



VILLAGE VOICES



The Capital Campaign- Past, Present and Future

In the fall of 2024 members of the Village Lutheran Church and The Chapel School were first contacted by a group in the first steps of the Capital Campaign to raise funds for various needed capital projects. Like many of you my wife and I were interviewed and a few months later we made a pledge along with our first installment.

I was then asked to serve on the Capital Campaign Committee. Later, as a new member of the Board of Trustees, I was made chair of the committee. Six (6) of us contacted families and individuals in the VLC-TCS community to seek pledges utilizing emails, letters and telephone calls. This went on for several months.

The original goal was to raise \$1.4 million but this was later raised to \$1.6 million. We were successful in obtaining pledges totaling \$1.52 million from a total of seventy-one (71) donors. However, the loss of our Development Officer in December 2025 made tracking the pledges and the installments challenging. Regardless, twenty-six of these donors have completed their pledges. Forty-three (43) are still making periodic installments and only two (2) families have yet to make an initial payment on their pledge.

The original number of items to be funded by the campaign was revised to nine (9). Of those, five (5) have been completed and paid. These include:

- LED Lighting for the School
- New Church Sanctuary Lighting
- Repair of the Multipurpose Room Ceiling
- Elevator Repairs and Accessibility
- Contingencies and Administrative Costs

Due to the need for additional wiring for the school project this item was over budget. However, you will be pleased to learn that the total cost to complete these five items was still approximately \$100,000 under budget!

There remain four (4) more projects. The status of each of these is as follows:

1) Replacement of Rooftop HVAC Units and Cooling Towers: This is unfortunately our most costly budgeted project with an estimated cost of over \$420,000. We hope to repair components to extend the lifetime of the system

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SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

July through

Labor Day Weekend

• Sunday 9 a.m. on the Great Porch

• 10:45 a.m. in the sanctuary.

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until such time as we have the funds to perform a replacement.

2) School Roof: Various means were explored to repair or replace the current school roof which has leaks. The Facilities Committee of the Board of Trustees presented to the full board a proposal to repair the roof with a urethane-silicone system with a twenty (20) year labor and materials warranty. The board unanimously voted to accept this proposal and a contract was signed last week. Work should begin this summer at a cost well under the original budgeted amount of \$225,000.

3) Replace School Flooring: Various sections of the school flooring require replacement. Rather than replace all of the flooring, which we cannot afford to do at this time, it has been decided to replace those sections most in need of replacement. A timetable for this project has not yet been determined.

4) New Playground: As more funds become available, we will better determine the scope of this project. Members of the VLC-TCS community should be pleased with the work accomplished so far and that the total for the five (5) completed items along with the school roof are under budget. However, we still have expensive projects left among which is the HVAC project. Unfortunately, the costs will only increase the longer that we wait.

Another issue has been the necessary diversion of Capital Campaign funds away from these needed projects to finance our deficit as discussed at the most recent Voters' Meetings. The Capital Campaign Committee will keep the community updated periodically about the campaign and its projects.

Joe Wilkinson
Chair, Capital Campaign Committee

Visits to the Homebound and Ill

When one's customary activities are disrupted by illness, chronic health issues, or limitations due to advanced age their needs are addressed by medical care and social services. What is often missing in their care is spiritual support and the reassurance of their important membership in our church community.

Our pastors previously would visit homebound or ill church members at their homes, in hospitals or at long term care facilities. In order to continue this valuable service in the absence of pastors our deacons have assumed these visitation duties.

Thanks to the organizational skills of Andrea Maxeiner, each of the deacons has received visitation assignments. It is hoped that every church member who is homebound or ill will receive a visit by one of our deacons approximately every six weeks. Prayer, partaking of communion and friendly conversation are part of each encounter.

To request these visits church members or their families are encouraged to contact Kim Rapillo in the church office. She may be reached by calling 914.337.0207 x1003 or emailing her at KRapillo@vlc-ny.org. If hospitalized, please ask the hospital chaplain or staff to contact VLC on your behalf so that our deacons are made aware and can plan a visit.

VILLAGE LUTHERAN CHURCH SUMMER BIBLE CAMP

STORIES - GAMES - SNACKS - CRAFTS

Save the date
AUGUST 11-13
6:00-8:00 PM

July Registration

PK4 - 4th grade

QUESTIONS?
WANT TO HELP?

BibleCamp@thechapelschool.org

For more information you can also contact Sarah Gleason

Pastoral Coverage This Summer at VLC

Bishop Dien Ashley Taylor has been in close contact with point persons here at Village Lutheran Church to coordinate ministerial coverage this summer. Since the departure of Rev. Budenholzer on May 31st, there were three different pastors visiting VLC to preside at Sunday services during June. Additionally, with the bishop’s assistance, we arranged for an “on-call/emergency call” minister to be available 24/7 during the month of June.

Looking forward through the remainder of the summer we anticipate having two (2) services each Sunday with the leadership of The Rev. Peter Deebrach, the Pastor of The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Saint Matthew in Manhattan. Rev. Deebrach will also be the “on call pastor” for emergencies and will perform baptisms and funerals.

At this time, we are cautiously optimistic that the 9 AM service on “The Great Porch” will continue to be conducted as an outdoor service as is our tradition each summer.

Church members are encouraged to call the church office (914.337.0207 x1003) during the week to get information about baptisms, weddings and funerals for family members. General information is available on our website VLC-NY.org. We will do all that we can to assist in securing a minister for these events.

And what about the search for a permanent senior pastor? Well, there are several steps that need to be done. We have accomplished some but there remain others. For example, a consultancy group, Mehta Cognition, is looking at our community and will make a report which will likely require some time to produce and to analyze. This report, in part, will guide the process to find a new senior pastor.

While we feel anxious to move forward with a new senior pastor it is more important that we move forward with the right senior pastor.

“...do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.” –Philippians 4:6.

Joe Wilkinson

VLC & Chapel VOYAGERS

SUMMER

Summer Voyagers is open to anyone entering/completing grades 3 – 7.

****Meetings for SUMMER 2026****

Thursday, July 9, 2026 6 – 7 PM
Playground ~ Wear swimsuit or clothes that can get wet.

Water Challenge

Thursday, July 23, 2026 6 – 7 PM
Playground ~ Wear swimsuit or clothes that can get wet.

Water Balloons

Thursday, August 6, 2026 6 – 7 PM

Playground ~ Wear swimsuit or clothes that can get wet.

Water Scavenger Hunt

During the summer outdoor activities, youth may enter through the playground. We will still have Youth even if it is raining, but we will be inside.

If you have any questions, please e-mail Erika Schultz at tyandbash@aol.com
Thanks!!

FOCUS ON WORSHIP

United in Diversity: Embracing Our Unique Roles in the Body of Christ by Deborah Reiss

Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. (1 Corinthians 12:27)



One of my favorite Dr. Seuss stories is the Star-Belly Sneetches. At first, the ones who had stars were considered more important. When lots of sneetches were able to buy their stars, value was placed on not having a star. Stars were removed and then replaced, for a fee. Finally, there was so much change and realignment that all the sneetches went broke, stars became irrelevant, and everyone was just a sneetch. Paul’s letter to the Corinthians is a bit like Dr. Seuss. He says that each part of the body is as intrinsic to the whole as any other. What is more intriguing is that “If the foot should say, ‘Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,’ it would not for that reason cease to be a part of the body.” The reality is that all parts of the body belong to the body, regardless of how it might regard itself or the other parts. We are all sneetches, with or without stars.

By virtue of being children of God, we have become one body. We all have different ways of participating and contributing, but we cannot deny the fact that we are one. Some people have highly visible roles, and some people tend to work quietly behind the scenes where hardly anyone knows what they have done. One part cannot function without the other. God has called us to exist together and use what we have been given to support the whole community. Every person counts, and every contribution matters.

We also have an advantage over the sneetches in that we are not determining what is important or how we should function. God has already created us and designed us to come together from all walks of life, endowed with different gifts but led by the same Spirit. We have people here who handle leadership well, and people who make sure that spaces are cleaned and ready to use, and people who make visitors feel welcome, and people who notice when someone else is missing or not looking well, and people who encourage others just by being present. God sees all of that and helps us to use what comes naturally to us so that we can build each other up and bear one another’s burdens.

So, remember that what you do is just as important to the life of the church as any other member. Pray for the Spirit’s guidance to lead you just where you are needed. And give thanks for all the people that are here to make our spiritual body live and grow in the Lord.

O Lord, even as You bless Your servants with various and unique gifts of the Holy Spirit, grant us grace to use them always to Your honor and glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

FAREWELL AND GODSPEED On Sunday, May 31, we gave thanks for the ministry of Pastor Mark Budenholzer and his family here at VLC/TCS and prayed for God's blessings on their next calling in Brooklyn.

Pastor Mark started as a part-time guest preacher in 2022 and was installed as our Associate Pastor/Director of Youth & Family Ministries in September of 2023. He created and revitalized these ministries in many ways, including Family Worship services to help children grow in faith, confirmation instruction and informal meeting nights, parent nights, and the development of a completely new 2-year curriculum for Sunday School. After Pastor Hartwell left to take a call at Lutheran Braille Workers, Pastor Mark stepped in to tend to our pastoral care with thoughtful preaching and oversight of our ministries. He also offered valuable assistance in technical and other practical matters.

Even as we have said farewell to our familiar pastors, we are grateful for the local pastors who have continued to tend to our pastoral needs. We are also confident in the guidance of our Lord as we move through the call process.

Thank you to Pastor Mark, Naomi and Jael for helping us "to know, live and share the love of Christ.



THE CHAPEL SCHOOL NEWS

By Principal Michael Schultz

Summer (June/July) @ TCS!

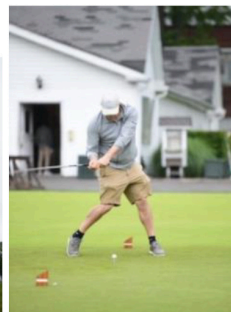
Congratulations to TCS’s Class of 2026! We are so proud of all of them and expect to hear all about their future successes when you come back to visit! Well Done: Ariel Blackman (Montfort Academy), Leo Burton (Loyola NYC), Nazir Davis (Stepinac), Andi Gace (Rye Country Day), Dennis Hankewycz (Regis), Kennedy Hutton (Ursuline), Ardi Jahjaga (Fordham Prep), Caleb Palmar (British School of Brussels), Jaydon Raphael (Stepinac), Noah Thomas (Stepinac), Max Tinson (Loyola NYC), Landon Walsh (Stepinac), Elle Watts (Riverdale Country School), and Sarah Watts (Riverdale Country School).



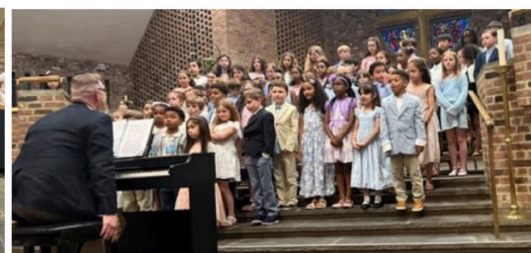
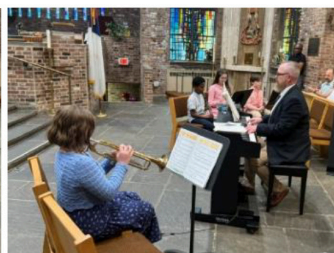
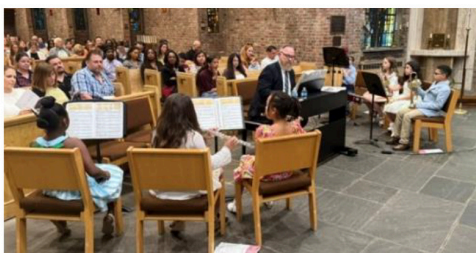
BACCALAUREATE SUNDAY ... God Bless TCS Class of 2026! Thank You Pro Deo et Schola Honoree James Bunn! TCS Announces 2026-2027 Theme ... “Let Your Light Shine!” (Matthew 5:16)

Another glorious day for TCS Golf Outing Monday, June 1, 2026 at Siwanoy Country Club!

Thank You Siwanoy Country Club GM **Kevin McGuirk**, Asst. GM **Dillon Hanaburgh**, Director of Golf **Brian Giordano**, Assistant Pro **Nico Langelotti**, **Siwanoy’s Caddies** and **Kitchen Staff!** Thank You **Kim Zwisdak!** Thank You **TCS Golf Outing Committee Members**, including: **Mike Spiciarich**, **Athena Kerin**, **Jim Condolff**, **Michael McCall**, **Brian Barry**, **Tyler Rindler**, **Jeff Palmese** and **Preston Flammang!** Thank You **Major Sponsors**, including: **MediaLogic (David Schultz)**, **Pepe Auto Group**, **Blue Ribbon Foundation**, **Kerin MedSpa**, **CBRE**, **The McCall Family**, **Fiduciary Trust International**, **The Condolffs ...** and **many more Tee and Prize Sponsors!** **Thanks PTO/Staff Volunteers! Congrats Spiciarich Foursome on a Great Tournament (-13) and Putting Contest Winner Jamie O’Hara!** Thank You golfers, volunteers and prize donors! Hope to see you next year!



Wonderful End-Of-Year Programs and Moving Up Ceremonies from Preschool through 8th Grade, thanks to Mrs. Marino and Mr. Heath! #Bravo





Congrats 2026-2027 SL2 Winners Nehemiah, Griffin, Ruben, Luciana, Mia, Kaylin, Anna and Lila! Congrats Regional Stock Market Game Winners Dennis Hankewycz (1st), Andi Gace (2nd) and Caleb Palmar (3rd)! #TCSSTockserves #TCSStockMarketSweep



#GodBlessTCS! #BuildingAFamilyOfFaith #LetYourLightShine!

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 Dates Are: July 15 + August 19

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



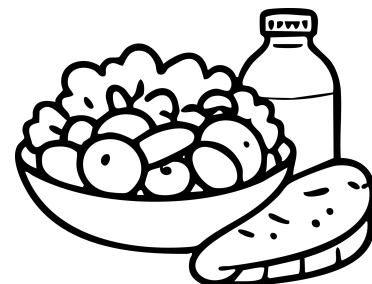
Please pick up a small aluminum tray from the reception desk, available after church services and during VLC & TCS hours. Bring the cooked food trays to the VLC parking lot, between 12:00-1:00PM, on the third Wednesday for collection. The food will be delivered to the soup kitchen by our VLC volunteers.

Sign up today at:
www.tinyurl.com/MealCooking

For more information, please contact
VLC Soup Kitchen Coordinator, Katie Bukofzer
at: ETAKWHIT@aol.com



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



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

VLC-NY.org
TheChapelSchool.org

Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
White Plains, NY
Permit No. 7793

MEMORIAL/HONORED VOICES

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

Dear Church and School Community,

We are excited to share an opportunity for you to honor special events such as anniversaries, birthdays, or other significant milestones through a donation. Your contributions in celebration of these joyful occasions will support our church and school's mission while commemorating the moments that matter most to you. These special commemorations will be listed in the Village Voices.

If you'd like to make a donation in honor of a special event or person, please reach out to the church office for more information on how to get started. Your generosity will help us continue to nurture and uplift our community.

Thank you for considering this heartfelt way to celebrate life's milestones!