

Pastor's Corner, October 2017

Ordination

It will be 2 years ago this month that I stood among you, the people of Immanuel in Eau Claire, and synod staff and pastors and was ordained to the Office of Word and Sacrament. On that day, within and among the rites, the hymns, and the cake, I was given a charge: to serve God's people as their pastor.

Specifically, I was called to live out this vocation among you at Pleasant Valley; that is, to be your pastor. But, we also took on an experiment together. We chose to walk together as we explored a new model for ministry, one in which the pastor's time and energy were devoted to, a primary source of income from another call; one outside pastoral ministry. For 2 years I have worked full-time as a physical therapist, now for Mayo Clinic in Osseo, and served as your pastor.

I love it. Often times I'm tired and exhausted, but I love it. I love treating patients. I love being in the clinic living out Jesus' call to discipleship as a member of the community. This, I believe, is the heart of being a Christian and follower of Jesus. Each of us, throughout the week, uses our gifts and our talents to contribute to our community; as farmers, as teachers, as therapists, as nurses, as administrative assistants, and as retired persons. Being a follower of Jesus isn't just about what we do Sunday mornings; it's what we do all week long.

And, I love being your pastor. I really do. I love our worship together. I love teaching Sunday School and Confirmation. I love working with council to do the business of being a church. I love hearing about what is happening in your lives. I love learning about faith and discipleship among you.

Of course, like any imperfect human institution, we don't always get everything right. But, I think we have a gracious, forgiving way of managing those times, and that only helps build

up our community. Over the course of the next year, we will invite synod staff to join us at Pleasant Valley and work with you and me to check-in on how we are doing as a congregation, how this "experiment" is working, and what areas for growth we might have. I believe this will give us an opportunity to honestly reflect on who we are and outline a way forward as a congregation, both into the near and distant future. Because, I do believe Pleasant Valley will continue to be a vibrant, loving community long into the future.

2 years already. Ordained in October, installed among you on All Saints Sunday. I look forward to many more years together.

Peace,
Pr. JonPaul

Pleasant Valley Lutheran Church

Council Minutes, Saturday, September 3, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 10:29 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 July we collected \$297 for the Mission Offering for Transitions in Neillsville. In August we collected \$231 for the Mission Offering for Eleva/Strum Weekend Backpack Meal Program.

The Pastor's report was reviewed. We were reminded that the bazaar service will be at 10. We need to decide how the services will go on Christmas Eve. Will we have two services; morning and candlelight? Will the Praise Team be at the prison in the evening? The visitation team will meet in October to discuss changes to the list and how visitations have been going.

Confirmation and Sunday School will begin on September 17. Catie McAleer will be holding off until next year for confirmation classes. We have 5 students that will be taking first communion in the spring; Sarah McAleer, Kasey Bahr, Tommy, Elijah, and Isabella Knutson. Pastor and Jessica will concentrate on the Sunday School program. Pastor will do the opening with the whole group and the volunteer teacher will do the lesson. We will purchase 10 individual student pamphlets and we will look at purchasing the student bible.

There was no Ambassadors' report.

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

OLD BUSINESS

EDUCATION –Corissa Sands is willing to coordinate planning for the Youth Gathering with some help from interested members. The Youth Gathering will be in Houston June 27 to July 1, 2018. We have 9 youth that qualify to attend. A letter will be sent to them to see where the interest lies. If they register before November 15 the fee is \$350. From November 15 to February 14 the fee is \$390. From February 15 to May 14 the fee is \$440. \$150 of the fee is non-refundable. Housing will be assigned by the conference, then we will reserve and pay. The approximate cost will be about \$2,000 per attendee. We are planning to meet on September 24 with possible attendees to the Youth Gathering.

PROPERTY – The blacktop will be finished this fall by Oium. The monies bequeathed to us from Phyllis Goff will be used for the blacktop

WORSHIP – Bazaar – The profits from the meal will be donated to a local cause; possibly to the Landmark Christian Church for their Hope Village Project; tiny houses built for the

homeless to give them a place to live while they are getting back on their feet and give them and address needed for applications. Ruth will make up the 100 flyers. We will print the same number of tickets that we did last year.

There was some discussion at the Council retreat about getting the cranberry hymnal to use during worship. Prices were researched on-line. No decisions were made at that time. If we decide to purchase new hymnals we would use any money left from the monies bequeathed by Phyllis Goff.

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 Praise Team will be there at about 7 a.m. to set up.

SOJOURNER HOUSE – Ruth reported on the information that Art Syth supplied. There were a lot of questions. We will see if Art can come to a council meeting to better explain.

NEW BUSINESS

Roxie wondered if our Mission Statement needs to be updated. The present statement, "That all may come, serving all the people of God", was written when we were putting in the entrance for the handicapped.

Monica Bahr has requested that we pay her entrance fee to attend Soul Support - \$125 or \$130. Kathy Tweet has requested half that to pay for part of her entrance fee. A motion was made by Kim to pay Monica's fee and half of Kathy's. Second by Dale. Motion carried.

Mission offering – September – Mondovi
Weekend Backpack Meals (school begins
August 22)

October – Roger Tillius –
hospitalized since June 30 with paralysis from a
tick borne disease and West Nile virus

OTHER

Pastor JonPaul will be gone October 12 and
13. He will be in Madison for a physical
therapy conference.

Next council meeting will be October 8, 2017,
starting at about 10:30 a.m.

Ruth made a motion to adjourn. Second by
Roxie. Motion carried. The meeting closed at
11:38.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Poore, Council Secretary

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

Soul Support is for the Office
Professional's for all the churches in the
Northwest Synod. It will be on Oct 3-4, it is
in Rice Lake this year; we will be staying at
the AmeriVu Inn and Suites. Pastor Luci
Sesvold and Pastor Greg from the Synod
office will be a part of it. We will be going to
the Potters Shed also. Many thanks for
your support Monica and Kathy.

WELCA

Support the Bazaar Oct 1st.

Parish Nursing

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

Happy Birthday

Happy Birthday to everyone who has a
October Birthday!

Praise Team News

The Praise Team will play in worship at
Pleasant Valley on October 22 and 29. The
group will also lead worship at the Chippewa
Valley Correctional Treatment Facility on
those evenings. Practices at on Thursday
evenings at 6:30 and all are welcome!

Treasurers' Report

Roxie Ulness, Treasurer

None submitted

FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE:

***NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS: Sunday,
October 22nd, - 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 and Newsletter articles are
due by Wednesday; I will print them on
Thursday**

Poem

How is being a Christian like being a
pumpkin?

God see us, picks us out of the dirt,
cleans us off, takes the yucky material
out of us by forgiving us, puts a smile on
our faces and places a shining light
within us for others to see.

Jesus said: "Let your light shine before
others, so that they may see your good
works and give glory to your Father in
heaven" (Matthew 5:16, NRSV).

Faith Stories

Seventeen years ago, Phil and I (Ruthann) sold our house and went our separate ways. It was not easy leaving, as we had bought the land from my Mom and Dad, and raised our family there. John and Becky Schweinfus have taken good care of the home, and it was a happy place for them to raise their three boys. I had asked Becky to let me know if they ever planned on selling it, as perhaps one of the kids might be interested. She let me know in May that the house would go on the market at the end of June, unless we wanted to buy it. After jumping through many hoops and pooling all our resources, the house returned to our family in August. Now Joe, Jeni, Gage, Tommy, Isabella and Elijah and I are living in the house where Joe grew up. I am living in the room that Sandy and Bethany shared.

Some of you have heard me tell Beth Moore's story of how God compelled her to brush the hair of an elderly gentleman in an airport. She was reluctant, but he had been in a hospital for months, and was flying back home to meet his wife, and his hair was long and matted. He appreciated how she helped him to look presentable.

I have shared this story at CVCTF, and told how the people in this church have, in many ways, brushed my hair over the past years.

Once again, my hair was brushed when friends from this church worked so hard to help me move. Thank you all!! And thanks for also bringing food for the movers. I am truly blessed.

It's good to be home.

If you have a faith story to share, please contact Ruthann. RuthiK6@gmail.com.

*By the light of the Psalms:

I will lift up mine eyes to the hills.

Psalms 121:1

I love how you change the colors this time of the year.

**By Chris Shea*

TEXTS AND READERS for October

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost – 1st

Green Bazaar – Monica Bahr

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

Psalm 25:1-9

Philippians 2:1-1

Matthew 21:23-32

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost – 8th

Green Annabelle McAleer

Isaiah 5:1-7

Psalm 80:7-15

Philippians 3:4b-14

Matthew 21:33-46

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost – 15th

Green Sharon Anderson

Isaiah 25:1-9

Psalm 23

Philippians 4:1-9

Matthew 22:1-14

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost – 22nd

Green Julie Schwensen

Isaiah 45:1-7

Psalm 96:1-9, (10-13)

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Matthew 22:15-22

Reformation Sunday – 29th

Red Sharon Anderson

Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18

Psalm 1

1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

Matthew 22:34 – 46

Remember to wear some RED!





IN NEED OF PRAYER

Here is our Prayer Concern list:

Jim Teigen – Is once again at home!

Luanne Prochnow - She is friend of Kim Vlcek with a recent cancer diagnosis

For the state of Montana: For rain for the land, crops, homes, building and the people in danger from the many fires still burning!

Marion Rose Glende –healing from recent surgery (Joy & Steve Glende’s baby girl, & Kathy Tweet’s granddaughter)

Linda Ahlers –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

Catherine Erickson – pancreatic cancer

Christine Thompson – struggling with Lupus

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:

Avis Erickson,

Joe Sands,

Margaret Hazen,

Gary Hazen

Orvin Larson,

Bob Dutter,

Dave Bloom,

Jim & Janice Teigen

This month’s Mission offering recipient:

Roger Tillius – hospitalized since June 30 with paralysis from a tick borne disease and West Nile virus

Greetings Pastor Dragseth,

We have job openings available at our newest location in Mondovi, Hope Bargain Center, please post.

For those who may be unaware, Hope Bargain Center opened in Mondovi just over a year ago and our store is hoping to be able to help in the local area as well as helping to fund the ministry of helping homeless women with children in and around the Chippewa Valley area.

The positions we are seeking to fill are:

- Mondovi Bargain Center Intake Donation Processor – 24 to 28 hours/week
- Mondovi Bargain Center Cashier/Donations Processor – 16 hours/week
- Mondovi Bargain Center Housewares/Collectibles Donations Processor - 24 to 28 hours/week

If you know anyone who might be interested in any of these positions, please have them go to our website at

www.hopegospelmission.org/employment

and complete an application.

As a Christian organization we want to work with area churches to minister to help the needy in our community.

Attached you will find an insert to be posted or put in a bulletin if possible.

Thank you for the opportunity to present you this information for consideration.

God bless,

Judy

Manager / Hope Bargain Center

Did you know?

1. A strawberry isn't a berry but a banana is.
2. Avocados and watermelon are berries, too.
3. Cashews grow on trees at the end of an apple
4. And Brussels sprouts grow in long stalks
5. Chocolate milk was invented in Ireland.
6. Ketchup used to be sold as medicine.
7. Carrots were originally purple.
8. McDonald's sells 75 hamburgers every second of every day.
9. Yams and sweet potatoes are not the same thing.
10. Ripe cranberries will bounce like rubber balls.
11. An average ear of corn has an even number of rows, usually
12. Betty White is actually older than sliced bread.
13. Humans share 50% of their DNA with bananas.
- 14 Honey never spoils. You can eat 32,000-year-old honey.
15. Peanuts are not nuts. They grow in the ground, so they are legumes.
16. Vending machines are twice as likely to kill you as a shark is.
17. Coconuts kill more people than sharks every year. So do cows.
18. Pound cake got its name from its original recipe, which called for a pound each of butter, eggs, sugar, and flour.
19. The probability of you drinking a glass of water that contains a molecule of water that also passed through a dinosaur is almost 100%.
20. Honey is made from nectar and bee vomit.
21. Pineapple grows on the top center of a plant in large fields
22. Quinoa is the seeds of the Pineapple plant
23. Kiwis grow on vines
24. Ginger is the root of a plant:
25. And cinnamon is just the inner part of this tree
26. And artichokes are flowers that are eaten as buds.
27. "Spam" is short for spiced ham.
28. Popsicles were invented by an 11-year-old in 1905.
29. Apples, like pears and plums, belong to the rose family.
30. The official state VEGETABLE of Oklahoma is the watermelon.
31. Peas are one the most popular pizza toppings in Brazil:
32. There are over 7,500 varieties of apples throughout the world, and it would take you 20 years to try them all if you had one each day.
33. The twists in pretzels are made to look like arms crossed in prayer
34. Canola oil was originally called rapeseed oil, but renamed by the Canadian oil industry in 1978 to avoid negative connotations. "Canola" is short for "Canadian oil."
35. And no matter what color Fruit Loop you eat, they all taste the same

Pleasant Valley Lutheran Church
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"That all May come, Serving all the People of God"

Pastor JonPaul Dragseth

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PLEASANT VALLEY NEWSLETTER

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

OCTOBER 2017

Pastor Appreciation month!

FALL BAZAAR

GRANDPARENTS DAY

COLUMBUS DAY

REFORMATION SUNDAY