10:45 a.m. –  
12:00 p.m.**

Once we complete chapter 13 of John, including Jesus' washing of the disciples' feet, we will continue with chapter 14 ("I go to prepare a place for you") and 15 ("I am the vine, you are the branches"). Join us any week as we hear Jesus teach us the same spiritual truths He offered His disciples.

## Festival OF WORKSHOPS

**Saturday March 7, 2026**

9:30Am - 3:15pm

Hosted at the  
SUNY Maritime College  
6 Pennyfield Avenue, Bronx, NY 10465

Over 30 Workshops to Refresh and Energize You in Your Service to the Lord.  
**THIS YEAR'S THEME**

**"In This Hope We Were Saved"**  
Romans 8:24 (ESV)

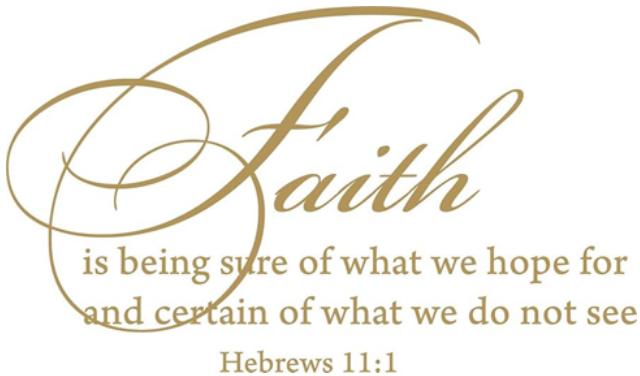
**KEYNOTE SPEAKER**  
Bishop Emeritus David Benke  
\$35 per person / \$40 after February  
24 Includes Lunch



**Register Online at**  
[ad-lcms.org](http://ad-lcms.org)



**FOCUS ON WORSHIP**  
Hidden with Christ, by Deborah Reiss



Hebrews 11:1

This beautiful definition of faith from the book of Hebrews is followed by a long and inspiring list of people from Israel's history who demonstrated such faith. One of the most poignant, and possibly most difficult, examples is the willingness of Abraham to sacrifice his son Isaac on Mt. Moriah (later to be known as Mt. Zion, the temple mount in Jerusalem). The story from Genesis 22 has layers of rich meaning, especially during Lent, because of God's command to sacrifice "your only son...whom you love," the substitute ram

that was caught in a thicket, and God's promise that through Abraham's offspring "all nations on earth will be blessed." These were all fulfilled in the life and ministry of Jesus. We know the blessed ending for us and for Abraham, but what about Abraham's faith before he knew how it would turn out?

Hebrews offers one explanation, that "Abraham reasoned that God could raise the dead, and figuratively speaking, he did receive Isaac back from death" (Hebrews 11:19). We have talked about this in Bible Study, and most of us think "Good for Abraham, but I could not do it – how could God ask such a thing?" I would like to turn the focus back to what Abraham shows us about faith and about God.

Isaac was a gift from God after Abraham lamented that the one thing he wanted was a son to be his heir. When God asked Abraham to give up his son, Abraham had a choice to make. He knew without doubt what God wanted, but he had to be willing to trust that God had a purpose in this command and that whatever God commanded would ultimately be a blessing. Whether Abraham anticipated a resurrection, or another son, or some other future, his obedience was an affirmation that he could trust God in all things. He was sure of God's earlier promise that "I will establish my covenant with [Isaac] as an everlasting covenant for his descendants after him" (Genesis 17:19). He was certain that "The Lord Will Provide" – the new name he gave to the mountain.

Abraham had led a life of following God, but he had not always completely trusted. He agreed to Sarah's misguided plan to have a son through Hagar. He allowed Sarah to be taken into a harem as his "sister" to try to save himself. Yet in the end, after finally receiving the blessing he always wanted, Abraham had learned that God was the faithful one. In this ultimate personal sacrifice, Abraham trusted God. He was able to respond in faith to the God who was his "shield and great reward," the God who would offer His own beloved Son instead of Abraham's, the God who brings life out of death.

***Faithful God, I give thanks for Your blessings and put my trust in You. "I can do all things through Him who gives me strength."***

## VLC YOUTH

### VOYAGERS Grades 3–6

Voyagers is open to anyone in grades 3 – 6. Please join us and bring a friend! We usually meet three times per month on Thursdays at 6:00-7:00 p.m. Please enter the Church/School from the school reception doors. At the end of the meeting, Youth will be escorted out to the school doors and dismissed to their cars. Or, if Youth are going to choir, they will be dropped off there.

### LIFERS Grades 7–8

Confirmation is a two yearprogram for kids in 7th and 8th grade. One year we focus on the story of scripture and the other year we focus on the teachings of scripture. It's a good time and a very formative time in which the confirmands grow in their relationship with God and in their understanding of their faith. If you have any questions please contact Director of Youth and Family Ministries, Pastor Mark Budenholzer at MBudenholzer@VLC-NY.ORG.

### CRUSADERS Grades 9–12



Calling all 9-12 graders! Donuts and Discussion will meet in the Ministry Suite on March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29. Donuts will be provided! Hope to see you there! If you have any questions, please email Crusader Youth Leader, Amy Heath at amyheath1023@gmail.com

### MUSIC MINISTRY



**Lutheran Schools Sunday:** On March 1 we will celebrate Lutheran Schools Sunday with music by The Chapel School Select Choir at 9:00.

**Chancel Choir:** Chancel Choir will sing the rest of the Sundays in March and Village Bells will ring for the First Communion service on March 22 at 10:45.

**Youth and High School Choirs:** Youth and High School Choirs will also be singing during the month, and we will have our next Family Service on Palm Sunday, March 29.



The Village Lutheran Church's annual 1st Communion Instruction is open to youth in the 5th grade and above who have not had their 1st Holy Communion.

Classes meet Wednesdays during Lent from 6:00–7:00p.m. These classes instruct children on the meaning of this Christian Sacrament and prepare them to receive 1st Holy Communion at a special Service on Sunday, 3/22, at 10:45 a.m.

One parent or guardian must attend with each child at each session. If you would like to have your child complete the 1st Holy Communion classes, please complete the registration form online at <https://www.vlc-ny.org/first-communion-form>.

For more information, email Pastor Mark at MBudenholzer@VLC-NY.ORG. The Chapel School students and community youth are welcome too!

## THE CHAPEL SCHOOL NEWS

By Principal Michael Schultz

### March Madness @ TCS!



Congratulations to 2026 Chapel School Award Honoree, Luba Dzwonczyk! Luba started as a teacher aide in 2001 and has been a loving and dedicated teacher at The Chapel School for 24 Years, mostly in the preschool, but one year as a first grade teacher. She is known for her warmth and care, and dedication to each of her students. Luba will be receiving her award at the 9 AM Service on LSW Sunday. Luba is pictured with a former TCS Preschooler and Bronxville High School student, Sophie Naye, who is partnering with TCS with her service learning initiative of Cards for a Cause. For February, TCS students are making cards for Sophia to share with Cancer Support Team. #TCServes #TCSAlumShine

GATHERING of FRIENDS: A Taste of the Caribbean ~ March 20, 2026 @ Surf Club on The Sound. Thanks Co-Chairs Keisha Glenn-Hutton, Shaniqua Raphael & Michelle Walsh. Congrats Community Champions Michael & Athena Kerin!



Still time to Sign up for Easter Break Fun @ TCS! Limited Space! Sign Up TODAY!

Also, ONLINE REGISTRATION for TCS's 2026 SUMMER PROGRAM is LIVE! Spectacular offerings for Care Bears (Ages 3-6) and Explorers (Ages 6-12). In-Person Open Houses are rescheduled for March 14 and April 26.

Join Us or Register Today Online at: [Online Registration 2026 Summer Program](#)

The full brochure is available on TCS website at: <https://www.thechapelschool.org/summer-programs>



PTO Sponsored Black History Month Visit from Bokandeye (2/6/26)! #TCSLovesBokandeye #ThanksPTO



**LSA Executive Director Donna Haines Visits TCS with Abraham the Comfort Dog, who also made a Joyful Noise to the Lord! Congrats to TCMS Scholarship Winners for 2026-2027 and Beyond! (L to R) Derrick Aiken, Rory O'Sullivan and Kai Punzalan.**



**2026 TCS Golf Outing - GOLFERS and SPONSORS NEEDED!**

We're Back at SIWANOY! ... JOIN US on Monday, June 1 for our 2026 TCS Golf Outing at Siwanoy Country Club in Bronxville. This is a great day of golf and a wonderful opportunity to raise money for scholarships for students at The Chapel School. Golfers and Sponsors Needed! Online registration will be live soon!

**TCS Offering Recipients ~ March & April 2026**

**MARCH – The Wartburg**

**APRIL - United for the Troops**



**Easter Breakfast:** Help us celebrate the joy of Easter by bringing a breakfast item to share for our special continental breakfast between services on Easter Sunday, April 5. Volunteers are also needed to help set-up and clean-up. Please fill out the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the MPR, make a note on the Pew Card, or speak to Coffee Hour Coordinator Warren Wong.

**Easter Flowers:** It's time to order beautiful spring plants to adorn our sanctuary for Easter. Plants may be taken home after the 10:45 service on Easter Sunday. Please use the order form in the bulletin or contact the church office at 914-337-0207 x1003 or [Krapillo@VLC-NY.org](mailto:Krapillo@VLC-NY.org). Deadline to order is Monday, March 16!

**Easter Baskets:** This is our annual service project to "share the love of Christ" with community children. Please pick up an empty basket from the table in the back of the sanctuary, fill it with some of the suggested items, wrap it in cellophane, and return to the church for delivery. Filled baskets must be returned by Sunday, March 22.

Village Lutheran Church &  
The Chapel School  
172 White Plains Road  
Bronxville, NY 10708  
VLC-NY.org  
[TheChapelSchool.org](http://TheChapelSchool.org)  
Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
White Plains, NY  
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

In loving memory of  
John Waters Eaton  
from his wife Theresa

In loving memory of  
Helen Messner's passing  
26 years ago from her daughter  
Kathy Coffey

In loving memory of Carl E. Kaeser  
from the Estate of Carl E. Kaeser