

The VIEW

News of the Ministries of Pleasant View Lutheran Church

November 2017

Pastors Pencil: *Walking with Jesus*

Pastor Mark

Every Sunday, of every week, of every month, of every year, the doors of Pleasant View Lutheran Church are open. Like water for dry ground, God's word helps us to grow and provides strength for difficult times.

Jesus says that he **is living water**, the real life of the world. God's love in Jesus never runs dry. God invites us to walk with Jesus as disciples ... beside him, connected to him, listening to his voice, sharing his life. It is because God is faithful that we are confident about the days ahead.

Jesus loves the world through us. This fall, I ask Pleasant View members to consider two challenges. The first is to renew our **offering of hands and energy** to God. God blesses each one of us with abilities and interests useful for his purposes. The Time & Talent inventory we use this month and next is a place to say, "Here I am, God, ready to serve." In addition to ongoing needs such as serving as usher, there will be room to list any or all abilities you like. Maybe we will see clusters of interest and new opportunities for serving! Can we **aim high** and go for **one hundred percent participation** identifying our Time & Talents?

The second challenge is renewing the **offering of our hearts** through regular and proportionate contribution of income. The apostle Paul says, "On the first day of each week let each of you set aside something as you prosper ..." (1 Corinthians 16:2). Committing a set amount for God's work through my church, including the Sundays I cannot be present, is a good habit. Regular giving tells my heart that it belongs to God, and that money is not the one in charge.

The **motive** for our giving is God's. "You know the generous act of our Lord Jesus Christ, who though he was rich, yet for your sakes became poor...." Paul goes on to say, "Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Corinthians 8:8 – 9:15).

There is an old saying, "**You cannot out-give God.**" Or as Paul says, "You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity.... Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!" Will you participate by setting apart a regular offering that God can use to do good in the world?

An offering of such love ends up doing just as much good in the life of the giver.

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Sept. 14, 2017

Members Present: Gary Flavin, Goldie Shiflett, Karen Fauber, Fred Bowers. Jim Sheets, Frances Knott, Rebecca Perrin, Mark Cline, Pastor Mark Briehl. Members Absent: Rebecca Coffin, Robyn Dean, Terry Bunch.

The meeting was called to order by Gary Flavin.

Sharing – Frances Knott will be attending a “Make a Difference” seminar at the Tree of Life Ministries in Lynchburg on Sept. 23.

A motion to approve the August minutes was made by Mark Cline, seconded by Frances Knott and approved unanimously.

Pastor’s report: Pastor Briehl submitted his report for August. He also reported that the first fall vesper service on Sept. 21 would feature a meal, a movie about Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Assistant Pastor’s report: Jim Sheets reported that the fall vesper theme would be “Reformation and Our Re-Formation,” Luther’s spiritual growth and how we can use this to enhance our own spiritual growth and ministry. He also suggested that a gift of \$150 be given to CWS in thanks for Mr. Hershberger’s presentation at the August vesper service.

Treasurer’s report: August offering was about \$3,500 below what we need each month for our budget. A \$100 credit has been given to the Worship and Music Committee – a gift in memory of Bessie Fauber. A motion to approve the treasurer’s report was made by Mark Cline, seconded by Goldie Shiflett, approved unanimously.

Committee Reports:

Hospitality – There will be a reception for the confirmation class on Oct. 29. There will be no warm clothing collection this year. There will be a meal for the Congregational Meeting on Nov. 12.

Social Ministry - ELCA will purchase a pall for the cremation urn – to be dedicated on All Saints Sunday. Gift cards of \$250 each were received from Thrivent for the Valley Mission and Trinity Lunch.

Finance – Committee will meet on Sept. 20, 6:00pm. Committees need to get their budget requests in. All invited.

Property – Committee will present requests to Finance Committee

Evangelism – Committee will present requests to Finance Committee.

LOOKING AHEAD

The **November Congregational Meeting** will be held next Sunday, November 12, immediately following worship. The first part of the meeting will be a covered dish lunch with meat and drinks provided. After the meal, items to be discussed include approval of the February 2017 congregational meeting minutes, discussion and approval of the 2018 budget, election of 3 new council members (nominated are Mary Garber, Rosemary Spell, and Burke Simmons, with nominations from the floor) and discussion of HVAC and heating system improvements, an update on process of future pastoral leadership position, evaluation of combined ministry/mission projects with Salem's congregation, and other items of discussion and consideration. Your input is needed.

The **Men's Fellowship** will meet at the church on November 11 at 8:00 a.m. for breakfast. Michael Thompson will lead a discussion of favorite Bible verses.

WELCA will meet on Tuesday, November 14, at 10:00 .m. at the church. You are invited to visit with Katie Luther (Joe Price), Martin Luther's wife, to learn about her part in the Reformation. **Heavenly Hands** will meet on Monday, November 27, 1:00-3:00 p.m. in the church social hall. They will be making miniature boxwood Christmas trees for shut-ins and for those participating. The tree form and boxwood will be provided. Those participating are asked to bring the following with which to decorate: ribbon (no wider than 1 inch), cranberries, small stars to decorate the top of the trees, and miniature ornaments. Also, if you have a glue gun, please bring it.

November vespers will be Thursday, November 16 at 6:00p.m., beginning with a light supper. Our speaker will be Jonah who will share the story and spiritual insights learned during his mission trip to Ninevah. All are welcome.

Pleasant Memories will not meet in November. Be looking ahead to the annual Christmas luncheon and program which will be a musical presentation. The meeting will be at the church on the first Wednesday in December.

It's time to be thinking about poinsettias. Cost this year is \$6 each and deadline is December 2. See Jim Sheets with questions.

Pleasant View Women of the ELCA

Minutes – October 1, 2017

The Pleasant View WELCA attended the VSWO (Virginia Southern Women's Organization) Fall Gathering at Salem Lutheran Church on Sunday, 10/1/17 at 2:00 p.m.

Program Speaker was: Reverend Lynn Litchfield, Director of Development of GraceInside, Virginia Prison Chaplin Services. GraceInside is privately funded. The VA women's prison is located in Fluvanna, VA. She did a very moving monolog of a woman, named Hope, that was going to prison because she stole food to feed her three children. Her husband had died in a car wreck after being hit by a drunk driver. She had no income so stole the food. Since the amount she stole was over \$200 it was considered a felony. Rev. Litchfield then explained how it is for women in prison and the trials and tribulations they go thru while there. Sometimes the Chaplin is the only person who even cares for them and gives them hope for the situation they are in. Even in prison, people need love. She also talked about being Chaplin for the only woman prisoner in Virginia to be executed. Those churches attending brought greeting, holiday cards, pens, pencils and stamps for Rev. Litchfield to take to the prison for the women to use to send to their families, friends, etc. The cost of keeping a person in prison is now \$25,000 per year. 18 new prisons have been built in VA since 1980. There is even a Geriatric prison, as prisoners are being sentenced for longer periods of time.

Offering: at the Fall gathering we raised \$414.00 for VSWO and \$670.00 for GraceInside.

Greetings fromVSWO: In lieu of Jody Smiley, President of the State Board, Judy Wilfong, State Board Member, reported on the State Conference held in Roanoke on August 17, 18 and 19, at St. Phillip Lutheran Church. Bishop Mauney was speaker. In honor of his retirement, they collected over \$500 for Forward in Faith. Service Project for 2017 was Sole Hope and GraceInside. She said they collected 941 pairs of cut out shoe tops and \$10, 493.79 to be sent along with the shoes. 18,000 cards and 750 stamps were collected for GraceInside. Service Projects for 2018 are Walker Caddies (pattern is on their website) and Non-Slip Socks. The State Convention will be held on August 3 & 4, 2018 at Bethel Lutheran in Winchester. Judy reported that 52 people went on the "Fun Trip", yesterday 9/30 to Hebron Lutheran Church in Madison, Va., and then ate lunch at Graves Mountain Lodge.

Roll Call: 47 women and 3 men attended the Fall Gathering

Southern Valley Planning Team Officers were installed today: Betty Diehl, Lucy Dennison and Lola Heffner.

Heavenly Hands: will meet on Monday, October 23, 2017 (4th Monday) at church and fill Halloween Bags for the shut-in's. Each person should bring items such as soft candy, small tissue packs, small hand sanitizers, or anything small you think our shut-in's would enjoy.

Next WELCA Meeting Our November meeting will be held at PV at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, November 14. You are invited to come and visit with Katie Luther (Joe Price) Martin Luther's Wife, about her influence on the reformation.

Those attending the Fall Gathering from PV were: Linda Page, Becci Page, Joy Campbell, Sue Cook, Goldie Shiflett and Rosemary Spell.

Linda Page, Secretary

Personals

Resting with the Saints

Our prayers are with Margaret Cox, Mike and Tammy Cox, and the family upon the death of **William Cox** on October 20, 2107, at Augusta Medical Center. The Memorial Service in church was on Monday, October 23. A fellowship meal with the family was provided by the hospitality committee. Burial at graveside will take place at another time.

Frances Knott has had surgery since our last VIEW. JW Cox also had outpatient surgery. Both are recovering nicely.

A note of thanks: *Thank you so much for your clothing donation to Volunteer Services (at WSH) in September. We truly appreciate your generosity. So often we take clothes for granted—until they are in tatters or you don't have any. Volunteer Services may not be able to provide clothing for all the men and women being hospitalized, but with your help we can definitely make a difference for many of them. Thank you again for your ongoing support and for always thinking of our patients.*

Best wishes, Tina T. Kincaid

Note: If you need a receipt for your donation of jeans or tennis shoes for this project, see Sue Cook.

Kenneth Cupp, a neighbor of our church, sends his very sincere thanks to all of the Pleasant View family for all your support during his recent illness. Even though he is not a member here, he felt the love and caring of this congregation.

A note from the financial secretary: It is that time of year when I need to review Giving Codes and make any necessary changes. If you currently don't have/use giving envelopes and would like to start using them please let me know. Likewise if you currently have giving envelopes but don't use them each week because you give monthly or semi-monthly and prefer to just have a Giving Code I need to know that as well. Please let me know by December 1st.
Thanks, Becci Page

November Birthdays



Lee St. Clair	11-1
Daniel Worrell	11-2
Mark Cline	11-3
Sue Cook	11-3
Brad Dean	11-3
Robyn Dean	11-3
Angela Kingery	11-3
Terry Bunch	11-5
Ruth Worrell	11-5
Paula Cox	11-7
Lucille Baker	11-9
Chris Cary	11-10
Fred Cox	11-11
Martha Arehart	11-12
Elizabeth Kingery	11-16
Jason Garrison	11-19
Steven Link	11-19
Caden Richter	11-20
Keith Richter	11-25
Cheryl McKay	11-29
Meghan Garber	11-30

November Anniversaries

David & Mary King	11-6-2004
Burke & Allison Simmons	11-11-1998

Happening at Pleasant View in November

November 2017						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 9:00 Staff Food Pantry 7:00 Choir	2 9:00 Staff Food Pantry	3	4
5 9:30 Worship and Music Committee 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 All Saints Worship	6 9:00 Staff Food Pantry	7	8 9:00 Staff Food Pantry 7:00 Choir	9 9:00 Staff Food Pantry 6:00 Council	10	11 8:00 Men's Fellowship Breakfast
12 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 12:00 Congregational meal and meeting	13 9:00 Staff Food Pantry	14 10:00 WELCA	15 9:00 Staff Food Pantry 7:00 Choir	16 9:00 Staff Food Pantry 6:00 Vespers supper and worship	17	18
19 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship	20 9:00 Staff Food Pantry 12:00 Trinity Lunch	21	22 9:00 Staff Food Pantry 7:00 Choir	23 Happy Thanksgiving!	24	25
26 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship	27 9:00 Staff Food Pantry 1:00 Heavenly Hands	28	29 9:00 Staff Food Pantry 7:00 Choir	30 9:00 Staff Food Pantry		

More Calendars: [December](#), [January](#), [2018](#)