

Greetings!

Like much of this past year, our Wednesdays in Lent will be different too.

Each week, I hope to include a soup recipe for you and your family to try and enjoy. If you have favorites, please send them to me to be included!

This first week's soup recipe is one of our family's favorites: Baked Potato Soup – February 24th 2021.

<https://www.culinaryhill.com/loaded-baked-potato-soup-recipe/>

Attached is the bulletin for Holden Evening Prayer. You can find the worship service here:

<https://youtu.be/wJW-Ssbv8oI>

Rather than a sermon or teaching each week, I will provide a study guide for you to work through silently or together with family and friends. We will focus on 5 topics: Faith, Charity, Justice, Hope, and Love. This week's study guide on Faith is attached.

Blessings to you all.

Pr. JonPaul

Special Notice!

Special notice! We will have drive-up service for Palm Sunday, the drive-up services will continue every Sunday in April from Easter on, not holy week; Maundy Thursday and Good Friday will be online.

Pleasant Valley Lutheran Church Council Minutes, February 3, 2021

The meeting was called to order by President Poore at 6:02 p.m. Pastor JonPaul led us in a devotional prayer.

Non-agenda – Luther Park information on the upcoming Annual Meeting, on February 7, was given to Cortney. She will forward this to Crystal, one of our Luther Park representatives. Randy took the information for Kay, our other representative. They need to pre-register on-line.

Reports

The secretary's report was read by the members. The date of Easter, April 4, should be added to the minutes. Also, we will print the calendar in the March newsletter, due to added services during Lent and Holy Week.

The treasurer's report was read by the members. The mission offering of \$225 was collected for the Chippewa Valley Free Clinic. Also, a \$400 maintenance fee for the lift was paid. We have \$114.80 as a final number.

The Pastor's report was read by the members. We will have a drive-in service for Ash Wednesday on February 17, at 5:00 p.m. We will have ashes distributed by Pastor JonPaul. The Holy Week services, Thursday, April 1, and Friday, April 2, will be on-line. We will plan the Easter Sunday service to be a drive-in service at 9 a.m.

Pastor reiterated the criteria for sanctuary services, as well as the upcoming baptisms and confirmations. Also, Zoom Sunday School is being held.

The reports were accepted with a motion from Randy. Second from Cortney and Steph. Motion carried.

Unfinished business

Education – The Zoom classes on-line are again being offered.

Luther Park has sent out the schedule for the 2021 summer camping season. Our church will fund one-half of the cost to each camper. April 17 is the cut-off date to have the registrations turned in to us

to receive the backing from the church. Please pay your half to Roxie and she will send the whole amount for all campers to Luther Park.

The parents of possible campers have not been alerted to this. Cortney will contact parents and see that they have the information needed to register their campers. She will contact Monica for addresses.

Property – The lift has been inspected. The inspector related that the phone was not working. The bottom door apparently worked when he was there. We called TCC to have them check the phone. There was a dial tone, so he said our connection was OK, but the phone wouldn't hang up. I called All Star Elevator and their tech support fellow came out. The phone dialed the Trempealeau County 24/7 service, which has changed to an automated line. He called the sheriff and got another number. The response he got on the phone was very hard to hear. I called All Star and was told that Trempealeau County is the contact number we use because of our address. I will again follow this up. Also, we need to run the lift up and down whenever we are at church to keep it operational.

Worship – Has been gone over in Pastor's report.

Brotherhood Mutual Insurance has been at the church to assess what our insurance needs would be. We are due to reinsure the church in September and have checked with Hastings Mutual (our current insurers) and Church Mutual to compare rates.

New Business

Mission offering –

February – Sojourner House – Eau Claire – We will have this mission offering on February 17 at our drive-in service for Ash Wednesday. Again, any monies collected for Sojourner House will be sent with that collected for them on Ash Wednesday.

March – Ruby's Pantry – a food pantry in Mondovi. The people using Ruby's Pantry pay \$20 to receive a large box of food.

Other

Nate Zahara, the contractor that helped us build the shelter in Olson Park, has been paid for his time and expenses.

The council members chose the following positions in which they wish to serve for the year:

President – Stephanie Kuehl
Vice President – Randy Sands
Council Secretary – Ruth Poore
Treasurer – Roxie Ulness
Education – Cortney Sands
Worship – John Poore
Property – Dave Vlcek

Sharing the Dream, our mission in Guatemala, has again asked if we are going to sponsor Keyla Lisbeth's schooling. Cortney made a motion that we again sponsor Keyla's schooling at a cost of \$200 for the year. Second by Roxie and Steph. Motion carried.

The Synod Assembly will be held virtually this year, on Thursday, April 15, and Saturday, April 17. The cost is \$30 per person and will be paid by the church. You need to register on Zoom by April 1. We are allowed 2 voting members, preferably one male and one female. The resolutions can be found on-line.

Pastor related a chance for mission involvement through RIP Medical Debt. Through this company, a group can "buy" a chunk of medical debt at an extremely reduced rate and consider it paid off. It can target a specific area, like a county or state. It can be done on-line, or in-person collection. We will not move on this as yet, but will think about it.

Next meeting – Wednesday, March 10, at 6 p.m.

Ruth moved to adjourn at 7:20. Second by Randy. Motion carried.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted:

Ruth Poore

Members present: Pastor JonPaul, Roxie Ulness, Randy Sands, John Poore, Stephanie Kuehl, Cortney Sands, Dave Vlcek, Ruth Poore

Addendum:

As per our by-laws in the Church Constitution, we were to hold our Annual Meeting on the last Sunday in January. We held the meeting the first day of February. President Poore called it to order and declared the lack of a forum. He referred to the October 14, 2020 Council meeting. Dwight had made a motion, seconded by Steph, to postpone the Annual Meeting to April 25, 2021, due to Covid 19. The motion had carried. We will follow this motion and have the Annual Meeting on April 25, after the church service. The meeting may be drive-up, outdoors in the Park, or in the sanctuary, depending on the Covid situation. The meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted:
Ruth Poore

Sunday School

Sunday school is being held using Zoom online. Pastor JonPaul has been graciously leading the teaching for the kids using a variety of sing along songs (that fill all of our houses with delightful music :)), and the Whirl program videos and storybook that was purchased several years ago. The kids are great at participating, especially for camera, and love seeing and interacting with each other during their brief time together each Sunday morning.

Cortney Sands

Synod Assembly

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TEXTS FOR MARCH

All Online service unless indicated

Lent – 3rd
Charity

Third Sunday in Lent – 7th
Exodus 20:1-17
Psalm 19
1 Corinthians 1:18-25
John 2:13-22

Lent – 10th
Justice

Fourth Sunday in Lent – 14th
Numbers 21:4-9
Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22
Ephesians 2:1-10
John 3:14-21

Lent – 17th
Hope

Fifth Sunday in Lent – 21st
Jeremiah 31:31-34
Psalm 51:1-13
or Psalm 119:9-16
Hebrews 5:5-10
John 12:20-33

Lent – 24th
Love

Palm Sunday – 28th
Sunday of the Passion

Drive-up service

John 12:12-16
Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm 31:9-16
Philippians 2:5-11
Mark 14:1-15:47
or Mark 15:1-39, [40-47]





IN NEED OF PRAYER

Here is our Prayer Concern list:

- Bob Timm** – healing back home
- Gina Stevens** – fighting cancer, has fallen and broken her leg, had a rod but in, should be home
- Matt Hazen's wife Rhonda's sister, might be home by today
- Claudia Wampole** – in Rochester tumor on lung & blood clot, is having cancer treatments, might be coming home
- Troy Gilbertson** - good test results
- Gwen Chubb** – Great news! She is in Remission!
Monica's cousin
- Dan Engum** – complications with infectious diseases
- Glen Klevgard** – Thelma (Tweet - Goss); husband, in rehab at Mayo in Menomonie
- Kari Karnatz** - healing
- Theresa Edison**- fighting cancer, treatments are working – Monica's cousin
- Jan Murphy** – healing from COVID, Sharon Anderson's sister
- Loris Anderson** – Sharon's Mom, healing
- Maureen Kuhn** — Kay's sister-in-law, recovering at home
- Catherine Erickson** – pancreatic cancer
- Emily** - Cathy Winger's mom - living with dementia
- Martha McCourt** – Marianna's mother, living with dementia
- Henry Karnatz** – Kari's dad, living with dementia
- Holly Poore** – teaching English and Spanish in Thailand
- Shelby Hill and family** - missionaries living in France
- Keyla Lisbeth** - the Sharing the Dream recipient, student in Guatemala, we will be her sponsor for another yr.
- Teachers and all students** - struggling with COVID
- All our service men and women:**
- Alex Bauer** stationed in England
- Brendan Poore** - deployed to Somalia
- Those who are grieving the loss of their loved one.**
- All those on our visiting list:**
- Bob Dutter & Janice Teigen & Gary and Sharon Hazen

Treasurer's Report

Summary of Offering and Expenses

	Offering	Misc. Income	Expenses
Y-T-D	\$7,184.51	\$52.12	\$8,648.33
Jan	\$4,156.51	\$0.00	\$4,066.71
Feb	\$3,028.00	\$52.12	\$4,558.17

Year to date the offering is less than expenses by \$1,478.05.

Mission Offerings:

- January – Chippewa Valley Free Clinic - \$230.00
- February – Sojourner House - \$300.00

Memorials:

Building Fund/Furnace Fund:

- In memory of Geri Sessions, from Dale & Sharon Anderson
- In memory of Philip & Grace Sessions, from Gordy Sessions

General Fund:

- In memory of Geri Sessions, from Larry & Crystal Sands
- In memory of Geri Sessions, from Randy & Kay Sands
- In memory of Geri Sessions, from Bob & Joan Timm
- In memory of Donald Timm, from Bob & Joan Timm

Cemetery Association:

- In memory of Geri Sessions, from family & friends
- In memory of Geri Sessions, from Larry & Crystal Sands
- In memory of Geri Sessions, from Dick & Monica Bahr

Respectfully submitted:
Roxie Ulness, Treasurer

A Devotion

Watch and pray

Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man. (Luke 21:34-36)

When Jesus says, "watch and pray," he is urging us to investigate our actions with a vigilant and continuous concern for justice and for the care of all of God's creation. This Lenten season, take time to consider your prayer life. Here are six simple questions to answer:

For whom do I pray?
For what do I pray?
When do I pray?
Where do I pray?
How do I pray?
Why do I pray?

Are you satisfied with your answers? What would you like to change about your prayer behavior?

This message is adapted from a stewardship devotion written by Cheryl Chatman for Women of the ELCA.

Sharing the Dream in Guatemala

Once again, this year, Pleasant Valley will sponsor a middle school student through Sharing the Dream in Guatemala. We are able to sponsor the same elementary student in 2021, Keyla Lisbeth Tiriquiz Calgua. Following is part of a message I received recently from Lauren Vaske, Executive Director for STDG, that provides information about Keyla, and about Keyla's sister Maritza, who was the first student we sponsored. Lauren's office is in Vermillion, South Dakota, and she is traveling in Guatemala during February and March to meet with students, staff and artisans.

Kim Vlcek

February 18, 2021

Hi Kim,

Thanks for letting me know. That's great to hear that the church is willing to sponsor Keyla's education again this year. Thank you so much.

I saw Keyla yesterday when we went to Chichi (Chichicastenango). I believe she starts classes on Monday. The school year here is staggering to a start, with some schools having started mid-January and some starting next week. Class this year is hybrid, with students coming in for a few hours one day a week and doing virtual work the rest of the week. Keyla is really looking forward to getting back to class. The students shared their goals for the year, as well as their long-term goals yesterday. Keyla's goals for the year are to pass all of her classes and to behave in class. She would like to study to be a bilingual secretary in high school.

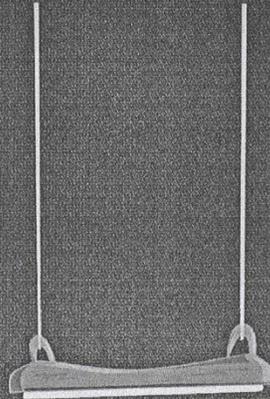
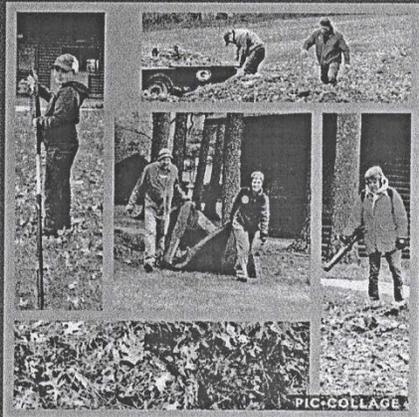
I also asked after Maritza yesterday. Her mom said that she is still studying and starts high school next week. She said that Maritza has really had to work to be able to cover the cost of her schooling, and that she regrets not having taken advantage of her scholarship opportunity. However, she encourages Keyla constantly to make the most of the opportunity presented to her, and both Maritza and her mom agree that she had a lesson to learn and that's been good for her. It sounds like she's matured, and I was glad to hear that she continued her schooling. I thought you might like to know that she's doing well, too.

Please don't hesitate to let me know if I can answer any questions, and I'm happy to do so. Please pass along my thanks to everyone who makes Keyla's scholarship a possibility.

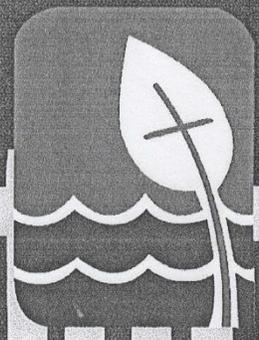
Best wishes,
Lauren Vaske
Executive Director
Sharing the Dream in Guatemala
www.sharingthedream.org

Spring Work Day at Luther Park

Saturday, April 24th
8:30am to 4:30pm



Help prepare Luther Park Bible Camp for the upcoming season!
Sign up at: lutherpark.org/spring-work-day



Pleasant Valley Lutheran Church
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Eleva WI 54738

"That all May come, Serving all the People of God"

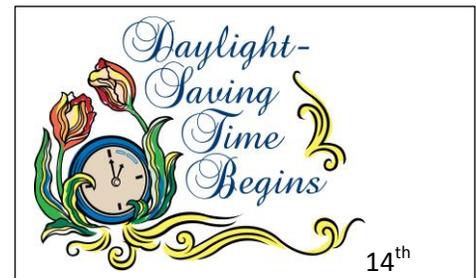
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PLEASANT VALLEY NEWSLETTER

