

Pastor's Corner, August 2018

Sunday School and Confirmation

A lot of churches struggle with what to do with Sunday School and Confirmation. We want families and young people to be a part of our congregation. We want children to feel welcome in the church. We want to provide a way for our young people, of all ages, to grow in faith and discipleship of Jesus.

But how do we do it? Congregations are competing with sports, dance, camp, vacations, and just the exhaustion of parents who spend the week running from jobs to activities and are just looking for a morning to sleep in and relax as a family. And it's hard to blame families. Kids need social activities. Sports and dance and camp teach important life lessons. Family time seems to be so rare, that any moment we can grab hold of to build our relationships with one another is an opportunity that it feels like we have to take.

And yet, within the church, we too have something important to offer children, young adults, and their families.

First, and foremost, it is here that you encounter the risen Jesus through worship, preaching, communion, and our relationships with one another as the Body of Christ.

So, too, we offer a place where it is safe to be yourself. Here in Christ's Church it is safe to explore who you are, who you are in relationship to other people, and who you are in relationship to God and the story of God's people.

And, we offer a place to develop relationships with honest, hard-working, faithful adults who can become mentors and friends to the young people of our congregation.

So, for me, that's the point of Sunday School and Confirmation: a place to be yourself, explore your relationships with others, build trusting, faithful relationships with other youth and adults, and encounter the risen Jesus who offers love and acceptance to all people.

As we wrap up our busy summers and start thinking about going back to school and the routines of the school year, I invite you to join us in Sunday School and Confirmation.

To our young people: this isn't school and there won't be tests. There will only be opportunities to learn more about who God is, the story of God's people, and what it means to be a follower of Jesus in the world.

To our adults: Please consider getting involved with Sunday School and Confirmation. We are going to have lots of opportunities for the adults of our congregation to build strong, faithful relationships with our young people. It's not difficult. You just have to be there and lend on open ear, a loving heart, and a faithful witness to your love of God in Jesus.

I am very excited about the upcoming years of Sunday School and Confirmation. I hope you will join us.

Peace,

Pr. JonPaul

Pleasant Valley Lutheran Church
Council Minutes

None submitted

Treasurers' Report

None submitted:
Roxie Ulness, Treasurer

Faith Story

Do you have a story or testimony to share?
Talk to Ruthi.

Praise Team News

The Praise Team will play in worship at Pleasant Valley on August 26, and will lead worship that evening at the Chippewa Valley Correctional Treatment Facility. Practices continue on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm.

Parish Nursing

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

WELCA

Women's Retreat at Luther Park in Chetek on August 16th and 17th. All are welcome to attend. Plan ahead for what you can make and bring to the fall Bazaar!

Thankyous:

Pleasant Valley Church,

Thank you so much for the beautiful quilt and for thinking of me and my graduation!

Thank You! Santanna Freezy

Pleasant Valley Lutheran Church,

Thank you so much for the donation! Peace Church is so thankful for your thoughtfulness. We've experienced some amazing examples of God's love through this experience as well. Thank you for your prayers and for your financial gift!

Peace Church (Jordan Van Proosdy)
Missions Director

TEXTS AND READERS for August

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost -5th

Green

Mark Koser

Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15
Psalm 78:23-39
Ephesians 4:1-16
John 6:24-35

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost —12th

Green

Ruth Poore

1 Kings 19:4-8
Psalm 34:1-8
Ephesians 4:25—5:2
John 6:35, 41-51

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost —19th

Green

John Poore

Proverbs 9:1-6
Psalm 34:9-14
Ephesians 5:15-20
John 6:51-58

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost – 26th

Green

John Poore

Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18
Psalm 34:15-22
Ephesians 6:10-20
John 6:56-69



Sunday School

Sunday school will begin again on September 9. Plan on teaching



IN NEED OF PRAYER

Here is our Prayer Concern list:

Maritza Nohemi - 7th grader in Guatemala, whose education we are sponsoring this year

The Family of Dave Bloom – He has gone home to be with the Lord.

Pastor Laurie Skow-Anderson - our new Bishop

Danny Najbrt - has MS, Kim Bahr's nephew, is still hopeful to regain some more sight

Steve Glende – seeing specialist for his lungs and his blood

Romaine Knutson - a member of Pastor JonPaul's family; diagnosis of cancer and has begun treatment

Nick Polkowske – prostate cancer and heart trouble

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

Gerri Sessions – strengthening & healing

Catherine Erickson – pancreatic cancer

Christine Thompson – struggling with lupus: is in the American Lutheran Home in Mondovi.

Our service men and women; Kendall Dragseth, She is Pastor's cousin and serves in the Navy. She was deployed to the Middle East.

The inmates at CVCTF

All those on our Visiting list:

Avis Erickson, **Gary Hazen,**
Bob Dutter, **Jim & Janice Teigen**

August mission offering: Eleva Backpack
Weekend Meals – through Feed My People.

***By the light of the Psalms:**

*I will praise thee, O Lord my God,
with all my heart.*

Psalms 86:12

*I will recall the blessings of this
summer forever.*

**By Chris Shea*

FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE:
***NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS: Sunday,**
August 19th - 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 and Newsletter articles are
due by Wednesday; I will print them on
Wednesday, for the summer month,
thanks, Monica**

School Supply List for Eleva-Strum School 2018-19

Glue Sticks (Large and small sizes)

Scissors

Crayola washable water color paints

Wise ruled notebook: blue, green, red, yellow,
purple, and orange

Baby wipes

Paper towels

Disinfectant wipes

Self-sealing storage bag: snack, sandwich,
quart, and gallon size

Broad tip makers (classic colors)

Thin tip, markers

Crayons – 8, 16, and 24 count

Colored pencils

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

Folders with 2 prongs

Bottles of glue: 8 oz.

Composition notebooks

Headphones / Ear buds

Pencil top erasers / Large erasers

#2 pencils

Binders: 1", 1 1/2", and 2"

Binder dividers / Highlighters

Black Sharpies: fine and ultra-fine

Expo Markers

Pens: red, blue, black ink

Rulers / Erasable pens

Compass / Loose-leaf paper

Pencils bags and boxes

Graph paper

Basic calculators (Ti-30 series)

Student planners / Plastic sleeves

Index cards / Post-it Notes

**Farewell & Thank You from Rev. John Sutherland, Assistant to the Bishop
Dear Siblings of the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin,**

It has come to my attention that many people are unaware that I am leaving the synod office. My last day in the office will be this Wednesday, July 25th.

My next ministry will be in the St. Paul Area Synod as interim pastor at Redeemer Lutheran in White Bear Lake.

I remain profoundly grateful for my twenty-two years plus my internship year in this synod. I will miss my many friends here. Thank you for all of our time together.

I will also especially miss my Malawi role and candidacy work. My prayer is that this synod's connection with Malawi continues to grow and strengthen. Our connection is very important to the saints there; and is indeed life changing on both sides. Malawi is the "Warm Heart of Africa" for good reason and it would be disappointing on all accounts if this relationship did not continue to flourish.

Fortunately, my ties with Malawi will continue, but not through the Northwest Synod of WI. Instead, my own relationship and connection to the country and saints that are in my DNA will continue through the Masomphenya Women and Girls Empowerment Foundation. We will be helping single mothers farm sustainably using lessons learned from permaculture.

Until the next assistant to the bishop is called, the remaining synod staff will assist as needed in areas of mobility, candidacy and Malawi.

Once again dear friends, thank you and God Bless,

~John



NW Synod of WI |
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“That all May come, Serving all the People of God”

Pastor JonPaul Dragseth

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

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Website: www.pleasantvalleylutheran.com

PLEASANT VALLEY NEWSLETTER

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

AUGUST 2018

**Women’s Retreat August 16th and 17th at
Luther Park in Chetek**