

## **Pastor's Corner,**      March 2018

Please mark March 18th on your calendars!

On Sunday, March 18th, Pr. Laurie Skow-Anderson, assistant to the bishop and Director for Evangelical Mission, will be with us at Pleasant Valley. We will begin, as we do each Sunday, with worship. Together we will join in praise and thanksgiving to God. After worship, we will meet together in the social hall for what is called a "ministry review." We will be together until about 1:30pm.

So, what does that mean? Just over 2 years ago we embarked on a new journey together. For all of Pleasant Valley's history, the pastor of the congregation was a full-time pastor. Sure, at different times that pastor was shared with another congregation, but served full-time as a pastor. Today, we are doing something different. While I serve as your pastor, I too work full-time as a Doctor of Physical Therapy for Mayo Clinic in Osseo, WI.

We call this bi-vocational. It is also called a working-pastor model.

There are, of course, benefits. Financially, the congregation has less responsibility as compensation is lower and does not include things like pension or health insurance. From a ministry perspective, it demonstrates that for all of us, you and me, ministry is something integrated into our daily lives. For me, that is as physical therapist and pastor. Others of you do the work of ministry each day in your work and lives—as teachers, farmers, and other professions and in the work you do as retired persons. We come from those lives and join together in worship, each with gifts for ministry, and are sent back into the world to use those gifts.

And, as you might suspect, there are challenges. I am not as available as previous pastors. I try to respond to calls and emails as soon as possible, but often this is not until my work day in the clinic is done. I do not visit as regularly as former pastors, but we do have a great team of visitors from our congregation

who bring communion to the homebound regularly.

The Ministry Review is a chance for us to all sit down together and reflect on these past 2+ years and what is going well, what areas there are for growth, and where we want to see Pleasant Valley in the future. What things are we doing you wish we weren't? What things are we not doing that you wish we were? What things did we do in the past you would like to see tried again? What new things would you like to see us try?

Pleasant Valley is a great congregation with incredible people doing the work of ministry together. I am excited to share all the good things that are happening here with the synod and plan for where we want to go as a congregation into the future.

I look forward to sharing this day with you!

PS: In addition to the ministry review, we will also be hosting the Luther Rose Lego Kit. This is a fun event for all of us to participate in as we put together the Luther Rose in celebration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation! You can check it out here:  
<http://nswi.org/faith-formation/reformation-500th>.

### **HOLY WEEK WORSHIP**

#### **SCHEDULE**

March 25<sup>th</sup> Palm Sunday  
9 a.m. Worship

March 29 Maundy Thursday  
6:30 p.m. Evening worship

March 30<sup>th</sup> Good Friday  
6:30 p.m. Evening service

## Pleasant Valley Lutheran Church

### Council Minutes,

Sunday, February 4, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 10:40 by President Kay Sands. Pastor JonPaul led us in a devotional prayer.

**NON-AGENDA** – None

### **REPORTS**

The secretary's report was reviewed.

The treasurer's report was reviewed.

Roxie highlighted the non-monthly expenses. The Mission Offering for Sharing the Dream was \$291.00. Roxie added \$9 to the check to make a total of \$300, as was discussed in the last meeting and the original check was reimbursed to the treasury.

There was no Ambassador's report as such.

Pastor reviewed his report. Comments were taken on the first use of the ELW. There is no confirmation this year, but next year we will likely have Catie and Sarah McAleer, Tommy, Isabella, and Elijah Knutson, and Kyle and Kasey Bahr attending. Sunday School for next year will likely be down to Jordy and Bretta Sands and Abby Dragseth. The sermon next week, February 11, will be highlighting Kim's trip to Guatemala. The Sunday School time will be spent sharing the up-coming Christ Jam, in Rice Lake on March 10, with those in attendance, to encourage participation in the program. Roxie made a motion to pay the \$40 fee for each of the youth wanting to attend. Second by Dale. Motion carried. Registration is due by February 23.

Dwight made a motion to approve the reports. Second by Dale. Motion carried.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Education – Covered in the Pastor's report. We still need teachers for the rest of the year. The last Sunday School class will be May 20 with the church service and a cook out in the Olson Park.

Property – No business was done in property this month.

Worship – The Easter services follow:

February 14; Ash Wednesday – supper at 5:30; service at 6:30

February 21; supper at 5:30; Sunday School training in-service at 6; service at 6:30

March 7; supper at 5:30; service at 6:30

March 14; supper at 5:30; service at 6:30

March 21; supper at 5:30; service at 6:30

March 29; Maundy Thursday; service at 6:30

March 30; Good Friday; service at 6:30

April 1; Easter Sunday; sunrise service at 6:30 a.m.;

Breakfast, served by the Ambassadors; 7:30 to 8:30 a.m.

Regular Easter service with the Praise Team; 9a.m.

On March 18, when the Synod is here to discuss the successes and pitfalls of a "Working Pastor", we will have pot luck. Ruth will put together a sign-up sheet by mid-February to have folk's volunteer food for the luncheon.

There will be a council retreat in April to follow up on the Synod's visit. Setting a date was tabled.

Steve Nelson, of Thrivent, would like to attend the next council meeting.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Positions on the council were appointed as follows:

President – Kim Vlcek

Vice President – Kay Sands

Secretary – Ruth Poore

Treasurer – Roxie Ulness

Education Committee Head – Dwight Sands

Property Committee Head – Dale Anderson

Worship Committee Head – Mark Koser

### **Mission Offering:**

February – Eau Claire Area Hmong Mutual Assistance Association Rice Program

March – Ronald McDonald House

April – 513 Free Pen Project

**OTHER ITEMS** – The church is reserved for October 13, 2018.

We have an artificial Christmas tree to give away and Ruthann has an artificial tree with decorations she will donate to the church, if wanted.

Rather than have a thrift sale in the spring, the council decided to take items around the church not needed to Hope Gospel

Mission Store. The large TV will need to be recycled at a cost of \$25.

We discussed Olson Park. Could it be landscaped to make the park more visible? Could there be a soccer field added? A fire pit?

Next meeting –

March 4, at 10:30

Due to Easter, the April meeting will be on the 8<sup>th</sup>.

Ruth made a motion to adjourn. Second by Dale. Motion carried.

We adjourned at 11:52. Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted, Ruth Poore

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

### Treasurers' Report

#### Summary of Offering and Expenses

	Y-T-D	January
Offering	\$3,835.09	\$3,835.09
Misc. Income	\$0.00	\$0.00
Expenses	\$3,885.05	\$3,885.05

Year to date the expenses have exceeded offering by \$52.96

January mission offering for Sharing the Dream was \$300.00

Respectfully submitted:  
Roxie Ulness, Treasurer

\*By the light of the Psalms:

*For thou hast been a shelter for me.*

*Psalms 61:3*

*Protecting me when life feels cold ...*

*\*By Chris Shea*

### Faith Story

#### Sadie's Story

When I was born, my parents were members of the Pleasant Valley Methodist Church. That is where I was baptized and confirmed. Mother and Dad had been members there for many years, and that church laid the groundwork for my faith in God.

In 1962, I married Truman, who was a member of Pleasant Valley Lutheran Church. I willingly joined him here. I was not transplanted. My roots were not dug up and planted somewhere else. I chose to become a member and I think there is a difference.

The women of Pleasant Valley welcomed me so lovingly. I joined the "Ladies Aid" and as I became more involved in serving the church, my faith deepened and grew. My children were baptized and confirmed here. I have served as President of the Ladies Aid (later to be known as WELCA) and held other offices as well; worked with the Sunday school, and was a janitor here for many years.

Another way I served was to console and counsel those who attended funerals at Pleasant Valley. On September 18, 1982, our 18 year-old son Dean was killed when a tree fell onto his truck while driving on County Road W, about a mile from the church. We arrived at the scene before the ambulance did. Losing Dean helped me to cope with life as life brought heart aches. It helped me to console those who also lost loved ones, as I could truly say that I knew how they felt.

Truman died in 1994, and in 2005, my daughter Pam died when her new convertible was t-boned and she was thrown from the car.

Life has had its ups and downs. I thank God every day for my wonderful children and four grandchildren, and now I am remarried. I have seen a lot of changes at Pleasant Valley over the years, and did not always agree with all of them. But God has been steadfast through it all, and God's love has helped me to accept things and to keep going.

Do you have a story or testimony to share? Either talk to Ruthann or send an e mail to RuthiK6@gmail.com.

## Praise Team News

The Praise Team will play in worship at Pleasant Valley on March 25.

The group will lead worship at the Chippewa Valley Correctional Treatment Facility the evening of March 25 and Good Friday afternoon, March 30.

Members of the group attended an exhibit of artwork by inmates and a concert by local group, 513Free, at the Heyde Center in Chippewa on January 18.

Group members also led Bible studies and assisted with the weekly praise worship service at CVCTF during the chaplain's absence in February.

## Parish Nursing

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

## WELCA

Morning of Renewal Wednesday April 18<sup>th</sup> All are welcome o Evangelical Lutheran Church in black River Falls Speaker Janet Martin Author of "Church Basement Ladies". Cost \$8.00 paid in advance by April 11<sup>th</sup> at the door \$10.00. Registration in Monica's office.

## TEXTS AND READERS for March

### **Third Sunday in Lent - 4<sup>th</sup>**

*Purple* *Kim Vlcek*

Exodus 20:1-17

Psalm 19

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

John 2:13-22

### **Evening Lenten service – 7<sup>th</sup>**

*Sadie Odegard*

### **Fourth Sunday in Lent – 11<sup>th</sup>**

*Purple* *John Poore*

Numbers 21:4-9

Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

Ephesians 2:1-10

John 3:14-21

### **Evening Lenten service – 14<sup>th</sup>**

*Kay Sands*

### **Fifth Sunday in Lent– 18<sup>th</sup>**

*Purple* *Annabelle McAleer*

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Psalm 51:1-12 **or**

Psalm 119:9-16

Hebrews 5:5-10

John 12:20-33

### **Evening Lenten service – 21<sup>st</sup>**

*Ruthann Knutson*

### **Palms Sunday – 25<sup>th</sup>**

*Purple* *Roxie Ulness*

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalm 31:9-16

Philippians 2:5-11

Mark 14:1----15:47:9-15

### **Evening Maundy Thursday – 29<sup>th</sup>**

*Red* *Julie Schwensen*

Exodus 12:1-14

Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

John 13:1-7, 31b-35

### **Evening Good Friday – 30<sup>th</sup>**

*Black* *Sharon Anderson*

Isaiah 52:13 –53:12

Psalm 22

Hebrews 10:16-25 or 4:14-16; 5:7-9

John 18:1—19:42

### **Easter April 1<sup>st</sup>**

*White* *Ruth Poore*

Acts 10:34-43 **or** Isaiah 25:6-9

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

1 Corinthians 15:1-11 **or** Acts 10:34-43





IN NEED OF PRAYER

**Here is our Prayer Concern list:**

**Marion Rose Glende** – Newly baptized (On March 4<sup>th</sup>) daughter of 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** – strengthening & healing

**Dale Rutchow** – strength & healing – paralyzed by lyme’s disease

**Catherine Erickson** – pancreatic cancer

**Christine Thompson** – struggling with lupus, is in Osseo Hospital

**Lou Ann Helland** – Kyle & Kasey Bahr’s other Grandma – preparing for knee replacement surgery.

**Our service men and women,**

**The inmates at CVCTF**

All who we are visiting:

Avis Erickson,  
Margaret Hazen,  
Gary Hazen  
Orvin Larson,  
Bob Dutter,  
Dave Bloom,  
Jim & Janice Teigen

This month’s Mission offering recipient:

Ronald McDonald House

Poem

I ‘Mint...’

I ‘mint’ to call and thank you,  
But my time is in demand.

I ‘mint’ to say “I Love You”,  
But I knew you’d understand.

I ‘mint’ to send you flowers,  
But they cost so much you know.

I ‘mint’ to pray for you today,  
But that’s so hard to do.

And I really ‘mint’ to tell you...  
Your friendship is  
Something I value!

Thank you:

The Community Table Thank You:  
Thank you for your support! Your financial gift helps advance the Community Table’s mission of abating food insecurity and nourishing individuals, families and children in need. We served 40,000 meals in 2017 thanks to your support. In January a gift of \$336.00 was received from Pleasant Valley. Again many thanks.

FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE:

**\*NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS: Sunday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, - for the April Newsletter**

Call Monica Bahr - 715-287-4742,

or E-mail: [dmbahr@tcc.coop](mailto:dmbahr@tcc.coop). Also, E-mail the church at: [plesntvalleyluth@tcc.coop](mailto: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, thanks.

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’***

**MARCH 2018**

**LENT**

**Day Light Saving Times Begins on the 11<sup>th</sup>**

**Holy Week**

**Psalm Sunday**

**Maundy Thursday**

**Good Friday**