

# PLEASANT VALLEY NEWSLETTER

**From the Pastor's Corner:**

**July 2013**

## **Five Times Alas**

The word "alas" is not one we tend to use very much. I suppose it is like the Town Crier standing somewhere outside the hospital speaking Old English to the waiting crowd.

Donning traditional royal garb and a large, feathered hat, Tony Appleton ascended the steps at St. Mary's Hospital in London just before 9 p.m. local time. As he read a proclamation about the birth, cheers could be heard from well-wishers gathered outside.

"On this day, the 22nd of July in the year 2013, we welcome, with humble duty, a future king, the firstborn of Their Royal Highness the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, the third in line to the throne," he announced with great fanfare. "And our new prince is the third great-grandchild of Her Majesty the Queen and the grandchild of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales."

On the other hand, the prophet Habakkuk (name sounds like "tobacco") had a different cry with a different vision:

Alas, wealth is treacherous! (Hab. 2:5-6)

Alas, for you who get evil gain! (Hab. 2:9-11)

Alas, a culture of violence!

Alas for you who build a town by bloodshed! (Hab. 2:12 ) Against the unjust cruelty.

Alas what use is an idol once its maker has shaped it? (Hab. 2:18) Against idolatry.

"There is an impressive, challenging, and critical dialogue between God and Habakkuk. He is the prophet who 'fights with God,' reminding us of the fight between Jacob and the angel, of Moses' reasons in Exodus 3:4, or Jeremiah 1:4-10, of Job's struggle, and of the beautiful story of the Canaanite woman who transforms the sense of the mission of Jesus himself (Matthew 15:21-28).

Habakkuk's question is useful for all times: How is it possible that the God of justice allows the powerful to oppress the righteous ones? God makes him see a coming future."<sup>\*</sup>

The end of this brief book of prophecy shows us how hope in God through Jesus Christ works its way in the world of alas:

Yet I will rejoice in the Lord; I will exult in the God of my salvation. God, the Lord is my strength; he makes my feet like the feet of a deer, and makes me tread upon the heights. (Hab. 3:18-19)

May we like the deer tread upon the heights of Jesus' hope and love in our mission here at Pleasant Valley.

Pastor Bill

p.s. As a sign of such hope and love, we will baptize Jackson Jin Pederson on August 11<sup>th</sup>. I hope you are able to attend and welcome this new child of God into our midst with parents Ben and Jesse along with sponsors Lori and Jesse Kleinschmidt.

*\*Hope for the World*, "Revolutionary Hope for the Church after Christendom." By Ofilia Ortega, Walter Brueggemann, ed.

## **Pleasant Valley Lutheran Church Council Minutes**

**July 9, 2013**

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 a.m. by President Randy Sands. Pastor Bill led us in a devotion from "Thin Places" (places where we meet the glory of God) in Speaking of Goats, by Barbara Brown Taylor (Luke 9:28-36), and a prayer.

The secretary's report was read. The treasurer's report was read. A question was asked as to whether the pledges for the lift were coming in. We have \$29,225 already paid with a total of \$33,481 when all commitments are in. The Pastor's report was read.

Motion to approve all reports from John. Second by Corissa. Motion carried.

### **NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

We do not have an address for Tiffany Komro, our March Mission Offering recipient. Since we cannot find that information, the \$216 collected in March will be given to Eau Claire County Meals on Wheels. Roxie so moved. Second by John. Motion carried.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**Education** – Roxie has put up a note to get the VBS process started. Strum is having VBS the second week of August, from 4 to 8 on four evenings. The cost is \$20 to \$30 per student. They are willing to partner with us for VBS. The final cost will be decided when they know how many students are attending.

The Ambassadors will meet on July 14 at 7p.m. to plan a church service in Olson Park, possibly on August 4. They will check with the Praise Team to see how they would feel about a service without electricity.

Confirmation students have attended Luther Park in past years. Roxie needs to decide if we need to allocate proceeds from the soup and sandwich suppers and the Easter breakfast to campers or get it to Luther Park to spend where needed. Pastor Bill will call the parents of the confirmands to see if they can attend the Christ Walk on July 11.

**Property** – Dale Pederson is not interested in putting up the soffit.

The installation of an L-lift was discussed. The installers should be started by July 15. The electrician that wires the lift will put the water heater on a separate circuit with 220 and also add some outlets to the dining area. We have 25% of the cost in the account and ready to pay when work begins.

Sign on Highway 37 – no progress

Handicapped sign – no progress

100 feet of copper for the gas is laid and the bill has been paid. We will get more copper and have it pressure checked after it is hooked up, then it will be buried.

**Worship** – The constitution still needs some updating. According to the Synod, we need a financial secretary as well as a treasurer. Randy Sands, Roxie, Pastor Bill, John, and Ruth will meet on Tuesday, July 16, at 7 to get an update done. Corissa has volunteered to fill the position of financial secretary if needed.

**NEW BUSINESS**

We are planning to reserve a booth at Cleghorn Fest and see about getting a booth at the Buffalo County Fair in Mondovi to publicize our bazaar and get the name of the church out into the public eye. It seems we do not need to get the permit to sell tickets, since our sales are not large enough to require that.

The Sojourner House in Eau Claire supplies a place where 42 to 48 adults in need can get a meal and spend the night. They accept shampoos and soaps from motels to give to those taking a shower. Ruth will check to see if they could also use money and if they need it for a specific use. We will remember them as recipients for a Mission Offering.

Mission Sunday offering – July – Meals on Wheels – Eau Claire County

August – Bed nets for Malawi

Mondovi is looking for a family to supply room and board for a Finnish student. The student will be high school age and attend Mondovi Schools.

The next council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 6, at 7:00 p.m.

Meeting closed at 8:26 with a motion Ruth. Second by Roxie. Motion carried. Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Poore, Council secretary

Members present: Randy Sands, John Poore, Roxie Ulness, Pastor Bill, Corissa Sands, and Ruth Poore.

**Treasurer Report**

Summary of Offering and Expenses

	Y-T-D	April	May	June
Offering	\$25,826.20	\$3,641.00	\$3,456.00	\$4,255.95
Misc. Income	\$526.11	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$485.86
Expenses	\$26,853.59	\$3,792.77	\$4,615.79	\$4,476.07

Year to date the expenses have exceeded offering by \$501.28

Mission offering collected in June for the Gideons was \$95.00. July mission offering will go to Meals on Wheels of Eau Claire County and August Mission offering will go for Malawi bed nets.

Building Fund:

In memory of George "Pat" Erickson, from Nancy Kingsbury

In memory of George "Pat" Erickson, from Dave & Kim Vlcek

Lift Fund:

In memory of Blanche Swan, Marilyn’s Aunt, from Pastor Bill and Marilyn Wendt

In memory of Dennis Poore, from Jim & Janice Teigen

In memory of George “Pat” Erickson, from

Will & Barbara Maines

Sadie Odegard

Larry & Crystal Sands

Gary & Irene Isaacson

Mark & Rhonda Berg

Joe Sands

Donald & Carmen McNamara

Sandra Schuch

Agnes Erickson

Eugene & Arlene Radtke

Noble & Jensine Larson

Donald & Jean Parkhurst

Dan & Nola Herzberg

Randy & Kay Sands

Duane & Heather Muller

Jeffrey & Kathy Doering

Willard & Janet Wilson

Lillia Olson

Wayne & Linda Cole

Robert & Carol Krause

Dr. Michael & Nancy Spak

Gerald & Betty Hoover

Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Lehman

Philip & Carol Sessions

Arthur & Elizabeth Schaller

Ronald & Mary Younge

Dale & Avis Erickson

Patricia Kries

Cemetery Association:

In memory of George “Pat” Erickson, from Jim & Joann Lehman

In memory of George “Pat” Erickson, from Maurice and Donna Eide

In memory of George “Pat” Erickson, from Lawrence & Genevieve Pederson

In memory of George “Pat” Erickson, from John & Clarice Erickson

To date \$30,595.47 has been received for the Lift fund. Pledges remaining to be received are \$3890.53.

Fuel Pre-Buy of \$1,394.15 is due.

Respectfully submitted:

Roxie Ulness, Treasurer

Check out our new website at [www.pleasantvalleylutheran.com](http://www.pleasantvalleylutheran.com)

**OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE FOR AUGUST**

**Please see your Opportunities to serve list handed out earlier (also see the calendar)**

**Praise Team News**

The praise team will play at Ridgeland Lutheran on August 11. The group will lead worship at Pleasant Valley and the Chippewa Valley Correctional Treatment Facility on August 25. Join the group for practices on Thursday evenings at 6:30 pm.

**Happy Birthday: Janice Teigen August 25<sup>th</sup> S11530 Cty. Rd W, Eleva WI 54738 – Blessing on your Day!**

**Pleasant Valley Choir;**

Will resume in September.

## **Youth Ministry:**

**Confirmation:** Is finished for the summer.

**Sunday School:** The Sunday school will be on break until September. Thanks so much to all who have helped to teach this year! Start planning on being a teacher this fall! Thanks.

**VBS** – Volunteers are needed to coordinate the VBS program for this summer. Contact any council member if you are interested. More info forth coming.

**Ambassadors:** On Saturday August 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 7: pm at Olson Park plan to be there to participant in the outdoor service and help set-up and practice. Outdoor worship service in Olson Park on August 4<sup>th</sup> at 9: am.

**Men's Ministry:** Will resume in September.

**WELCA:** The Women will not be having a monthly meeting during the summer month. Watch for the one day summer bible study forth coming. Plan now to attend the 'Summer WELCA Retreat' on the 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> at Luther Park in Chetek. The Eleva Bell Ringers will be attending also. See enclosed flyer for more info.

## **Texts for Readers - August**

	Reader
<b>Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost - August 4, 2013;</b> <b>Hosea 11:1-11</b> <b>Psalm 49:1-12</b> <b>Colossians 3:1-11</b> <b>Luke 12:13-21</b>	<b>Ambassadors</b>
<b>Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost - August 11, 2013;</b> <b>Isaiah 1:1, 10-20</b> <b>Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23</b> <b>Hebrews 11:1-16</b> <b>Luke 12:22-34 (35-40)</b>	<b>Larry Sands</b>
<b>Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost - August 18, 2013</b> <b>Jeremiah 23:23-29</b> <b>Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19</b> <b>Hebrews 11:29-12:2</b> <b>Luke 12: 49-56</b>	<b>Douglas Sands</b>
<b>Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost - August 25, 2013</b> <b>Jeremiah 1:4-10</b> <b>Psalm 71:1-6</b> <b>Hebrews 12:18-29</b> <b>Luke 13: 10-17</b>	<b>John Poore</b>

**Here is our Prayer Concern list. We invite you to pray for the following:**

Sharon and the family of Bernie Vogler  
Berniece Swan- sister-in-law of Marilyn and Pastor Bill- receiving treatments, Salem, IL  
Laurie McDowell- receiving treatments- niece of Ruthann Knutson, Minneapolis  
Brittany and Jeremiah Beavens, with Myotonic Dystrophy (Type I)-daughter and granddaughter of  
Mark and Kim Koser- New Ulm, MN  
The Inmates at CVTC, Chippewa Falls  
Mike Tweet – receiving treatments  
Steven Moore of Stanley, WI, stricken with Multiple Myeloma, Brother-in-Law of Randy and Cathy  
Winger  
Bob and Sally Ash-recuperating at home  
Mark Lund fighting cancer, husband Candice Lund, cousin of Monica Bahr's, of Eleva  
The Gideons International Bible Society  
Our Servicemen and Women in harm's way in Afghanistan and around the world

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**\*\*FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE...**

**\*NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS: SUNDAY August , 18th for the September Newsletter**

**Call Monica Bahr, 715 287-4742, or E-mail [dmbahr@tcc.coop](mailto:dmbahr@tcc.coop) (the other address still works.)**

**Also Email the church at [plesntvalleyluth@tcc.coop](mailto:plesntvalleyluth@tcc.coop) with any bulletin or newsletter announcements, esp. prayer request and updates. Thanks.**

**\*Bulletin items due by Wednesday pm. I'll be printing them on Thursday evening**

Pleasant Valley Lutheran Church  
W2450 Cty. Rd. WW  
Eleva WI 54738

“That all May come, Serving all the People of God”

Pastor Bill Wendt

Home Office - 715-926-5379

Church Office 715-287-4473

# **August**

**2013**

**Ambassador outdoor worship service on the 4<sup>th</sup>**

**In Olson Park beginning at 9:00am**

**Luther Park WELCA Retreat on Thursday  
the 14<sup>th</sup> through Friday Aug 15<sup>th</sup>**

# Praise Team Worship on the 25<sup>th</sup>