

The Season of Easter

As this article is being printed, we are finishing Lent and preparing to celebrate Holy Week. Holy week is the culmination of our Lenten journey. For 6 weeks, we have gathered on Wednesday evenings, sang Holden Evening Prayer, and studied together to book of Job. Over these past two years we have been confronted with enormous suffering: a global pandemic taking the lives over over 6 million people, mitigation efforts to control the spread of the virus that caused us to forego things we have loved and cherished, social unrest and upheaval, and a war in Ukraine that continues to threaten a global crisis.

In the midst of this suffering, anxiety, and uncertainty, we have worked through the book of Job and what this book of the Bible is telling us about human suffering. We are learning that although suffering is a part of human life and experience, it is not what God intends for you and God is actively at work in our world to end all suffering and death. It is a message we need to hear and proclaim.

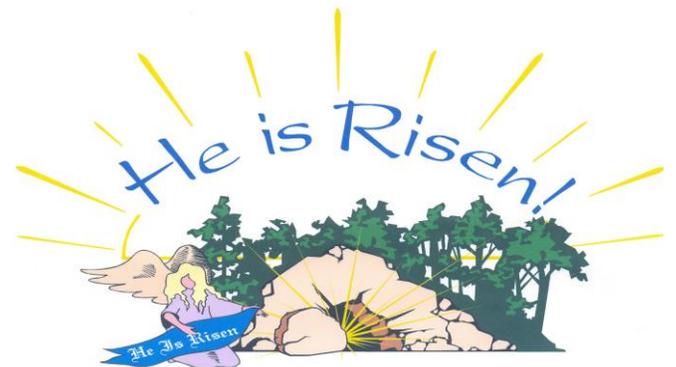
During Holy Week, we again hear and experience the life-giving, redemptive power of God in Jesus Christ for the sake of the world. Christ takes all of our hurts, all our sorrows, all our fear, all our doubts, all our neglect, and all our sin and brokenness and takes them to the cross. Christ bears them with him in his death and rises with them to new life. As Christ takes all of this world and our humanity into himself in dying, so too in rising. In this way, God redeems the whole of creation through Christ by the power of the Spirit. The power of suffering and death has been defeated! While Easter Sunday is one day on the calendar, Easter is a season of the church year that spans 7 weeks; longer than the season of Lent! Throughout the Easter season, we will hear from the Gospel of John. We will hear how the disciples encountered the risen Christ. We will hear of Jesus' ascension. We will hear

how Jesus promises the work of the Spirit will continue. We will hear again and again that regardless of who you are, what you have done, how many times you or someone else has told you that you don't measure up, Christ died for you. Christ redeems you. In Christ, you too are raised to new life, both now and in the Kingdom yet to come.

So too, we will hear from the New Testament book of Revelation. There are many who believe that Revelation presents a timeline for the end of this world and the coming of God's Kingdom. Lots of money has been made from books and movies presenting this timeline in a fictional tale. Revelation is better understood as a series of cycles; beginning with sin and brokenness on Earth moving to God's action to redeem the world from that sin and brokenness. This cycle is told again and again, showing the reader that no matter how bad things get, God takes action to save God's good creation and redeem it for all time. Revelation is an Easter story! Sin and brokenness have no power. Death has no power. In Christ, God has the final say about who you are, what you are, and whose you are. You belong to God. In Christ, you are raised to new life. You are raised to new life here and now, working alongside the Spirit for the sake of the world.

So come and worship with us! We are people of Revelation. We are Easter people. Rejoice and be glad. Thanks be to God!

Peace,
Pr. JonPaul



Pleasant Valley Lutheran Church Council
March 8, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 6:07 by Vice President Randy Sands. Pastor JonPaul led us in a devotional prayer.

NON-AGENDA – There were no non-agenda visitors or items to discuss.

The secretary's report was read by members.

The treasurer's report was read by members. With many bills paid, we are now \$1408.76 in the red at the end of February. The February Mission Offering, which went to the Sojourner House, totaled \$782.00 when the returned check from last year was added to February's \$402.

We will need to pay the \$400 cost for the lift maintenance agreement for the year 2022. We are going to hold off on that until we are in the church and using the lift. I will talk to Wayne about the whole process and ask whether we can turn off all power to the lift until further notice.

The Pastor's report was read by the members.

Monica is keeping track of the births, weddings, and deaths in the office.

The Synod Assembly is coming up on April 30, 2022. It will be a one-day hybrid format. We may have 2 delegates. Early-bird entry ends on April 17 (Easter Sunday) and is \$50 per delegate. April 30 is the deadline to register. We have had nobody show interest in the Assembly so far.

Palm Sunday is on April 10, with a regular drive-up service at 9:00. Roxie will get the palms. We will also have an Easter-egg hunt and hand out bibles to the youth that will be getting them; Jordie, Eli, Tryg, and Teegan. Pastor will handle getting the bibles to hand out.

Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services will be drive-up at 5:30 p.m.

Corissa is going to serve an Easter breakfast after the 6:30 Sunrise Service.

Pastor will also be officiating at the June 18 Poore wedding and an August 8 Sessions graveside funeral.

There was a motion from John to accept the reports. Second from Dave. Motion carried.

Education – Covid has greatly affected Sunday School so far. When all are better, out of isolation, and able, the Sunday School will be meeting in the church for the rest of the winter. The children and all participants will be masked.

The Early Bird registration for youth going to Luther Park, with a payment of half on the total amount, will be due at the church by April 17. Roxie will then write a check to Luther Park for the entire amount. Pastor will check with pastors in Eleva and Strum to see if they have some youth that may want to go camping at Luther Park.

Pastor will be asking parents about first communion. When he finds out about the interest, he will plan a class or classes to teach the youth about communion,

Worship – The prayer/communication list is incomplete. We now have phone numbers for several attendees at our services. Pastor will ask Monica to see if she can get these into a prayer chain/communication type format. The list will be updated at the Annual Meeting.

Wednesday services in Lent will be drive-up, at 5:30. We will not have any virtual services.

Plans for Easter, April 17, will include a traditional sunrise service at 6:30, breakfast at 7:30, and a 9:00 service, with the Praise Team. We hope to have Easter in the park, weather dependent. Randy will get a Thrivent card for the breakfast. A possible menu would be scrambled eggs, sausage, cinnamon rolls, juice, coffee, and fruit. The profits from the breakfast will go to Luther Park.

Ruth will purchase plants for the shut-ins; Gary and Sharon Hazen and Bob Dutter. We will also get a plant for Emily Horban, Pastor and Jessica, and Sadie.

Building – The new furnace will be installed.

When the weather permits, we need to seal the blacktop in front of the church.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Kyle Bahr is graduating from high school this May. We will combine this celebration and the new member celebration with cake and beverages. We hope to have this in May.

NEW BUSINESS

We have had a number of people that have asked when we will return to in-church worshipping. We discussed our options. We would like to consider the people that are being excluded when we have outdoor services and also the ones that would be excluded if we return to indoor services. The Synod has no requirements on in-building services and events. Pastor will create a questionnaire to hand out to those that attend our drive-up services so we can get an idea as to what the congregation wants to do. We could possibly have in-building services and broadcast to the "parking lot."

Our Annual Meeting will be on May 1, after the church service. John and Steph will be going off the council. We will need two new members-at-large. We need to get notification of the Annual Meeting out at least two weeks before the meeting, both electronically and in the bulletins.

Mission Sundays – March – Karl Bahr family, to help with bills after his stroke

April – Bolton house

May – New Life

Recyclery – a business in Chippewa Falls that helps those in need, especially Veterans, with bikes, food, clothes, and finding work and places to stay

Other

Pastor would like to use \$300 from his education allowance to purchase materials to aide in his job. We agreed that it was ok to do so and doesn't need a motion, since it is a line item in the budget.

Cortney had a question pertaining to Thrivent cards.

Jody Guerke, our January Mission Offering recipient, is now home and recovering.

Next council meeting will be Tuesday, April 5, 2022, at 6 p.m.

At 7:32 p.m. a motion was made by Ruth to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by John. Motion carried.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Poore, Council secretary

Members present: Pastor JonPaul Dragseth, John Poore, Randy Sands, Cortney Sands, Roxie Ulness, Dave Vlcek, and Ruth Poore.

Praise Team News

The Praise Team will play in worship at Pleasant Valley on March 27. The group will lead worship at the Chippewa Valley Correctional Treatment Facility that evening. They had to cancel their services at CVCTF in January because of a Covid outbreak among the residents, but were able to return there on February 27. Practices during March will be held on Wednesday evenings following the Lenten Services.

Women of the ELCA

The Dairyland Conference Morning of Renewal will be held from 8:30 am to 12:30 on April 20 at Sabylund Lutheran, Stockholm. Following a business meeting, guest speakers Jeanne Anderson and Jaclyn McFadyen will present "Hats Off to Music!" Registration for the event is \$13 and is due April 13. Lunch will be provided. **If you receive your Pleasant Valley newsletter by email, a copy of the registration form is included as part of the Dairyland Conference newsletter.**

The Chippewa Valley Conference will host the annual women's retreat at Luther Park on June 8-9. Guest speaker Sally Ankerfelt is an ordained ELCA pastor and is an Adoption Coach with Renew Family Coaching, LLC and Growing Intentional Families Together, LLC. She co-authored a book "Reimagining adoption: What Adoptees Seek from Families and Faith. The retreat will include chair yoga, basket weaving, water aerobics, foot soaks, card making, swimming, paint pouring on tile, and pontoon and wagon rides. *Please note the retreat is scheduled so you can attend one or both days.*

If you receive your Pleasant Valley newsletter by email, a copy of the retreat registration form is included.

The Dairyland Conference published a newsletter in February and it is included with the Pleasant Valley newsletters that are sent by email.

The Synodical Women's Organization will meet the afternoon of June 9 (following the Women's Retreat) at Luther Park. The main purpose of the meeting will be to hold election of officers to the SWO Board in 2022. Vacancies that need to be filled include: the office of the President and Dairyland Conference Representative. If interested contact Dawn Olson, dawndoug41@yahoo.com.

If you would like copies of the above registration forms or newsletter, or for more information about the events, contact Kim Vlcek, vlcekr@yahoo.com

Treasurer's Report

Summary of Offering and Expenses

	Offering	Misc. Income	Expenses
Y-T-D	\$7,379.38	\$0.00	\$9,269.11
Jan	\$4,205.40	\$0.00	\$3,979.67
Feb	\$4,237.91	\$0.00	\$5,872.40
Mar (thru 3/20)	\$3,996.00	\$0.00	\$5,023.57

Offering Over Expenses – Jan - \$225.73
 Offering Under Expense – Feb – \$1,634.49
 Offering Under Expenses – Mar - \$1,027.57 (thru 3/20)

Mar expenses include \$1,054.19 for fuel and \$381.24 for electricity.

Y-T-D Offering Under Expenses – \$2,436.33

Mission Offerings:

- January – Jodi Guerke - \$395.25
- February – Sojourner House - \$402.00
- March – Karl Bahr -

Memorials:

Cemetery Fund:

In memory of Howard Peterson & Carol Moats from Bob & Joan Timm

In memory of John Tollefson from Bob & Joan Timm

In memory of Howard Peterson & Carol Moats from Sandy Schuch

General Fund:

In memory of Bob Bahr from Dick & Monica Bahr

In memory of Bob Bahr from Sandy Schuch

In memory of Bob Bahr from Rick & Luann Long

In memory of Bob Bahr from Greg Long

In memory of Emily Horban from Dave & Kim Vlcek

In memory of Emily Horban from Dale & Sharon Anderson

Respectfully submitted:

Roxie Ulness, Treasurer

“Verily thou shall be feed.”

Psalms 37:3

“May I always remember

That you know all my needs.”

By the light of the Psalms by Chris Shea

THANK YOU

Dear Congregation and Friends,

We wish to thank you for all the prayers, cards, gift to us to help us deal with Karl’s stroke. We are so humbled by them all. We were very happy to finally be with Karl after he left Eau Claire it was almost 50 days for us. On this past Sunday we went to Abbotsford to be with him, got a great hug, so happy to see him moving around with only one brace and the help of a wheeled walker. His left side is recovering slowly and it has affected his speech a lot. But he is getting out a word now and then, here and there!

God Bless you all, Monica and Dick

Karl’s address Abbotsford Health Care Center
 600E Elm St Room #109

Abbotsford, WI 54405 (Loves mail)

TEXTS FOR APRIL

*All services will be drive-in
Unless you are notified
Lent service at 5:30*

Fifth Sunday in Lent– 3rd

Isaiah 43:16-21

Psalm 126

Philippians 3:4b-14

John 12:1-8

Lenten service - Evening – 6th

Palm Sunday - 10th

The Liturgy of the Palms

Luke 19:28-40

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

The Liturgy of the Word

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalm 31:9-16

Philippians 2:5-11

Luke 22:14-23:56

or Luke 23:1-49

Maundy Thursday - Evening – 14th

Exodus 12:1-4, (5-10), 11-14

Psalm 116:1, 10-17

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

Good Friday - Evening -15th

Isaiah 52:13-53:12

Psalm 22

Hebrews 10:16-25

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

John 18:1-19:42

Easter Sunday – 17th

Isaiah 25:6-9

Psalm 114

1 Corinthians 5:6b-8

Luke 24:13-49

Second Sunday of Easter – 24th

Acts 5:27-32

Psalm 118:14-29

or Psalm 150

Revelation 1:4-8

John 20:19-31



WE INVITE PRAYERS FOR:

The Family of Emily Horban passed away -
Cathy Winger's mom

Mickey & April McCourt- lose of their grandson
- Marianna Gilbertson's brother

Sharon Hazen – doing rehab in Chetek after a car
accident

Karl Bahr – suffered a stroke -healing- is at
Abbotsford Health care Center doing rehab

Gwen Chubb – Monica's cousin - cancer; healing
- is on hospice care

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

Duane Vlcek and Ayla Hakes and family

All our service men and women:

Alex Bauer stationed in England

Inmates at CVCTF – and their Chaplain

All those who are missing a loved one

Those on our visiting list: Bob Dutter & Gary and
Sharon Hazen

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

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

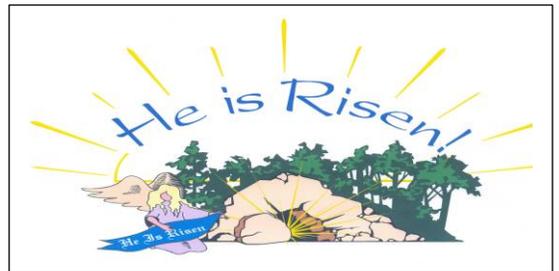
Pastor JonPaul Dragseth: Cell: 715-271-2253

Church office: 715-287-4473

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

Church E-mail: pleasantvalley@tcc.coop

Website: www.pleasantvalleylutheran.com



LENT
Fast Give
Prepare Pray

Services are Drive-up
at 5:30pm
Holy Week

Palm Sunday

Pleasant Valley
Newsletter

April

Happy Easter!

Maundy Thursday
SERVICE

GOOD FRIDAY

Easter Sunrise at 6:30
Easter Breakfast at 7:30
Easter Praise Team service at 9:00 a.m.