

God Sightings

For a lot of us, religion, spirituality, faith, God, and Jesus are things that have deep meaning to our lives. We lean on these when life is difficult, when we face challenges, and when we feel lost or alone in the world. We go to church and experience the living presence of God in Jesus in song and prayer, word and meal.

But, then what? How much is God active in the rest of our lives? The answer, of course, is always. God is always active and present in our lives. God is always at work to transform our lives and our world. It is God's intention to make you, me, and this whole creation new. God longs for us to be the people God created us to be and works through the Holy Spirit to make that a reality.

But, do we see it? Do we feel it? If you're like me, sometimes in the busyness of the week, we don't think much about God or faith. Of course, there are times and seasons of our lives where we draw more heavily on our faith. But, so often, in the day to day routines of work and family, we don't always take time to notice the work of God around us. Too often, faith becomes something we do on Sundays and the rest of our lives is what we do Monday through Saturday.

But, God doesn't take days off. Even when we are consumed with the busyness of our lives, God continues to be present among us. Even when we forget to connect with our faith life, God is there seeking a deeper connection with us. Even when a life of discipleship gets lost in the other cares of this world, God is calling us to follow Jesus, serving those in need.

Do you see it? Can you feel it? I invite you, this month, to keep your eyes and ears open to "God Sightings." Where do you see God at work? Where do you see the stranger welcomed, the sick cared for, forgiveness offered, comfort given, or kindness extended.

To help get you started, this month's newsletter contains a "God Sightings BINGO." As you go through your days and weeks, be on the lookout for how God is at work in our world. I challenge you to go for a "blackout" on the card. Maybe jot down a note on the card for what you saw. Open your Bible and read the attached verses and hear again, through God's Word, what God intends for our world. At the end of the month, bring your card to church and we will share with one another all the ways God has been active among us.

This doesn't always come easy. It takes patience and time. But, as you begin to see the work of God among us, you will become more and more aware of all God, in Jesus, through the Holy Spirit, is doing in our homes, our community, and our world.

And that, indeed, is a blessing.

Peace,

Pr. JonPaul

See "God's Sighting BINGO" sheet attached to this email.

Pleasant Valley Lutheran Church

Council Minutes

September 2, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 10:35 by President Kim Vlcek. Pastor JonPaul led us in a devotional prayer.

NON-AGENDA - none

REPORTS

The secretary's report was reviewed. The numbers on Mariah's mission offering totals and the spaghetti dinner have been amended. The Mission Offering totaled \$446. The dinner brought in \$942. There was an additional \$100 donated. The amended amount sent to the ELCA Global Church is \$1,488 for Mariah's trip to Rwanda.

A correction was made to the minutes to indicate that a motion was made, seconded, and carried for Dwight to purchase a TV to hang on the balcony.

The treasurer's report was reviewed. The Mission Offering for August for the Eleva/Strum

backpack meals was \$304. We have had \$400 donated to the Women's group and \$250 to the church's general fund from the family of Dave Bloom.

Pastor reviewed his report. The policy set for funerals will be posted on the website. Both Sunday School and confirmation will begin on September 9 at 10:15. A letter will go out to parents or grandparents. We are looking to have a mentor-type confirmation, with adults from the congregation mentoring students; 1 adult for each 2 students. There are 7 or possibly 8 students planning to attend confirmation.

There has been no progress on getting a worship committee together to help plan services for special seasons of the church. A committee would start by planning the Advent and Christmas services.

A 10 a.m. outdoor service is being planned for September 16 in Olson Park. The Praise Team will lead the music. There will be a picnic lunch after the service. Dwight will handle getting food using a Thrivent Community Impact Card (once called a Seed Money Card).

We have had 2 people inquire about membership.

There was no formal Ambassador's report.

A motion was made by Kay to accept all reports. Second by Corissa. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Education – We are looking for teachers to sign up for the year. Dwight will get the materials run off and ready for those that sign up to teach. Pastor learned that *Whirl* auto-renews in October. He has ordered and received 6 student booklets.

Property – Olson Park is ready for the outdoor service on September 16. The service will be at 10 a.m. with a picnic lunch to follow. Please invite neighbors to join us. We're planning a picnic lunch of hot dogs and buns, a variety of chips, watermelon, and lemonade, also, ketchup, mustard, relish, onions (Ruth), pickles, and perhaps s'mores. John Poore will bring wood and take charge of the fire. Dwight will bring his grill. Dave Vlcek will bring a couple canopies. We will need to take some chairs up to the park, but we will invite people to bring lawn chairs if they like. We will set up at 8 a.m. on the 16th. Dale has a flatbed to put the Praise Team on. Gary has steps. Roxie will see if we can use them.

The urinal in the men's room needs to be fixed so it stops leaking and forming a blue line. Dale feels the cause is the sand in our water, which he vacuums out of the toilet tanks on a regular basis. This will be tabled until it is checked out with the possibility of an in-line filter being added to remove the sand from the whole system.

Dwight has purchased a new TV monitor. It is being shipped.

We will be going over the Congregational Study in the fall. We are, however, implementing some of the suggestions already.

The music is lined up for the bazaar. The Roby Family, from the Eleva area, will do the music for the 10:00 service. Randy and Kay Sands will again do the chicken dinner. We will add dinner rolls and butter to the menu. They will get a Thrivent Community Impact Card (Seed Card) for the food.

Outreach – We again discussed Cleghorn Harvest Fest. We will have a booth with some information on the church, a chance to buy raffle tickets for prizes at the bazaar, and a couple games for kids, with prizes. We have 2 booth spaces reserved.

Bazaar – Corissa will advertise our bazaar on both WEAU and WQOW. We will not have a silent auction or a cake walk this year. Instead of a cake walk we will conduct meat and cheese raffles. One thought on the profits from the meal is to send it to the Coon Valley Flooding if there is a fund.

The letter to the neighbors, the prayer chain, and the congregational study information dissemination are all on hold.

NEW BUSINESS

The website is updated and looks good.

Synodical Women's Organization's Day(s) of Enrichment will be held on September 22 in Osseo and September 29 in Hayward. The cost is \$15 per attendee and we will pay for anyone wanting to attend. A motion as such was made by Dale and seconded by Dwight. Motion carried.

Committees are not currently being formed as such. We will form various committees as needed.

Dave Vlcek is working on forming a Men's group.

Soul Support is coming up. We usually have Monica and Kathy Tweet attending. We usually pay the \$120 for Monica to attend and \$60 (half of the fee) for Kathy. A motion to pay \$180 if both attend was made by Kay. Second by Dale. Motion carried.

Mission Offering:

September – Mondovi Backpack Weekend Meals

October – Shane Giacomino, from Osseo, paralyzed in a swimming accident; He is a member of law enforcement in Clark County.

November – Feed My People

December – Mondovi Food Pantry

OTHER ITEMS –

Next meeting – September 30, 10:30

Ruth made a motion to adjourn. Second by Dwight.

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

Respectfully Submitted,
Ruth Poore

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

Parish Nursing

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

Nurses we need a new parish nurse please talk to Pastor or to Kim Vlcek if you are interested in taking blood pressure etc.

Sunday school / Confirmation

Sunday school and confirmation classes have begun. At 10:15 there is a group opening in the sanctuary with Pastor JonPaul. Then dividing up the Sunday school students go to the classroom downstairs with their teacher. The confirmation Class remains in the sanctuary with Pastor. There are still spots to sign up to teach; plan on teaching! Sign up on sheet in fellowship room

Confirmation mentors needed. Talk to pastor if you are interested.

Praise Team News

The Praise Team will play in worship at Pleasant Valley on Sunday, October 28. The group will lead worship at Chippewa Valley Correctional Treatment Facility that evening. Practice will continue on Wednesday evenings at 6:30. Come and share your musical talents!!!

Treasurers' Report

Summary of Offering and Expenses

Y-T-D	June	July	August
Offering			
\$31,691.09	\$3,622.75	\$3,125.00	\$3,717.00
Misc. Income			
\$1,776.59	\$48.69	\$1,090.88	\$31.11
Expenses			
\$32,753.84	\$3,726.34	\$5,723.18	\$3,714.79

Year to date the offering exceeds expenses by \$713.84

June mission offering for Mariah Sands Rwanda Mission Trip was \$446.00

July mission offering for Barnabus Coffee House was \$317.00

August mission offering for Eleva Strum Backpack Meal program was \$304.00

Building Fund:

In memory of Luther Barclay, from Larry & Crystal Sands

In memory of Orvin Larson, from Richard and Monica Bahr

In memory of fathers, Robert Sands and Marvin Bahr, from Richard and Monica Bahr

In memory of David Bloom, From Dale & Sharon Anderson

In memory of Don Wollum, from Ruthann Knutson

In memory of nephew Ron Anderson, from Dale & Sharon Anderson

In memory of niece Kim Hodges, from Dale & Sharon Anderson

TV Fund:

In memory of Dave Bloom, from Duke & Mary Berg, Martha & Bob Solfest, Mark & Cindy Olson

Respectfully submitted:
Roxie Ulness, Treasurer

WELCA

Fall Bazaar Oct 7th Come and join in the festival!

Quilt and kit's (see flyer in newsletter for kit items) drop off: Trinity Eau Claire 1314 E Lexington Blvd Eau Claire Bob Jacobson 715.559.8705 Saturday, October 13th from 8 a.m. to Noon.

Looking ahead: **Thankoffering service Nov. 18th**

Jesus sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on." *The Widow's Mite, Mark 12:41-44*

Your offering can should be filling up by now, but If you don't have one pick one up in the narthex at church, then bring it to worship on Nov. 18th Thankoffering Sunday! See Monica for a part in the service

Mission Project Lutheran World Relief

Layettes

2 shirts or onesies
2 gowns or sleepers with or without feet
2 receiving blankets
4 cloth diapers (25" x 27")
1 sweater (infant size)
2 washcloths
2 diaper pins
1 bar of bath-size soap
Wrap each layette in one of the receiving blankets and secure with safety pin or diaper pin.

Sewing Kits

3 yards cotton or cotton blend solid or print material 44"/45"
1 pkg. needles or hand sewing
1 spool of thread matching material
1 card buttons
1 pkg. rickrack or bias tape
Wrap all sewing motions inside fabric and tie with string or yarn.

Health Kits

1 hand towel
1 wash cloth
1 bar bath size soap
1 toothbrush
1 wide tooth comb
1 nail file or nail clipper with file
6 Band-Aids (1/2" x 3/4)
Wrap all of the smaller items in the towel and tie with ribbon or yarn.

School Kits

150-200 Sheets of 8 1/2" x 11" ruled paper
1 blunt scissors
1 ruler with inches / centimeters
1 pencil sharpener
6 unsharpened pencils with erasers
1—2 1/2" eraser
12 sheets construction paper assorted color
1 box crayons (8 16 or 24 count)
1 12" x 14" cloth bag with cloth handles
Place items in bag fold top over and secure with two large rubber bands.

Faith meets action

God is in our world, in the people we meet every day. Daily we are given chances to uplift and support people or to grind them down further. Sometimes these are people we know. Sometimes they are not. Sometimes they are right next door. Sometimes they are far away.

I know that when a particular news item or event tugs at my heart, it means I am being urged to pray for and about the people involved. I know that when an act of injustice angers me, it is God's own anger at the abuse of God's own beloved creation. I invite you to notice what provokes or inspires you. It just might be God's nudge toward an opportunity for you to advocate.

This message is adapted from "Faith reflections: Faith meets action" written by Susan Schneider that first appeared in the June 2012 issue of Cafe magazine

TEXTS AND READERS for October

Invitation:

Ruthann Knutson and Rev. Alton Hillesland invite our friends from Pleasant Valley to our wedding ceremony on October 13, at 3:30 p.m. at Drammen Lutheran Church.

There will also be an open house at Pleasant Valley Lutheran Church from 1:00-3:00 on Sunday, October 14.

Please come if you can.



IN NEED OF PRAYER

Here is our Prayer Concern list:

Mariah Sands – Mission trip to Rwanda
The family of Ray Gilbertson Ray has gone home to be with our heavenly savior
Peggy – cancer – Ruthann's friend
Joy Glende – struggling with neck pain and dizziness
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
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**

October mission offering recipient:

Shane Giacomino, from Osseo, paralyzed in a swimming accident; He is a member of law enforcement in Clark County.

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost – 7th

Green

Annabelle McAleer

Genesis 2:18-24

Psalm 8

Hebrew 1:1-4, 2:5-12

Mark 10:2-16

Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost – 14th

Green

Monica Bahr

Amos 5:6-4, 10-15

Psalm 90:12-17

Hebrews 4:12-16

Mark 10:17-31

Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost – 21st

Green

Ruth Poore

Isaiah 53:4-12

Psalm 91:9-16

Hebrew 91:9-16

Mark 10:35-45

Reformation Day – 28th

Red

Randy Sands

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Psalm 46

Romans 3:19-28

John 8:31-36

Wear Red!



FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE:

***NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS: Sunday, October 21st - 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, by Wednesday, so I can print them. Thanks.

Cure Versus Healing

1 - Cure may occur without healing; **healing may occur without cure.**

2 - Cure separates body from soul; **healing embraces the whole.**

(Cure looks at what sort of disease a person has; healing looks at what sort of person has the disease – derived from Hippocrates. Cure categorizes; healing individualizes. Cure addresses disease; healing addresses illness.)

3 - Cure isolates; **healing incorporates.**

(Cure is technical; healing is relational.)

4 - Cure costs; **healing enhances.**

5 - Cure combats sickness; **healing fosters wellness.**

(Cure fixes, healing corrects. Cure is reactive; healing is proactive.)

6 - Cure fosters function; **healing fosters purpose.**

7 - Cure alters what is; **healing offers what might be.**

(Cure controls; healing frees.)

8 - Cure is an act; **healing is a process.**

(Cure is a closed system; healing is an open system. Cure closes the past; healing opens the future. Cure is a goal; healing is a quest. Cure seeks to change reality; healing embraces reality. Cure takes charge; healing takes time.)

9 - Cure acts upon another; **healing shares with a sister, a brother.**

(Cure speaks; healing listens. Cure is produced by power; healing grows from surrender.)

10 - Cure manages; **healing touches.**

(Cure depends on dispassionate skill; healing depends on compassionate care.)

11 - Cure seeks to conquer pain; **healing seeks to transcend pain.**

(Cure is taunted by suffering; healing is taught by suffering.)

12 - Cure ignores grief; **healing assumes grief.**

13 - Cure encounters mystery as a challenge for understanding; **healing encounters mystery as a channel for meaning.**

(Cure often issues from fear; healing usually issues from faith.)

14 - Cure rejects death and views it as defeat; **healing includes death among the blessed outcomes of care.**

C. 1993 Frederick W. Reklau

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 2018

Fall Bazaar

Sunday, October 7

10-11a.m. Worship featuring Joe Roby Family

11a.m.-1:30p.m. Charcoaled Chicken Dinner

(profits donated to a community need)

Meat & Cheese Raffles • Basket Raffle • Bake Sale • Craft Sale

1:30p.m. Raffle Drawings (*1/2 hog, cut, wrapped, and frozen;*

1 of 2 queen size quilts; face cord of wood) **other items may be added to raffle*

W2450 Cty. Rd. WW, Eleva. 4 miles North of Hwy. 10 on Cty. Rd. WW or

4 miles West of Hwy. 93 on Cty. Rd. HH, then 4 miles South on Cty. Rd. W.

For more information: visit www.pleasantvalleylutheran.com, call 715-287-4473

or email pleasantvalley@tcc.coop. Sponsored by Thrivent Financial

Columbus Day
Reformation Sunday
Halloween