

Sermon Notes

We would love to hear your story!

If you have a story to share in The Pulse about healing, praise, gratitude, serving in a mission or ministry at Victory, share it at hello@victorylutheran.com. (300 word max)

Daily Bible Readings (May 11-17)

Sun:	Acts 8:26-39	Phillip Baptizes the Ethiopian
Mon:	Acts 9:1-19	The Conversion of Saul
Tues:	Acts 9:20-31	Saul in Damascus & Jerusalem
Wed:	Acts 9:36-43	Peter & Tabitha
Thurs:	Acts 10:34-48	Gentiles Hear the Good News
Fri:	Acts 11:19-30	The Church in Antioch
Sat:	Acts 12:6-19	Peter Delivered from Prison

*The readings selected come from the Narrative Lectionary calendar.

Life Notes

Eyewitness News #4:
"Seen & Sent"
John 21:15-19

Opener:

What every day scent instantly takes you back to a childhood memory?

Go Deeper:

1. Compare the two charcoal fires (John 18:15-18; John 21:9-17). How does Jesus' beachside fire intentionally echo—and transform—the courtyard failure?

2. John uses two Greek verbs for love (agapáō and philéō). Why might Jesus switch words the third time?

3. Read 2 Corinthians 5:17-20. How does Peter's restoration reflect Paul's promise that anyone "in Christ" is a new creation and an ambassador of reconciliation?

4. What do you think is the significance of Jesus restoring Peter at the same lake at which Jesus first called Peter (Luke 5:1-11)?

Live It:

1. Think of an area where you have "gone back to fishing" after disappointment. What would it look like this week to dive toward Jesus instead of staying in the boat?

2. Jesus asks for Peter's love, not his track record. In what practical way can you let love for Christ—not perfectionism—drive a task or relationship this week?

3. Imagine yourself at the beach with Jesus. What three questions might He ask you? How would you answer?

4. Identify one "sheep" under your own roof or in your closest circle who needs tangible care. What specific act will you commit to by next week?

Upcoming Week

Sunday, May 11
HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!
New Member Commissioning
7-11am Morning Fellowship, FH
8am Worship & Communion, WC
9:30am Worship, WC
11am Contemporary Worship, WC
11am Children's Church, NR

Monday, May 12
9-11:30am Food Pantry
9am Small Group Leader Training, B7
12:30-2:30pm GriefShare, C4
4pm Confirmation Class, LR

Tuesday, May 13
9:30am Women's Ministry
Combined Bible Study, C4
6:30pm Women's Bible Study, LR
7pm AA Men's Meeting, FS

Wednesday, May 14
9-11:30am Food Pantry
12:30pm AI-Anon, C4
1pm Men's Bible Study, LR
8pm AA Meeting, FS

Thursday, May 15
10am Prayer Group, B7
10:30am S.A.F.E. Singles Event (off-site)
Air Force Museum
11am AI-Anon Meeting, FS
11:30am Stephen Ministry, C4

Friday, May 16
OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday, May 17
8am Men's Bible Study, FS
4pm Worship, WC

CH = Chapel
FH = Fellowship Hall
FS = Fireside Room
LR = Luther Room
NR = Nursery
WC = Worship Center
C4 = Community Room

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EYEWITNESS
NEWS

MAY 10 & 11, 2025

"SEEN & SENT"
John 21:15-19

Todd Mathison, Lead Pastor
Denton Bennet, Associate Pastor
Susan Westland, Chaplain
Renee Bennett, Pastoral Intern

Connect with us!

GOD TIME: The Sacred Calling of Motherhood — Now Hiring!

This year, as I thought about the women in our lives I realize many of the moms, grandmothers, great-grandmothers in our church family may have spent some or most of their adult life trying to live up to mothering standards that are completely unrealistic . . .

POSITION: Currently seeking a Holy Spirit filled, Bible believing teacher, mentor, coach, nose-wiper, cook called Mother, Mom, Mama, Mommy.

JOB DESCRIPTION: Long-term team players needed for challenging permanent work in an often-chaotic environment. Candidates must possess excellent communication and organizational skills, be willing to work variable hours, including evenings, weekends, and frequent 24-hour shifts on call. Some overnight travel required, including trips to primitive camping sites on rainy weekends, away sports matches and occasional visits to hospitals. Travel expenses are not reimbursed.

RESPONSIBILITIES: Must provide hands-on training in basic life skills like nose-blowing and shoe-tying, and be skilled in negotiation, conflict resolution, crisis management, and minor first aid. Must think creatively without losing sight of practical needs (like a box for a school project), and be able to drive safely under chaotic conditions while managing conflicts. Candidates must endure criticism, accept temporary unpopularity, hold their tongue, and have the stamina of a pack mule—ready to sprint at a moment's notice. Always hope for the best, prepare for the worst, and take full responsibility for the outcome.

BENEFITS: The only benefits offered are limitless opportunities for personal growth and free hugs for life if you play your cards right.

I don't know about you, but after reading this, I am exhausted. So, as you think about your mother today, take time today thank God for all the women He sent to help shape us into the people we are.

With endless appreciation — *Pastor Susan Westland*



GATHER TIME: A Voice for Moravian Music

Russell C. Mathias, Choir member

On Sunday, March 30, Victory presented a concert that featured music by Moravian composers including choir anthems, music for a brass quartet and a string trio. VLC Choir member Russell C. Mathias was featured in the Moravian Music Foundation April Newsletter. (Summary below) moravianmusic.org

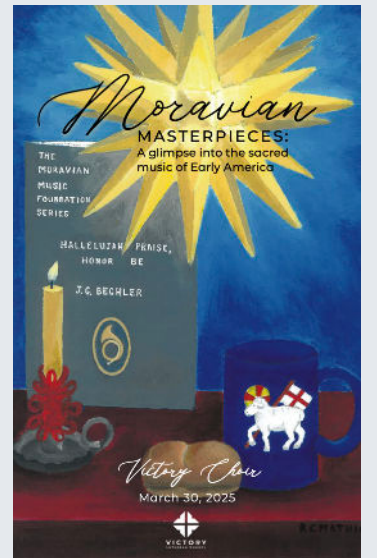
Russel has kept his connection to Moravian music through the Moravian Music Foundation Music Festivals. He sang in his first festival in 1992, continuing to participate in several others after that. Moravian music is not widely known outside of Moravian circles. This spurred him to develop a Moravian Music Lending Library in Arizona. In the past, Victory utilized Russell's lending library the most and is one of two choirs in which Russell currently sings.



With two cancer diagnoses in his life (now in remission) and Russell's failing eyesight, the Arizona Lending Library has all but stopped, but Russell has not. At 82 years old, Russell is embarking on what is his most impactful Moravian musical endeavor. Russell, in partnership with Dr. Kristin Prouty, music director at Victory Lutheran Church, will be putting on "Moravian Music Masterpieces." Most impressively, Russell will sing the solo piece "Lamb of God! Thou Shalt Remain Forever, " a solo sung by him 30 years ago at a Moravian meeting in Phoenix!

Watch the concert on our YouTube channel or scan the QR code.

www.youtube.com/live/Fd_q25017o4



GO TIME: "Repairers of the Breach" by Michelle Tessendorf

A Review by Pastor Todd Mathison

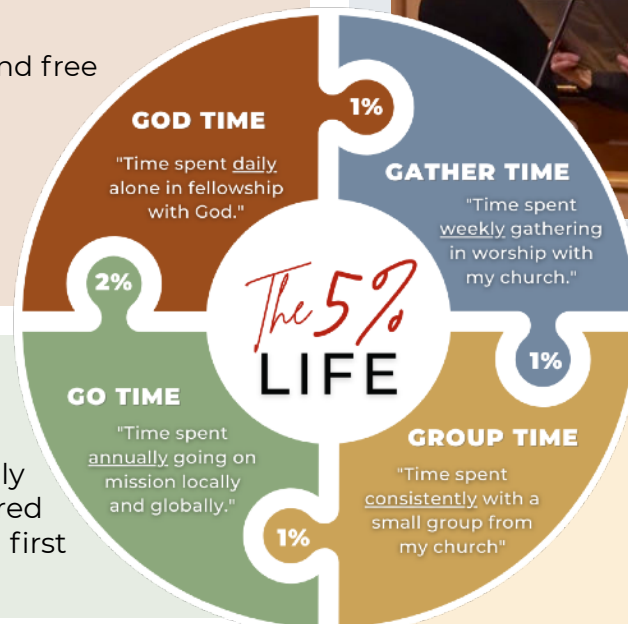
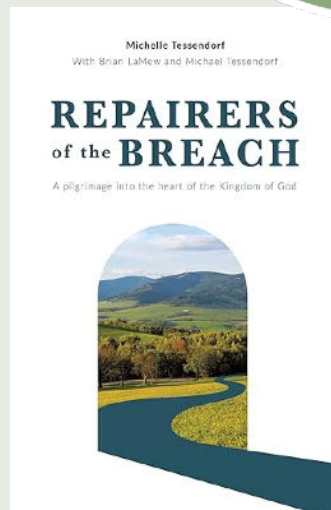
"Repairers of the Breach" is a powerful, hope-filled account by a leader who truly embodies its message. As the head of a Christian mission our church has partnered with for over 15 years, Michelle not only knows the realities of broken communities first hand—she has spent her life seeing them renewed and restored. Her experience of leading churches, church leaders and mission teams into vulnerable areas, where physical, emotional, and spiritual needs run deep, gives her words an unmistakable authority. Through dedicated, Gospel-centered ministry, she has seen these communities move from despair to becoming vibrant, model examples of transformation. Rich with biblical insight and real-life testimonies, "Repairers of the Breach" is both an inspiration and a practical guide for anyone longing to bring the transformative power of Jesus Christ into the broken places of our world.

(Available online at: amazon.com/dp/B0DM9K6K1N)



About Michelle Tessendorf, Co-Founder & CEO of Orchard: Africa

Michelle and her husband Mike pastored a multi-cultural, multi-ethnic church in the north west province of South Africa for over 20 years. Through this church, the ministry of Orchard: Africa was birthed. The AIDS pandemic created a humanitarian crisis of overwhelming proportions. Orchard: Africa is one of Victory's international mission partners whom we financially support and send mission teams to South Africa.



GROUP TIME: Women's Ministry Combined Bible Study

Tuesday, May 13 @ 9:30am

During the summer months (May-September) Women's Ministry meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month at Victory as a combined group. Pastor or Bible Study leader choses the study.



Quilters Group Meets

May 20 @ 8:30am-2:30pm

May 21 @ 8:30-11:30am

We meet the 3rd Tuesday and Wednesday of the month at 8:30am. Come when you can, stay as long as you can; everyone can cut, sew, pin and tie knots. You do not need to be a church or circle member to attend. Bring a friend! Several ladies like to knit or crochet afghans, lap robes, shoulder wraps and slippers from donated yarn, available during quilting days. We need sewers to take pre-cut quilt blocks home to sew the quilt tops. We can use donations of clean sheets, drapes, tablecloths, blankets, yarn, thread and fabric. Monetary donations for batting also appreciated.

Cindy Hilsabeck, Coordinator

Note: We do not meet in July, August or December.

