**Pastor’s Corner**, August 2017

This past month, your council met to discuss a vision and goals for our future together. We gathered around the table at church and discussed what’s going well and what we see as areas for potential growth. It was a wonderful conversation filled with hope and a positive vision for the future of Pleasant Valley. It was clear from this discussion that Pleasant Valley is a special place with people who love God and love one another. I left this visit with a firm belief that Pleasant Valley will be serving God and God’s people for many, many years to come.

I would like to share with you some of what we talked about:

First, people first and foremost said that what they love about our congregation is the people and our openness to new ideas. We affirmed that the people here are kind and generous, and were able to point to many examples. We talked about trying new things and the “experiment” we are trying here with a “working pastor” or “bi-vocational pastor” in which I work another job. Though, with anything, there are positives and negatives,

we wholly believe that overall this relationship is working well.

Among the things we see as opportunities for growth is reaching out to inactive members. We have a lot of people who are still members here, but, for many reasons, are no longer active in our congregation. For too long in the church’s history, reaching out meant asking for money or for volunteers. Instead, we would like to reach out with love and support; genuine care about what is going on in peoples’ lives. We talked about hosting social events, like a cook-out in the park, inviting neighbors and friends, so that we can reconnect with the many people who live near our church.

We also talked a long time out mission and outreach. As a congregation, there was a sense that although we are very active in donations beyond our walls, we would like to be more hands-on. There was consensus that we should explore ways we can volunteer, ways we as a congregation can come together and put our hands and feet to work for the people of the Chippewa Valley.

We talked about so much more. We talked about worship. We talked about youth and family ministry and how we can build on the solid foundation we have in our Sunday School, Confirmation, and Ambassadors programs.

Yes, there are areas for growth in our congregation. But, instead of seeing these things as negatives, the people gathered around that table all agreed that these are opportunities to continue to build on our life together. Pleasant Valley is a wonderful place. I am excited and honored to be a small part of what is happening here.

I would love to hear your ideas. What are your thoughts on where we are as a congregation and what opportunities there are for growth? We walk this journey of faith together. I am excited for our future together.

Peace,

Pr. JonPaul

**Pleasant Valley Lutheran Church**

**Council Minutes,** Saturday, July 22, 2017

 The meeting was called to order at 8:12 by President Kay Sands. Pastor JonPaul led us in prayer.

**NON-AGENDA** – none

**REPORTS**

 The secretary’s report was reviewed.

 The treasurer’s report was reviewed. In June we collected $320.00 for the Mission Offering for Luther Park. LP is now selling at $1.24 per gallon.

 The Pastor’s report was oral. The visitation team will meet in September to discuss changes to the list and how visitations have been going. The sign-up sheet for the communion kits is not accurate, as two of the kits are missing. Confirmation and Sunday School will begin on September 17. Kyle Bahr and Catie McAleer are probable confirmands. Larry Sands and Dick Bahr, as Cemetery Association members, will be invited to attend a future council meeting so they know Pastor’s wish to be informed about any burials.

 We received a thank you for the rolled bandages that Sadie has sent in.

 There was no Ambassadors’ report.

 John made a motion to approve the reports. Second by Aaron. Motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**EDUCATION** – Our students are welcome to join Immanuel Lutheran, in Eau Claire, for VBS. It will be from August 6 to 11; 3-year-olds to kindergarten from 9:00 to noon and grades 1 to pre-6 from 9:00 to 2:00. Registration is due this coming week; July 23 to the 30. The $25 fee will be covered by our church as per a motion from Roxie and a second by Dale and Kim. Motion carried. We will be discussing both Sunday School and confirmation during the council retreat. Pastor will ask Corissa if she would be able to coordinate planning for the Youth Gathering. The Youth Gathering will be in Houston June 27 to July 1, 2018.

**PROPERTY** – A lift was rented to replace the ceiling fan nearest the balcony and remove the projector screen. John, Mark, Dale, and Randy Sands coordinated the project. Thrivent seed money had been approved for the fan project. The fan was not broken, but only needed a new motor for the remote. Luther Park will take the projector screen. The downspouts have been fixed so they can be pushed up to mow grass, rather than removing them. The landscaping has been done by Schwennsens to the point where we may need to reassess additional work after the paving is done. Sadie Odegard has purchased a sign for Olson Park and it has been installed.

**WORSHIP** –

 **Bazaar** – The profits from the meal will be donated to a local cause yet to be determined. Roxie will make up the 100 flyers. We will print the same number of tickets that we did last year. We are still waiting to hear what Cleghorn Fest has planned to see if we will have a booth at the Fest.

 The Gideons have not responded to Pastor’s call.

 We have been asked to do the church service at Cleghorn Harvest Fest on September 10, 2017. We will do that, with the Praise Team playing. The service is from 9:00 to 10:00, so we will not be having a service at Pleasant Valley on that day. The motion to not have a service at Pleasant Valley on September 10 was made by Dale. Second by Roxie. Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS**

 There is some confusion as to what part of the road/parking lot will be done by the county. We plan on having Oium do the blacktop in front of the church – the “upper parking” – as soon as they can get to it. A motion that we use the monies bequeathed to us from Phyllis Goff to do the blacktop was made by Aaron. Second by Kim. Motion carried. The decision as to what else needs to be done will be made when the county is done with their work.

 I will contact TCC to ask about the spyware that is available from them with our other bundled services.

 Pastor announced a Joint Confirmation Event on Wednesday, September 13, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. in Black River Falls.

**Mission offering** –

**July** – Transitions; a home for victims of human trafficking in Neillsville - Lutheran Social Services sponsored

**August** – Eleva/Strum Backpack Meals (school begins August 22)

**September** – Mondovi Weekend Backpack Meals (school begins September 3)

**OTHER**

 Next council meeting will be August 27, 2017, starting at about 10:30 a.m.

 Ruth made a motion to adjourn. Second by Roxie. Motion carried. The meeting closed at 9:22.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Poore, Council Secretary

Members present: Pastor JonPaul, Kay Sands, Roxie Ulness, Kim Vlcek, Aaron Sands, Dale Anderson, John Poore, and Ruth Poore

**WELCA**

Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits are ready to be assembled, but to complete the 10 kits we have started we need a few more items. We need the following:

10 towels

8 large combs

If you would like to help complete more kits, each kit should contain the following:

1 towel - 40" x 20" or 52" x 27" - light weight, dark color recommended

2 or 3 bath size bars of soap (total 8 to 9 ounces) in original wrapper - no mini or hotel size bars

1 adult size toothbrush in original wrapper

1 sturdy comb - no picks or fine tooth combs - remove original wrapper

1 metal nail clipper - remove wrapper

Let’s see how many be can do this year!

**Parish Nursing**

Please see Ruthann after Sunday morning services whenever you would like to have your blood pressure taken.

**Women's Retreat**

The Women of the ELCA Dairyland Conference will hold their annual retreat at Luther Park in Chetek on August 17-18. The theme for this year's event is "All Anew." With the featured speaker, Barbara Solsaa, Clergy Life Coach. Attendees will explore how the Holy Spirit is active in their lives. Registration fee is $62 for both days and $30 for just Friday. Contact Monica Bahr or Kim Vlcek for more information.

**Happy Birthday**

Happy Birthday to Janice Teigen! Her Birthday is Aug. 25th. Send a birthday greeting to: #11530 Cty Rd W, Eleva WI 54738.

Happy Birthday

**Faith Stories**

Will return in September.

Ruthi

**Praise Team News**

The Praise Team will play during worship on August 27 at Pleasant Valley. The group will also lead worship that evening at the Chippewa Valley Correctional Treatment Facility. On September 10, the Praise Team will play at the 9 a.m. worship service at the Cleghorn Harvest Fest. Practices continue on Wednesday evenings through August.

**Treasurers’ Report**

Summary of Offering and Expenses

Y-T-D May June July

Offering (thru 7/22)

$28,004.00 $4,076.00 $3,183.00 $2,162.00

Misc. Income

$388.15 $76.38 $0.00 $0.00

Expenses

$26,213.67 $4.485.62 $4,137.06 $3,132.62

Year to date the offering has exceeded expenses by $2,178.48

May mission offering for Joy Glende was $257.00

June mission offering for Luther Park Bible Camp was $320.00

**Building Fund:**

In memory of Bev Dubussman, from Peg Klopp

In memory of Bev Dubussman, from Barb Charpintere

In memory of Bev Dubussman, from Sadie Odegard

In memory of Bev Dubussman, from Kathy Deinhammer

In memory of Bev Dubussman, from Merle Peterson

In memory of Bev Dubussman, from Allen Peterson

In memory of Bev Dubussman, from Donna Peterson

In memory of Delain and Selmer Anderson on father’s day, from Dale and Sharon Anderson

In memory of Basil (Jet) Johnson, from Randy and Kay Sands

**Cemetery Association:**

In memory of Bev Dubussman, from Timm family

In memory of Bev Dubussman, from Margene Knudston

In memory of Bev Dubussman, from Shirley Brown

**General Fund**

In memory of Ralph Koser, from Ruthann Knutson

**Mission Fund**

In memory of Basil (Jet) Johnson, from David and Mary Berg

Respectfully submitted:

Roxie Ulness, Treasurer

**TEXTS AND READERS FOR August**

(All Green)

**Ninth Sunday after Pentecost – 6th**

*Larry Sands*

Isaiah 55:1-5

Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21

Romans 9:1-5

Matthew 14:13-21**Tenth Sunday after Pentecost – 13th**

*Roxie Ulness*

1 Kings 19:9-18

Psalm 85:8-13

Romans 10:5-15

Matthew 14:22-33**Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost –20th**

 *John Poore*

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

Psalm 67

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

Matthew 15: (10-20), 21-28

**Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost-27th**

 *Sadie Odegard*

Isaiah 51:1-6

 Psalm 138

 Romans 12:1-8

Matthew 16: 13-20



 IN NEED OF PRAYER

**Here is our Prayer Concern list:**

 **For the state of Montana:** For rain for the

 land, crops, homes, building and the people

 in danger from the many fires!

**Marion Rose Glende** – strengthening and healing (Joy & Steve Glende’s baby girl, & Kathy Tweet’s granddaughter)

**Linda Ahlers** – healing, doing chemo again, Lake City, MN (friend of the Poore’s)

**Gerri Sessions** - healing

**Joe Knutson** – healing

**Dale Rutchow** – end of life – paralyzed by Lyme's disease (friend of Ruthann’s)

**Catherine Erickson** – pancreatic cancer (friend of Ruthann’s)

**Christine Thompson** – struggling with Lupus (friend of Ruthann’s)

**Liam Loughney** **-** For good checkups and test results, Kim Vlcek’s cousin.

**Our service men and women, including Brendan Poore,** now in Iraq

**The inmates at CVCTF**

**All who we are visiting with:**

**Avis Erickson, Joe Sands,**

**Margaret Hazen, Gary Hazen**

**Orvin Larson, Bob Dutter,**

**Dave Bloom, Jim & Janice Teigen**

**This month’s Mission offering recipient:**

Eleva/Strum Backpack Meals (school begins August 22)

**FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE:**

**\*NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS:**

**Sunday, Aug 20th for the September 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 Tuesday, I will print them on Wednesday during the summer months**

**Upcoming Happening at Pleasant Valley**

**August's Mission Offering recipient will be Eleva/Strum Backpack Meals Program.**

**August 27th** **Confirmation mtg.** with Students, Parents and Pastor.

**September 10th no worship service at PV Church.** Service will be at Cleghorn fest with the Praise Team

**September 17th Sunday School** begins and confirmation class after worship.

**October 1st Fall Bazaar here at PV**

**Also Community happenings:**

**Heart of Luther Park: is on August 6, beginning at 9:15 with a church service, the Art and Quilt Auction will begin at 12:30 and a raffle at 3:00.**

**Vacation Bible School –August 6-11 - Immanuel Lutheran in Eau Claire. Registration is due ASAP. See flyer in fellowship hall or call Pastor JonPaul.**

**Women Retreat is August 17—18 Registration forms in Fellowship Hall are due in ASAP. See flyer om bullet board.**

**Fall Festival at Trinity Luth Church Sunday Sept. 10th See poster on bulletin board**

**Cleghorn Harvest Fest: September 10th Cleghorn festival worship with Praise Team at 9am.**

School Supply list for Eleva-Strum school 2017-18

Glue sticks – large and small size

Scissors

Crayola washable water color paints

Wide ruled notebooks: blue, green, red, yellow, purple, orange

Baby Wipes

Paper towel

Disinfectant wipes

Self-sealing storage bags: snack, sandwiches, quart, and gallon size

Broad tip markers (classic color)

Think tip markers

Crayons – 8, 16, and 24 count

Colored pencils

Folders: red, yellow, green blue, purple and orange

Folders with 3 prongs

Bottle of glue: 8ox

Composition notebooks

Headphones

Ear buds

Pencil top eraser

#2 pencils

Binders: 1”, 1 ½”, and 2”

Binder dividers

Highlighters

Black sharpies: fine and ultrafine

Expo markers

Pens: red, blue, black ink

Rulers

Erasable pens

Compass

Loose-leaf paper

Pencil bags and boxes

Graph paper

Basic calculators (Ti-30 series)

Student planners

Plastic sleeves

Index cards

Post-it Notes

Pleasant Valley Lutheran Church

W2450 Cty. Rd. WW

Eleva WI 54738

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

Pastor JonPaul Dragseth

Church office: 715-287-4473

Church Secretary: Monica Bahr – Home: 715-287-4742

Church E-mail: plesantvalley@tcc.coop

Website: [www.pleasantvalleylutheran.com](http://www.pleasantvalleylutheran.com)

**PLEASANT VALLEY NEWSLETTER**

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

**AUGUST 2017**

WELCA RETREAT AT LUTHER PARK

AUGUST 17 – 18th