PLEASANT VALLEY NEWSLETTER

*That all may come, Serving all the people of God*

**From Jason’s Corner: July 2015**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

 The other day I was watching YouTube videos of various artists from different “Gaither Homecoming Events.” After watching a few and realizing that Gloria Gaither didn’t do much talking (at least on the clips that was watching) I got curious about Bill and Gloria’s story. I stumbled upon an interview with the couple. As a young couple they served as teachers. Bill had all but given up on his dream involving music. Then the couple wrote a song and before they new it other singers were performing covers of it. Gloria referred to this as an interruption in their life. This would be an interruption that would change their life. From her point of view God works through interruptions.

The more I have thought about it the more that I find this to be true. I remember in high school the teachers talking about the importance of the five-year plan. I finally stopped making them because it six months to a year in the plan would change. Usually due to one of those interruptions that Gloria talked about.

With that said there is something for having some direction in one’s life, but this is where our faith is important. Whether they are plans that we have made, or an interruption changing the course we thought we were on place your eyes on God and the way will be made known.

God be with in and through the interruptions and changes that life brings your ways. God does not give us more than we can handle, God helps us handle what we are given. (a quote from Facebook- author Unknown).

Peace and Blessings,

Jason Clifton

VISITATION/OFFICE DAYS: September 2nd. Office hour’s 8:30 - 4:30 in office morning with visits in the afternoon. Prayers around the cross at 6:30.

**This month’s Mission Offering**

September Mission Offering

Theresa (Enoz) Dewitz – to help

with costs related to cancer treatments.

**Insights on Bible Camp – Jason’s interview with the Vikingson Girls.**

Last week I sat with Annabelle, Sarah and Catie, and interviewed them about camp.

They want to express their gratitude for the financial support that Pleasant Valley made so they could attend Bible camp.

What was your favorite part of Camp?

 Annabelle: The Worship and Singing

 Catie: Singing and Worship

 Sarah: The Counselor was Awesome

What is important about camp? I mean why should others go to camp next year.

* At camp you meet people from other churches with different traditions. So it is nice to meet people with similar interests.
* Teamwork – in short time you learn how to work with new people you process differently than you.
* Along the lines of teamwork – there is a challenge course. One part of this is several people standing on a log. Then you have to move past people on the log without getting off and without speaking. The purpose of the challenges is to teach us to work together and in the process learn new ways to communicate.

Next, I asked them what was something that they took away from camp and put into daily use. Here are some of the things that they shared

* Sarah came home and started singing (note that after camp all three shared some camp songs with us).
* Catie came home with ways to stay connected with new friends made at camp.
* Annabelle (jokingly) challenge courses @ home so we get along. I think we can all relate to that. ☺

Camp is a time of experiencing new and different things. Whenever we attend a camp, retreat, or a conference we learn new things. Hopefully there are things we want to share with the congregation. So what is something that we might implement here at Pleasant Valley. Perhaps sometime we could use skits or dramatic readings for scripture and the sermon. Ultimately using a variety of ways to communicate the story.

They had a great time at camp and if you want to hear more just ask away. You know camp has been impactful when all three would like to be camp counselors someday.
 Thanks Be to God for their experience and their witness.

**Pleasant Valley Lutheran Church**

**Council Minutes**

Sunday, August 16, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 10:26 by President Nola Herzberg. Jason led us in devotion from Ephesians 4: 1-16 and a prayer.

**NON-AGENDA**

 Ruthann Knutson outlined her ideas for the 2015-2016 Sunday School year. She would like to try to have class twice a month, as was suggested last spring. The council enthusiastally agreed to have Sunday School on the second and third Sundays. We will try to have the same teacher on both Sundays of each month, so we would need 8 teachers. The first class will be on September 13 and the next on September 20. Ruthann will plan lessons through the end of November, December’s classes will be in preparation for the Christmas program, and she will plan January through May at a later date.

**REPORTS**

The secretary’s report was read. The treasurer’s report was read. The mission offering for Eleva/Strum backpack program was $232. All reports were approved with a motion from Roxie Ulness. Second by John Poore. Motion carried.

The pastor’s report was oral. Jason takes the enlarged version of Christ in our Home when he visits the shut-ins. He was one book short and would like us to order more. Roxie will increase the order to 6.

We have several lights that are not coming on as they should. Ruth will take care of replacing the bulbs. Also, the brass on the altar needs polishing.

Jason will be gone on August 23 so he can preach at Solon Springs, where he is awaiting an August 30 vote from the congregation as to calling him as pastor. He plans on being here at Pleasant Valley through early September. His ordination is going to be in the middle of September at his home church in Hager City. On Wednesday, September 2, at 6:30, Jason will have a service around the cross, as he did during Lent.

Jason shared the following few ideas going forward for Pleasant Valley in the area of outreach/evangelism: neighborhood gatherings to meet and get to know the folks in the neighborhood and to get the word out about our church; health and wholeness – as Ruthann’s ideas for stories in the newsletters about members’ faith stories; justice league-type gatherings on social justice issues – perhaps quarterly and perhaps planned by Kim Vlcek.

Jason is still concerned about leaving Pleasant Valley and leaving well.

Kay Sands knows of a physical therapist in the Eau Claire schools that has graduated from seminary and, due to family concerns, has not been hired in a pastoral position yet. His name is JonPaul Dragseth. Nola will call to see if he can preach on Sunday, August 23, in Jason’s absence.

Nola filled out a survey from the Synod on how we feel the Synod is doing in service to the congregation. Any questions, see Nola.

**OLD BUSINESS**

 **Education** – No report from Ambassadors. Sunday School is covered in non-agenda items.

 **Building/property** – Randy Sands has checked with Adolph Pichler to see if he is interested in residing the steeple. He is, but would need an 80-90 foot lift. John will check to see if we can locate one to rent and get an estimate.

The stool in the handicapped bathroom has been stabilized.

Aaron has not worked on the Paschal Candle.

 **Worship** – The Praise Team has a new bench for the portable keyboard at a cost of around $62. They also now have cases to protect the drums. The cost was $350. These were covered in the Praise Team budget line item.

**NEW BUSINESS**

 The Memorial Board was not discussed.

Mission offering – July - $232 was collected for Eleva/Strum. We are also collecting supplies to give the teachers so they don’t need to spend out-of-pocket money for kids that are missing supplies. We are collecting these and they will be blessed around the altar on September 30.

 August – Mondovi Food Pantry

 September – Theresa (Enoz) Dewitz – help with costs related to cancer

 October – supplies for quilts to give to LWR and other places

 We are starting to plan for the bazaar which will be on October 4, 2015. Roxie has signed up The King’s Countrymen to do the service, which will start at 10:00 a.m. Jason suggested we have an abbreviated communion or not have it at all that week, due to time constraints. We have the license for the raffle tickets. Poores will handle Cleghorn Fest. It looks like the booths will only be open on Saturday. Randy will check on the donation of a half pig. John will donate a face cord of firewood.

**OTHER**

 We have had a request for a church key. Randy will take care of that.

 Sadie has much quilting material, but LWR has now requested that the quilts have batting in the middle rather than blankets. A 60” wide by 60’ long Oakley roll can be purchased for $95. Jason will check to see if he can get a better price. We will collect money for that in October’s mission offering.

 Next meeting was not discussed.

Motion to adjourn was made by Ruth Poore. Second by Nola Herzberg. Motion carried.

 Meeting adjourned at 11:34. Closed with the Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Poore, Council Secretary

Members present: Nola Herzberg, Jason Clifton, Roxie Ulness, Randy Sands, Randy Winger, Aaron Sands, Corissa Sands, John Poore, Ruthann Knutson, Ruth Poore

**Men's Ministry**

September 19, 7:00 at church, John serves.

**Youth Ministry:**

**Sunday school**

Rally Sunday will take place on September 13. All kids who come will receive a gift bag! Thanks to Kim Vlcek for teaching in September.

This year we will have Sunday school twice a month - the second and third Sundays of each month. We will continue our journey through the New Testament, focusing on stories of Jesus, and his miracles and parables. Thanks to all who have signed up so far to teach! The packets for the lessons have been prepared for the classes through the end of the year.

**Choir**

The Pleasant Valley choir will sing the songs, "Make me a Blessing" and "Now we go in Peace" on Sunday, September 20. We will practice after church on September 6 and September 13, as well as before the service on the 20th.

**Parish Nursing**

Ruthann will attend the local Parish Nurse meeting on August 28 at Our Savior's in Menomonie, and is looking forward to attending the Parish Nurse conference at the Luther Seminary in St. Paul on October 16 and 17. Ruthann will be available to check blood pressures after church on September 20.

Also, this is a friendly reminder to sign your Advance Directives for your end of life wishes. There are extra packets in the fellowship hall if you need one.

**Praise Team News**

The praise team will lead worship at Pleasant Valley and the Chippewa Valley Correctional Treatment Facility on Sunday, September 27. The group will return to practicing on Thursdays beginning September 10. Come and join the fun!!

**Women’s Retreat**

 Was at Luther Park on Aug 27 & 28. Praise Team was there and performed on Thursday eve. Mary Segerstrom from Norden was the special speaker. Kim Vlcek led Worship for Vonnie Olson of Eleva who was unable to attend.

**TEXTS AND READERS FOR SEPTEMBER**

**Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost -6th**

Isaiah 35:4-7a – *Kim Vlcek*

Psalm 146

James 2:1-10 [11-13] 14-17

Mark 7:24-37

**Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost – 13th**

Isaiah 50: 4-9a *Dan Herzberg*

Psalm 116: 1-9

James 3:1-12

Mark 8:27-38

**Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost 20th**

Jeremiah 11:18-20 *Roxie Ulness*

Psalm 54

James 3:13—4:3, 7-8a

Mark 9:30-37

**Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost – 27th**

Numbers 11:4-6, 25-32 *Kay Sands*

Psalm 19:7-14

James 5: 13-20

Mark 9:38-50



**Happy Birthday** to all who have a September Birthday!

\***FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE.**

**\*NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS: Sunday, September 20th for the November Newsletter.**

**Call Monica Bahr, 715-287-4742,**

**or E-mail:** dmbahr@tcc.coop. **Also, E-mail the church at:** plesntvalleyluth@tcc.coop **with any bulletin or newsletter announcements, esp. prayer request and updates. Thanks.**

**Bulletin items due by Wednesday p.m.**

**I’ll be printing them on Thursday evening.**

 **IN NEED OF PRAYER**

**Here is our Prayer Concern list:**

**The family of Bob Kuhn –** Kay Sands’ Father – he has passed away

**The family of Kay Syth -** Art Syth’s mother who has passed away.

**Joy Glende -** she is having many tests done due to the accident last winter.

**Minnie Crawford –**back in hospital because of complications; waiting reconstructive surgery; Evelyn Mousel’s sister; lives in California.

**Alea Bahr –** young grandniece of Dick Bahr, has been diagnosed with CP - cerebral palsy.

**Margaret Hazen –** Moved to Severson Home, E.C.. Room 223

**Theresa (Enos) Dewitz -**. (A friend of Monica’s) recovering from infection from reconstructive surgery.

**Brittany Beavens** - she has Myotonic Dystrophy. She is the daughter of Kim and Mark Koser and resides in MN.

**Her son Jeremiah** - also has Myotonic Dystrophy (Type 1).

**Our service men and women, including Alex Bauer**

**The inmates at CVCTF** - Chippewa Valley Correctional Treatment Facilities in Chippewa Falls

**Our Call process** with the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin

Pleasant Valley Lutheran Church

W2450 Cty. Rd. WW

Eleva WI 54738

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

Jason Clifton – Worship Leader

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**SEPTEMBER 2015**

**Labor Day**

**Back to School**

**Fall schedule begins - Sunday School Starts**

**Men’s Ministry, and Choir begins again**

**Fall Begins**