

Pastor's Corner, September 2017

Welcome to a New Sunday School year!

Fall is my favorite time of the year. Temperatures start to cool, but it is still warm enough to enjoy outdoor activity. The smell of campfires and s'mores wafts through our neighborhood. The leaves start to change, coloring the landscape with hues of orange and red. School starts with a new year of learning and growth.

As we transition from summer to fall, we here at Pleasant Valley begin another year of Sunday School and Confirmation.

When council met for our retreat, one of the things we talked about investing more time and energy into was our youth. Now, we're realistic and realize that the days of huge Sunday School classes may not be possible. But, we have something even better than numbers; we have a group of kids who are here and active in the congregation and want to be part of the church.

When these kids were baptized, the church made a promise to them and their families to help support them and help them grow in faith. I take this promise seriously.

Last year we started something new; we moved to having Sunday School every Sunday and began using a new program called Whirl that follows the lectionary. That means that the stories we hear read in worship are the same stories the kids are learning about in Sunday School. Last year, through trial and error, we learned some important things about how to make this program run better here at Pleasant Valley.

So, over the next several months, we will be asking for volunteers to help teach. We will be integrating confirmation with the Sunday School program. As pastor, I am going to be more involved with the Sunday School program to help get it going more smoothly for our teachers and young people. And, even if you

don't want to teach, but want to see what we are doing, we invite you to join us on Sunday morning!

We may not have the large classes people remember from years ago. But, I have spent time with the young people of this church; from the very youngest to those nearly ready for confirmation, we know that we have a great group of kids who are ready and eager to grow in faith. It will be an exciting year, learning alongside them. As a congregation, we will continue to support our youth, helping them to grow in faith, and working to fulfill those promises we made to them in baptism. It is going to be a great year!

Peace,
Pr. JonPaul

Bless the Students

Dear Lord, Jesus, bless the children and youth of this nation, returning to their schools and colleges. May your Holy Spirit enlighten their minds, purify their vision and strength their wills. Protect them as they learn in the classroom and participate in activities outside it. May they learn to follow in your steps, just as you grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man. Amen

Pleasant Valley Lutheran Church

Council Minutes, (none)

August meeting moved to September 3, 2017.

Treasurers' Report

None

WELCA

We have 10 Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits ready to send off! Thanks

TRIENNIAL GATHERING NUMBERS

Nearly **3,400 participants** attended the gathering, and more than **1,300 were first-timers**. **\$49,094.60** was given in Thursday evening's Thankoffering service.

404 participants ran in the Run, Walk and Roll, and **\$19,116 was raised for seed grants** to support Women of the ELCA's health initiative, Raising Up Healthy Women and Girls.

In-kind gifts included more than **\$19,000 in gift cards** and more than **27,000 items** of hygiene products, clothing, quilt kits, and Days for Girls kits.

5,850 labyrinths were crafted, gathered and given to gathering and convention participants. The rest will be distributed to various ministries in the Twin Cities.

Nearly \$64,000 was given during Sunday's service of Holy Communion. The offering is being shared among **PV for Phebe** (25 percent); **Cherish All Children** (25 percent); and **Women of the ELCA** (50 percent). (To give regularly to Women of the ELCA, enroll in our Faithful Friends program.)

97 people gave blood for a total of 81 units. Each unit is separated into red cells, platelets and plasma, which could help as many as 243 people

REPORT ON WOMEN'S RETREAT

The Women of the ELCA Dairyland Conference held their annual retreat at Luther Park on August 17-18. Thursday evening found the group having fun as they assembled the Luther Rose out of Legos, and participated in "Name that Tune" and a sing-a-long led by Susan Saarem on the piano. For one of the campers, it was her first time playing with Legos!

After a late night swim and a "good night's sleep" in the cabins, some of the women rose early for yoga by the lake with Kris Tuura.

The guest speaker, Barbara Solsaa, Clergy Coach, presented two sessions of lively discussion about renewal and the Holy Spirit.

Pastor Lisa Watson-Hill led the morning worship service and gave a passionate and inspiring message, topped off with her rendition of the song "I Am Woman!"

The 24 attendees enjoyed delicious meals prepared by our very own Cori Sands, and are looking forward to next year's retreat tentatively planned for August 16-17.

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 September Birthday!

Faith Stories

Next month! Let Ruthann know if you have a story!

Praise Team News

The Praise Team will assist Pastor JonPaul in leading worship at the Cleghorn Harvest Fest on September 10 at 9 a.m. there won't be a worship service at Pleasant Valley on the 10th. The group will play in worship at Pleasant Valley on September 24, and will lead worship that evening at the Chippewa Valley Correctional Treatment Facility. Practices return to 6:30 on Thursday night's beginning in September.

By the light of the Psalms:

I give myself unto prayer.

Psalms 109:4

In other words, I put myself in your hands.

TEXTS AND READERS for September

(All Green)

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost – 3rd

Kim Vlcek

Jeremiah 15:15-21

Psalms 26:1-8

Romans 12:9-21

Matthew 16:21-28

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost – 10th

Will be at Cleghorn

Kathy Tweet

Ezekiel 33:7-11

Psalms 119:33-40

Romans 13:8-14

Matthew 18:15-20

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost – 17th

Julie Schwensen

Genesis 50:15-21

Psalms 103: (1-7), 8-13

Romans 14:1-12

Matthew 18:21-35

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost - 24th

Kay Sands

Jonah 3:10-4:11

Psalms 145:1-8

Philippians 1:21-30

Matthew 20:1-16



A LITTLE CHUCKLE NEVER HURT ANYONE

A Reason Not To Match Wits with Children

The children were lined up in the cafeteria of a Catholic elementary school for lunch. At the head of the table was a large pile of apples. The nun made a note, and posted on the apple tray: 'Take only ONE. God is watching.' Moving further along the lunch line, at the other end of the table was a large pile of

chocolate chip cookies. A child had written a note, 'Take all you want. God is watching the apples...'



IN NEED OF PRAYER

Here is our Prayer Concern list:

Jim Teigen – hospitalized

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 with:

Avis Erickson,

Joe Sands,

Margaret Hazen,

Gary Hazen

Orvin Larson,

Bob Dutter,

Dave Bloom,

Jim & Janice Teigen

This month's Mission offering recipient:

Mondovi Backpack Meals

Upcoming Happening at Pleasant Valley

Septembers Mission Offering recipient will be Mondovi Backpack Meals Program.

September 10th no worship service at PV
Worship Service at Cleghorn Harvest Fest
Led by Pastor JonPaul & the Praise Team
9:00 – 10:00 am

September 17th Sunday School begins and Confirmation class after worship.

October 1st Fall Bazaar here at PV

Also Community happenings:

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

FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE:

***NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS:**

Sunday, Sept 17th, - for the October 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 I will print them on Thursday again.

More happenings:

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

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

“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’

SEPTEMBER 2017

LABOR DAY - 4TH

CLEGHORN FESTIVAL SEPT 8 – 10
SUNDAY WORSHIP WITH THE PRAISE TEAM

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND CONFIRMATION BEGINS ON THE 17TH