

Happy Summer!

Although Fall is my favorite season of the year, I always love the transition from winter to summer. The grass is greener, trees are filling with leaves, and more and more you hear kids playing outside. Farmers are in the field. The smell of mowed lawns fills the air. Flowers start to show. The school year is quickly winding down and teachers are ready for a break and students look forward to a summer away from the classroom. After the cold, dark of winter, it's as if the world wakes back up and comes to life.

This time of the year always reminds me of the hymn Earth and All Stars. The hymn calls on Earth, stars, hail, wind, rain, flowers, trees; all of creation, to sing praises to God. Throughout the season of Easter (7 weeks!) we celebrate the redemptive work of God in all creation. Now, as we transition into the season of Pentecost (which will take us all the way to Advent in the fall), we celebrate the birth of the Church and the Spirit's guiding of the Church and all creation in this new life in Christ.

The Holy Spirit is at work throughout the world, bringing the Kingdom of God right here among us. And we, people of the Resurrection, are invited to join the Spirit in bringing life, hope, and healing to the world. The world, once caught in the cold and darkness of sin and death, is now alive in Christ.

Psalm 148, 149, and 150 have a similar theme. God has done a marvelous, wonderful, sacrificial thing on behalf of all creation. Now, in this new life in Christ, we join our voices with birds, trees, wind, fire, trumpet, stars, sun, moon, and angels in giving thanks and praise to God. In this time of year as cold and snow turn to Spring rains and give way to sun and new growth, we remember that it is God through Jesus Christ who gives us new life. Our response for this gift of life is thanksgiving and praise.

So, spend some time outside this month enjoying the creation given to us by God and redeemed from sin and death through Jesus Christ. Whether you like to walk, run, swim, bike, canoe, camp, or read a book, go outside and enjoy God's good creation.

And listen closely. Perhaps in the sound of rushing water, chirping birds, the wind, or the

rustling of leaves, or the sound of farmers in the field, you will hear creation's song to God who sets all creation free from sin, death, and brokenness.

*God has done marvelous things.
I, too, will praise him
with a new song!*

Peace,
Pr. JonPaul

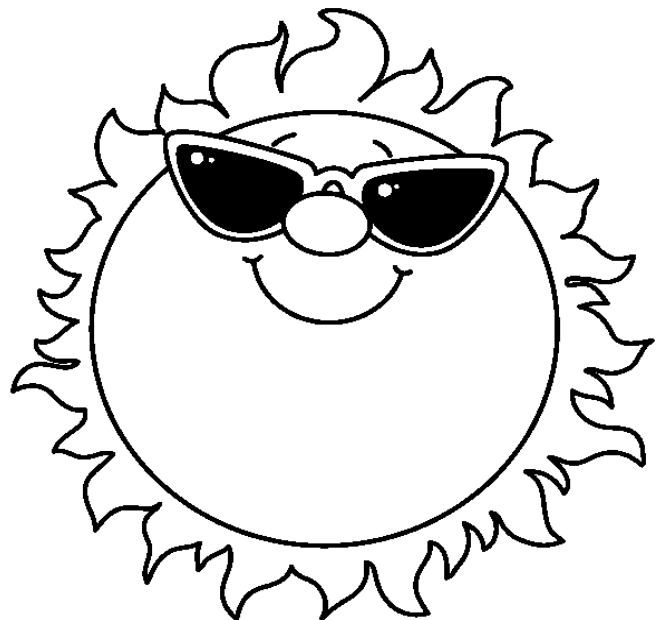
Announcement:

This summer, we will be doing an adult book study. We will meet each Sunday after worship to discuss how people of faith are called to engage in the world in which we live.

We will be reading the book "God's Politics: Why the Right Gets it Wrong and the Left Doesn't Get it" by Jim Wallis. You can order the book from Amazon (e-book or physical), a local bookstore, borrow from the public library, or talk to Pr. JonPaul about getting a copy.

Our first meeting will be June 5th. We will be discussing the Introduction and our reading schedule. Even if you don't have a chance to read, you are welcome to join us and participate in the conversation. Together, we will discover how God might be calling us to engage with the issues that our society is facing in a way that doesn't align with divisive partisanship and is faithful to the message of Jesus.

Pr. JonPaul



Pleasant Valley Lutheran Church Council

May 3, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 6:11 by President Stephanie Kuehl. Pastor JonPaul led us in a devotional prayer.

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

The secretary's reports, both last meeting and the Annual Meeting, were read by members.

The treasurer's report was read by members. We were \$491.55 in the red for the month of March. We are \$1436.39 in the red for the year at the end of April. The April Mission Offering, which went to Bolton Refuge House, totaled \$250.00.

The Pastor's report was read by the members.

Pastor will also be officiating at the June 18 Poore wedding and an August 8 Sessions graveside funeral. Teegan Johnson, as part of her confirmation outreach, delivered 5 May Day baskets to local folks. She had done the same with Christmas cookies in December.

Randy made a motion to accept the reports. Second by Dave. Motion carried.

Education – The Early Bird registration for Bible Camp is in. We have several youths attending in different programs. The check has not been sent yet. Corissa suggested that we consider going to Luther Park on a Thursday evening to see the Passion Play that they do every Thursday.

Bibles will be given to Teegan and Trygve Johnson as new members when we welcome them on May 22. Pastor will get the Bibles and Ruth will get a half-sheet cake and make the coffee and Koolaid.

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

Bibles will be given to Jordy, Eli, and Ethan in 2023. They will be given to Evelyn, Bretta, Abby, Emery, and Loretta in 2024.

A date has not been set to confirm Kyle and Kasey. We will recognize Kyle's graduation at the same time.

Worship – The prayer/communication list is incomplete. We have phone numbers for several attendees at our services. Pastor and Monica are working on a prayer chain/communication type format. The list was not updated at the Annual Meeting.

We will stay with individual servings for communion no matter where we hold the services. We talked about setting up a TV monitor in the fellowship hall or down in the Sunday School room so people that aren't comfortable with being up in the church can watch and participate in the service, masked, in a smaller group. The monitor would also be very useful in both weddings and funerals, when there is over-crowding in the sanctuary. However, that would be costly. Also, it was thought that we might need to increase our Wi-fi speed and add a license for streaming. At this time people can sit in the Sunday School room downstairs or the fellowship hall upstairs to hear the service. They will also be able to hear it in their cars. The issue of another TV was tabled. Pastor said that he believes that University Lutheran still wears masks inside. He will suggest that to those that are not ready to be in the building unmasked.

Building – The new furnace will be installed.

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

We have sent the \$400 for the lift maintenance agreement for the year 2022. All Star sent a man out to assess what is needed to get the lift up and running. They will send us an estimate.

The front railing on the stairs has been put back together. The loose siding has been fastened down.

The mowing of the cemetery is handled by the Cemetery Committee. Randy Sands will be mowing the park.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

We were to address the communication/prayer chain at the Annual Meeting. Pastor will check with Monica to see how that is coming.

Ruth will purchase the 1/2 sheet cake for the new member Sunday celebration.

We revisited our Mission Statement – “That All May Come; Serving All the People of God.” There have been suggestions at the last two Annual Meetings that this Mission Statement was created when we put in the handicapped access and indicated that we were now handicapped accessible. Some Council members did not see the statement as only pertaining to the new access, but to having all people come to God. We did not feel the statement needed reworking at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

The at-large Council members were assigned to new positions as follows:

President – Randy Sands

Vice President – Stephanie Kuehl

Secretary – Ruth Poore

Treasurer – Roxie Ulness

Education – Cortney Sands

Worship – Corissa Sands

Property – Dave Vlcek

Kari Karnatz has volunteered to take over the secretary position. She will begin job shadowing, and will assume the position of secretary when she feels she is ready. Ruth will compose a list of the things the secretary now does, going off the secretary’s jobs listed in the Constitution in chapter 11.

As to Pastor JonPaul’s recommendations for worship; on days that are too stormy or inclement, we will have indoor worship, including social distancing, with masks suggested. So that we have a chance for a social time, coffee will be provided on these days, with pre-packaged treats, and we will have one person sign up for homemade treats. On days with nice weather, we will have outdoor services in the park with coffee and treats. Ruth will make coffee and clean up through the summer. Steph will check on purchasing non-Styrofoam coffee cups. Ruth

will make a sign-up sheet for treats. There is \$13.87 left on the Thrivent card that was given to us for the Easter breakfast. That will be used on treats for use during coffee.

Ruth will also make a sign-up sheet for volunteers to clean the church. We will do that on a monthly basis, and will encourage families or friends to sign up as a group if they wish. We will not, at this time, have sign-ups for scripture reading. Steph and Pastor will handle that for now.

We will use the FM transmitter when in the park and in the building so the service will be available to those that want to participate from their cars. We will stay with the pre-packaged communion for now.

The Pastor’s contract with the church is open ended. However, there was a question as to whether a new contract should be signed yearly to show increase in salary and other benefits. Pastor will check with the Synod.

We discussed the using of the outside faucet by bicyclists. At this time, we have considered the liability of people climbing over our landscaping to use the water. Randy will check with Hastings Mutual, our insurance company, to see where we stand on the liability, both when people are using the park and the water. A sign will be posted to show we have high nitrates in our water.

Mission Sundays –

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

June – Bob and Trisha Pichla – Bob needs out-of-state therapy for a spinal injury. Trisha is a special education aide in Eleva/Strum Schools.

July – Luther Park

August – Eleva/Strum Backpack Meals Program

September – Mondovi Backpack Meals Program

Other

Pastor JonPaul will not be at church on May 29. The Praise Team will be leading the service and giving the message. We will not do patriotic songs during worship.

At the Annual Meeting, concern was raised as to politics coming from the pulpit and the thought that that was driving members away. Pastor responded to that concern. He pointed out that Jesus was political, although not partisan. Jesus was crucified due to perceived insurrection. John the Baptist was beheaded because he spoke out against Herod's divorce and remarrying.

When a pastor, or anyone speaks, they have no control over what the listener hears. We all hear what we hear due to our background and our insights. Sometimes what we hear may leave us a little unsettled and can cause a change in our lives. That could be the Holy Spirit moving in us. A pastor is in the pulpit to help us know what God intends for the world and help us work out any issues we may have trouble with.

After much discussion, Pastor JonPaul wondered if we could have a Bible/book study in the park using God's Politics – Why the Right Gets It Wrong and the Left Doesn't Get It, by Jim Wallace. The study would start in June and we will ask people to contact Pastor JonPaul if you need a copy of the book – or e-book. The Council was in agreement.

Next council meeting will be Tuesday, June 7, 2022, at 6 p.m.

At 7:57 p.m. a motion was made by Ruth to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Randy. Motion carried.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Ruth Poore, Council secretary
Members present: Pastor JonPaul Dragseth, Stephanie Kuehl, Randy Sands, Roxie Ulness, Dave Vlcek, Corissa Sands, and Ruth Poore.

Invitation!

Trinity Lutheran Church of Norden will be celebrating 150 years this June /see poster in Church. Come and Join the Celebration!

Treasurer's Report

Summary of Offering and Expenses

	Offering	Misc. Income	Expenses
Y-T-D	\$21,533.64	\$822.00	\$24,463.67
Mar	\$5,330.17	\$0.00	\$5,821.72
April	\$4,854.00	\$0.00	\$4,390.08
May (thru 5/22)	\$2,906.16	\$822.00	\$4,249.80

Offering Under Expenses – Mar - \$491.55

Offering Over Expenses – Apr – \$463.92

Offering Under Expenses – May - \$521.54 (thru 5/22)

Y-T-D Offering Under Expenses – \$1,958.03

Mission Offerings:

March – Karl Bahr - \$740.00

April – Bolton Refuge House - \$250.00

Memorials:

Cemetery Association:

In memory of Henry Karnatz from Dick & Monica Bahr

General Fund:

In memory of Henry Karnatz from Dave & Kim Vlcek

In memory of Henry Karnatz from Dale & Sharon Anderson

Beulah Anderson and Lorin Anderson, from Dale & Sharon in honor of Mother's Day

Building Fund:

In memory of Jim & Janice Teigen from Sally Steinke (daughter)

For their 76th wedding anniversary on May 12, 1946 Jim's 100th birthday on Apr 23, 1922 and Janice's 95th birthday on Aug 25, 1927

Respectfully submitted:
Roxie Ulness, Treasurer

Praise Team News

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

Women of the ELCA

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.

The Synodical Women's Organization of the Northwest Synod 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, vlcekk@yahoo.com

"I will remember the works
of the Lord."
Psalms 77:11

"That way I'll be focused on
only the goodness of life."

By the light of the Psalms by Chris Shea

Thank you

Dear Pleasant Valley Church

Thank you so very much! We offer you our sincere gratitude and appreciation for your donation of \$250.00. Your contribution enables us to assist abused persons and children in the community.

The Board Members, staff and Volunteers of Bolton Refuge House wish to thank you. Too!

Sincerely, Patricia A. Stein
Executive Director

TEXTS FOR JUNE

We will be meeting in Olson Park during good weather and in church during inclement weather.

Pentecost – 5th

Acts 2:1-21
or Genesis 11:1-9
Psalm 104:25-35, 37
Romans 8:14-17
or Acts 2:1-21
John 14:8-17, (25-27)

Holy Trinity Sunday - 12th

Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31
Psalm 8
Romans 5:1-5
John 16:12-15

Second Sunday after Pentecost – 19th

Isaiah 65:1-9
Psalm 22: 19-28.
Galatians 3:23-29
Luke 8:26-39

Third Sunday after Pentecost -26th

1 Kings 19:15-16,19-21
Psalm 16
Galatians 5:1,13-25
Luke 9:51-62



WE INVITE PRAYERS FOR:

AnnaMae Stone - Marianna's cousin - breast cancer

Lenny Odegard - Sadie's husband - liver cancer

Lee & Amy Marsh - Liver Cancer and Chemo; neighbors of the Gilbertson's

Mark Lund and the Lund family- friend of Dick Bahr's; Cancer

Ashly Marie - Kari's friend - Covid 19

Tom and Denise - friend of Vlceks - Covid 19

Karl Bahr - continue strengthening

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

Martha McCourt - Marianna's mother, living with dementia

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

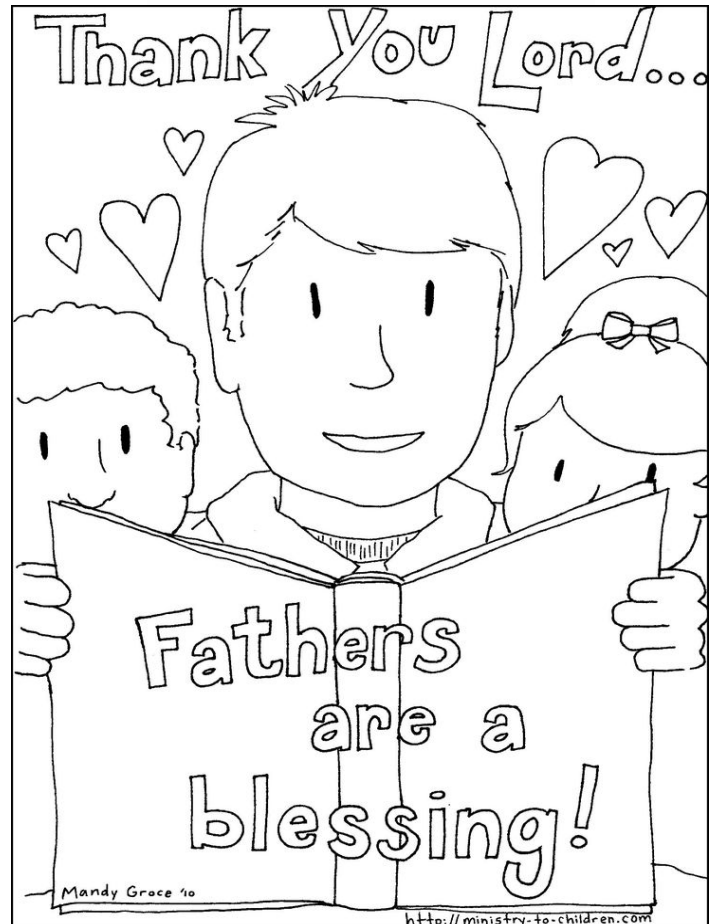
Inmates at CVCTF - and Chaplain Hull

The Johnson Family our newest members

All those who are missing a loved one

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

Happy Father's Day



*Pleasant Valley Lutheran Church
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"That all May come, Serving all the People of God"

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