

The VIEW

News of the Ministries of Pleasant View Evangelical Lutheran Church December 2017

Pastor's Pencil

Pastor Mark

Sunday, December 3, is the First Sunday of Advent...

Scripture readings that wake us
like going out on a winter day to watch snowflakes!
Songs so bracing as blown in from heaven
to stir hearts!

Advent means coming.
It tells us, it puts us on notice.
Watch...

he who greeted shepherds from a manger,
who once seemed a gardener,
is among us unseen.
Good God! nearer than we guess

Like a child watching for snowflakes...
unless you receive the kingdom of God as a child,
we turn this season and pray,
open our eyes and hearts to you, Lord Jesus.

A compliment from Bishop Humphrey~

Gary Flavin and Jim Sheets met with the bishop to review the Pastoral Leadership Plan that was presented at the congregational meeting and is on the bulletin board. Bishop Humphreys approved the proposal and has agreed to help us as we move forward completing the necessary call forms. During our conversation he lifted up what he considered to be two of our congregation's outstanding qualities: friendly, welcoming, and inclusive members and a large exceptional choir. According to the bishop, "One of the best in the valley."

So congratulate yourselves for being a welcoming group, and while you are at it, congratulate our choir for their faithfulness and hard work.

**PVELC Council Meeting Minutes
October 12, 2017**

Members Present: Fred Bowers, Terry Bunch, Jennifer Cline, Mark Cline, Rebecca Coffin, Robyn Dean, Karen Fauber, Gary Flavin, Frances Knott, Rebecca Perrin, Jim Sheets, Goldie Shiflett, Dick Zullig

Members Absent: Pastor Briehl

Called to Order: Gary called the council meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Secretary's Report: The October minutes were approved.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Briehl submitted a statistical report (see hallway bulletin board) of October visits, meetings, worship, etc. The Pastor's last service as interim pastor will be Sunday, December 31. He has offered his services as a supply pastor over the coming months.

Assisting Minister's Report: Jim Sheets presented his report for October (see hallway bulletin board). Council confirmed that Lutheran Disaster Relief will receive Red Bucket funds collected for hurricane relief.

Treasurer's Report: The congregation has been short in meeting its needed monthly income by nearly \$200 per month over the past 10 months.

Committee Reports:

- Education: N/A
- Finance: Fred stated that additional people were needed to assist in counting Red Bucket donations. Rebecca Perrin and Frances Knott committed to assisting in counting these donations in the months where a 5th Sunday collection occurred.
We received a request for a donation of stock shares. To accept such donations, we need to open a special account. Mark motioned for Karen to open a brokerage account to receive stock donations. Motion seconded by Rebecca Perrin and approved by council.
- Youth/Recreation: The youth would like to plan their next fundraiser at Pleasant View with on Chili Cook-Off on February 4 following church. Additional plans are forthcoming.
- Hospitality/Social: N/A
- Property: N/A
- Worship/Music: Time and talent sheets have been finalized and will be distributed on November 19 at Thanksgiving service. Four ushers are needed per weekly Sunday service. Advent services begin at 6:30 p.m. and are scheduled for 12/7 (Carols and Cookies), 12/14 (Cantata rehearsal or Bible study), and 12/21 (Healing service). The children's program will be presented on December 17 in lieu of the sermon. A service of lessons and carols is scheduled for December 31. Poinsettia orders need to be placed by December 3 to Jim Sheets.
- Evangelism: N/A

Old Business: Jim Sheets will arrange a schedule of supply pastors that will include Pastors Briehl and Price and the chaplain at Legacy Nursing Home. These pastors will provide Sunday worship services only. After a lengthy discussion, council determined that searching for a full-time pastor is needed to sustain, grow, and renew the congregation at Pleasant View.

New Business: Congregational meeting Sunday, November 12. Agenda will include budget and discussion of pastoral search.

Next Council Meeting: Sunday, December 10, following church. All current and newly appointed council members should attend.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Pleasant View Evangelical Lutheran Church

Congregational Meeting Minutes November 12, 2017

Distributions: Agenda, February 2017 Congregational Meeting minutes, proposed budget for 2018, Time and Talent sheet

Called to Order: A quorum was confirmed and the meeting was called to order by Gary Flavin at 1245.

Opening Prayer: The meeting began in prayer.

Approval of February 2017 Minutes: Minutes approved by the congregation.

2018 Budget: Burke Simmons presented the proposed budget for 2018. The overall operating costs are slightly lower than 2016 at \$132, 900. The Pastor Salary was estimated as the same for 2017, but could be subject to change depending on our search for a new pastor. A new expense was for Jimmy Cox hired as Sexton. There was some discussion regarding our benevolence contributions. Benevolence is calculated as 10% of operational income, rather than the number of church members. Pleasant View consistently contributes its full Benevolence. Budget approved as proposed by congregation.

Election of New Council Members: The following congregation members were elected as new council members: Mary Garber, Rosemary Spell, Burke Simmons. Members rotating off council are Gary Flavin, Fred Bowers, and Goldie Shiflett.

Time and Talent Sheets: Jim Sheets reviewed the Time and Talent Sheets and encouraged everyone to consider how their time and talent can best be utilized. Jim also reviewed the Altar Guild committee duties. There was a suggestion for maintaining a list of individuals who could be called upon to serve as funeral ushers.

Future Pastor: Jim Sheets led discussion regarding the search for a pastor at Pleasant View. He met with Bishop Humphries and the November council meeting included discussion of this topic with the Pastor search committee. Points of reflection included: declining membership, a sense of burnout, and lack of enthusiasm. The congregation needs to consider going through the call process for our next Pastor. A quarterly Pastor Plan will be submitted to the Bishop. A vice-pastor will be appointed by the Bishop to preside over weddings and funerals. Jim will function as Lay Leader to conduct visitation and schedule pastors. Supply pastors include Pastors Price and Briebl, the chaplain at Legacy Nursing Home, and Jim Sheets. A Call Committee consists of Jim Sheets, Judy Shuey, Dick Zullig, Jennifer Cline, Gary Flavin, and Rebecca Perrin. This plan will be evaluated quarterly. Jim asked everyone to pray about the future of Pleasant View.

Closing: Meeting closed with prayer led by Pastor Briebl and adjourned at 1:35 p.m.

Looking Ahead to Advent and Christmas

Advent Vespers on Thursdays

December 7 *Carols & Cookies, 6:30 pm:* Come to the worship space for a hymn sing of your favorite carols. Cookies and refreshments in the upstairs hallway will follow.

December 14 *The Nativity Story, 6:30 pm:* Come to the worship space to study and explore the account of Jesus' birth in Luke's Gospel ... do we know it all by now ... is there anything new to discover?

December 21 *Beside Still Waters, 6:30 pm:* Jesus our shepherd is the center of worship. On this shortest day of the year a healing service will give assurance of God's daily care and guidance.

Pleasant Memories will meet at the church on **Wednesday, December 13, at noon**, for a Christmas luncheon and musical program. This is a covered dish lunch with meat provided, so please sign up on the bulletin board if you can attend. All are invited.

Our choir will join with the choir of Salem Lutheran to present a **Christmas cantata, *Morning Star, on Saturday night, December 16, at 7:00.*** Refreshments will follow. In order for all to be able to hear this special music, rides will be provided for those who would like them. More details will follow in the bulletin, so mark your calendar and stay tuned for car pool details.

Our children will lead a special worship on **Sunday, December 17, at 11:00**, with thoughts on *How Christmas Used to Be*. Several members of the congregation will share what they remember about Christmas past, and all of us may be a bit surprised. Our annual **Christmas Dinner** will follow the service. Come and bring a friend.

Don't forget the **Christmas Candlelit Service** on Christmas Eve at 9:00 when we rejoice once again to hear of the coming of our Lord. This service includes Holy Communion, lessons, singing of carols, a sermon, and the sharing of the light of Christ.

On Sunday, December 31, we will share Lessons and Carols at the 11:00 service. You may get to sing your favorite carol! Join us!

Remember to order your Poinsettia by Sunday, December 2. See Jim Sheets with questions.

You are invited to a **COOKIE SWAP PARTY!**



- **How does a cookie swap work?** You bake 6 dozen of ONE kind of cookie and bring them to the party. At the party we swap cookies so that we all go home with an assortment of cookies, simplifying our holiday baking!
- **When:** Sunday, December 10 from 2-4 pm
- **Where:** The Clines - 726 Burketown Road, Weyers Cave, VA
RSVP with your **RECIPE:** By December 3 to Jennifer Cline at jenniferclineLPC@gmail.com or 540-649-5570
- **Come in your finest (ugliest) Christmas attire ready to enjoy snacks, play games, and socialize!**
- **Don't bake?** Bring 6 dozen treats to share and come anyway!

WORSHIP WORKSHEET

Assisting Minister – Jennifer Cline

Ushers – Fred and Wanda Bowers, Susan and Forester Wright

Communion Preparation – Wanda Bowers and Susan Wright

Sunday, December 3 **Lay Reader** – Caden Richter

Acolyte – Sibbie Jetton **Communion** – Cody Coleman

Sunday, December 10 **Lay Reader** – Janet Braithwaite

Acolyte – Open **Communion** – Sarah Dabney

Sunday, December 17 **Lay Reader** – Dale Rankin

Acolyte – Sydney Moyers **Communion** – Open

Sunday, December 24 **Lay Reader** – Bill Luders

Acolyte – Zane Simmons **Communion** – Kori Simmons

Sunday, December 31 **Lay Reader** – None

Acolyte – Sibbie Jetton **Communion** – Laurel Simmons

Pleasant View Women of the ELCA

Minutes – November 14, 2017

The Pleasant View WELCA met at Pleasant View on Tuesday, November 14 at 10:00 a.m.

Program Speaker Our speaker was Katie Luther, Martin Luther's wife. (Jo Price). Katie provided us with the following food items which are part of her German Heritage: cider, pumpernickel bread, butter, butter cheese, chocolate cookies, gingerbread and anise cookies. Katie was born to a noble family whose land, etc., had been taken from them due to wars in the area. Her father sent her to a convent to be educated. While there, she heard about the writings of Martin Luther and she and other women escaped from the convent and were taken to Wittenberg. At 23, she married Martin. Prince Frederick gave them a home which was a previous dormitory of the University of Wittenberg and was called the Black Abby. They had 6 children, 3 boys and 3 girls, however, the first daughter died at 8 months and the second son died at age 13. They also adopted 4 other children. While Martin went about his work of the Reformation, Katie ran the household, started a brewery, planted gardens, and raised cattle, to help the family financially. Martin called her "The Boss" of the Black Abby. They always had visitors who wanted to talk with Luther about the Reformation, some of which would stay overnight, so Katie had to be hostess to all of them. Their dream was to build a new home in the country. However, Luther died at age 62 of what was most likely pneumonia. Two weeks, prior to moving to their new home. Katie never moved there and the home was eventually sold by their children. Martin and Katie were married 20 years. War broke out again and Katie had to leave the Black Abby. When she returned, it had been destroyed along with the land around it. The Black Abby was eventually renamed the Luther House and was eventually sold back to the University of Wittenberg. In 1552 at age 53, Katie was in a cart wreck and passed away from her injuries.

Minutes of the October Meeting: were read and approved.

Offering: Sue Cook reported we had \$199 in our treasure. We collected \$55 in general offering and \$120 in our Love Offering.

Shut-in-List: Goldie passed out the new Shut-In-List. She said that Jim Sheets asked that this list be put in the December Newsletter. Linda will give the list to Judy Shuey to put in the newsletter.

Western State Hospital Lady: Sue Cook reported that we had been asked to purchase items for a women at WSH this year for Christmas. She has the list and will purchase the items and deliver to WSH.

VSWO Service Project for 2018. Goldie announced that the projects for next year are Walker Caddies and Non-Slip Socks. We will print off the directions from the VSWO website and then decide which of these we will do as our project.

Cards: We signed a birthday card for Frances Leach and get well cards for Joy Campbell and Betty Magoon. Goldie read a Thank You Note from Mike Vayvada.

Heavenly Hands: will meet on Monday, November 27, 2017 (4th Monday) at church and make small boxwood Christmas Trees for our shut-in's

Visit Shut-In's: for our December Meeting we will visit our shut-in's and take them a gift. Rosemary will visit the Focklers; Linda and Becci, Joy Campbell; Hannelore, Frances Leach; Mandy, Earl Cline; Christine, Mack & Jean Link; Betty Cox, Carolyn Cox and Sue Cook, Margaret Cox.

Next WELCA Meeting will be Tuesday, January 9 at 10:00 a.m. at church. This is our yearly planning meeting and we are to bring soup and sandwiches to eat while planning for next year.

Attending Today: Jo Price, Linda Page, Becci Page, Goldie Shiflett, Christine Puffenbarger, Rosemary Spell, Hannelore Beisner, Mandy Lilly, Wanda Bowerrs, Betty Cox and Sue Cook.

Linda Page, Secretary

Personals
In Memoriam
Lucille Baker

Our Shut-Ins

Margaret Cox
Brookdale Senior Living
1900 Hillsmere Lane Apt. 113
Staunton, VA 24401
Birthday: 1/21
540-213-3815

Howard and Gladys Fockler
1603 N. Augusta Street
Staunton, VA 24401
Howard Birthday: 10/10
Gladys Birthday: 9/9
540-885-1473

Carolyn Cox
66 Montague Court
Apt. 208
Stuarts Draft, VA 24477
Birthday: 9/30
540-241-8500

Joy Campbell
953 Donaghe Street Apt. 2
Staunton, VA 24401
Birthday: 8/4
540-292-2563 or 540-292-2563

Malcolm and Jean Link
201 Maury Mill Road
Verona, VA 24482
Malcolm Birthday: 10/20
Jean Birthday: 9/4
540-248-3195

Frances Leach
713 Limestone Road
Verona, VA 24482
Birthday: 12/7
540-248-5959

Earl Cline
371 Lookout Mountain Lane
Mt. Solon, VA 22843
Birthday: 4/20
540-350-2708

*And our congratulations go to our own **Larry Landes** who was named a winner of the Dawborn Award which goes to those who make a difference in the lives of children in our area. **Congratulations!***

December Birthdays



| | |
|-------------------|-------|
| Pat Luders | 12-2 |
| Laurel Simmons | 12-3 |
| Frances Leach | 12-7 |
| Joy Landes | 12-7 |
| Rachel Dixon | 12-9 |
| Fred Leach | 12-12 |
| Clark Fairll Cook | 12-13 |
| Tom Cox | 12-14 |
| Kenneth Page | 12-15 |
| Billy Coffin | 12-17 |
| Mike Cox | 12-19 |
| Reid Leach | 12-19 |
| Brody Lilly | 12-19 |
| Jim Sheets | 12-19 |
| Betty Jordan | 12-20 |
| Jo Cline | 12-21 |
| Isabella Carrillo | 12-23 |
| Krissy Roudabush | 12-24 |
| John Knott | 12-26 |
| Clark James Cook | 12-27 |
| Shawn Toman | 12-27 |
| Rebecca Perrin | 12-28 |
| Emily Hensley | 12-30 |



December Anniversaries

| | |
|-------------------------|------------|
| Hunter & Alice Fauber | 12-1-1973 |
| John & Frances Knott | 12-1-1995 |
| Dennis & Debbie Hastert | 12-14-1985 |
| Earl & Jo Cline | 12-24-1997 |