



The Light has Arrived!

*The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who dwelt in a land of deep
darkness, on them has light shone.*

Isaiah 9:2

We are those people!

In Advent, our focus returns to the son of God, Jesus, born into this world as a babe. And in Him, in His face, we see the brightness of the dawn of God's forgiveness rising in the horizon of our hearts. As we come closer to the light of His presence, His mother, Mary, tells us His name is Jesus because He has saved us from our sins.

He has come to meet us. He came to die for us. He has come to save us. The angels are singing! The shepherds are rejoicing! The everlasting light fills us with His light, His love, and His life!

So how do we help others come to see this? We proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord.

Advent light shines in our hearts to give "the light of the knowledge of God's glory in the face of Jesus Christ." The light proclaimed in John 12:46 begins with the staggering Advent mystery of a babe, helpless, held in His mother's arms, breaking the hold that sin and unbelief had on us.

A fierce Light pierced the darkness that night. The babe in the manger scene? It is the Advent reality, an incarnation of God, who came to scatter the darkness of a sin-weary world. May that light, the light of faith in Jesus Christ, shine with radiance in our hearts today and always. Amen.

- Paul Eschmann



MERRY CHRISTMAS



& BLESSINGS IN THE NEW YEAR

Advent and Christmas provide special opportunities for VL students to "be the light" in and around our community. (counter clockwise from the top left) Students created a "toilet-TREE" with a variety of personal hygiene items that will be donated; Sophi helps load up an armful of the 260 boxes for Operation Christmas Child; Golden Voice performs at the annual Christmas concert.

"Officially" Dedicated as Executive Director!

A special chapel service provided the setting for Rev. David Davis (President, MI District LCMS) to formally dedicate Mr. Al Kaul in his new role as Executive Director of VLHS.

Nearly two months to the day from his "first day of school" - and just a week after Thanksgiving - VLHS held a service of celebration and dedication for Mr. Al Kaul (VL '87), in his new role as Executive Director. In attendance were the student body, faculty, staff, members of the Kaul family, Board members, Foundation Board members, Pastors and Principals from several Association Congregations, and other members from the "Valley Family." The service provided the opportunity for Mr. Kaul to affirm his faith and publicly declare his intent to serve at VLHS and to support of the mission of our school: *Preparing students for life with Christ as our foundation!* "I am honored and humbled to be able to serve at this school - a place that has had a profound impact on me and my family. I am excited to join the incredibly important work of this institution," reflected Mr. Kaul.

Welcome Mr. Kaul - we give thanks to God for you and for this school!



Come take a

PEEK AT VALLEY

A one-hour guided tour for students and families that peeks into the VL experience and what sets us apart

Wednesday, January 24
Arrivals begin at 6:00 p.m.

Sign-up at

www.vlhs.com/takeapeek

or



Grade School Night at Charger Basketball



Friday, February 9, 2024
5:30 p.m. - Varsity Women
7:00 p.m. - Varsity Men

Game tickets: \$5
(or bring a VL Event Pass!)

Receive a coupon for a free popcorn and a pop/water

And stop by the

'Chat with VL'

A casual conversation about the VL experience



Beginning at 6:15
Room 108

Many Valley Lutheran fall athletes were recently recognized for accomplishments

at the Conference, District, Regional, and State level.

Check out the list at www.vlhs.com/fall23awards or scan:



Well done Chargers!
We are proud of your accomplishments on and off the field!



Golden Voice Choir Contributes to Hymnal Project

When Valley's Golden Voice Choir Director Mr. Paul Eschmann was contacted about participating in the Hymnal Project the answer was an excited, "yes"!

The Hymnal Project, started in 2017, is a resource of the Michigan District of the LCMS tasked with creating new arrangements of traditional hymns in a variety of musical styles.

Peter Prochnow, Director of Worship Arts and Community Engagement for the Michigan District and leader of the Hymnal Project, was looking for a group to record choral arrangements. So he turned to Dr. Boonenberg of Concordia University, Ann Arbor and Mr. Eschmann.

"Both conductors got to conduct during the recording session, and they worked well together," said Prochnow, "and the kids did a great job!"

"We were thrilled to be a part of this project!", Mr. Eschmann said. "To do what we do with excellence so that Christ is clearly seen in every aspect is our philosophy of music. To have this platform to share Christ in a new and powerful way, reaching far beyond the walls of our school, was an amazing opportunity."



The recordings made by the Hymnal Project are used in all kinds of ways by churches; they've also been used on radio shows, and a video taken during a recording session was shown at the end of the recent Church Worker Conference.

While originally created to be a resource for the churches of the Michigan District, the website has been accessed by 30 different countries.

To learn more about the Hymnal Project go to www.hymnalproject.com.

To hear the recordings made by the joint CUAA and Valley Lutheran choirs go to <https://www.thehymnalproject.com/hymns-sung-by-a-choir> or scan:



Valley Lutheran High School's

21st Annual Benefit Dinner & Auction

WWW.VLHSAUCTION.COM



MONOPOLY

TICKETS ON SALE
JAN. 1ST

Saturday, Feb. 24, 2024

5:30p - 10:00p

@ Hilton DoubleTree, Bay City