

# The View

## News of the Ministries of Pleasant View Lutheran Church

September 2017

Pastor's Pencil, **What Does It Mean to be Lutheran?**  
Mark Briehl

When you think of the word Lutheran, what other words come to mind?

Food words like country ham, deviled eggs, and apple pie might come to mind since Lutherans are hearty cooks and eaters. How about hymns and songs; do certain ones come to mind? *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* is a blood-stirring song which in the very act of singing engages us in spiritual warfare. Perhaps we think of Martin Luther himself, the man who kicked a hornet's nest. He wrote ninety-five propositions for debate including ones challenging the authority of the pope and protesting the Church's selling of God's grace like a commodity. He did so on October 31, 1517, in Wittenberg, Germany. Those arguments, copied and distributed all over Europe, became a turning point in history.

This October, 2017, will mark the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Protestant Reformation. To help get ready you are invited to join congregation and friends to see a movie, ***Luther and the Reformation***, at 6 pm on Thursday, September 21, here at Pleasant View Church. In this public TV special, travel host Rick Steves will follow the footsteps of Luther across Europe to unpack the story and meaning of the Reformation. This one hour DVD is both entertaining and informative.

We will begin the night in good Lutheran form! Come for a meal in the social hall at 6 pm. Let's sing a song by Martin Luther that tells the good news of Jesus. Let's get ready to see and hear about a renewing movement in the Church that is still turning hearts to God.

## ***Did you know?***

*Lutheran* is what Luther's opponents called people joining the protest movement to reform the Church. The name has stuck ever since. Luther did not like it and instead used the word *evangelical* for congregations that embraced the authority of Scripture on matters of faith, and the good news (*evangel*) of God's love in Christ coming free and undeserved.

The Lutheran reformers were Catholic. They wanted to make changes within the one Christian church in Europe, and wanted to remain Catholic.

The *countries* with fastest growing Lutheran populations are India and Ethiopia. The *continent* having the most Lutherans is Africa, which is home to over twenty million Lutherans. (Lutheran World Federation reports, as of 2013).

The Lutheran World Federation, founded in 1947 in Sweden, now has 143 member churches in 79 countries around the world representing 70.5 million Christians.

### **Third Thursday Vespers**

Like a weedy and wilted garden in August, our spiritual lives also suffer from dry spells and attacks by the enemy. How does your spiritual garden grow? Is it time to fight some weeds sown by the devil? Could your heart use the refreshing shower of God's word?

We can choose to act! Starting on September 21, the third Thursday, we will gather as church for a meal and a faith forming activity that follows. Come at 6 pm to enjoy a light meal in the social hall. We are looking for lots of cooks to assist with easy to prepare suppers. Education chairperson, Terry Bunch, is helping to coordinate this. After eating, let's open our ears and hearts to God in group study and devotions led by pastor, Jim Sheets, or another leader.

Mark your calendar for our first activity when we view the movie, "Luther and the Reformation." A study guide for the film will get passed out on the prior Sunday to whet appetites. Hope to see you there!

## **You will want to plan to attend two special Reformation events.**

The first will be on Thursday, October 17, at 7:00 p.m. when the Roanoke College Choir will present a Reformation concert at Christ Lutheran Church in Staunton. This 60 voice choir has prepared a special program to celebrate the Reformation.

And

On Sunday, October 29 at 4:00, the Southern Valley Area Council will sponsor a Reformation worship service at Christ Lutheran in Staunton. This will be an ecumenical service honoring 500 years of reforming worship which was begun by Martin Luther. All are invited to this once-in-500-year event.

### **PVELC Council Meeting Minutes August 10, 2017**

**Members Present:** Pastor Briehl, Fred Bowers, Terry Bunch, Rebecca Coffin, Robyn Dean, Karen Fauber, Gary Flavin, Rebecca Perrin, Jim Sheets, Goldie Shiflett

**Members Absent:** Mark Cline, Frances Knott

**Called to Order:** Gary called the council meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

**Secretary's Report:** The June meeting minutes were approved.

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor Briehl provided a statistical report (see hallway bulletin board) of June and July visits, meetings, worship, etc. The Pastor decided not to renew his contract with Pleasant View for 2018, stating, "Thirty-nine years of pastoring congregations is rewarding; now it's time to rest."

**Assisting Minister's Report:** Jim Sheets presented his report for June and July (see hallway bulletin board). Jim feels the new Bishop, Bob Humphries, will be instrumental in locating a suitable interim Pastor for PVELC. Jim also learned of some strategies for spiritual renewal while at the Lay School of Theology in Gettysburg, and hopes to incorporate some of these strategies over the coming weeks and months. Council agreed to make a donation to the Blue Ridge Food Bank in honor of Rabbi Blair, the speaker at July's Vespers service. Salem and Pleasant View raised \$3400 for the Renewing Homes project, \$1300 of which went for the project. Council agreed to donate the remaining funds to the Renewing Homes Organization, as we advertised during fundraising for the Cricket County play in May.

**Treasurer's Report:** The congregation has been meeting our needed monthly average financial donations. Council agreed to pay Jimmy Cox for his sexton duties from the beginning of the year - \$500 in total.

#### **Committee Reports:**

- Education: Committee continues their work in trying to meet the needs of the congregation.
- Finance: Committee budgets for 2018 are needed.

- Youth/Recreation: The youth participated in a pool party with Salem. The national ELCA Youth Gathering, which happens every 3 years, is planned for June 2018 in Houston, TX. The cost is \$1400 per youth. Pleasant View will be partnering with Salem to do some fundraising. The goal is that each child will be responsible for \$350, while fundraising efforts take care of the rest. The conference is for 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders. Please be alert for announcements in church, in the bulletin, and in the newsletter.
- Hospitality/Social: The golf outing raised \$1300. There is a picnic 8/12 at the Shiflett's camp.
- Property: N/A
- Worship/Music: A joint Christmas Cantata is being planned with Salem. The committee agreed to establish an Altar Guild. Time and talent sheets are being revised.
- Evangelism: N/A

**Old Business:** Terry Bunch discovered that most defibrillators cost \$1200 - \$1600. She will continue to do more research. There was some discussion that the ice machine could benefit from a water softener. Bill Luders was present at the beginning of the meeting, and he reviewed the weekly custodial services he provides.

**New Business:** There was some discussion regarding a search for a new interim pastor versus some of the other options the congregation had previously discussed (part-time pastor, shared pastor, etc.). Gary and Jim will be in contact with the Bishop to discuss our options.

Western State Hospital is in need of men's jeans and clothing. We will place a box for collection of these items. Because we did not participate in Back-to-School supply collection over the summer, council considered collecting items in the New Year, as schools need supplies all year.

Change for Hope funds will go to the Vayvada Family on 8/20 and 9/17.

**Next Council Meeting:** September 14, 2017 at 6 pm.

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m. and closed with the Lord's Prayer.

## **Pleasant View and Salem in ministry together. . .**

Over the years, our two congregations have engaged in ministry together on various occasions. Recently, we held a joint Dinner Theater which was a wonderful opportunity to gather, eat, and laugh. The proceeds from that event totaled \$3998. After the cost of the Dinner Theater was deducted, we ended up with \$3437 to give toward our mission project with Renewing Homes of Augusta County. Salem and Pleasant View worked together to repair a home in the Verona community. We renovated a bathroom to enable wheelchair access for the owner, replaced a storm door, and replaced the living room floor. Upon completion, the cost of materials was \$1377. The planning group between the two congregations decided to add an additional \$1060 to give to Renewing Homes, which leaves us \$1000 for an additional project with this organization later this year. One option may be to involve our youth from both congregations to build a ramp for someone in the community. Overall, a big thank you to everyone who supported these endeavors and gave of their time, talent, and treasure in reaching out to a family in need. We look forward to future ministry opportunities in the coming year and we ask the Holy Spirit to lead and guide us along the way

## WORSHIP WORKSHEET

**Assisting Minister: Larry Landes**

**Ushers: Steve and Carol Troxell and Bonnie Craun**

**Communion Preparation: Steve and Carol Troxell**

**September 3:** Lay Reader – Frances Knott

Acolyte – Sydney Moyers    Communion Assistant – Laurel Simmons

**September 10:** Lay Reader – Gary Flavin

Acolyte – Zane Simmons    Communion Assistant – Sarah Dabney

**September 17:** Lay Reader – Jennifer Cline

Acolyte – Sibbie Jetton    Communion Assistant – open

**September 24:** Lay Reader – Michael Vayvada

Acolyte – Dylan Moyers    Communion Assistant – Cody Coleman

## TEE 'EM UP- 2017

The golf tournament held at Ironwood on Saturday, August 5<sup>th</sup> was a lot of fun and a good fundraiser. Together with the breakfast and the hole sponsors, we raised \$1,306 for our Change for Hope Outreach Fund. Hats off and many thanks to everyone who got up early to prepare and serve breakfast. Everything was delicious and everyone was glad to start the day with a hot meal and fellowship.

Thank you to all our hole sponsors for their generous contributions totaling \$850: Fred and Wanda Bowers, Bill Bigelow, Ernie Landes, Shenandoah Mini Storage, Fauber Freightways, Central Tire, and First Bank & Trust. And special thanks to Shirley Crawford's brothers and sisters, Jack, Lola, Roger, Barbara, and Bryan for sponsoring a hole in memory of Shirley. They prepared a beautiful sign in memory of Shirley and placed it on the 18<sup>th</sup> green for all to see. It was a loving memorial.

Kenneth Page's team with Kenneth, Warren McKinnly, Bill Sarano, and Jon Crittington took first place honors with a score of eleven under par. Wow...what a score. Bill Bigelow's team with Bill, Gene Mathews, George Luziach, and Jim Gibson just missed first place with another great score of ten under par. Freddy Craig was winner of the longest drive on Hole #12. Gene Lilly was closest to the pin on Hole #10 and Bill Bigelow was closest to the pin on Hole #3.

Karen Fauber

## **Pleasant View Women of the ELCA**

Minutes – August 8, 2017

The Pleasant View WELCA met at Church on Tuesday, August 8, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. The program was on Monuments and Memorials. Each member talked about and showed pictures of the following Monuments and Memorials they have visited: Flight 93 in PA., Vietnam, Washington, Lincoln, Jefferson, WW II, Martin Lutheran King, Franklin Roosevelt and Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, all in Washington D.C., The Liberty Bell in PA, The Arizona and Punch Bowl in Hawaii and 911 Memorial in NY. Rosemary also talked about the “Purple Heart.”

**Minutes** of the previous meeting were read and approved.

**Cards:** We signed Get Well cards for Michael Vayvada and Petty Knott and Birthday cards for Jean Link and Gladys Fockler.

**Treasurer’s Report & Va. State WELCA Convention.** We currently have \$262 in the treasure and collected \$30 today. Sue Cook has written a check for \$100 for the Love Offering and has given to Lola Heffner to take to Convention on, August 17, 18, & 19 at St. Phillip Lutheran in Roanoke. Bishop Jim Mauney is the keynote speaker.

**Southern Valley Fun Trip:** is Saturday, September 30, for a trip to Madison, Va. To tour Hebron Lutheran Church, the oldest Lutheran church in Va. (300 years old), with lunch at Graves Mountain Lodge. Linda Page e-mailed Betty Diehl, chairman of the Southern Valley Planning Team that no one from Pleasant View will be going this year.

**Fall Gathering for Southern Valley, WELCA** is Sunday, October 1 at 2:30 at Salem Lutheran. Speaker is: Rev. Lynn Litchfield, Dir. Of Development of GraceInside, Virginia’s Prison Chaplin Services. Goldie Shiflett has gotten a grant from Thrivent for \$250 to purchase items for this program. She has purchased stamps and has asked members to bring any cards (birthday, etc.) they have to the next meeting, and we will deliver them to Rev. Litchfield at the Fall Gathering.

**Memorial for Bernice Landes:** We had decided on donating a Communion Wafer Plate in memory of Bernice. Becci Page brought the ALMY catalogue (from which we purchase church items) and we are unable to get a brass one to match the one we already have now. (They are now gold with a silver rim). Joe Price made a motion that our chairman appoint a committee to research something else to purchase in memory of Bernice. Betty Jordan seconded the motion which passed. The committee will be Goldie Shiflett, Joe Price and Becci Page. Goldie will bring to council and Becci will bring to Worship and Music Committee regarding suggestions for an item the church may be in need of at this time.

**Heavenly Hands-** Our next meeting will be Monday, August 28 at 1:00 p.m. at Church. Vonne Simmons will be teaching us to make dill pickles. Each person is to bring their own canning jar with lid and rings and cucumbers. Vonne will furnish spices, etc.

**Meals:** Social Ministry committee chairman, Mandy Lilly, has been notified that we will be delivering meals to Michael and Emily Vayvada when Michael gets home.

**Next WELCA Meeting** is Tuesday, September 12, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. at Church. Judy Shuey will present a program on: "What God Wants Us To Do".

## **LOOKING AHEAD**

**WELCA** will meet at the church on Tuesday, September 12, at 10:00 a.m. Judy Shuey will lead a program on "What Does God Want Us to Do? All ladies of the church are welcome.

**Heavenly Hands** will meet at the church on Monday, September 25, from 1-3. Beth Bowers will be teaching us flower arranging. Those attending please bring your own flowers and vase. Beth will help us arrange them.

The **Men's Fellowship** will meet on Saturday, September 9, at 8:00 a.m. at Staunton Country Cookin' for a program led by Jim Sheets. All men are invited.

**Pleasant Memories** will meet at the church on Wednesday, September 27, at noon. Jim Cox will prepare the meal at a cost of \$10 per person, and Jim Sheets will present the program. (There will be a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the rear hall so Jim Cox will know how much food to buy). You are invited to join in the fun and fellowship.

***Personals***  
**In Memoriam**  
**Deborah Neomi Blackwell**

Debbie died on Friday morning at her home in Staunton, following a long illness and hospice care. She is grieved by her sister, Catherine, family members, and many others. Debbie was baptized at her home on August 16, she had a faith that shone like a steady light through whatever the day's events, and an easy sense of humor.

**Michael Vayvada** was a quick healer and is now back worshipping with us on Sundays.

**September Birthdays**



<i>June Ratcliff</i>	9-1
<i>Emily Vayvada</i>	9-1
<i>Hunter Wright</i>	9-3
<i>Jean Link</i>	9-4
<i>Dick Zullig</i>	9-4
<i>Jeremy Magoon</i>	9-5
<i>Korey Rankin</i>	9-5
<i>Hannelore Beisner</i>	9-6
<i>Katelyn Shiflett</i>	9-6
<i>Katie Garrison</i>	9-7
<i>Gladys Fockler</i>	9-9
<i>Joan Free</i>	9-9
<i>Susan St. Clair</i>	9-10
<i>Glen Worrell</i>	9-10
<i>Kori Simmons</i>	9-11
<i>Frances Knott</i>	9-15
<i>Mary King</i>	9-15
<i>Bill Braithwaite</i>	9-16
<i>Camalee Lihos</i>	9-25
<i>Vanessa Burns</i>	9-27
<i>Carolyn Cox</i>	9-30
<i>Robert "Andy" Fauber, Jr.</i>	9-30

## **September Anniversaries**



<i>John &amp; Martha Arehart</i>	<i>9-2-1967</i>
<i>Fred &amp; Wanda Bowers</i>	<i>9-13-1958</i>
<i>Brad &amp; Robyn Dean</i>	<i>9-15-2012</i>
<i>Gene &amp; Mandy Lilly</i>	<i>9-16-1961</i>
<i>Clark &amp; Sue Cook</i>	<i>9-17-1969</i>
<i>Dale &amp; Lisa Rankin</i>	<i>9-19-1987</i>

