



Christus Victor Lutheran Church Member Guide





What We Believe

- The Bible
- The Apostle's Creed
- The Lord's Prayer
- The Teachings of Martin Luther



Guiding Principles

WE:

- Believe we are saved by God's grace through faith
- Experience and express God's love through healthy family relationships
- Welcome and care for all
- Serve the community through relevant ministries
- Fulfill our commission by sharing the Good News
- Equip ourselves for adversity and victory through prayer and the study of Scripture



Membership Covenant

In Holy Baptism our Lord Jesus Christ received and made me a member of His Church. Being in agreement with the Christus Victor Lutheran Church's Mission Statement, I now feel led by the Holy Spirit to unite with Jesus Christ throughout the congregation of Christus Victor Lutheran Church. In doing so, I commit myself to God and to the other members to do the following:



I Will SUSTAIN The Unity of My Church

...By acting in love

...By encouraging one another

...By supporting the leaders

“Let us then pursue what makes for peace and for mutual up-building” Romans 14:19 (RSV)

“May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one Another in accordance with Christ Jesus...” Romans 15:5 (NRSV)

“Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine Mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart.” 1 Peter 1:22 (NRSV)

“Let no evil talk come out of your mouth, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need,...” Ephesians 4:29 (NRSV)

“And let us consider how to stir up one another to love ad good works, not neglecting to meet together, as it is the habit of some, but encouraging one another,...” Hebrews 10:24 (RSV)



I Will SHARE

The Responsibility of My Church

- ...By praying for its mission
- ...By inviting the un-churched to attend
- ...By warmly welcoming those who visit

“We give thanks to God always for you all, constantly mentioning you in our prayers,...”
1 Thessalonians 1:2 (RSV)

“...Go out into the roads and lanes, and compel people to come in, so that my house may be filled.”
Luke 14:23 (NRSV)

“Welcome one another, therefore, as Christ has welcomed you, for the Glory of God.” Romans 15:7 (RSV)



I Will SERVE

The Ministry of My Church

- ...By discovering my gifts and talents
- ...By becoming equipped to serve
- ...By developing a servant's heart

“Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.” 1 Peter 4:10 (NRSV)

“The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ,...” Ephesians 4:11-12 (NRSV)

“Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a *servant*, being born in human likeness.” Philemon 2:4-7 (NRSV)





I Will SUPPORT

The Work and Witness of My church

...By attending faithfully

...By living a godly life

...By giving regularly

“Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel,...” Philemon 1:27 (NRSV)

“On the first day of every week, each of you is to put something aside and store it up, as he may prosper, so that contributions need not be made when I come.” 1 Corinthians 16:2 (RSV)

“Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” 2 Corinthians 9:7 (RSV)

“All tithes from the land, whether the seed from the ground or the fruit from the tree, are the Lord’s; they are holy to the Lord.” Leviticus 27:30 (NRSV)

“Bring the full tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house; and thereby put me to the test, says the LORD of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing.” Malachi 3:10 (RSV)





Maturity Covenant

In the Bible God admonishes us to strive toward spiritual maturity. Desiring to deepen my relationship with God and others, I now feel led to embark on this journey. Therefore, I commit myself to the lifelong process of Christian maturity and spiritual growth through:



PRAYER

Spending Time With God Daily

...Thanking and praising the Lord

...Seeking the Lord's will

...Asking the Lord's blessing

This is how I will grow in my personal relationship with Christ.

“pray constantly,” 1 Thessalonians 5:17 (RSV)

“Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. Their prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.” James 5:16 (NRSV)

“Watch and pray that you may enter into temptation; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.” Mark 14:38 (RSV)

“But you, beloved, build yourselves up on your most holy faith; pray in the Holy Spirit.” Jude 1:20 (NRSV)



STUDY

Taking Time to Learn God's Word

...Reading the Bible

...Engaging in parish education opportunities

...Utilizing other recommended Christian resources

This is how I will grow in my knowledge of Christ.

“I treasure your word in my heart, so that I may not sin against you.” Psalm 119:11 (NRSV)

“Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved by him, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth.” 2 Timothy 2:15 (RSV)

“...until all of us come to unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.” Ephesians 4:13 (NRSV)

“Train yourself in godliness, for,...godliness is valuable in every way, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come.” 1 Timothy 4:7-8 (NRSV)





PARTICIPATION

Spending Time With Others

...Attending fellowship activities

...Speaking words of encouragement

This is how I will grow in my relationship with other people.

“And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together,...but encouraging one another,...” Hebrews 10:24-25 (RSV)

“And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.” Acts 2:42 (RSV)

“...we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every joint with which it is supplied, when each part is working properly, makes bodily growth and up-builds itself in love.” Ephesians 4:15-16 (RSV)



STEWARDSHIP

Taking Time to Give and to Care

- ...Giving to God first
- ...Serving with my talents
- ...Caring for God's creation

This is how I will grow in my response to the blessings God has given me

“...they voluntarily gave according to their means, and even beyond their means,...and this, not merely as we expected; they gave themselves first to the Lord...” Corinthians 8:3-5 (NRSV)

“Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.” 1 Peter 4:10 (NRSV)

“Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always, having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work.”
2 Corinthians 9:7-8 (NRSV)





Ministry Covenant

In Word and Sacrament the Holy Spirit calls and empowers us to use our gifts and talents for the good of others. Realizing that God provides me with all I need to serve and care for others, I now commit to minister in Jesus' name by:



DISCOVERING My Unique Ministry Opportunities

I recognize that all of God's people have special gifts, talents, and abilities

I will use the resources provided by CVLC to identify the special gifts I can employ to further mission of the church

I will identify the ministries in which I can best use of my gifts, talents, and abilities

"...so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to use..." Romans 12:5-6 (NRSV)

"For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which god prepared beforehand to be our way of life." Ephesians 2:10 (NRSV)

"To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good." 1 Corinthians 12:7 (NRSV)





DEVELOPING

My Gifts, Talents, and Abilities for Ministry

I recognize the need for training to fully develop
my gifts, talents, and abilities

I will use the training resources of CVLC to equip myself
for service in CVLC's ministries

I will enhance my abilities by learning from others who are already
working in the service of the church

"...to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God,..." Ephesians 4:12-13 (NRSV)

"Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone." 1 Corinthians 12:4-6 (NRSV)





DOING

The Work of Ministry in Support of CVLC's Mission

I recognize that God has gifted me so that I can be a gift to others

I will put my gifts and abilities to use in one or more
of the ministries of CVLC

"...serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness,...serve the Lord...chose this day whom you will serve,...as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." Joshua 24:14-15 (RSV)

"So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith." Ephesians 6:9-10 (NRSV)

"Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received." 1 Peter 4:10 (NRSV)

"Whoever speaks must do so as one speaking the very words of God; whoever serves must do so with the strength that God supplies, so that God may be glorified in all things through Jesus Christ." 1 Peter 4:11 (NRSV)





DISCIPLING

Others in Ministry Service and Activities

I recognize the need to encourage and assist others to become active in ministry

I will affirm the unique gifts, talents, and abilities of others

I will look for ways to encourage and assist others to become active in ministry

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing...and teaching them...” Matthew 28:19-20 (NRSV)

“And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together,...but encouraging one another,...” Hebrews 10:24-25 (RSV)





Our Mission Statement

To all who need a friend,
To all who seek guidance,
To all who hunger, thirst or
Suffer any kind of need,
To all who mourn,
To all who want to rejoice
In God's love,

**This church opens wide her
doors in the name of Jesus Christ!**