

On March 17th, people of Irish descent across the world celebrate Saint Patrick's Day. Patrick was born sometime in the late 4th century. At the age of 16, Patrick was kidnapped by Irish raiders and taken to Ireland, where he worked as a slave for 6 years as a shepherd.

It was during this time that God spoke to Patrick, telling him to flee to the coast, where a ship would be waiting for him. Patrick followed God's command and returned to his home in Britain, where he would later become a priest. Legend has it that Patrick would eventually return to Ireland and work tirelessly to convert the Irish to Christianity.

A legend arose around Patrick's work, claiming he drove snakes out of Ireland. In fact, the "snakes" in the story are the druids of Northern Ireland with whom Patrick was in conflict.

Patrick is said to have died on March 17<sup>th</sup> and this day is a celebration and remembrance of the coming of Christianity to Ireland. Parades, festivals, and parties happen across the world.

Patrick isn't the only saint whose commemoration we celebrate in the month of March. Alongside him, we remember hymnwriter George Herbert (1st), John and Charles Wesley (2nd), Perpetua and Felicity (7th), Harriet Tubman (10th), Gregory the Great (12th), Joseph, Jesus' father (20th), Thomas Cranmer (21st), Jonathan Edwards (22nd), Oscar Romero (24th), Hans Nielsen Hauge (29th), and John Donne (31st).

These women and men stand as examples of faith for you and me. They were human; broken, sinful human beings just like you and me. And, at the same time, they had faith that God, in Jesus Christ, through the Holy Spirit, was doing a new thing in this world. Their faith carried them through times of darkness and tragedy in their lives. They saw their sin, named it, and trusted in forgiveness through Jesus Christ.

On March 2, we begin the season of Lent in the repentance of Ash Wednesday. Lent is a time for us to reflect on our broken human nature, our sin, and

ask for God's forgiveness. It is a penitential time, a reflective time, a prayerful time.

Lent is a time for us to reflect on our individual sin, but also our communal sin and the ways we participate in systems of injustice in our world. Lent is a time of honesty about the ways we have failed to live up to God's law.

And yet, we enter this season with the certain hope that through the cross of Jesus, God forgives our sin and Christ will be lifted up as victorious over sin and death on Easter morning.

May the saints of March be an inspiration as we, together start this Lenten journey.

Peace,  
Pr. JonPaul

### **Pleasant Valley Lutheran Church Council February 10, 2022**

The meeting was called to order at 6:11 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. Roxie reported that we were \$2,821 in the black at the end of 2021. We are now \$225.73 in the black at the end of January. The January Mission Offering, which went to Jody Guerke, was \$395.25.

The Pastor's report was oral and largely to be covered during the remainder of the meeting. As far as visitation, Pastor did spend some time visiting with the Bahr's after Karl's stroke.

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.

There was a motion from John to accept the reports. Second from Cortney. 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.

**Worship** – We discussed how to handle cold, cold weather. 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.

Our Ash Wednesday service will be a drive-up on March 2, at 5:30. We will follow the format we used last year, with Pastor distributing ashes individually at the cars. Palm Sunday is on April 10, with a regular drive-up service at 9:00.

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

Maundy Thursday and Good Friday will be planned at the March 8 Council meeting.

Plans for Easter, April 17, will include a traditional sunrise service at 6:30, breakfast at 7:30, and a 9:00 service, hopefully with the Praise Team. We hope to at least 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. Cortney will talk to Corissa to see if she wants to handle the breakfast.

**Property** – Marty Johnson has a new furnace to heat the sanctuary. Both the furnace and the installation are being donated. Thanks, Marty!

Also, the heating/air conditioner in the handicapped entry, west of the double doors by the outside stairs, is acting up. We need to make sure that is checked out.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

We need to have a motion to accept the Johnson family as members. John made a motion to accept the family into Pleasant Valley Lutheran Church. Roxie seconded the motion. Motion carried. We will have a new member recognition in the spring.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Several of our children are at the age to have a first communion class and receive Bibles. Jordy is the third grader, the traditional age to get a Bible. We also have several children a little younger: Eli,

Bretta, Ethan, Evelyn, Emery, Abby, and Loretta. Cortney will check with Rykals about Loretta. We also have Teegan and Trygve; both could get a Bible. Teegan's could be a Lutheran Study Bible. Pastor will check with Johnsons.

### **Mission Sundays** –

February, 2022 – Sojourner House

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**

The Luther Park registration for summer camp is out. The church will pay half of the cost of each camper. Cortney will check with the parents to see how many children are attending and which sessions.

Also, the question came up as to whether we have updated records of births, marriages, and deaths. Pastor will check with Monica.

Next council meeting will be Tuesday, March 8, 2022, at 6 p.m.

At 6:56 p.m. a motion was made by John to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Roxie. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Poore, Council secretary

Members present: John Poore, Randy Sands, Cortney Sands, Roxie Ulness, 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, vlcekk@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 (thru 2/20)	\$3,173.98	\$0.00	\$5,289.44

Offering Over Expenses – Jan - \$225.73

Offering Under Expense – Feb – \$2,115.46 (thru 2/20)

Feb expenses include \$671.75 for insurance, \$905.55 for fuel and \$402.25 for electricity.

Y-T-D Offering Under Expenses – \$1,889.73

Mission Offerings:

January – Jody Guerke - \$395.25

Memorials:

Cemetery Fund:

In memory of Howard Peterson & Carol Moats from Dale & Sharon Anderson

In memory of Bob Bahr from Dale & Sharon Anderson

Respectfully submitted:

Roxie Ulness, Treasurer

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“Let the glory be above all the earth.”

Psalms 57:11

“And all I have to remember today is to look up a little more often.”

By the light of the Psalms by Chris Shea

## THANK YOU

Pleasant Valley Church –

Thank you so much for your recent donation of Hats & gloves to Mondovi Elementary School. These will be a great addition to our supply for kids that need them.

Mondovi Elementary

Denise Marsolek

## TEXTS FOR MARCH

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

**Ash Wednesday – 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**First Sunday in Lent – 6<sup>th</sup>**

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Psalms 91:1-2, 9-16

Romans 10:8b-13

Luke 4:1-13

**Lenten service - Evening – 9<sup>th</sup>**

**Second Sunday in Lent - 13<sup>th</sup>**

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

Psalms 27

Philippians 3:17—4:1

Luke 13:31-35

**Lenten service - Evening – 16<sup>th</sup>**

**Third Sunday of Lent – 20<sup>th</sup>**

Isaiah 55:1-9

Psalms 63:1-8

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Luke 13:1-9

**Lenten service - Evening -23<sup>rd</sup>**

**Fourth Sunday of Lent – 27<sup>th</sup>**

Joshua 5:6-12

Psalms 32

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

**Lent - Evening – 30<sup>th</sup>**



## WE INVITE PRAYERS FOR:

**The Family of John Tollefson** – son of Victor and Eunice; former members

**The Family of Beverly Tobish** – family of Dick Bahr

**Karl Bahr** – suffered a stroke -healing- is at Abbott northwester hospital rehab unit

**Sherm Toufar** – possible liver cancer

**Maureen Kuhn** – healing - Kay Sands Sister-in-law

**Kari Karnatz** – healing after surgery

**Missy** – friend of Kari's; has pancreatic cancer

**Gwen Chubb** – Monica's cousin - cancer; healing

**Teresa Edison**- Monica's cousin - cancer; healing

**Emily Horban** - Cathy Winger's mom- 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 Also the Praise Team

**All those who are missing a loved one**

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

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

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

Church E-mail: [pleasantvalley@tcc.coop](mailto:pleasantvalley@tcc.coop)

Website: [www.pleasantvalleylutheran.com](http://www.pleasantvalleylutheran.com)



Ash Wednesday

March 2, service at 5:30

 Fast	 Give
 LENT Prepare	 Pray

Services are Drive-up  
at 5:30pm

Pleasant  
Valley



The word "MARCH" is written in large, bold, white letters. Each letter is contained within a green and orange shamrock shape. The shamrocks are arranged in a slightly overlapping, horizontal line.

Newsletter  
2022



Happy  
Saint  
Patrick's  
Day



Spring  
Forward



A cartoon clock with a smiling face, showing the time as approximately 1:50. An arrow points from the 12 o'clock position to the 1 o'clock position, indicating the spring forward.

ShareFaith  
March 13<sup>th</sup>